Irish Genealogical Society International™

The Septs

Archive of back issues: 2008 - 2009

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The Septs

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Volumne 29, Number 1

$7.00

2008 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 12, 2008
FEBRUARY 9, 2008
MARCH 8, 2008
APRIL 12, 2008
MAY 10, 2008
JUNE 14, 2008
JULY 12, 2008
AUGUST 9, 2008
SEPTEMBER 13, 2008
OCTOBER 11, 2008
NOVEMBER 8, 2008
DECEMBER (Library Closed)
(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Informal class for beginners at the library 10:30 am on the above dates. Other classes offered throughout the year. MGS Library number 651-455-9057.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

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President's Letter

Successful Events

by Laurie Hanover

IGSI has had a very busy Fall. We hosted our 4th annual genealogical conference in Coon Rapids, MN, with 24 classes and various vendors attending. Diane Lovrencevic took on the leadership role to successfully produce the conference again this year. Thanks to Diane and to the other members who volunteered their time to teach classes or to help with other conference tasks. For 2008, we are investigating other avenues to meet our goals for education and outreach. Let us know what you want by way of educational offering from IGSI - in person or via the Internet.

Our IGSI library, along with the Minnesota Genealogical Society's library, moved to a new building located in South St. Paul, MN. Volunteers packed up and unpacked the office and bookstore. Irish Saturday, November 10, was the first open day in the new location; IGSI hosted an open house that day, greeting more than 80 people who came to see the new space. Thanks to Diane Lovrencevic who chaired and coordinated this event, too.

On November 17, we held our first Quarterly Meeting at the new location, using the auditorium in the new building. Marjorie Harshaw Robie, author of *Dwelling Place of Dragons*, was our guest speaker and talked about how she wrote her book, using characters discovered in her genealogy search of her family.

The program for the February Quarterly Meeting will feature a panel of IGSI experts to help you tear down the brick walls in your own search of family history. Plan to join us on February 16, at 9:00 a.m. for the business meeting and at 10:00 a.m. for the program.

Please note that the Library has changed its hours effective January 2008. The daytime hours on Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday start an hour later – from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Evening hours remain the same – Tuesday & Thursday from 6:30-9:30. The library is closed Sunday, Monday & Friday. If you are coming from any distance, please call and check the schedule and for research assistance.

Irish Day - November 2007

November 10 marked the first day of library services at Suite 218, 1185 Concord St. North in South St. Paul. Since this was also the second Saturday of the month, the traditional "Irish Saturday", we flung the doors open and invited all to come and see the new location of the Minnesota Genealogical Library and the IGSI collection.

Diane Lovrencevic, the volunteer coordinator, organized the day's activities. Four classes to help people use the collection and to search for Irish ancestors were offered throughout the day; informal tours of the library oriented some of the people (others preferred to wander and browse on their own); and our expert volunteers were present to help those who came for research. Of course, some refreshments were on hand as we now have a small kitchen available.

Opening day at the new South St.Paul library location.

Members of other MGS branches came to help researchers seeking information from the German, Finnish or French Canadian area. More than 80 people crossed the threshold that day. For some, it was their first venture into genealogy; others came with a specific goal. All left with a good impression of the new library.

Satisfied researchers will always return; we look forward to seeing them again. Perhaps you will make a visit to the library as well.

Distant Resources @ Your Fingertips

by Ann Eccles

It seems that computers and the Internet have become an integral part of our daily lives. Some college students recently emphasized the important role of computers for their livelihood by living without them for a period of time. How did they manage? They talked about using typewriters for term papers, arranging face-to-face meetings with their advisors, and doing research with library books.

So many of us, on the other hand, grew up with the old technologies. We know about card catalogs in libraries and rotary telephones. We are familiar with print resources; we learned to use microfilm and microfiche readers for our research. Now we are faced with the amazing realm of the Internet and far more information than ever imaginable at the speed of a mouse click.

President's Bio from page 2

Laurie Hanover, a lifelong resident of the Twin Cities area, served as IGSI Secretary. Her interest in genealogy became serious about five years ago when she discovered her Irish origins. Laurie has two sons and five grandchildren, three girls and two boys.

The information in this issue will absolutely amaze you! The articles present new sites to visit or new information on favorite websites you haven't checked recently. The authors share information about more than 200 websites in this issue. Here's a sample of what you will find.

Mary Wickersham reminds us to use Internet search engines to find family history information and offers some tips to do so more effectively and easily. Lori Thornton explores the wealth of resources available at US colleges and universities – both online databases and other collections listed on academic websites. Kathleen Strickland takes a look at our own website and some of the new changes there.

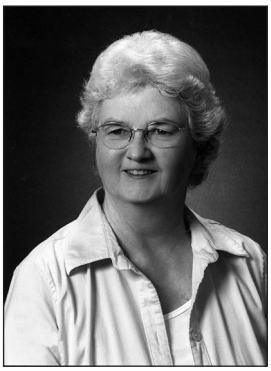
Three authors from Ireland provide a view of established and new projects for genealogists. Mary Beglan describes many wonderful aspects of websites for major Irish genealogy research; it's a great overview for the Irish researcher. Karel Kiely and Dr. Brian Smith describe the development and use of a new all-Ireland online research service from the Irish Family History Foundation.

John Grenham provides us with two articles for this issue. He describes the origins and development of his *Irish Ancestors* website in one article. The second article explores the scope and background of the "Dublin Electoral Lists database", a project for which he served as consultant.

Tom Rice muses on the pros and cons of using the Internet to research genealogy. He allays our fears with his practical advice. David Rencher concludes his three part study of the Philip Crossle' collections. We welcome Jay Fonkert as a new columnist; he will provide information for those of us just starting on our ancestral research. This issue he will continue the discussion of the U.S. census that Nancy Grell started in the last issue. We want to thank Nancy for all she has done for The Septs as both editor and author.

Using the articles in this issue, you will be on your way to new discoveries in your family history. I expect to see my copy well-marked and highlighted as I identify the sites I need to visit for research. What a gift to start the new year!

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired and found almost every branch leading back to Ireland. Still a novice in accessing Irish resources, she continues to explore her many family lines. She has volunteered at IGSI, working with the surname database and membership updates the last couple of years



Genealogy Websites to Explore and Use

by Mary Wickersham

With the contributions of thousands of genealogy hobbyists and volunteers, the Internet now offers many clues to advance your family research.

The largest organized collection of links to genealogy websites is *Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet* (http://www.cyndislist.com), which organizes more than 250,000 links to genealogy-related websites. Links are organized by subject or area, with more than 1,800 links for Ireland websites.

Rootsweb (http://www.rootsweb.com), originally built by donors, is now owned by The Generations Network (formerly Ancestry.com). Contributors can upload records transcriptions and other information to the Rootsweb databases, and Rootsweb provides the search tools.

USGenWeb Project (http://www.usgenweb.com) provides free genealogy webpages for the U.S. Organized by state and county, it is hosted by Rootsweb and is a great tool for locating genealogical or historical society information in the U.S.

While I've spent many happy hours wading through the information and links provided by the services above, I have found general search engines are increasingly efficient for locating results in fewer steps. *Google* (http://www.google.com) is my personal favorite. Like *Yahoo* and *msn*, *Google* uses web crawlers to automatically read millions of web pages, then identify and store phrases from those pages in its database.

Some pointers for using Internet search engines:

- Adding "history" or "genealogy" to your search phrase can help narrow results. For example, a search for (John Broderick) yields almost 2 million results in *Google*, a search for "(John Broderick genealogy)yields 37,600.
- Use quotation marks to require a specific set of words to have been used in sequence. Searching for ("John Broderick" genealogy) yields a more manageable 656 links. Searching for "John Broderick genealogy" yields no links.
- There is no Soundex, so try misspelling the name. Typos in the search box are sometimes the trick for that important lead.
- If a linked page will not open, click on the link "Cached" under the page description. This will bring up an older version of the page which has been saved in *Google's* database.

Once you link to a page:

- Use the Ctrl key and F key (Ctrl + F) to search on the page for the same phrase, to find the phrase quickly.
- Use your mouse to highlight the text you wish to copy, and use Ctrl + C to copy, and Ctrl + V to paste the text to your family tree or word processing file. Go to the URL box of your browser to do the same with the webpage, for future use.

After you have found those precious Internet clues to your family history, don't trust what you read! Verify any information using traditional, reliable sources. Use your search engine to find information about the county heritage center, its research policies and what records are available.

It may be possible to find a volunteer willing to do record lookups. Volunteers at *Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness* (http://www.raogk.org) offer to do lookups from CDs, courthouse and cemetery visits, and take headstone photos. Requestors are expected to offer to do lookups, as well, and reimburse any costs. This service started in the U.S., but may expand to other places in time. There were just four volunteers for lookups in Ireland. So, while there are numerous specialized sites for genealogy research, don't overlook the basic websites and search engines. You may be surprised what you can find!

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She writes the 100 Years Ago in the News column with her sister, Sheila Northrop, and is past IGSI Secretary. She is treasurer for the Minnesota Genealogical Society and chairs its research committee. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies

Digital Treasures from Colleges and Universities

by Lori Thornton

Colleges and universities hold great repositories of interest to historians and genealogists. University archives often highlight the regional history of the area in which the institution is located. Denominational colleges are often charged with collecting the archives pertaining to that state's affiliated churches. Some academic institutions house interdisciplinary collections on topics of interest to family historians. In recent years all of these institutions have found ways to highlight their special collections by creating electronic exhibits of these materials. Sometimes the commitment to digitization of these materials is even greater, resulting in large databases of material available to researchers.

Obituary indexes

Obituary indexes are among the treasures to be found in college and university online projects. The Mennonite Church's Archives housed at Goshen College has placed "MennObits" online at http://www.mcusa-archives.org/MennObits/index/html. This is an index to obituaries of Amish and Mennonite persons published in the papers. Quaker obituaries may be found in the "American Friend Obituary Index" at http://www.earlham.edu/~libr/friends/obituaries/ at Earlham College. The Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University provides an index to the obituaries of Isabella County, Michigan at http://clarke.cmich.edu/isabellacoobituary/intro.htm.

State publications

Many university libraries produce indexes to the state's publications. For example, *Index Arkansas* (http://arkindex.uark.edu/) can be found at the University of Arkansas Libraries' site. They also have an index to the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* at http://arkindex.uark.edu/ahq/index.html for issues earlier than those indexed in *Index Arkansas*. Auburn University has placed online the table of contents for many of the state's historical publications: *Alabama Heritage* at http://www.auburn.edu/~bamarev/alaheritage.html, *Alabama Historical Quarterly* at http://www.auburn.edu/~bamarev/ahistqtr.html, *Alabama Review* at http://www.auburn.edu/~bamarev/alarevu.html, and *Gulf South Historical Review*, formerly *Gulf Coast Quarterly Review* at http://www.auburn.edu/~bamarev/gchr.html.

In Florida, the state's public universities have cooperated to bring many digital resources to the public. One of these is the *Florida Historical Quarterly* at http://palmm.fcla.edu/FHQ/; it is available for browsing or searching by issue.

Legal resources

Legal resources are another resource that many academic institutions have placed online. Yale Law School's "Avalon Project" (http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm) is one of the most renowned collections for researching legal history online. The collection contains materials from the colonial period to the present for United States researchers and even some much earlier documents of relevance to earlier periods of world history. "Florida Historical Legal Documents" at http://palmm.fcla.edu/law/ is a collection placed online by Florida's public universities. Florida Territorial Laws document forms the backbone for the collection and contains information on taxation, licensure, wills and estates, creation of roads, ferries, churches, payments to sheriffs, and divorce. The University of Minnesota's Law School provides a look at Irish Penal Laws through their "Laws in Ireland for the Suppression of Popery" collection at http://www.law.umn.edu/irishlaw/. Knowledge of the laws helps one understand the context in which one's ancestors lived.

Historic books, papers, finding aids

Historic books, papers, and manuscript finding aids are other areas of strength for academic collections. The University of Pennsylvania is known for its "Online Books Page" at http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/. While not all books in this collection are relevant to historical research, many in the collection are useful to family historians. The "New Hampshire History Bookshelf" is a feature of the University of New Hampshire's Digital Collections (http://www.library.unh.edu/diglib/). This collection contains all volumes of the provincial and state papers and a couple of town histories. The University of Hawai'i at Manoa has a collection of Hawaiian Language Newspapers at http://libweb.hawaii.edu/digicoll/newspapers.htm. The University of Wisconsin created a finding aid to the state's major archival collections; visit it at http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/wiarchives/.

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Historical maps

Colleges and universities have created wonderful online map collections where family researchers may find historical maps. The University of Texas' Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection (http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/)is one of the best. They also have links to other map collections with great historical maps. The Hargrett Library Rare Map Collection at the University of Georgia (http://www.libs.uga.edu/darchive/hargrett/maps/maps.html) is another great collection. Wichita State University has a collection of digitized Kansas maps (http://specialcollections.wichita.edu/collections/maps/index.asp) available to those visiting their site. Among the digital collections of IUPUI (Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis) are six volumes of Indiana plat books (http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/IndianaPlat/). Sanborn® Fire Insurance maps for Georgia towns and cities, from 1884-1922, are available at http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/sanborn/?Welcome The University of Utah provides these maps for Utah cities, 1867-1969 (http://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/collections/sanborn/). Tufts University developed "Boston Streets: Mapping Directory Data" which can be found at http://dca.tufts.edu/features/bostonstreets/index.html. *Boston City Directories* for 1845, 1855, 1865, 1870, 1872, 1875, 1885, 1905, and 1925 can be found on this site as well. Another feature of the site is a collection of Boston atlases from 1874, 1898, and 1928. The University of Notre Dame has a great collection entitled Irish Maps and Sea Charts at http://www.library.nd.edu/rarebooks/collections/maps/irish.shtml. While the collection is not digitized except for one map, there is a complete listing of available maps and charts.

Civil War

Louisiana State University houses one of the most renowned Civil War online collections, the "United States Civil War Center" (http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/). Cornell University houses a portion of the "Making of America" collection, which is funded by the Mellon Foundation; the University of Michigan houses the other part. The collection's focus is 19th century books and journals. Cornell's part of the collection includes *The Official Records of Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion and The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* which are very useful to those researching their ancestor's involvement in this conflict. The "Making of America" collection can be found at http://cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/index.html for Cornell's materials and at http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagrp/ for University of Michigan.

Letters and diaries

In many cases, collections of letters and diaries have been placed online. The University of Maryland's "Sterling Family Papers" collection (http://www.lib.umd.edu/dcr/collections/sterling/index.jsp) is a series of letters written by a Union officer's wife and other family members. The letters provide a glimpse into the everyday life of Maryland residents during the Civil War. Augustana College provides the diaries of Gould D. Molineaux and Basil H. Messler who fought in the War Between the States in their Civil War Diaries collection at http://www.augustana.edu/library/SpecialCollections/civil1.html. Both men fought in the Battle of Vicksburg. The Joseph Henry Lumpkin Family Papers, at http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/hargrett/lumpkin/?link=lump, provide insight into plantation life and politics from the 1820s to the early 1860s. The majority of the letters were written in the mid-1850s. "Trails of Hope: Overland Diaries and Letters, 1846-1869" (http://overlandtrails.lib.byu.edu/) is a collection of diaries of Mormons who made a trip westward. It is online at Brigham Young University. The collection of Soper family letters at Luther College (http://archives.luther.edu/soper/index.html) brings World War I to life through the correspondence of this Iowa family.

Oral history

An expanding area of interest for academic libraries is preservation of oral history. The University of Southern Mississippi interviewed persons from many walks of life who experienced the Civil Rights era in Mississippi and placed them online in their "Civil Rights Documentation Project" (http://www.usm.edu/crdp/). Roosevelt University has a similar collection documenting the history of the labor movement at http://www2.roosevelt.edu/library/oralhistory/oralhistory.htm. The University of California at Berkeley has documented Western Mining in the 20th century in a similar manner with http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO/projects/mining/index.html.

Religious collections

Many colleges and universities founded by religious groups choose digitization projects which reflect their religious

heritage. Even colleges which were not founded by denominations sometimes digitize collections that help document religious affiliations. Samford University houses the Alabama Baptist Index among its special collections (http://library.samford.edu/about/sc/collections/other.html). This is a searchable database of the state's Baptist publications. The Claremont Colleges have a very interesting collection of "San Gabriel Mission Matrimonial Investigation Records" at http://libraries.claremont.edu/sc/online/marrinvest/matinvest.htm which contains genealogical information on the 343 persons interviewed. Earlham College is well-known for its "Digital Quaker Collection" (http://esr.earlham.edu/dqc/) of digitized documents detailing Quaker theology, spirituality, history, and practice. Villanova University has a growing collection of Catholic books in its "Catholica Collection" at http://digital.library.villanova.edu/Catholica%20Collection/.

Photographic collections

Photographic collections enable us to visualize our ancestor's world a little better. Wichita State University has a photograph collection of more than 250 photographs of sod houses at http://specialcollections.wichita.edu/collections/ms/95-20/sodhouse.html. Augustana College has a collection of photographs focusing on farm life at http://www.augustana.edu/library/SpecialCollections/FarmLife/farm1.html. Taken of the John Deere homestead, the images include implements, barns, farmsteads, vehicles, animals, and portraits. Did your ancestor live through a flood? Try University of California's Historic Flood Photograph Collection at http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/WRCA/flood.html. They also have a collection of historic earthquake images at http://nisee.berkeley.edu/kozak/.

Ethnic materials

Some academic special collections focus on ethnic groups. The Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore is part of *LOUISiana Digital Library Collections Online* (http://louisdl.louislibraries.org), a project sponsored by Louisiana's public and private colleges with the majority of the work being done at Louisiana State University. The University of Denver has a collection of images devoted to Pioneer Jewish Families at http://www.penlib.du.edu/About/collections/SpecialCollections/ImagesofPioneerJewishFamilies.cfm. The University of Miami has a Cuban Heritage Collection of digital manuscripts, photographs, letters, maps at http://merrick.library.miami.edu/digitalprojects/chc.html. One of the newer technologies is the wiki, a collaborative website which can be edited by many people. Brigham Young University uses this format with its "EuroDocs" collection and lists several Irish histories at http://eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/History_of_Ireland:_Primary_Documents.

Irish

Steve Taylor at Vassar has compiled a wonderful resource called "Views of the Famine" (http://adminstaff.vassar.edu/sttaylor/FAMINE/) which documents the Irish potato famine through digitized images of articles from the time. Quinnipiac University in Connecticut houses the *Great Hunger Room* collection of digitized texts at http://www.quinnipiac.edu/x912.xml. Most of the books in the collection are from the nineteenth century. Among the texts included are William Patrick O'Brien's *The Great Famine of Ireland* and S. M. Hussey's *The Reminiscences of an Irish Land Agent*. There is also a bibliography of all materials available in this collection at http://www.quinnipiac.edu/x939.xml. Boston College's Irish Serials Catalog includes more than 1500 magazines, newspapers, and scholarly journals about Ireland. It can be found at http://library.bc.edu/F?func=find-b-0&local_base=BCL_IRS. The primary purpose of this catalog is to support the college's Irish Studies program; however, its usefulness extends beyond the institution's walls to others studying or researching all things Irish. New York University, which offers an Irish American Studies program, created the Archives of Irish America (http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/aia/) as a collection relating to various aspects of Irish American life. There are finding aids to the collection as well as some digital exhibits and collections available. Catholic University of America houses the "Fenian Brotherhood Collection" (http://www.aladin.wrlc.org/gsdl/collect/fenian/fenian.shtml). The Fenian Brotherhood was a 19th group of Irishmen in America who supported overthrowing British rule in Ireland.

Local collections

Sometimes, collections help us better understand the world in which our ancestors lived. Notre Dame's "Coin and Currency Collection" (http://www.

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'Digital Treasures from Colleges and Universities' continued from page 9

coins.nd.edu/) provides information on coins of the colonial and early American periods of United States history. Visit Michigan State University's "Feeding America: The Historic American Cookbook Project" at http://digital.lib.msu.edu/projects/cookbooks/ for the foods our ancestors might have enjoyed. The University of Connecticut's "Railroad Stations in Southern New England" at http://railroads.uconn.edu/exhibits/railroadstations/index.html provides a glimpse into the era of rail travel.

In many states, academic libraries partner with other types of libraries to provide great state-wide or regional collections of interest to most of the libraries. *Hudson River Valley Heritage* (http://www.hrvh.org/) is one such example. *The Northwest Digital Archives* (http://nwda.wsulibs.wsu.edu/) provides materials of interest to those researching the Pacific Northwest. *Ohio Memory* at http://www.ohiomemory.org/ is another project; its primary sources from 330 archives, historical societies, libraries and museums document Ohio's past. This collection resembles the well-known *American Memory Project* (http://memory.loc.gov), hosted by the Library of Congress, which contains many collections contributed by academic institutions throughout the United States.

The South

The Digital Library of Appalachia (http://www.aca-dla.org/) is entirely sponsored by academic libraries which are members of the Appalachian College Association. The collection focuses on the history and culture of lower Appalachia where many Scots-Irish immigrants settled. *The Virginia Heritage Collection* (http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaead/) allows one to locate manuscript collections across Virginia of interest to Virginia researchers.

One of the premier collections for researching one's Southern roots is *Documenting the American South* (http://docsouth.unc.edu/) at the University of North Carolina. The collection contains a wide range of items of interest. Among the more than 500 oral histories, the "True and Candid Observations" collection contains documents describe the experiences of former students at the university, from 1795 to 1868. "First-Person Narratives of the South" contains accounts from all walks of Southern life. Other collections focus on state or university history. "The Southern Homefront, 1861-1865" brings the Civil War to life through government documents, pamphlets, and diaries. In Georgia, academic libraries created a state encyclopedia that is a great resource for those researching the state's history. *The New Georgia Encyclopedia* (http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Home.jsp) not only contains the text that you find in most print reference sources, but also images, audio, and video clips.

The Savannah College of Art and Design has produced the *Virtual Historic Savannah Project* (http://vsav.scad.edu/) which provides a wealth of information about the architecture and residents of downtown Savannah's historic buildings. Florida International University developed the "Miami Metropolitan Archive" (http://miami.fiu.edu/) of important source materials relating to Miami-Dade County history and culture. Wayne State University offers the "Virtual Motor City: Images from the Detroit News" at http://dlxs.lib.wayne.edu/cgi/i/image/image-idx?c=vmc;page=index. Most images in the collection were taken between 1900 and 1980. Among DePaul University's special collections is the "Lincoln Park Neighborhood Collection" (http://www.lib.depaul.edu/speccoll/guides/lpnc.htm).

Other university resources

Don't forget to check your ancestor's alma mater to see if there might be information about him available online. You might just locate him in a finding aid, or you might find a photograph if yearbooks have been digitized or if they have loose photographs which have been digitized. When exploring the finding aids, don't forget to browse the organizations to which he might have belonged. Many times the finding aids do not go to the individual name level, particularly if not all persons in the photograph may be known to those compiling the aids or if the library does not have the staff*ing* level to support more complete finding aids.

Note: Colleges and universities move things on their web sites more frequently than other types of sites. All URLs were current at the time this article was written. If a collection has moved, the new location can usually be found by searching the collection name and hosting university in a search engine or by going to the university library's web site and looking for a listing of their digital collections.

Research Assistance

IGSI Member Benefit

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI research volunteers search our Library for information requested by a current member.

Lori Thornton, MLS, is Associate Professor, Technical Services Librarian at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee, where she also teaches courses in Computer Information Systems. She has written articles for "Itawamba Settlers" and "The Christian Librarian" on genealogical research. She speaks on genealogical research at the local, state, and national level to librarians and to genealogical societies and conferences

With your request for research assistance, send:

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Need a Little Research Assistance?

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- Emigrant Savings Bank, New York - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- O'Kiefe, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- The Search for Missing Friends, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the Boston Pilot.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

Online resources that we use and check:

- Irish Origins, which has the definitive version of Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland records and maps, an Index of Irish Wills (1484-1858), and other Irish databases
- HeritageQuest Online, to search U.S. census and other U.S. historical resources, and to search family and local histories, and periodicals, for information on people and places.

If you are interested in research involving other publications or sources, send us a query. We will advise you if it can be searched.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge. The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of tube.

Irish Ancestors at Ireland.com

by John Grenham

The Irish Ancestors website (http://www.ireland.com/ancestor) has always had a slightly different focus than most other genealogy sites. Rather than providing online records, it provides detailed help in identifying which records are relevant for researching Irish ancestors, and giving precise locations, dates, call numbers and, if they are online, links.

Background & history

The site grew directly out of *Grenham's Irish Recordfinder*, an Irish genealogy expert system I put together between 1992 and 1995. A large part of the day-to-day work of a professional genealogist in Ireland in the 1980s and early 1990s consisted of repeated consultation of the same reference works in the same order - find a townland, identify the civil parish, work out the Catholic parish, check the diocese, check the dates, order the microfilm. Contact with databases – first, Microsoft Works 2, in 1992 was a revelation. In theory, at least, it could all be done just once and would then be permanently available at the click of a button.

Three years and much late-night typing later, the first version of the *Recordfinder* was ready, to be distributed on no fewer than 21 floppy disks. It was clear from the outset that, for the average researcher, the program was overkill. If your ancestors were Catholic tenant farmers from Cork, why would you want complete listings of all the Presbyterian records of Antrim? So it was aimed at libraries, societies and professionals like myself, and priced accordingly. The Internet, just beginning to blossom, was an obvious route to allow users access to only the information they needed.

Paddy Waldron, a lecturer in mathematics at Trinity with an interest in genealogy, had put up a very basic non-HTML internet site on Irish research in 1993. As part of a course he was giving on the Internet, his students digitised most of the first edition of my book *Tracing your Irish Ancestors*, which became part of IRLGEN, a site hosted by Paddy on the Business Economics and Social Studies section of the TCD (Trinity College, Dublin) website.

Ireland.com home page.

In 1995, I showed Paddy the *Recordfinder*; he suggested that I talk to Itronics, the commercial subsidiary of the *Irish Times* that was just starting out with the *Irish Times* online. They were looking for ways to make the service pay, and agreed to buy 50% of the online rights to the program, including IRLGEN, while I retained the other 50%. At that stage, the *Irish Times* online comprised three guys sitting on boxes in front of PCs; it took another three years before an online version of the *Recordfinder* was produced.

It was launched in May 1998 and was an immediate commercial success. From the outset, the plan was that most of the site would be free (basically the IRLGEN section, and the surnames and place names side of the *Recordfinder*); a small section, "Gen.ie" would provide a more detailed, up-to-date and personalised report, for a fee.

Over the following two years, additions and incremental changes were made, including *Lewis' Topographical Dictionary* and Seán de Bhulbh's surname dictionary. By 2000, it was clear that the underlying design, as well as the look and feel, needed radical revision; version 2, with a subscription section, was launched in December 2000. This is still the basic architecture of the site, though much has been added and changed. I do the programming (Cold Fusion), database design (MS SQL Server), record addition, maintenance and customer service. Overheads are low.

Additions and increments continued, with the addition of interactive Catholic parish maps, civil parish maps, the 2nd edition of *Tracing your Irish Ancestors*, a links section, a magazine section, and more. Check the "What's new" section

(http://www.ireland.com/ancestor/new.htm) for a full account.

In December 2004, a research section was added to allow users to commission record searches in collaboration with Eneclann. A wizard, analysing users' research needs, was added in September 2007.

For the future, we plan to develop user-generated content, probably by expanding the wizard and allowing users to store their family data. The sale of the *Recordfinder* on CD-ROM was discontinued in 2006.

Usage

The most popular section of the site is "Browse", which includes most of the free material: *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, the parish maps, contacts and links sections and the magazine. It gets 31% of traffic. Second most popular is the "Surnames" section, again mostly free, with an average of 28% of users. The "Ancestor Search" section gets 10%, the "Placenames" section 5%, the offline research section 5%, and the subscription section 1%.

There has been an interesting change in the composition of the user base since the site launched. For the first four years, users' locations broke down at around 70% North America, 15% Australia/New Zealand, 10% Britain and 5% Ireland. Currently, it seems to be about 35-40% North America, 15% Australia/New Zealand, 25-30% Britain and 5-10% Ireland.

Using the Site

Browse (http://www.ireland.com/ancestor/browse)

This section consists of

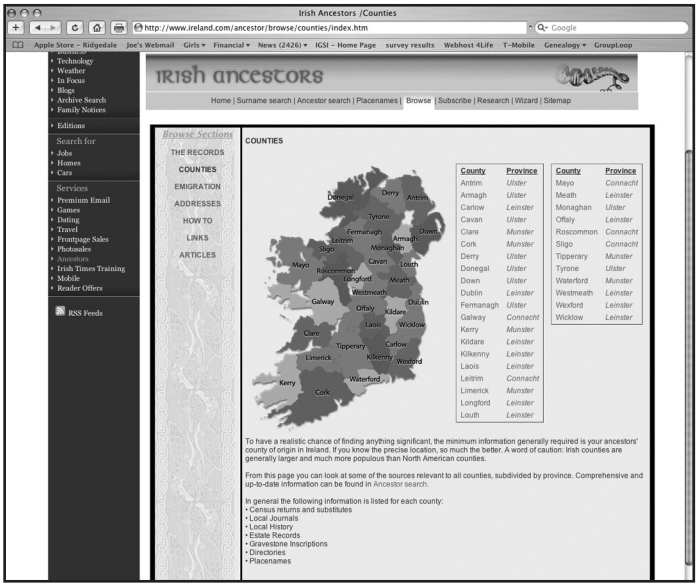
- A general overview of the records relevant to Irish family history research, based on Chapters 1 to 11 of the 2nd edition of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*. The equivalent chapters from the 3rd edition should be online by Spring 2008.

  There is a map featured on the page. Taking just the top of the page gives an idea of the content.) Both this & the next one feature maps – maybe use just one.

- A county-by-county listing of relevant records, again based on Chapter 13 of the 2nd edition of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*. Each county also includes a brief history and links to the relevant civil parish maps, Roman Catholic parish records and any online transcripts of records.

- Roman Catholic parish maps. Clickable versions of the parish maps in the 3rd edition of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* link to full details of all known copies of the records. This also links to a listing of all civil parishes included in part or whole in the Roman Catholic parish, with listings of townlands or streets.

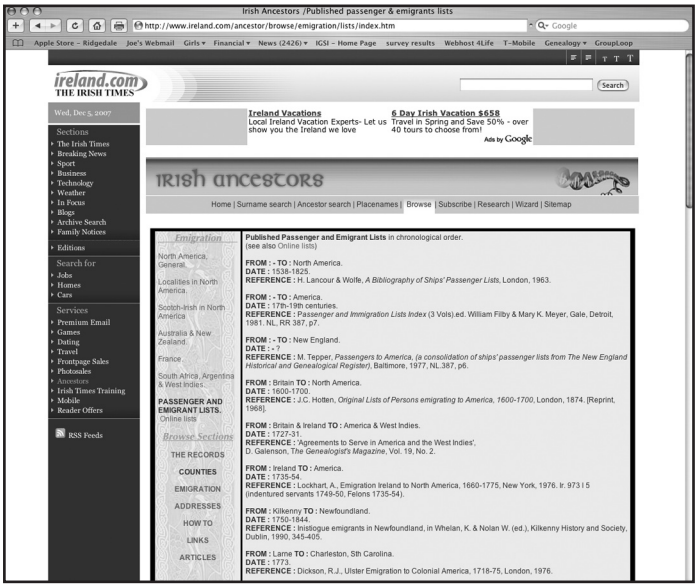
- Civil parish maps. Clickable county-by-county maps of all Irish civil parishes link to listings of townlands or streets as recorded in the 1851 Townlands Index. Included with these is a count of the ten most numerous surnames in the parish, as recorded in Griffith's; a map showing the location of the parish; a list of the adjoining parishes; and a preview of the number of relevant records relating to the parish in various cat-



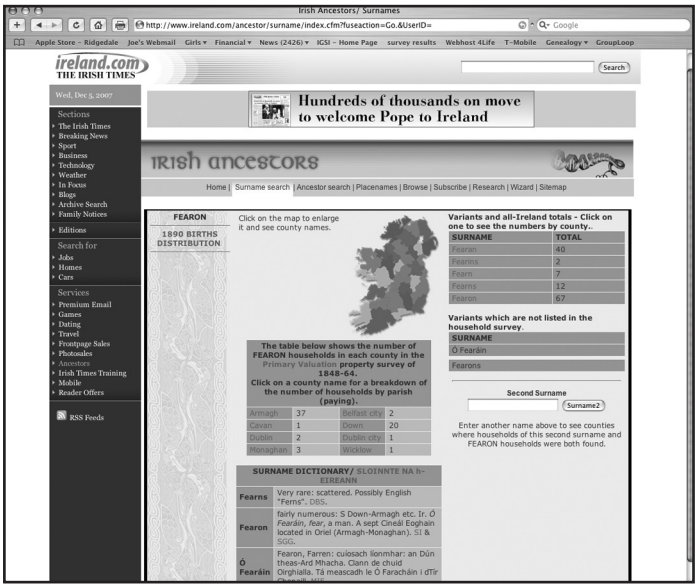
One of the features of the Browse section on the Ireland.com site. This is a county-by-county map.

'Irish Ancestor at Ireland.com' continued on page 14

'Irish Ancestor at Ireland.com' continued from page 13



Browse also allows you to research emigration resords.



Surname searches can help in locating the county.

egories – estate records, gravestone transcripts, parish records, etc. There is a charge to see the details of these, but the report is then available indefinitely.

- Resources for researching emigration from Ireland. Printed and published works relating to the Irish abroad, based on Chapter 7 of the 2nd edition of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*.
- Contact addresses for all the bodies holding Irish records.
- Links to sites of Irish research interest. This is subdivided into various categories, of which the largest are: the counties section, detailing links to transcripts of local records; the families section, listing sites covering particular surnames or families; and passenger lists, listing links to transcribed lists, by origin, destination, ship's name and year.
- Articles on various aspects of Irish heritage and genealogy. This was an attempt at mutual back-scratching with various publications covering Irish heritage and genealogy. The idea was that they would supply a sample article and we would publicise them in return. We ran out of magazines fairly early on, but there are still some excellent articles available, in particular some pieces from the late, lamented *The Irish at Home and Abroad*.

Surname search (http://www.ireland.com/ancestor/surname)

This section was designed to be a simple as possible. Enter a surname, and see what pops up. Depending on the surname (obviously) the results, which are free to view, can include:

- a surname dictionary entry;
- a fuller surname history;
- a coat of arms;
- websites related to the surname;
- a bibliography of published works on families of the surname;
- a listing of surname variants, with all-Ireland totals for Griffith's Valuation of 1847-64;
- a breakdown by county of the number of households of the precise surname recorded in Griffith's.

This last is not a simple index count of the numbers; it only includes entries where a house is recorded.

From the county breakdown, paying a fee provides a report with more detail. By clicking on a county name, users can get a breakdown by parish of the numbers of households of the surname. This is NOT a complete transcript of all the entries; it simple counts household entries in each parish. The aim is to help narrow down a possible area of origin.

Another service from here for which there is a charge is the Double surname search. A user can get a breakdown of all parishes in Ireland where any two surnames are both recorded in Griffith's, with the number of households of each surname. Again, the aim is to help narrow down a possible area of origin.

Ancestor search (http://www.ireland.com/ancestor/genie)
This is another section for which there is a charge. A user can enter whatever they know about a particular ancestor to get a report detailing precisely which records are relevant to researching that ancestor. This report remains available at the site indefinitely and can be revisited at any time. Obviously, the level of detail in the report depends on the information submitted. In addition, any new relevant record references added to our databases in future will automatically be added to the report.

Placenames
The 1851 Townlands Index is free and fully searchable. Results can be restricted to a particular county, poor law union or civil parish. The results are linked to a paying report showing all entries from *Lewis' Topographical Dictionary* (1837) for the selected civil parish, or a free report based on the civil parish maps

Subscriptions
Users can buy 30 units to be used as and when they wish. There is no time-limit on access and there is no automatic renewal.

The subscription section offers discounted access to the paying areas of the site. These are:

1. Surname Search costs 1 unit to see a breakdown of the number of households of a particular surname in each parish of the chosen county.

2. Two surnames costs 3 units to view parishes where households of two surnames are both recorded in the Primary Valuation property survey of 1848-64.

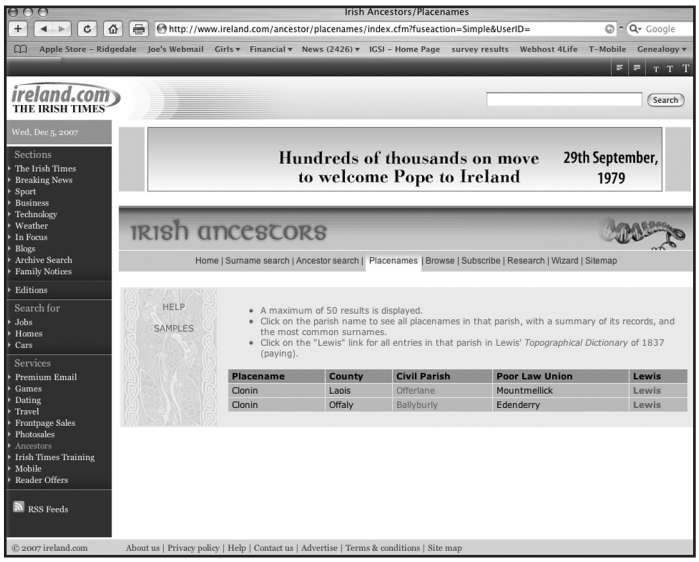
3. Placename Search costs 1 unit to see all descriptive entries relating to a particular parish, from *Lewis' Topographical Dictionary*.

4. Ancestor Search costs 10 units to create a report detailing which record sources are relevant to a particular ancestor. This remains available indefinitely, even when the subscription units are exhausted.

5. Civil parish Search costs 1 unit per record-source to see what records there are for a particular civil parish.

In addition, subscription users can carry out individual searches in each of the record categories included in the Ancestor search. A subscriber can check what graveyards and transcripts of inscriptions exist for a particular parish or county, see what commercial directories cover a particular town, see what records there are for a particular occupation, and so on. In each case, a summary page showing the number of records found is displayed at no cost. Only if the subscriber chooses to view the details of the records found is 1 unit deducted.

The wizard is also available via subscription, with any record details indicated available through unit-deduction.



Placenames give you insight into where a townland is located in Ireland.

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'Irish Ancestor at Ireland.com' continued from page 166

Research

At the end of 2004, an offline research service, launched in association with Eneclann, allowed users to commission record searches in the National Archives of Ireland, the National Library or the General Register Office at relatively low rates. Researchers supplied quite specific information about places and dates to do this. The aim was to alleviate some of the frustration felt by a user in Albuquerque looking at precise details of a relevant record sitting in a library 6,000 miles away. The service has been successful, though not spectacularly so. Nobody will ever get rich through Irish genealogy.

In the future, we hope to expand the service by integrating it more fully with the recently launched wizard (see below).

Wizard

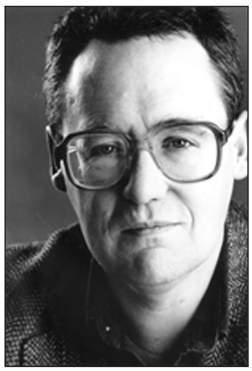
Launched in September 2007, this collects information in a step-by-step process, with each question determined by the answer given in the previous step, to produce a series of recommendations for research. The aim was to be user-friendly both in collecting the information and making the recommendations, to try to reproduce a conversation with an Irish genealogist. It took quite a while to program, is fiendishly complicated under the surface and, obviously, can't cover all possible constellations of circumstances. But so far, it seems to be working well. The service is free.

The Future

We hope to expand the wizard end of the site and create more "user-generated content" - to use the Web 2.0 jargon - probably by allowing users to store their own information and research recommendations, with these latter changing dynamically whenever new references are added. Better integration with the newly-launched *Irish Times* archive is also on the horizon.

One recurrent question about the site is "Won't it be redundant when all the records are available online?" The answer is "Yes, probably". But the devil is in that little "when". My own feeling is there are too many stakeholders with too many agendas (and sub-agendas, and sub-sub-agendas) to ever make an Irish equivalent of Ancestry.com possible. Ireland will have (some of) the parish records available online in one place, the 1901/1911 censuses elsewhere, Griffith's somewhere else, GRO records God knows where, God knows when. The nature of Irish research is that the thousands of small, locally-relevant sources are much more important than elsewhere, and will always require help and an honest broker to access.

John Grenham is the author of a numerous works, including Tracing Your Irish Ancestors *(3rd ed. Gill & Macmillan, 2006), the standard guide,* Irish Ancestors *(Gill & MacMillan, 2004) and the CD-ROM* Grenham's Irish Surnames *(Eneclann, 2003). He was formerly a professional genealogist and a project manager with the Irish Genealogical Project and from 1995 to 2006 developed and marketed his own genealogy software. He was Dublin City Library and Archive Genealogist-in-Residence in 2005/6. He runs the* Irish Ancestors *website http://www.ireland.com/ancestor in association with* The Irish Times. *His own website is at http://www.johngrenham.com*



Bliain úr faoi shéan is faoi mise duit

Happy New Year to you

IGSI Website: There's No Place Like Home

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

You won't even have to click your ruby slippers together to find the treasures in our own IGSI "home," the society website at http://www.irishgenealogical.org.

Follow the keyboard road to our very own Irish Oz, where you'll find amazing reading and wondrous databases; some helpful to you, some helpful to others—but all ready and waiting for your journey of discovery.

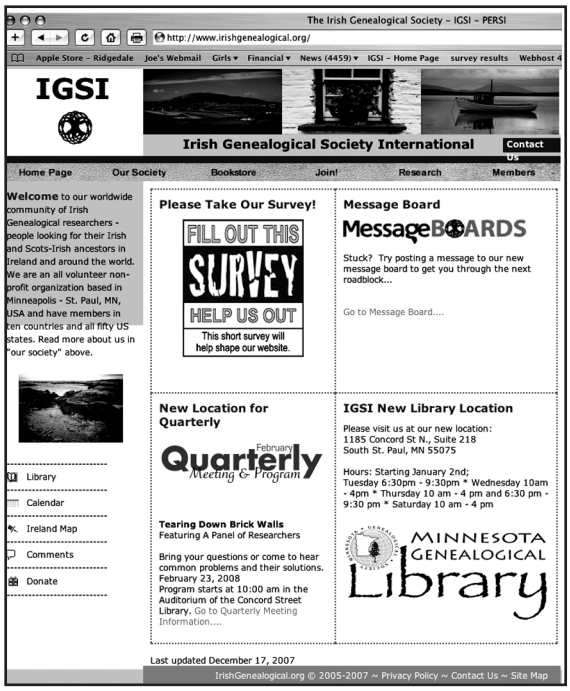
First, let's check out the big picture. The main parts of the homepage are:

- The middle—this is where you'll find the most current news, timely information, special events, surveys, meeting dates and more.
- The top—the orange menu bar near the top of the page is your guide through the website. You'll find it an unchanging beacon in your journey. As you wander through the website, you can always find your way home by clicking on the "home page" button.
- The left side—the five subjects here do not appear on every webpage, although you will find them on many pages as you journey through all the information at IGSI.

The Meaty Middle

At the time I checked the home page, the four boxes in the center of the page included an IGSI survey; the IGSI message board; information on the new physical location of the IGSI library and meeting place; and current news about the quarterly meeting. Let's work our way through each box:

- **The survey.** This particular survey will affect how our IGSI website will eventually look and function. The website builders want to know how you are using this site, whether it is easy to move around within it, and whether it covers subjects that are useful to you. This is your chance to let us know what you need and want in this online gateway to Irish research.
  - Before you take the survey, cruise around the website and experiment with different buttons; follow your nose down a path to see how easy (or difficult) it is to find what you are looking for, to return to the home page, to contact the society—whatever you can think of.
  - Take notes on what you like, what could be improved and what could be added. Then, take the survey and let us know what you think.



IrishGenealogical.org's home page.

- **The message boards.** Click "Go to message boards" to reach the IGSI blog. With lots of participation from those of us searching for Irish ancestors, this board can grow to be a vast resource for sharing family history.
- To search, enter a term in the "search blog" function. This is still a baby blog, so you may not find much here yet. If you want to search again, just click "search blog" again to go back to the starting point.
- To answer a query, click on the entry under "message", then click "add response" to add your comment to the blog. Just fill in your screen name (mine is "strickkao"), e-mail address, and then type a comment in the message response box. Check your spelling and click "submit"!
- Go ahead and add your own query to the blog—the more of us who participate, the more we can help each other. It's important to make using the blog as simple as possible. For more

'IGSI Website: There is No Place Like Home' continued on page 18

'IGSI Website: There is No Place Like Home' continued from page 17

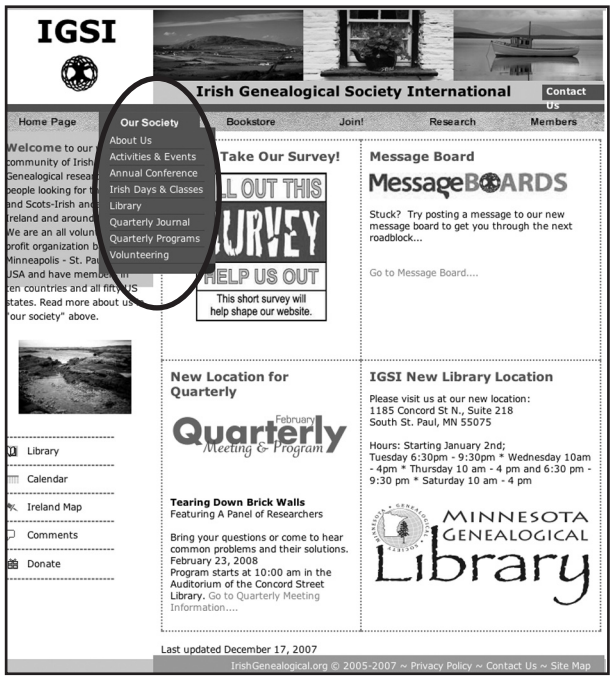
in-depth help, please see the sidebar to this article.

- **The New Location for the Quarterly.** Here you'll find out about meetings past, present and future.
  - Click on the "go to Quarterly" link to see what IGSI meetings are all about; when they happen; and the remarkable, knowledgeable people who give the presentations.
  - On the left column, click "date" or "upcoming programs" to check out the next upcoming meeting.
- **Important relocation notice.** This timely announcement explains where the Minnesota Genealogical Library is now located—and the IGSI library with it.
  - Click on the graphic to check out the new location.
  - You'll also find a broad overview of the MGS library holdings, IGSI classes and a map.

The Multi-featured Menu Bar at the Top of the Page

We'll explore this in detail in a future issue. In a nutshell, the items on this menu will help you to:

- Always find your way home again when you click "home page", no matter how deeply you have dug into the depths of the website and databases.
- Look up the time, place and subject of the Society's meetings and special events; the hours and location of the library; find out more about the Society's publications. Just click "Our Society".
- Find out what is available from the bookstore and how to place an order when you click "Bookstore".
- Learn about the benefits of IGSI membership and how to join when you click "Join".
- Discover how and where to research your Irish heritage by clicking "Research".
- Enjoy member benefits when you join IGSI; just click "Members".



IGSI's home page. Check the menu bar for pull down menus that allow you to find out more informaiton.

That's just the basic view of the homepage of our website. There's much more to explore through the headings on the orange menu bar. So begin your own journey of discovery by logging into the member section for full access to all our features.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, IL. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors.
-- Edmund Burke

Writing a Query

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

Writing a clear, clean, easily understood query will take you a long way down the road to receiving a response. Queries follow the standard journalism standard of who, what, why, when and how. Try to ask only one question per query. You can always write more queries later. If you keep these tips in mind, queries are pretty simple to put together.

WHO: The name of the person you have questions about will go into the "subject" box on the query form. The name should be in all capital letters: *CARR*

If you are querying about a marriage, you can use both names:

CARR/O'MALLEY

WHAT: What are you looking for? It could be a person's parents, date of death, marriage date, children's names—the list, of course, is endless. Let's say you need to know:

Date and place of marriage

WHERE: Give as much helpful information as possible to separate the people you are looking for from all the others with the same or similar names:

Eliza CARR, born in Co. Carlow Ireland, married James O'MALLEY, born in Killybegs, Co. Donegal Ireland. Married in a Catholic church in northern Illinois.

You have given location of births and general area of marriage place. You may wish to include a location in the subject of your query:

CARR/O'MALLEY/Northern Illinois

WHEN: Add as many helpful dates as you can for those reading your query:

IGSI's query form.

Eliza CARR, born 8 Sep 1845 in Co. Carlow, Ireland, married James O'MALLEY, born 5 Apr 1843 in Killybegs, Co. Donegal, Ireland. They married in northern Illinois before 1867.

Now readers know when your people were born and a range of years for a marriage date.

HOW: Do you know what religion they followed? You know that the family was Catholic, so you can state:

Probably married in a Catholic church.

WHY: Why may not always be pertinent to your query, but you can think of it as the umbrella for significant details: perhaps you know a helpful fact, such as families sailing on the same ship to the United States from Ireland or fathers worked together laying railroad track:

Fathers were both peddlers in Illinois.

Once you have your facts laid out in black and white, you can compose your query:

Subject: CARR/O'MALLEY

Looking for the date and place of marriage of Eliza CARR, born 8 Sep 1845 in Co. Carlow, Ireland, to James O'MALLEY, born 5 Apr 1843 in Killybegs, Co. Donegal, Ireland.

The family was Catholic, and family tradition states that Eliza and James were married before 1867 somewhere in northern Illinois, where both of their fathers made their livings as peddlers.

Kathleen O'MALLEY STRICKLAND
strickkao@aol.com

Sign off the query with your name and e-mail address. Be sure to proofread it before you click on the "submit" button. When you receive a response, don't forget to say "thanks"!

The Genealogist's Best Friend: the Census

by Jay Fonkert, CG

The whole idea of a government agent writing down the names of everyone in a household, along with their ages, relationships and places of birth, and saving the information for future generations, is about as good as it gets for genealogists.

In the last issue of *The Septs*, Nancy Grell warned us of some the pitfalls to avoid when using the census. Every historical record that we use to reconstruct our families is subject to errors, and needs to be evaluated for reliability. But, the census, if used with care, can tell us a great deal about our ancestors.

The census improves with time

The U.S. government took its first census in 1790, and has gone back to the people every 10 years since to count the population. From a genealogical point-of-view, the U.S. Census can be divided into three time frames:

- From 1790 to 1840, the census recorded names of heads of households only, but it also indicated the number of free and slave males and females by broad age categories. Don't overlook these early censuses. If you pay attention to the age-composition of households, you can identify good matches for your pre-1850 ancestors.

- Beginning in 1850, the census recorded the names, ages and place of birth of all household members.

- The really good stuff starts in 1880, when the census recorded the relationship of each individual to the head of the household. Later censuses gave information about length of marriages, number of children, citizenship and veteran status.

The early censuses were conducted primarily for purposes of apportioning seats in the House of Representatives. This is why it was important to differentiate between free persons and slaves (which counted as three-fifths of a person for apportionment), but it was not important to record every household member by name. Later censuses had the added goal of collecting social and economic statistics about the population. As immigration soared in the late 1800s, the government wanted to know more about arrival dates, citizenship status and language. The 1930 census even asked whether a family had a radio.

The census leads to other sources

Why use the census? Because it not only enumerates individuals in family contexts, but it also provides important leads to other sources. The census gives clues to immigration, military service, employment and land ownership.

Some highlights:

Immigration and Citizenship. The 1900 census recorded the year of immigration, the number of years in the U.S., and citizenship status. The 1910 and 1920 censuses recorded year of immigration and citizenship status.

Military service. The 1910 census asked if a male had served in the Civil War. The 1930 census asked if a person was a veteran, and if so, in which war he had served.

Birth dates. Most censuses record only a person's age on census day. The 1900 census gave bonus information: the month and year of birth. The 1870 and 1880 censuses recorded the month of birth, if within the year.

Marriage and children. The 1850 and 1860 censuses indicated if a couple was married within the year; the 1870 census asked the month of marriages within the year. The 1900 and 1910 censuses recorded years of the current marriage. The 1930 census asked the age of first marriage. The 1910 and 1920 censuses are very helpful for understanding families because they indicate how many children a mother had borne, and how many were still living.

Occupation. Every census from 1850 forward recorded occupation. The 1910, 1920 and 1930 censuses recorded the industry, or kind of business, in which a person worked.

Economic status. The 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses indicated value of real estate (the latter two also recorded the value of personal property). Censuses from 1910 forward recorded whether a family rented or owned its home, and whether the property was owned free or mortgaged.

So, what was the question?

When interpreting the answers to any survey, it is important to know what the question was. The government gave census enumerators detailed instructions about what to ask and how to record information. You can consult these instructions at the *Integrated Public Microdata Series* website at the University of Minnesota (http://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumInstr.shtml).

Some of the most important instructions had to do with who should be recorded. Every census had a "census date" – the census was to be an enumeration of people in a community on that date. However, the poor census-taker couldn't get to everyone on the official census day. The actual date of visitation usually appears at the top of each census page. The enumerator was instructed to list all people living in the household on the official census date, including anyone who had died in days or weeks hence. Similarly, the enumerator was not to list a child born between the census date and his visit to the household.

The instructions regarding occupation are also interesting. Enumerators were cautioned to distinguish between "farmers" and "farm laborers." Terms like "glover," "hatter" and "furrier" were reserved for those who actually made these products; those who merely sold them were to be called dealers. The government also gave enumerators instructions for describing languages and nations of birth. In 1860, enumerators were told that "Germany" was not sufficient; they were to name to particular German state, such as Bavaria or Baden. In 1920, after the fall of the Austria-Hungary, persons born in territories of Austria were to be assigned to a specific province, such as Bohemia or Croatia. After all, Austria-Hungary no longer existed.

Census records are easy to find

You have two options for finding your family in the census. The first is microfilm. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) filmed all manuscripts in its possession in 1940. The 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses were filmed twice: by NARA and again by the Family History Library.

Most census manuscripts from 1820 forward are preserved for viewing on microfilm or online at services such as *Ancestry.com* or *HeritageQuest Online*. Records for several states are missing from the 1790 to 1810 period. The other big gap is 1890. A 1920 warehouse fire destroyed nearly all the 1890 census returns before they were microfilmed.

Ancestry.com and *HeritageQuest Online* are available free in many libraries. Make creative use of their search engines. You can also order microfilm of most censuses through a local LDS Family History Center.

Consider these tips

I have three broad pieces of advice for beginning and intermediate genealogists:

- When you find your ancestor on a census manuscript, don't stop after the name, age and place of birth. Read across the entire page for other important information that may help you untangle your family history. Make a photocopy of the whole page, or transcribe all the information about every person in the household.

- Look at other households in the pages immediately preceding and following your family of interest. Pay attention to names and places of birth. These neighbors might be relatives or people who migrated together, and offer important clues for your research. However, proximity on a page does not necessarily mean next-door; the census-taker might have jumped around.

- Track the family backward and forward through as many censuses as you can. Compare the information to see if it is consistent. Pay attention to changes in names and irregularities in reported ages.

A handy way to correlate census data over time is to make a simple table such as the one below for the family of William Kuisle. There are some minor discrepancies in ages and middle initials between censuses, but this is clearly the same family. This kind of table also allows you to see individuals entering and leaving the household over time.

'The Genealogist Best Friend: the Census' continued on page 22

'The Genealogist's Best Friend: the Census' continued from page 21

William Kuisle Family, 1910 - 1930

April 15, 1910 Eyota Twp. Olmsted Co.	January 1, 1920 Eyota Twp. Olmsted Co.	April 1, 1930 Eyota Twp. Olmsted Co.
William Kuisle, 37	William Kuisle, 47	William Kuisle, 57
Agnes M., 24	Mary A., 35	Mary A., 44
Albanis A., 2	Albanis A., 13	
	Mary, 8	Mary, 18
	Joseph W., 5	Joseph W., 15
	Catherine L., 3	Catherine L., 13
	Regina, 7 mo.	Alice G., 11
		William J., 3

The U.S. Census is an international model, but by the mid-1800s, other countries also took nation-wide censuses. England enumerated all individuals beginning in 1840. The modern Canadian census dates from 1851. Countries such as Sweden and the Netherlands had records that served a similar purpose. By 1850, The Netherlands required local civil authorities to maintain a population register that not only recorded all individuals in a household, but indicated when people came to or left a town. The Swedish clerical registers were like an ongoing census, recording information about births, marriages, deaths and migration. The registers were church records, so they contained information of interest to the state church, such as communion and catechism marks.

As valuable as the federal census is to genealogists, it is only an every 10-year snapshot, missing population movements during each decade. The loss of the 1890 census created a troublesome 20-year gap at a time of heavy westward migration. Genealogists can use tax, land, probate and other records to track ancestors during this period, but one of the best options – especially in the Midwest – is state censuses. Many states took censuses at the midpoints of decades to complement the federal census. I will discuss these in more detail in the next issue of *The Septs*.

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Periodicals with Online Connections

by Ann Eccles

The IGSI Library receives a number of periodicals with articles of great interest to Irish researchers. Unfortunately, many members cannot come to the library to use them. So, how can they benefit from the information? By using the *Periodical Source Index*, better known as *PERSI*. A subject index to genealogical and historical periodical articles, *PERSI* is widely recognized as being a vital source for genealogical researchers. The easiest way to access it is to use it through *HeritageQuest Online*, a genealogy resource generally found in most public libraries.

Search by subject and then either request a copy of the journal or article or check for a website associated with that publication. For many of the periodicals at IGSI there is a website for the publication or the publishing association that gives further opportunity for research.

Irish Roots (http://www.irishrootsmagazine.com) is a magazine for the family history enthusiast and for anyone who wants to know about or to identify with the positive aspects of their Irish heritage. Links on the website lead to Back Issues of the magazine with a listing of articles/topics in each issue, subscription information, and links to other useful resources.

The Australian Family Tree Connections (http://www.aftc.com.au) is an independent monthly magazine for Australian and New Zealand family historians. Its website offers surname list, lists for finding missing ancestors or relatives, and links for genealogy and for recommended genealogy books in Australia and New Zealand. They also have a Huguenot Surname Index which includes the names of proven Huguenot families. Individuals who have proven their Huguenot ancestry are invited to submit the information to their list.

The following publications are produced by history or genealogy societies which have websites but don't offer much access to their publications via the website. Nevertheless, many of these sites are interesting and make a visit worthwhile.

BIGWILL News (http://www.rootsweb.com/~willbig) is the publication of the British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois. Their stated mission is: "We are dedicated to helping all members trace their ancestry in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands." The plain-looking website lists reviews of genealogy books and CD-ROMS; upcoming events of local, national and international interest; surnames being searched by members; and links to other websites for British Isles genealogy research.

Connections is a publication of the Quebec Family History Society (http://www.qfhs.ca/). While this society fosters the study of genealogy among the English speaking peoples of Quebec, other areas are also of interest to their members – including England, Ireland, Scotland. When I checked, their Surname listing was not available. Most of the information is for those researching in Canada.

Irish Family History Forum (IFHF) (http://www.ifhf.org) publishes a newsletter for members of their organization. Located in New York, the IFHF supports the Irish family research efforts of its members. The website provides information about meetings and events of the organization. There is one set with links to New York and Irish genealogy-related sites.

The Irish Genealogical Quarterly is a publication of the Irish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin (IGSW) (http://www.execpc.com/~igsw). Since 1992, IGSW promotes an understanding of Irish family research, Irish-American history, Irish history and Irish culture. The website includes member information links, a link to Internet resources "with an emphasis on Irish genealogy", and a link to surnames being researched by members.

Kansas Kin is a quarterly publication of the Riley County Genealogical Society in Manhattan, Kansas (http://www.rileycgs.com). The attractive website provides information on the society, membership, a surname list, and publications.

TIARA is the newsletter of The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA) (http://tiara.ie/), located in Boston, Massachusetts. The website provides information on the organization's purpose, membership, events and trips. It also describes their Foresters Project. Be sure to pull down their "Links" window shade to discover the tremendous number of links listed within the categories.

And don't forget: back issues of our own ***The Septs*** are available for download at our website – free to members.

Dr. Philip Crosslé Genealogical Collection (Part III)

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA

Introduction

This article concludes the description of the Dr. Philip Crosslé collection. His prolific copying and transcribing of records serves as a monument to his industry and passion for Irish family history. The diversity of his interests and his tenacious ability to stick to completing the transcripts of entire sets of records has made an invaluable collection of records that failed to survive the destruction of the Public Record Office in 1922. In this concluding section are the "Smith Books" and a collection of family pedigrees of Newry, County Down families. Both collections provide a wealth of genealogical material easily arranged by surname.

Indexes

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast

The first article of this series referred to an ongoing indexing project by Suzanne Ballard of Edmond, Oklahoma. That article prompted a communication from her clarifying which set of records were being indexed by surname. The following explanation is very helpful.

"I am indexing all 25 of the Crossle Collection microfilms for the Family History Library…I've been working on this project for 7 years so far and have finished [15 films]. Most films have over 2000 entries. FHL Microfilm 259,218 is the Newry Parish records and had over 4,600 birth, marriage and death entries."

The collection being indexed contains pedigrees on Newry, County Down families prior to 1910 and was microfilmed at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast, in 1961. The microfilms have been minimally indexed by letter of surname in the FHL catalog entry. The following table lists the rolls of microfilm and letters of the surname:

Surnames	Microfilm
An-As	259,195
Bl-Bo	259,196
Ba-Br	259,197
Cl-Co	259,198
Cr-E	259,199
Fa-Fo	259,200
Gi-Gu	259,201
Ham-Har	259,202
Har-Le	259,203
McN-Mo	259,204
Mo-Mac	259,205
Ma-Mu	259,206
N	259,207
Og-Os	259,208
Pa-Ro	259,209
Seaver	259,210
Seaver	259,211
Seaver	259,212
Searight	259,213
Sh-Sw	259,214
Th-Tu	259,215
Wi-Wo	259,216
Wa-Wr	259,217
Volunteers	259,219

FHL Microfilm 259,218 is Church of Ireland parish registers of births, marriages, and deaths for the parish church of Newry, County Down for the years 1784-1901.

The National Archives, Dublin

Military Records – Thirty-one (31) books of genealogical abstracts from military records dating primarily from circa 1650 – 1850. The collection is contained on three microfilm rolls available from the Family History Library (597,141-2, and 597,099). Each book is handwritten without any pagination. Many of the extracts have been crossed out with a single large X through the entry indicating that he had dealt with this material and had used it for his purposes. The handwriting takes some getting used to, but is fairly consistent in its use of abbreviations for military regiments and the source citations he was transcribing.

Book I – Extracts for the 23rd and 51st Regiments of Foot. FHL microfilm 597,141.

Book II – 1690 list of debts due soldiers and officers from the Commissaries General Accounts; Petitions of widows and a small register of burial extracts for the year 1689 for soldiers at Carrickfergus and officers buried at Lisburn. FHL microfilm 597,141.

Book III – Debts due soldiers and creditors from quartering soldiers. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book IV – Lists of debts due soldiers and officers 1689 – 1896; a few Prerogative wills of officers and extracts from the Calendar of State Papers correspondence 1683 – 1714. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book V – (out of sequence, actually follows Book VI) Index of Irish Parliamentary records, petitions and the military establishment of Ireland. Extensive lists of the names of soldiers possibly for the 18th century. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book VI – (follows Book IV) Calendar of State Papers 1683-1714 and notes on the 23rd Regiment. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book VII – Militia extracts from the Dublin Gazette 1793-94, some Prerogative and Cashel will extracts. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book VIII – List of signal stations on the coast of Ireland with a report of the state and condition of the defencible guardhouses; Kings letters 1746-8. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book IX – Kings letters 1746-8 continued… FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book X – Commonwealth Council Book Petitions and Orders 1651-4. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XI – Extracts from Hardman's catalogue of maps relating to Ireland, Trinity College Library, Dublin; Payments to officers 1655-1657; Receiver General Accounts 1650. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XII – Carte Papers volume XXVI and more extracts from the Receiver General Accounts 1658 – 1661. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XIII – Army Returns – extracts 1809-14 principally for the counties of Armagh and Down. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XIV – Militia Army returns 1815-16; State Papers Militia Forces 1792-99; Martial Affairs 1814-16. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XV – Militia Martial Affairs 1814-16; Commander-in-Chief Books early 19th c.

Book XVI – Militia records for Counties Armagh, Down and Louth; Militia Commissioners 18th c. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XVII – Militia Commissions 1745-1837; FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XVIII – Domestic Letter Books 1667-89, 1696, 1711-1841; County Letters 1701; Correspondence 1655-1799. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XIX – Militia Commissions 1702-8, County Cork Commissions 1702, and Kinsale Commissions 1708. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XX – Militia Commissions County Donegal, Day Book 1660-1, FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XXI – Militia King's and Queen's letter books, Dublin 1745-9; Army Returns 1766-75, 63rd Regiment of Foot; Martial Affairs 1763-6. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XXII – Martial Affairs continued, 1765-82; Day Book Clerk records 1726-39. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XXIII – Military Orders 1765-6; Day Book Clerk 1760-6; Martial Affairs 1783-4; County Letters 1778-9; Extracts from the Dublin Gazette Nov. 1782 – Sept. 1783; Marching Orders 1766-9. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XXIV – Marching Orders 1770-5; Military Commissions 1765-6, 1772-76; A table of "The Proportions of Money & numbers of men for the Militia throughout the Kingdom;" Extracts from muster rolls for Cork, Kilkenny, Dungarvan, 1765-6; Militia lists 1742-5 for County Louth and the City of Dundalk; same for Drogheda 1756; FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XXV – Haliday Pamphlet; Militia lists 1750-4; Army Returns 1787-91; Martial Affairs 1787-9; Letters of Commanding Officers 1789-95. FHL microfilm 597,142.

Book XXVI – Military Ledgers 1623 – 1668 (Custom House Volume II 740); Ordinance Books 1609 – 1710 (Custom House Volume II 741); Cash Books 1698 – 1794 (Old Custom House 43, New Custom House 20, 106, 21-27); Ledger Books 1693 – 1836 (Custom House 106). FHL microfilm 597,099.

Book XXVII – Payment Books 1777 – 1787 (continued in Book XXVIII); Calendar of State Papers 1666-9, 1825-32; Military Commissions 1757-87; Treasury Payments 1800-1. FHL microfilm 597,099.

Book XXVIII – Payment Books continued…FHL microfilm 597,099

Book XXIX – Treasury King's and Queen's Letters 1743-46; Army Returns 1803; Military Correspondence 1802-3. FHL microfilm 597,099.

Book XXX – King's Letters 1750-60. FHL microfilm 597,099.

Book XXXI – Surveyor General of Works Accounts 1594-1697. FHL microfilm 597,099.

Miscellaneous Records, Crosslé papers FHL microfilms 597,100 – 597,102. Contains some references to military records, e.g. Monthly Army Lists for County Cork; a number of letters to other researchers in England and Ireland with reference to military subjects; a few extracts of parish registers many which seem to have been transcribed from The Irish Builder, but some that appear to be from original records e.g. St. Michan's, Dublin (Vol. 1724-38, surname Whape) and a few genealogical

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'Dr. Philip Crossle' Genealogical Collection (Part III)' continued from page 25

pedigrees, Robert Ball (b.1635 – d. 1699) family of Dublin and Drogheda mentioning a great-grandson, George Ball who went to America; Thomas Armstrong & Grissel Beatty of County Longford; military extracts from the Parliamentary Papers. FHL microfilm 597,100.

Miscellaneous Records FHL microfilm 597,101 continues with the military extracts from the Parliamentary Papers and more miscellaneous correspondence to other researchers. Extracts relating to the 63rd Regiment of Foot. Extracts from the Dublin Gazette relating to military subjects 1798-1857; Militia Officers Papers 1804-34; Military records relating to County Cork and extracts from the Cork Gazette 1793; Succession of Officer's list for the "City of Cork Loyal Regiment" of Militia 1793-1816.

Miscellaneous Records FHL microfilm 597,102 contains a 1756 Map of the City of Dublin and a copy of A. Arrowsmith's 1811 Map of Ireland. This is followed by original copies of various military proclamations from the Commissioners of the Parliament of England dated circa 1652-1691.

FHL Microfilm 596,881
Surnames: Adams, Alcorn, Aldridge, Alley, Anderson, Armstrong, Arabin, Arnold, Ashe, Atkinson (includes the Order Book of the Mullaghglass Infantry, commanded by George Atkinson and the muster lists of the Mullaghglass Mounted Yeomen); and Ayckboun.

FHL Microfilm 596,882
Beatty Notebooks, volumes 1-4

FHL Microfilm 596,883
Beatty Notebooks, volumes 6-12

FHL Microfilm 596,884
Surnames: Bagenal, Bailey and variant spellings of Balely, Bailee, Baillie, Bayley, Bayly, Bailiol.

FHL Microfilm 596,885
Surnames: Barclay, Bardon/Burden/Bourden, Barron, Barry, Barton, Baxter, Beath, Beck, Bell, Belshaw, Benson, Black, Blackham, Blair, Blennerhassett, blunden, Boardman, Booley, Bowles, Boyd, Boyes, Braddell, Bradley, Bradshaw, Brady, Bree, Brew, Bristow, Brooke, Browne, Brunker, Bryson, Buchanan, Burton, Burns, Byrne.

F**HL Microfilm 596,886**
Surnames: Carnock/Camac, Campbell, Carlile, Carson, Carter, Carty, Chadwick, Chalmers, Chamney, Chappell, Chartre or Charter, Clark, Clements, Clugston or Cloughston, Cole, Calhoun, Cornyn, Connor, Cunningham/Conyngham, Corker, Corry, Curry, Courcy, Courtenay, Cox, Cusick/Cusack, and Clinton.

FHL Microfilm 596,887
Surnames: Dermott/MacDermott; Doherty/Dougherty, Drought/Drout, Donaldson, Denny/Dennis, Darcy/D'Arcy, Davison, Deering, Darly, Dennis, Dixon, Dobbs, Dongan, Doyle, Dodd/Dowd, Dunbar, Duffe/Duffy, Dunwiddy, Delaney, Dawson, Davoren, and Davys.

FHL Microfilm 596,888
Surnames: Eastwood, Ekenhead, Eustace, Ellis, Elmer, Emerson/Immerson, Erskine, Faris/Ferris, Finucane, and part of Fitzgerald.

FHL Microfilm 596,889
Surnames: Fitzgerald continued, Fowler, Fitzmorris/Fitzmaurice, Flavelle, and an extensive collection on the surname Fleming (part).

FHL Microfilm 596,890
Surnames: Fleming continued, Fletcher, Forster/Foster, Forsyth, Fox, Foxall, Fraser, and French.

FHL Microfilm 597,114
Surnames: Glenny, Gordon/Jordan (includes a copy of The Gordons of Aberdour by John Malcomlm Bullloch, published Peterhead, 1913), Gibson, Graham, Grange, Greer, Gibbons, Gaussen, Haltridge, (Russell, Hamill, and Gartlan families), De Gamble, Glenny material out of sequence, Henry, and Gray.

FHL Microfilm 597,115
Surnames: Haughton, Hawkshaw, Hayes, Haire/Hare, Hamilton, Hastings, Hatton of Clonard, Co. Wexford, Hanna, Hamill/O'Hamill, Higginson, Howard, Hull, Hutcheson, Merrick, Jennings, Jonyn, Jefferson, Gold/Gould, Jackson, and Johnston.

FHL Microfilm 597,116
Surnames: Kell, Kennedy, and Kilkelly,/McGillikelly.

FHL Microfilm 597,117
Surnames: Kilkelly continued, Lucy, (Welsh/Walsh material in the middle of the Lucy material), Leslie, Langley, Lalor, Lawson, Lowry, Lloyd, and Little.

FHL Microfilm 597,118
Surname: Moore, Exchequer and Chancery bills, extracts from various sources.

FHL Microfilm 597,119
Surname: Moore, extracts from the Registry of Deeds.

FHL Microfilm 597,120
Surname: Moore, Registry of Deeds continued and Moore Chancery Bills.

FHL Microfilm 597,121
Surname: Moore, Exchequer Bills, Court of Common Pleas and Chancery Bills, Moore extracts from the parish registers of St. Mark's Armagh and Moore pedigrees. Includes a printed copy of "The Genealogy of John William Moore, of Fitzwilliam-Square, West, Dublin."

FHL Microfilm 597,122
Surnames: McNeale and McGuinness.

FHL Microfilm 597,123
Surnames: MacNeill, printed list of Brethren struck off the roll of the "Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland" for the year 1942; McCance Registry of Deeds abstracts (typewritten) and additional handwritten McCance material, McNamara, 1841 census extracts for the town of Headford, Killursa Parish, County Galway (various surnames), Morris, Montgomery, pedigree of Anthony Smith of Moyry, County Armagh (d. 1 Aug 1637), Marsh, Maxwell, pedigree of the Rev. Moses Campbell (d. Jan. 1772), pedigree of Rev. Samuel King "Minister of Seceding congregation at Tyrone's Ditches" (b. 1741), obituary of Archibald Marshall (b. Feb. 1818) died at Fourtowns, Donaghmore, and Mitchell.

FHL Microfilm 597,124
Surnames: Mollan, printed "History of the Family of de Montfort or Montfort and their Connexions in Ireland" by Mary Montfort White, (n.p., n.d.), Montgomery, Morecroft, Morris, pedigree of Colonel Manus O'Donel of Newport, Co. Mayo, Tuam will book extracts for various surnames 1667-1820 with Morris connections, and Murry.

FHL Microfilm 597,125
Surnames: Nesbitt, Noble, Norton, Nunn, O'Hogan, Oldham, Orr, printed copy of "The Name and Family of Ouseley" by Richard J. Kelly, a paper read to the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland on 29 March 1910 and published in their journal [year? pp. 132-146], Hans Peebles pedigree of Hamilton Bawn, Co. Armagh (w.d. 11 Jun 1779), will of Katherine Percy of Dublin dated 5 Nov 1787, Pockrych, Pooler (includes extracts from the parish registers of St. Mark's Armagh), Potts, Powell, Pratt, Prindwell, Prendeville, Prichard, Purcell, Quinn, Quinten, Rainey, pedigree of Quintin Dick of Nenagh, Co. Tipperary (bur. 10 May 1768 age 85), pedigree of William Parsons of Dublin (d. 24 Jan 1789), Newhugh, Perrott, Robison, Ogle (numerous USA connections), pedigree of Captain Hercules Burleigh (d. 1744), pedigree of Sir Thomas Phillips of Newtown Limavady and Phillips family extracts.

FHL Microfilm 597,126
Surnames: Power, Ray, Reed/Reid, Reily, Reynolds/Reynell, Richardson (Quaker), Ridgeway, pedigree of Edward Terwhit of Bishopslough, County Kilkenny, Robinson, Rowson, and an extensive pedigree of the Routh family.

FHL Microfilm 597,127
Surnames: Smith research notebooks, volume 1.

FHL Microfilm 597,128
Surnames: Smith research notebooks, volumes 2-12.

FHL Microfilm 597,130
Surnames: Smith research notebooks, volumes 13-31.

FHL Microfilm 597,131
Surnames: Smith research notebooks, volumes 13-31 continued.

Conclusion

This concludes the description of the various collections created by Phillip Crosslé scattered throughout Ireland's archives and libraries. Considering the time-frame Mr. Crosslé conducted his research, the magnitude, size and scope of the collection is impressive and provides an invaluable resource of genealogical and family history information. It is well worth the effort to explore the materials in this collection to seek clues for your ancestral research.

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA, is a professional genealogist since 1977, he was accredited in Ireland research in 1981. He graduated from Brigham Young University in 1980 with a B.A. in Family and Local History. He is the research specialist for the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) tour to England and Ireland every three years and teaches a five-day course at Samford University, Birmingham the year prior. He is a past-president the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) 1997-2000 and of the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) 1993-1995 and a Fellow of that organization.

Genealogy and the Internet

by Tom Rice, CG

"He loves me. He loves me not." So muses the Internet every time I log on to do genealogical research.

What follows is opinion. Of course, this author thinks it is all fact. So beware!

To Use Or Not To Use

The question is must you use the Internet to do good genealogy. Or, can you do genealogy without the Internet? And if so, why use it? The answers to these questions are not simple ones.

Most certainly, you do not need to use the Internet to do good genealogy. Much excellent genealogical research has been done without ever employing the Internet. Anyone can still write for information, rent Family History Library films, visit repositories, read the vast amount of abstracted, extracted and transcribed printed materials available, and call cousins on the phone without ever going online. The old tools of pen and paper, letters, phone calls and personal visits to people and repositories still work just fine.

So why use the Internet? Because, with the Internet as a key part of your research strategy, you can locate an immense amount of information very quickly; you can contact many more people with ease; you can see images of original records without waiting for rental films or visiting distant repositories; and you can make your visits to repositories more productive through an online preview of their location, hours, policies and catalogs. The key advantage of using the Internet is the speed with which it brings a world of information to you.

But isn't there a downside to Internet use for genealogy – all of the genealogical junk you have been warned about that lurks online? Well, there is also plenty of junk in printed books and even in that letter from a cousin. Regardless of where information comes from, it is your responsibility to evaluate and analyze it. Questioning and assembling information is at the heart of good genealogy regardless of its source.

What about viruses and spyware? Aren't they inevitable and isn't it safer not to venture onto the Internet at all? Yes these demons do lurk on line, but with proper caution they should not bother you. More on this later.

Another key question is, "Can I do it all online?" In brief, No! For genealogical information the reality is "It is not all online, and it never will be."

So the answer to the question about using the Internet or not is: You do not have to use it, but using it will speed up your research and extend your research.

Using the Internet for Genealogy

Let's look at some of the many uses for the Internet in furthering our genealogical pursuit. The first and most obvious use is to find original or derived records. The breadth and depth of records now available online is overwhelming and is growing at an every increasing pace. This is due to the efforts of an army of volunteers from many organizations who have labored over the years, and to more recent efforts of both non and for profit corporate entities. In some instances the results are a combination of efforts, i.e. corporate entities posting the previously printed efforts of past volunteer work or volunteers indexing recently digitized records produced by a corporate entity.

Ease of finding and contacting people interested in pursuing the same family line or having some other genealogical interest in common has been greatly aided by Internet message boards and mail lists. There seem to be message boards for every interest, organization, place, surname, and software tool. *Ancestry.com* and *Genealogy.com* host many place and surname message boards. *Rootsweb* hosts message boards and mail lists on almost every topic imaginably related to genealogy. Because the contents of these are dynamic, it pays to revisit them periodically to see if your interests or queries have been addressed in the interim. Mail lists have the advantage of coming to you. Both have archives you can search to see if your query has already been asked and answered.

The Internet is a valuable resource for gathering background information to thoroughly understand a place, a time or a record. It is not enough to gather names. We should gather lives - that is, fully fleshed out people who become real to us. This is only possible if we understand the times and places that shaped their lives. It is not enough to access records online or off. We need to understand how and why that record was created and what the archaic language in it means if we are to get full value from it. The Internet is a wonderful source for locating material on all of these topics. Because the Internet lets you draw from many resources in aggregate, it is often better than any one book on a given

topic. All of the images on the Internet make it graphically richer than any one book. It is a good resource for pictures of a place, a person, a building and of maps both current and contemporaneous with our ancestors' time in a place. This helps us move from knowing just a birth, marriage and death date of an ancestor to understanding his or her life.

To excel at genealogy requires constant learning. Genealogy is never done; there is always one more relative or one more record to find. To succeed at this every widening search, the genealogist needs to expand his or her knowledge of sources, history, geography, paleography, religious practices, law, customs and, of course, technology. This means learning. The Internet is filled with excellent educational materials, some in the form of a single web page or a multi-page website. The Internet also brings us formal courses composed of a set of lessons, supporting materials, work assignments and feedback on our work, answers to questions we pose and results of test we have taken. These online courses are often taught by some of the best genealogists in their specialty. Even a for-pay course is a bargain considering the alternative of tuition and travel to an on-site educational experience.

The Internet is much more than a repository of information or a way to find and contact people. It is also a work environment and storage place for our work output. There are online free applications such as word processors, spreadsheets, presentation programs, image manipulation tools and even genealogy databases. This means we can turn out work using free online tools that are comparable to what others produce using expensive suites of programs.

The Internet can also be used as a giant storehouse for our work product either for sharing with others or for our private safe keeping. Much of this storage is free. Some sites are for a specific type of data such as images or genealogy database files. Others are for bulk storage of almost any kind of computer generated materials.

Do not forget, the Internet is a two way street. It is not just for finding information. We can add to the body of information out there. We can use it actively to publish our own work products. There are easy-to-use tools for posting our own genealogy online and for creating our own websites. Many of the Internet service providers we use to access the Internet provide free space for either storage of our files or for publication of our own website. Many feel posting family genealogy information is one of the best ways to share that information and to attract the attention of others who might have an interest in one or more of the same lines.

Best Practices

As with any endeavor there are various ways of doing something and particular ways to do it better - more efficiently, more effectively. So it is also with genealogical research on the Internet. There are practices to make your use of the Internet more productive and efficient. A few of my favorites are listed here.

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Some websites and texts of interest:

Key general genealogy sites:

Cindyslist
http://www.cyndislist.com/

Rootsweb
http://www.rootsweb.com/

USGenWeb
http://www.usgenweb.org/

WorldGenWeb
http://www.worldgenweb.org/

Genuki
http://www.genuki.org.uk/

Epodunk
http://www.epodunk.com/

Ancestry
http://www.ancestry.com/

Browsers and add-ons:

Firefox download page
http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/

Opera download page
http://www.opera.com/

Firefox extension page
https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/

Zotero
http://www.zotero.org/

Foxmarks
http://www.foxmarks.com/

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Focus: As with any research effort, your Internet work will be more productive if you have a well defined goal. Write down what it is you hope to find. With that in mind, list the websites where you are most likely to succeed in your search. If you are looking for a book, list the title, author or subject and then use *WorldCat*, library catalogs or even a general *Google* search. If a person, you may want to focus on *Rootsweb* pages for the state and county where the person lived in addition to the websites of relevant historical and genealogical societies. Alternatively, if you are less certain as to where to go on the Internet for the answer to your quest, spend some time formulating a search strategy as to what search terms or phrases might be most effective in calling up a list of relevant sites using *Google, Yahoo* or other search tool.

Mark your trail: Good research is documented or at least noted. Develop a system to note what websites you visit in relation to each research goal. This prevents time wasted and repeated searches. This can be as easy as having a Word document open and dragging the URL, aka web address found in the address bar of your browser, from each site visited into it as you search. To be most helpful, such a document should have the research goal stated on top along with your list of targeted websites to which you can then add any additional sites visited.

Bookmark: A well organized collection of bookmarks or favorites (depends on what your browser calls them) can be a valuable assets. There are way too many good genealogy related websites for anyone to remember. This is where a well organized bookmark collection comes in. By organized, I mean the bookmark collection is arranged logically using a hierarchy of folders. For example, you might have a folder labeled "Places," and under that one labeled "Canada," and under that folders for each Province and perhaps one labeled "Major Repositories" and another labeled "Research Guides & Methods," and so forth. You might want to have folders for specific surnames, for record types, for software programs, for research techniques, etc. Remember to change the title of a bookmark so it means something to you. You can generally do that by right clicking on it and then clicking on "properties," or do this as you capture the URL into your bookmarks/favorites collection.

Read the Help and Introduction pages: This advice is especially true whenever you are visiting a database. These pages tell you how to best search the database and what is included or not within the database. Often we miss information because we neglected to read how to best look for it, or we look for something not included in the database we are searching.

Explore: This may sound like the opposite of focus and, in a way, it is. However, there is a time to take a breather from the dogged pursuit of one more generation or lost relative and look around. Take a good long look at those websites you visit most often and find all that they offer and look for new sites that may address your needs. The best tool for this latter exercise is a search engine such as *Google* or *Yahoo*.

Cite your sources: Internet research is research and your findings there need to be given a source citation, just as does a birth record or a biography. There are resources on the Internet itself to help with this. Elizabeth Shown Mills' books, *Evidence* and *Evidence Explained* are two excellent sources. Note the website title, the URL, who produced or authored the site and the date you

A Couple of Books on Internet Genealogy

1. Rick Crume, *Plugging Into Your Past: How to Find Real Family History Records Online* (Cincinnati Ohio: Betterway Books, 2004).
2. Elizabeth Crowe, *Genealogy Online* (Emeryville Calif.: McGraw-Hill/Osborne, 2003).
3. Karen Clifford, *The Complete Beginner's Guide to Genealogy, the Internet, and Your Genealogy Computer Program* (Baltimore MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2001).
4. Rhonda McClure, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Genealogy* (Indianapolis Ind.: Macmillan, 2000).
5. David Hawgood and Federation of Family History Societies, *GENUKI: U.K. & Ireland Genealogy on Internet* (London; Birmingham: D. Hawgood; Federation of Family History Societies, 2000).
6. Elizabeth Crowe and NetLibrary, Inc., *Genealogy Online* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000).

visited it. The last is important because content and even URLs change.

Safety First: Yes, there are evil demons lurking out on the Internet so protect yourself. If you practice safe browsing, you should be alright. Before you ever venture onto the Internet whether for genealogy or even just for e-mail, install an anti-virus program and a firewall. Do not open attachments to emails unless you trust the sender. Be very selective as to what pop-ups you click on if any. Install some sort of anti-spyware program and run it regularly. Once I employed all of these measures I have had very little by way of Internet related problems.

Equip your tool box : Just as there are "best practices" for Internet research, so there are tools that can help you be more effective. The first and most basic choice is what browser to use. Most people use Microsoft's Internet Explorer because it comes with the Microsoft Windows operating system that is on 90% or so of home computers. There are alternatives which many people find to be far superior. Apple users will be most familiar with Safari. However, two browsers that both Apple and Windows users should consider are FireFox and Opera. Both of these browsers are less susceptible to attacks by malicious software that come over the Internet. Therefore, they are safer. Both have an array of features that make them more powerful than Internet Explorer. I am most familiar with Firefox and use it almost exclusively; the large number of add-ons or extensions augments its usefulness for genealogy research.

There are two Firefox extensions especially useful for capturing what I find during my Internet research sessions. Scrapbook allows me to capture bookmarks, whole web pages or selected portions of a web page. I can highlight sections of the captured material and even add notes right on top of it. As with bookmarks, I can arrange my captured materials using a hierarchy of folders. More recently I have been using Zotero, a Firefox extension that is Scrapbook on steroids. With Zotero I not only capture, highlight and note web pages, I also capture bibliographical citations directly from web pages, such as a library catalog, add notes and attach files to that capture and then, with an add-on for Word, inset that citation as a footnote in a write-up or report. I love the bookmark facility in Firefox because not only can I capture and organize bookmarks, but I can add comments or a description to a bookmark. More importantly, I can add a keyword which can be used in place of the full URL to rapidly access a website. For example, I can type "ancestry" to go instantly to

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Texts and Website on Citations

Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1997).

Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence Explained* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2007).

ProGenealogists, Inc., "Citation Guide," Progenealogists Family History Research Group, Digital article (http://www.progenealogists.com/citations.htm: accessed 30 October 2007.)

Chicago Manual of Style (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2003.) Also available by subscription online.

Free Safety Tools for the Internet

avast! 4, free home edition - a free antivirus program: http://www.avast.com/eng/avast_4_home.html

Comodo – free firewall program: http://www.personalfirewall.comodo.com/

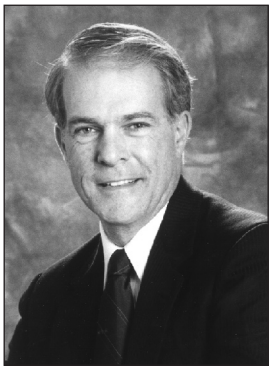
ZoneAlarm – free firewall program: http://www.zonealarm.com/store/content/company/products/znalm/freeDownload.jsp?dc=12bms&ctry=US =en&lid=staticcomp_za

Spybot – Search & Destroy – free spyware remover program: http://www.safer-networking.org/en/index.html

As-Aware Free – free sypware remover program: http://www.lavasoftusa.com/

'Genealogy and the Internet' continued from page 31

http://www.ancestry.com or "fhl" to go to the Family History Library's home page at http://www.familysearch.org. I even have keywords for each year's census search on Ancestry.com, i.e. I type "1820" in the address bar of Firefox and up pops the search page for the 1820 census on Ancestry.com. This is a great time saving feature. Another great feature of Firefox, Opera and their extension is that they are all free and easily downloaded. I also use Foxmarks extension to Firefox to store my bookmarks securely and privately online so I can download them to whatever computer I am using and always have them available to me.



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Dublin Electoral Lists Database 1937-1964

by John Grenham

Background

From the reign of Henry VIII onwards, Dublin was the capital of Anglo-Ireland, Protestant, unionist, thoroughly business-centred and focused on the bond with Britain. Its character began to change in the period of the Irish Free State (1922-1936), but it was only with De Valera's undeclared republic (1937-1949) that the connection with the United Kingdom and the Empire finally began to wither.

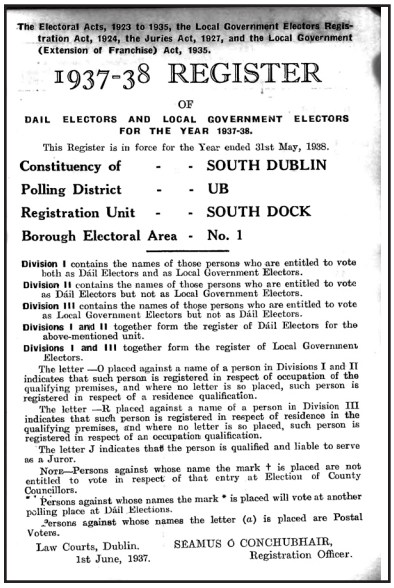
The Dublin that emerged after 1937 lasted up to the Celtic Tiger boom of the late 1990s. It became much more a part of Ireland as a whole than the earlier city, with large-scale immigration of rural dwellers, especially those with public service jobs. Like the rest of Ireland in that period, it was intensely local, more a series of villages than a true metropolis, and with many of the features of village life: conformity enforced by the hawk-eyed scrutiny of neighbours; easy-going, inward-looking scorn for ambition; the sense of being on the periphery of real life. Although the worst of the nineteenth century slums were cleared by the 1930s, there were still pockets of profound deprivation in the inner city.

This is the Dublin reflected in the Dublin City Library and Archives Electoral Lists. As anyone who has ever tried to trace a Dublin ancestor can testify, it was a city where officialdom did little to keep track of the movements of individuals. The Church and the neighbours were enough.

It should be remembered that everyone listed in the earliest of these records was born before 1916, at a time when Ireland was a secure part of the United Kingdom and internal migration between Britain and Ireland was commonplace. The eldest of those recorded would have been born in the 1860s and 1870s, and lived through the Land War, the Parnell controversy, the Oscar Wilde scandal, the 1916 rebellion, the War of Independence and the Civil War. Perhaps a period of relatively dull stability was welcome.

The Original Records

These records are lists of those registered to vote in Dublin city in Dáil and local elections, for use in polling stations at election time. At the period they were produced, the voting age was 21, meaning that everyone listed is 21 or over. They are not, therefore, complete household listings. *The Dublin City Library and Archive* collection starts in 1937 and con-



The Electoral Acts, 1923 to 1935, the Local Government Electors Registration Act, 1924, the Juries Act, 1927, and the Local Government (Extension of Franchise) Act, 1935.

1937-38 REGISTER

OF

DAIL ELECTORS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS FOR THE YEAR 1937-38.

This Register is in force for the Year ended 31st May, 1938.

Constituency of - - SOUTH DUBLIN
Polling District - - UB
Registration Unit - - SOUTH DOCK
Borough Electoral Area - No. 1

Division I contains the names of those persons who are entitled to vote both as Dáil Electors and as Local Government Electors.
Division II contains the names of those persons who are entitled to vote as Dáil Electors but not as Local Government Electors.
Division III contains the names of those persons who are entitled to vote as Local Government Electors but not as Dáil Electors.
Divisions I and II together form the register of Dáil Electors for the above-mentioned unit.
Divisions I and III together form the register of Local Government Electors.

The letter —O placed against a name of a person in Divisions I and II indicates that such person is registered in respect of occupation of the qualifying premises, and where no letter is so placed, such person is registered in respect of a residence qualification.

The letter —R placed against a name of a person in Division III indicates that such person is registered in respect of residence in the qualifying premises, and where no letter is so placed, such person is registered in respect of an occupation qualification.

The letter J indicates that the person is qualified and liable to serve as a Juror.

NOTE—Persons against whose name the mark † is placed are not entitled to vote in respect of that entry at Election of County Councillors.

* Persons against whose names the mark * is placed will vote at another polling place at Dáil Elections.

Persons against whose names the letter (a) is placed are Postal Voters.

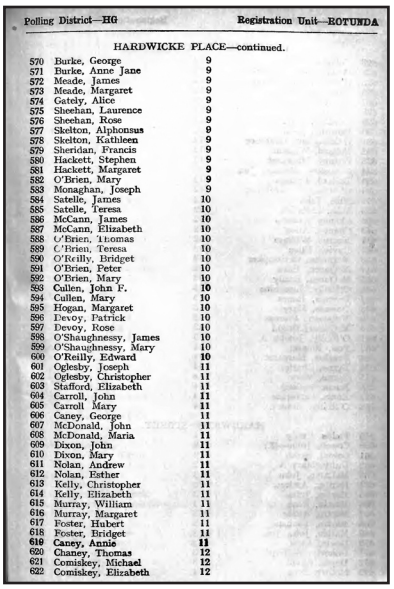
Law Courts, Dublin.
1st June, 1937.

SEAMUS Ó CONCHUBHAIR,
Registration Officer.

The first page of one of the booklets, with precise legalese specifying who exactly is to be included. Since the right to vote in local elections did not depend on citizenship, many recent arrivals are listed.

tinues to the present. For the moment, this database covers 14 years: 1937-45, 1949-51, 1954-57, and 1962-64 (about 4.1 million records).

Physically, the electoral records consist of a series of booklets, each recording all registered voters in a particular polling district. The streets in the polling district are given alphabetically and the houses within each street are then listed numerically. There does not appear to be any rule governing the order in which members of a household are listed. The only indication of family relationships occurs when two members of a household, generally parent and child, have identical first names and surnames. The child (over 21) is then recorded as "(Jun.)".



Polling District—HG Registration Unit—ROTUNDA

HARDWICKE PLACE—continued.

570	Burke, George	9
571	Burke, Anne Jane	9
572	Meade, James	9
573	Meade, Margaret	9
574	Gately, Alice	9
575	Sheehan, Laurence	9
576	Sheehan, Rose	9
577	Skelton, Alphonsus	9
578	Skelton, Kathleen	9
579	Sheridan, Francis	9
580	Hackett, Stephen	9
581	Hackett, Margaret	9
582	O'Brien, Mary	9
583	Monaghan, Joseph	9
584	Satelle, James	10
585	Satelle, Teresa	10
586	McCann, James	10
587	McCann, Elizabeth	10
588	O'Brien, Thomas	10
589	O'Brien, Teresa	10
590	O'Reilly, Bridget	10
591	O'Brien, Peter	10
592	O'Brien, Mary	10
593	Cullen, John F.	10
594	Cullen, Mary	10
595	Hogan, Margaret	10
596	Devoy, Patrick	10
597	Devoy, Rose	10
598	O'Shaughnessy, James	10
599	O'Shaughnessy, Mary	10
600	O'Reilly, Edward	10
601	Oglesby, Joseph	11
602	Oglesby, Christopher	11
603	Stafford, Elizabeth	11
604	Carroll, John	11
605	Carroll Mary	11
606	Caney, George	11
607	McDonald, John	11
608	McDonald, Maria	11
609	Dixon, John	11
610	Dixon, Mary	11
611	Nolan, Andrew	11
612	Nolan, Esther	11
613	Kelly, Christopher	11
614	Kelly, Elizabeth	11
615	Murray, William	11
616	Murray, Margaret	11
617	Foster, Hubert	11
618	Foster, Bridget	11
619	Caney, Annie	11
620	Chaney, Thomas	12
621	Comiskey, Michael	12
622	Comiskey, Elizabeth	12

Hardwicke Place in Dublin's deprived inner city in 1939-40. Note the many different households at the same address: these were multiple-occupancy tenements, whose inhabitants would not appear in any street directory.

The polling district booklets are bound into larger Registration Units, which were in turn sub-divisions of parliamentary Dáil constituencies. Page numbering is for polling districts only (i.e. numbering restarts with page 1 for each polling district booklet).

How accurate are these records?

As with today's electoral register, a certain level of inaccuracy is inevitable:

- The names of individuals who have died or moved away may continue to be listed;
- Some people may not have registered to vote in the first place;
- A certain amount of human error is inevitable in typesetting, proofreading and indeed database transcription.

Without crosschecking against a census, it is not possible to say with any certainty how many omissions or mistaken inclusions there are. In the 1930s and 1940s, universal suffrage was relatively new, the Irish Free State had only recently come into existence, and the right to vote was treated with a great deal more respect than it receives today. It is, therefore, very likely that the level of omissions and mistaken inclusions in these years is relatively low. For similar reasons, the accuracy of typesetting and proofreading may be significantly better in the earlier years than later. The 1960s volumes contain much higher levels of obvious mis-transcriptions.

The database transcript has been thoroughly checked against standard tables of surnames, first names and street names, and all unmatched records compared with the original pages. An accuracy level of more than 99% has been achieved. It should be remembered, however, that 1% of 4 million is still 40,000. Where an expected entry is not returned by the database, use the advanced search to retrieve adjoining addresses and then browse the scans of the original pages.

Original uses of the records

The records have long been part of the collection of Dublin City Archives. Dublin Corporation, now Dublin City Council, has had responsibility for the organisation of all elections in the city since the foundation of the state; the booklets were part of the organisational equipment. Since the 1980s, the records have been available to the public. Their main use has been in following families as they moved around the city, for a number of purposes:

- Genealogical (finding living relatives)
- Probate research (finding missing heirs)
- Adoption (adoptees tracing their families)

The format of the records made them extremely cumbersome to use. Without a precise address, the only way to track a household was to search the entire city by hand. Even with these limitations, the voters' lists have long been one of the most used record collections in the Archives.

'Dublin Electoral Lists Database 1937-1964' continued on page 34

'Dublin Electoral Lists Database 1937-1964' continued from page 184

The Database transcript

In 2005, as part of the Celtic Trí project, part-funded by the European Union Interreg programme, the Archives embarked on a program to digitise their collection of voters' lists. The aim was to have the lists scanned commercially and then run through an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) program to produce relatively raw output in Microsoft Excel format. As Genealogist-in-residence for six months from July 2005, I helped to oversee quality control for the scanning and OCR, designed the database structure and validated the raw data before adding it to the database.

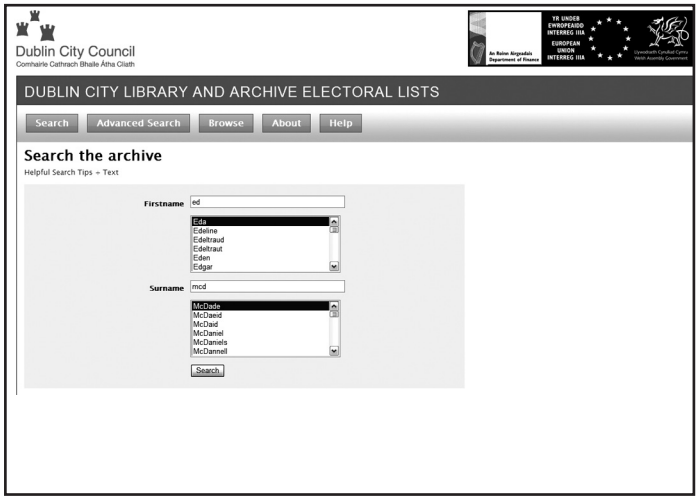
Since the ultimate aim was to have at least part of the lists available online (http://www.dublinheritage.ie) it was designed as a Web application, also capable of running as a stand-alone resource on a PC in the Archives Reading Room. However, as of the writing of this article, the electoral lists are not yet online.

The initial stage produced more than 50,000 scans and 94 Excel files, each with 35,000 to 50,000 records and ended in December 2005. The next stage, of validating and correcting the OCR and uploading the final data to the finished application, continued to May 2007. All 4.1 million records are now uploaded and available in the Archives Reading Room.

Users can search the records by surname, first name, street address, year and registration district to see a summary list of the results; then they can click through to view scans of the original pages, which can be browsed page by page in their original order.

Uses of the database

Technology cannot in itself create new information: the facts in the voters lists remain precisely the same no matter what means are used to access these facts. So the limitations of the lists for genealogy remain: they are very late for most researchers, and they only cover Dublin. However, technology can radically change the cost/benefit balance involved in using records. In the past, only the most dogged or desperate researcher would have previously trawled through the 50,000 odd pages of the voters' lists; their digitisation has facilitated their use.

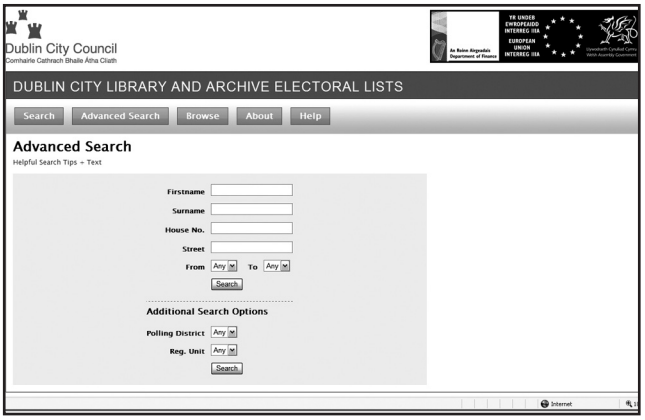


The main search form. To make the search easier, a list of the recorded names is provided, which narrows with each letter inserted.

Their main use for genealogical research is in tracking living relatives. Like the other major source used for this purpose, the Valuation Office revisions, it is now possible to move forward through the years, tracking the movements of households in the Dublin area, picking up adult children as they reach 21 and register to vote. Unlike the other major source for the area and period, Thom's annual Dublin Street Directories, the electorarl lists record the names of women excluded from business and public life at the time. For the many children sent by the Church to the US for adoption in the 1940s and 1950s, the lists represent the best chance of tracing the fortunes of relatives in Dublin. With the 1911 census of Dublin city available online as of December 2007, there is relatively good continuity of detailed, digitised records for Dublin city for two-thirds of the 20th century.

Apart from genealogy and adoption research, there are numerous other uses for the digitised lists. Local history, the story of the Dublin slum clearances, urban renewal, the demography of Dublin, the evolution of Irish surnames in the 20th century, the story of inward migration to Dublin – the raw material for all of these is now instantly available to a user. To take a specific exam-

ple, Ireland's neutrality in the Second World War meant that large numbers of non-Irish took refuge in Dublin between 1939 and 1945. The right to vote in local elections depended on simple residency, not citizenship, so these individuals and families are recorded in the lists. There was, for example, a very large Jewish community in the south city, many of whom have since left. The lists can illuminate the stories of those for whom Ireland was only a single episode.



The advanced search form, which allows wild cards for first names, surnames and streets, and allows the search to be confined to particular year-ranges or localities.

Peculiarities

One of the first things that family history teaches, or so I had always believed, is that there are no peculiar names; everyone's name is ordinary to their family. A few months immersion in the Dublin voters' lists severely challenged this belief. I find it hard to imagine that even their nearest and dearest thought Hindenburg McHugh and Pyramid Curley (1937 and 1950, respectively) had ordinary names. Dealing with names on this scale means exposure to the full statistical range of nomenclature. That range stretches from the most likely – the 40,000 John Byrnes – all the way to the bizarre: the euphonious Colum Folum (1954), Taffee Taft (1949), Gertie McGrilly (1955), Lottie Leek (1950) and Bardo Bard (1949), the hopeful Tidie Fortune (1962), the doleful-sounding Seedy McGuinness (1943), and the utterly unlikely Theodore O'Kechuckwu (1949). Over the months of work on the lists, I collected several hundred of these. All I can say in my defence is that when validating four million-odd records, one takes whatever diversions one can get.

For more information contact:

Dublin City Library & Archive
138-144 Pearse Street
Dublin 2
Ireland
Tel: 00-353-1-674 4996/4997
e-mail: cityarchives@dublincity.ie
Web: http://www.dublincity.ie
http://www.dublinheritage.ie

See page 16 for bio of John Grenham.

IGSI New Library

Irish Genealogy on the Internet

by Mary Beglan

Over the past few years, more and more Irish records have become available online either as transcripts or in digitised form. In 2003 we saw the digitisation of Griffith's Valuation by Origins Network and Eneclann Ltd. in association with the National Library of Ireland. The National Archives of Ireland is due shortly to launch the Dublin City and County 1911 census, the first stage of a three year project to digitise the 1901 and 1911 censuses. The censuses are also to be available for free on the internet. In looking at the sites examined below we can see the recent development of such online resources.

When trying to decide on what sites to include I found it somewhat difficult and those I do include are only the tip of the iceberg. The sites below are mainly Irish based and cover a wide range of sources.

The National Library of Ireland
http://www.nli.ie

The National Library of Ireland's web site was recently revamped and includes a useful section on Family History which can be easily accessed from the Home page. It details briefly the types of records which are available in the library for family history research, such as Roman Catholic parish registers, Tithe Applotment Books and Griffith's Valuation, trade and social directories, newspapers and estate records. This section also includes various Family History information leaflets on topics such as "Getting Started", "Parish Registers in the National Library" and "Valuation Records" which can be easily downloaded as a .pdf document.

A particularly useful facility is the Roman Catholic Parish Register list which is divided into four parts and available for viewing on the site. These listings can be saved to your computer for easy reference. These lists detail the registers held on microfilm by the Library showing the dates available and their call numbers, apart from Kerry and Cloyne Dioceses for which permission is required to look at registers. Most of the registers held by the Library are for the years up to 1880 and, in a small number of cases, to the early 1900s. Many of these microfilms are also available through Family History Centers of the Latter Day Saints.

An online catalogue is available for Books and Periodicals, Photographs, Prints and Drawings and Manuscripts. The Book catalogue can be searched by Author, Title or Subject. A search on Subject for "genealogy" brings up 463 titles many of which relate to specific families so you never know what little gem might show up.

The Manuscripts database only gives access to a limited number of manuscript collection lists online in .pdf format.

Photographic Archive
The Photographic collection, a particular favourite of mine, can be accessed via a Quick link on the NLI Home page. The Photographic databases index the collections of the Clonbrock, Lawrence and O'Dea collections (text entries only – no images).

A representative selection of the Library's photographs is catalogued in the main online catalogue and many entries include the images. These images include scenes dating around the turn of the 20th century of Stephen's Green, Merrion Square and Kildare Street to name but a few. A search can be made in the online catalogue by Photographer, Title or Subject.

In November 2004, Independent Newspapers (Ireland) Ltd. donated its entire photographic collection comprising of more than 300,000 images, dating from 1912 to 1997, to the National Library. At present, 707 images are available to view online. These cover some of the main news stories of the time including photographs of old Dublin such as the last tram to Howth in 1959. Another major collection available online is from Keogh Brothers Ltd., Dublin, which covers the period 1915-1930 and includes coverage of the political figures involved in the 1916 Rising.

The Ireland Congested Districts Board collection is of particular interest. Established in 1891 to relieve poverty in the west and south of Ireland, the Congested District Board's functions were taken over by the Land Commission in 1923. Enter either "Ireland. Congested Board" or "Ireland. Land Commission" into Photographer search field and a list of 99 photographs is displayed. These relate mainly to Counties Mayo, Galway and Donegal between 1906 and 1914 and give a good indication of the difficult lives many experienced in these areas at that time.

Online images include that of the cottage of Martin Greavy, Ballintubber, Co. Mayo, which shows a family at the front

door, (Library Ref CDB28), a nurse visiting a family, Arranmore, Co. Donegal (CDB55) and John Burke's improved house at Levally, Co. Mayo (CDB40). A number of photographs relating to Downings Pier, Co. Donegal, show various aspects of fishing work at that time. The picture of Old Arthur Walker, Nat Walker (his son) and his children at Teelin Pier, Co. Donegal (CDB118), three generations of the one family, is the type of old photograph many genealogists hope to come across in their research. Perhaps one of your ancestors or the village you are researching is included in this collection. It should be noted that reproduction rights are owned by the National Library

The NLI web site also includes online exibitions, the current one being "The 1916 Rising: Personalities and Perspectives" with more than 500 images for further study. It is worth while to check this site every now and then.

The National Archives of Ireland
http://www.nationalarchives.ie

The National Archives website includes extensive information on the various records held in the National Archives relevant for researching family history. Unfortunately there is no online catalogue available.

1901 and 1911 Census Project
The major development at the Archives is the digitisation of the 1901 and the 1911 census project. The National Archives of Ireland entered into a research partnership with Library and Archives Canada to facilitate digitisation, indexing and contextualisation of the records. The first phase of the project, Dublin City and County 1911 census, will be launched by late 2007. By the time you read this you may have already located some of those elusive ancestors. The remaining counties for 1911 and all of 1901 are due online over the next two years. Form A for each family return, and Form B 1– House and Building return will also be included.

Contextual materials, such as historical commentary and photographs, including those from the Lawrence collection in the National Library of Ireland, will enhance the data information. The other welcome news is that there will be no charge for this information. Details of this project can be found on the web site.

Other Sources
From the Home page select the "Genealogy" option which will bring up a page detailing information on getting started, genealogical publications and web sites. There is a very useful article on beginning your search. Under "Genealogical Source" details are given of the many records in the National Archives which are of relevance to family history research. Included are articles on Census returns, Parochial records and Marriage Licences, Crown and Peace records, Estate records, Private sources, Tithe Applotment books and Primary Valuation, Wills and testamentary records and Transportation records. The article on Census returns includes interesting images of the returns for the de Valera family and James Joyce's family.

The article on Parish records and marriage licence bonds includes links to .pdf documents such as Church of Ireland registers held on microfilm in the National Archives and their reference numbers but unfortunately not the dates covered. In addition to the registers, the Archives holds thirteen volumes of searches in Church of Ireland parish registers from correspondents looking to establish their age in order to apply for a pension under the Old Age pension Act of 1908. A finding aid detailing the parishes covered is available online. To see the details of each search it is necessary to search the records at the National Archives in Bishop Street, Dublin, as they are not available online.

Since 1983, Will Calendars have been computerised by various Probate Offices countrywide. These are now available to download by Probate Office from 1983 to 1986; however, not all listings from the various offices are included.

From the "Search the archives" option a search can be carried out on various databases. Of particular interest are: Directory of Sources for Women's History in Ireland, National Education records, Ireland-Australian Transportation database (1791-1853), and Private source records.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
http://www.proni.gov.uk

This web site includes useful articles on the range of records held in PRONI; some very useful on-line indexes are

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Geographical Index, Prominent Persons Index, Presbyterian Church Index and Church of Ireland Index.

The Geographical Index has very useful maps covering the six counties of Northern Ireland, Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone. Each county in turn has a further map showing the location of the Civil Parishes and each Civil Parish includes a map showing the location of the various townlands. This section also includes a useful alphabetical index of townlands showing county, electoral division, O.S. map ref. and Civil Parish.

The searchable Prominent Persons Index contains information on almost 5,000 people of special historical interest who are represented in PRONI's collections.

The indexes to Presbyterian and Church of Ireland records give the name, county and reference number of records held on microfilm in PRONI. However, they do not include the dates covered nor have they been updated for some considerable time; therefore, it is necessary to consult their printed catalogue for full details.

Two major online databases available for free are "Ulster Covenant" and "Freeholder's Records". A history of the Ulster Covenant, including many interesting images of documents and photographs, is given on the web site and should be read in order to understand the background to this covenant. The archive of the Ulster Unionist Council, held by PRONI, contains the original signatures and addresses of the men who, on 28 September 1912, signed the Ulster Covenant, and of the women who signed the parallel Declaration. In total, the Covenant was signed by 237,368 men, and the Declaration by 234,046 women.

There is an easy to use search facility. Searches can be made on any of the fields which include Surname, Forename, Address, by Covenant or Declaration or across both. A search on both databases for the surname "Young" results in 1497 entries. The results displayed show surname, forename, address, parliamentary division, district, place of signing and agent. A scanned image of the original document can then be downloaded and printed. The image is available in two formats; png – a web optimised version of the document or 'DjVu' - an image of the original scanned document. A DjVu download is available from the web site, if required.

As this Covenant is dated September 1912 it could prove useful in identifying an address in order to search the census carried out in the previous year 1911.

The "Freeholder's Records" is a list of people entitled to vote, or of people who voted, at elections. Details of the background to these records are available on the site. From 1727, only Protestants with a freehold valued at least 40 shillings a year were legally permitted to vote. From 1793, both Protestants and Catholics with 40 shillings freeholds could vote. However, in 1829, the franchise level was increased to 10 pounds. The project involved the digitisation of about 5,500 sheets from pre-1840 registers. A search can be made on surname, forename and address of freeholder. A search using the surname Young displayed 289 records. Details shown are Surname, Forename, Address, and PRONI reference. As with the other database images are available in two formats; png and 'DjVu'.

A major project is underway in PRONI to upgrade their web site which is to include an online catalogue facility and other sources.

County Libraries

The Clare and Waterford County Libraries both have excellent web sites geared towards Genealogy and Local Studies. Hopefully other libraries will follow suit and put more information onto their web sites.

Clare County Library
http://www.clarelibrary.ie

For anyone with Co. Clare roots this web site is a must. Select "Genealogy" from the Home page options. The 1901 census transcription includes a surname index to facilitate a search. A search can be made by District Electoral Division and then townland. The census details include Surname, Christian name, Relation to Head of Family, Religion, Education, Age, Sex, Occupation, Marriage, Where Born, Irish Language, and Deaf and Dumb. If you search by surname, you can see the entry in original context with other neighbours in the same townland or street.

The transcription of Griffith's Valuation allows a search by surname and by parish the results displayed are Forename,

Surname, Townland/Town/Street, Parish and Union. However, no details of the holding are given. Similar transcriptions are also available for the Tithe Applotment Books for the county.

The Census Search Forms 1841 and 1851 transcriptions can be searched by the applicant's name or by the applicant's mother's maiden name. In order to qualify for the Old Age Pension, which was introduced in 1908, applicants had to prove they were over 70 years of age. For persons born prior to civil registration of births and unable to show proof of baptism, it was necessary to search the census forms for 1841 and 1851, which were still extant at this time.

The "Index to Biographical Notices in the Clare Champion newspaper 1935-1985" covers births, engagements, marriages, death notices, obituaries, retirements, votes of sympathy and general news items relating to individuals. This index includes not only those who lived in County Clare but also those with Clare connections. Many entries record addresses elsewhere in Ireland and worldwide, including United States and England.

For the full list of County Clare historical records, please refer to the web site. Items range from a "1636-1703 Books of Survey and Distribution", "1849 Evictions in Kilrush Union" and Rental of Estate of Colonel McNamara of Ennistymon House dated 1863, to "1890s List of tenants on Colonel O'Callaghan's estate, Bodyke".

A number of school registers are also available. The level of detail varies on each. Those of the Christian Brothers School at Ennistymon are the most extensive, covering the years from 1857 to 1929. A search can be made by year or by surname. A search on the year 1857 shows Date of Registration, Number on Register, Christian Name, Surname, Residence, Age, Occupation of Parents, Date Leaving School and General Observations. An entry for John Griffin, aged 9 of Ennistymon, father's occupation Egg Merchant notes he has "Gone to America". An entry for Thomas Bennis, also of Ennistymon, aged 14, son of a Labourer is noted as having left school in April 1860 and has "Gone to America". By using the Surname search it is possible to identify likely family groupings. By contrast the "Kinturk National School Registers (Girls) 1864-1922" has less detailed information: Surname, Forename, Address, Parents Occupation and Date of Entry.

The web site also includes very useful "Research support" indexes such as "Townland index", "Parish index", "Church records", "Old Territorial Divisions and Land Measures".

Items are continually being added to this web site so it well worth visiting on a regular basis. A library catalogue is also available on the web site.

Waterford County Library
http://www.waterfordcountylibrary.ie /library/web. This library web site will be of particular interest to those with County Waterford roots. Select "Local Studies" from the drop down menu, then "Genealogical Resources". This page offers various options for research through such databases as: "Trade Directories" which date from Richard Lucas' 1788 directory to the 1994 Waterford/Wexford Business and Shopping Guide, "Griffith's Valuation", "Death Registers", "Register of Electors", "Grave Memorials", and "Waterford War Dead".

These databases are easy to search. The "Death Registers" cover deaths registered in County Waterford from 1st January 1864, when civil registration of deaths commenced, to 31st December 1901. The details are those recorded in the local death registers and not the General Register Office (GRO), so the certificate number given is the local reference. All details from the original entry are included: date of death, place of death, age, cause of death, informant, etc. The database is searchable by name only, but it is on both the deceased's and the informant's names. For example, a search under the surname Murphy shows an Alice Murphy with date of death as 15 February 1886. However looking at the details we can see that Alice is in fact the informant while the deceased is her son Cornelius aged 2 years, son of a shepherd who had died from pneumonia at Ballingown.

The transcription of "Griffith's Valuation" can be searched by Name or Townland and includes details of occupier, lessor, description of tenement and acreage and values.

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The "Grave Memorials" is another invaluable source of genealogical information. Details of the various graveyards listed to date are given. A search of the database can be made by keyword or inscription names. For example an entry for a Dennis Murphy who died in 1832 and who is buried at the Abbey, Kilculliheen, Ferrybank, Waterford also includes an obituary notice from the *Waterford Mirror* newspaper. The memorial was erected by his father Edward Murphy of Graigue "in memory of his son Dennis who departed this life May the 12th 1832 aged 38 years". An entry for a Charles Byrne, buried at Drumcannon, states "Erected by Michael Byrne in memory of his friend Charles Byrne of Balleyspelin who was drowned 28 September 1800 aged 28 years".

The recent development of the ePublications section, also under "Local Studies", provides access to selected articles from the *Ardmore Journal* and all volumes of the *Journal of the South-East of Ireland Archaeological Society*, first published in 1895, are available to download using Adobe Reader. Other useful books for downloading include *Parliamentary Gazetteer of Ireland* (Waterford Extracts 1843-44) Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland, Vol. I and II*.

Waterford County Council
http://www.waterfordcoco.ie

Select "Archives"
The main item of interest here is the "Lismore Estate Papers from the left column. Emigration Record Database" which covers the period 1815 to 1905. The Lismore Estate relates to the Dukes of Devonshire and includes lands mainly in Counties Waterford and Cork. The database refers to applications for assistance to emigrate made either to the Land Agent or to the Duke of Devonshire himself. They were recorded in the Tenant Application Book or in general correspondence. If assistance was granted the payment was recorded in the Estate accounts Books.

A search can be made by Tenant name, Townland, Date or Destination. A drop down menu is available on Townland showing all townlands recorded, by Date enabling you to select a particular year and on Destination enabling you to select by a specific destination. A search on Martin Murphy shows he lived at Bog Lane, Tallow and applied in 1853. The comment in the Application Book states "Murphy, Martin. Tallow. Wanting to be able to dispose of house in Bog Lane and go to America. Response; Told it must be arranged first. 5 September 1853."

Irish Origins
http://www.irishorigins.com

The *Irish Origins* website features the digitised version of Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland records and maps as well as many other data bases such as the Dublin City 1851 Head of Household Index, Tithe Defaulters 1831, Index of Irish Wills 1484-1858, and Census of Elphin 1749.

Access to all the databases on *Irish Origins* is available on a subscription basis for a monthly rate of US $19.10 or 72 hours for US $9.60

Griffith's Valuation was digitised by *Irish Origins* in association with the National Library of Ireland and is available for free in the National Library of Ireland. This is the definitive version of Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland as it includes all books published for each area, unlike the microfiche version which is only one book.

As example, a search on the surname Dowling in the Civil Parish of Castleknock, Co Dublin, shows nine records.

The entry for Patt Dowling dated November 3 1847 (select Details for information) shows him as the occupier of the house at Lot 4. The entry for Patt Dowling dated August 20 1848 states that the house occupier for Lot 4 should be Lawrence Dowling. The entry dated March 20 1849 shows the occupier at Lot 4 as Lawrence Dowling.

The maps associated with Griffith's Valuation showing the various Lot numbers are available to download.

Newspapers

Irish Times
http://www.ireland.com/search

A fully searchable online archive of *The Irish Times* newspaper dating from 1859 to the present day was launched in September 2007. A search can be made by Keyword and Date Range. The site is available on a subscription basis although the search facility is free. A 24 hour access costs Euro 10 (US $15 approx.). The archive is available for free in Irish libraries and schools.

Various news items of interest are available for free under the Historical Timeline section. A report dated April 27, 1865, details the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, president of the United States. Other reports include the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.

Irish Newspaper Archives, Ltd
http://irishnewspaperarchives.com

This site has digitised various newspapers including *The Freeman's Journal* and the *Irish Independent*. Unfortunately, problems with the Optical Character Recognition (OCR), especially with older newspapers, make searching difficult and the results often unreadable. In such circumstances, searching on the more common names is difficult. I understand work is underway to improve this. Again, the search facility is free but credits must be bought to view the images.

The National Archives, Kew, England
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

More and more records of Irish interest are becoming available on England's National Archives website. Visit the site to see the full range of records available as I can give only a brief outline of some here. Podcasts are available to download for free and include such talks as "Tracing your Irish ancestors at The National Archives", "Sources for First World War army ancestry" and also "Army deaths, marriages and births, 1761-1913".

Check the extensive research guides as they include much of interest to the Irish researcher; in particular, articles on the Royal Irish Constabulary, Army and Navy records, WW1 Medals, and Wills.

Using the online Catalogue, a search on the Irish surname Coffey brings up 52 entries in the War Office series (WO). On closer examination, most relate to Irish soldiers' records from the 19th century.

The Documents Online section, available from the drop down menu on "Search the archives", includes World War 1 Campaign Medals, Victoria Cross registers and Royal Naval Seamen. Many Irish men served in the British Army and Navy and it is possible that some of your ancestors could be included in these records. An example from the "Registers of Seamen's Services" is William Henry Murphy who is recorded as being born on 9 September 1869 at Dunany, Louth (Ireland). A search of the International Genealogical Index for the British Isles-Ireland on FamilySearch, the Latter Day Saints web site (http://www.familysearch.org), which includes some of the earlier years of civil registered births, showed an entry for a William Henry Murphy born 9 September 1869 in Louth to John Murphy and Agnes Martin.

The British Army WWI Pension records (1914-1920), recently digitized by Ancestry in association with The National Archives, are available to download for a fee at *Ancestry* (http://www.Ancestry.co.uk).

The Board of Trade Passenger Lists, Outwards (BT27) 1890-1960, contain the names of people leaving ports in the United Kingdom and Ireland for final destinations outside Europe and the Mediterranean such as Boston, Philadelphia and New York. These are being digitised and are available at *Ancestorsonboard* (http://www.ancestorsonboard.com) for a fee although the search is free. The records currently cover 1890-1939. The records include not only emigrants but also businessmen, diplomats and tourists.

General Register Office
http://**www.gro.ie**

Sadly, the Internet-based service promised by the Republic of Ireland's civil registration service to access scanned

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images of pre-1900 Irish birth, death & marriage records is not yet available. While all births have been scanned, the job has not been completed for deaths and marriages; records prior to 1926 and 1920 respectively have not been scanned.

Other web sites of interest:

Leitrim-Roscommon Genealogy Web Site http://www.leitrim-roscommon.com Free database for 1901 census. Counties Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo and Sligo are complete. Counties Wexford, Westmeath and Galway in progress.

Ulster Historical Foundation http://www.ancestryireland.com
Various databases for counties Antrim and Down, for a fee, six volumes of *History of the Irish Parliament* were digitized as one of the Foundation's projects.

Dublin City Library & Archive http://www.dublincity.ie/living_in_the_city/libraries (Select Heritage and History from left side menu)
Of particular interest to those researching Dublin Ancestors.

Dublinheritage.ie http://www.dublinheritage.ie Resources from Dublin City Public Libraries focusing on databases derived from records related to Dublin city. Includes baptisms, marriages and burials from various Dublin parishes.

Ireland's Historical Mapping Archive http://www.irishhistoricmaps.ie
Pay per view site for historical maps of Ordnance Survey, 1829-1913. Available for free in Irish libraries.

Irish Architectural Archive http://www.iarc.ie
Includes a searchable database of Irish architects or architects who worked in Ireland from 1720 to 1940.

Coastguards of Yesteryear
http://**www.coastguardsofyesteryear.org**
Includes 1901 and 1911 census for Coastguards.

Ire Atlas Townland Database
http://**www.seanruad.com**
Searchable townland database

Family Search (Latter Day Saints)
http://**www.familysearch.org**
International Genealogical Index includes some of the earlier years of Irish civil birth registrations.

Commonwealth War Graves Commission http://www.cwgc.org
Searchable database of WWI &WWII dead.

Mary Beglan, current Chairman of the Irish Family History Society, is a professional genealogist based in Dublin and a former Hon. Secretary of the Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland. She has delivered many talks, including a number on the use of the internet in genealogy, and has written various articles, including web site reviews for the Irish Family History Society journal and web site. As Mary's mother is English she has a particular interest in English sources.

Financial Donations

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The Irish Family History Foundation and Its Online Research System

by Karel Kiely M.A. & Dr. Brian Smith

The Irish Family History Foundation (IFHF) believes that Irish genealogy can only be properly dealt with on an all-island basis. The members of the IFHF have created an extraordinary resource which constitutes an invaluable part of Ireland's heritage. With a cross-border network of local county centres, it is the largest provider of professional family history research services in Ireland. Each member centre has a local computer database comprising various denominations of church records of baptisms, marriages and deaths; civil records of births, deaths and marriages; the Primary Valuation of Tenements (Griffith's Valuation); Tithe Applotment Books; the 1901 and 1911 census, and gravestone inscriptions. Centres also indexed additional types of records, including directories, Hearth Money Rolls, and information specific to their locale, such as newspapers.

Family history research could not be conducted without visiting archives in Dublin or Belfast, or with the (sometimes withheld) assistance of local clergy. The local centres set out to overcome these problems of access. They sought to obtain records pertaining to their catchment areas and to computerize and index those records. In many cases access was gained via negotiation with the record holders.

Researchers seeking their ancestors frequently do not know the county of origin nor the place of origin within a county, making efforts to research their ancestry very difficult. A database of all of a county's records allowing a single comprehensive search was considered vital to advancing genealogy in Ireland. The primary sources can be difficult to access in some instances; researching them requires a large amount of time, expertise and comprehension of local records to yield results.

Some centres began with volunteers in the early 1980s to computerize major Irish genealogical resources. In 1984, many of these groups, in association with individuals who were interested in indexing work and in genealogy generally, came together to form the Irish Family History Society. The Society saw its role as developing standard procedures for indexing records and facilitating the development of contacts and links between the various parties.

The Irish Family History Co-operative emerged as an umbrella organisation dedicated to the needs of local genealogy centres. It later changed its name to the Irish Family History Foundation. The Irish Family History Foundation sets standards for indexing records, genealogical research services, and fees for its member centres.

Government assistance to the project in the North and South of Ireland took the form largely of employment training grants. Young, unemployed people were hired to do the indexing work, and were given training in office and computer skills with at least half their time spent on non-genealogical related work. While the governments, with the help of grants from the International Fund for Ireland and the European Union, did initially fund equipment purchases, it subsequently restricted its funding to training grants, leaving the centres to fall back on their own and/or local resources. Some centres were forced to close, while others were able to offer only partial services.

The IFHF knows from long experience that people with Irish ancestry have a great interest in their family history. A few of these people are interested in the process of researching this history and wish to carry out their own research. Many of those conducting their own research feel frustrated with off line services and will contact IFHF centres, even though they would prefer to conduct their own research. Placing the records online is an opportunity and a service. It makes a huge archive available and meets the demand from those who wish to do their own research. They no longer need be dependent on the services of others or have to try to access the primary sources.

Demand for access to original sources harms the preservation of private and unique records. Guardians of these records may consider some information to be confidential and restrict access. Even when state archives have sufficient facilities to preserve original records, organisations that hold their own records may not avail of these services if they do not feel that their concerns are respected.

For the IFHF, the first priority in preserving historical records is to remove

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the originals from use; they are fragile, unique and irreplaceable historical documents that need to be carefully preserved and handled as little as necessary. IFHF centres use a combination of microfilms, other images, or transcripts to access historical records.

The Online Research System

The centres have created computerized databases of genealogical records to offer a fee-based genealogical research service to those interested in tracing their family roots. The centres indexed 40 million+ records on computer, creating a searchable database of the information contained within the original sources; it then became possible to retire those sources from general use. Furthermore, anyone with an internet connection, anywhere in the world, can access and search for information on their ancestors across all major Irish genealogical sources.

As outlined above, vast amounts of time, effort and money have been put into developing this resource. The government support described earlier has been largely withdrawn. The centres needed to create revenues streams to allow for the continued expansion and maintenance of the sources, as well as for the delivery of a professional research service to those requiring it. Each centre operates on a strictly not for profit basis, with all revenues going towards the continual improvement of the services and sources offered. Without these revenues the computerization of the remaining sources would not happen and the online service would cease to exist.

BRS Systems Ltd. provides the technical services to deliver the project. BRS Systems is a wholly owned partnership founded by Dr. Brian Smith and Mr. Rory Smith in 2002. Between them, they bring over thirty years industrial experience to the partnership with blue chip corporations such as Nortel Networks, British Telecom and Short Brothers PLC. Both Brian and Rory have significant previous experience of a range of software technologies and web related projects including development of Internet solutions for British Telecom, the Ulster Historical Foundation, 200+ golf clubs in Ireland and Junior Golf Ireland. BRS Systems Ltd. has quickly established itself as a leading Internet solution design business specialising in complex, database driven systems that offer maximum security and business benefits to the customer. The technical aspects of BRS Systems projects are overseen by the Chairman, Professor Jack Smith, utilizing a wealth of experience and fundamental thinking appropriate to a longstanding pillar of the local software community.

Barry McElduff, MLA, Senator Labhras O'Murchu, Chairman IFHF, Most Rev. John Finlay, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, Most Rev. Alan Harper, Archbishop of Armgh & Primate of All Ireland, Ms. Susan Elliott, US Consul General to Northern Ireland, Cardinal Sean Brady, Most Rev. Cooper, President, Methodist Church at the official launching on November 30th, 2007

BRS worked to create and host a central single database and index of records from all centres for the categories identified; to create and host a central standard surnames database; to create, host and manage a pay per view web site which will allow up to 25 million visitors per annum, and a database specific to each centre.

We work, firstly, to create a searchable online site for each centre, and secondly, to provide single search capability across all centres. The system is initially deployed with the following centres already online directly or via http://www.irish-roots.net/pay-perview.asp:

- Armagh–http://armagh.brsgenealogy.com
- Tipperary North–http://tipperarynorth.brsgenealogy.com
- Tipperary South–http://tipperarysouth.brsgenealogy.com
- Cork North and East (Mallow Centre)–http://corknortheast.brsgenealogy.com
- Dublin North–http://dublinnorth.brsgenealogy.com

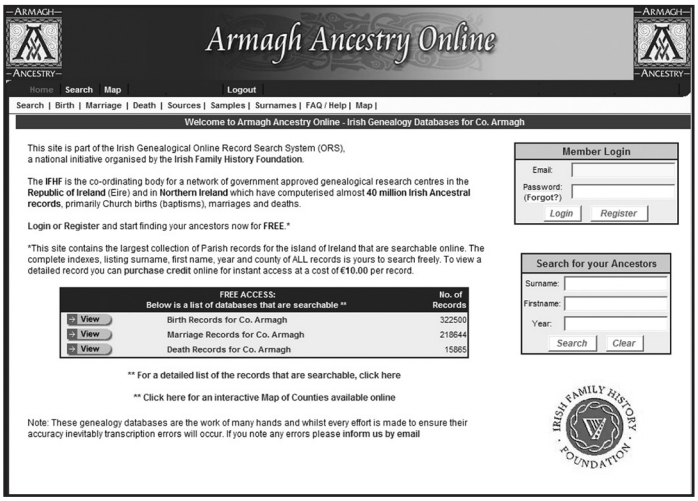
- Leitrim–http://leitrim.brsgenealogy.com
- Kildare–http://kildare.brsgenealogy.com
- Tyrone & Fermanagh–http://tyrone-fermanagh.brsgenealogy.com
- Galway West – http://galwaywest.brsgenealogy.com

The following counties are expected to be online early in 2008: Antrim, Carlow, Cavan, Down, and Kilkenny. The central search system is expected to be in place by March 2008.

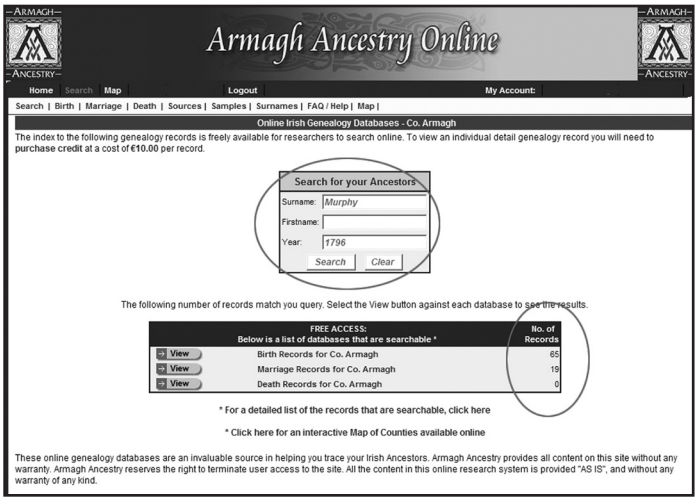
The system was officially launched by the Church leaders of the four main denominations in Ireland whose records form the core of the database: Cardinal Sean Brady; Most Rev. Alan Harper, Archbishop of Armagh & Primate of All Ireland; Most Rev. John Finlay, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland; and Most Rev. Cooper, President, Methodist Church, on November 30th, 2007 in Ireland's oldest city. The ancient cathedral city of Armagh is the historical capital of Ulster, city of Saint Patrick, burial place of Brian Boru, and the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland making it a highly appropriate location for the occasion.

Using the Online Research System

Each centre has its own online site though the look and feel of each site is consistent. For this article we have taken screen shots from the Armagh site, with their kind permission. The graphic to the right shows the login screen:



The Armagh Ancestry website log on screen.



Search Results Screen shot of the Armagh Ancestry website.

Having registered and logged in, the user can perform preliminary index searches. In this example, a search has been done for the surname "Murphy" in 1796:

This has returned 65 birth records, 19 marriages and 0 death records. It is then possible to view the index of results, in this case the births: see sample on next page.

Individual records can be purchased and the available details can be viewed online. The initial phase of the online project is concentrated on the Parish Registers database; other available data sources will be added in the project – as time and money permits. The following section describes those sources and gives contact details for each centre.

Standard Surnames

Each centre has a standard surnames index. In effect, this is a "one to many" database with a surname variation being nominated as the "standard surname" e.g. McGrath and subsequent variations being related as children of that surname e.g. MacGrath, Magragh. This has been complicated by the fact that each centre's standard surname index has been built separately so that between centres different surnames may be set as the standard form.

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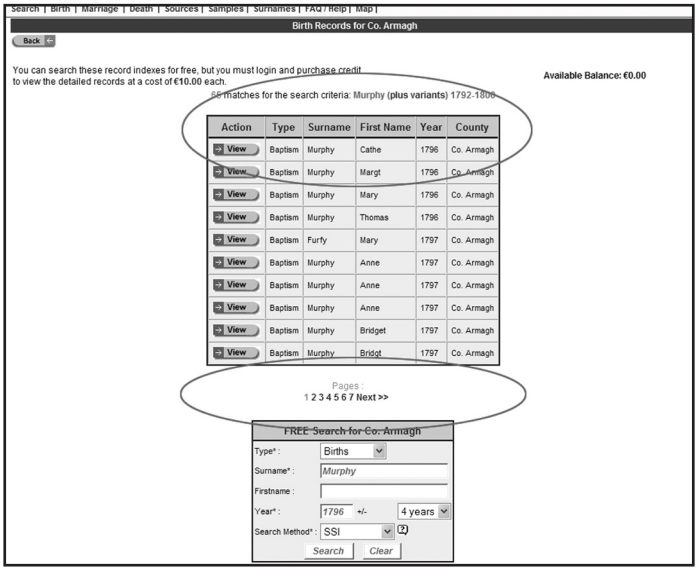

Screen shot of the search results at the Armagh Ancestry website.

Types of Records on the IFHF centres' database

Parish Registers

The parish registers, of all denominations, are an excellent source of genealogical research and probably the best starting point as they include baptisms, marriages & sometimes deaths for all classes of the population of Ireland. They also pre-date civil registration which began in 1864. The original registers are kept in individual parishes and, in most cases, were not deposited in national repositories. This ensured their survival from the Public Record Office fire in 1922 and makes them one of the most comprehensive records available. There are some disadvantages pertaining to their use: they can be difficult to decipher; names and addresses were not standardised; names were entered on a chronological basis so it takes time to search for the members of a particular family, and it may not be possible to find a complete family in one parish as families move between parishes and counties.

The Church of Ireland, as the Established Church, had a more regular system of recording entries using formatted books long before its Catholic counterpart. Parish registers are held locally by the priest or rector whose permission must be sought to consult them.

Civil Records

Civil registration of births, marriages and deaths began in 1864; non-Catholic marriages commence in 1845; and these records are an important source. The information available is concise and accurate, though there may be some omissions, particularly in the immediate aftermath of the introduction of civil registration.

A birth certificate contains the date and exact place of birth, child's name, surname, address, occupation of father and mother's maiden name. A marriage certificate includes the names of the parties, their current marital status, date of marriage, address and occupation of fathers and, occasionally, the mothers' names. A death certificate provided minimal information, usually the name, age and occupation of the deceased and the place and cause of death. It may also give the name of the informant, in most cases a relative.

Tithe Applotment Books 1823–1838

The Tithe Applotment books provide a record of the tithable land in each parish and were compiled in accordance with the Irish Tithe Composition Acts passed between 1823 and 1838. A tithe was a tax paid to Established Church (Church of Ireland), calculated as one-tenth of the rateable value of one's agricultural produce. Information was recorded under the following headings: occupier, classification of land, amount of tithe payable, a summary of the townland and parish totals and a list of landowners' names. Although an excellent genealogical source, it was only concerned with tithe payers, thus excluding other classes such as cottiers, landless people and those living in urban settlements. It cannot be considered a comprehensive record.

Primary Valuation Of Tenements (Griffith's Valuation) 1848–1864

The Primary Valuation of Tenements, also known as Griffith's Valuation, was undertaken in order to establish the value of land and buildings in Ireland as a basis for levying a local system of fair taxation under the Irish Poor Law Act of 1838. The Valuation was compiled on a barony basis and further subdivided according to townlands, civil parishes and the electoral divisions of Poor Law Unions. The first column heading is number and letters of reference to map; the number given

refers to the location of the tenement on the 6" to the mile townland maps. Under the description of tenement, land & buildings are included, and, under net annual value, the annual rent expected, including maintenance and taxes and excluding the tithe rent, is given.

Griffith's Valuation provides detailed information about land tenure, names of lessors and occupiers, their lands and buildings. The information on towns is equally important as the individual tenements were arranged according to streets. It is the only general assessment of land values in Ireland.

An Index to the Surnames in both Griffith's Valuation and the Tithe Applotment books has been compiled showing the occurrence of surnames in each county on a barony/townland basis. This can be a useful indicator of the possible location of a particular family, especially if the surname is an uncommon one.

Census Reports

For the purpose of genealogical research the two available census reports are those of 1901 and 1911. From 1821 a census was carried out every ten years. Unfortunately, a large amount of this material was destroyed in 1922, and some of it was never preserved. The returns give detailed information relating to all persons, including householders and their dependents, residents of army and R.I.C. barracks, convents, hospitals, and other institutions, similar to present day censuses. The barony, civil parish and townland were the territorial divisions used.

Other Sources Which Some Centres May Also Hold

Land Survey 1876

This survey, published in 1876, is a record of all landowners in Ireland in possession of one acre and upwards at that time. It was commissioned by the Lord Lieutenant at the suggestion of the Earl of Derby in 1872, and took three and a half years to compile. It lists owners in alphabetical order, giving the amount of land held, its rateable value and the address of the owner as far as could be ascertained. It includes statistics on population and on the number of inhabited dwellings for each county.

The Landowners Of Ireland by V. H. Hussey de Burgh

This is an alphabetical list of owners of estates of 500 acres and upwards, with a minimum valuation of £500. It also includes acreage and valuation of such estates, and gives details of the education and official appointments of the owners. Town and country addresses and membership of clubs are also given. This list provides a valuable companion to Griffith's Valuation as it gives details of land ownership between the completion of Griffith's Valuation and the redistribution of land under the Land Acts of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Alphabetical Index Of Townlands

This index is a useful starting point in genealogical research. It is an alphabetical list of townlands giving the barony, civil parish, rural district and electoral division in which each townland is located.

The Civil Survey 1654

The Civil Survey was undertaken by the Cromwellian government in Ireland for two reasons: to secure information on the location and type of confiscated lands, and to survey these lands in order to honour agreements entered into with both English "adventurers" who had financed the Cromwellian war in Ireland and with soldiers who had fought in it with the guarantee of payment in land in lieu of money. The survey was carried out under the aegis of the Courts of Survey, who in turn delegated the implementation of it to local juries who had extensive knowledge of their own localities.

The survey, initiated in 1654, begins with a detailed account of landowners and their estates, and a valuation of the land, while also recording additional information such as the type of soil and the physical features of a locality. In total, 27 counties were surveyed, including all those in the province of Leinster. Although copies were destroyed in the fire at the Surveyor General's office in 1711 and the original set was lost in the fire of 1922, parts of it are still extant as copies had been deposited in the Quit Rent office.

Census Of 1659

Seamus Pender (ed.), published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission.

This Census includes details of population in several counties, including Kildare. Counties were subdivided into baronies

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and the statistical information was summarised on a barony basis. Information was entered under the following headings: Parishes, Townlands, Number of People, Tituladoes' names and whether English, Scots, or Irish. Tituladoes refers to the principal persons of standing in a particular locality.

Books Of Survey & Distribution

The Acts of Settlement, passed in 1662, and the Act of Explanation, passed in 1665, made provisions for confiscated lands to be administered by the Court of Claims. The decrees of Innocence issued by this court were recorded in abstract form in the Books of Survey and Distribution. These were a record of landowners & their respective estates and were used to impose the Quit Rent, an annual acreable rent paid on land granted under the Acts of Settlement & Explanation. The information in these books is complemented by the Lodge Transcripts of Records of the Rolls, available in the National Archives. Volumes XI, XII, & XIII give the names of the new owners, the townland and barony, and the number of acres and rental imposed on the grantees under the terms of the Act.

Hearth Money Rolls 1662

The Hearth Money Rolls were introduced in 1662, when, under the Hearth Money Act of that year, a tax of two shillings was imposed on each hearth, i.e. fireplace. The rolls contain the names of householders, arranged by county and subdivided by parish and townland. None of the originals survive but copies exist for some counties including Kildare.

Religious Census 1766

In 1766 Parliament undertook a census specifically to determine the religious affiliations of the population. This census was carried out by the clergy and contains information under the following headings: Head of household, religion, and number of children. It is useful for genealogical research though it is not a comprehensive record of all the population as those not eligible for payment of tithes were excluded. Original copies of this Census were destroyed in the fire at the Public Record Office in 1922, but partial transcripts had been made by Tenison Groves & these are now housed in the National Archives.

Church leaders Most Rev. John Finlay, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, Cardinal Sean Brady, Most Rev. Alan Harper, Archbishop of Armagh & Primate of All Ireland, Most Rev. Cooper, President, Methodist Church.

Local Newspapers

These can be a useful source for birth, marriage and obituary notices.

Directories

Directories are useful in that they provide names and, in some cases, occupations of individuals, e.g. Thom's Commercial Directory. Others, such as Lewis' Topographical Dictionary give information on a locality, its markets, towns, churches, arranged on a county and parish basis.

The Down Survey 1654

This survey, carried out by Sir William Petty, is important in that the land was measured by trained surveyors and the results were reproduced in map form. It provides a mapped record of confiscated lands after the Cromwellian war. The divisions used in the survey were the barony, parish and townland, and it is useful in determining land ownership for the period. The survey was practically destroyed by fire in 1711, and the remainder in the fire of 1922. However, copies survive under the following classifications: Copies of parish maps made in 1787 by the Hon. R. Rochfort, Surveyor-General, which are now included in the Reeves Collection in the National Library; a series of barony maps, entitled "Hibernia Regnum", complied from the Down Survey parish maps; and, finally, the Quit Rent Office maps and tracings.

	Catchment Area	IFHF Member Centres 2007
1	Antrim & Down	Ulster Historical Foundation, Cotton Court, 30 Waring St., Belfast, BT1 2ED, Northern Ireland. Tel. +44 (0) 28 9033 2288 Fax +44 (0) 28 9023 9885 email: enquiry@uhf.org.uk website: http://www.ancestryireland.com
2	Armagh	Armagh Ancestry, 38A English St., Armagh, BT61 7BA, Northern Ireland. Tel: +44 28 3752 1800 Fax: +44 28 3751 0180 email: ancestry@armagh.gov.uk website: http://www.visitarmagh.com
3	Carlow	Carlow Genealogy, Contact: Carlow County Library
4	Cavan	Cavan Genealogy, 1st Floor, Johnston Central Library, Farnham St., Cavan Tel: 353 (0) 49 4361094 Fax: 353 (0) 49 4331494 email: cavangenealogy@eircom.net
5	Clare	Clare Heritage Centre, Genealogical Centre, Church Street, Corofin, County Clare Tel: + 353 (0) 65 6837955 Fax: + 353 (0) 65 6837540 email: clareheritage@eircom.net Website: http://www.clare.irish-roots.net
6	Cork City	Cork City Ancestral Project, C/o Cork County Library, Farranlea Rd., Cork. Tel: 353 (0) 21 4346435 email: corkancestry@ireland.com
7	Cork North	Mallow Heritage Centre, 27-28 Bank Place, Mallow, Co. Cork Tel: 353 (0) 22 50302 Fax: 353 (0) 22 20276 email: mallowhc@eircom.net
8	Derry	The Genealogy Centre,10 Craft Village, Shipquay Street, Derry, BT48 6AR, Northern Ireland Tel: +44 28 71269792 Fax: +44 28 71360921
9	Donegal	Donegal Ancestry, The Quay, Ramelton, Co. Donegal Tel: 353 (0) 74 9151266 Fax: 353 (0) 74 9151702 email: info@donegalancestry.com webpage: http://www.donegalancestry.com
10	Dublin North	Swords Heritage Centre, Carnegie Library, North St., Swords, Co. Dublin Tel: 353 (1) 8400080 Fax: 353 (1) 8400080 email: swordsheritage@eircom.net

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11	Dublin South	Dun Laoghaire Heritage Society, Craft Courtyard, Marlay Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin. email: cmalone@DLRCOCO.ie
12	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Irish World Family History Services, Family History Suite, 51 Dungannon Road, Coalisland, BT71 4HP, County Tyrone Tel: +44 (0) 28 8774 6065 email: info@irish-world.com website: http://www.irish-world.com
13	Galway East	East Galway Family History Society, Woodford Heritage Centre, Woodford, Loughrea, Co. Galway Tel: 353 (0) 90 9749309 Fax: 353 (0) 90 9749546 email: galwayroots@eircom.net
14	Galway West	Galway Family History Society West Ltd., St. Joseph's Community Centre, Shantalla, Co. Galway Tel/Fax: 353 (0) 91 860464 e-mail: galwayfshwest@eircom.net
15	Kildare	Local Studies, Genealogy & Archives, Riverbank, Main St., Newbridge, Co. Kildare Tel: 353 (0) 45 433602 Fax: 353 (0) 45 449721 email: genealogy@kildarecoco.ie website: http://www.kildare.ie/genealogy & http://www.kildare.ie/heritage
16	Kilkenny	Kilkenny Archaeological Soc., Rothe House, Parliament St., Kilkenny Tel: 353 (0) 56 7722893 Fax: 353 (0) 56 7751 108 email: rothehouse@eircom.net website: http://www.kilkennyarchaeologicalsociety.ie
17	Laois and Offaly	Irish Midlands Ancestry, Bury Quay, Tullamore, Co Offaly, Ireland Tel: + + 353 506 21421 Fax: + + 353 506 21421 email: ohas@iol.ie website: www.irishmidlandsancestry.com
18	Leitrim	Leitrim Genealogy Centre, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim Tel: 353 (0) 71 9644012 Fax: 353 (0) 71 9644425 email: leitrimgenealogy@eircom.net website: http://homepage.eircom.net/~leitrimgenealogy
19	Limerick	Limerick Ancestry, Limerick Co. Library HQ, 58 O'Connell St., Limerick City Tel: 353 (0) 61 496542 Fax: 353 (0) 61 318570 email: research@limerickgenealogy.com
20	Longford	Longford Genealogy, 17 Dublin St., Longford. Tel: 353 (0) 43 41235 Fax: 353 (0) 4341279 email: longroot@iol.ie

21	Louth	Louth Co. Library, Roden Place, Dundalk, Co. Louth Tel: 353 (0) 42 9335457 Fax: 353 (0) 42 9337635 email: referencelibrary@louthcoco.ie website: http://www.louthcoco.ie
22	Mayo North	Family History Research Centre, Enniscoe, Castlehill, Ballina, Co. Mayo Tel: 353 (0) 96 31809 Fax: 353 (0) 96 31885 email: normayo@iol.ie website: http://www.irish-roots.net/mayo/Mayo.htm
23	Mayo South	South Mayo Family Research, Main St., Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo Tel/Fax: 353 (0) 94 9541214 email: soumayo@iol.ie website: http://www.irish-roots.net/mayo/Mayo.htm
24	Meath	Meath Heritage & Genealogy Centre, Town Hall, Castle St., Trim, Co. Meath Tel: 353 (0) 46 9436633 Fax: 353 (0) 46 9437502 email: meathhc@iol.ie website: http://www.meathroots.com
25	Roscommon	Heritage & Genealogical Centre, Church St., Strokestown, Co. Roscommon Tel.: 353 (0) 71 9633380 Fax: 353 (0) 71 9633398 email: info@roscommonroots.com website: http://www.roscommonroots.com
26	Sligo	Co. Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Society, Aras Reddan, Temple St., Sligo Tel.: 353 (0) 71 9143728 Fax: 353 (0) 71 9135416 email: heritagesligo@tinet.ie website: http://www.sligoroots.com
27	Tipperary North	Family Research Centre, The Governor's House, Kickham St., Nenagh, Co. Tipperary Tel.: 353 (0) 67 33850 e-mail: tipperarynorthgenealogy@eircom.net
28	Tipperary South	Brú Ború Heritage Centre, Rock of Cashel, Cashel, Co. Tipperary Tel: 353 (0) 62 61122 Fax: 353 (0) 62 62700 email: bruboru@comhaltas.com
29	Waterford	Waterford Heritage Services, St. Patrick's Church, Jenkin's Lane, Waterford Tel: 353 (0) 51 876123 Fax: 353 (0) 51 850645 email: mnoc@iol.ie website: http://www.waterford-heritage.ie
30	Westmeath	Dún na Sí Heritage Centre, Knockdomney, Moate, Co. Westmeath Tel: 00 353 (0) 90 6481183 Fax: 00 353 (0) 90 6481661

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31	Wexford	Co. Wexford Heritage & Genealogy Society, Yola Farmstead, Folk Park, Tagoat, Rosslare, Co. Wexford Tel: 353 (0) 53 32611 Fax: 353 (0) 53 32612 email wexgen@eircom.net website: http://homepage.eircom.net/~yolawexford
32	Wicklow	Wicklow Family History Centre, Wicklow's Historic Gaol, Kilmantin Hill, Wicklow Town Tel: 00 353 (0) 404 20126 Fax: 00 353 (0) 404 61612 email: wfh@eircom.net website: http://www.wicklow.ie/FamilyHistoryCentre/index.html

Karel Kiely, M.A., a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, has worked in the field of genealogy and history since 1989, from 1993-2006 on the computerization of Co. Kildare's genealogical sources. Kiely currently works with Kildare County Council as a genealogist and as secretary of the IFHF, overseeing the development of the national online research system.

Dr. Brian Smith, BSc PhD MIEI, is a graduate of Queen's University, Belfast, and founder of BRS Systems. He has worked on Internet based projects since 1998, including British Telecom's flagship Internet portal 'BT Openworld'. During 2003 he project-managed the design, development and delivery of the History from Headstones (Gravestone) project for the Ulster Historical Foundation.

Check & Update Your Member Information

On the new IGSI website – once you have logged into the Members Section – you find the Members Homepage. Look at the very left side; in the tan/brown color column, under **Member Links** you see a few options with arrows before them.

Click on **Manage Your Member Profile** and you'll see a new page with new options.

Login allows you to change your Password. Click on **Basic Member Info** to check and change your basic member information: address, phone, email. It's from this page that you can also verify and add to your Surnames, or renew online. When should you do something with this page? Anytime you need to – or perhaps once a year, at least, before you renew.

Of particular importance to keep current are email and home addresses.

Emails. From the Society's perspective, it helps when all of your information is up to date. We send out meeting reminders and other communications by email. If your email is wrong (an old email or a typo on our part), you are missing our messages. Related to that, please add our email address (IrishGenealogical.org) to your approved recipient list – or again, our emails will be returned unseen by you.

Addresses. Some members have a second home for part of the year and ask that some issues of *The Septs* be mailed to this second address. When there is a second address, check the little boxes below the address area to indicate which issues of *The Septs* should be sent to which address. That way, you won't miss a single issue. Note: mailing labels are prepared two weeks before the month of the journal issue. For October, the address cut-off date is mid-September.

Thanks for helping us out by Managing your Member Information!

Contribute to The Septs

The theme for the January 2008 issue of *The Septs* is Printed Resources for Irish Genealogy. While our themes focus on Ireland, we are happy to accept articles on broader aspects of the topic.

We welcome all contributions. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to *The Septs* publication date. Submission date is February 1st for the April 2008 issue and May 1 for the July 2008 issue.

You can share your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history and become part of this publication. If you prefer not to write, recommend an author to us – someone active in genealogy – and we'll contact them. Send items of note to the Irish genealogical community and we'll include the information. As a society-based publication, *The Septs* thrives on the international diversity and expertise of its members.

We also welcome articles on topics not related to the themes described below. Tom Rice, Managing Editor, will work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community. E-mail: Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org.

Future themes include:

April 2008	Printed Resources for Irish Genealogy
July 2008	Emigration, Immigration and New Citizenship – i.e. emigrant lists, ship lists, naturalization and passport records
October 2008	Finding Your Ancestor's Place of Origin in Ireland
January 2009	Irish Social, Religious, Political, Cultural and Fraternal Organizations

Announcing the call for nominations

Each year in April, IGSI thanks and honors member volunteers who have made contributions to the Society. Every job that helps the organization or contributes to our members is worthy of honor. The Society has five special awards to recognize the work of dedicated members and inspire others to future contributions.

The five awards are:

Beth Mullinax Award of Distinction
Recognizes dedicated and sustained service in support of IGSI. A nominee must have been a member of IGSI and a volunteer for at least five years. This is our most prestigious award and will be presented to an individual only once. The name of each winner will be added to the plaque displayed at the MGS Library.

IGSI Award of Excellence
Recognizes exceptional contributions to the organization by an individual who has contributed beyond the job description or taken on additional projects. The nominee must have contributed for three years or more. This award may be presented to an individual more than once in a five-year period.

Distinguished Service Award
Recognizes dedication to the work of the Society by an individual working on a project for more than one year and seeing it through to completion. This award may be presented to an individual more than once.

IGSI Instructor's Award
Recognizes an individual whose work achieves one of the goals of IGSI – to educate the public by instructing or writing in the area of genealogy. This award may be presented to either a member or non-member.

IGSI Award of Merit
Recognizes an IGSI member for a singular service providing benefit to the Society. Even through a small service contribution, a member may start a butterfly effect to put a face to IGSI. A person may be nominated for one project per year in this category. The nominee must be an IGSI member.

Any member may nominate an individual for an award. To nominate an individual, provide:

The name of the individual to be honored and title of the award

Why should the person receive this award?
Your name & phone or email:

Send by mail to Irish Genealogical Society International, 1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218, South St. Paul, Minnesota 55075 to the attention of the Volunteer Coordinator or email to Volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org. All nominations are due by March 10, 2008.

ASK CONNEMARA KATE

by Beth Mullinax

Dear Kate: My ancestors keep changing their first names. Either that or I don't have the right family. Can you tell me what's happening?

Dear Member: You may have the wrong family, but probably not. The Irish had a great imagination when it came to first names, though some of this was tradition. Many parents named ALL their daughters Mary, i.e. Mary Elizabeth, Mary Catherine, Mary Anne, etc. Often these girls would use their second names, i.e., Elizabeth (Beth), Catherine (Kate/Kathy), Anne, and so on.

Another common problem is that of names having many variants. Helen can be listed as Nelly, Nellie, Ellen, Aileen or Eileen. Honoria is often Nora, Norah, or Hannah. Bridget may be Brigid (the Irish spelling), Bride, Bridie, and even Delia. I learned that Delia was a nickname for Bridget when I found a great aunt on two census reports as Bridget; a later census with her family listed a Delia, of the approximate age as Bridget. My father's endearment for me and my sister was "Bridget" – yet neither of us was named Bridget.

Variants among male names include: Timothy is also Teig/Tadhg (the Irish), Thaddeus, or Thad; Jeremiah can be Diarmaid (the Irish spelling) Dermot, Darby, Jerry; Sean, Eoin, Iain, Shaun, Shawn are all variants of John.

The name variants come mostly from the Irish, English and Latin languages, along with common nicknames. Most variants are found in the first couple of generations after immigration, which just happens to be the ones in which we are most interested, thus creating the problem.

Another name problem is when people (male or female) used their Confirmation name as their given name. In one case, I saw a statement on a naturalization paper that a man had gone by his confirmation name since he was confirmed. My Irish Grandma was always called Mayme, a nickname for Marion although Marion was not her name. She was listed as Minnie on my father's birth certificate. Most of us did not know that her name was Elizabeth!

If you have questions on a name you have found, let us know and we will try and sort it out for you.

February Quarterly Program

Saturday, February 16, 2008

Brick Wall Q&A
Research Open Forum
Cost - Free

In the cold winter month of February, we work hard to persuade members to come out of hibernation. IGSI will sponsor a Brick Wall Q&A session for members at its Quarterly Meeting & Program on Saturday, February 16.

The program will allow members to ask research questions of our local experts. It's a great opportunity to tap into group experience as well that may provide a valuable key to finding "lost" ancestors. Share a unique research path or discover a new approach that may open a door in your brick wall. As a bonus, get to know other IGSI members.

Plan to attend. Success is often being in the right place at the right time.

8:30 Registration
9:00 Business Meeting
10:00 Program

The quarterly meeting and program will be held in the 1st floor auditorium at 1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul, Minnesota. Accessible facility

100 Years Ago in the News

by Mary Wickersham and Sheila Northrop

WHITE PLAGUE IN IRELAND

The annual report of the local government board for Ireland states that in 1905 close on twelve thousand deaths were due to tuberculosis. In the death rate from this disease, Ireland stands higher than England or Scotland. The unwholesome food of the Irish people is considered a prolific cause of the great inroad made by the White Plague. A member of the crusade against consumption discussing this recently said:

"We have the worst-fed population of any civilized race. The problem is how to support a family of five or six on eleven shillings a week. It is a difficult one, but the millions of China and Japan would think such an income princely. Why not learn from them? Indeed, fifty years ago our people lived on four shillings or five shillings weekly, and food was far dearer then. They used potatoes, oatmeal and buttermilk, and no better food ration could be devised."

Irish Standard, February 8, 1908:

COUNTY DOWN

Remarking that he had been guilty of a cruel offense, Stephen Doherty, of Downpatrick, was recently sentenced to twelve months of hard labor by the acting Recorder at Derry, for bigamy. Accused, who was married to Mary M'Kee at Omagh in October, 1905, entered into a second contract and married a pretty young girl named Marie Clarke, the latter being quite unaware that he had been already wedded.

The Irish Standard, February 8, 1908

COUNTY MAYO

A deposit receipt for £1,300 was recently found on a man named Patrick Byrne, who was discovered dead on the floor in the house in which he lived alone, at Castlebar. A stale load and some potatoes were the only food in the place, and in a garment under the bed there were £43. He had lived for some years in the United States, but lived in poor circumstances, and allowed no one near his house, the doors and windows of which he kept barred.

The Irish Standard, February 15, 1908

EXHIBITS AT THE IRISH FAIR

Lace and Other Products on the Celtic Revival

The New Life in Ireland Illustrated by the Show at Madison Square Garden – New York Contributions And a Brogue That Didn't Wear Well – One of Orby's Shoes

There was a brogue, to be sure, at the Irish Fair held at the Madison Square Garden for the benefit of the proposed Hibernian Institute, but whether spoken by the young woman who had every appearance of having just walked in from New Jersey or by the young man whose fresh complexion did not suggest late hours on the Great White Way, the trouble was that it wore out quickly. …

The New York Sun, January 26, 1908

THE GOLDEN GIRL OF EIRE

Was the Original American Beauty an Irish Maid?

Ireland's Daughters in Ancient Times and To-day – The Former Creatures of White Hands and Golden Hair who Enjoyed the Rights Women Now Seek.

The Bromide Question, "What type is the American girl?" was put to several artists some years ago. All but one made the bromide answer, "Composite". The exception, A. B. Wenzel, said in effect, "Nothing of the sort. The American girl is a distinct type, distinct and distinctive – the Irish type." The artist's un-Gaelic name is evidence that he spoke without race prejudice. For the much discussed head upon the new coin Augustus Saint Gaudens took pains to select a typically American face, and, as everyone knows, his ultimate choice lighted upon Mary Cunningham, Irish born.

Many of the noted beauties of to-day in society and on the stage are modern Irish in type, dark haired, slender, long necked, with slate blue or gray eyes, rosy fairness of complexion and exquisitely formed hands and feet. The "composite" observers may believe that this but proves their case, since Ireland of the invasions, the settlements, the emigrations, is only in a less degree than America a country of mixed races. …

The New York Sun, March 15, 1908

Gleanings

by Beth Mullinax

Query

McGINNIS, DEAHL

Peter McGinnis, b. Ireland c. 1808, a weaver by trade, emigrated to the US c. 1825, m. Barbara Deahl in Pennsylvania 1840-43 where she was born. Peter worked as a coal miner in PA and MD. Four children: James, Henry, John P. and Mary McGinnis. He died between the 1850 & 1860 census.

I would like to know where he came from in Ireland and any other information on this family.

Neva Rees
1102 Colegate Drive,
Marietta, OH 45750-1321.
Tel: (740) 374-8415

HERE –
You are still coming to the library from all over the U.S.! Welcome! Giving us notice of your trip can not only help us plan, but we can sometimes have at least part of your research done for you. If there are any questions on the library, please let us know.

THERE –
A fully searchable digital archive of *The Irish Times*, from the newspaper's first edition almost 150 years ago up to the present day, has been launched. The site is accessible through http://www.ireland.com/search/ and pricing starts at 10 Euro for a 24 hour pass. If you wish more information contact Niall O'Connor by e-mail at noconnor@irish-times.com. We would appreciate input from our members who try this site. Thanks.

England & Wales – The General Register Office (GRO) of England has an on-line service for births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales. You can actually order records on-line with this new service. Their new web site is http://www.gro.gov.uk. Records began on 1 July 1837 for births, marriages, and deaths.

CLANS TOO!
Moriarty – For information on the Moriartys and a free issue of their newsletter, contact Rev. James F. Moriarty at jfmoriarty@ync.net. Mailing address: Thomas Moriary and Associates, Inc., 9836 S. Turner Avenue, Evergreen Park, IL 60805

Tierney – the Tierney Clans Society has a very informative newsletter. Are you a Tierney? Contact them either through their Web site at http://homepage.eircom.net/~thetierneyclan or Naomh Antoine, 53 Ard Aoibhinn, Athenry, County Galway, Ireland. E-mail: otighearnaigh@eircom.net

Resolve to Volunteer

We all make New Year resolutions and pretty much repeat the same ideas – lose weight, exercise more, finish a project we started months ago.

But stop and think a moment. Here you are reading about doing genealogy research. Have you ever given a thought to stepping in and giving a volunteer organization the benefit of your knowledge, past experience, or interest in learning new skills? The Irish Genealogical Society International functions best when many people take a part in the projects and governance of the organization.

There are opportunities for people with skills to share – writing, teaching, researching. There are opportunities for people to promote the organization – developing a promotion program, creating publicity for events, working with other members on projects. Or perhaps you are willing to help with the occasional mail project, library tasks, or such.

Make a commitment to participate more actively with IGSI. You'll find yourself working in a friendly atmosphere with lots of Irish humor and laughter. So make 2008 the year you increase your involvement with the Society. For more information on ways you can serve, contact the President (Pesident@IrishGenealogical.org) or the Volunteer Coordinator (Volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org).

Library Acquisitions
October, November, December 2007

PURCHASES –

A194 –*A Dictionary of Ulster Place-names, second edition*, by Patrick McKay. Published Clo Oilscoil na Banriona, Queens University, Belfast, NI, 2007, 160 p., illus., maps.

H402 – Cavan, 1609-1653. *Plantation, War and Religion. A Maynooth Studies in Local History*, by Brendan Scott. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 63 p., illus., map.

H614 – *Inver Parish [County Donegal] in History*, by Helen Meehan. Published by Helen Meehan, Coolum House, Mountcharles, Donegal, 2005, 726 p., illus.

H618 – *Edenderry, County Offaly, and the Downshire Estate, 1790-1800. A Maynooth Studies in Local History*, by Ciaran Reilly. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 62 p., illus., map.

H619 – *The Hamilton Manuscripts. The Montgomery Manuscripts. The Classic Chronicles and First-Hand Accounts of the 1606 Scottish Settlement in Ulster*, 2007, 2 CDs. [Hamilton & Montgomery 400 Years 1606-2006]

H620 – *Strabane & West Ulster in the 1800s. History from the Broadsheets. Selections from The Strabane Morning Post, 1812-1837 [County Tyrone]*, edited by Faye Lynsyl (Donaghy) Logue. Published by Carroll and Gray, Strabane, County Tyrone, NI, 2006, 433 p., indexed.

H621 – *Restoration Strabane, 1660-1714 [County Tyrone]. Economy and society in provincial Ireland. A Maynooth Studies in Local History*, by William J. Roulston. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 64 p., maps.

H622 – *A South Roscommon Emigrant. Emigration and return, 1890-1920. A Maynooth Studies in Local History*, by Diane Dunnigan. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 79 p., maps, illus.

J173 – *My Roots. Tracing Your Belfast Ancestors*, by William Roulston. Published by Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, NI, 2007, 55 p., map, illus. Book is also for sale.

J174 – *Tipperary Town Family Roots. Exploring Family Origins in Tipperary Town*, by Noel Farrell. Published by author, Noel Farrell, Park Road, Longford, 2007, 48 p., illus., maps. [This book covers the Griffith's Valuation, 1901 & 1911 census, 1940 Tipperary Electors List for the town of Tipperary, but also the 42 townlands that surround the town. The 1850 Town map is a pull-out map showing the numbers of dwellings on the Griffith's.] Book is also for sale.

K120 – *Presbyterians in Ireland. An Illustrated History*, by Laurence Kirkpatrick. Published by Booklink, Ireland, 2006, 371 p., many illus., indexed.

MGS – *Index to Central New Jersey Newspapers. Political Intelligencer & New Jersey Advertiser 1783-1786; Times and New Jersey Union 1859-1868; New Brunswick Daily Times 1872-1876.* A compilation of obituaries, marriages, injuries, accidents, arrests, social clubs and other significant local and regional items of interest. Published by Michael Brown, Kendall Park, NJ, 148 p., alphabetical. Note: This publication will be filed in the NJ collection of MGS. [It is not strictly Irish, but has many Irish surnames listed.]

MGS – St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Minneapolis, MN. Baptismal 1890 – 1992; Marriage 1892 – 1992; Death 1923-1924 & 1934 – 1992. 5 rolls, #256, #257, #258, #259 & #260.

MGS – *Holy Name Catholic Church, Wayzata, Hennepin County, MN. Baptismal, Marriage, & Death Records 1878-1992.* 1 roll.

DONATIONS –

A389 – *AINM – Bulletin of the Ulster Place-Name Society, Vol. 1.* Edited by Ruairi O hUiginn. Published by the Dept of Celtic, The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast, NI, 1986, 97 p. Donated to MGS by Jeannette G. Kammon.

H615 – *The Scattering. Images of Emigrants from an Irish County [County Clare]*, edited by Anne Jones, Text by Ray Conway. Published by A. & A. Farmer, Dublin, Ireland, 2000, 256 p., illus., maps, indexed. [Stories of Clare people who migrated all over the world.] Donated by Virginia Mahoney, Maplewood, MN.

H616 – *Victory and Woe*, by Mossie Hartnett. A Classics of Irish History. Published by University of College Dublin Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2002, 168 p.

J172 – *From Irish-American to Irish Ancestry*, by Edward J. O'Day. Published by O'Day Research Services, Murphysboro, IL, 1994, 28 p., map. Donated by Florence Myslajek, Minneapolis, MN.

FH – *The Clan Mulvaney. Descendants of Matthew and Catherine Curn Mulvaney, 1819-1993* Published by Lutischa Swaner Mulvaney, Stillwater, MN 55082, 1993, 212 p. + index of surnames, illus. [Beautiful book.] Donated by Mrs. Tom Moroni, Woodbury, MN.

FH – *The Moriarty Family. From James Moriarty (1860-1939) and Ellen Fitzgerald Moriarty (1865-1962) to the present.* Compiled and donated by Thomas J. Moriarty, Evergreen Park, IL. Und., unp,

Ordnance Survey Maps
Half-Inch Series

IGSI has the last of these out-of print maps. This map helped many find those elusive townlands that do not show up on other maps. When in doubt, IGSI will help members find the correct map wheter it is the Half-Inch Map or the Discovery Series Map.

All Half-Inch Survey Maps are $8.00

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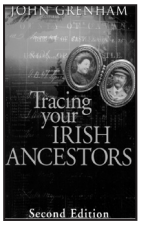
Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, Third Edition

John Grenham



This important Irish genealogical research aid combines informative text and reference source materials. Highlights include maps of Catholic parishes, checklist of sources for wills and testamentary records, National Library manuscript lists, emigration lists, county by county sources, listing of family histories in the National Library of Ireland and a complete listing of Church of Ireland parish registers. (374 pp) Order Book #K022 **$35.95**

Irish Records Index Vol.1

Index of Irish Wills 1484-1858

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This CD is a comprehensive index to the Testamentary Records in the National Archives. These sources have never been digitally indexed or published before. They include records identified in all the National Archives card catalogues as well as the Inland Revenue Will Registers and Administration Registers 1828-1839. Order CD #G036 **$39.95**

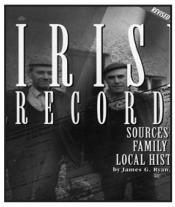
The Irish Ancestor 1969-1986: CD-ROM

Rosemary ffolliott., editor

The Irish Ancestor was a leading genealogical publication during its 18-year run. It printed articles ranging from source material (wills, bibles, church registers, gravestones, etc.), to biographies, estate inventories, domestic history and reviews. Its focus was the 18th and 19th centuries. All 2,500 pages of the original publication including over 320 pages with illustrations are on this CD-ROM. The Adobe Acrobat Reader Bookmarker feature allows for the easy browsing of the titles of each issue. The Reader's Search feature retrieves data from the entire run of articles for any word, name or phrase and then will go directly to the page that contains your search term Order CD #J157 **$79.95**

Irish Records Sources For Family And Local History

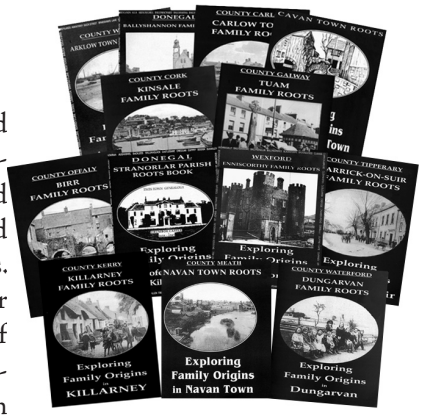
James G. Ryan, Ph.D.



Irish Records is the most comprehensive and easy-to-use resource for Irish historical records. It provides the researcher with a comprehensive listing of all available sources for Irish written records Organized by county, this unique and detailed list helps search to find your ancestors' occupations, relatives and more. (Hardcover, 668pp) Order Book #J056 **$49.95**

Exploring Family Origins Series

Noel Farrell



These books have helped thousands of Irish people across the world find their Irish roots and their Irish family origins. Each book contains over 12,000 Irish names of natives living in that specific town in the olden times - Irish Genealogy at its best. Noel Farrell's hard work makes subsequent research easier. The fold-out maps are a valuable visual resource.

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J019	Stranolarl/Ballybofey, County Donegal
J020	Ballinasloe Town, County Galway
J153	Tuam, County Galway
J040	Killarney, County Kerry
J021	Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim
J154	Rathkeale/Newcastle, County Limerick
J022	Longford Town, County Longford
J158	Ballina, County Mayo
J162	Castlebar & Westport, County Mayo
J023	Navan Town, County Meath
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J034	Birr, County Offaly
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J027	Old Roscommon, County Roscommon
J118	Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary
J167	Nenagh, County Tipperary
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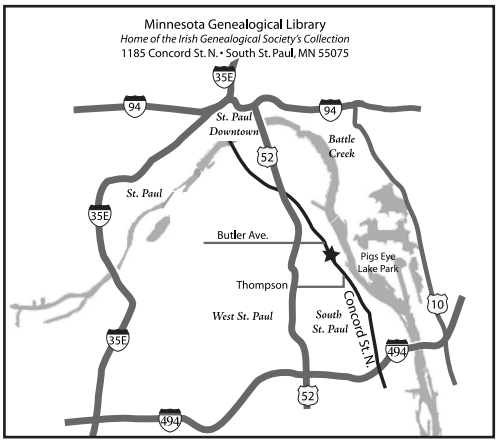
J163	Athlone, County Westmeath
J164	Mullingar, County Westmeath
J030	Enniscorthy Town, County Wexford
J031	New Ross, County Wexford
J033	Arklow Town, County Wicklow

All Books in Exploring Family Origins Series are $25.00

Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS)

Home of the Irish Genealogical Society International Research Library

Location of IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:30 to 9:30 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule

Minnesota Genealogical Society
1185 Concord St. N. * Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075
651-455-9057

The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

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The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

An t-Alõredn (**April**) **2008**

Using Printed Sources

Volumne 29, Number 2

$7.00

2008 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 12, 2008
FEBRUARY 9, 2008
MARCH 8, 2008
APRIL 12, 2008
MAY 10, 2008
JUNE 14, 2008
JULY 12, 2008
AUGUST 9, 2008
SEPTEMBER 13, 2008
OCTOBER 11, 2008
NOVEMBER 8, 2008
DECEMBER (Library Closed)
(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Informal class for beginners at the library 10:30 am on the above dates. Other classes offered throughout the year. MGS Library number 651-455-9057.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218 • South St. Paul, MN 55075
Web site address: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org
ISSN 1049-1783 • Indexed by PERSI

Editor	Ann Eccles	SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org
Managing Editor	Tom Rice	SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org
Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs is published quarterly - January, April, July and October. It is available through IGSI membership ($25 per year). Contributions and article ideas are welcome.

Material intended for publication is due the 1st of February, May, August and November. Material should be mailed to the address above, ATTN: Editor, and may be published or edited at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2007-2008

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President's Letter

IGSI Board Activities

by Laurie Hanover

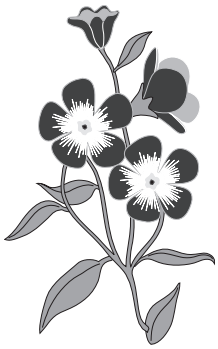
The IGSI is embarking on some very significant changes. As the electronic super highway gets larger, we are racing to add things at our address, http://www.irishgenealogical.org. Please visit us there often to keep in touch with what we are offering to help you in your Irish genealogy search and Society business.

In that vein, the IGSI Board of Directors has proposed amendments to our constitution to reflect the addition of more technology tools to your tool bag. You will find the amended constitution and a summary of the changes on pages 110-113. Members will vote at the Annual Meeting on May 17, 2008, to accept the amended constitution.

One important change is that we will align our fiscal year with that of our parent organization, the Minnesota Genealogical Society. That means that we will make some transitional moves during this year. The officers elected at the Annual meeting in May will take office on July 1 for one year terms, just like before. However, we will have a short six month fiscal year that starts July 1 through December 31, 2008, and then begin a full 12 month fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2009. We will vote for the acceptance of the six month budget at the General meeting in August and accept the 2009 budget at the General meeting next February, completing the conversion.

The Society has been without a very important officer, the Second Vice President, this past year. This position works with the area of Membership, an important consideration in any organization. Both the Second and First Vice President positions are open as we approach our annual elections. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. (See article on page 95.) This can be a very fun and fulfilling pursuit where you'll be able to use your people and marketing skills. The IGSI is an all volunteer organization that welcomes new contributors.

Laurie Hanover, a lifelong resident of the Twin Cities area, served as IGSI Secretary. Her interest in genealogy became serious about five years ago when she discovered her Irish origins. Laurie has two sons and five grandchildren, three girls and two boys.



Please join the IGSI Board and Volunteers

for a Spring Ice Cream Social

after the Quarterly Program on

Saturday, May 17, 2008

Free

Join us to welcome in the summer while honoring our volunteers for the hard work they do throughout the year. Meet and get to know the Board Members of IGSI and talk about genealogy with other family history researchers. Join us for the Annual Meeting, Quarterly Program and Ice Cream Social. Everyone welcome.

Finding Details in Print

by Ann Eccles

I have always loved mysteries. Among my favorite books to read as a child was the Nancy Drew series. Perhaps that's why I also enjoy genealogy – the hunt for the clues to the past, seeking to prove assumptions or possible connections.

A few years ago, I was told by another O'Connor researcher (collateral line to mine) that "Charles of Waterbury" was most likely the son of my g-g-grandfather Timothy's brother (name unknown). I accepted that information as fact, novice genealogist that I was. But then there was that nagging whisper saying Charles could be Timothy's son. When Timothy's widow, Johanna, died, she named all of her children, including a Charles. The birthdate for Charles of Waterbury allowed for him to be Timothy's son. Would Johanna have mentioned Charles if she hadn't been in contact with him?

I set out to prove that Charles was either Timothy and Johanna's son or that he was of a collateral line. The city directories allowed me to trace his residence and find his date of death. A newspaper obituary revealed the detail that attached him to my line. "The funeral Mass will be said by his brother, the Rev. Michael O'Connor…" Michael was Timothy's youngest son.

When I find something like this I want to shout for joy! On the other hand, I was in a library so I merely fished out my coins and made three copies of the article. A county history with a biography of Charles presented more information about his life. Rereading this biographical information reveals some facts which appear to contradict other findings. Ah well, another mystery to solve another day.

We're not proposing any mysteries to you in this issue but rather shedding light on some of the resources you may already use.

Josh Taylor of NEHGS has written a wonderful article describing the county histories, or mugbooks, published throughout the US in the early 20th century. Linda Miller also writes about county histories -- her experiences and the valuable information they added to her research.

Jay Fonkert guides the family historian to additional census data by introducing the use of state censuses. He also offers a review and commentary on a newly published genealogy book, *Some Family: The Mormons and How Humanity Keeps Track of Itself*. Sue Kratsch reviews one of her favorite books, *Irish Migrants in the Canadas*. In addition to these reviews, Beth Mullinax offers short review comments on a couple of new books in the library.

Since we are talking about Print Resources, we asked a couple of IGSI Board members for their favorite Irish research tool; check out their responses on page 81. Kathy Strickland continues her look at the IGSI website and the "Our Society" section of the navigation bar. Diane Lovrencevic updates us on IGSI volunteer needs and changes on the website.

Our Managing Editor, Tom Rice, felt compelled to contribute two articles – one on creating a basic Irish genealogy library for personal use and another on finding books and other print resources using Internet sites. Brian Donovan, Fiona Fitzsimons and Cathy McCartney of Eneclann, Ltd., prepared an informative article on the state of digitized genealogical resources in Ireland.

David Rencher shares notes from the microfilmed transcriptions and extracts of the work of the Louise Howard and Rosemary ffolliott collections. These works reference materials related to ten counties held in four different Irish repositories. If any of the information could relate to your research, this may help guide you to more information.

May the Spring see your research bloom with new discoveries and connections.

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired and found almost every branch leading back to Ireland. Still a novice in accessing Irish resources, she continues to explore her many family lines. She has volunteered at IGSI, working with the surname database and membership updates the last couple of years

A Basic Irish Genealogy Library

by Tom Rice, CG

Why create a personal genealogy library? The answer is simple. Genealogy is an intellectual pursuit. It is a hunt and a puzzle solving activity for which you need knowledge of facts and methods. Many of those facts should be at your fingertips.

To be successful at Irish genealogy, you need to learn about the types of records that were created, what is in them and where they are today. In my opinion, the first book that fulfills this need is a book of maps. Because almost all Irish records are arranged by place and often refer to place, a book of maps is an essential tool to have at arm's reach.

One also needs to learn how to use records and how to attack a genealogy project based in Ireland. This is what I call methodology. Good method books for a specific region are a must anytime researchers move from their homeland to that of their ancestors. Genealogical pursuits are shaped by the country of residence of an ancestor. It is a good idea to have one or more basic methods books available to check when you are stuck or to review periodically for new ideas for attacking a problem. Learning the basics and reviewing them are essential to good research.

Why books? While much is available on the Internet, it is seldom arranged with the same depth of coverage as you will find in a good book – especially on many of the topics essential to the solution of a difficult genealogical problem. The advantage of a personal library of good books on a topic that so engrosses you as, I am sure, Irish genealogy does is that they are always available, more portable than a computer, and can be accessed wherever you take them. The batteries never wear out for a book.

Books to Consider

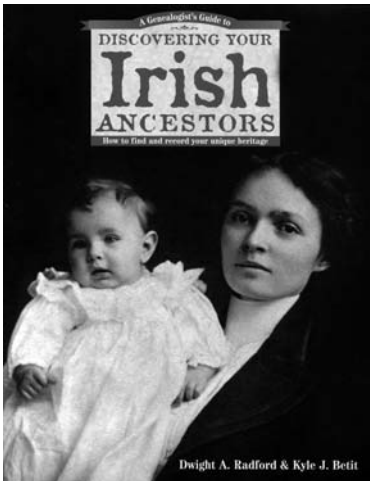
The following annotated bibliography lists my choices and opinions of some core books to be found on any serious Irish genealogist's bookshelf. The choices and comments are totally subjective. However, from my standpoint they are fact.

How-to and Methodology

- Ouimette, David S. *Finding Your Irish Ancestors: a Beginner's Guide*. North Provo, Utah: Ancestry, 2005.

  This is a good basic introduction to Irish genealogy. For a novice researcher, this is a good starting point.

- Radford, Dwight A., and Kyle J. Betit. *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, 2001.



  The authors describe methods and resources for doing background research in each of the major destination countries of the Irish Diaspora. They discuss issues, methods of research and key records types at the heart of Irish genealogy, and provide many references for more in depth reading on each topic covered. No other book does as good a job of this. If you purchase only one Irish genealogy book, this should be the one.

- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. *Research Outline, Ireland*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Family History Library, 2000.

  This pamphlet lists all of the record types along with works to be used to better understand each type of record and how to search the Family History Library catalog to find their holdings of that record type. The FHL probably has the largest collection of Irish records outside of Ireland. Almost all are films that can be rented through a local Family History Center; they are the most accessible resource for someone living outside of Ireland itself. As they are all available from one source, they are most economical to use for anyone. Either read online at http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/rg/frameset_rg.asp?Dest=G1&Aid=&Gid=&Lid=&Sid=&Did=&Juris1=&Event=&Year=&Gloss=&Sub=&Tab=&Entry=&Guide=Ireland.ASP or download for a nominal fee as a PDF file.

  Why this pamphlet is not on every Irish genealogist's desk is beyond

me. This is probably the most information dense work in the field. The Research Outline series produced by the Family History Library is an excellent introduction to any ethnic research.

Reference

Maps and Gazetteers

- Mitchell, Brian. *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2002.
  Mitchell provides maps of every county showing boundaries for Civil and Roman Catholic parishes, Poor Law Unions, established church dioceses, Baronies, and the location of Presbyterian congregation in Ulster. This is an essential tool for every Irish genealogy researcher.

- Donnelly, William. *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes, and Baronies of Ireland Based on the Census of Ireland for the Year 1851*. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2006.

  This book provides a list of townlands and towns showing the acres, county, barony, civil parish, poor law union along with reference to the corresponding sheets of the Ordinance Survey Maps of the time. Another list is of parishes showing corresponding area, county, barony, poor law union and map references. This may be overkill for many researchers. However, if you do not have ready access to this book in a nearby library, it is very handy to have on your own bookshelf.

Irish Names

- MacLysaght, Edward. *The Surnames of Ireland*. Dublin [Ireland]: Irish Academic Press, 1999.

  This is the authoritative work on Irish surnames and is key to understanding the evolution of a surname and the variants that may be found in records. I have found surnames in this work that I know are Irish but which were missing from several other Irish surname books. Remember, if you do not know the name and its variants you may well miss recognizing your ancestor's entry in key records.

Lists of Record Availability

- Grenham, John. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: the Complete Guide*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2006.

  This work spans many categories. The beginning chapters address methodology for the Irish researcher along with discussions of the key record types. The bulk of the book consists of two sections. The first provides a very complete list of records available for each County: census returns and substitutes, online resources, publications, estate records, and gravestone inscriptions. The second portion is a list of available Roman Catholic parish registers for each county showing what baptism, marriage and burial records are available by year of coverage and what repository holds these, including those filmed by the Family History Library.

- Ryan, James G. *Irish Records Sources for Family and Local History*. [Salt Lake City, Utah]: Ancestry, 1997.

  Like Grenham, Ryan presents a comprehensive list of records arranged by county. Preceding the county chapters is an introduction to Irish history, a description of each resource type, a list of repositories and a bit about administrative division. Each county chapter has a map showing Baronies and civil parishes for the County under discussion. Topics and record types listed include: a brief history, census and census substitutes, church records arranged by Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic and Presbyterian, Commercial and Social Directories, Family History, Gravestone Inscriptions, Newspapers, Wills and Administrations, Miscellaneous Sources and Research Sources and Services. Note: I feel the tabular presentation of Church record data used by Grenham is more useful.

- Ryan, James G. *Irish Church Records: Their History, Availability, and Use in Family and Local History Research*. Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland: Flyleaf Press, 2001.

  This small book is not so much a list of available records as it is a treatise on the different religions, their histories, their religious and record keeping practices, and infor-

'A Basic Irish Genealogy Library' continued on page 68

A Basic Irish Genealogy Library' continued from page 67

mation as to where these records are. Having all of this information in one place is very handy.

Specific Record Types

- Reilly, James R. *Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland: with, An Inventory of the Books of the General Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland*, Baltimore, MD: Printed for Clearfield Co. by Genealogical Pub. Co., 2000.

  Because "Griffith's Valuations of Ireland" is one of the main census substitutes for a time period when few census fragments still exist, understanding how this work was created, what it contains and how it is arranged is important. This most accessible work of real depth on the topic provides a thorough discussion of how to best use Griffith's and the often overlooked ancillary records that go with it.

- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. *Resource Guide. The Ireland Householders Index*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Family History Library, 1992.

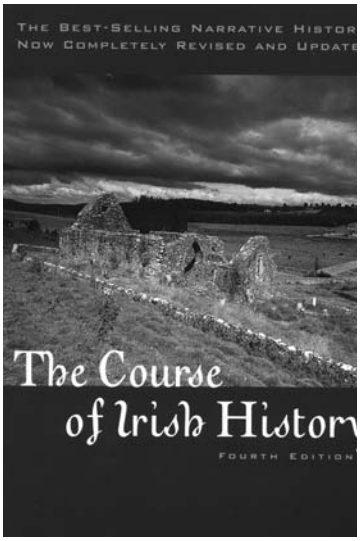
  This four page pamphlet is an excellent guide to using the Householders Index which is a tool that can greatly assist the researchers' use of Griffith's Primary Valuations and the Tithe Applotment Books. Proper use of the Householders Index can enable you to find a civil parish within a county where a surname can be found, search for uncommon surnames, and determine the frequency of a surname in Griffith's Primary Valuation.

- O' Duill, Eileen, and Steven C. Ffeary-Smyrl. *Irish Civil Registration-- Where Do I Start? Exploring Irish Genealogy, No. 2*. Dublin [Ireland]: Council of Irish Genealogical Organizations, 2000.

  This 78 page pamphlet is an invaluable guide to the 19th century civil registrations, a primary tool for the latter half of that time period and beyond. I know of no other work that gives as much detail regarding these records, what is in them, where to find them and how to use them. If your ancestors were in Ireland after the start of Civil registration, you need this book.

History

- Moody, T. W., and F. X. Martin. *The Course of Irish History*. Cork: Mercier Press, 1978.



  Every Irish genealogy researcher should read at least one good Irish history. Knowing the history and geography of an ancestral country helps ensure success for genealogy research there. There are hundreds of Irish history books. This may not be the best, but it is widely available and a good start on the topic.

United States Irish

- Harris, Ruth-Ann Mellish, Donald M. Jacobs, and B. Emer O'Keeffe. *The Search for Missing Friends*. Boston, MA: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2002.

  This is a collection of thousands of advertisements that people placed in the *Boston Pilot* as a way of finding friends and family they had lost track of. The ads for people in places all over North America often included information as to place and relationships. I do not recommend that a researcher buy this huge multivolume set in hardcover but rather consider the CD version if your Irish ancestors came to the United States during the 19th or early part of the 20th centuries.

Basic Genealogy Books

Before embarking on Irish genealogy, you must research your immediate ancestors in their country of residence moving back generation by generation to find your immigrant ancestors. This is a must. Also, to be successful, you must understand and practice the principles of sound genealogical research. The following works are a core library for United States residents tracing their lines back to that Irish immigrant ancestor.

- Rose, Christine, and Kay Germain Ingalls. *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy*. Indianapolis: Alpha Books, 2005.

  The title aside, this well done introductory book takes the novice step by step into the field of genealogical research. I recommend this to anyone who is either starting out or wants a good refresher.

- Greenwood, Val D. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2000.

  I consider this the bible of sound genealogical principles and information about records and how to use them. It is more than the raw beginner, who is uncertain about whether genealogy is for them or not, may want. For anyone committed to doing good genealogy research, this book builds a sound foundation of knowledge and attitude for success in the field.

- Porter, Pamela Boyer, and Amy Johnson Crow. *Online Roots: How to Discover Your Family's History and Heritage with the Power of the Internet*. National Genealogical Society guides. Nashville: Rutledge Hill Press, 2003.

  Because the Internet has become such an integral aspect of modern genealogy, the researcher needs to know how to use this powerful tool to their full advantage. There are many books on this topic; this one stresses ways to use the Internet rather than just listing websites.

- Rose, Christine. *Courthouse Research for Family Historians: Your Guide to Genealogical Treasures*. San Jose, CA: CR Publications, 2004.

  The courthouse is where many records are or were created. It is essential to understand these records, how to find them and how to use them. This is one of the best overview guides to the most common records created by local governments. After a good basic genealogy text, this is the next book to buy.

- Szucs, Loretto Dennis, and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking. *The Source: a Guidebook to American Genealogy*. Provo, UT: Ancestry, 2006.

  This is the most comprehensive reference book on United States records at all levels: local, state and federal. It includes state by state discussions of the many record types, with extensive bibliographies. If you do not own it, at least spend an hour or so looking at it at in a library.

- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1997.

  Genealogy without documentation is myth. It is just someone's opinion. It is only when a fact is supported by a source that one can make a judgment as to the quality of the informant, the information and the sources behind the stated fact. A serious researcher should provide good documentation. This is the accepted standard for citing genealogical sources and is small enough to pack with your travel research kit.

- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2007.

This is the above book on steroids. It provides many more examples. I value it just as much for its introductory chapters on the principles of evaluating genealogical information and as a guide for creating citations to the myriad sources that confront the genealogy researcher.

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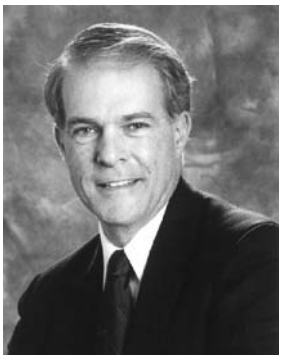


Digitisation of Irish Records: the Current State of Play

by Brian Donovan, Fiona Fitzsimons, and Cathy McCartney, Eneclann Ltd.

Digitised resources have in recent years come to play an increasingly important role in genealogical research. Digitisation has greatly increased access to many records that were previously inaccessible either by distance, by restrictions due to conservation concerns, or simply by lack of knowledge of the information they contained. Turning to Ireland, we might consider the state of Irish historical records in general before considering the digitisation of Irish records. A poor rate of survival of Irish historical records and a lack of indexing of what has survived have both contributed in equal measure to the slow development of interest in genealogy in Ireland.

Irish Historical Records – Survival

The poor rate of survival of many Irish historical records is a central theme to the story of Irish genealogy. The destruction of the Public Records Office of Ireland in 1922 is, of course, the most famous archival disaster in Irish history. Yet, the long history of the destruction of historic Irish records includes a fire in the Custom Office in 1711 and another in the Bermingham Tower in Dublin Castle in 1758.

For researchers, the problem of these earlier disasters is that the records were not comprehensively indexed and so we do not know exactly what was lost. Broadly speaking we know that the main classes of records stored there were the legal, financial and administrative records of the 13th to the 17th centuries, marking the transition from the medieval Irish Lordship to the Irish Kingdom.

Conversely, we have a much clearer idea of the extent of destruction in 1922. Records destroyed include the Census of Ireland returns, between 1821 and 1851; more than half of all parish registers of the Anglican Church of Ireland which were deposited there after 1869; the majority of wills and testamentary records proved in Ireland to that date. Other records destroyed included the pre-1900 records of local government; pre-1900 legal records from the Irish courts; and the majority of all Irish export and trade records from the 18th Century onwards, transferred from the Customs House to the Public Records Office shortly before 1922.

Yet archival disasters alone do not fully explain the huge gaps in Irish historic records; there is also the legacy of Ireland's colonial past. The Tudor reconquest of Ireland in the 16th century, and the Cromwellian and Williamite confiscations (1650s-90s), undermined civil society in Ireland and badly affected both the creation and survival of many records.

By the early 18th century, probably more than 75% of all land in Ireland had been transferred to a new ruling class. This new Protestant ascendancy was underpinned by the Penal Laws that restricted the civil rights of Catholics, Presbyterians and other religious dissenters (including Quakers and Baptists, etc.). The Penal Laws acted as a disincentive among these groups to keeping records. To the researcher, the sorry result is that, in Ireland, the vast majority of all Catholic and Presbyterian registers of baptisms, marriages and burials that have survived date only from the 19th century.

Ireland's colonial past further affected the destruction or survival of historic records through small but significant differences between Ireland and Great Britain in how records were made and kept. As an illustration of this, in 1914, the British government ordered that the Census of Ireland returns 1861 to 1891 be pulped to create paper for the war effort. The order was given on the mistaken assumption that census records in Ireland were collected in the exact same way as in England, Scotland and Wales, where a second enumerator's copy of the census returns had been made. This was not the case in Ireland.

Poor rate of survival and lack of indexing of what has survived has been further exasperated by a lack of funding and lack of public interest compared to that which is apparent in other countries. A successful digitisation project requires a clear understanding of the sources, their scope and potential uses. That this situation is slowly changing can be seen by a description of some projects currently underway with some major Irish repositories

Digitisation Projects

The slow pace of genealogy in Ireland has meant that digitisation projects have been correspondingly slow to get going. There has been in some quarters a lack of understanding of the commercial possibilities of digitisation, particularly of genealogical records. A commercial model can make such projects feasible regardless of the availability of public funding. Much of this is beginning to change; projects now underway in Ireland have meant an increase in

the pace of digitisation of Irish genealogical records. We have outlined the main ones below:

The Irish Genealogical Project

The Irish Genealogical project was set up to promote and foster Irish genealogy in particular the development of a searchable database of the main classes of Irish Genealogy records. The main work of this project is done by more than 34 Heritage centres (many of whom are members of the Irish Family History Foundation) around the country. Each centre has concentrated on indexing records relevant to its local district including: parish registers, civil and census records, Griffith's Valuation and the Tithe Applotment books. The initial target for the project was 26 million records; by 2003, 17 million had been indexed.

The project has received a certain amount of state funding; financial support is however, an ongoing issue of concern for the centres and the progress of the project. The project is managed and marketed through Irish Genealogy Ltd. (IGL) http://www.irishgenealogy.ie.

The future plans for the project are to develop a database of all the records indexed by the local heritage centres, which will be available in a pay-per-view basis. This service was launched in November 2007; to date, the records of fifteen centres are online at http://www.irish-roots.net.

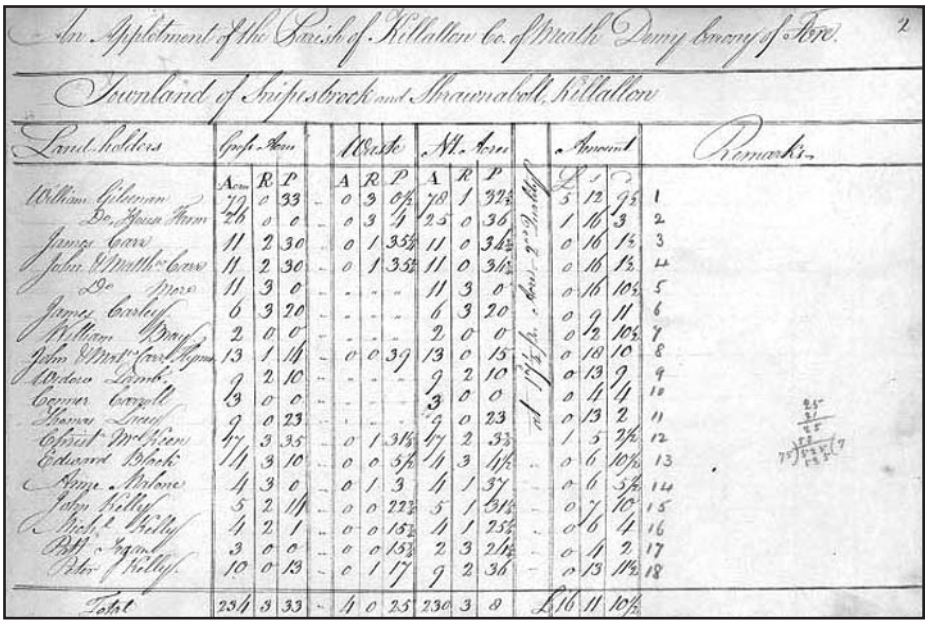
The General Registry Office

The General Registry Office (GRO) is the repository for all civil registrations of birth, deaths and marriages from 1864 (and non-catholic marriages from 1845). A major project to digitise these records began in 1995 partly in response to opposition to the move of the GRO out of Dublin to Co. Roscommon and to concerns about access to the GRO records. Initially, the project used a process of scanning and optical character recognition (OCR) to capture the printed indexes. In 2001, they abandoned this approach in favour of re-keying of indexes (but ignoring handwritten annotations). The current state of the project is that all births have been digitised and validated, marriages are complete back to 1920 and deaths back to 1924. Everything else has been indexed but not validated; it is probably 90% completed.

It is not clear how the project will be delivered; most likely it will be on a pay-per-view basis. The date of delivery is also uncertain, as the GRO's staffing levels have not been kept sufficiently strong to enable them to complete this project, while fulfilling their normal day-to-day responsibilities. It could be finished at any time in the next number of years, 2008/09/10.

The National Archives

The National Archives of Ireland holds a number of records of interest to the genealogical researcher, in particular the only two complete Irish censuses available to the public, 1901 and 1911, and the Tithe Applotment Books (a country-wide set of land records dating from the 1820s).



Tithe Applotment Book at the National Archives in Ireland.

Graphic courtesty of Eleclann

'Digitisation of Irish Records' continued on page 72

'Digitisation of Irish Records' continued from page 71

The National Archives is fully committed to the principle of free availability of its holdings and will pursue a non-commercial model in its digitisation programme.

The main goal of the National Archives' digitisation programme at present is to put online and for free the Irish Census for 1901 and 1911. The project, funded by the Irish government, is being carried out in partnership with the National Archives of Canada. It is estimated that the project will take three years to complete. The first instalment of Dublin 1911 went online in November 2007 and can be viewed at http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie.

The only other digitisation project at the National Archives was the CD Rom *Counties in Time*, developed and published by Eneclann Ltd. in 2003. Counties in Time introduces and explores the different classes of records held by the National Archives which are relevant to each of the 32 counties of Ireland. It comprises a history of each county, timelines of historical events, glossaries of terms, a sample of over 1,000 documents with a digitised copy and a transcription. The CD is available through Eneclann at http://www.eneclann.ie.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) comes under the auspices of the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure within the Northern Ireland Civil Service and, as such, has access to a whole different range of funding and partnership opportunities. PRONI has a number of digitised resources of interest to the genealogical researcher available through its web site http://www.proni.gov.uk.

The Ulster Covenant (1912) archive, with nearly half a million names, and the *Freeholders Records* (1727-1840) (5,500 sheets) are collections held by PRONI which have been digitised and indexed and are available on the PRONI website. These online archives are fully searchable and have links to digitised images of the original documents.

A project to index and digitise 1858 - c1900 wills from the District Probate Registries of Armagh, Belfast and Londonderry is almost complete. Phase one, an Index to the calendar of Wills (grants of probate and letters of administration), is now available on the PRONI website. Phase two, to link the will calendar entries to the digitised images of the wills, will follow shortly.

The Act of Union site, a public access point for the digitised resources concerning the Act of Union, is a joint venture by a number of Northern Ireland bodies including PRONI, Queens University, and the Ulster Museum; the project has UK Lottery funding and can be viewed at http://www.actofunion.ie/.

National Library of Ireland

The National Library of Ireland (NLI), in partnership with Eneclann & Origins.net, completed a project in 2003 to digitise all surviving Griffith Valuation Books to create the definitive version of this resource. The project involved the digitisation and indexing of 300 valuation books dating from 1847 to 1852 and is available through http://www.irishorigins.com. This project to digitise Griffith's Valuation remains the only major Irish Genealogical resource that has complete coverage for the entire island of Ireland; it is fully online.

The NLI has other digitisation projects planned, including the digitisation of substantial sections of the NLI visual collections and the production of a digital version of the source material used to create two key reference works for Irish studies, Richard Hayes' *Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilization* and *Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation: Articles in Irish Periodicals*.

Valuation Office

The Cancelled Volumes c.1850-c1920 are the manuscript revisions of Griffith's

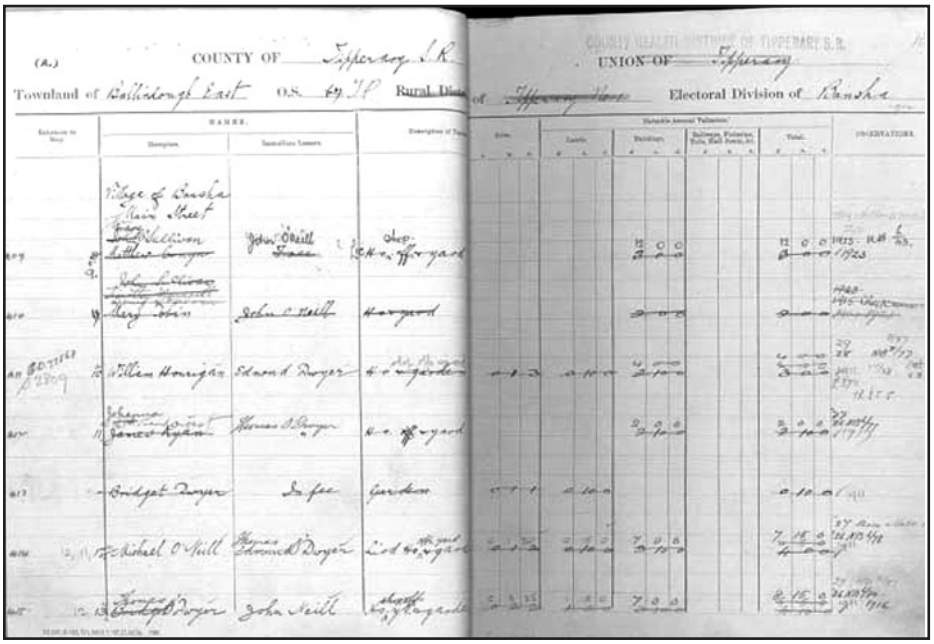
PARISH OF KILBALLYOWEN.

No. and Letters of Reference to Map.	Names. Townlands and Occupiers.	Names. Immediate Lessors.	Description of Tenement.	Area.	Rateable Annual Valuation. Land.	Rateable Annual Valuation. Buildings.	Total Annual Valuation of Rateable Property.
	CLOGHAUNBEG. (*Ord. Sr.* 71 & 72.)			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Margaret Kane, . Donald Kane, .	William Armstrong, .	House and land, .	55 1 34	20 0 0	0 10 0	20 10 0
			Water (*Cloghaun Lough*),	2 2 0	—	—	—
2	Margaret Kane, Donald Kane, .	Same, . .	Land, ...	27 3 23	9 0 0	—	9 0 0
3 a	John Kinniry, . .	Same, . .	House, office, and land,	15 1 33	5 10 0	0 10 0	6 0 0
			Total, . .	101 1 10	34 10 0	1 0 0	35 10 0

Griffith's Primary Valuation at the National Library of Ireland.

Graphic courtesty of Eleclann

Valuations held in the Valuation Office; they are a rich resource for Irish family history. In 2004, the Valuation Office and Eneclann carried out a pilot project on the indexation and digitisation of this resource. The Pilot project focused on Bansha District Electoral District (DED) in Tipperary South. The Bansha DED involved 5,500 entries between 1864 and 1920. The full project for all of the Cancelled Books runs to 3,000 DEDs or 15 million entries. As with all of these projects, the main problem is securing the required funding. In 2007, a contract was awarded to digitally image two of the 32 counties; it remains to be seen when or if the full project is ever completed.



Cancelled Book held at the Valuation Office focusing on Bansha Distirct Electorial District (DED).

Graphic courtesy of Eleclann

Ordnace Survey of Ireland

One area of historical record where Ireland is unsurpassed by any other country is in the area of its historic mapping. Between 1829 and 1842, the Ordnance Survey of Ireland (OSI) completed the first ever large-scale survey of an entire country. This and later series of historic maps, originally drawn up to facilitate the accurate valuation of the country, provide today's family history researchers with a rich source of information. The OSI has completed a major project to digitise its historic map collection dating from 1829 up as far as 1913, including the 1837-42: 1st edition 6" in black/white and full colour and the later 1888-1913: 1st edition 25" maps. The service went online in 2006 and can be accessed at http://www.irishhistoricmaps.ie.

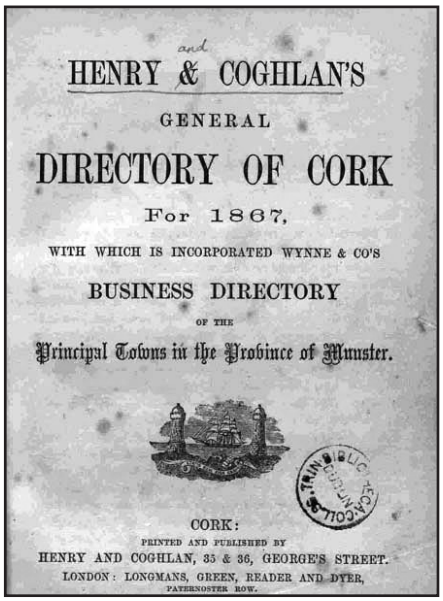
Irish Libraries

Every local authority in Ireland has a library network. Many of them are making a serious effort to digitise local resources to be available online for free. The pace of this digitisation programme has increased dramatically over the last two years. For example, Clare Library digitised hundreds of local sources, including directories, census records, Primary Valuations, etc. These can be found on http://www.clarelibrary.ie. A web site for the Dublin area launched in 2007 contains all the Dublin Heritage Group databases of Baptisms 1728-1901, Marriages 1732-1900 and Burials 1724-1900. The full version of this site is available free at the Dublin City Gilbert Library on Pearse Street; there is a limited version available online at http://www.dublinheritage.ie. The network of local libraries can be found on the Library Council web site http://www.librarycouncil.ie.

The Library Council also set up a web portal called *Ask About Ireland*, http://www.askaboutireland.ie to act as a source of information about Ireland with links to different resources. *The Irish Times Digital Archive* is available through this site. There are plans to make the Eneclann/NLI version of Griffith's Valuation available soon. Both of these resources will be available free to schools and public libraries through the *Ask About Ireland* web site.

'Digitisation of Irish Records' continued on page 74

'Digitisation of Irish Records' continued from page 73


HENRY and COGHLAN'S
GENERAL
DIRECTORY OF CORK
For 1867,
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED WYNNE & CO'S
BUSINESS DIRECTORY
OF THE
Principal Towns in the Province of Munster.

CORK:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
HENRY AND COGHLAN, 35 & 36, GEORGE'S STREET.
LONDON: LONGMANS, GREEN, READER AND DYER,
PATERNOSTER ROW.

Digitizing of records can be found at local libraries as well. Here is the Henry & Coughlan's Directory of Cork 1867 at the TCD Library.

Graphic courtesty of Eleclann

The Irish Times Digital Archive, launched in 2007, contains every page of *The Irish Times* published since the newspaper's foundation almost 150 years ago. This digitisation project was co-funded by the Library Council (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government,) and The Irish Times Trust. The digital archive is also available on a fee basis through http://www.ireland.com.

The Registry of Deeds

The Registry of Deeds was founded in 1707 to provide a system of voluntary registration for deeds and conveyances affecting land. The Registry contains 600,000 deeds to 1830 and a further 1.5 million from 1830-1929. The Registry appears to have secured provisional approval for a €21 million project to digitise their records.

Eneclann

Eneclann is Ireland's leading electronic publisher of heritage and historical data publishing on both CD-Rom and online (with origins.com). The company has two publishing imprints, Eneclann and Archive CD Books. The Eneclann catalogue emphasises primary source material for Irish history and genealogy while the Archive CD Books catalogue consists mainly of digitised versions of historical and rare books of Irish Interest, many of these books are from the Trinity College Dublin Library.

The Eneclann catalogue includes titles such as: *The Index of Irish Wills 1484-1858, Grenham's Irish Surnames*, Counties *in Time, The Irish Ancestor 1969-86, Ireland's Memorials Records 1914-1918, The Irish Genealogist, Vols. 1-8, 1937-93, Brian J. Cantwell's Memorials of the Dead The Collected Works, Sinn Fein and Republican Suspects 1899-1921.*

Eneclann continues to expand its list of titles while maintaining commitment to increasing access to rare and valuable sources of historical data. Future publishing plans include:

- *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland, 1888-1924, 13 vols* (circa 16,000 pages)
- *Royal Hospital Donnybrook Records c.1740-1900*
- *Catholic Qualification Rolls 1775-1801* (30,000)
- *The Loyalist Petition 1848* (80,000)
- *Petition for the Repeal of the Union 1848* (250,000)
- *Militia and Yeomanry Records 1750-1850*
- *Irish Jewish Records 1820-1960*

The Archive CD Books catalogue has in excess of 120 titles and includes directories, county and general histories, indexes, family histories, genealogies, and statistical reports. Both Eneclann and Archive CD Books titles can be found at http://www.eneclann.ie.

The Future of Digitisation in Ireland

Publishers rely on prior digitisation or indexation of some sort in order to publish. There is too little of this in Ireland. The future of Irish digitisation goes hand-in-hand with basic archival indexing and listing; yet many of the main records for genealogical research in Ireland have not been listed or indexed. Some examples from major sources include:

The National Archives

1. **Land Records** – Tithe Applotment Books, Estate Books, Field and House Books
2. **State Papers** – Chancery Pleadings
3. **Court & Legal Records** – Outrage Papers, Petty Sessions, Convict Reference files
4. **Relief Commission Papers**

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Uncovering County Histories:

Their Location, Creation, and Uses for Genealogists

by D. Joshua Taylor

This article is based on the lecture, "Vanity Sketches: Discovering the Sources and Truths Behind Mugbook Entries" presented by the author at the Federation of Genealogical Societies 2006 Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

Among the many printed resources for genealogists, county histories provide genealogical and historical data to assist in researching Irish families. As a genre some have been given the nickname "mugbooks," as they often contain biographical sections filled with individual pictures (similar to mug shots) of their subjects. These mugbooks are sometimes compiled by local historical organizations or individuals, but often were printed and distributed by national publishing companies. In order to use these resources effectively genealogists must understand the method and process of their creation. We must wonder how a national publishing company located in Chicago, Boston, or New York was able to obtain specific information on the churches, cemeteries, schools, and local town officials from counties and towns in Idaho, Minnesota, and Kansas. In addition to historical information, these companies gathered biographical information (parents' names, birth dates, birth places, ethnic origins, childrens' names, migration dates, etc.) from thousands of individuals across the United States in short periods of time. Once these questions are answered we can begin to use these printed resources with added efficiency in our research.

Locating County Histories and Mugbooks

A number of county histories (or mugbooks) are available at public libraries, genealogical libraries, and on the Internet. To find out if a work exists for the county or counties you are researching contact a local genealogical or historical society, as they often know what histories were printed for their respective region and might even sell reprints themselves. Filby's compilation, *A Bibliography of American County Histories*, contains hundreds of citations for county histories (over 5,000) printed before December 1984.[1] A county's local public library system often houses copies of their own local histories as some publishers actually donated a few copies to the county. By accessing their online catalogs a search can be conducted for local county histories and genealogies, providing the necessary information to find a copy of the book for your own use. *Public Libraries.com* (http://www.publiclibraries.com/) provides a comprehensive listing of public libraries in the United States, organized by state and including a link to the library's website and the library's catalog.

Your local public or university library's interlibrary loan department might be able to assist you in obtaining a copy of a book found at another library or listed in Filby's bibliography. *WorldCat* (http://www.worldcat.org) includes catalog entries from thousands of libraries across the United States and can be helpful in locating a copy of a county history near you. Major genealogical libraries including the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, The Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston, Massachusetts also house large collections of county histories and mugbooks available to researchers.

Large numbers of county histories are available through online resources. Subscription based databases including *Ancestry.com* (http://www.ancestry.com) and *HeritageQuest Online* (http://www.heritagequestonline) contain hundreds of fully indexed county histories for researchers. The BYU "Family History Archives" (http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/) includes several hundred county histories that can be searched and downloaded at no charge. Other free resources include county histories submitted to individual county pages within the *USGenWeb Project* (http://www.usgenweb.org) and individual extracts in the *USGenWeb Archives* (http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb).

The "Assembly Line" of Mugbook Creation

The "boom" of publishing county histories came to the United States between 1880 and 1920, and stretched across the country creating a publication for almost every county in the United States. Copies (referred to as subscriptions) of these histories were sold by publishing agents to entire communities and, once printed, delivered to their subscribers. A small town Connecticut newspaper, *The Branford Opinion* reported on 12 July 1902, "Copies of the commemorative biographical record of New Haven county, published by J.H. Beers & com-

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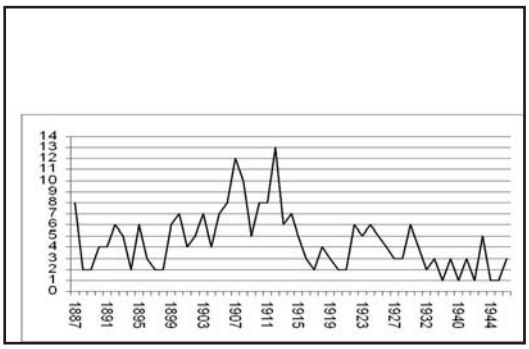
pany of Chicago, have been delivered to Branford subscribers this week. The book is a volume of 1568 pages handsomely bound in leather and profusely illustrated with portraits of the leading business and professional men of the State. About ninety copies were subscribed for in town."[2] Sometimes these works included multiple counties, and attempted to reproduce the history and biography of a particular region or an entire state. Prominent mugbook publishers included Lewis Historical Publishing Company (Chicago and New York); Inter-State Publishing (Boston and Chicago); W.S. Dunbar and Company (Chicago); Lewis and Dunbar Publishers (Chicago); S.J. Clarke Publishing Company (Chicago); J.H. Beers and Company (Chicago); J.W. Lewis and Company (Philadelphia); Biographical Review Company (Boston); and Western Historical Publishing Co. (Topeka, Indianapolis, and St. Louis).



Quantity of county histories and mugbooks published by Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1887-1947.

Graphic courtesty of Josh Taylor

Companies such as Lewis Historical Publishing Company began each of their books with a forward or preface similar to the one below, excerpted from the *Genealogical and Personal History of Northern Pennsylvania* edited by John W. Jordan, LL.D.:

> The present work, "Genealogical and Personal History of Northern Pennsylvania," presents in the aggregate an amount and variety of genealogical and personal information and portraiture unequal by any kindred publication. No similar work concerning Northern Pennsylvania Families has ever been presented, and it contains a vast amount of ancestral history never before printed. The object, clearly defined and well digested is three fold:
>
> First. To present in concise form the history of Northern Pennsylvania Families of the Colonial Days.
>
> Second. To preserve a record of its prominent present-day people.
>
> Third. To present through personal sketches the relation of its prominent families of all times to the growth, singular prosperity and wide-spread influence of Northern Pennsylvania, and its tributary region…[3]

The forward to another of their publications, *Genealogical and Family History of Central New York*, edited by William Richard Cutter, A.M., reads almost identical to Jordan's, except changes from the area of Northern Pennsylvania to Central New York:

> The present work, "Genealogical and Family History of Central New York," presents in the aggregate an amount and variety of genealogical and personal information and portraiture unequalled by any kindred publication. Indeed, no similar work concerning the families of this region has ever been presented. It contains a vast amount of ancestral history never before printed. The object clearly defined and well digested, was threefold:
>
> First. To present in concise form the history of Central New York Families of the Colonial Days.
>
> Second. To preserve a record of the prominent present-day people of the region.
>
> Third. To present through personal sketches the relation of its prominent families of all times to the growth, singular prosperity and widespread influence of this portion of the Empire state…[4]

These examples illustrate the "assembly-line" type of productions of these publications. Examining Lewis Historical Publishing Company and its aliases between the period of 1887-1946 reveals that the company published over 255 multi-volume publications in a 60 year time frame, averaging 4-5 books per year, each with aan average length of more than 1,500 pages. These publications included hundreds of biographical sketches for a variety of Americans including those of Irish, Italian, English, and other origins. The peak of the companies' work was between 1905 and 1915, when the company published 87 county histories in 10 years (over 130,500 pages

of information). This rapid rate of publication from a single company indicates that the information submitted to the books might not have been verified against original records, if verification was attempted at all.

Elements of Mugbooks: Historical Information

The first section or volume of most mugbooks includes information relating to the county (or counties) under discussion. These historical sketches are largely un-indexed, yet contain a wealth of information for genealogists. Common sections include information regarding religion and churches in the county. This information can be important when determining which churches existed when an ancestor lived in a particular location and other information regarding their leadership, formation, and early members. Often information on the county and/or town cemeteries is found in county histories providing information relating to a cemetery's first burial, location, inscriptions, and other important facts. Entire sections are devoted to immigrant groups, including Irish, Italian, German, and Jewish populations, sometimes providing a county or townland of origin for the majority of that county's immigrant populations.

Sections devoted to schools, newspapers, railroads, political affairs, boundary disputes, occupations, doctors, clubs, fraternal organizations, and other societies are generally included, providing important contextual information for any genealogist. Sections devoted to the county's involvement in military conflicts including the Revolutionary War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, and World War I are often included, providing names of local soldiers who participated. For areas sharing land with Native American populations, sections noting conflicts, treaties, and other information often occur. Entire sections are usually devoted to the county's government, listing local, state, and federal representatives, as well as fire departments and police activities.

Research shows that this information was generally gathered by an editor or editorial team appointed by the national publishing company. Popular editors included John Newton Boucher, Robert J. Burdette, Harry Gardner Cutler, William Richard Cutter, John Woolf Jordan, and Frances Bazley Lee. The selection process for these editors is not clear, though they were generally known in the historical or genealogical communities for their prior work and research skills. They joined an editorial board composed of appointees from the publishing company who would work to compile the various sections of the mugbook. The names of the editorial board can often be found in the front section of the book along with their credentials including any professional affiliations and/or educational degrees.

This editorial board collaborated with "in-house" agents from the publishing company as is evidenced from accounts in local newspapers. *The Los Angeles Times* records the visit of "E.I. Yukon, of Chicago, representing Lewis Publishing Company," visiting the city 1 December 1888.[5] On 28 October 1898 *The Owyhee Avalanche* noted the presence of, "B. T. Esler, representing the Lewis Publishing…in town during the past week gathering dates for an illustrated history of Idaho to be published in the near future."[6] This latter reference likely refers to *An Illustrated History of the State of Idaho*, edited by Richard Z. Johnson and published by Lewis Publishing Company in 1899.[7] Some mugbooks reference the use of local newspapers and other records in the process of compiling the historical information sections. It would thus seem the majority of the information printed in the historical sections of the mugbooks was not written by someone familiar with the area, but was compiled from on-site interviews with residents, local newspapers, and other records. Genealogists need to be aware of the temptation some individuals might have felt to "increase" their own families involvement in a county or states' development, and the improbability that such errors were found and corrected by an editorial team and publishing company who were unfamiliar with the local area and its character as they compiled thousands of pages of information each year.

Elements of Mugbooks: Biographical Sketches

The second volume or section of most county histories contains biographical sketches of the regions "prominent" families. These sketches are important to genealogists as they often include names of parents, siblings, spouses, and children, as well as dates and places of births, deaths, and marriages. Some sketches relate information pertaining to a family's origins, in some cases naming a country or county of origin, and in others simply referencing "the old country," as the biographical sketch of

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Charles J. Burdette, found in the *History of Union County, Iowa* illustrates.[8] The sketch of Charles J. Burdette is a good example of an informative biographical sketch for an immigrant to the United States. It notes that he "carefully and successfully" conducts his farming interests and was "born near Calmer, Sweden," the son of Andrew and Christina (Olson)." The sketch does not provide the exact details of his immigration to the United States only mentioning he was, "desirous to test the truth of the favorable reports which he had heard concerning America and her opportunities," and, "…came alone to the United States, making his way to Knox county, Illinois. There he worked on a farm by the month for three years and on the 3rd day of October, 1872, he arrived in Union county, Iowa…" The sketch continues for several pages and includes details regarding a June 1897 trip he made back to Sweden, his political views, and the names of his wife and children. Other family sketches attempt to tie to a family back to its early American progenitor. These entries provide no documentation yet sometimes contain information on each direct male ancestor of the subject of the sketch. Other sketches are presented as shorter paragraphs listing occupations, society memberships, religious affiliations, and other pertinent information.

In order to properly evaluate the information gleaned from these biographical sketches, genealogists must know the process of their creation and the resources used to compile them. While this information is not available for each and every mugbook, the process of developing the biographical sketches can be gleaned by studying a few key examples. In many cases it would appear that the main requirement for a family to appear in these sections was the ability to submit a sketch to the publishing company and possibly pay an unspecified amount for its subsequent inclusion. The addition of a photograph was likely at an extra cost determined by the publisher. Other families might not have paid for their sketches, but in turn agreed to simply subscribe to the publication, or submitted their information in the hopes that it would be included in the publication.

Examining the methods employed by Lewis Historical Publishing Company provides significant insight into the creation and verification (if any) of the information contained in the biographical sketches of county histories and mugbooks. The introduction to Cutter's 1908 *Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts* notes:

> This work comprises a carefully prepared genealogical history of several hundred representative families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts. The editor and publishers desire to state that they have adopted a different method for collecting and compiling data than has heretofore been pursued in this country…The value of family history and genealogy depends upon accuracy, and the thoroughness of research in public and private records…It has been the aim of the editor and publishers to utilize all such material, …to insure the greatest possible accuracy, all matter for this work was submitted in typewritten manuscript to the persons most interested for correction…If.. a sketch is incomplete or faulty, the shortcomings is…ascribable to the paucity of data obtainable, many families being without exact records … in some cases, representatives of a given family are at disagreement as to names of some of their forbears, important dates, etc.[9]

Five years later, when Jordan's *Genealogical and Personal History of Northern Pennsylvania* was published, the text from Cutter's 1908 preface is repeated almost verbatim in the preface including the mention that the materials were submitted in a "type written manuscript" to "persons" for "revision and correction."[10] J.H. Beers and Company appeared to use a similar approach in 1899 as the preface to their *Commemorative Biographical record of Fairfield County, Connecticut* states, "In nearly every instance the material composing the sketches was gathered from those immediately interested, and then submitted in type-written form for correction and revision."[11]

In the case of Lewis Historical Publishing Company this "in-house" correction was likely completed by one or two editors. Book reviews released at the time the books were published and other sources (including forwards and prefaces) point to the work of one particular editor, Luther Boone Hill, for his expertise in editing the biographical sections. While no evidence of prior genea-

logical experience has been located for Luther Boone Hill he is enumerated in 1910, 1920, and 1930 U.S. censuses in the Chicago area, his occupation is listed as an "editor" in the publishing industry in 1920 and 1930, and in 1910 census he is listed as an editor in "biographical publishing." His involvement with the company included editing books relating to North Carolina, California, and Oklahoma, while also editing biographical sketches for several other publications. While it is impossible to determine the source for each biographical sketch, the process of revision and correction was likely not done by a genealogist, and due to the high volume of biographical sketches, it is possible that the editors of each work never saw or corrected the biographical sections of their own publications. An intriguing event involving the indictment of George K. Goulding is reported in Chicago's *The Daily Inter-Ocean* relating to the compilation of biographical sketches. Though the indictment appears to involve an unpaid hotel bill, the article notes:

> Goulding came to Ottawa last spring representing the Lewis Publishing Company of Chicago, and was engaged in writing up the biographies of the leading men of La Salle County and selling them a steel plate engraving of themselves, to be used in a high-class publication.[12]

From this incident we can conclude that in some instances agents from the publishing company traveled across the country, writing the biographical sketches themselves, and selling engravings or portraits (mug-shots) to the subject(s) of each sketch. The sketches were then likely edited by an in-house team (of which Luther Boone Hill was a leading contributor).

Uncovering Truths

Several methods and sources exist for genealogists to use when researching in county histories and mugbooks. Some publications were initially reviewed in historical journals such as *William and Mary Quarterly*,[13] *American Historical Review*[14] and *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*.[15] A search in electronic databases such as *JSTOR*, *America: History and Life*, and *PERSI* containing book reviews from these and other journals and others can produce informative reviews of these publications useful in evaluating them as genealogical resources. Research on the individual editors and/or compilers can also provide helpful information. As most were prominent historians or authors for the time, biographical compilations such as *Author Biographies Master Index*,[16] *Dictionary of American Biography*[17] and *The National Cyclopedia of Biography*[18] can yield helpful insights into their expertise and experience with compiling historical and genealogical information.

Research in published compiled genealogies comparing the information presented in biographical sketches found in mugbooks is useful, as they often might contain duplicate information and actually cites one another. In addition, some editorial committees referred to research that had already been published and distributed within the publication itself. In the 1940s, mugbooks and county histories began including bibliographies listing references they consulted in the process of compiling the work. These references should be examined and evaluated against other sources. Searching the local newspapers of an area is an excellent way to determine how the county's history was compiled. Look for advertisements or notices from national publishing companies alerting citizens to the publication of a county history.

In some cases the compilers might have left their personal papers and materials at an archive or repository. These papers can include letters, contracts, and other important materials relating to their work on a county history or mugbook. Original research notes, compiled sketches, and other treasures can be uncovered in these records. Use electronic databases, including archival findings aids such as *Archives Grid* and *ArchivesUSA*, to search for individual names or publication titles for further information.[19] At the present time the business records of the publishing companies have not been found though it is

Entry page of ArchivesUSA *Graphic courtesty of Josh Taylor*

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possible they are housed in an attic or archive awaiting discovery by a genealogist or historian.

Employing County Histories Effectively in Research

While the historical information and biographical sketches found in county histories is at times questionable, they still remain important resources for genealogists. They can present brief snapshots of a community, provide insights into places of origin, and include information not recorded in other "official" records. When evaluating this information, it is important to keep in mind the rapid rate of publication for some county histories and the questionable qualifications of those agents collecting the information.

In order to effectively use county histories and mugbooks genealogists must examine the records created during each step of the process of their creation while at the same time gleaning pertinent information from their pages. Indeed, as their prefaces often state, these printed sources are "unequalled by any kindred publication," and though their inaccuracies can be related to their hurried publication and the "paucity of data obtainable," they still remain an important resource for each and every genealogist.

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1. P. William Filby, compiler, *A Bibliography of American County Histories*, reprint (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2005).
2. *The Branford Opinion*, (Branford, CT) Saturday, July 1, 1902; pg. 4.
3. John W. Jordan, LL.D., editor, *Genealogical and Personal History of Northern Pennsylvania* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1913), iv.
4. William Richard Cutter, A.M., *Genealogical and Family History of Central New York* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1913), iii.
5. *The Los Angeles Times*, (Los Angeles, CA) Saturday, December 01, 1888; pg. 3; col B.
6. *The Owyhee Avalanche* (Ruby City, ID) Friday, October 28, 1898; Issue 11; col C.
7. Richard Z. Johnson, *An Illustrated History of the State of Idaho: Containing a History of the State of Idaho from the Earliest Period of Its Discovery to the Present Time, Together With Glimpses of Its Auspicious Futures*. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1899.
8. George A. Ide, *History of Union County, Iowa From the earliest historic times to 1908* (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1908), 636-640.
9. William Richard Cutter, A.M., *Genealogical and Personal Memoirs relating to the families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1908).
10. Jordan, vii.
11. *Commemorative Biographical record of Fairfield County, Connecticut, containing Biographical sketches of prominent and representative citizens, and of many of the early settled families* (Chicago: J.H. Beers & Co., 1899), preface.
12. "Indictment Was Stolen George K. Goulding Escapes Prosecution in a Peculiar Manner," *The Daily Inter Ocean*, (Chicago, IL) Sunday, April 12, 1896; pg. 11; Issue 19; col E.
13. *William and Mary Quarterly*, ISSN: 0043-5597 (http://www.wm.edu/oieahc).
14. *American Historical Review*, ISSN: 0002-8762 (http://www.oah.org).
15. *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, ISSN: 0161-391X (http://www.oah.org) (now published as *The Journal of American History*).
16. Miranda C. Herbert and Barbara McNeil, editors, *Author Biographies Master Index*, second edition (Detroit: Gale Research Company, 1984).
17. Allen Johnson, editor, *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York: Charles Scribner's & Sons, 1928).
18. *The National Cyclopedia of American Biography* (New York: James T. White and Company, 1898).
19. These subscription databases and others are generally available at a university or large public library.

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My Favorite Resources for Irish Research

by Ann Eccles

When asked their favorite resource for doing Irish genealogical research, two Board members provided the following responses:

Beth Mullinax, IGSI Librarian

When asked this question, I didn't even have to think. *Griffith's Valuation of Ireland* has been my favorite and main resource for Irish research since the 1980s. We did not have the index at that time, but had to go through the microfiche of our county parish by parish. We had the *Householders' Index* which included only those listing a 'house' on *Griffith's Valuation*. It also gave the different spellings of the surnames found in the different Baronies and Parishes, so you knew if your surname was in the *Tithe Applotment Books*.

Now we have an index, which is not perfect, but what index is? It's a great help and saves hours and weeks of work. Once we find the surname on the index, we can go to the parish it lists and make a copy of the actual books of the *Griffith's Valuation*. I still use the *Householders' Index* as it will give the spelling variations and, again, which surnames and years they were found in the *Tithe Applotment Books*.

IGSI owns the *Householders' Index* for all 32 counties of Ireland as well as copies of the actual books for all 32 counties. Also, through a subscription to *Irish Origins*, we have online access to *Griffith's Valuation*. When putting *Griffith's Valuation* online, Irish Origins gathered all the 'pieces' of *Griffith's Valuation* that were done and scattered all over Ireland, but never became part of the books that most of us searched.

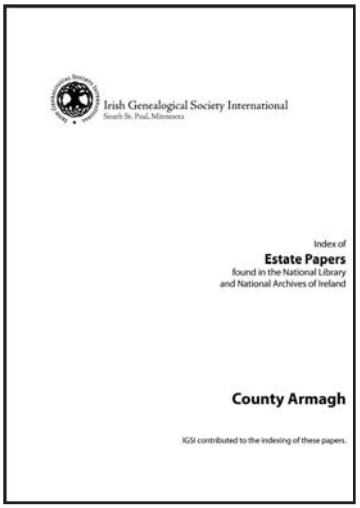
I've used this resource for years, both for my own family research but in assisting members. Finding an ancestor on *Griffith's Valuation* opens up other research avenues that tie into this resource.

Diane Lovrencevic, Volunteer Coordinator & Web Editor

The Estate Records offer the researcher a chance to look at the large amount of records produced by the administration of the English Estate system in Ireland. Often the estate records provide maps, accounts, leases, rent rolls and even the details of local life in the towns and villages within the estate.

Estate records are scattered. Many estate papers are held in the National Archives, the National Library, PRONI (Public Records Office of Northern Ireland), and in county libraries. As part of a special indexing project of the estate papers held by the National Archives and National Library of Ireland, IGSI helped support the indexing of these documents. Our financial support of the project allows IGSI the opportunity to share the indexes with others – for research at the library or for purchase through the Bookstore.

IGSI offer Indexes for the following counties whose records are held by the National Library and National Archives of Ireland: Armagh, Carlow, Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Fermanagh, Galway, (Inchiquin Peninsula) Clare, County Clare, Kerry, Kildare, Leitrim, Limerick, (Lismore) County Cork, (Bandon area), Tipperary, County Tipperary, Mayo, Monaghan, Roscommon, Sligo, Tyrone, Waterford, Westmeath and Wicklow. Some indexes are larger than others due to the size of the estate.



IGSI Etate Indexes.

To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root.

Ancient Chinese Proverb

Filling the Gaps in Your Family History Timeline: State Censuses

by Jay Fonkert, CG

In the last issue of *The Septs*, we talked about how valuable the U.S. Census is for genealogical research. Censuses do two magical things for us: they tell us where our ancestors lived and with whom they lived.

Let's consider the second point first. From 1850 forward, the census-taker enumerated every individual in the household. Beginning in 1880, the U.S. Census asked the enumerator to indicate the relationship to the head of the household. What a break for we modern-day genealogists! But, we need to be careful. All we know is what the respondent told the enumerator, or what the enumerator thought he was told. Nothing guarantees that the youngsters in a household were in fact the biological offspring of adults in the household. We may be looking at the kind of mixed families that are so common today.

With this warning aside, let's return to the first point. This is what censuses do best: they place individuals in space and time. Well, even this can be tricky, because some people managed to be counted twice in the same census in different places. Sometimes double-enumerations were the result of census-takers going astray outside their own territory, or because a family moved while during the several weeks it took to complete the census. For an unusual example, see the case of Ann Sears of 1870 in the sidebar.

Governments usually took censuses at regular intervals. In case of British, Canadian and U.S. federal censuses, the census-taker came every ten years. This is the good news. The bad news is that the census-taker came only every ten years, and people moved around a good bit more than we might expect. To compile a more complete timeline of ancestors' lives, family historians need to turn to other sources to fill in the gaps.

Although it is generally best to work back in time from known facts, we sometimes jump back and find an ancestor in the 1870 or 1880 census, and then try to trace her or him forward to the place we know Grandpa lived in the Twentieth Century. But where was Great-Grandpa in 1890? To our great dismay, a 1921 warehouse fire destroyed nearly all the 1890 census manuscripts. You won't find them on microfilm or on Ancestry.com. How inconvenient, because the westward movement of common Americans was in full swing between 1880 and 1900 as railroads made the western Midwest and Great Plains viable places to live and do business. If we rely only on the federal census, we are left with a 20-year hole in our family history.

So, our challenge today is to learn some tricks for finding our ancestors when the U.S. Census-taker wasn't looking. This column will introduce state censuses, often taken at mid-decade. A future column will explore a variety of census substitutes, including directories and various tax and land records.

Territorial and State Censuses

The family historian can often use territorial, state, and even city censuses to fill gaps between the better-known federal censuses.

Many territories took censuses prior to statehood. Technically, these were conducted by the federal government. Leaders in areas with rapidly growing populations wanted full credit for their growth, which would enhance their quest for statehood.

Minnesota Territory took a census in 1857, and by some accounts, did some creative enumeration to boost numbers. Territories were often larger than the areas that carry the same state name today. For example, Iowa Territory included much of southern and western Minnesota. Wisconsin Territory included parts of present day Minnesota east of the Mississippi above Minneapolis-St. Paul. So, early Minnesota pioneers might be in an early Wisconsin or Iowa territorial census.

After statehood, fast-growing states felt a need for an accounting of the population during the decade-long gaps between the U.S. decennial censuses. The best single source for learning about what was recorded in various state censuses is Ann Lainhart's book, *State Census Records*. Often, states took censuses in mid-decade years (those ending in "5"), but counted their populations at odd intervals. Indiana took a census every six years; unfortunately, only limited returns survive. Michigan did several counts in years ending in "4." Minnesota took territorial censuses in 1849, 1853, 1855 and 1857, and took state censuses every ten years from 1865 to 1905.

Standard censuses are more common in the Midwest, but some eastern states offer early treats. Maryland took no census after statehood, but took a cen-

sus in 1776. Massachusetts took censuses every ten years from 1855 to 1945. New Jersey state censuses range from 1855 to 1915. Rhode Island conducted censuses from 1855 to 1935.

Many early state censuses did not cover the entire state. And many early returns do not survive. For details, check Thomas Jay Kemp's book *The American Census Handbook* for specifics of what state censuses remain and where they can be found.

State censuses generally gathered information similar to the federal census, but there are some genealogically pleasant surprises.

- The 1845 New York census include nine Iroquois tribes, naming heads of household
- The 1865 Kansas census named veterans' military units. The 1885 census asked respondents what state or country they lived in before moving to Kansas.
- Researchers with ancestors living in Iowa in 1925 are a mouse-click (or microfilm reader) away from genealogical paradise. In 1925, Iowa asked its good citizens to give information not only about themselves, but about their parents. Thus, a census entry typically gives information about three generations. In a three-generation household, the information covers four generations!

The Jackson County example below from the 1925 Iowa census shows how four generations can be reconstructed from one three-generation household. This example is particularly rich because in includes both a widowed mother and her widowed daughter, with children. To begin, the parents of Patricia and Stewart were Thomas Scott and Neva Davis. Neva's parents were Frank Davis and Estella Smith. Estella's parents were James Smith and Mary Palmer. Things get interesting at this point, because Estella gave her last name as Gray, suggesting that she might have been widowed by a second husband, Mr. Gray. This is one of those cases that begs the researcher to dig into other sources to confirm the relationships that are apparent in the census.

The Story of Ann Sears

The widow Ann Sears lived most of her adult life in Hendricks County, Indiana. Indeed, the census-taker listed her there in the 1870 U.S. Census. But the enumerator in Boone County, Missouri, some 300 miles distant, recorded the same Ann Sears in the household of James C. Falker. It's a long story, but Ann Sears was James Falker's mother. She was probably in Missouri in anticipation of the birth of her grandchild. Whomever the census-taker talked to back in Indiana likely reported that Ann lived there – afterall, it was her usual abode.

Name	Relation	Sex	Age	Marital Status	Birth Place	Father	Birth Place	Mother	Birth Place
Gray, Estella	Head	F	67	W	Iowa	Smith, James R	Tenn.	Palmer, Mary	N.Y.
Scott Neva	Daughter	F	43	W	Iowa	Davis, Frank S	Maine	Smith, Estella	Iowa
Scott, Stewart	Grandson	M	18	S	Ireland	Scott, Thomas	Ireland	Davis, Neva	Iowa
Scott, Patricia	Grand daughter	F	13	S	Ireland	Scott, Thomas	Ireland	Davis, Neva	Iowa

Note: Data extracted from census manuscript; some columns excluded, and column headings modified to simplify table. Source: 1925 Iowa Census, Miles Township, Jackson County, lines 91-94, Estella Gray household, Microfilm no. IA1925_1768, Iowa State Censuses, obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest, viewed at www.Ancestry.com, 2 February 2008

As rich as the 1925 Iowa census is, the 1905 Iowa census only listed names and post office addresses. Some state censuses listed only age and sex for each individual. Your luck will vary from state to state and year to year.

Territorial and state censuses are not always easy to find. Ann Lainhart's book is probably the best finding help. Many older censuses, especially from eastern states, have been transcribed and published, often in genealogical journals. Librarians are wonderful resources – ask them to help locate these publi-

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'Filling Your Gaps in Your Family History Timeline' continued from page 83

cations. In addition, original census documents, as well as microfilms and indexes, may be found in state archives. Two good ways to find territorial and state censuses are a few mouse-clicks away:

- ***Family History Library*** (http://www.familysearch.org). Click on the Library tab at the top of the page, then click on the Library Catalog tab. Do a "Place" search, entering the name of the state. At the main catalog page for the state, scroll down to the census entries to find out which indexes and census manuscripts are available in microfilm or book form.

- ***Ancestry.com*** (http://www.ancestry.com). Click on "see all databases" under the "More Collections" section of the front page. When the collections page pops up, scroll to the bottom of the page and do a keyword search, entering the name of your state and the word "census." Ancestry.com has fairly complete state census collections for Iowa, Kansas, and Minnesota, and more limited coverage for Wisconsin, Michigan, South Dakota, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Florida, Nebraska, New York, Colorado and other state. You might get lucky!

Too often, we stop with the federal censuses, because they are the easiest to find and search. Extending your search to territorial and state censuses will increase your chances of tracking your ancestor's migration route. Next time, we'll add to our basket of tools, when we look at so-called "census substitutes" – other records that can place our ancestors in place and time.

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Arlene H. Eakle, "Census Records," Chapter 4 in Arlene Eakle and Johni Cerny, eds., *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing Company, 1984).

Family History Library, Research Outlines for various states, downloadable at http://www.familysearch.org.

Thomas Jay Kemp, *The American Census Handbook* (Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Resources Inc., 2001)

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is a director of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He has studied advanced genealogy research methods at the Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and completed the National Genealogical Society's home study course. He lectures on census research, vital records Dutch genealogy, maps and geography, and other topics. He is senior health workforce analyst at the Minnesota Department of Health.

Potterton People & Places:

Three Centuries of an Irish Family

by Homan Potterton

Choice Publishing, Drogheda, Ireland, 2006

Reviewed by Beth Mulinax

The Potterton family came to Ireland in the late 17th century and settled as tenant farmers in County Meath. The ancestry is presented in a unique manner and includes a complete index of names, paragraphs on each of the main family members, paragraphs on various

ancestral locations with maps. There are many surnames mentioned besides Potterton. Whether you have Potterton ancestors or not you will appreciate this book which offers some ideas on writing your own family stories. A genealogy of the Tong Family of Offaly forms an Appendix

Irish Migrants in the Canadas:

A New Approach

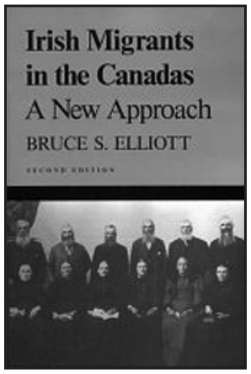
by Bruce S. Elliott

McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 1998

Reviewed by Sue Kratsch

Don't be misled by the title; this book covers far more than Canada. The author's aim is to document a chain migration from north Tipperary to Ontario, particularly the Ottawa River valley. Elliott studies 775 Protestant families from the towns and on the estates of north County Tipperary (primarily the baronies of Upper and Lower Ormond, with some in Owney & Arra and Slievardagh) and the adjacent panhandle of County Offaly (barony of Clonlisk). Hemmed in by the Keeper Hills range to the south, the Protestant population of 10,000 people formed a society distinct from the rest of Tipperary.

In the first third of the book, Elliott gives extensive background information on the situation in Ireland and the deteriorating economic conditions which led to the beginnings of emigration to Canada about 1818 and subsequent migrations within Canada. These emigrants were not landed gentry but rather middling farmers and agricultural laborers, often on estates. Judging from the surnames, many had English backgrounds (e.g., Armitage, Baskerville) including descendants of Cromwellian soldiers (Abbott, Blackwell, Harding, etc.); some were Welsh (Evans, Morgan, Powell); a few were Palatine German (Shouldice, Switzer, Sparling); and some were native Irish who conformed to the Church of Ireland (Butler, Maher, Mooney, and others). In studying the surnames, I've become convinced that some of these families emigrated to the U.S. as well, both before and after 1818.



A historian analyzes the same material we genealogists use and draws conclusions about individuals and the society to which they belong. While writing this history of the movement of peoples, the author contacted descendants of the families listed in the appendix and included a number of genealogical charts in the book. The final portion of the book consists of appendices, notes, and an every-name index. The list of sources includes estate records, manuscript collections, dissertations, Reports of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records in Ireland, and many sources in the Public Archives of Canada. Extensive maps, photographs, and tables add richness to the text.

The meticulous documentation of sources opens up many possibilities for further research in Ireland, Canada, and perhaps the U.S. as well. If you have Protestant Irish ancestors whom you suspect were not from the north, this book is a must.

The Louisburgh-Clinton Connection:

A Social Study

by Edward M. Gill

Trafford Publishing, Victoria BC, Canada, 2006

Reviewed by Beth Mulinax

This social study describes what researchers refer to as "chain migration." Several young girls who found jobs in a factory in Clinton, Massachusetts, wrote home with money and information on the jobs available. Hundreds of Mayo Irish – mainly from Louisburgh, Kilgeever Civil Parish, Westport Poor Law Union – then migrated. Through contact with descendants of some of the migrants into Clinton, Gill includes information on their families.

The author follows this Louisburgh migration into Canada and the United States through passenger lists, census records, church records, and various published sources. He includes over 2000 names of the group; the four major names are O'Malley, O'Toole, Kittridge, and Kilcoyne.

The main research is in Massachusetts industrial towns of Lawrence, Lowell, Fitchburg, Clinton, Boston and Worcester. He mentions other areas in the northeast, i.e. Maine, New York, and Rhode Island as well Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and New Brunswick. This short history on the industrial revolution of the textile industry includes rug-making by the Bigelow brothers, with pictures of old factory buildings, and the Irish church.

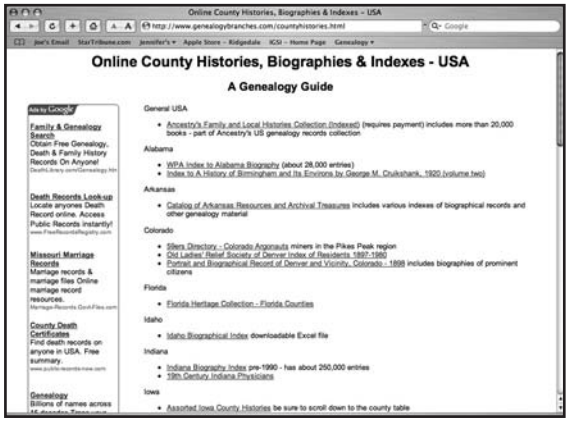
An interesting read whether your ancestors came from County Mayo or Massachusetts, or not. The experiences are common to many. Edward Gill is a member of IGSI.

A Goldmine in Local Histories

by Linda Miller

The day I slipped the two volumes of the *History of Nicollet and LeSueur Counties* off the shelf at the Minnesota Historical Society was the day that changed everything in my search for family history. Accustomed to the textbooks from my school years, it never occurred to me that there were history books that included, in detail, the stories of the lives of ordinary men and women.

In one volume I found the story of my great grandfather. It included his date of birth, the name of the county and the town in Ireland where his family had come from, the date of arrival in America, detailed information on the family's migration across the country, his parents names, siblings names, place and date of death of his parents, who he married and when, his religion, his military service, and his schooling. In other words, it was a goldmine.



Many county and local history books written in the last part of the 19th century or early years of the 20th century were done in conjunction with centennials or bicentennials. They described the towns and villages in the county, the businesses, schools, hospitals, roads, and all aspects of community life including events such as major fires, epidemics or storms. They usually highlighted people who settled in the area, complete with the kind of information I found on my great grandfather. They might include photos of people and places in the county or even sketches and plat maps.

As an example of the detail to be found in county or local history books, *They Came for the Future*, written about the village of Teulon, in rural Manitoba, Canada, includes a story about the "Irish Campbells: John and Harriet Campbell".

> Mr. John Campbell, with his son Mark K., left their home in Iroquois near Morrisburg, Ontario, and with some other friends started for the West to try and find some of the New Country that would be suitable for settlement.
>
> They arrived at Fort Garry in July 1873, having travelled over the Great Lakes by boat to Fort William, and over the Dawson Trail from there to Fort Garry. After making enquiries about available land for homesteading, they obtained provisions and some equipment. As soon as the homesteads were all selected, Mr. Campbell and son Mark erected a shanty on the SW 12-16-2E, where Mark and a friend, Mr. Farewell, prepared to stay for the winter.

Mr. Campbell went back to Ontario alone and the next spring, he brought the rest of his family. The story tells the exact mode of travel, the route and many fascinating events along the way, including this one.

> There was some uneasiness about the Indians encountered on the way, which necessitated some members of the family being on guard both night and day. In the Lake of the Woods area, near the end of the trip, a portion of the party, including Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Campbell and Mrs. David Campbell, made camp close to a friendly Indian settlement, and here Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Campbell's oldest son was born and named "Dawson" in memory of the Dawson Trail. A camp of friendly Indians was situated nearby and the young squaws, thrilled with the new white baby, were so determined to take him in their arms that a protective guard had to be positioned.

Although county histories can be very detailed, not everyone who lived in the area appears in them. If the person you seek isn't mentioned, take a long look anyway. You may find their siblings, friends or neighbors and get valuable clues for directing your search. The photos and information about the area could be useful. Don't rely on skimming the index to see if your people are mentioned; many of these books are not well indexed. There may be people who appear in the book who did not make it into the index.

While useful, these histories do contain inaccuracies. For example, my great grandfather's first name was in-

correct in the book but there was so much other information included that it was easy to verify that it was indeed my ancestor. The information for these stories may have come from a child or grandchild many years after the death of the subject. We know how things can get a little murky when so many years have passed between the event and the interview. Sometimes the person interviewed was speaking from memory and sometimes merely repeating stories heard about family history.

Remember also that county or local histories served as a public relations tool for the county or town. Perhaps that is why all the inhabitants seem so upstanding, honest, religious, and, in general, fine people and the communities all seem to be the loveliest places on earth, with exemplary schools, the best doctors and so forth. It's the Lake Woebegon effect, a phrase inspired by Garrison Keillor's description of the mythical Minnesota town, Lake Woebegon, where "all the women are strong, all the men are good looking and all the children are above average."

Of course, you will need to verify everything you learn in a county or local history. Conflicting information definitely calls for further investigation. Was my great grandmother's second husband dead before the family came to Minnesota, as the history book said? Or was he alive and well and living with the family in Minnesota, as the census said? I still haven't figured that mystery out.

Resource

They Came for the Future. (Teulon, Manitoba, Canada: Teulon & District History Book Committee, 1983.)

Where to Find County or Local Histories

- County and state historical societies, genealogy libraries, local libraries
- http://www.genealogy-branches.com/countyhistories.html This site offers online county histories from 21 states plus a link to Ancestry's Family and Local Histories Collection, which includes more than 20,000 books. Use of Ancestry's collection requires payment but some public and genealogy libraries have subscriptions for members to use free of charge.

Linda Miller is the immediate past-president of the Irish Genealogical Society International. She volunteers as the bookstore manager. A former police officer, she is a member of the Association of Personal Historians and a certified Soliel Lifestory Network teacher who offers lifewriting workshops and other memoir services. Linda lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area.

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This group will meet in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area . . . but we can help you get a writing group started wherever you are. Contact Linda Miller at IrishLifewriters@gmail.com or call 952-831-8286.

Finding Books, Articles and Manuscripts Online

Online Search Engines, Library and Bookstore Catalogs

by Tom Rice, CG

This article is a guide to finding books, articles and manuscripts in libraries, archives and book stores using a few of the many Internet tools available for this task. Some might ask why bother. Isn't it all on the Internet anyway? No! It is not all on the Internet and it never will be! However, the Internet does enable us to find what is not online but available via other means: for borrowing from a library, through rental of a film, or by purchase.

Books, articles and manuscripts remain a key resource for the serious genealogist. Only the novice stops at the Internet as the source for their genealogy endeavors. While we are urged to always look at original records, compiled abstracts and extracts can aid in reviewing a large body of records. Likewise family and local histories provide an overall picture that individual records cannot. Each of these serves as pointers to original records. A manuscripts is, of course, often the original record itself.

In this article we will be talking about a babel of Internet related tools: *Google*, *WorldCat*, *OCLC*, *NUCMC*, Amazon, PDFs, ILL, and the FHL catalog. Read on to find out how to speak the language of the Internet for finding the printed word whether it be on paper, film or in digital format.

Warning: Because this article is so heavily focused on use of the Internet, it may be best to try the various sites mentioned as you read so as to get full benefit from the tips offered.

Google

There are many ways to find a book using *Google*. The two most obvious are to do a search using the title, author, keyword, subject or ISBN number or to go to the dedicated *Google Books* facility and search for books that *Google* has cataloged in cooperation with its library partners. Most people are familiar with the *Google* search page. When looking for a specific book the most successful approach would be to put the title or at least the more descriptive part of the title in quotes. Using quotes tells *Google* you want to search for that phrase exactly as written and not for a website that may have the individual words of the title spread throughout the site. A search for an author's name, again using quotes, may be a successful way of finding a book. If you know the ISBN number for a book, searching for the number along with the term "ISBN" should work. Further, one can search for a book on *Google* by using keywords or subject terms that may have been used by those who posted it on the Internet.

Regular *Google* searches do not necessarily check the contents of library catalogs. With an ordinary *Google* search you will find online articles that may mention the book, bookstore listings, mail lists where a book is mentioned. In short, anywhere it is mentioned on the open Internet. You have to go to the library site and search specifically within their catalog to find a book. This is not true however for *Google Books* or *WorldCat* which will drill down into a library catalog.

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Google Books also provides a list of related books, subject headings used to catalog the book to use in searching for other books on the same topic(s), and maps of specific places mentioned in the book. This search website is well worth a visit to see all of the features and how to use them to build an online list of books you find or books lists to upload to include in your online library listing. Do read the help pages and take a look at the Advances Search page to see how to refine a search.

WorldCat

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WorldCat's home page

When the *WorldCat* result page opens, you are presented with a list of works that match your search term(s). This list will present some bibliographic information in addition to record type. Clicking on a one of these listings brings up a page with full bibliographic information in addition to tabs to pages labeled "Libraries," "Details," "Subjects," "Editions," and "Reviews." If you put your location into the "Libraries" page, *WorldCat* will list the libraries that hold this work according to the distance they are from you. If there are multiple listings of the same work, check several to find one held in a library near you. If you intend to cite this work, click on "Cite this item" to see a fully formatted citation in five different standard formats. You can export a citation into a bibliography database such as EndNote. WorldCat allows you to create links to a specific listing page, and to save listings into your own personal online library at their site. WorldCat also provides a link to resources where you can buy many of the books you find.

Just as with *Google*, read the help information list either under "Learn more" or Home > Help and try the "Advanced Search" tool.

After a successful search, click on the library of interest to see how the work is listed in their catalog. Usually you are brought to the listing for the work in their online catalog. You can get more information about the library (e.g. their location, hours and policies) by following links on the catalog listing page.

Library Catalogs Online

Library catalogs are a very useful research tool. Library catalogs of today are a far cry from the card catalogs of yesterday. They not only list the holdings of a library but give you ways to find related works and to collect lists of books of interest to you. When viewing the full catalog entry for a work, if you click on such links as authors' names or subject headings you will be brought to other works by that author or cataloged under the same subject headings. This is a great way to find other books you may not have been aware of that address your topic of interest. Some catalogs allow you to email the listings to yourself or someone else. This is an excellent method for building up a list of works to be considered as you research a topic.

Library catalogs, like *Google* and *WorldCat*, provide the user with a Help or Tips page and some sort of Advanced Search tool. Many times the search tool will allow you to employ Boolean search terms such as "and," "or," and "not" so you can refine your search. You can search in a specific field of the catalog listing such as the title, author, subject, keyword, or other field. Should you have trouble finding something in a library online catalog, look at these specific field choices for help.

Interlibrary Loan

Finding that the book you seek is only available in some distant library can be frustrating, but it need not be. Interlibrary loan is the service that most libraries provide when you need a work your library does not own. Your library will request the work so that you can use it close to home. Generally, you can request books, photocopies of periodical articles, microfilm, and other audio-visual formats. The loaning library sets the guidelines. You may be able to check the book out or you may have to use it at your library. Costs vary depending upon the library system. If you request

'Finding Books, Articles and Manuscripts Online' continued on page 90

'Finding Books, Articles and Manuscripts Online continued from page 89

a microfilm, make sure your library has a film reader or will let you take it to somewhere where you can view it.

We Minnesotans are blessed with a statewide virtual library, MNLink, through which we can order interlibrary loans on the Internet from home free of charge. Other states offer similar services for instate interlibrary loan. If you need assistance or advice, ask your librarian. A good reference librarian is the most useful help aid in any library.

If your interlibrary loan request is declined, ask if the holder of the work will copy a couple of pages that are of interest to you. If the work is past its copyright period, see if it may be available online either in a digitized format or as a PDF file which you can download. More about this later.

Family History Library

The Family History Library (FHL) is a great source of genealogy related printed materials. Their collection of paper and filmed materials includes many family and local histories and published compilations of records. The best way into these is through their online catalog at http://www.familysearch.org Click on the "Library" tab, then click on "Family History Library Catalog" to bring up a page that allows you to search their catalog. Use "Title Search" to search for books that have your search words anywhere in the title. "Keyword Search," "Author Search," and "Subject Search" provide listings of print and filmed works. The library does not circulate print materials, but almost all filmed works are available for rental through your local Family History Center.

The FHL has a cooperative program with Brigham Young University whereby many local history books are being digitized and made available online. You can search the BYU digital collection directly at http://www.lib.byu.edu/online.html

Free Texts Online

There is a large and growing body of books, articles and manuscripts that have been scanned and posted online. Most are in the Adobe PDF format or in a similar format that people can open with a downloaded free program to read them. What follows is a small sampling of what is available.

- *Digital Book Index* at http://www.digitalbookindex.org/about.htm is the granddaddy of all digital books sites. They have aggregated the digital offerings of libraries worldwide and provide links to over 141,000 full-texts digital books from more than 1800 publisher, universities and other sites. Over 100,000 of these works are free to download or view online.

- *The Avalon Project at Yale Law School*, found at http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm, presents documents in law, history and diplomacy.

- *Making of America* at http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagrp/ and at http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/moa/ hosts digital versions of 10,000 books, 50,000 journal articles plus much more.

- *The Public Domain Books Reprints Service* at http://www.publicdomainreprints.org/ is a service that will print a digitized book for you. As an experimental project, it only works with public domain books online at *The Internet Archives* (http://www.archive.org/index.php) or found through *Google Book Search* (http://books.google.com/).

Finding to Buy

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Besides these obvious destinations for purchasing books do not forget such websites as *eBay* (http://www.ebay.com), or *craigslist* at http://www.craigslist.org/about/sites.html.

Digitized books and records also come in the CD format which has several advantages. It gives us permanent ready access to the work, allows for selective printing of portions, saves space and is often cheaper than a printed copy of a long out of print or rare work. Good

sources for Irish related materials are *Eneclann* (http://eneclann.ie/) and *Archives CD Books Ireland* (http://www.archivecdbooks.ie/), and its sister site *Archive CD Books USA* (http://www.archivecdbooksusa.com/).

Finding Manuscripts – NUCMC

Besides books and articles the serious genealogy researcher should look for manuscripts and manuscript collections relating to the people, families, places or times being researched. Online catalogs of archives and libraries are good tools for locating these. As I wrote in the January 2007 issue of *The Septs*, *NUCMC* (National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections) is by far the best tool for finding collections of manuscripts in the United States. As a service of the Library of Congress, you will find its home page at http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/. Or check *Ready, 'Net, Go! Archival Internet Resources* at http://www.tulane.edu/~lmiller/ArchivesResources.html for another way into archival catalogs. This site will bring you to individual online archive catalogs and catalog aggregator sites. Because searching for materials in manuscript collections can be tricky, read the help pages and consider using the Advanced Search tools.

Once you find a manuscript collection of interest, you may still not be certain if it has items that pertain directly to your needs. The description of a collection found at *NUCMC* may be very general. For a more detailed description of a collection, go to the listing in the catalog of the holding institution. If that fails to provide you with the information you need, call or write the archive or library. Often they can provide more specific information through finding aids; or if the collection is small enough, they can scan it for your specific topic. Ask if the collection has been filmed and if the films are available for purchase or interlibrary loan. The holder may be willing to copy a few pages for you. Manuscripts do not circulate as a rule. If the collection is quite large, the library may not be able to search it for you. Then your choice is to visit the repository in person or engage a local researcher.

Conclusion

Books, articles and manuscripts represent major resources for specific genealogical information pertaining to our ancestors, for background information about the times and places they lived, and for educational material that help us become better genealogists. It is out there in archives, libraries, book stores and online waiting for us to tap into it. Today the best way to do that, and do it on a grand scale, is with the Internet. A few of the many tools available to us for this search are mentioned in this article; there are many more. Start by trying one or two mentioned here, get familiar with them and then branch out. Create a folder in your favorites/bookmarks called "text-online" and put these websites in it. Then build your collection of finding aids over time and revisit them as the need arises.

Remember it is not all on the Internet and never will be. Do not miss out on what is not online. Do not stop with the Internet, but rather use it to find those resources that are not there.

Membership Query

BURNS, DONLAN

Seeking family origins for Patrick and Bridget (BURNS) DONLAN. Emigrated 1849 as husband and wife from Ennis area, County Clare to US. Settled briefly in Schenectady NY, farmed in Racine WI area until 1864. Moved to Bluffton IA (near Decorah); farmed and raised 12 children. Patrick died in 1899.

Patrick's brother Thomas DONLAN settled in Burr Oak IA.

Seeking: Town in Ireland where Patrick and Bridget married; their port of departure, name of ship and port of entry to US; information on any siblings of Patrick or Bridget.

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johnfdonlan@aol.com

Queries posted in the quarterly journal *The Septs* are a benefit of membership. By posting your query others can see and respond to that area of research you need help. Queries can go online in the Message Board at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org.

Send your queries for the journal to Editor@IrishGenealogical.org.

Louise Howard and Rosemary ffolliott Collections

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA

This installment of the series on Irish Genealogical Collections focuses on two collections that pertain predominantly to the Republic of Ireland. The names of the counties and dioceses covered in this installment are as follows:

Counties	Collection	Repository*	FHL	Diocese(s)
Cork	Rosemary fflolliott	NLI (P.8154), LA	Yes	Cork & Ross, Cloyne, Ardfert
Dublin	Louise Howard	NAI	Yes	Dublin
Kerry	Rosemary fflolliott	NLI (P.8154), LA	Yes	Ardfert
Kildare	Louise Howard	NAI	Yes	Kildare, Dublin
Limerick	Rosemary fflolliott	UCD	Yes	Limerick, Cashel, Emly, Killlaloe
Monaghan	Rosemary fflolliott	UCD	Yes	Clogher
Offaly (Kings)	Louise Howard	NAI	No	Kildare, Meath, Killaloe, Ossory, Clonfert
Tipperary	Rosemary fflolliott	UCD	No	Cashel, Killaloe,
Waterford	Rosemary fflolliott	UCD	No	Waterford, Lismore
Wicklow	Louise Howard	NAI	Yes	Dublin, Leighlin, Ferns
General	Louise Howard	Unknown	Yes	Church of Ireland Clergy

** NAI = National Archives of Ireland; NLI = National Library of Ireland; LA = Limerick Archives; UCD = University College, Dublin; P. = Positive microfilm (plus number)*

Louise Howard Collection

Much of this collection pertains principally to the counties of Dublin, Kildare, Offaly (Kings) and Wicklow. It includes a consolidated index to printed records i.e. the Diocese of Dublin Wills and Grant Books, Diocese of Ferns and Kildare Marriage Licenses taken from the County Kildare Archaeological Society. The entire collection is alphabetically arranged by surname in ten volumes on ten microfilm reels (16mm).

Volume	Surname	FHL Microfilm No.
Vol. 1	A - Burrow	538,138
Vol. 3	Deering - Gedges	538,140
Vol. 4	Gee - Hutson	538,141
Vol. 5	Hutton - Maloy	538,142
Vol. 6	Malpas - Neynoe	538,143
Vol. 7	Nial - Row	538,144
Vol. 8	Rowan - Tippen	538,145
Vol. 9	Tipper - Zurhorst	538,146
Vol. 10	Supplements	538,147

Louise Howard Miscellaneous Collection – Church of Ireland Clergy

There is also a collection of materials compiled by Louise Howard that is identified in the Family History Library catalog as "miscellaneous material." The material contained on FHL microfilm 538176 (16mm) pertains to families throughout Ireland. There is no reference on the microfilm or in the Family History Library Catalog as to what archive or library holds the collection. It is typical that the title board on the microfilm identifies where the collection was microfilmed, however in this case, that information is missing.

Items 1 and 2 on this microfilm pertain to families of the clergy of the Church of Ireland. It is variously formatted with both handwritten text and typescript on school notebook paper. The collection is not paginated, but the family surnames are arranged alphabetically from A – Y and are prominently displayed in the upper right-hand corner of the manuscript. It is apparent from the extracts that much of the work in this compilation was made from extracts she created from researching the matriculation list at Trinity College, Dublin; other notes may have come from the Representative Church Body Library. The collection contains a number of references to marriages and may have been augmented from the Marriage License Indexes at the National Archives, since usually only the year of marriage is stated.

Examples:

Charlotte Lees m. Rev. George Sidney Smith 1838.
Prudence Penelope, dau. Arthur 1st Viscount Dungannon (Hill Town) m. Charles Powell Leslie, n.d.

Rowley Family

Of less interest to Irish genealogists is item 3, which is a section of material devoted to the Rowley family of Staffordshire, England. This collection is typescript and arranged alphabetically by the name of the spouse who married into the Rowley family. There is a subsequent arrangement that is alphabetical by given name for the members of the Rowley family making it easy to locate and focus on one family or individual.

Irish Memorials Association

Item 4 on this same microfilm contains a number of extracts arranged by county taken from the *Irish Memorials Association Journal*, formerly the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland. Included are extracts from counties Carlow, Clare, Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Fermanagh, Galway, Kildare, Kings, Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and selected entries from England. Also included are several entries of emigrants that appeared in the Journal from Augusta and Savannah, Georgia in the United States, India, and Nova Scotia. There is also a transcript of the burials from the parish registers of St. Paul's Church, Dublin 1702 – 1718 that was transcribed from the *Irish Memorials Association Journal*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (1933-34).

Miscellaneous Families from Irish Journals

Ms. Howard appears to have created a pre-printed card to assist her in compiling family information. The extracts cited above are followed by Item 5 containing an alphabetical set of these cards that appear to have been produced from various Irish genealogical periodicals and organized the family information on families of interest to her. The microfilming quality is very poor and many of the cards are blurred. Projects of this sort were often done with a microfilm camera feeder system that automatically fed the cards through as the camera took the images. The effectiveness of these early attempts is apparent in the capture of this collection. Since it is unknown where the collection is located, microfilming the collection again does not appear to be a viable option.

Rosemary ffolliott Collection

Rosemary ffolliott was tireless in her efforts to mitigate the loss of records in the destruction of the Public Record Office in 1922 and to augment the lack of primary source material for parish registers that were not generally kept in the eighteenth century. The first part of this collection consists of items of genealogical interest taken from newspapers in counties Cork and Kerry. The collection entitled *Biographical Notices, Primarily Relating to Counties Cork and Kerry: Collected from Newspapers, 1756 – 1827 with a few References, 1749 – 1755*. These biographical notices include a large number of marriages and obituaries with some advertisements. There is a detailed explanation at the beginning of volume one indicating the scope, coverage, accuracy, duplication,

'Louise Howard and Rosemary ffolliott Collections' continued on page 94

'Louise Howard and Rosemary ffolliott Collections' continued from page 93

cross-references, abbreviations used, treatment of advertisements and the information added from external sources.

In referring to the type of people covered in newspapers, Ms. ffolliott writes:

> "The largest section of these entries relates to the merchant and professional classes (church, army, navy, law and medicine) in the city of Cork. The next largest relates to the farming gentry throughout the county. In third place come the traders of Cork, ranging form grocers to founders, butchers, drapers, shopkeepers, innkeepers, painters etc. In fourth place we find the inhabitants of such neighboring towns as Mallow, Bandon, Youghal, Killworth and Charleville…the religion is equally mixed: thee are many references to Catholics and Quakers, and a few to Presbyterians, Huguenots and Methodists…It must, however, be made clear that, apart for advertisements concerning eloped wives, the small farmers and labourers are hardly mentioned at all."

The collection of four volumes containing 1,732 pages of extracts and roughly 12,000 entries is available in the Family History Library in typescript form in four bound volumes (FHL British 941.5 D3rf).

Vol	Surnames	FHL Call No.	Microfilm
Vol. 1	ABB – DONO	941.5 D3rf v.1	537,921
Vol. 2	DOO – KIDD	941.5 D3rf v.2	537,921
Vol. 3	KIDDE – PO	941.5 D3rf v.3	537,921
Vol. 4	POC – YOUNG (Appendix)	941.5 D3rf v.4	537,922

The collection is alphabetically arranged, however, there are additional entries in the Appendix for the surnames:

Belford	Morris
Cooke	O'Flaherty
Croker	Oldham
Donegan	O'Rorke
Edgar	Pickells
Hadigan	Rauclaund
Hobart	Ring
Honan	Rowan
Hutchinson	Sandiford
Lawler	Scannel
Lomasny	Spotswood
Long	Townsend
Kennedy	Uniacke
Mackesy	Veron
Matthews	Warner
Meyers	Warren
Minhear	Waterhouse
Millett	Westropp
Milling	Wilkes
Milliquet	Wright
Morony	

Examples:

CMC (Cork Mercantile Chronicle)
F (Friday)
26 Jne 1807
On Sunday last, Mr. James Kennedy of Ballinamultina aged 22 to Miss Julia Crotty of Lismore, aged 51, co Waterford

CJ (Cork Journal)
Th (Thursday)
22 Feb 1759
Limerick, 19th Feb: last Wednesday the Hon. John Evans was married to Miss Emily Crowe dau of the Rev. Dean Crowe… handsome fortune

HC (Hibernian Chronicle - Cork)
Th (Thursday)
22 Mch 1770
On Thursday last as Mr. Andrew Crotty of Ballysaggart in the co of Waterford was attempting to cross the Blackwater near Clashmore in a cot, it overturned with him and he was most unhappily drowned…a young gentleman

A set of newspaper extracts similar to the Cork & Kerry collection was also complied by Ms. ffolliott entitled *Biographical notices in Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel, Waterford newspapers, 1758 – 1821*, indexed, by Rosemary ffolliott, University College, Dublin. This set contains approximately 45,000 entries. The catalog of the University College Cork (UCC) indicates that both collections are contained on microfiche. This second collection, which is not available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, is roughly four times larger than the Cork and Kerry collection.

IGSI Elections Scheduled For May

Board Positions Need Filling

Some of the parish register abstracts made by Rosemary ffolliott are published in the periodical she produced *The Irish Ancestor*. The complete run is now available on Compact Disk from Eneclann. For more information about *The Irish Ancestor 1969-1986* or to order it online via a safe and secure shopping cart system, go to http://www.eneclann.ie/publications-11.asp

Both genealogical collections, those of Louise Howard and Rosemary ffolliott, serve to add a substantial amount of data to mitigate the loss of primary sources in Ireland. It is hoped that someone will pursue Ms. ffolliott's vision of extracting the relevant data out of additional newspapers for other areas of Ireland.

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA, is a professional genealogist since 1977, he was accredited in Ireland research in 1981. He graduated from Brigham Young University in 1980 with a B.A. in Family and Local History. He is the research specialist for the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) tour to England and Ireland every three years and teaches a five-day course at Samford University, Birmingham the year prior. He is a past-president the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) 1997-2000 and of the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) 1993-1995 and a Fellow of that organization.

It's well understood that organizations need leaders in order to function and IGSI is no different. The wonderful benefits of membership that we enjoy are possible because many people work hard behind the scenes making sure you have quality resources and programming to help you in your family research.

Perhaps you have wondered where IGSI leaders come from or how they came to be in their current positions. All of them are members who have been asked to help or who have volunteered to help the organization, and every one does so to the best of their ability. Each has a unique set of skills to contribute. Most are not "experts" in genealogy and that's not a problem because that's not a requirement for keeping the organization functioning. We are thankful for those who have served as officers in the past because they have made the organization the one that we enjoy so much today.

IGSI's election of officers takes place at the Quarterly meeting in May of each year. In preparation for that election, we are looking for candidates for two positions on the Board: First Vice President and Second Vice President. These are key positions and crucial to our continued success. President Laurie Hanover, Secretary, Kevina Munnich and Treasurer, Bob Zimmerman, are standing for second terms.

Officers take office on July 1 following their election. All terms are for one year and no person may serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Any member of IGSI is eligible to be an officer. Officers can serve no matter where they live since participation can be done electronically. All officers are required to be a member of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. The membership fee will be reimbursed by IGSI if the officer would not otherwise be a member of MGS.

Is it time for you to step forward for one of the available positions? If you would like to be involved as a decision maker in IGSI, it is definitely time. If you are looking for a meaningful way to serve, this is it. And if you want to help ensure that IGSI continues to thrive and offer the tremendous services for Irish researchers, then please call for more information. IGSI needs you to become more involved. Genealogical societies are becoming an endangered species but you can help us keep IGSI from traveling that road. Contact Linda Miller for more information about these opportunities. She can be reached at Shantally@gmail.com or at 952-457-1810.

Open Positions & Responsibilities

- First Vice President: Responsibilities include handling the educational functions of the Society by overseeing the library, the quarterly programs, and educational classes we offer. The 1st vice-president also provides "back-up" to the president as stated in the by-laws.
- Second Vice President: Responsibilities include overseeing membership and outreach functions of the Society, through Publicity, Marketing and Outreach.

More detailed job descriptions are available on our website in the membership area.

The IGSI Website

Part 2: Our Society

by Kathleen Strickland

Before beginning any journey—on land or in cyberspace—it's wise to have a few navigational tools at hand. On the IGSI home page, http://www.irishgenealogical.org, you'll see two sets of navigation bars.

- The horizontal bar at the top of the page features five pull-down menus: Home Page, Our Society, Bookstore, Join!, and Research. These menus remain in place on any webpage you visit in this site. The Home Page tab does just what it says—it directs you back to the IGSI home page no matter how far afield you've traveled in the IGSI site.

- The vertical navigation bar on the left side of the page may change depending on the webpage you are visiting. Be sure to check these left-side navigation bars as you tour the website; you'll find bits of information pertinent to the webpage you have displayed.

On the horizontal navigation bar, the nine tabs of the "Our Society" pull-down menu provide insight into who we are and what we do at IGSI. Here you'll also find great reasons to join us, if you haven't already, for the events, the journal, the library, the friendships and so much more.

Breakdown of the "Our Society" menu:

- About Us
- Activities and Events
- Annual Conference
- Irish Days and Classes
- Library
- Quarterly Journal
- Quarterly Programs
- Volunteering
- Writing Group

About Us is the place to go for information about IGSI membership. It features a brief history of IGSI as well as a short list of the many benefits of membership. On this page, click Join Us to learn about the research help available from IGSI.

- *Research Help* offers the IGSI Members Help Section and explains the kinds of assistance available. For a small fee, you can request to have your surname of interest "mapped" to learn where in Ireland people of that name were living during the mid-19th century. Other resources include townland map copies and research in IGSI library holdings such as the Emigrant Savings Bank of New York. A list of parish films from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, is posted on the website; the data for some of them has been transcribed and available for online research. Follow the link for parish films for Minneapolis/St. Paul to a list of Roman Catholic churches that have been identified as "majority Irish." Several of these parishes are linked to further information: Click on St. Thomas (Jessenland) and you'll find a list of parishioners with death and burial information from the 1900s. A link at the bottom of this page allows you to easily e-mail an inquiry to IGSI research staff. (The left-hand navigation bar explains the IGSI goals.)

- *Join Now* is the link to click if you are not already a member of IGSI. Both U.S. and non-U.S. readers can click this button to access online membership applications; you have the option to use a credit card to send in dues via PayPal. (Check the left-hand navigation bar for membership information and cost.)

Activities and Events comes next on the "Our Society" drop-down menu.

- E*vents List* shows upcoming IGSI activities. Clicking on Irish Day at the Library, May 10, 2008, for example, will lead you to information about that day's schedule. (Links to program descriptions appear on the left-hand navigation bar.)

- *Filter Events* on the right-hand side of the Activities and Events page helps you find the kind of event you are looking for—if you choose Irish Days, you will bring up only those dates.

Annual Conference, as of this writing, highlights the 2007 conference. This is the page to check for information about the upcoming conference—schedule, registration and a downloadable map to the conference location.

Irish Days & Classes explains the kind of help that is available from IGSI volunteers on the second Saturday of most months—Irish Days at the Minnesota Genealogical Society and IGSI Library. In addition to the Irish resources at IGSI, you can pursue your family roots in the collection available at MGS.

- *Home Page* links to current Irish Day reminders.
- *Library Facts* takes you to the webpage that displays library location and hours.

Library on the "Our Society" menu leads to a page with more information about the IGSI collection itself. From here, you can link to

- *Irish Days* for a direct path to that page.
- *Help Out-of-Town Researchers*, which supplies further information about the library's holdings and the kinds of research that are possible during a visit to the library. (Find more about library access—hours, cost, etc.—on the left-hand navigation bar.)
- *Links to the Library Catalog* and other research areas appears in the left-hand navigation bar as well.

Quarterly Journal leads to several discoveries for a website searcher. First, you'll find general information about the publication *The Septs*, and you also have the option to click on:

- *LDS Family History Library* website URL to go directly to FamilySearch.
- *Bookstore*, where you can purchase past issues online.
- *Contents of past issues of* The Septs. The contents appear chronologically by issue date.
- *Themes of past issues*, which can be sorted either chronologically or alphabetically by choosing the type of listing you want to use from the navigation bar on the left-hand side of the page. For instance, looking for "Fermanagh" in the alphabetical listing brings up the January 2000 issue of *The Septs*, Vol. 21, No. 1. Click on this entry, and the Table of Contents for that issue appears showing articles written about County Fermanagh.
- Submission guidelines show upcoming issue topics for those who have article suggestions or would like to write for the journal.

Quarterly Programs discusses the purpose of the programs and gives an overview of their scope.

- *Library Facts* gives you quick access to a page with library hours, address and a map link.
- *Past Quarterly Programs* opens a list of past IGSI programs with a synopsis of each program and a biographical paragraph about the speaker as well as the date each program was presented.

Volunteers highlights the contributions and opportunities for members to actively participate in IGSI. Check here to see if there could be a volunteer position for you with IGSI. I can tell you from my own experience, volunteering is fun and educational - and very much appreciated by the IGSI board. You'll never know the scope of the volunteer activities within the society, both in Minnesota and all around the world, until you check it out. (The left-hand navigation bar has all of the links with more information.)

Writing Group, the last and newest of the choices on the "Our Society" menu, is an invitation to join others who are interested in writing the stories of their ancestors.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, IL. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

Some Family: The Mormons and How Humanity Keeps Track of Itself

by Donald Harman Akenson

McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, Quebec 2007

Review and Commentary by Jay Fonkert, CG

Donald Akenson, a renowned scholar of religious history at Queen's University in Canada, has written a book that will challenge the thinking of serious genealogists. The book sets out to critique the far-reaching genealogy project of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (the Mormons), but along the way it teaches valuable lessons about the difficulty of building family trees of biological ancestors.

Chapter 2 opens with Akenson's core question: "What do the Mormons think they are doing anyway, in attempting to capture individual by individual, the history of the whole human race?" That is their goal, according to Akenson. Never mind tracing your roots back to Charlemagne, go all the way back to the beginning.

Akenson is interested in the Mormon accounts of human history because they help explain the importance of genealogy to the LDS Church. He summarizes (pp. 192-194) that, by the early 1900s when the foundation was set for the "massive present-day Mormon push for their singular history of the entire human race," the prevailing Mormon belief was that five groups descended from Father Adam:

- The descendants of Ham, a son of Noah; these were the black peoples,
- The Jews, descended from Shem,
- The Amerindians, descended from the Lamanites,
- The Gentile (non-Mormon) nations, descended from Japheth, another son of Noah., and
- The Saints, or Mormons, the foremost descendants of Shem, around whom all Israel's tribes would eventually rally.

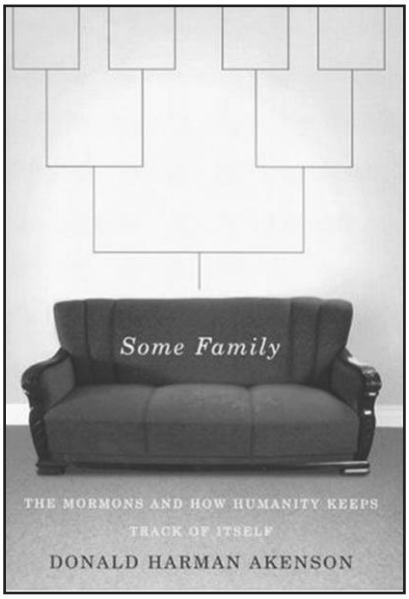
This is an extraordinary concept, and Akenson asks: did most Mormons actually believe this? To take his question a step further: do most people today, regardless of their faith, believe that – if only historical evidence were available – they could trace their biological lineage back to Adam or some other original father?

Akenson's Critique of Mormon Genealogy

The importance of all this for Mormons, and for genealogists who use the reference materials the Mormons have collected, is that it underlies the Mormon practice of patriarchal blessing (a sort of baptizing) of people from the past. Toward this end, Mormons submit names of people who lived in the past for Temple ordinance work. The index to these submissions is the International Genealogical Index that many of us have used to find the trail of our ancestors.

The Mormons are interested in all humanity, so they have generously made their index and their entire genealogical library accessible to genealogists and family historians of all faiths. Many facts recorded in the IGI are unreliable, but the Church has put considerable effort into teaching Saints and Gentiles, alike, how to do good genealogy. The risk, asserts Akenson, is that due to the religious duty of Saints to save people from past generations, Mormons may be overzealous in submitting names and data to the Church.

Genealogy is so compelling because it connects us to our origins. Not origins in the biblical sense because we quickly discover that sources start to run dry the farther we go back before, say 1800. Those sources, in Akenson's word, tend to "privilege" males whose lives in western European history tend to be better documented than the



lives of females. Males may be more privileged in the records, but ironically, paternity is difficult to prove

Akenson argues that genealogy, as the most fundamental form of humanity's collective history, is best understood as narrative. Each genealogical narrative has its own grammar. By grammar, he means the rules that each culture lays down for tracing lineage. Some are patrilineal, others are matrilineal. They can be bilineal or unilineal. He asserts that the kernel genealogical narrative is: "a man and a woman procreated and produced a child who survived." This is the simple, repeating plot that genealogists set out to document across generations.

Akenson contrasts matrilineal and patrilineal lineage systems, emphasizing how dependent definitions of "father" and

"mother" are on culture as opposed to biology. Different cultures in different ages define family relationships differently. When false paternity or adoptions are added to the mix, the chances of genealogical certainty diminish further. Adoptions, whether formal or informal, that obscure biological paternity point up that cultural rules overlay biology. The problem is serious enough, according to Akenson, that "a genealogist will begin to feel it profitless to follow very far a 'blood line' whose sole reason of interest is its putative biological accuracy." (p. 114).

Lessons for Genealogists

Akenson states the hard lesson for genealogists: when an error occurs in a genealogical line, the line stops dead, unless new information can be found. Yes, it's all about evidence. Akenson demonstrates in appendices on false paternity and false maternity that the more generations we cross back in time, the greater the chance of committing an undetected error. The biology simply may be wrong.

This book has an important message for genealogists, but many genealogists will grow impatient with the author. From the beginning, Akenson leads the reader to expect an imminent, clear critique of the LDS genealogy project. Akenson alludes throughout the book to the mountain-sized LDS genealogical database, but he is vague about it all. He first mentions the International Genealogical Index by name on page 200. On the third to last page of the main body of the book, Akenson describes the IGI as a file containing "names and details for persons for whom temple-work has been partially completed." Because of its vast coverage, a researcher stands a good chance of finding the person he or she is looking for in the IGI. But its primary purpose is as an index to LDS ordinances. While it may point the genealogist toward primary sources, it is not in itself adequate evidence for historical research. It would have been helpful if Akenson had defined the IGI and critiqued it earlier in the work and more directly.

Researchers who use the search function at familysearch.org know that the search options include not only the IGI but also the Ancestral File and the Pedigree Resource File. Akenson mentions nothing about the relationship between these files, perhaps because Familysearch.org tells online users virtually nothing about them, only that the IGI "comes from individual research and original records" and contains "names of millions of deceased persons from throughout the world."

Akenson gives the Family History Library credit for its tremendous treasure of microfilm images of primary source materials. This is what good genealogists reach for. As Akenson concludes on the book's last page, if an error enters into a genealogical line, the line must stop there in its tracks unless new and correct information is found. Good genealogists know this.

The appendices of this book have as much meat as the main body. Appendices C and D demonstrate how the chances of false paternity or maternity breaking the biological lineage of a genealogy grow as the genealogy stretches over more generations.

Some Shortcomings of *Some Family*

If you are serious about genealogy as a discipline, read *Some Family* but be prepared for some frustrations.

The vocabulary is difficult; Akenson writes for an academic audience. The book detours through literary theory and anthropology. The section on how the Irish borrowed and re-shaped Christian genealogical narratives to fit into traditional Irish models may be of interest to readers of *The Septs*.

The book's documentation is not flawless. I found two notable problems:

- When Akenson finally talks about the IGI on p. 211, his footnoting falls short. He quotes Allen, Embry and Mehr, "The primary purpose of the IGI, from the [Genealogical] Department's perspective" is as an index to ordinances. This is an important point, so I checked his citation. He simply cites "Allen, Embry and Mehr, 318" but does not name the book. Since *Some Family* has no bibliography, I looked for the named authors in the index which directed me to an endnote from several chapters earlier, which gave the title of "their fine book," but no publication information. The title of Allen, Embry and Merh's book is *Hearts Turned to the Fathers*," but that is all Akenson tells us.

- For such a complex subject, the index is problematic. For example, the con-

'Book Review and commentary' continued on page 100

'Book Review and commentary' continued from page 99

cepts of unilineal and bilineal genealogies are important in the book. Having finished the book and wanting to review these terms I had trouble finding the relevant passages. An index search for "unilineal" notes only p. 302 in the footnote section. The entry under "bilineal" sends the reader to the index entries for "standard double" and "variable double."

Final Thoughts

Some Family carries an important message, but the author could have done the genealogy community a real service by writing a more direct account making his arguments in a more straight-forward manner. This book challenges the reader to think about what it means to do genealogy and about the difference between family history (in a social-cultural sense) and genealogy (in a biological sense).

We tend to assign a higher status to "genealogy" than to "family history." Perhaps, it should be the other way around. We belong to genealogical societies, to the Association of Professional Genealogists, or may be certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. While we are interested in our genetic history, we are researching the social and cultural history of our families. We follow accepted standards for genealogical research, but we also strive to be good historians. We might feel better if we think of ourselves as family historians rather than as genealogists. After all, aren't we really interested in our heritage? We need to place the people in our family tree in the correct social and cultural context, and always be wary of how that context may have influenced the information about parent-child connections that has come down to us.

It Takes a Village for IGSI Too

by Diane Lovrencevic

Do you rely on an organization when doing your research? If you use the Internet to search for ancestors, then some organization has gathered and organized the information on that website; if you go to a historical or genealogical library to find their treasures, then someone has collected and cataloged the items you find; and even the staff in the city clerk's office manages those documents. Any way you look at it, people have taken the time to gather, organize and store information to help you find what you need.

Some organizations have paid staff working for them to provide their services. Others, like IGSI, are totally volunteer organizations. That means that another member like yourself decides to help you by "working" for the Society. This generosity helps us keep a full range of services available to all members. But IGSI is running short of volunteers for vital services.

For more than a year we have been without a Second Vice-President who is in

2007 Volunteers helping to make the organization the best it can be. IGSI thanks these members for all they do. Be part of these fantastic individuals by joining in and giving the time you can.

charge of membership. We are unaware of anyone willing to fill the positions of First Vice President, who heads up the education section of our organization, as well as the Second Vice President for the coming year. It is imperative that we find good people to fill these two key officer positions.

While some members do not live close or have the time to take these positions but there are many jobs waiting to be done, no matter where you may live or how much time you can give. You have some talents that you can share with us.

If you are willing to work on small projects throughout the year, consider helping on one of these:

- **Writing** – We need writers for a number of projects: people who can write short items or longer pieces to be posted on the website; writers to update and change the copy presentation in some IGSI documents; *The Septs* accepts articles from members. Related to this, if you prefer to proofread any of the above, you can help with that as well. Materials are sent by email.

- **Data Entry** – We need members who have the time and willingness to enter information into spreadsheets, which then become data files to place on the website for members to access.

- **Website** – The website editor is always looking for folks to help with the upkeep and corrections that are continually needed.

- **Outreach Individuals** – We would like to hear from people willing to place IGSI membership brochures in local libraries in their towns to promote the Society. But they are spreading the word about us. We also need people to staff a table at local conferences and meetings, using materials from a presentation box from IGSI.

- **Irish Saturday Help** – We need local support of Minnesotans who can make it to Irish Saturday at the MGS Library to help with multiple tasks of organization. You do not need to be a researcher, just someone willing to help out.

Some larger jobs, in addition to the officers, need to be filled:

- **Volunteer Coordinator** – This position works with both volunteers and the Board; it can be done from any location. It involves the notification of volunteers about jobs, needs and leads; it can be done by email.

- **Historian** – This individual will keep track of the major changes, officers and activities of the organization year by year. This can be done by anyone anywhere since it is put together digitally and the individual will receive information by email.

- **PIP (Periodical Index Project) Coordinator** – This individual needs to be available in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area and would work on the next periodical database.

There are a couple of new projects we have identified but do not have anyone with the talents to fill them. Can you help out?

- **Outreach/Marketing** – This position needs to be developed. Our goal is to reach out and connect with members and other organizations across the United States.

- **eNewsletter Editor** – We would like to establish a one or two page newsletter about the organization and with tips on research. The editor would receive information from committees and board members.

Without the help of YOU, our members, we cannot continue to improve and be a leader in the field of Irish genealogical research. Regardless of how much time you have to help IGSI, pitch in and help us get the job done.

For more information on any of these jobs contact volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org.

Need a Little Research Assistance?

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI staff search our Library for information requested by a current member.

With your request for research assistance, send

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- *Emigrant Savings Bank, New York* - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- *O'Kiefe, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- *The Search for Missing Friends*, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot*.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

If you are interested in research involving other publications or sources, send us a query. We will advise you if it can be searched.

The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of tube.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge.

'Digitisation of Irish Records' continued from page 74

The National Archives of England and Wales

The National Archives Kew contains a vast amount of material concerning Ireland that is potentially of interest to the Irish family history researcher. For example, there is the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund (T91) founded in 1822 and covering the areas of Counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Limerick, Cork and Sligo.

Other repositories with collections of interest to the Irish genealogist include the National Library, the Representative Church Body Library, University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin, Local Authority Archives and Libraries.

Irish Family history researchers have traditionally worked very hard to get around the significant gaps in the records left by the many archival disasters in Irish history. Digitisation of the many and varied sources such as those in this article offers great hope to Irish genealogists wishing to take their research further.

Brian Donovan, CEO Eneclann Ltd.
Fiona Fitzsimons, APGI, Director Research Eneclann Ltd.
Cathy McCartney, Eneclann Ltd.

Eneclann is offering a 15% discount on all of CDs to IGSI members. This discount is available for any CDs in the regular collection or their Archive CD Books of Ireland. Archive CD Books Ireland is part of the Archive CD Books Project internationally. It is publishing rare books on CD-ROM from Trinity College Dublin Library and other libraries and archives throughout Ireland. To get your discount for any of Eneclann CDs when ordering be sure to find the discount code on the IGSI Members site. Eneclann can be contacted on info@eneclann.ie or at www.eneclann.ie

For further savings use Eneclann's discount to Irish Origins, its genealogical website found at http://www.Origins.net/.

Irish At Home & Abroad:

Out of Print But Still Available

by Beth Mullinax

The Irish Genealogical Society, Intl. is the only U.S. distributor of remaining copies of the journal titled *The Irish At Home and Abroad*. While this journal, co-edited by Dwight A. Radford and Kyle J. Betit, remains an excellent resource for Irish research, it stopped publication with its last issue 4th Quarter 1999. Ten years have passed since the publication of these journals but their offerings are still important to the researcher. The following issues are currently available for purchase from IGSI.

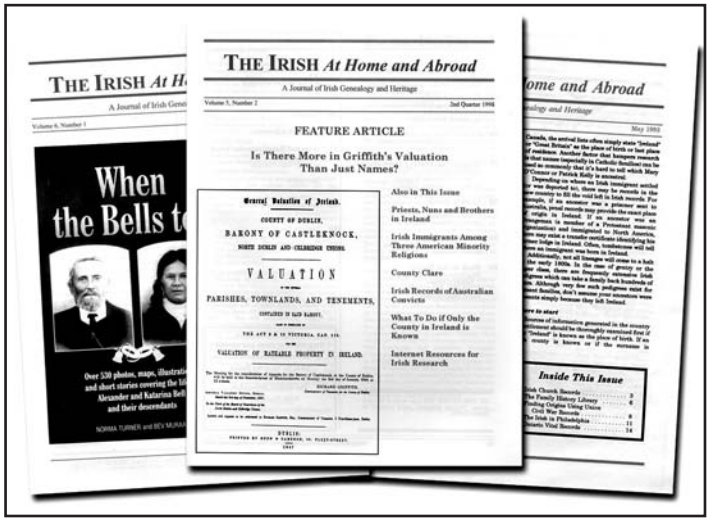
Vol. 4, No 3 KILKENNY
Registration Births, Marriages, Deaths in Canada; Richard Griffith & His Valuations of Ireland; Irish Emigrant Passenger Lists; Researching Catholic Nuns, Brothers & Priests in the U.S. for Place of Origin; Irish Immigration to Argentina; Heritage Centres in Ireland; Early Scots-Irish Research in Tennessee (1768-1840).

Vol. 4, No 4 KERRY
Early Scots-Irish research in KY; Civil War Draft Records; "And Be It Enacted": Scottish Poor Law and Its Records; Irish Immigration to South Africa: An Historical Introduction; Records of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in the U.S.

Vol. 5, No 1 LEITRIM
Irish Place Names & The Immigrant; Early Scots-Irish Research in SC; What to Do if the Origin in Ireland is Unknown; Using Canadian Newspapers to Find Genealogical Information; Irish Repeal Societies in North America; Researching the Irish in Argentina.

Vol. 5, No 2 CLARE
There is More in Griffith's Valuation Than Just Names; Irish Records of Australian Convicts; What to do if Only the County in Ireland is Known.

Vol. 5, No 3 CARLOW
Irish Newspapers; Irish in Milwaukee; Identifying Immigrant Origins Using U.S. Land Records; British Army Regiments in New Zealand; What To Do if a Parish in Ireland is Known.



Vol. 5, No 4 ANTRIM
What to do if Townland in Ireland is Known; Early Scots-Irish Research in Ohio; Canadian Land Records as an Immigration Source; Death Notices in South Africa.

Vol. 6, No 1
The Irish as Maori; The Irish in Alberta; Finding Irish Estate Papers; Irish Girls in Famine Workhouses & the Australian Connection; North American Church Records for Tracing Irish Immigrant.

Vol. 6, No 2 WEXFORD
Church of Ireland Records at the Representative Church Body Library, Dublin; American Lineage Society Records for Identifying Immigrant Origins.

Vol. 6, No 3 BELFAST CITY
Irish Militia & Yeomanary Records; Confederate Pension Records; The Scots-Irish at Catawba; South African Church Records; The British Parliamentary Papers: Their Use in Australian Genealogy.

Vol. 6, No 4
Irish Freeholders, Freemen & Voting Registers; Catholic Qualification Rolls; Leases for Lives in Ireland; U.S. War of 1812 American Records; Argentina Church & Cemetery Records for Researching Irish Immigrants.

Beth Mullinax has been the IGSI librarian since the Library's inception. She has been instrumental in building the Irish research collection, housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's Library, to its status as one of the best in the USA. She has served as an officer and IGSI Board member since 1983. She lectures on many research topics and regularly contributes to The Septs.

Changes the Norm: IGSI Website Report

by Diane Lovrencevic

From December 2007 through February 2008, work on the website centered on updating and fixing problems.

Bookstore: In January, I worked extensively with the Online Bookstore. PayPal was activated for purchases, and then problems which arose from that were fixed. Most items offered in the bookstore needed to have the item's graphic re-linked, re-scanned or provided. Inventory was taken, training provided and costs updated on the site. New offerings and new pages were added to the bookstore menu. Other issues remain with this portion of our website but we now have a functioning online bookstore.

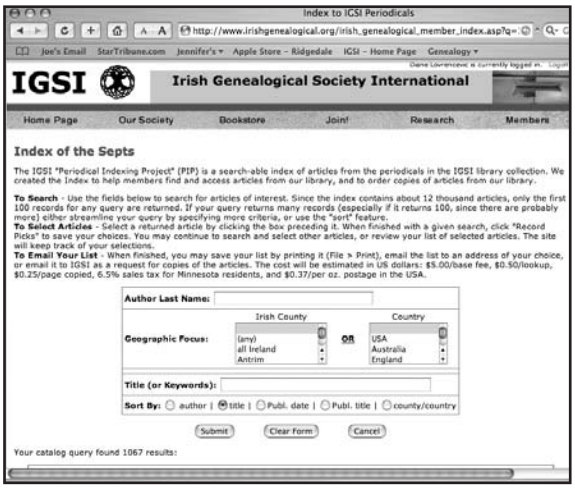
New to the bookstore site is the 'Featured Books' page which allows members to see the discounted books available through the IGSI Bookstore.

Updating: After the move, I made changes to information on the website related to library hours, map to library and the IGSI address. In the Leadership area of the site documents such as letterhead, fax and reimbursement form were updated.

Volunteer Section: Check out the new photos, new volunteer spotlight and a section for volunteer recognition awards – all of which were added.

Continual Updates: Such tasks as updating the calendar of events, freshening the IGSI News and home pages are a recurring job. Suggestions from committee chairs and board members help – whether it is adding something to the home page about needing Board Members, posting the latest board minutes in the Leadership section, or uploading the latest Septs issue. Suggestions and ideas from other members are welcome as well.

The Septs: Adding the journals to the website is not as simple as just uploading the files. There are a number of items to be entered on different screens to get the look and search capabilities we have. One area needing more attention is in the 'Index of the genealogically significant entries'. We are behind in entering this info. I need help with this. If interested, please contact me at Webeditor@IrishGenealogical.org.



You can search back issues of The Septs *for genealogically significant information by author, title and keyword in the articles. Note: this capability does not cover the most recent years as no one is working on this project.*

Diane Lovrencevic is the web editor and Volunteer coordinator of IGSI, among other volunteer positions for the organization. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of the publications of IGSI. Diane has been researching her family history for 18 years and has moved on to her husband's Irish ancestors. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

COUNTY CAVAN: A historic farm situated in the townlands of Ardrum and Aughaddark, the property of the late Mr. Patrick Maguire, J.P., Bawnboy, and containing 43 acres, has been sold for £915 to a Mr. O'Dowd, a young man now in America, who emigrated some years ago from the neighborhood of Baltimore. The farm was held by the greatest conversationalist Ireland ever produced – the Very Rev. Thomas Maguire, P.P., and it was in the dwellinghouse on the farm he breathed his last as the result of the poison administered by Anne Margaghan at the instigation of his enemies.

COUNTY WICKLOW: Justice Boyd in the King's Branch (Civil Side) of April 21, granted the petition of Wm. Waters, a farmer of Knickarigg, Grangecan, County Wicklow, who had been sued by Miss Mary Smith, of Harristown, for breach of promise for a short adjournment, in which he was sure the difference between himself and the lady could be patched up.

The Irish Standard, May 19, 1908

James O'Leary of Chicago, a Civil War Veteran, Traveled to Jersey City to Repay a $25 Loan.

Mr. O'Leary said that when he came to this country from Ireland fifty years ago, Mr. Davis's father, now dead loaned him $25 to pay his way from Jersey City to Pittsburg, telling him to pay it back when he could spare the money... he drifted about the West with varying fortune until 1800, when he went to Chicago, and with $20... opened a fruit stand.... he is now comparatively wealthy....

New York Times May 7, 1908

At 105 She Tells How to Live: Gran'ma Graham, Connecticut's Oldest Woman, Says Work Hard and Go to Bed Early...

She was born in the North of Ireland, her mother dying just twelve weeks later. Her father then enlisted in the army and died on the battlefield, although in what war... [she] can't remember. Her paternal grandfather, William Graham, then took charge of her, and she emigrated to this country with him in 1841. They went to Buffalo, ... Albany, ... in 1881... to Norwich.

She drinks 3-4 cups of tea a day, and toasted her birthday visitors:

"Here is health, wealth, meat, and meal
"To serve well wish and shield,
"That Satan may rook them in a creel,
"That don't wish us all weel."

New York Times May 10, 1908

IGSI Annual Meeting And Quarterly Program

Saturday, May 17, 2008

Hearing Voices: When Great Grandmothers Speak

Presented by Maureen Kennedy Reed

Registration 8:30 AM **Business Meeting** 9:00 AM • **Program** 10:00 AM

Cost: Members $5 • Non-members $10

Maureen Kennedy Reed's 100 percent Irish lineage originates in four counties of Ireland and includes twelve surnames. Her genealogic exploration gave rise to "Two Hands on the Plow," a full length play inspired by the lives and sacrifices of 19th century Irish immigrant women. This is her family's Irish immigrant history: the arrival in the US of young Irish women, their initial experience in an East coast city, and their further migration to the distant Midwest (that is, Minnesota). A portion of this play was presented at the 2007 Minnesota Irish Fair.

Dr. Reed grew up in Redwood Falls, Minnesota, and graduated from the University of Minnesota Medical School. She practiced internal medicine in the Twin Cities for more than two decades. She served on the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota. She and her husband live in Grant, Minnesota.

This presentation recognizes Irish heritage and its contribution to Minnesota in this year of the celebration of the Sesquicentennial Anniversary (1858 - 2008) of Minnesota's statehood.

Please join IGSI for this event at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library, 1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul, MN.

Constitution Of The Irish Genealogical Society International

Branch Of The Minnesota Genealogical Society

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Irish Genealogical Society International, a branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, hereinafter referred to as the IGSI and MGS, respectively.

ARTICLE II- PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be exclusively educational and specifically shall be to assist our members and the community at large with the discovery of their Irish ancestry through activities which may include:

A. Maintaining a library
B. Publishing a quarterly journal
C. Providing a website with Irish genealogy related material
D. Providing classes and quarterly programs both at home and on an outreach basis
E. Supporting Irish genealogically related projects
F. Providing research services
G. Providing an Irish genealogy bookstore
H. Producing compilations and indexes of Irish genealogy related material

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership in the IGSI shall be open to any person or organization whose interest is in the study of Irish genealogy.

B. Full membership in IGSI requires payment of dues annually. Dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors and approved at a General Meeting. Any proposed increase in dues shall be published in the IGSI journal prior to the General Meeting at which time the vote shall be taken to approve the increase, determined by a simple majority of members present.

C. The Board of Directors shall define what Categories of Membership shall be offered and decide if, when, and for how long any Complimentary Membership shall be extended to an individual.

D. Full membership shall entitle a member to receive mailings and other benefits from IGSI such as the IGSI journal, emails and notices of events, IGSI website member access, use of the library, research assistance, and society related discounts.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND MANAGERS

A. Organization. The affairs of the Society shall be coordinated by a Board of Directors. Ultimate responsibility and authority shall reside in the Board. Day-to-day operations shall be provided by the Managers whose actions are subject to approval by the Board.

B. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Society Officers, elected by and responsible to the general membership of the Society, and the Society Managers. The Board shall:

- establish policy consistent with the policies of the MGS
- oversee and manage all operational and business affairs of the Society.

- direct the activities of the Society in a well-planned and practical manner for the benefit of the membership
- operate the Society as a non-profit organization so that no part of the organization's assets shall benefit any single individual
- establish, monitor and adjust sound fiscal management policies to assure that Society expenditures are allocated for educational purposes according to the requirements of the IRS code for non-profit organizations and to oversee and manage the funds of the Society such that none of its actions shall conflict with the purposes of the Society or MGS.

C. Officers. The officers of the IGSI shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President. a Secretary, a Treasurer, and the immediate Past President, all of whom shall be members of the IGSI and of the MGS. Officers are responsible for:
- providing leadership
- implementing operating procedures
- fulfilling duties assigned them by the Board
- handling emergency situations between Board meetings.

D. Managers shall consist of five volunteers appointed by the Board drawn from such positions as The Septs Managing Editor, The Septs Editor, the Website Editor, the Librarian, Research Chairperson, the Book Sales Chairperson, and Volunteer Coordinator. The Managers are responsible for the day to day operational activities of the Society.

E. A quorum of the Board of Directors Meetings shall consist of five members of the Board of Directors, three of whom must be elected officers.

F. Ad Hoc Committees shall be formed at the discretion of the Board. The Chairs of each shall be appointed by the President, who shall be an ex-officio member of these committees, except the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

A. IGSI Meetings. IGSI shall hold General Membership Meetings at least four times a year. The purpose of these meetings shall be to provide general business information to the members, and genealogical and historical information that help members with their research.

'The Constitution of the Irish Genealogical Society International' continued on page 108

Changes to the IGSI Constitution for Adoption on May 17, 2008

Overall, the intent of this revision of the IGSI Constitution is to realign our constitution with that of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, our parent organization, and to update information related to the Board of Directors. A major change is to convert the IGSI fiscal year to the same fiscal year of MGS. Listed below are some of the specific changes. **Members can find and view the current Constitution through the Organizational Information link on the left-hand navigation bar at the Members Home Page.**

Article II – Purpose.
This updates the purpose of the society to include the activities that the IGSI promotes to educate and assist members with their Irish genealogy research.

Article III – Membership, paragraph D.
This updates the benefits that members receive.

Article IV Officers - Board of Directors, Executive and Other Committees and Article V Meetings.
The numbering of these articles is switched for better understanding and definition. There is a change in terminology from Executive Committee to Managers; the roles of the Officers, Managers and the Board of Directors state what each is currently doing. In Article V, a quorum for IGSI Board meetings is defined and the definition of meetings includes electronic means.

Article VIII – Fiscal Policy and Financial Management.
This changes the fiscal year of IGSI from July 1 through June 30 to January 1 through December 31, effective January 2009. It also amends the Dissolution Policy, in the event of an involuntary dissolution, so that all property belonging to IGSI is given to MGS with any balance to the University of St. Thomas.

'Constitution of the Irish Genealogical Soceiety International' continued from page 107

Any reports submitted by a member of the Board of Directors to the general membership at the meeting should first be accepted and approved by the Board of Directors.

B. Annual Meetings. The General Meeting held in May shall be designated as the Annual Meeting. Elections for Officers shall be held at this meeting. Officers will take office the following July 1.

C. Board of Directors Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors, referred to as the Board, shall be set by the President. There shall be no fewer than four Board meetings per year. Special Board Meetings may be called by the President.

D. IGSI Meetings. Meetings can be held in person, by electronic means or a combination of both.

E. A Quorum - A Quorum to act upon business at all IGSI general meetings shall be a simple majority of members in good standing who are present at the meeting.

ARTICLE VI - NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A. The Immediate Past President shall chair and form the Nominating Committee, which shall present the Board with a slate of Officers to be elected. This slate shall be published in the IGSI journal distributed immediately before the Annual Meeting in May. Should no candidate be nominated for an office by publication of said journal, then nominations may be taken from the floor and elections proceed.

B. The Nominating Committee shall determine the eligibility of all candidates for office and their willingness to serve. All officers shall be members of the IGSI and MGS.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTION PROCEDURES AND TERMS OF OFFICE

A. The officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in May. If for any reason elections cannot be held at that time, the current officers shall continue to serve until the next General Meeting at which time elections shall be held.

B. Election of officers shall be by secret ballot unless only one person has been nominated for a given office, in which case a voice vote maybe taken.

C. Election of officers shall be by a simple majority vote of the members attending the meeting.

D. All Officers shall take office on July 1 following their elections, unless the elections had to be postponed, in which case they shall take office on the first of the next month following their elections.

E. All Officers shall be elected for a one year term; however, no person shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

F. Should an Officer be unable to complete a term of office, a written resignation shall be presented to the Board. In an emergency, a vocal resignation shall be acceptable.

G. If a person is not fulfilling his or her position, and cannot be contacted, or after being contacted does not wish to resign, the Board may remove that person by a three quarters vote of the total Board, for the well being of the Society.

H. Vacancies in an office shall be filled by the President, with the consent of the Board, for the remainder of the term of office.

ARTICLE VIII - FISCAL POLICY AND FINANACLAL MANAGEMENT

A. The fiscal year for IGSI shall be January 1 through December 31 of the same year. This change in fiscal year duration shall take effect on January 1, 2009.

B. The IGSI is a non-profit organization. It shall not issue shares of stock, and it shall pay no dividends or profits to the organizers, officers or members.

C. No activity of any IGSI Board or Committee member, acting individually or as a whole, shall jeopardize the non-profit standing of IGSI or MGS.

D. The Treasurer shall be required to make quarterly reports to the Treasurer of the MGS.

E. The Treasurer shall present the Annual Budget to the Board for its acceptance before approval at the first General Meeting of the Fiscal Year.

F. Each year the Treasurer shall submit the IGSI financial records to the MGS Audit Committee for consideration.

G. Dissolution Policy. The IGSI shall protect its property, collections, assets in the event of voluntary dissolution: first, to satisfy any liabilities and obligations, and secondly, with the remaining assets, to distribute them for exclusively educational purposes to one or more genealogical or historical societies, libraries, museums or educational institutions in the State of Minnesota operated or incorporated in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Statutes and Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In the event of involuntary dissolution, title to such property, collections and assets shall be vested in the Minnesota Genealogical Society in whole or in part, and any remainder to be vested in the University of St. Thomas. The IGSI shall keep proper records for the protection of the interests of its donors and contributors.

ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the IGSI in all cases where they are applicable.

ARTICE X - AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any General Meeting by a simple majority vote of the members in attendance provided that the proposed amendments shall have been published and explained in one IGSI Journal prior to the General Meeting.

Ask Connemara Kate

by Beth Mullinax

Dear Kate: My family has many 'stories' of our immigrant ancestors. How do I find which are correct and which are not?

Answer: I find that most all family stories have a ring of truth in them, but don't take them as fact unless you can prove them. It is usually easier to prove which stories are not true. Sometimes, the stories are exaggerated or confused with other stories. In most cases, you are dealing with happenings of 100 years ago or more.

I've found family stories to be most useful; if not exact, they give a place and timeline to check. One family story stated that a family member came to Minnesota and worked at logging to bring over the rest of the family. The story had the family incorrect. The family I found was married into the family that the story had mentioned. So, it was the same 'family' just a different part of the family. Also, they logged in Canada, not Minnesota. This is where the timeline helped as I knew they were all in Canada having children before coming to the U.S. It does make it harder if you are looking for the wrong surname, but keep this in mind when researching. Use all the surnames in the particular family.

One of the biggest mistakes researchers make is to ignore these stories when they can't prove them exactly. Remember the times; use your imagination a little, and take into account the times and conditions of your ancestors' lives.

Most of these 'stories' come to us in letters written years after the events. Reread the letters, stories and all the information you have gathered at least once a year. Each time you read them something new might appear – not because someone has added information to your letter, but because your knowledge of the family has expanded since the last time you read them. It may also help to 'tell' these stories to other researchers who may find something you haven't.

Write for *The Septs*

The theme for the July 2008 issue of *The Septs* is Emigration, Immigration and New Citizenship. Consider writing something about Naturalization and passport records, your ancestors' experiences in emigration, or similar topics. While our themes focus on Ireland, we are happy to accept articles on broader aspects of the topic.

We welcome all contributions. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to *The Septs* publication date. Submission date is May 1st for the July 2008 issue andAugust 1 for the October 2008 issue.

You can share your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history and become part of this publication. If you prefer not to write, recommend an author to us – someone active in genealogy – and we'll contact them. Send items of note to the Irish genealogical community and we'll include the information. As a society-based publication, *The Septs* thrives on the international diversity and expertise of its members.

We also welcome articles on topics not related to the themes described below. Tom Rice, Managing Editor, will work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community. E-mail: Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org.

Future themes include:

October 2008	Finding Your Ancestor's Place of Origin in Ireland
January 2009	Irish Social, Religious, Political, Cultural and Fraternal Organizations
April 2009	Siblings as a Genealogy Source and Goal -- i.e. why and how to study an ancestor's siblings
July 2009	Artifacts and Home Records as a Source -- e.g. Bible, pictures, letters, memorial cards

Irish Genealogical Society International

Membership

❑ Renew Member Mem No. _____
❑ New Member

Exp. Date _____

US Residents

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Postal Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Non-US Residents

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province/County _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

SURNAMES
Irish and Scot-Irish surnames only. PLEASE PRINT
One surname spelling and one Irish County per line please.
Surnames are searchable on the IGSI website www.IrishGenealogical.org Non-internet users may contact us.

	Surname	Ireland County (locale if known)	Other Country (locale) - [needn't write USA]
Example	*Stack*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*Can-QC; OH, MN (Rice Co), AZ*

Place additional surnames on blank sheet of paper.

PAYMENT

1 Year membership (US $25) US $ _____
Additional cost to mail THE SEPTS Journal outside USA (US $5) US $ _____
Donation - US tax deductible (Thank You) US $ _____

TOTAL US $ _____

❑ Check (Payable to IGSI) Preferred
❑ Credit Card ❑ MC ❑ Visa

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Mail to
IGSI Membership
1185 Concord St N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Gleanings

by Beth Mullinax

Donations to IGSI

The Society appreciates the generosity of our members. We offer a special thank you to those members who have donated more than $10 during the last quarter.

Mary Margaret Brown
Joseph Carroll
Don Cohn
Barbara Dick Curnow
Mark Delaney
James B. Dougherty
Alice Finnegan
James D. Grady
John T. Hackett
Katyleen Horan-Grambsch
Judy Janney
Loretta E. Kelleher
Mona Lamkin
Francis T. Martin
Richard T. McMurray
Margaret Mary Murnane
Patricia A. O'Connor
Beatrice C. Peyer
Maureen Reed
Janet Kane Ruddy
James T. Sugrue

HERE –
You are still coming to the library from all over the U.S.! Welcome! Giving us notice of your trip can not only help us plan, but we can sometimes have at least part of your research done for you. If there are any questions on the library, please let us know.

TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association)
Irish Family History at Sea! A Cruise for Families and Friends, sponsored by TIARA. There will be a three day genealogy conference while at sea. Dates: Jan 10 through Jan 18, 2009. For further information contact Mary Ellen Grogan at megrogan@ix.netcom.com. IGSI has a few of the brochures if you wish to contact us. Bon Voyage!

TIARA is also taking a genealogy research trip to Salt Lake City, October 19 – October 26, 2008. For information write Janis Duffy, TIARA, 90 Quincy Shore Drive, Unit 409, No. Quincy, MA 02171.

THERE –
IRELAND
Irish Tourist Board
If you are interested in any travel in Ireland, check their official website at http://www.ireland.travel.ie/home/.

Irish Family History Society announced that the 1911 census for Dublin City and County was launched on the internet as a free service on 2nd December 2007. Website is: http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie. Other counties will be added on an ongoing basis with an expected completion date of December 2008. They hope to have the 1901 census available in 2009.

CANADA
Nova Scotia has announced its historical vital statistics is now online. For further information visit: http://www.novascotiagenealogy.com or contact Lois Yorke, Director Public Services at yorkelk@gov.ns.ca.

Quebec. The 28th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldical Sciences, to be held at the Convention Center in Quebec City from June 23rd to June 27th, 2008. If interested, check their Internet site: http://www.cisgh-icghs2008.org.

Saskatchewan Genealogical Society has moved. Their new address 1514 – 11th Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan. For further information check their website: http://saskgenealogy.com.

CLANS TOO!
Moriarty Clan – Still very active with their newsletter, The Moriarty Clan, published by Thomas Moriarty and Associates, Inc., 9836 S. Turner Avenue, Evergreen Park, IL 60805. E Mail: jf-moriarty@sbcglobal,net Contact them for a free newsletter.

The Tierney Clans Society, Naomh Antoine, 1 Oaklawn, Castleknock Road, Dublin 15, Ireland.
E-Mail: otighearnaigh@eircom.net
Website: http://homepage.eircom.net/~thetierneyclan
Their 2008 Clan Gathering will be August 22nd to August 25th. Check their website for more information.

It is not too early to send in your 2009 reunions!

Library Acquisitions
October, November, December 2007

PURCHASES –

H315 – *The People's Rising, Wexford 1798*, by Daniel Gahan. Dublin, Ireland: Gill & Macmillan Ltd, 1995. 367 p., illus., maps, indexed.

H623 – *In the Shadow of the Mines*, by Joe and Seamus Walsh. Castlecomer, Ireland: S. Walsh, 1999. 217 p., illus., maps. [Local History of Castlecomer and District, County Kilkenny.]

H624 – *Cape Clear Island: Its People and Landscape*, by Eamon Lankford. Cork, Ireland: Cape Clear Museum, 1999. 162 p., illus., maps. [History of a West Cork Island.]

H625 – *The Story of Aughinish*, by Rose Glynn. Ireland: Rose Glynn, 2002. 91 p., illus. [Aughinish is an island west of Dooras. Aughinish is in County Clare although Dooras is County Galway.]

H626 – *While Mem'ry Brings us Back Again: A Collection of Memoirs*, compiled by Frances Browner. Yonkers, NY: Aisling Irish Community Center, , 2006. 296 p., illus. [This is a volume of memoirs by Irish emigrants to the U.S. between 1927-1964.]

J174 – *Exploring Family Origins, Tipperary Town Roots*, by Noel Farrell. Longford, Ireland: Noel Farrell, 2007. 48 p., maps, illus. Includes 42 townlands around Tipperary Town, Griffith's Valuation, Tithes, etc. [This is the 30th 'Roots' book that Mr. Farrell has published. All are in our library and are for sale in our bookstore.]

J175 – *Tracing Your Roscommon Ancestors*, by John Hamrock. Glenageary, County Dublin, Ireland: Flyleaf Press, 2007. 160 p., maps, illus. Available in the IGSI Bookstore.

K121 – *Greystones Presbyterian Church 1887-1987 and the Kilpedder Witness from 1851. County Wicklow*, Ireland: Kirk Session and Committee of Greystones Presbyterian Church, 1987. 112 p., illus., indexed. [Greystones is in Delgany Civil Parish, County Wicklow]

K122 – *The Irish Quakers: A Short History of the Religious Society of Friends in Ireland*, by Maurice J. Wigham. Dublin: Historical Committee of the Religious Society of Friends in Ireland, 1992. 173 p., illus.

L100 – *Founding Families of Beckwith Township 1816-1846* [Lanark County, Ontario], by Carol Bennett McCuaig. Renfrew, Ontario: Juniper Books Ltd., 2007. 199 p., indexed, map.

L101 – *The Canadian Genealogical Sourcebook*, by Ryan Taylor. Ottawa, Ontario: Canadian Library Association, 2004. 158 p.

L102 – *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853*, by Terrence M. Punch, FRSAI. Baltimore MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2008. 196 p., maps, index of persons and ships. [Covers Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador.]

S050 – *O Driscolls Past and Present*, by Eamon Lankford. County Cork, Ireland: Cape Clear Museum, 2005. 191 p., illus., map, family genealogy chart. [Area of Carbery Region, West Cork, O Driscoll Clan History.]

MGS – *Church of St. Bridget, Minneapolis, MN*, 2 rolls microfilm. Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Baptismal 1915 – 1993; Marriage 1915 – 1993; Death 1915 – 1993.

DONATIONS –

H145 – *Houses of Kerry*, by Valerie Bary. County Clare, Ireland: Ballinakella Press, 1994, 247+ p., illus., indexed. Donated by Patricia O'Connor, Bellevue, WA.

H627 – *Spalpeens and Tattie Hokers: History and Folklore of the Irish Migratory Agricultural Workers in Ireland and Britain*, by Anne O'Dowd. Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland: Irish Academic Press, 1991. 441 p., maps, graphs, indexed. Donated by Patricia O'Connor, Bellevue, WA.

K123 – *The Catholic Church and the Famine*, by Donal Kerr. Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland: The Columba Press, 1996. 96 p., indexed. Donated by Patricia O'Connor, Bellevue, WA.

FH – *With a Compass in My Butt: John Moonan Fitzgerald's Life Story*, by John Fitzgerald and Sheila Fitzgerald. Edina, MN: Lily Pad Publishing, 2007. 133 p., illus. Donated by Sheila Fitzgerald, St. Paul, MN.

MGS – *Notable Men of the West, including Members of the U.S, Supreme Court and Prominent Lawyers and Business Men in the Western States. Chicago*, IL: The Inter Ocean Newspaper Company, 1902. 219 p., pictures, indexed. Donated by Patricia O'Connor, Bellevue, WA.

MGS – *St. Joseph the Worker Church*, Maple Grove, MN, 4 rolls microfilm. Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Baptismal 1875 – 1990; Marriage 1875 – 1990; Death 1875 – 1990; Communion 1878 – 1888; Confirmation 1878 – 1890. Donated by Pat Eaton, New Hope, MN.

PER - *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society and Surrounding Districts, Volume I, 1891-1895; Vol. III, 1899 – 1902; Vol. IV, 1903 – 1905; and Vol. VI, 1909 - 1911*. Dublin, Ireland: Edward Ponsonby, 1895. 418 p., illus., maps, charts. Donated by Ronald Eustice, Savage, MN.

Ordnance Survey Maps
Half-Inch Series

IGSI has the last of these out-of print maps. This map helped many find those elusive townlands that do not show up on other maps. When in doubt, IGSI will help members find the correct map whether it is the Half-Inch Map or the Discovery Series Map.

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T.W. Moody and F.X. Martin

This book has been the core text in both Irish and American Universities for three decades. Considered the definitive history among the Irish themselves, it is the essential text for anyone interested in the history of Ireland. (462 pp.) *Order Book #H001*

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New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland - 2nd Edition
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This 2nd Edition is invaluable for tracing pre-1864 ancestors in church records and for locating post-1864 ancestors in civil records, with maps and descriptions of the civil administrative divisions to which all major Irish are linked. (175 pp.) *Order Book #A011*

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The Surnames of Ireland
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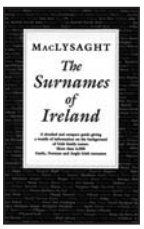
A detailed and compact guide giving a wealth of information on the background of Irish family names. More than 4,000 Gaelic, Norman and Anglo-Irish surnames. An explanation of technical terms in the text; location of ancient territories; and ancient population groups is included. (313 pp.) Order Book #S014 **$18.95**



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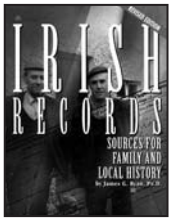

Tracing Your Irish Roots
Christine Kinealy

Learn how to undertake a genealogical search and develop it as far as possible using parish registers, census returns, gravestone inscriptions, newspapers, and birth, death, and marriage certificates. Find family information online. (96 pp.) *Order Book #J151*

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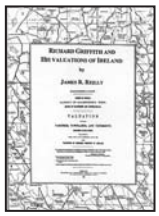
Richard Griffith And His Valuations Of Ireland
James R. Reilly

All Irish genealogies end up relying on Griffith's Valuations to locate ancestral homelands and discover relationships. This book does a superb job of revealing the full richness of what can be found in a listing in Griffith's. (108 pp.) Order Book #G035



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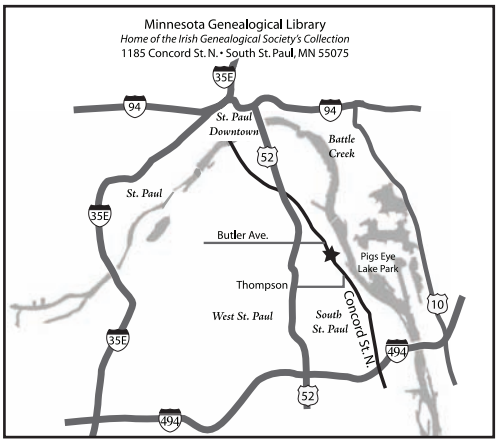

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The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

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The Septs

Volumne 29, Number 3

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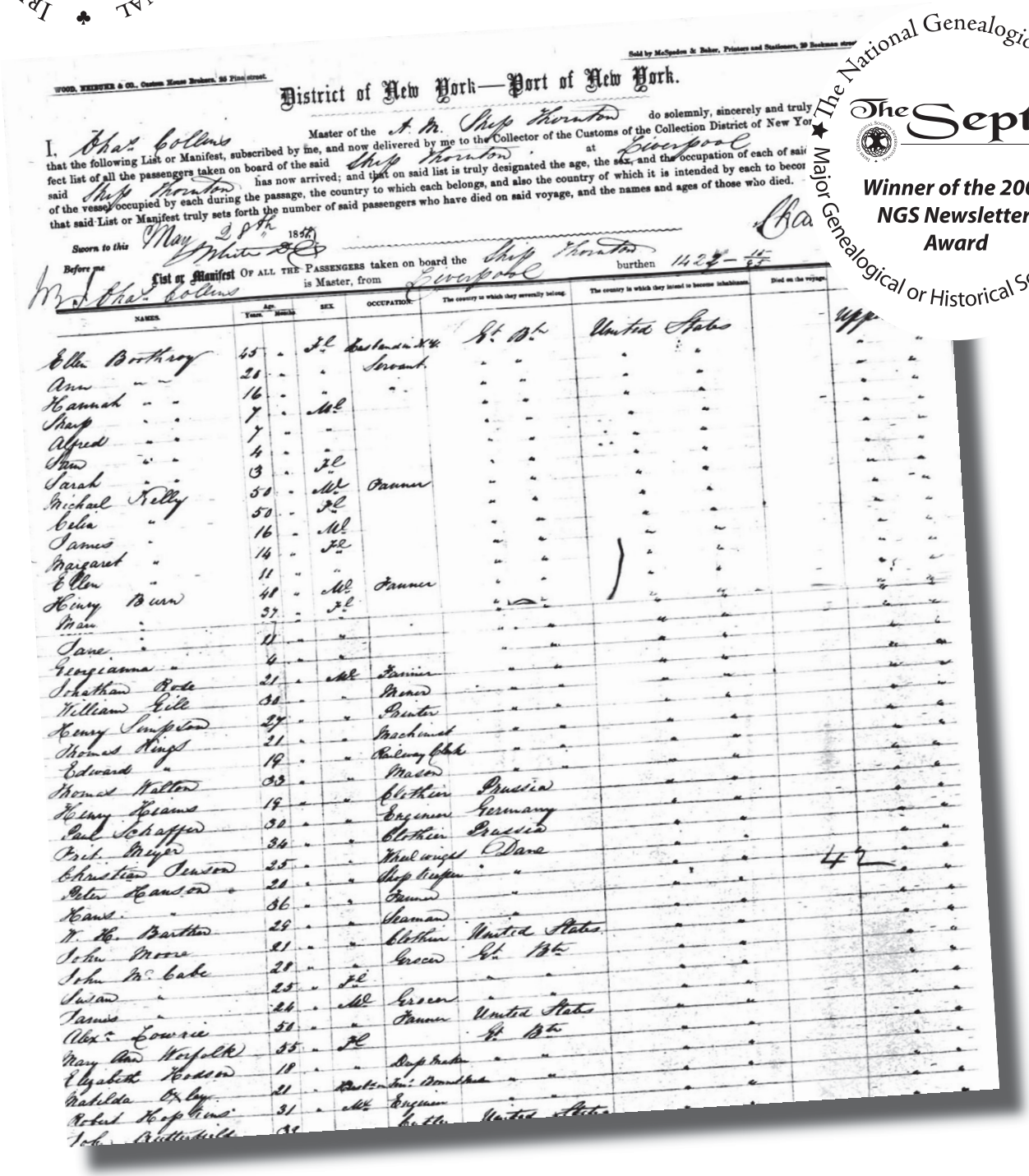

Emigration and Immigration

2008 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 12, 2008
FEBRUARY 9, 2008
MARCH 8, 2008
APRIL 12, 2008
MAY 10, 2008
JUNE 14, 2008
JULY 12, 2008
AUGUST 9, 2008
SEPTEMBER 13, 2008
OCTOBER 11, 2008
NOVEMBER 8, 2008
DECEMBER (Library Closed)
(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Informal class for beginners at the library 10:30 am on the above dates. Other classes offered throughout the year. MGS Library number 651-455-9057.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218 • South St. Paul, MN 55075
Web site address: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org
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Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

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Material intended for publication is due the 1st of February, May, August and November. Material should be mailed to the address above, ATTN: Editor, and may be published or edited at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2008-2009

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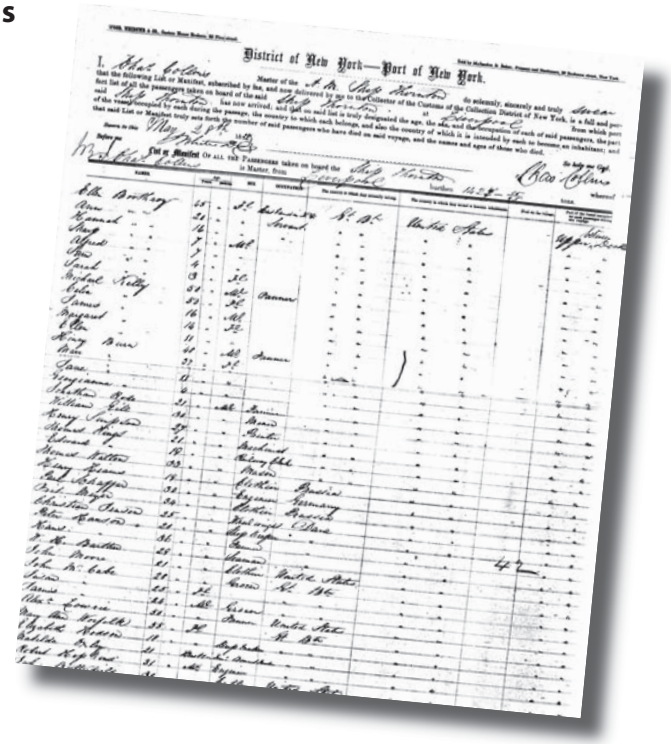


President's Letter

Legacies

by Laurie Hanover

As we begin a new and shortened fiscal year for IGSI, I want to thank all of our wonderful volunteers and the Board. I am convinced that we have the best and most dedicated volunteers of any group. A thank you to Beth Mullinax, our Librarian; to Tom Rice, *The Septs* Managing Editor; to Ann Eccles, *The Septs* Editor, and to Diane Lovrencevic, *The Septs* Layout Editor, Website Editor, and Volunteer Coordinator. Without these distinctive volunteers, the Society would not be able to function as well as it does. For more information on some of our active volunteers, see the article on page 155.

I want to thank the membership for their confidence in electing me President of IGSI for another year. Thank you also to Kevina Munnich, returning as our Secretary, and to Bob Zimmerman, returning as our Treasurer. A special thank you to Frank Braun, our retiring Second Vice President for all his work this past year and the speaker engagement legacy he leaves behind. Frank is a well connected and networked member of the Irish community in the Twin Cities area and we'll miss him on the Board. A special thank you to Linda Miller, our Past President, who will assume the publicity tasks of the Second Vice President position for the coming year. I am grateful to have her back on the Board. I am also excited about the potential leads for the First Vice President position to handle building our membership

In May, a tornado hit Hugo, Minnesota, a small town north of St. Paul. My father's family lived in Hugo for three generations and many are buried there. The tornado hit the "new" area where many young families now reside, and where five of my sons' friends settled. One friend lived next door to a home that was destroyed. The pictures he sent us showed the destruction and young men, women, and children looking bewildered and shell-shocked. His wife said she felt a need to write about that terrible evening so that her two small children would know what they went through when they were grown. But she also felt that she would be prolonging an already difficult situation. I told her that the tornado was part of her family's history and the story should be told. She had to write about it.

My grandmother kept a journal for more than 40 years. Every night she would write down a few lines about what happened that day. "John and Mary stopped in afternoon for a visit". "Mike broke his arm today jumping from a tree. Says he's in a lot of pain. Told him the dr. says he has to stay home from school for few days. Big smile on his face then!" "Had roast beef and mashed potatoes for supper. Pa's favorite." Some entries were mundane, some were very relevant. The handwritten "diaries" settled many family arguments over when or who or what happened. When Grandma died, everyone vied for the "diaries". No, I didn't get them, but I know who did. What important information and sentimental value they hold!

Are you thinking about writing a family history or beginning a journal? Do it! Start now, today. Your family will thank you for lifetimes.

Laurie Hanover, a lifelong resident of the Twin Cities area, served as IGSI Secretary. Her interest in genealogy became serious about five years ago when she discovered her Irish origins. Laurie has two sons and five grandchildren, three girls and two boys.

Do you serve a purpose or purposely serve?
by Corey Taylor

Value and Quality of the Journal

by Ann Eccles

You may have noticed the special emblem on the cover of this issue.

We, the editors, are very pleased that *The Septs* has won first place in the National Genealogy Society's Newsletter Competition in the category of Major Genealogical or Historical Society Newsletter. Diane Lovrencevic and I traveled to Kansas City, Missouri, to accept the award at the NGS conference in mid-May. We've since received many compliments for winning the award. But we all agree this is the result of the efforts of each member of our team: Tom Rice, as our Managing Editor; Ann Eccles, who does the editing of the writing; and Diane Lovrencevic, who creates the beautiful layout and graphics for the issues. Yet we couldn't forget the wonderful writers who have contributed to this journal! Some writers contribute on a regular basis; others provide an article on a specific topic for one issue. And others send us their personal experiences. But it's the variety and quality of the articles and stories that makes this such a great publication. Thank you, authors, one and all!

Diane Lovrencevic, Ann Eccles and the president of NGS during the award presentation at the NGS Conference in Kansas City, Kansas.
Photo courtesy of NGS.

In this issue we look at emigration and immigration. John Cunningham, a historian from County Fermanagh, provides a reflection on emigration as it affected Ireland. He gives us a sense of what happened in Ireland when so many left the country. Roger Kershaw, head of Records Knowledge at The National Archive (UK), recommends both online sources and records in The National Archives for the family historian's search for passenger lists and information about the emigrant to be found in the United Kingdom.

Jay Fonkert, in his Beginning Genealogist column, provides an overview of five stages of migration and some direction for beginning your search for information on immigrant ancestors. Janis Duffy, a reference supervisor of the Massachusetts State Archives, describes the information to be found on the Passenger Arrival Lists for the Port of Boston, from 1848 to 1891.

David Rencher details the FHL-microfilmed contents of the Henry A. S. Upton collection, which collection can be found at the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin. IGSI member, Colleen McClain, directs us to recent books about DNA and its use in following the gene trail for a family or a whole population. Another member, Maureen Cannon, provides a reflection on Irish connections. We also have a reprint of an article from *At Home and Abroad* on Irish place names which may point to a place of origin.

Such a wealth of information waiting for discovery!

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired and found almost every branch leading back to Ireland. Still a novice in accessing Irish resources, she continues to explore her many family lines. She has volunteered at IGSI, working with the surname database and membership updates the last couple of years

Passenger Lists for the Port of Boston 1848-1891

by Janis P. Duffy

There are two distinct Passenger Arrival Lists for the Port of Boston: one is the U. S. Customs List and the other is the State List. There are similarities between the Federal and the State Passenger Lists, but they are often confused. Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1848 provided for the establishment of superintendent of Alien Passengers at several different port cities with the payment of "head-money" going directly into the State Treasury. During the 1850s there was consolidation and centralization of this function within the jurisdiction of the state. Chapter 342 of the Acts of 1851 provided for the creation of a Board of Alien Commissioners, consisting of the Auditor, a member of the Executive Council and the Superintendent of Alien Passengers for Boston. In addition to responsibilities related to immigration, this Commission also was charged with the supervision of state almshouses and the proper execution of laws regarding pauperism.

From January 1, 1848, through July 31, 1891, the State of Massachusetts required that all ship captains submit a list of their passengers to the Alien Commissioner. These lists, or manifests as they are sometimes called, generally show the Name of the Ship, the Date it arrived in Boston, the Passenger's Name, Age, Occupation, Birthplace, Destination and a List number or Passenger number. Approximately one million people from different ethnic backgrounds entered through the Port of Boston during these years.

Who were these folks? Where were they coming from? Was Boston their final destination? What compelled them to leave their homelands and travel thousands of miles over the ocean to a foreign land? During this time in history the great famine was taking place in Ireland and thousands of our ancestors were faced with emigration or starvation. For every immigrant there is a story. In these passenger lists are some wonderful tidbits of history that may not be found anywhere else.

In order to find your ancestors you need to know exactly when they immigrated, as initially there were no indexes to these lists. When the depression hit the United States in the 1930s the government established the WPA (Works Progress Administration) and put many people to work on various projects. One project was to create an Alphabetical Card Index to the State passenger lists. Once this project was completed the original State Manifests and the index cards were boxed up and sent to the Secretary of State's Office at the State House in Boston where they were stored and forgotten.

For years folks have compiled their family histories but interest in genealogy surged after Alex Haley wrote his story in *Roots*. The floodgates opened and there was great interest in all kinds of records. Genealogy societies were formed, and people shared stories and family histories. Archives and repositories were inundated with queries regarding the records that they held.

During the 1970s the Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons) microfilmed the State Index cards and made them available through the various family history libraries, the Federal Archives (NARA) and several other repositories. Only in 2008 did the Mormon Church (LDS) microfilm the actual State manifests. The microfilm copies of these manifests can be found at the Family History Libraries and at the Massachusetts State Archives, but not at NARA. Microfilm copies of the U. S. Customs Lists for Boston are held at NARA.

When researching, it is important to check both the State and Federal lists, as your ancestors may be listed on one but not both. Some of the U. S. Customs Lists for Boston from 1874-1882 no longer exist. Note: if you are searching through the microfilm Index at NARA labeled "Passenger Lists for the Port of Boston 1848-1891" you will need to contact the Massachusetts State Archives for copies of the actual manifests. The Boston passenger manifests at the NARA facilities are the U.S. Custom Lists.

It's important to not only search the Index to the Boston Passenger Lists but to actually look at the manifest. They may include information written on the manifest itself regarding the people traveling on these ships. The lists were compiled at the point of embarkation; additional comments or entries were sometimes made during the voyage.

The following extracts from the manifests illustrate this. James Rafters emigrated from the British Provinces (Canada) in 1865 with his large family. The Index card [See figure 1] gives the basic information but the actual manifest tells the destination of this family and their circumstances. [See figure 2] The manifest reads: "This

Sarah-16 - Joseph-12 - James-8 - Annie - 3
David-14 - Matilda-11 - Isaac-7
Amos -13 - Eliz'th-10 - John -5
Name Rafters James Age 37 Sex M
(Port Boston
Arrived (Date June 30 1865 S. s. Greyhound

If in U. S. before --- Occupation ---

Birthplace Br. Provinces

Country of which citizen ---

Last residence ---

Destination (State of which ---
intend to become citizen)

Mental and bodily condition --- List No. 18-19-20-21
22-23-24-25
26-27-28-29

Figure 1 *Image of record provided by Massachusetts State Archives*

Large Family is going to Minnesota. They have about $325. in Gold."

John Quinn, a young man from Ireland, arrived in Boston on July 30, 1883. [See figure 3]

Where was he going and why? An entry in the manifest provides the answer. [See Figure 4]

The manifest reads: "Uncle of and in charge of the following named Faherty children, whose parents Pat & Mary have been in St. Paul, Minn., the past 4 years and have written for them to come. They were in the workhouse 2 years, left it 2 yrs. ago and have lived with grandparents since. £5."

Many times births and deaths occurred on these voyages; the captain made an entry for them. The Captain supposedly notified the proper authorities when the ship arrived in port, but that did not always happen. The manifest entry "Michl. McDermott – Born at Sea" may be the only place record of the event. [See figures 5 & 6]

Other untold stories recorded in passenger manifests await discovery. Although most entries just provide the country of origin, some do list the county and a few even include the townland in Ireland of the immigrant – but these are few and far between.

How do you find your 19th century ancestors using 21st century technology?

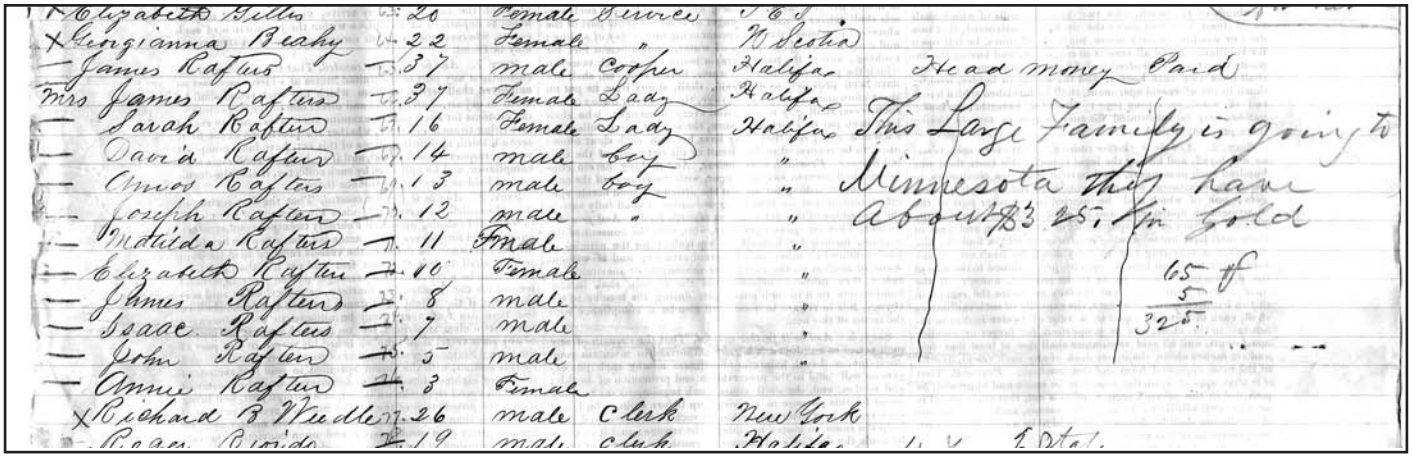


Figure 2 *Image of record provided by Massachusetts State Archives*

'Passenger Lists for the Port of Boston 1848-1891' continued on page 124

'Passenger Lists for the Port of Boston 1848-1891' continued from page 123

Name Quinn, John Age 20 Sex M
(Port Boston
Arrived (Date July 30, 1883 S.S. "Prussian"
If in U.S. before No Occupation Labr.
Birthplace (Nationality) Ireland
Country of which citizen ---
Last residence Ireland
Destination (State of which intend to become inhabitant) ---
Mantal and bodily condition Healthy List No. 231

Figure 3 *Image of record provided by Massachusetts State Archives*

Twelve years ago, when the Massachusetts State Archives re-established its volunteer program, the volunteers input the information from the Passenger Lists index cards into a computerized database. From a handful of volunteers and one computer the project has grown to more than twenty volunteers and several computers. It has been a slow process with many edits for accuracy. We currently have more than 500,000 names in the database, of which 350,000 are available on our website at http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc.

You can access the indexes in several different ways. If you know the approximate date of arrival, enter that date in the time span. If the ship is known, enter that. You can enter the person's full name or just the surname. However, the more information that you provide regarding the arrival the better the chance of finding your ancestor's record. Hundreds of Murphys, Kellys and O'Briens arrived in Boston during this time frame. Searching for your ancestor can be difficult and frustrating, but very rewarding when you succeed. Always remember to check variant spellings of the surname. Your ancestor's name might not have been recorded on the manifest, as you know it today. If you find a reference in the index, you should check the actual manifest for any additional information that might have been recorded.

Everyone who paid passage on the ships were recorded on the manifest; however, not everyone had their own index card. Some families were all listed on one card, as was the Rafters family. The database will include an entry for every name on the original manifest. Each entry will be verified to make sure that the spelling of the name is exactly as recorded. We have found that a few names were inadvertently transposed when the cards were typed in the 1930s. Martin Curly, who arrived on October 7, 1887, on the *Pavonia*, was recorded as Curly Martin on the Index Cards.

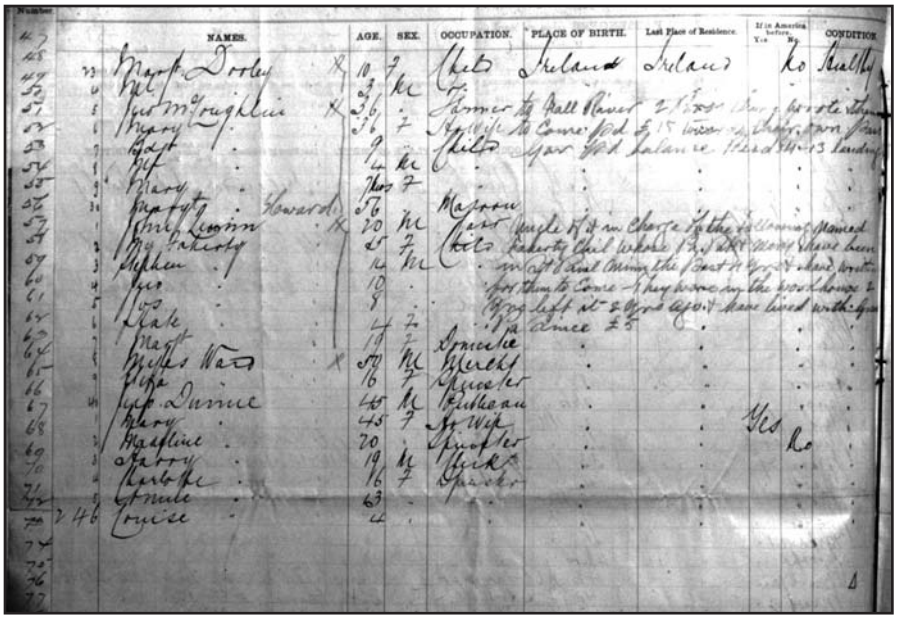


Figure 4 *Image of record provided by Massachusetts State Archives*

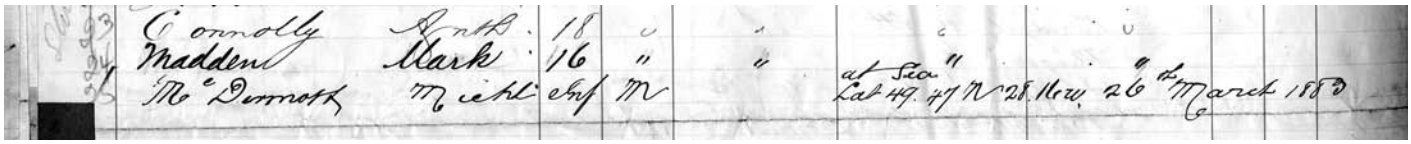
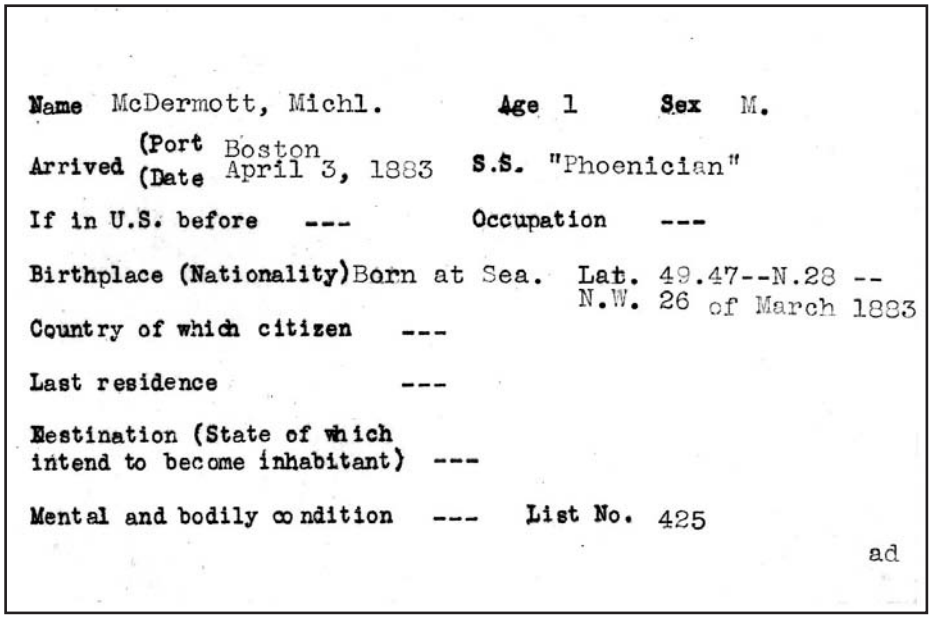


Figure 5 *Image of record provided by Massachusetts State Archives*

Some people traveled under an alias; we are noting that as well.

Why is it so important to find our ancestors' arrival in the United States? Our ancestors are more than just names long lost in the past; they are in every real sense a part of who we are. If we fail to learn about them, then it might be said that we can never fully know ourselves.

Janis P. Duffy is the Reference Supervisor at the Massachusetts State Archives. She is a member and Past-President of TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association). Janis has been pursuing her Irish heritage for over 20 years. She has traveled many times to Ireland and Canada. Janis is a member of the Tiara team that has lead several tours to Ireland and will conduct a tour to Salt Lake City in the Fall. She also lectures locally and nationally on many genealogy subjects, especially the Irish. Janis is a member of IGSI, NEHGS and NGS.



Name McDermott, Michl. Age 1 Sex M.

Arrived (Port Boston (Date April 3, 1883 S.S. "Phoenician"

If in U.S. before --- Occupation ---

Birthplace (Nationality) Born at Sea. Lat. 49.47--N.28 -- N.W. 26 of March 1883

Country of which citizen ---

Last residence ---

Destination (State of which intend to become inhabitant) ---

Mental and bodily condition --- List No. 425

ad

Figure 6 *Image of record provided by Massachusetts State Archives*

Come and visit

the Irish Genealogical Society International

at the Irish Fair of Minnesota

August 9-10, 2008

at Harriet Island in St. Paul, Minnesota

Volunteers needed to help with booth
during the fair, but particularly to help with set-up and takedown.

For more information, contact Volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org

Emigration from Ireland: Records at the National Archives UK

by Roger Kershaw

Since 1607, Great Britain and Ireland have sent well over ten million emigrants to the USA, four million to Canada, and one and a half million to Australasia. Between 1845 and 1851, over one and a quarter million Irish emigrated to the USA (mainly via Liverpool) as a result of the potato famine.

Passenger Lists

The internet site *Ancestorsonboard.com*

ancestors on board.com
powered by findmypast.com

(http://www.ancestorsonboard.com/) provides digital images of ships' passenger lists recording the voyages of some 26 million people leaving British ports between 1890 and 1960. The site is co-branded by *FindMyPast.com* and the National Archives (TNA) of England, Wales and the United Kingdom.

The original records are housed in the National Archives in the record series BT 27 and were created by the Board of Trade, copies of which were also kept by the numerous shipping companies ferrying people to and from Britain over the centuries. The collection starts in 1890 and finishes in 1960, by which time air travel became the preferred method of travel for long haul destinations. Unlike National Archives in other countries, the UK has never selected air lists for permanent preservation.

The lists selected for preservation exclude those for vessels whose final destination did not extend beyond Europe or the Mediterranean area, so there are no lists for voyages from mainland Britain to Ireland or to France or Spain, unless the journeys continued to a final destination beyond Europe.

The collection can be searched on *Ancestorsonboard.com* by name of passenger. You can narrow your search by date, gender, port of departure and country and port of destination if needed. The information provided on the list varies depending on when your ancestor travelled. The early lists, from 1890 to about 1910, used pre-printed forms recording information relating to name and occupation and an indication of whether the passenger was male or female, was English, Scottish, Irish or Foreign, their age (though in most cases this isn't recorded until the turn of the century), and the name of the port at which they were contracted to land. From 1918, a separate age field is recorded; from 1922, a field recording the last address in the UK appears. From the 1930s, the lists indicate whether the passenger is travelling for the purpose of leisure or tourism and, from 1958, exact dates of births are entered on the forms.

The collection includes passenger lists for ships that began their journeys at Irish Ports (for the Republic until 1922 only) and that began their journeys in British ports and picked up passengers at all Irish ports until 1960.

There are some earlier records in the custody of The National Archives recording passengers leaving Britain before those on Ancestorsonboard.com.

Unfortunately, most of these records are scattered among a variety of archives or have simply not survived. Generally speaking, emigration passenger lists between 1776-1889 have not survived. For this period it is best to contact the National Archives of the destination country of the emigrant. However, The National Archives houses records of passengers who were born, married or died from 1854 to 1972. These records were created following the Merchant Shipping Act 1854, which allowed for the compilation of births, deaths and marriages of passengers at sea from ships' official logs. The registers are quite full for the first two or three decades as most emigrants travelled in the cheapest class of accommodation, known as steerage. The accommodation was frequently overcrowded and with poor ventilation; diseases such as cholera and typhus reached epidemic proportions and many emigrants died as a result, particularly prior to the 1870s. After this time virtually all emigrants to North America and most to Australia travelled by steamship which helped to cut journey times considerably. From about 1900, third class cabins replaced steerage accommodation; although they were spartan, this was a considerable improvement.

Births, Marriages and Deaths at Sea

The National Archives records include births, marriages and deaths from 1854-1883, births and deaths only from 1883-1887, and deaths only from 1888 to 1890. You can find these records in the series BT 158: Registers of Births, Deaths and Marriages of Passengers at Sea. Masters were further required by the Registration of Births and Deaths Act 1874 to report births and deaths of both United Kingdom subjects and aliens to the Registrar General of Shipping. The in-

formation about United Kingdom subjects is in the series BT 160: Registers of Births of British Nationals at Sea and BT 159: Registers of Deaths of British Nationals at Sea. Records of births and deaths at sea, 1891-1964 are held in BT 334 with a marriage register for 1854 - 1972. Copies of some of these records are available to download at the commercial site, *Findmypast.com* (http://www.findmypast.com).

Passport Records

The National Archives holds passport records and licences to pass beyond the Seas for the period 1573-1948, but the information is scanty. There are only small samples of individual applications for passports; the information in passport registers and indexes rarely extends beyond name, passport number and date of issue. Furthermore, passports were not compulsory for travel overseas until 1915; before this time it was not common for someone travelling abroad to apply for a passport. Copies of some of these records are available to download at *Findmypast.com*.

Records of Early Emigrants

You can find early emigrants listed among E 190: Exchequer: King's Remembrancer: Port Books, 1565-1798. These were compiled as a result of an Exchequer Order of November 1564 requiring all customs officials in the various ports of England and Wales to make their entries in blank books issued by the Exchequer.

The books are of three kinds: entry books of the collectors and other officials, recording the details of *cockets* issued as receipts for the payment of the various duties on imports and exports; entry books of searchers, waiters and other officials who were concerned with shipping movements and the inspection of cargoes, not with the collection of duties; and coasting books, which record the issue and return of certificates for the transit of goods by coast from one English port to another. The certificates stated that the shippers had entered into bonds to unload only at another port within the realm.

Each entry in a Port Book generally contains the name of the ship and its master, the names of the merchants, a description of their goods, and, in the entry books of the collectors, the amount of duties paid. After 1600 most books contain details of the places to and from which shipments were made. Undoubtedly, some of the exporters were themselves emigrants, but there is no way of distinguishing such from the records. The records are not indexed by name though they have been used to compile many of the sources indicated in the bibliography. The records are arranged by port and then by date. The ports named are those that were prosperous and prominent in early modern England and each "headport" such as Chester also subsumes a number of, at that time, lesser ports such as Liverpool and Lancaster.

There are several registers of passengers travelling from a number of UK ports to New England, Barbados and other colonies for 1634-9, with one of 1677, in E 157: Exchequer: King's Remembrancer: Registers of Licences to pass beyond the seas. The registers have been printed in J. C. Hotten's *Original Lists of Persons Emigrating to America, 1600-1700* (London, 1874).

You can also find lists of passengers, with names and ages, on board vessels bound for America in the 1630s in CO 1: Privy Council and related bodies: America and West Indies, Colonial Papers (General Series). These include CO 1/8, folios 100-102 displaying names of passengers bound for New England on board the *Francis of Ipswich* in 1634 and CO 1/9 folio. 246-247, which includes names of passengers intended for New England on the *Confidence* in 1636-8.

Records of the Colonial Office

The records of the Colonial Office include much material relating to emigrants to all colonies. CO 384: Emigration Original Correspondence, 1817-1896 contains many letters from settlers or people intending to settle in British North America, Australia, the West Indies and other places: there are separate registers for British North America. Details of land grants and applications may be found in CO 323: Colonies, General: Original Correspondence, 1689-1952; CO 324: Colonies, General: Entry Books Series I, 1662-1872; and CO 381: Colonies, General: Entry Books Series II, 1835-1872. The Land and Emigration Commission was established in 1833 to promote emigration by providing free passage and land grants. The Emigration Entry Books, 1814-1871 (CO 385)

'Emigration from Ireland: Records at the National Archives UK' continued on page 128

'Emigration from Ireland: Records at the National Archives UK' continued from page 127

and the Land and Emigration Commission Papers, 1833-1894 (CO 386) includes letters from people intending to migrate and requesting a free passage or grant of land. A large collection are from Irish emigrants.

Further Sources

For the USA, most incoming passenger lists survive from 1820. The records are arranged chronologically and by port of arrival and contain the following information: name of passenger, country, or town of origin, date of arrival, destination in the USA, occupation, age, and gender. While many passenger lists have been indexed, there are important periods where no indexes exist, such as for the port of New York from 1847 to 1897, for Boston for 1820 to 1847, and again from 1892 to 1901. For further information, check the *US National Archives* website at http://www.archives.gov. The Ellis Island website (http://www.ellisisland.org) allows one to search online over 22 million passengers and members of the ships' crews who came through Ellis Island and the Port of New York Between 1892 and 1924.

Many emigrants migrated to the USA via Canada. For Canada, most passenger lists survive for the period 1865 until 1935; they contain information such as name, age, country of origin, occupation and intended destination of passengers. From 1925, the lists contain additional information, including the immigrant's place of birth, the name and address of the relative, friend or employer to whom they were destined and the name and address of the nearest relative in the country from whence they came. For further information, check the *Library and Archives Canada* website at http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca. Some lists can be searched by passenger name using their online databases. For example, check http://www.collections-canada.ca/archivianet/02011802_e.html if your ancestor migrated to Canada between 1925 and 1935.

Many of the earlier passenger lists to the New World have been transcribed and published in print, online, or CD-Rom. These generally were compiled from records available at the destination country, such as inwards ships' passenger lists and passenger cards, which can complement and supplement those records housed at the National Archives, UK.

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Internet Resources:

The ShipsList. (http://www.theshipslist.com) Online since 1999, the website includes immigration reports, newspaper records, shipwreck information as well as ships' passenger lists to the New World.

Immigration and Ships Passenger Lists Research Guide (http://home.att.net/~arnielang/shipgide.html) provides direction for researching United States immigration records and ship's passenger lists, both on-line and off-line. Note: last updates are 2005.

Ancestry.co.uk (http://www.ancestry.co.uk) has resources for locating ships' passenger lists for Irish immigrants into the port of New York, 1846-1851.

"What Passenger Lists Are Online?" (http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/onlinelists.html) for Internet sources for transcribed passenger records and indexes.

"Emigration and Immigration Records and Links" (http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/ei.html) references online, microfilm and print resources for finding ships' passenger lists to the New World.

Roger Kershaw joined The National Archives (TNA), formerly Public Record Office, in 1986 and is now the Head of Records Knowledge for the Advice and Records Knowledge Department.

Hearing Voices: When Our Great Grandmothers Speak

Speaker: Maureen Kennedy Reed

Maureen Reed's latest career is that of playwright. This Minnesota native has practiced internal medicine in the Twin Cities area, been medical director for a major HMO, and served on the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents. But after she began to research her family's history, she found another calling.

Like many who start researching Irish ancestors, her main objective was to find the townlands of her Irish ancestors. As she researched, Maureen Reed wrote what she learned – even if it was merely the birth date, date of marriage, or the fact that "she came up river to Minnesota". From only a couple of paragraphs some of her family stories "have grown to seven pages and 64 footnotes". She eventually had information on four sets of great-grandparents who immigrated to the U.S. in different decades of the 1800s.

As she wrote, she "heard the voices of the women" in their experiences and stories. Their stories compelled her to use the facts to dramatize the stories of the four women, creating the play, "Two Hands on the Plow". Maureen described how she did this, the many rejection letters she has received, and her sustaining belief that she had to do it, even if no one ever sees it. But, with the assistance of a dramaturge, she refined the script so that one act of the play was performed at the 2007 Irish Fair in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is now in negotiations for a production of the full play.

Maureen's advice to other family historians interested in writing their stories:

- There is value in the artistic rendition of facts and in fact-based writing
- Write it if you feel like it
- Write – even if you think you are not a great writer.

Maureen Reed is proof that you can turn facts into stories, and stories into play scripts. Who knows – someday her play may be seen on a stage. And the townlands? She's identified five out of seven, so far.

How Emigration Changed Ireland:

The Impact of Emigration

by John Cunningham

Reprinted, with permission of the author, from a talk given to the Cassidy Clan in Ireland.

Many great tomes have been written on the topic of emigration, books as thick as doorsteps, on emigration to Canada, the United States, Australia, Presbyterian emigration, Catholic emigration, Ulster Scots emigration, and every conceivable related theme.

Emigration is one of the great emotional issues in Irish history, and it tends to have a very negative image. People are generally seen as being forced to move from an idealised Ireland where everyone was happy and gay (meaning happy) and where roses grew around the door of the little white-washed cottage, and made to seek their fortune as exiles in a foreign land.

Many of our songs and ballads seem to confirm this image. However, even a cursory examination of the realities of emigration shows that while there is some truth in this rosy view of the process of emigration (in that it blames someone else for our having to emigrate) it is in general far removed from the reality.

One of the commonest forms of Irish migration was that called chain migration, where some of the family went abroad and then, in dribs and drabs, the rest of the family were brought out as fast as money could be saved and sent home. I recently heard of a reunion dinner dance in Braidwood in Australia, where over 400 people gathered whose common bond was that their ancestors had all emigrated, or in some cases been deported, to that country.

They had all come from the vicinity of Pettigo, County Donegal, and adjoining County Fermanagh. Their common bond was dear old Ireland, but there were no resolutions passed asking to be sent back or taken back to Ireland or to the rushy fields of Pettigo. Whatever the hardships their ancestors had to endure getting to Australia, there was no rush to come back again to Ireland, apart from perhaps a sentimental visit to the ruins of the old homestead.

One interesting pairing there was that of the descendants of a Gallagher family who had been transported to Australia in 1849 for attacking a McCaffrey family who had taken their farm from the local landlord after they had been evicted for non-payment of rent. Later the McCaffreys emigrated, and generations later the families sat side by side in Australia, with the old row consigned to the mists of time. In a similar vein, I have a brother Mike in Calgary, Canada, who has spent more than thirty years of his life there. I asked him once why he didn't come back and settle back again in Fermanagh.

Despite the emotional pull of home, the reality was that his children had grown up in Canada and thought of themselves as Canadians; he liked his American football and ice hockey on television. He told me that the only time he was homesick in the Canadian year was when the spring thaw came, the ice melted on the rivers, leaves appeared on the trees and grass began to peep through the snow. Then for these two weeks he thought of Ireland and of coming home, but he and I both know he will end his days in Canada.

On the surface at least, it seems simple to judge the impact of emigration on our community by looking at the countryside around us. Although they are getting scarcer or at least less visible, there was a time when any expanse of Irish countryside showed numerous ruined houses with thatch roof fallen in and lying open to the sky. The families of these little farms had died out, migrated to another part of our country, or emigrated abroad. They had left leaving seemingly little to record their passing, only the mute walls of their homes.

The greenery of afforestation has swallowed up many of these ruins, while others have succumbed to the JCB (a brand-name of construction machine) and their rubble used in road-making or cleared away to make a site for a new house. As the years go on, the visible evidence of emigration and depopulation gets less and less.

But the little houses are not the only visual evidence of a missing population. There are the empty county schools and halls, the derelict little country shops, the unused roadside wells and the autumn hazelnuts hanging unplucked across the country roads which all tell of the population now long gone.

But there is evidence of where these people went, how they got there, and how they are doing today. All sorts of emigration records survive despite the ravages of the years. Amazingly quickly in this computer age more and more of

it can be rapidly accessed. The use of the Internet and personal computer has transformed genealogy and emigration studies. Lookups of Griffith's Valuation of Fermanagh in 1862 can now be done from a CD in one's own living room whenre once it took a day trip to Belfast or Dublin.

The Push and the Pull

Let us look at the two chief models of emigration: the "push model" and the "pull model." We often tend to think of emigration in rather emotional terms. If we take all the Irish emigration songs at their face value, it was a fear-filled, heartbreaking, tearful process, and no doubt for many it was. People who were evicted, people who fled to escape poverty or religious persecution represent the "push" model of emigration -- those who emigrated because they had to.

On the other hand there is another less prominently noticed emigration model, the "pull" model -- that of people who were drawn or attracted from Ireland. This attraction to emigrate could be stimulated by many things -- the promise of land (for free or ridiculously cheap) was a colossal attraction for an Irish farmer on ten or twenty acres. Stories of fabulous wages abroad lured young men and women who slaved on the family farm year after year and seldom had the price of a drink or were able to pay their way into a dance.

The spirit of adventure or the simple wish to escape the stifling effect of the religious and moral regime in Ireland in the aftermath of the Great Famine were also great incentives to go abroad. Most young people are of an adventurous disposition. The sticks and stones and hard places of life have not yet taught them the caution that most people acquire as they grow older. A dry comment I read somewhere recently suggested that if one had a problem they should ask a young person -- while they still knew everything. But the lure of adventure was hard to resist, especially when the chances of making one's fortune at home in Ireland were so tiny, if not almost entirely nonexistent.

God's Punishment

All religious bodies in Ireland took advantage of the Great Famine to strengthen the campaign against sin. They pinned the blame for the famine on the people themselves, or rather on their sinfulness. If they had not been living such bad and immoral lives (so ran the teaching), God would not have visited such a terrible famine upon them. This theme has been used countless times by organised religion across all civilisations down through the centuries. To escape another disastrous famine the people were told that they had to adhere to their religious beliefs more strongly, to be more prayerful, less promiscuous, to pray more, to drink less, etc.

It was all good staunch moral teaching, but allied to the strictness of Victorian values in England and Ireland it combined to pull a cloud of gloom over the whole of society. Thou Shalt Not -- do nearly anything, except pray! Emigration, especially for the young, was one way of getting out from under this gloomy atmosphere. In England or America you could lie in your bed on a Sunday if you so desired and not be the talk of the parish or subject to a stern visit by the priest or minister.

You could go on a date with a boyfriend without being similarly the subject of local gossip or the intrusive attention of the local community. The moral and religious finger-pointers ruled Irish society. The country filled up with old spinsters and bachelors who never had the nerve to run the local social gauntlet of gossip, teasing, and mocking laughter at their expense. As an illustration of the survival and strength of this social control mechanism in Ireland I relate the following:

About thirty years ago I suggested to an old couple I knew who had no car that I would take them out for a trip on a Sunday evening to places they had not been to for about fifty years. They lived in a long stony lane, and to make things easier for me they said they would be waiting for me at the end of the lane. I drove up and down the road looking for them, but as far as I could see they were not there.

Finally I spotted them. Or rather, I spotted two heads peeking just above the heather in a field alongside the road. They were, at the age of about seventy, lying in the long heather so as not to be noticed or talked about by their neighbours. Like two wary grouse, they peered above the vegetation until they were sure it was me and then they could come out. These people had grown up at the turn of the century and still hadn't

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shaken off the feeling that local society was watchingwatched their every move. Getting away from this atmosphere was surely a powerful incentive to emigrate.

The Great Famine

Emigration from Ireland had been going on long before the Great Famine of 1845 to 1850. The cod fishing industry of Newfoundland was backboned by Irishmen from Waterford and Wexford from the early part of the 18th century, and Ulster Scots frontiersmen were prominent in the early settlement of the United States and Canada. But the Famine is still seen as the great watershed of Irish emigration.

If we look at County Fermanagh, we see that the population, according to the 1841 census, was 156,481. In 1851, it was 116,047. This is a decline of 25 per cent and amounts to 40,434 persons missing, either through death, migration, or emigration. This is a massive decline, and moreover, one that this county has never recovered from. The exodus set in motion by the Famine has never really halted, and today, Fermanagh has only about one third of the population it had in 1841.

Of the eight baronies in County Fermanagh, that of Magheraboy (which runs from Enniskillen toward the west, and takes in the villages of Derrygonnelly, Grrison, and Belcoo) was worst affected, losing 31 per cent of its population. Of the other baronies, Clanawley and Clankelly lost about thirty 30 percent each, while the nearby Barony of Coole in the eastern end of the county lost about 28 per cent of its population. The Barony of Lurg in the west (which includes the villages of Kesh, Ederney, and Lack) declined in population by 27 per cent. Those "least" affected were the Baronies of Magherasteffany, Knockninny, and Tirkennedy, which declined by 22 percent, 20 per cent, and 13 per cent, respectively. Tirkennedy, which suffered the least decline includes Enniskillen, the county town and Tempo, but this small decline here may reflect migration from other parts of the county into Enniskillen, as well as the population of the workhouse, the largest in the county.

In some individual townlands the percentage of population decline was even greater than this, but there is no way of telling whether or not this was due to famine, emigration, or the movement of people to other areas. The village of Belleek grew in numbers during the famine, as also did the village of Lack, suggesting that people had moved there from townlands nearby. This was probably on account of food being given out in the villages – the name Boiler House Lane in Lack definitely indicates this. Other townlands grew on account of evicted people moving into them.

Taking a look at some of the townlands in the Belcoo area from the 1841 and 1851 census figures, we see something of the famine in this area and its effects. We have no way of knowing if the population changes we see were the result of death, migration, or emigration. For example Aughlish, which went from 53 persons in 1841 to 33 ten years later; Belcoo East, from 66 people to 62; Belcoo West declined from 64 to 44 -- a loss of almost one third of the population of the townland in that decade. And Carneyhill – from 72 to 45, again a loss of about one third. Belnaleck, a catastrophic loss of 61 people, as it declined from 180 to 119 – again a loss of about one third of its population.

Unfortunately, the detailed census sheets for these dates have been destroyed. Some were burned in the Four Courts fire in Dublin in 1922, but the vast majority [of Irish census records] were pulped by the authorities to make new paper, thus depriving us of unimaginable detail about our ancestors for most of the 1800s. It used to be thought that it was very difficult if not impossible to find documentary evidence relating to genealogy and the study of emigration, but happily, this is no longer true.

There are major institutions in Ireland and overseas who can now help you to trace your ancestors with a degree of success undreamed of twenty or thirty years ago.

In Ireland, we have the Northern Ireland Public Records Office (PRONI) in Belfast and its southern counterpart, the National Archives, in Dublin. Here you can consult almost all the major sources such as the Tithe Applotment Books of the 1820s and 1830s; Griffith's Valuation (1862) for County Fermanagh; the 1901 and 1911 Censuses for Ireland (the 1911 available only in Dublin); passenger lists for emigrant ships; emigrant letters which survive from this period; those Estate Records which survive, listing tenants and their rental payments, church records of all denominations in Ireland; and all sorts of other clues as to our past, from lists of convicts transported to workhouse admission books which tell

of those who sought refuge within their walls during the Great Famine.

These institutions have an enormous range of records, but county Heritage Centres and libraries now have many of these sources, the Ulster Folk Park in Omagh has a very large database of emigrants and their destinations, and don't forget our own Fermanagh County Library, which is on a par with the best in Ireland. Emigrants have been the economic lifeblood of many a family at home in Ireland in the last 150 years. In 1950, the weekly letter with ten shillings or a pound in it kept the wolf from the door of many a house, and bigger amounts helped pay for a new cow when the old one died or for a secondhand tractor or a suitably grand wedding for a favoured niece or nephew.

A big legacy from abroad could put a humble farmer into the superfarmer category and allow him to progress from a donkey and creels to a Ford motorcar without going through the stages of donkey and cart and horse and cart which normally lay in between. The local graveyard might suddenly have the biggest and best headstone erected. It said that it was to commemorate someone's dear departed mother and father, but it also said "Haven't we done well as immigrants in America?" because their address was usually at the bottom.

After the Famine

The two greatest effects of the famine and emigration in Ireland were in relation to land and to marriage. Before the famine, a social system called "run away" had a disastrous effect on the country. Young people could marry almost as soon as they wished. The young couple only had to "run away" to a neighbor's house and the girl had to be married before she could return to her parents' house.

Neighbours gathered in and a dance was held and nothing untoward happened at all, but the couple had to be married. They were given a plot of land, probably subdivided from the existing farm, and the locals threw up a cabin for them. In this way they set off into married life with little or no money. It was a recipe for disaster and disaster frequently happened.

The famine wiped out a great many of this cottier class in Ireland -- those having less than five acres of land. After the famine the old practice of marrying young and subdividing the land ceased entirely. The eldest son got the farm and did not marry until he was nearly forty. The rest of the family could stay and work on the farm for their keep. The main alternative was emigration.
The subdividing of farms was forbidden after the famine. A new agricultural movement had spread across the country in what was known as the squaring of the land. Before this time, the people had generally lived in little clahans or groups of houses and they held a patchwork of little fields and plots all around. There were constant rows about pathways and boundaries and rights of way which usually broke out on fair day evenings when the men (and often the women) fought with sticks and stones.

To stop this, the landlords squared out the land in little farms as we see them today, with a house in the middle of a group of fields. This farm was not allowed to be subdivided and gives us the basic Irish landscape which we see today and which most people do not realize is less than two hundred years old. But a discussion on emigration would not be complete without a mention of the role of the American parcel in the lives of those of us who remember them.

After World War II, when rationing was still in force, Americans were encouraged to send parcels of food and clothing to the relatives back here. They usually arrived near Christmas, but could come joyfully and unexpectedly at any time of the year, and I think they lasted until the mid 1950s. Aladdin never opened his cave with half the excitement and expectancy with which we ceremoniously opened our American parcels. Good judges of character like my mother managed to get lots of work out of us first by saying that the parcel would not be opened until the byre was cleaned, the turf and water brought in, and the dishes washed.

But in a matter of minutes every possible chore was done and we all sat around in anticipation. I enjoyed the American comic strips that my uncle sent; there was coffee and sweets, what our American cousins called candies. One person remembered a lump of bacon which had miraculously not gone bad during the journey of two weeks. And then there were the clothes. I know the American hearts were in the right place, but it would have taken a small army to put

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me in a pair of canary yellow pants and send me to school!

Some years after the parcels ceased, my mother was taken on a trip to America where she met many of those who had contributed to our childhood pleasure. My mother had been reared on a diet of Hollywood America and she was a bit shocked to find that most of her relatives lived in little terrace houses in big, intimidating, dirty cities like Philadelphia. Her verdict when she came back from America was, "Do you know, there was some of them we should have been sending parcels to!"

In many ways it wasn't what was in the parcels but the surprise of their arrival and the magic of imagining what might be in them. God be good to those who sent them. Down the last century and a half, our emigrants have poured uncountable millions back into Ireland. In Ireland during its early days of independence, just like in Pakistan and other Third World countries today, the entire economy depended on money sent home by emigrants.

We may be remiss in failing to give this due recognition to our emigrant relatives. The fabric of home and hearth was held together by our emigrants' money and perhaps of all the impacts of emigration on our communities, that is the biggest impact of all.

John Cunningham lives in Belleek, Co. Fermanagh and has written about Irish local and National history since 1980, producing over 30 books and about 100 articles. In addition to writing, he is an Irish National Tour Guide, and a genealogist. He has recorded most of the records of graveyards, school records, etc. of his area. His principal hobby is fishing in the local mountain lakes. See some of his books at http://www.erneheritagetours.com/

Check & Update Your Member Information

On the new IGSI website – once you have logged into the Members Section – you find the Members Homepage. Look at the very left side; in the tan/brown color column, under **Member Links** you see a few options with arrows before them.

Click on **Manage Your Member Profile** and you'll see a new page with new options.

Login allows you to change your Password. Click on **Basic Member Info** to check and change your basic member information: address, phone, email. It's from this page that you can also verify and add to your Surnames, or renew online. When should you do something with this page? Anytime you need to – or perhaps once a year, at least, before you renew.

Of particular importance to keep current are email and home addresses.

Emails. From the Society's perspective, it helps when all of your information is up to date. We send out meeting reminders and other communications by email. If your email is wrong (an old email or a typo on our part), you are missing our messages. Related to that, please add our email address (IrishGenealogical.org) to your approved recipient list – or again, our emails will be returned unseen by you.

Addresses. Some members have a second home for part of the year and ask that some issues of *The Septs* be mailed to this second address. When there is a second address, check the little boxes below the address area to indicate which issues of *The Septs* should be sent to which address. That way, you won't miss a single issue. Note: mailing labels are prepared two weeks before the month of the journal issue. For October, the address cut-off date is mid-September.

Thanks for helping us out by Managing your Member Information!

Irish Place Names and the Immigrant

by Dwight A. Radford And Kyle J. Betit, Co-editors

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When an exact geographical place name of an ancestor's origin in Ireland is found in records of the family abroad, the family historian is faced with the task of identifying this place in Ireland. Often, the place name can't be found on a road map or atlas or in a gazetteer. Not being able to identify the location of a place name will halt efforts to find immigrant origins. To successfully identify a place name in Ireland not only identifies the immigrant's origin, but it also opens up the possibility of a variety of other Irish record sources.

There are a number of possible explanations for not finding an Irish place name:

1. A place name in a record abroad may have been spelled differently than in Irish sources. Many immigrants were illiterate or at least poorly educated. Consequently, the person recording the name would often spell it phonetically.
2. The variation of the name as preserved by the immigrant family may have been the Gaelic (Irish-language) version, whereas Irish gazetteers may use the English variation of the place name.
3. A name passed down in a family through oral tradition may have been significantly corrupted over the years.
4. A variety of administrative divisions may have been given by the immigrant as the place of origin; for example, county, civil parish, Catholic parish, or townland. Sometimes it is difficult to determine exactly what was meant by the immigrant.
5. A place name may not appear in gazetteers because it is smaller than a townland, e.g. a geographical feature, a subdivision of a townland, an estate name, a field or farm name, or a small community name.

In the case of county names, a quick search of a map or reference book will reveal what the correct county name really is. For example, Caban is Cavan, Derri is Derry (or Londonderry), and Mao is Mayo. These are the simple problems.

The more complex place name identifications arise when a townland or part of a townland is listed as the place of origin. The correct identification of where these smaller areas, usually with names derived from Gaelic, are found can be complex. There are, however, very effective methods for finding these "missing places" in Ireland.

At first glance, the family historian will notice that the administrative and political boundaries used in Ireland are confusing. Provinces are divided into counties which are divided into civil parishes. Civil parishes, in turn, are made up of townlands, each of which is an area of land with a certain acreage and set of boundaries.

Irish boundaries cross each other, and the researcher has to think in an abstract way to comprehend them. For example, baronies cross civil parish boundaries; Catholic parishes and civil parishes cross each other; and poor law unions cross county and parish boundaries.

In records of an immigrant (such as a tombstone, family papers, death certificate, or published biographical sketch) the most common place names found are provinces, geographical regions, counties, parishes, townlands, and townland sub-denominations. Each of these is discussed in detail in this article. The article does not discuss all administrative divisions found in Ireland, only the ones likely to be given as places of origin in records abroad.

Provinces

Ireland has historically been divided into the provinces of Connaught, Leinster, Munster, and Ulster. There are several counties in each of these historical provinces. Most often passed down in family lore are the provinces of Connaught and Ulster. This is especially true in the cases of Scots-Irish (Ulster-Scots) who were concentrated in the historical province of Ulster and of Catholic immigrants who stated they were from Connaught.

If a province of origin is known, research can concentrate on narrowing the place of origin within that province. Searching indexed tax or other parish records for the province may be practical for uncommon surname but not for a common one as Kelly or Lynch.

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Geographical Regions

There are geographical region names in Ireland which the immigrant may have identified as a place of origin, some large and some small. For example, family legend may state an ancestor was from Connemara, the mountainous and coastal region of western Galway; the "midlands" in the County Longford area; the "lake district" in County Fermanagh; or the Dingle peninsula in County Kerry.

Identifying these geographical regions may be the key to finding where the ancestor was from. For example, if an ancestor originated in Connemara, the Galway Family History Society West heritage centre could be contacted to check church indexes for western Galway. This may identify in which parish in the Connemara region the ancestor originated.

Counties

The county name is most often preserved as a place of origin in Ireland. The island was historically comprised of thirty-two counties. Queen's County became County Leix (or Laois) and King's County became County Offaly after Ireland was divided in 1921. Derry and Londonderry are interchangeable names for the same county.

Parishes

There are two types of parishes involved in Irish genealogical research, the civil parish and the church (or ecclesiastical) parish. These are not the same and should not be confused. The Church of Ireland and the Roman Catholic Church had separate parish systems. Since the Church of Ireland was the Established Church, its parish boundaries were often the same as the civil parishes.

There were not enough members to warrant a Church of Ireland parish church in each civil parish. One parish church could thus serve several civil parishes. Also, there could be more than one Church of Ireland parish within a civil parish. This was especially true in Northern Ireland where there were greater numbers of Church of Ireland members.

The civil parish is an important boundary for land and taxation purposes. It is also the boundary used to catalog many Irish records at several repositories including the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City.

With the re-emergence of the Roman Catholic church in the later eighteenth century and with full Catholic emancipation in 1829, the Catholic parish system rapidly expanded. Many new Catholic parishes were established. A civil parish may have one or more Catholic parishes within its boundaries. The Catholic and civil parish names may or may not be the same. For further discussion of this topic, see Nora M. Hickey's article "The Relationship Between Civil & Catholic Parishes" in *Irish Family History*.

Many immigrants listed the civil parish as a place of origin. A Catholic parish may have been listed in church records or on a tombstone in a Catholic cemetery. Immigrants were asked where they were baptized when they got married. In this case, the ecclesiastical parish of baptism would be given. Maps of the civil parish boundaries of all counties have been published in Brian Mitchell's *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*. Approximate Catholic parish boundaries in each county can be found in John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: The Complete Guide*.

Brian Mitchell's *A Guide to Irish Parish Registers* lists Church of Ireland parishes, Roman Catholic parishes, Presbyterian and other congregations within each civil parish. Samuel Lewis' *1837 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* indicates the congregations within each civil parish. *The Ordnance Survey Memoirs* compiled in the 1830s also list the congregations within each civil parish.

Cities and Towns

Cities and towns in Ireland must be thought of in a different light than they are, for example, in North America. In Ireland towns are not townlands, but towns or villages may be located within one or more townlands. For example, the town of Draperstown in County Londonderry (Derry) lies in the three intersecting townlands of Cahore, Moykeeran and Moyheeland.

When names of these populated places are given as a place of origin, caution must be applied. Immigrants often stated they were from a certain populated place such as Athlone (a town on the border of counties Roscommon and Westmeath), when in reality they were from outside the populated town in a nearby townland.

Another word of caution concerns family legends stating that an immigrant was from Cork, Dublin, or Londonderry (Derry). First, these are all

the names of both cities and counties, and the distinction can become blurred in family lore. Second, these cities were ports where immigrants left Ireland. What was stated in family tradition as the family's place of origin could have actually been the place of *departure*, and the immigrant may be from an entirely different county.

Townlands

The townland is the smallest administrative unit in Ireland. A townland is not a town, nor does it have a government. A townland is a surveyed piece of ground which may not even have people living within its boundaries. Townlands usually but not always have Gaelic names. A townland in Ireland may consist of anywhere between a few acres and several thousand acres.

Townlands have specific boundaries which were officially surveyed in the 1830s by the Ordnance Survey. Due to their small size townlands do not usually appear on standard road maps. However, the Ordnance Survey has published modern maps of Ireland indicating townland names.

Although the concept of the townland is based in antiquity, the actual mapping and defining of them goes back to the 1600s when the English Government was mapping Ireland to portion it out to conquering soldiers and others who were investing in Irish land. From the 1600s to the Ordnance Survey of the 1830s, many changes occurred in the townlands and their boundaries. This is reflected in antique maps and estate maps. *A Census of Ireland, Circa 1659*, edited by Seamus Pender, lists the townland names at that time and contains a full index to place names.

An example of changes in 145 years may be found in Andrew J. Morris' article "Irish Placenames," in *Eirephile*. Morris included two maps showing the townlands in the East Kerry estate of the Earl of Kenmare. The map dated 1720 shows several large townlands on this estate. The other map dated 1865 shows many more townlands of smaller size.

Since there may be many townlands of the same name in a county, it is important to identify the correct one. Tax records, land records, and other sources can assist in documenting the ancestral family in the correct townland.

It may take some research to determine what the official spelling of a particular townland really is. Townland names can be found in the 1851, 1871, and 1901 townland indexes, all of which identify the civil parish in which the townland is located. The 1851 edition was reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Company. The townlands of Ireland are being placed in a computerized database on the Internet at *The IreAtlas Townland Database* website at http://www.seanruad.com/.

Townland Sub-denominations

Within the official townlands there are other smaller subdivisions such as field and farm names known to the local people. There are also small communities within townlands not large enough to be towns; these communities have unique names and may only include a few houses.

These sub-denominations within a townland ("Cherry Grove" in Croom civil parish, County Limerick, for example) are not listed in the 1851, 1871, and 1901 townland indexes. Sub-denominations may, however, be found in official records such as civil registration or on the Ordnance Survey maps of Ireland. For this reason, examining the "Manuscript Index to the Original 6" to the Mile Ordnance Survey Maps" may be the quickest method of determining in which townland, civil parish, and county an obscure place name is located. It is not uncommon for an immigrant to identify with one of these small parcels of ground rather than with the townland name.

Sources for Finding Place Names

Townland Indexes

The 1851, 1871, and 1901 *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland* may be used to find the official spelling and the location of each townland in Ireland. The 1871 (FHL #476999 item 2) and 1901 (FHL #865092) indexes are available on microfilm. In some cases the spelling of a townland name may be so corrupted that it can't be identified in the townland indexes. This often happens when using Irish civil registration records. The source *List of Townlands in each Poor Law Union (or Superintendent Registrar's District), and Registrar's District* (1891) allows the researcher to search a list of townlands in a particular area to identify the correct official spelling. This list was reprinted by Redmond Press, Salt Lake City (FHL #1559443) and later published with an introduction and appendices

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by George B. Handran in *Townlands in Poor Law Unions: A Reprint of Poor Law Union Pamphlets of the General Registrar's Office*.

For the counties comprising Northern Ireland, the "Index to Townlands (1823-1835)" was produced by the PRONI from the Tithe Applotment Books. The Tithe Books often list places within townlands or alternative names for a townland prior to standardization. The PRONI index uses PRONI reference numbers to the Tithe and names the civil parish in which the townland is located. The Townland Index is on microfilm at the FHL: #1565423 (A-D) and #1565424 (E-W).

Ordnance Survey Maps and Index

If an approximate area of a parish is known check the 6" to the mile Ordnance Survey maps which date from 1833-1846. These maps are very detailed and often identify localized place names. The correct map can be found by locating the townland of interest or a nearby townland or town in the 1851, 1871, or 1901 Townland Index. The column "No. of Sheet of the Ordnance Survey Maps" in the index tells the map number(s) to locate the town or townland. If only a civil parish is known, the section in the back of the Townland Index can be used to determine the correct map number(s).

The Ordnance Survey compiled a manuscript index to all of the place names listed on the original 6" to the mile Ordnance Survey Maps, titled "Manuscript Index to the Original 6" to the Mile Ordnance Survey Maps." This source alphabetically indexes the places within townlands or sub-denominations. The index is available on microfilm at the National Library of Ireland (NLI) in Dublin and at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. For each place name the civil parish and barony of location are given as well as additional information, such as map number, in some cases. This source includes the counties in Northern Ireland. The NLI positive (p.) microfilm numbers are as follows:

County	NLI#
Antrim	p.4623
Armagh	p.4623
Carlow	p.4624
Cavan	p.4623
Clare	p. 4621
Cork	p.4621
Derry	p.4625
Donegal	p.4623
Down	p.4624
Dublin	p.4624
Fermanagh	p.4624
Galway	p.4622
Kerry	p.4621
Kildare	p.4624
Kilkenny	p.4624
Leitrim	p.4622
Leix	p.4625
Limerick	p.4623
Longford	p.4624
Louth	p.4624
Mayo	p.4622
Meath	p.4624
Monaghan	p.4624
Offaly	p.4624
Roscommon	p.4623
Sligo	p.4623
Tipperary	p.4622
Tyrone	p.4625
Waterford	p.4623
Westmeath	p.4625
Wexford	p.4625
Wicklow	p.4625

Northern Ireland Place-Name Project

The Northern Ireland Place-Name Project of the Celtic Department of Queen's University in Belfast concentrates on the history of and variations found in Ulster place names. It has compiled a computer database of places with names from the Ordnance Survey Name Books for the six counties of Northern Ireland.

If a place name in the six counties can't be found, the Place-Name Project may be of some assistance. The Project will accept inquiries from the public, however, it is not a genealogical society.

The Place-Name Project publishes a journal currently called *AINM*, earlier titled *Bulletin of the Ulster Place Name Society*. It published some extracts from the Ordnance Survey Name Books and a series of articles, "An Index to Minor Place-Names From the 6" Ordnance Survey." The place names listed in this series were extracted not from the original 6" maps of the 1830s but from the third series of Ordnance Survey maps (1880s). Minor place names in four Ulster counties were published in the following volumes of *Bulletin of the Ulster Place Name Society*:

Antrim	Series 2, Vol. 1 (1978)
Armagh	Series 2, Vol. 2 (1981/82)
Londonderry	Series 2, Vol. 2 (1979)
Tyrone	Series 2, Vol. 3 (1980/81)

The project is also publishing a series of books called *Place-Names of Northern Ireland*. Three volumes for County Down, one for Antrim, and one for Londonderry (Derry) have been published in this ongoing series. The books include variations in townland names

and spellings compiled from various sources including the Ordnance Survey Name Books. Sub-denominations are also included.

Ordnance Survey Place Name Books
The Place Name Books were compiled by John O'Donovan, an Irish scholar whose detailed studies of Irish place names helped to standardize the names and spellings of townlands. These name books were compiled in the 1830s at which time survey teams went to each townland, interviewed local people, noted variations in what names people called a townland and in the spelling of townland names, as well as consulting historical works and maps of the time period.

The Ordnance Survey Place Name (John O'Donovan) Books show the different names that were used for the same townland as well as spelling variations in townland names. Only one name and spelling was standardized and used officially after the survey of the 1830s. Once the townland names were standardized, the standard names from the maps appeared in the subsequent 1851, 1871, and 1901 townland indexes. An Irish immigrant may have used an unofficial variation of a townland name as the place of the family's origin in Ireland.

The Name Books are available in manuscript form on microfilm at the NLI. There are also typed transcripts of the name books for many counties at the NLI (reference number IR 9294203). The NLI collections include the counties of Northern Ireland. The books are divided by county and alphabetically by civil parish. Microfilm copies for Ulster are at Queen's University in Belfast (Mic. A/I-13).

Some of the Name Books provide the following additional information for townlands:

- Name of land owner
- Number of Catholic and Protestant families
- Name of the major lessor
- Terms of tenure of the tenants
- Major surnames in the townland

The Name Books may also provide information regarding townland sub-denominations and geographical features within the parish.

Strategies for using Place Name Books

- If it is suspected that two names actually refer to the same townland, the place name books can help prove that both names were used for the same townland.
- If a place name and a county are known, the books for the entire county can be searched parish by parish for the place name.
- If a section of a county is hypothesized, such as near the town of Ballyshannon, County Donegal, the books for the civil parishes in the area can be examined.
- If it is known from the church records that an immigrant was from a certain parish, but a townland is not listed in the records, the name books can be consulted for details that may narrow the search such as major surnames or religion of residents.

Griffith's Primary Valuation
If an Irish county of origin is known, but the townland or parish place name spelling is uncertain, Griffith's Primary Valuation can also be used as a source. By browsing the parish and townland names within a county, which are at the front of each book, a spelling can often be identified.

Additional Gazetteers and Directories

1. *The Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* by Samuel Lewis, published in 1837, gives sketches of each-civil parish, town, barony and county in Ireland. Lewis' work is available on microfilm at the FHL (#599557).
2. *The Parliamentary Gazetteer of Ireland*, published in 1844, is similar in its content to Samuel Lewis' work. This ten volume work is broken down as follows: vol. 1. A-Arm; vol. 2. Arm-Car; vol. 3. Car-Cus; vol. 4. Dal-Gal; vol. 5. Gal-Kil; vol. 6. Kil-Mag; vol. 7. Mag-Rap; vol. 8. Rap-Tib; vol. 9. Tib-You; vol. 10. You-Z. These are available on microfilm through the FHL: volumes 1-2 (#824043 it. 4-5); volumes 3-6 (#824044); volumes 7-10 (#824045).
3. Ambrose Leet's *A Directory to the Market Towns, Villages, Gentlemen's Seats, and Other Noted Places in Ireland*, written in 1814 (FHL #990023 item 2), is especially helpful if a place name is a manor house or an estate.
4. *Maps of the Roads of Ireland* by George Taylor and Andrew Skinner was originally published in 1783

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and shows details of the road system in Ireland.

5. The *Liostai Logainmneacha* series compiled by the Place Names Branch of the Ordnance Survey in Dublin is a county-by-county alphabetical cross reference of the Gaelic form of names for townlands and other features and the English form.

Examples of Place Name Origins

Two examples of how the indexes can be used for identifying origins come from Cherry Grove, County Limerick, and Whiskey Hill, County Tyrone. An immigrant from County Limerick stated in his American Civil War papers that he was from Cherry Grove, County Limerick. This place name could not be found in the various townland indexes. However, it was identified in the "Manuscript Index to the Original 6" to the Mile Ordnance Survey Maps" as being in the civil parish of Croom. This was confirmed through the Catholic parish registers of Croom which listed Cherry Grove as a residence for the family.

The situation of Whiskey Hill was somewhat more complex. A search of the Catholic registers at the PRONI showed one entry in the records of the Catholic parish of Strabane which could be for the family. The register stated that the family was from Whiskey Hill. Upon examining the various townland indexes no Whiskey Hill could be found. In the printed Tyrone index to minor place names in the *Bulletin of the Ulster Place Name Society* Whiskey Hill was found to be Whisker Hill, a place in the townland of Tullywhisker.

Addresses

Family History Library: 35 North West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84150, USA. Internet: http://www.familysearch.org/

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center of Wisconsin: 2133 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233, USA; Tel: (414) 345-8800; Fax: (414) 345-8805. Email: director@ichc.net Internet: http://www.ichc.net/

National Library of Ireland: Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland; Tel: +353 1 603 02 00; Fax: +353 1 676 66 90. Email: info@nli.ie Internet: http://www.nli.ie

Northern Ireland Place-Name Project: Department of Celtic, School of Modern and Medieval Languages, Queen's University of Belfast, 7 University Square, Belfast BT7 INN, Northern Ireland; Tel: 028 9097 3689 ; Fax: 028 9032 4549. Internet: http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofLanguagesLiteraturesandPerformingArts/SubjectAreas/IrishandCelticStudies/Research/NorthernIrelandPlaceNameProject/

Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland: Colby House, Stranmillis Court, Belfast BT9 5BJ, Northern Ireland; Tel: 028 9025 5743. Internet: http://www.osni.gov.uk/

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o' Maolfabhail, Art. *The Placenames of Ireland in the Third Millennium*. Dublin: Ordnance Survey, 1992.

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Taylor, George and Andrew Skinner. *Maps of the Roads of Ireland. 1783*. Reprint, Shannon, Ire.: Irish University Press, 1969.

Wallis, Helen and Anita McConnell. *Historian's Guide to Early British Maps: A Guide to the Location of pre-1900 Maps of the British Isles preserved in the United Kingdom and Ireland*. (Royal Historical Society Guides and Handbooks, No. 18) London: Royal Historical Society, 1994.

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Ms. Kay Muhr, Northern Ireland Place-Name Project, Queen's University of Belfast, for reviewing this article prior to publication.

Dwight A. Radford and Kyle J. Betit were co-editors of The Irish At Home and Abroad of A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *They are professional genealogists residing in Salt Lake City.*

Irish Estate Records at Columbia University Library, NYC

Submitted by Andrew Pierce

In May Andrew Pierce found the following Irish estate records in the Montgomery Business Manuscripts, Butler Special Collections Library, Columbia University, New York, NY.

1) Montgomery Ms. 88. Vesey, Agmond. Account book showing receipts and expenditures of the Vesey family at Lucan, near Dublin, 1710-1727. Lucan, Leitrim County, Ireland, 1708-1727. 82 pp. Accounts of a rather large estate. Many loose leaves laid in, some with scraps of accounts. On p. 1: "Jane Butler, her book, given her by her dear husband, Mr. Vesey, 17th June 1708."

2) Montgomery Ms. 80. Reeve, Caleb. Caleb Reeve, his book of rents received in his life tyme out of his estate lyeing in the barony of Slaine and county of Meath in Ireland(1695-1698). County Meath, Ireland. 1695-1721. 35 pp. "Rents received by Caleb Reeve in his life tyme since his father dyed in 1695." Also contains the record of leases, etc. made during his father's lifetime.

3) Montgomery Ms. 62. Estate account book of the Colclough family, Co. Wexford, Ireland. Title page is "Frances Colclough Her Booke of Rents, 1668" but the accounts, for rent, labor, hearth taxes, etc. are from 1733 to 1751. Many tenants mentioned, townlands include Balleneglaugh(Ballynaglogh), Rathronan, Bryenstown, Maxbooly, Ballytarsney(Ballytarsna), Cashelgenan, Carrick, Kiletra, Gragenboy, Irishtown, and Killbreny. These appear to be in the parishes of Bannow, Owenduff, Ambrosetown, Mulrankin and Ballyconnick, in the baronies of Bargy and Shelburne.

The DNA Trail to Ireland

by Colleen McClain

It all started when I learned that my Henry family of Counties Derry and Antrim traced their lineage back to the O'Neill Kings of Ireland. These sons of Henry O'Neill had been booted out of Tyrone in the 1400s and ended up in a castle on an island in the river Bann, near a place called the Salmon Leap not far from the town of Coleraine. And near this island castle, on a bluff overlooking the place where the salmon leaped, were the oldest archaeological remains in all of Ireland and the British Isles, a place called Mount Sandel. The remnants of the lives of the people of Mount Sandel radiocarbon dated to as early as 9,000 years ago! So of course, nothing would do but to find out who these ancient people may have been and, in true genealogist fashion, find out if they might they have been ancestors.

Thanks to the recent advances in DNA research, we actually can trace our ancestral roots far back into ancient times. The general consensus among scholars is that about 80% of us who claim Irish ancestry are descended from people like those at Mount Sandel, Mesolithic hunters and gatherers who walked all the way to Ireland following herds of wild game from the European continent long before Ireland became an island.

And my Henry family who claimed the O'Neill Kings of Ireland as their ancestors? According to the research done by the Smurfit Institute of Genetics at Trinity, one in five males in the northwest Ireland home of the O'Neill Kings, and as many as one in twelve of all Irish men can claim the O'Neill Kings as their ancestors. According to the DNA survey, all are descended from the progenitor of the O'Neill Kings of Ireland, a rascally old pirate of the 4th century known as Niall of the Nine Hostages who kidnapped and held captives for ransom. Being a descendant of royalty turned out to be a rather dubious honor that many of us share!

Tracing the DNA trail of our most ancient ancestors is a fascinating story and fortunately some excellent resources are becoming available for our research. Here are a few I've discovered that you may find of interest:

Sykes, Bryan. *Saxons, Vikings and Celts: the Genetic Roots of Britain and Ireland.* New York, London: W. W. Norton & Co. Inc., 2006.
Although many researchers are examining DNA patterns worldwide, this book is one of the first to look specifically at Ireland and the British Isles. Sykes, a scholar from Oxford University, and his research team with the Oxford Genetic Atlas Project, have compiled the results of 10,000 DNA samples to examine the genetic history of the Isles. Sykes has incorporated the DNA evidence into the recorded history of Ireland and the British Isles using material artifacts, written documents, archaeological finds, and even human remains.

In his earlier book, *The Seven Daughters of Eve*, Sykes divided our ancient ancestors into clans based on matrilineal descent, i.e., DNA passed down from mother to daughter (Mitochondrial DNA) and patrilineal descent, i.e., DNA passed down from father to son (Y chromosome). Although there is some variety in the matrilineal clans found in Ireland, almost all of the Irish men with Gaelic surnames were found to have the Y chromosome pattern of only one clan.

Sykes estimates that all of the major clan DNA patterns found in Ireland today were already in place between 7,500 - 4,500 years ago. We have very ancient Irish roots, indeed!

Surprisingly, Sykes found no DNA evidence that we are genetically connected to the Celts of central Europe. Apparently all of the mythic stories about Celtic invasions of Ireland were referring to the adoption of Celtic culture and art that occurred sometime in the Neolithic era.

Two chapters are devoted exclusively to Ireland and Irish DNA. It's tempting to read only those sections of the book but the genetic history of Scotland, Wales, and England, as well as the Norwegian Vikings play quite a significant role in our Irish genetic heritage as well.

Oppenheimer, Stephen. *The Origins of the British.* New York: Carroll and Graf Publishers, 2006.
Stephen Oppenheimer is another leading expert from the University of Oxford who uses DNA to track the migrations of ancient peoples. Like Sykes, he also synthesizes the genetic evidence with linguistics, archaeology and known historical records. Oppenheimer isn't the easiest author to read, but if you don't mind slogging through, he offers an extraordinarily full account of the migration of ancient peoples into Ireland and the British Isles. Through DNA distribution studies he methodically describes the long journey of tribes of people from Africa into Europe as

Ice Ages waxed and waned. Going back into very ancient times, he identifies likely travel routes into Europe and on into Ireland and the British Isles.

He offers the astonishing finding that as many as 88% of the Irish today are descended from ancestors who arrived in Ireland from the Basque region on the Iberian peninsula where they had taken refuge from the sudden reemergence of the last Ice Age from 13,000 to 11,500 years ago. Like Sykes, Oppenheimer found no genetic trail from ancient European Celts to the people of Ireland. Celtic culture and language apparently arrived well after the basic genetic bedrock of Ireland had been well established.

Oppenheimer and his team offer a splendid interactive website that traces the migration of humankind from our origins in Africa 160,000 years ago until the development of agriculture. It's beautifully done and a pleasure to navigate. If you're looking for a quick and easy way to learn the basics of what has been learned through DNA testing about our earliest ancestors, you'll enjoy this website: http://www.bradshawfoundation.com

Wade, Nicholas. *Before the Dawn.* New York: Penguin Press, 2006.
This is a well written, thoroughly researched book on the discoveries from DNA research about the prehistoric movement of humanity. Wade is a science reporter for the New York Times and his skill in telling a fact-filled story in an interesting way is a boon. Although he doesn't focus on the genetic history of Ireland specifically, he provides a very readable account of what is known about the first settlers before they arrived in Ireland. If you're short on time, check out Wade's New York Times article on "The Human Family Tree" that includes a graphic mapping of migration routes at: http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/science/050200sci-genetics-evolution.html

More Sources

If you're curious about the Mesolithic archaeological site at Mount Sandel in County Derry, or about Mesolithic history and lifestyles, take a look at these websites:

- "Mount Sandel, the Earliest Human Settlement in Ireland" at http://archaeology.about.com/od/mesolithicarchaic/a/mount_sandel.htm
- "The First People of Ireland: The Irish Mesolithic" at http://www.danann.org/library/sochis/peop2.html
- "Ireland's History in Maps" at http://www.rootsweb.com/~irlkik/ihm/ancient.htm

For a fuller picture of our ancestors in Ireland in prehistoric times, you'll enjoy reading, or browsing through, these excellent books. Or curl up for a wonderful evening watching a PBS video. They should all be available at your local library.

- Cunliffe, Barry. *Facing the Ocean: the Atlantic and Its Peoples 8000 BC - AD 1500.* Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press Inc, 2001. A wonderfully detailed and picture-filled account of the lives of the peoples who settled along the coasts of present day Ireland, England, France, and Spain.
- Cunliffe, Barry. *The Extraordinary Voyage of Pytheas the Greek.* NY: Walker & Co, 2001. A fascinating history of an explorer to the Isles 2300 years ago.
- Eaton, Leo, director., I*n Search of Ancient Ireland*. PBS DVD Video, 2002. Beautifully filmed on location, it includes ancient sites, reenactments, and interviews with historians and archaeologists. A good example of pictures being worth 1,000 words.
- Flanagan, Laurence. *Ancient Ireland: Life Before the Celts.* New York: St. Martin's Press, 1998. Flanagan is an archaeologist at the Ulster Museum in Belfast who focuses on early Irish history using archaeological evidence.
- Harbison, Peter. *Pre-Christian Ireland: From the First Settlers to the Early Celts.* London: Thames and Hudson, Ltd., 1988, revised paperback 1994. Another excellent history based on evidence from ancient artifacts, early burial tombs, etc. Clearly written and generously illustrated.
- Raftery, Barry. *Pagan Celtic Ireland: The Enigma of the Irish Iron Age.* New York: Thames and Hudson, 1998. Well-illustrated and written by the head of archeology at University College Dublin.

Sources about DNA Analysis

If you're intrigued by DNA analysis and would like to learn more or purchase a DNA analysis of your own ancient genetic roots, Bryan Sykes and Stephen Oppenheimer's websites are good places to start:

'The DNA Trail to Ireland' continued on page 144

'The DNA Trail to Ireland' continued from page 143

- *Oxford Ancestors* at http://oxfordancestors.com/
- *Bradshaw Foundation* at http://www.bradshawfoundation.com

Both of these websites offer DNA analysis for a fee. But there are many other fee-based DNA services, too. Here are a few:

- Family Tree DNA at *Ancestry.com* (http://dna.ancestry.com) will test your DNA sample and connect DNA matches to submitted pedigrees of other ancestry.com users. Using their DNA service does not require that you become a paid subscriber to their other services.

- *DNA Heritage* is based in the U.S. and in the U.K. at http://www.dnaheritage.com/

National Geographic is attempting to chart the migratory history of the human species from ancient times. View their "Atlas of the Human Journey" at https://www3.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/atlas.html

If you'd like to know more about this project, read: Wells, Spencer. *Deep Ancestry: Inside the Genographic Project*. National Geographic, Reprint edition, 2007.

If you're looking for a free DNA testing service for genealogists, look at these websites:

The Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation (http://www.smgf.org) focuses on "molecular genealogy", comparing DNA data and corresponding genealogies at no cost. They send a packet of information and a container of mouthwash that you return to them along with your pedigree. Although at this time they will not provide you with the results of your DNA sample, they do offer an online searchable data base that matches surnames, pedigrees and DNA so that you can contact others who may have a common ancestor. If you have information about your DNA, you may enter it on the website without submitting your pedigree to connect with others who match your own DNA type.

Mitosearch (http:// www.mitosearch.org/) does not test DNA, but if you know your matrilineal DNA results (mtDNA), they will match your mtDNA to others who have also submitted their mtDNA to them.

Another great resource is Michael McTiernan and Sue Shanahan Webb's articles in the April 2007 issue of *The Septs* (Volume 28, Number 2) about using DNA in our genealogical quest.

Colleen McClain was a Board member of IGSI from 2001-2005 and is an avid fan of doing Irish genealogical research. She has made two family history research trips to Ireland. She lives in Portland, Oregon, where she continues to enjoy the benefits of her IGSI membership and the fascination of genealogical research.

2007-2008 Volunteers

The following members are the people who are leading IGSI during the 2007-08 year.

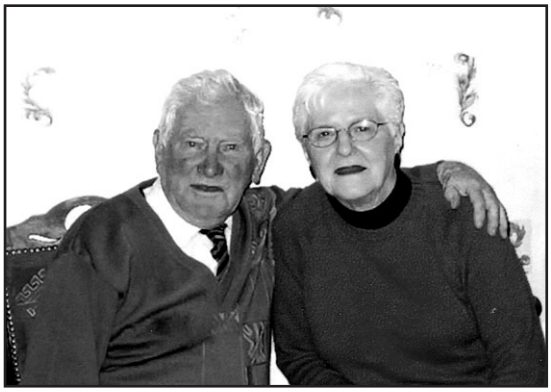
Jeanne Bakken
Mark Baker
Elizabeth Beckers
Frank Braun
Bob Casey
Leo Casey
Kathleen Conard
Judy Dungan
Buzz Dynes
Ann Eccles
Mike Flynn
Frank Fourre
John Friel
Eileen Gannon
Ruth Gensman
Laurie Hanover
Joanne Heinz
Donna Ingram
Susan Kranz
Sue Kratsch
Mary Joan Larsen
Diane Lovrencevic
Kathy Lund
Len Luttrell
Virginia Mahoney
Mary May
Tom May
Mark McCartan
John McNally
Linda Miller
Valerie Morrison
Beth Mullinax
Kevina Munnich
Roseanne Nolan
Sheila Northrup
Tom Rice
Kathleen Strickland
Sheila Strickland
Carol Tindell
Beth Vought
Bob Vought
Bob Zimmerman

An "American Wake"

by Maureen Cannon

"You mean to tell me that Johnny Kelly, the Kiltimagh hackney driver, is still alive?" I asked. When I learned this, I determined I would meet him on my next trip to Ireland, because…

In 1971, my cousin, Dean Sword, traveled to Dublin and met our grandmother's nephew and his family. This was the first meeting between these Irish and American cousins. Our paternal grandparents emigrated to America in 1883 and there had been no reunions or meetings until this time. Our cousin, Henry McNicholas, arranged for Dean to take the train from Dublin to Claremorris, Co. Mayo, where he was met by the Kiltimagh hackney driver, Johnny Kelly, who drove him about to the places on his list. To say the weekend in Dublin meeting with the Henry McNicholas family and his journey to the family sites in County Mayo were the highlight of Dean's life is certainly an understatement. When I was in Kiltimagh in 2006, I called on Johnny Kelly and his wife, Annie May. When I asked him if he recalled taking my cousin about in 1971, he replied, "That I do, that I do. Oi've told 'is story miny a time." In fact, the following day when I went to the Railroad Museum in Kiltimagh to take part in the celebration of Raferty, the famous Irish Poet, they played a video interview of Johnny Kelly. He talked about his life (he's now 87 years of age) growing up in Kiltimagh, some of the customs of his lifetime, and his experiences as a hackney driver. One of the topics he was asked to talk about was the "American Wakes." When an Irish person found it necessary to emigrate to America, the equivalent of a funeral wake was held the night before their departure because they knew, in all probability, they would never see their families again. Johnny talked about how difficult that was for everybody, but how in future years the children and grandchildren of these immigrants feel compelled to return to the land of their grandparents. As an example, he told this story.



Johnny Kelly and Maureen Cannon

I received a call from Henry McNicholas in Dublin requesting that I meet his American cousin at the train in Claremorris and would I take him where he wanted to go around and about Bohola and Kiltimagh. So I met this chap and the first place I took him was to the church in Bohola where his grandparents were married before leaving for America, and then on to the site of his grandmother's home, which was in ruins, in the townland of Tooromeen. The chap wanted to take some of this sod back to America to put on his grandparent's graves, but I had to tell him would not be allowed to transport soil into America. I had a hammer in the boot so I chipped off a piece of the stone from the ruins and put it in a plastic bag for him. Next, I took him to see the old home of his grandmother's sister at the foot of the mountain and then, lastly, up Treeagleragh Mountain to the little two-room cottage where his grandfather was born and lived until he left for America. The chap asked for a few minutes alone to walk about the cottage. When he didn't return, I became concerned for the lad. I walked around to the back of the cottage and there he was – bawling like a child – so overcome was he with emotion. He had promised his grandparents if he ever got to Ireland he would return to their homes in County Mayo, and that he did. Again, I chipped a piece from the cottage and put it with the other piece in the bag. I wonder if he ever got to put them on the graves of his grandparents…

The "chap" in this story told by Johnny Kelly throughout the years to numerous audiences is my cousin, Dean Sword, who found our Irish cousins and the County Mayo townlands of our grandparents for us. We are so-o grateful to him!

And, yes, he did bury those chips of stone in the sod of our grandparents' graves in Upper Michigan.

Maureen is a retired social worker who lives in Eagan, Minnesota. When she retired, she started researching her Irish ancestors. Since locating cousins in Ireland and England, she has traveled to County Mayo, Ireland, yearly. The cottage her grandfather was born and raised in is still in the family. Maureen says, "Staying in that cottage with my 83 year old dear cousin Kate each year is like going home!"

Maureen is proud to possess dual citizenship and an Irish passport!

Tracking Ancestors to America:

Records Marking Five Stages of Migration

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

The Homeland. The ancestral farm. The village church. The Holy Grail for many family researchers is the geographic origin of their ancestors.

If we go back far enough, most Americans came from somewhere else. Native is a relative term. Even today, new Americans arrive from around the world.

In the last two issues of *The Septs*, I wrote about how to use federal and state censuses to track your ancestors. Let's begin once again with the census. The census gives us one of the first and clearest clues about the origins of our foreign-born ancestors.

- Beginning in 1870, the federal census indicated if a person's parents were foreign-born.
- From 1880 forward, the census recorded the parents' places of birth.
- Starting in 1900, the census reported an individual's year of immigration and whether he or she was an alien, had filed first papers or was a naturalized citizen.

This expansion of information about immigrants illustrates an important lesson for genealogists. Government records were not created for genealogists. Rather, the government collected information that officials thought necessary to understand and track the country's population. As immigration surged in the late 1800s and early 1900s, the government wanted to know more about where people came from and how they assimilated into American society. The resulting records are a boon to family history research.

The journey from old country to new is a multi-stage process, and if we are lucky, churches and/or governments may have created records at each stage of the process.

1) Pulling up roots – The family or individual made a decision to leave home.
2) Emigration – The family left the home country and boarded a boat.
3) Immigration – The family got off the boat and cleared customs and immigration.
4) Settlement – The family reach a compatible definition and took up residence.
5) Citizenship and acculturation – The family achieved citizenship and joined American organizations.

It's always best to begin with our most recent, best-documented information and work back in time. Let's do that, and then see how we line up evidence pertaining to each stage of one family's journey from old country to new.

Sadly, my best example is Norwegian, not Irish.

A 1931 death certificate said that 73 year-old Nels Morstad was born in Gran, Hadeland, Norway to a Norwegian mother and Swedish father, and that he had lived in the United States 26 years and in Minneapolis 15 years.

The 1930 **U.S. Census** found 72 year-old, Norwegian-born Nels J. Hagen in Minneapolis. Nels J. Morstad died 19 October 1931. The Hagen name is a fly in the ointment, but comparison of evidence indicates this is the same man as 61 year-old N. J. Morstad enumerated with his wife and family in 1920. The 1920 census says Morstad came to United States in 1904, and had applied for citizenship. His wife, Marie, and three children were aliens.

Maria Morstad's 1918 **Alien Registration and Declaration of Holdings** says the family had been in Minneapolis for four years, but she claimed allegiance to Canada. She had immigrated at New York in 1905. She said her husband was a Canadian citizen living in Fort George, British Columbia.

Son John's 1918 **Declaration of Intention for U.S. Citizenship** said he entered the United States via the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railroad at Portal, North Dakota in 1914. His sister Ruth's 1922 Petition for Naturalization said she had immigrated from Castor, Alberta, but she renounced allegiance to Hakon VII, King of Norway.

The 1911 **Canadian census** recorded the family on the Canadian prairies at Bawlf, a small town a few miles from Castor, having immigrated to Canada in 1910.

Neils Morstad took a **Canadian government land grant** in Section 10 of Township 36, Range 14W.

On 30 April, the 1910 **U.S. Census** caught the family still in Morton County, North Dakota. The census said Nils had entered the United States in 1905 and had filed first papers, but gave no immigration information for the rest of the family. A year later, in 1911, the *Altmont Arena* reported that "Mrs. Nels Morstad and children left for Castor, Alberta, Canada, to join husband and father who had preceded them to that place, where he has a homestead." Just a month earlier, in March 1911, the Gen-

eral Land Office issued a **land patent** to Niels Morstad for 160 acres in Morton County. It is not clear if he was there to receive it.

In 1906, Nils Morstad filed **"first papers"** in Burleigh County, North Dakota, saying he had immigrated about February 1905 at New York.

Ship passenger manifests document the family's arrival at New York. Marie, a housewife with three children, arrived on the *Hellig Olav* in October 1905, declaring her intent to meet her husband at 502 Willow Ave. in Hoboken, New Jersey. Niels Morstad arrived at New York on the *Baltic* from Liverpool in January 1905, without family in tow, giving his destination as Moorhead, Minnesota. But, he was traveling with a "friend" living at 502 Willow Ave.. in Hoboken, New Jersey.

Emigration police records show that Nils Johannes. Morstad, a "handelslaerer," left Oslo in January 1905 on the Montebello with passage booked to New York. "Marie Ivers. Marstad" and the children left Oslo in October on the *Hellig Olav*. Her occupation was recorded as "predikant" – actually a Dutch word for preacher.

The 1900 **Norwegian census** enumerated the family in Oslo. Nils' birthplace was given as Hadeland, Marie's as Romsdalen.

Parish church records in Gran, Hadeland, record that unmarried Nils Johannessen Morstad departed for Kristianna (Oslo) in August 1889.

Pulling-up Roots Records

The decision to leave home almost always generated evidence. The most common is probably church records, especially in Scandinavian countries that kept track of people leaving and arriving in parishes. Look for "Church Records" in the Family History Library catalog for your country of interest and see what kinds of records were kept.

You might also find evidence of families leaving as they disappear from census or other records over time. While the records are harder to find and decipher, families leaving home may also have sold property. In some cases estate records in either America or the old country may link families on both sides of the ocean.

Emigration Records

Many countries kept some kind of record of its emigrating subjects. Look in the Family History Library catalog (http://www.familysearch.org) under "emigration and immigration" for your country of interest. The easiest to find are records at the port of embarkation. Notable among these are the Swedish, Norwegian and German records, all available on microfilm at the Family History Library. Many of these records are searchable online at free or subscription sites. Emigration records often give information about birthplace, last residence, occupation and ticketing arrangements.

Records of Irish emigration are harder to come by. Free emigrants to America were not recorded before 1773. Free emigrants to Canada were not documented until 1865. Records of emigrants to New Zealand, Australia and South Africa only date from the 20th century. Records were more likely to be created for assisted emigrants who received cash or land grants, for transported prisoners or for military personnel. For more information on Irish emigration sources consult *Smith's Inventory of Genealogical Sources: Ireland* or Margaret Dickson Falley's *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research.*

Immigration and Passenger Records

If your ancestors came during the Irish potato famine or for the Gold Rush, they did not pass through Ellis Island, but there is a very good chance their arrival was recorded on a ship passenger record.

U. S. Federal passenger records from 1820 forward fall into two broad categories:

- Customs Passenger Lists, 1820 – 1891
- Immigration Passenger List, 1891 – 1957

The Steerage Act of 1819 required captains of vessels arriving in U.S. ports to submit a list of passengers to the Collector of Customs. The National Archives does not have passenger lists before 1820. Immigration records prior to 1820 were a matter of state or local policy, and those that survive are scattered in libraries and archives in America or Europe. The original records are difficult to find, but most surviving records are published or abstracted in books or articles. A reference librarian can help

'Tracking Ancestors to America: Records Marking Five Stages of Migration' continued on page 148

'Tracking Ancestors to America: Records Marking Five Stages of Migration' continued from page 147

you find indexes and published works. These early records generally contain little information beyond names, ages, country of origin and sometimes occupation.

The law required listing passengers' names, age, sex, occupation and nationality, as well as the name of the ship and captain, departure port, and the port and date of arrival. The format of Customs Passenger lists varies widely because ship companies bought them from private printers.

In 1891, Congress created an Office of Immigration to collect information on immigrants on standardized forms. The amount of information increased dramatically in 1893, when the forms were expanded beyond name, age, sex, occupation and nationality to include marital status, last place of residence, final destination in the United States and the name and address of relatives waiting for the passenger, as well as information about literacy, finances and health.

Information about race was added in 1903; place of birth and descriptions of personal appearance were added in 1906. Beginning in 1907, passengers were asked the name and address of their closest living relatives in their native country. Thus, for example, the 1908 entry for Johan E. Mansson listed his sister Anna Rosenquist of Locko farm, Hyssna, Sweden, and reported he was traveling to Mr. Ayr, Iowa.

Most surviving passenger records are at the National Archives. Record Group 36 includes original lists from 1820 to 1902, copies and abstracts from 1820 to 1905, and State Department transcripts from 1819-32. Record Group 85 includes passenger lists from 1883-1945. Most surviving lists are microfilmed and available from the National Archives or the Family History Library. Not all microfilms are original. This is because the National Archives microfilmed quarterly compilations or abstracts to fill in for missing originals. These derivatives often only gave first and middle initials of passengers. Microfilmed book indexes exist for Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Portland, Maine.

You can search for passenger records at three online databases.

- Some ten million immigrants passed through New York's Castle Garden, America's first official immigration center from 1855-92, although some Castle Garden records extend from 1830 to 1892. (http://www.castlegarden.org).
- Ellis Island was open from 1892 to 1954. Some 23 million immigrants are searchable online from 1892 to 1924. (http://www.ellisisland.org).
- Ancestry offers an online index of most surviving passenger lists, including entries through Canadian ports at (http://www.ancestry.com.) Ancestry offers both an individual subscription service and a library version free to patrons at many libraries.

Remember, while New York was the leading port of entry for later years, immigrants entered the U.S. at many ports, including Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, and many smaller ports on the Atlantic, Gulf, and even Pacific coasts. Do not limit your search to New York.

Settlement

It's tempting to jump straight from passenger records to citizenship records, but immigrants didn't always start the citizenship process immediately. And, if you don't know where your ancestor lived, you will have trouble finding their citizenship records.

Censuses, directories and land records all help document residency. Land purchases through the Homestead Act required proof of citizenship, but other land transactions usually did not. While land records usually do not give information about immigration or origins, they do help track the movements of immigrants.

Church records can be hard to find, but they may provide information about birth places or affiliations with churches in the home country.

Naturalization Records

U. S. Citizenship was a two-step process, and the rules and forms changed over time. Unless records for your state or county of interest are indexed, naturalization records can be hard to find. Prior to 1906, any court of record – local, state or federal – could grant citizenship. County courts were the convenient court of choice for most people, but federal courts were often used in larger cities. Records may still be in local courthouses, or may have been transferred to a state archives. Records of federal courts may be at a regional NARA archive. After 1906, courts for-

warded copies of naturalizations to the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Even if you can't find the original court record, homestead files, passport application files, or even passenger records may include information about naturalization.

For most of the period before 1906, citizenship required residency in the United States for at least five years, including one year in the state or territory where applying.

Declarations of Intention. Early declarations (1870-1906) usually provide only name, birth country and date, port and date of arrival and foreign allegiance. Declarations of intention are more useful beginning in 1906, when standardized forms asked:

- occupation
- physical description
- current and last place of residence
- port of embarkation, and
- name of ship

You are really lucky if your ancestor declared his or her intent in 1916 or later, when questionnaires asked marital status and spouse's name and residence. Beginning in 1927, the applicant also declared the spouse's nationality, the place and date of marriage, as well as names and birth information of children.

Final Papers. Final papers include petitions for citizenship and actual certificates of naturalization. The petitions included statements of witnesses in support of the applicant's claim of meeting residency requirements. These papers generally give little additional genealogical information, but if the case was contested, various affidavits and court judgments may contain rich details about travels, name changes and other matters.

The waiting period between declaration of intention and citizenship was two years (except before 1824, when it was three years). People often moved during the two-year waiting period, so final papers and declarations of intent may be filed in different localities, or even different states. Often, several years passed between first and second papers, and some people never got around to obtaining their final citizenship papers.

From 1790 to 1922, a wife automatically became naturalized when her husband obtained citizenship. But, if an American woman married an alien, she lost her citizenship. Until 1940, children under 21 gained citizenship automatically when their father became a citizen.

A couple of other exceptions might confuse your search. First, from 1824 to 1906, minors who had lived in the U.S. for five years before turning 23 could become a citizen on the same day they filed their declaration of intent. Since 1862, certain qualifying military veterans have been allowed to petition for citizenship without filing a declaration of intent.

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New Writers, Old Stories: Starting a Writing Group

by Linda Miller

In response to members' interest in putting their research into story form, IGSI started a writing group in St. Paul in March. I agreed to facilitate the group and put up a notice at the Minnesota Genealogical Society library and one on our website. Within a few days, we had seven local would-be writers registered and inquiries from members across the country who would like to be involved in a writing group like this.

We meet at a charming little coffee shop/art gallery in St. Paul, operated by one of the members of our group. At the first meeting, I suggested we meet once a month. These fledgling writers didn't think that was often enough. We are meeting every three weeks on Wednesday afternoons but there is active discussion of meeting every two weeks instead. Everyone enjoys writing the stories and sharing them at our meetings. Those who want to meet more often say that they get more writing done if they have the pressure of an imposed deadline – such as an upcoming meeting of the group. They surprise themselves with the quality of their writing. All consider themselves to be beginning writers and find they love writing.

As we all know, the results of family history research reveal some of the most compelling lives ever lived. Never mind that your ancestors were common people who never ruled a nation, became famous inventors, or amassed a fortune. They carried on through wars, famines and economic disasters. They were survivors and we are the living proof. The knowledge of those lives keeps some of us up at night, writing as fast as we can, lest they be forgotten.

If you are interested in developing a writing group in your area, we can help you get started. It's relatively easy and there are really no costs involved. You need a free place to meet and a few interested writers. We can provide you with everything else you need. Contact Linda Miller at lindamiller106@gmail.com or Diane Lorencevic at dlorencevic@comcast.net

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Linda Miller is the immediate past-president of the Irish Genealogical Society International. She volunteers as the bookstore manager. A former police officer, she is a member of the Association of Personal Historians and a certified Soliel Lifestory Network teacher who offers lifewriting workshops and other memoir services. Linda lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area.

Emigration, Immigration and New Citizenship: Websites

by Mary Wickersham

My favorite places for this information continue to be Ancestry, Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild, Ellis Island, Castle Garden, and the National Archives and Records Administration.

Ancestry.com

http://www.ancestry.com The quantity and quality of online resources for ancestors' information continues to grow. It's definitely worth another visit, if you haven't searched there recently. If you do not have a personal subscription, use the Ancestry Library Edition at your local library or at the IGSI/Minnesota Genealogical Society library.

Having previously searched with no success, I was surprised to discover my great-grandfather's ship record in New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957 [database on-line]. Not only was I able to view the ship's manifest, but I notice now that the record is linked to an image of the ship itself, a very nice touch.

Immigration and Emigration Records. The databases within this are too numerous to list here. They include naturalizations for several states and counties, U.S. passport applications and Canadian border crossings. (Note: Ancestry's *Minnesota Naturalization Records Index, 1854-1957,* can mislead you, because the date of naturalization shown in the results is years off – more likely the date shown is the date the record was added to the database.)

Passport applications are indexed, are searchable by residence, and are linked to the application, which can provide detailed place of birth as well as a photograph. Check for multiple applications for a given person.

Other databases which are relatively new to Ancestry are state and territorial census indexes for Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, which are linked to the census images. Imagine my delight at finding the full names of the parents of a James O'Rourke I was researching, in the 1925 Iowa State Census. Both his parents' names were listed, although they were both long gone by the time the entry was written for their 64-year-old son. The census entry was spread over several pages, so be sure to check all pages.

Some of the state and territorial census records indicate how many years the individual has been in the state and in the area, which can help you construct a timeline for your ancestor.

ISTG Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild

http://www.immigrantships.net/ This website includes volunteer-contributed transcriptions of ships' manifests. Use their Find feature to see a display of possible connections, then click to see the transcription. There is no Soundex feature, so be prepared to spend some time searching. In addition to the section on Passenger Lists, which includes nine volumes of transcriptions, there is the Compass, a help or guide to further resources for immigrant-related information.

Ellis Island

http://www.ellisisland.org. There are two ways to search the Ellis Island database. If searching at the Ellis Island site, registration is required in order to view manifests, but it is free. It covers immigrants who passed through New York between 1892 and 1924. Optionally, use the Gold form, at http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/EIDB/ellisgold.html, which performs a one-step, flexible search for spelling variations, etc., on your behalf – a great time-saver. Any results from this search will take you to the Ellis Island database for viewing the record – and the need to register there for viewing.

Castle Garden.org

http://www.castlegarden.org/ Castle Garden provides free access to a database of U.S. immigrants from 1830-1892. If searching for an O' surname, make sure you try with and without the apostrophe, and without O'.

The National Archives

http://aad.archives.gov/aad/ Click on Passenger Lists (Under Genealogy/Personal History). Look for *Records for Passengers Who Arrived at the Port of New York During the Irish Famine, created, 1977 - 1989, documenting the period 1/12/1846 - 12/31/1851 - Collection CIR* There are also databases for German, Russian and Italian immigration.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She writes the 100 Years Ago in the News column with her sister, Sheila Northrop, and is past IGSI Secretary. She is treasurer for the Minnesota Genealogical Society and chairs its research committee. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses and gardening societies

Henry A. S. Upton Collection

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA

This installment of the series on Irish Genealogical Collections focuses on the collection of Henry A. S. Upton deposited in the Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2. Their website is http://www.ria.ie and their email address is library@ria.ie. All enquires should be addressed to "The Librarian." This collection pertains primarily to the Republic of Ireland. The names of the counties and dioceses covered in this installment are as follows:

Counties	Collections	Repository	FHL	Diocese(s)
Antrim	Henry A. S. Upton	Royal Irish Academy, Dublin	Yes (Part)	Sheriffs
Armagh				West Family / Sheriffs
Carlow				Sheriffs
Cavan				Sheriffs
Donegal				Sheriffs
Down				Sheriffs
Leix (Queens)				Dunn Family
Longford				Bond and Molyneux Families
Meath				Meath, Kilmore, Armagh, Kildare
Offlay (Kings)				Kildare, Meath, Killaloe, Ossory, Clonfert
Roscommon				Elphin, Tuam, Clonfert, Ardagh
Sligo				Gray Family
Westmeath				Meath, Ardagh
Leinster Province				Quakers (women)

Note: When only one family is treated in a given county, the name/s of that family is listed in the "Diocese" column. For some counties, only a listing of the Sheriffs is given in Nos. 19-19A

Henry A. S. Upton Collection

A continual challenge with on-line genealogical databases is determining what you have searched by virtue of searching a website. Such is the case with the Upton Genealogical Collection which is partly indexed on Ancestry.com in a collection entitled *Irish Records Index, 1500-1920.* This collection was created by J and J Limited Company in 1998 and purchased by The Generations Network in 1999.

A selected portion of the Upton Collection was microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, now known as FamilySearch, at the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin in 1950. It is contained on one roll of microfilm – number 101,011, items 1-6 containing the Upton Papers nos. 4, 8, 9-11, 13-14, and 21. It is this microfilm which was indexed by J and J Limited and is searchable by name in the *Irish Records Index, 1500-1920.* The Upton Papers no. 24 was microfilmed in a subsequent filming in 1979 and is contained on microfilm 992,663, item 3. This roll of microfilm is not indexed in the above entitled work and thus one has not fully searched the entirety of the Upton Collection by using the on-line database. The remaining numbers of the Upton Papers have not been microfilmed or indexed.

A search on the Ancestry.com database would yield the following example for the surname HODSON:

Hodson, John, D.D., Bishop	1685	Elphin	101,011	will #2
Hodson, Pedigree	1740	Roscommon	101,011	Pedigree 1
Hodson, Pedigree	1643	Johns Roscommon	101,011	Pedigree 8
Hodson, William, Esq.	1794	St. John Roscommon	101,011	will #1

While the microfilm number is included in the reference, the item number may be viewed by opening the "view record" indicator. This adds the descriptive information to quickly access the source on the microfilm with the addition of the item number, but the original records have not been digitized and linked to the index to view online.

The collection also contains one aspect of Irish Quaker history in number 17-17a. This is curious since Henry Upton seemed to be focused on specific families that were not Quakers.

Inventory to the Upton Papers (FHL microfilm 992,663, item 1)
There is an overall inventory typescript listing giving specific information contained in the Upton Papers that was microfilmed in 1979. It is very useful to use this listing in conjunction with viewing the sets that have been microfilmed and, especially, before having a record agent search the files that have not been microfilmed.

Upton Papers No. 1 (FHL microfilm 100,869, item 6)
This is a 20th century copy of the Meath County index to the Marriage License bonds for the years 1665, 1702-1845. This was not microfilmed at the Royal Irish Academy since the Family History Library has a microfilmed copy of the original from the National Archives, Dublin on the microfilm noted above.

Upton Papers No. 2
This is a set of indexed claims with the names of the claimants, witnesses, townlands, forfeiting proprietors and baronies relating to the counties of Westmeath, Leix (Queen's), and Offaly (King's). The listing is for the 17th century and is a typescript 20th century copy. It has not been microfilmed.

Upton Papers No. 3
Compilation number three is composed of 17th century funeral entries relating to the counties of Leix (Queen's), Offaly (King's), Longford, and Westmeath with genealogical notes and other observations. It has not been microfilmed.

Upton Papers No. 4 (FHL microfilm 101,011, item 6)
This set provides an alphabetical list of those persons who acquired land in County Westmeath for the years 1702-1703 taken from the *Book of Postings & Sales of Forfeited Lands*. It includes an index by townland and the names of the forfeiting proprietors. There is also an alphabetical list of wills for the County of Westmeath for the 17th – 19th centuries.

Upton Papers No. 5 (FHL microfilm 1,279,284, item 1)
This is a typescript copy of *The Book of Surveys and Distribution of the Estates for the County of Westmeath Forfeited in the Year 1641*. The Family History Library has a microfilmed copy of the original work printed by J. C. Lyons, 1852, thus Henry Upton's copy was not microfilmed.

Upton Papers No. 6
This section provides a typescript listing of the High Sheriffs of County Westmeath for the years 1557 until the office ceased to exist in 1922. Miscellaneous correspondence addressed to Henry Upton and two manuscript copies of warrants from the Carte Manuscripts, vol. 56, folio 77 and no. 26. There are also some miscellaneous notes and extracts from the *Journals of the House of Commons*.

Upton Papers No. 7
Typescript genealogical notes on the family of Sproule since 1669 and a typed list of names compiled from the printed works of 1) Burke's Colonial Gentry, 2) Burke's Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies, 3) Burke's History of the Commoners, 4-6) Burke's Landed Gentry for 1846, 1868 and the supplement to the 1925 edition, 7) Lyon's Grand Juries of Westmeath, and 8) Notes to Lodge's

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'Henry A. S. Upton Collection' continued from page 153

Peerage. Many of these works are separately microfilmed by the Family History Library.

Upton Papers No. 8, 9, and 11 (FHL microfilm 101,011, item 1)
These sets contain miscellaneous genealogical notes with copies of prerogative and consistory wills primarily for the Hodson, Brittas, and Dunne families. Miscellaneous genealogical notes, abstracts of wills, indentures, marriage settlements, deeds, etc. for the families of Coates, Tighe, Peyton, Ballesty, Sheen, and West.

Upton Papers No. 10 (FHL microfilm 101,011, item 2)
Probably the most useful complete collection in the series, this set contains a copy of the baptisms (1696-1778), marriages (1787-1835), and burials (1700-1772) from the Church of Ireland parish registers for Killucan, Westmeath. The original parish records were not destroyed in 1922 and are deposited at the Representative Church Body Library, Dublin. The registers actually exist for a more complete period: baptisms (1696-1863), marriages (1787-1857), and burials (1700-1888). There is also a list of the Church Wardens for the years 1699-1800.

Upton Papers No. 12
Number twelve consists of an alphabetical typescript list of the freeholders for the County of Meath, 1794. This item has not been microfilmed nor is it listed among the census substitutes for County Meath in John Grenham's work *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, 3rd edition* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2006), p.303.

Upton Papers No. 13 (FHL microfilm 101,011, item 6)
Set thirteen has an alphabetical list of residents of the townlands in Westmeath for the year 1814. These are limited to the major landholders or freeholders. There is also a listing in chronological order of the members of Parliament representing the County of Westmeath for the years 1559-1880. Biographical notes are listed for some of the members of Parliament.

Upton Papers No. 14
This is a compilation of various documents, deeds, and leases relating to the family of Dunne, of Brittas, Queen's (Leix) County, Ireland.

Upton Papers No. 15
Included in this portion is a manuscript copy of a list of the Irish Sheriffs 1685-6 taken from the original list deposited in the British Museum (Add. Mss. 15893ff, 137-138b). There is also a typed list of printed pedigrees in the *Kildare Archaeological Society's Journal*, Vols. 1-9. The index to these pedigrees is also available online at www.kildarearchsoc.ie and in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) with the abbreviation IRKD. The journals have not been microfilmed and are not available online.

Upton Papers No. 16
This is a manuscript report on the estate papers in the counties of Cavan, Limerick and Cork for the estate of W. F. Greville. The report was crafted by Samuel Nicholson, land valuator, Dublin 1845.

Upton Papers No. 17 – 17a
Manuscript minutes of the monthly meetings of women (Quakers) for Moate, Westmeath for the time period 1798-1845. Also included is a manuscript copy of the proceedings for the quarterly meetings of women (Quakers) for the Province of Leinster for the years 1831-1852.

Upton Papers No. 18
This is a copybook containing notes of grants and pardons by James I (1603-1625). There is also a list of eighteenth century deaths for County Westmeath, but the source is not stated. There are also some loose transcriptions from Michael O'Cleary's *Annals of the Four Masters*.

Upton Papers No. 19 – 19a
These two notebooks contain lists of Sheriffs for Counties Antrim (1543-1861), Armagh (1593-1861), Carlow (1358-1685), Cavan (1584-1899), Donegal (1588-1899), and Down (1400-1864).

Upton Papers No. 20 – 20a
List of claims nos. 1 – 3150 and the disposition of how the claim was settled. Also a list of claims entered prior to 1 September 1701. The listing gives an inadequate explanation from which courts the claims were transcribed. One would assume that since the claims predate 1700, they are either from the Court of Claims established by the Act of Settlement of 1662 to adjudicate on claims of innocence of complicity in the 1641 Confederate Rebellion, or from a second court, which operated from 1666-1669, created by the Act of Explanation of 1665 to deal with the

inefficiencies as defined in the Act of Settlement. In either case, the outcome of these courts was the issuance of a decree in the form of a certificate used by the person to obtain a fiant from the Lord Lieutenant to establish clear title to an estate.

Upton Papers No. 21 (FHL microfilm 101,011, items 4-6)

This section is dedicated to family pedigrees and notes about specific families. The families included are: Hodson family of Hodson's Bay and other parishes in County Roscommon; Magan/Meagan family of Emoe, County Westmeath; Wilson family of Piersfield (Piercefield), County Westmeath; Dunne family of Brittas, County Leix (Queen's); Hatfield family of Killimore, County Westmeath; Gray family of County Sligo; West family of County Armagh; Bond family of County Longford; Daly/O'Daly family of County Westmeath; De la Maziere family of County Westmeath; Homan family of County Westmeath; and miscellaneous materials on the families of Percy, Tighe and Fetherston/Featherstone.

Upton Papers No. 22

A miscellaneous collection of 105 items including newspaper cuttings, dinner menus, obituaries, genealogical notes, maps, letters, receipts, music, and reports. Some of the correspondence was with other noted genealogists such as T. U. Sadleir, dated 28 July 1922.

Upton Papers No. 23

Various pedigrees for the surnames: Higgins of Renown; Malone; Barlow; Percy; Upton; Telford; Wood of Rosmead; King-Harmans; and Johnstones. More correspondence from T. U. Sadlier during the time period 1914-1934, manuscript listing of births, marriages and deaths for the Jones family taken from the *Freeman's Journal*. A list of attainders (traitors) for the County of Westmeath, n.d., and engravings from various monumental inscriptions are included in this set.

Upton Papers No. 24 (FHL microfilm 992,663, item 3)

Section number twenty-four includes miscellaneous papers consisting of correspondence, tombstone inscriptions, wills, pedigrees for the surname Nugent, and parish register transcripts. This collection appears to contain a number of the monumental inscription material that was used to create entries in the *Journal of Irish Memorials Association*. There is also a typescript copy of the Church of Ireland burial registers for the parish of Kilmore, probably County Meath (1827-1896). The copy deposited in the Representative Church Body Library as of their 2006 listing only went to 1858.

Upton Papers No. 25

An enormous miscellaneous collection of 235 items includes pedigrees for the surnames: Fuller, Murray of Mount Murray, Armstrong of Kilsharvan, McDonnell of Belfast, Dobbs of Antrim, William Keating of Coolatore, Gwyther of Robertstown (Co. Meath), Geoghegan, Geoghegan of Donore and Syonan, Montfort, Higgin, Higgins of Benown, Adams, Tighe, Arabin, Chevenix, Irwin, Nugent of Dardistown, Sandys (Co. Roscommon), Molyneux of Ballymulvey (Co. Longford), Baldwin, O'Ferrall Boy, O'Ferral of Mornin (Co. Longford), Jessop (Co. Longford), Nugent of Killasonna, Descendants of Ambrose Joseph Nugent, Ennis, Sheridan, Bomford of Cushinstown (Co. Westmeath), Descendants of Rev. Ambrose Upton, Ogle of Dysartally, Bertles of Ardnagragh, Marsh of Ballinaminton, Lowe, Nugent of Donore, La Nauze, Judge of Mosstown, Jones of Athlone, Jones of Belville, Sproute of Larkfield, Gunning, Mills, Hodson, Kelly of Kellybrook, and Bonynge.

Also included are tombstone inscriptions for the parishes of Kilmaglish, Ballyboghil, Palmerstown, Grallagh, Westpalstown, and Vulgate. There are notes from the estate papers of Edward Dunne, dated 27 July 1799; a manuscript page of births, marriages and deaths for the family of Gray; a typed list of the grand jurors from the Summer Assizes 1852, Spring and Summer 1855; Spring 1898 and Summer 1921; abstracts of Presentment for Spring 1896 and 1897; and miscellaneous notes on claims.

Upton Papers No. 26

This collection includes 120 miscellaneous letters, receipts, notes, photos, newspaper cuttings, bundles of slips of marriages and deaths, listing of Sheriffs for 1778 (locality unspecified), probably Sheriffs for County Louth, 1731, genealogical notes, tombstone inscriptions, and Westmeath place names.

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Upton Papers No. 27

This set includes indexes of names in three parcels Acton to Galbraith; Galbraith to Moore; Moore to Young. There is no specification of what record or collection the index refers to – either the Upton collection in general or another source of information.

Upton Papers No. 28

This contains a number of bundles of letters regarding the Upton pedigree and correspondence with T. U. Sadlier (1911-1937). Miscellaneous genealogical notes and letters to other genealogists, notably H. B. Swanzy (1930 and 1932) and J. B. Leslie (1930). There is a list of Protestant refugees to Chester in 1688 and two lists of High Sheriffs for County Tipperary, n.d.

Upton Papers No. 29

This last set contains a number of pedigrees for the surnames: Higgins, Dunne of Derry (County Queen's – Leix) and Dunne of Brittas. Also included are copies of various wills, land grants and Chancery Bills for the family of Dunne. There are ten newspaper cuttings referring to the "Amazing Case of Sarah Kelly" together with a letter dated 29 April 1918 from Edmond C. Kelly. An oddity is included in the listing of the proprietors of licences for private Sedan Chairs, dated 25 March 1788.

Conclusion

Henry A. S. Upton's collection spans the time period of the destruction of the Public Record Office in 1922. Many of his extracts pre-date the destruction and he certainly worked hard to mitigate the loss with the breadth of materials he gathered for his areas of interest, primarily in Counties Meath and Westmeath. His valuable collection of letters from other noted historians of the time period reveal much of techniques practiced by the compilers of this era. His collection fills a void in the geographic puzzle map for reconstructing the local and family history of Ireland.

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The IGSI Website

Part 3: The Bookstore

by Kathleen Strickland

In the last few issues of *The Septs*, we've explored areas that can be accessed through the homepage and from the "Our Society" tab on the Irish Genealogical Society International's website. Continuing our journey, we travel across the top menu bar to "Bookstore."

I can get lost for hours in almost any bookshop and the virtual bookstore on IGSI's website is no exception as I delve into the treasures to be had by following the links on the Irish Bookstore menu.

Clicking on "Bookstore" opens up four options: Catalog, Featured Books, Used Books and Book Reviews. On the Catalog page, we can search through the bookstore collection and have the opportunity to make an online purchase. The Catalog opens with a welcome page and a list of steps to follow to find and purchase items.

IGSI's Virtual Book Store

The key to searching the bookstore **Catalog** is the search box in the left column of the page.

Type a keyword into the search box. For example, if you type in "Mayo" to find what the bookstore stocks that relates to County Mayo, you get quite a number of titles listed. You can either browse through the long list to see if you find something of interest or you can narrow your search by using a more specific area of Mayo. If you type in "Westport", you get back one result, the booklet *Exploring Family Origins; Castlebar & Westport, Mayo* by Noel Farrell. This listing shows the book cover (click on this to

expand it), number of pages, the locale covered by the item—Mayo, Castlebar and Westport, in this case—as well as a short paragraph describing the contents of the book, the list price and a discounted price (when applicable).

If you seek something in a particular format, make a choice from the listings in the "Choose a format" box.

- For a CD format, for instance, click on "Irish CDs" then type a term into the search box—Mayo, for instance—and click "submit." This time, the result is a CD titled *Memorials of the Dead, Counties Galway & Mayo, Vol. 1*. Once again you find locale, price and additional information about the contents of the CD.

- For Irish Maps format, if you type in a term such as "Meath" the result is a listing of Discovery Series maps that include County Meath in combination with different nearby counties.

Another way to search is to use the browse feature of the bookstore search. You can either highlight a format in the "Choose a Format" box or by click on a format in the "Browse Options" list. When you click on "Irish Estate Records," for example, it calls up a list of Estate Records Indexes for many of Ireland's counties.

A Word about Payment

When you've found something you'd like to purchase, click on the "Add to Cart" box. This puts the item in your virtual shopping cart. At this point, if you'd like to do more browsing or shopping, click "Continue Shopping." If you are ready to buy, click "Continue Checking Out." As you add items to your shopping cart, you may change your mind; in that case, click on the green word "remove" next to the unwanted item, and it will be taken out of your shopping cart. When your shopping cart contains only the items you want, click on "Continue Checking Out". This will take you to the page where you fill in billing and shipping information. Click on Payment Method. The only choice is PayPal at the time of this writing. PayPal does give you the option of paying by credit card. Then click continue. The page that comes up is your order summary. Check it for accuracy. Only when you click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the order will you complete the transaction and be billed for the purchase.

More Choices

A second item on the "Bookstore" menu is **Featured Books**. In April this page featured a series of booklets by Noel Farrell, *Exploring Family Origins*. Each booklet offers help in finding family roots in areas such as Ballina, Mayo; Carlow Town, Carlow; and Cavan Town, Cavan. These featured books were on sale for $20 each this April, a discount from the regular $25 price.

The third choice on this menu is **Used Books.** Unlike purchasing new merchandise online, you can only order used items by sending an e-mail to BookSales@IrishGenealogical.org requesting the titles you wish to purchase. You'll receive a return e-mail with the total cost of your order, including shipping and handling, and then you may send a check to IGSI to cover the costs.

The description of each used book gives the title, author, year published, type and condition of publication, and cost. For instance, at this writing there was a listing for *A Radical Priest in Mayo* by Fr. Patrick Lavelle, published 1994, paperback; very good condition with a cost of $2.

The last item on the "Bookstore" menu is **Book Reviews.** At this writing, the featured item is John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, 3rd Edition. Tom Rice, CG, presents a thoughtful, comprehensive review of the book to help you decide whether or not to add it to your collection.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, IL. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

August Quarterly Meeting & Program

Irish Genealogical Society International presents

A Lecture on

Pre-Christian Celtic Ireland

by Vincent de Lusia

he will speak on:

- Origin and Expansion of Celtic Society
- Equality and Independence of Women in Celtic Ireland
- Druidism and the Roman Catholic Priesthood
- Place Names and Holidays
- The Serpentine Legacy

Vincent DeLusia is a Professor of Business and History at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. He has been a teacher for 25 years. His education includes a BA degree from Fordham University in History and French Language, a MA degree from Columbia University in International Affairs with specialization in African and European Studies and a MBA degree from Columbia University with a Marketing emphasis.

Saturday, August 23, 2008

Held at Minnesota Genealogical Library,
1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul, MN

Onsite Registration:	8:30 AM
Business Meeting:	9:00 AM
Program:	10:00 AM
Cost:	$10 for IGSI Members $15 for Non-Members

On line Registration: http://www.irishgenealogical.org

Recognition of Special Awards

by Diane Lovrencevic

Each year the IGSI Board recognizes the volunteers and all they do to keep our organization running. This year's Volunteer Recognition Event was held at the MGS Library on Saturday, May 17, 2008. In additional to the acknowledgement given to all volunteers we recognized five special award winners.

IGSI Award of Merit is given to an IGSI member in recognition of a singular service providing benefit to the Society. This year it goes to two individuals. They have put countless hours into the Indexing Project going on at IGSI. The indexes are being done by nine individual around the United States and are posted on the members area of the website. From these individuals two people have been chosen for special recognition. **Jeanne Bakken** of Bloomington, Minnesota, is the Coordinator of the Indexing Project and has not only kept the project going but has entered data and rechecked the files for a second edit. Without her leadership the project wouldn't continue. **Len Luttrell** of Coos Bay, Oregon, started with the first index in this project. He has continually worked on one index after another putting in more hours on this than anyone else. Len has always been an avid volunteer for IGSI.

Distinguished Service Award recognizes the dedication that a member brings to the Society for a job they have volunteered to do. **Mary Joan Larsen** of Robbinsdale, Minnesota, has been recognized this year for all she does to make the IGSI Quarterly programs a welcoming event to attend. She is our hospitality hostess at these events. Mary Joan has been the go to lady for her treats and talents for more than six years. Whenever coffee and treats are required Mary Joan is there. She brings additional money into the treasurer by requesting donations and yet donates all food and drinks herself. People who have sampled her homemade cookies at one event are always delighted to know that Mary Joan has baked again for the next.

IGSI Educator's Award is awarded to an individual for educating the public by instructing through speaking, writing or classes for IGSI. We have many worthy people for this award but who better than **David Rencher** of Salt Lake City, Utah. David has been a friend to our organization by speaking at IGSI and writing for our journal, *The Septs*. His knowledge of genealogy and Irish research has helped many members to find information about their ancestors. You can find articles about FHL resources and those of libraries in Ireland by David in *The Septs*.

IGSI Award of Excellence recognizes exceptional contributions to the organization by a member who has contributed beyond job descriptions and expectations. There is no better recipient than **Ann Eccles** of Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Ann's official job title is Editor of the IGSI journal, *The Septs*. It is common knowledge that our award winning editor works hard to bring the best journal to our members but what some might not know is how much she does in other areas throughout the year. She works on the membership aspect of our organization, works at every Irish Saturday held at the Library, helps with set-up and take-down of all Quarterly programs, volunteers for the conference, is always one of the first to show up to do any odd jobs from moving to cleaning at the library and sits on the IGSI Board. If there is something going on with IGSI you will probably find Ann Eccles behind the scenes.

Thank You to the Data Entry Volunteers

By Jeanne Bakken

Many IGSI volunteers have been busy since August 2007 entering information into spreadsheets. The data files are then placed on our website where members can search for names of ancestors. The volunteers are sometimes amazed at some of the projects; not everything is names and numbers. Some projects include interesting personal data and a variety of Irish counties.

Our volunteers are from near and far. The Society extends a very **big thank you** to the volunteers who have worked on these recent projects:
Bob Casey – Mattydale, New York
Leo Casey – Charlottesville, Virginia
Mark Baker – Plymouth, Minnesota
Eileen Gannon – Duluth, Minnesota
Ruth Gensman – Dunnellon, Florida
Len Luttrell – Coos Bay, Oregon
Roseanne Nolan – Victor, Montana
Sheila Strickland – Olney, Maryland

We are always looking for more people to help with projects. It gives you an idea of what is on the website and all the different places there are to search. The projects come in all sizes. If you have Microsoft Excel and think you might be interested to try one out, contact Jeanne Bakken at nlbjmb@aol.com for more information.

Change Is the Norm: IGSI Website Report

by Diane Lovrencevic

The Internet makes any search for information on genealogy easier; our members increasingly use our website for their searches. This increased use of our site is good and bad for our organization. On one hand, the Internet allows our society to reach out to members at great distances, provides an inexpensive and easy way to present records, and allows us to link information that otherwise might go unnoticed. To do this successfully, someone must gather and place the information onto the site; yet it is an overwhelming burden for one person alone. This is where IGSI is at this moment: we need to ask our members' help to make our website grow.

As we start and build areas of the website that will provide value to our members, we need your help. You can do this work from home, regardless of where you live. The amount of time is your decision and the work required is simple, needing only email and a computer.

The projects we plan to initiate are: Adopt a County, expanding our Indexing projects, and starting a Local Look-up Service.

Adopt a County

The 'adopt a county' concept is a great idea that IGSI would like to use for our website. Many members have knowledge of a county in Ireland or other Irish areas that would be useful to other members. IGSI will set up an area on the site for each county which will include links, timelines of historical events, photos and maps to help researchers.

We need members to adopt a county in Ireland, a province in Canada, a state in America or Australia, an Island in New Zealand or a country that the Diaspora of Irish have settled. The volunteers who 'adopt a county' will suggest information or links for the section they have taken. They do not need to put the information online themselves.

Indexing

In the last nine months, a few members have worked at indexing records which we place online as they are finished. The volunteers type the data into a spreadsheet and others check the entries for accuracy. The members working on this project could use more help.

We also need volunteers who will transcribe hand written records into a spreadsheet. These are valuable records to index. We can have some projects ready to start when someone steps forward to help.

Look-ups

Would you be willing to look up information in your local genealogical/historical libraries that may benefit another member living further away or in Ireland? Volunteers who would do lookup in their home areas or in books they may own provide an invaluable help to others. We would like to compile a list of members who are willing to do look-ups for other members and the type of information they will look-up. Again, volunteers would set their time commitment and availability for this service.

Each of these projects allows the volunteer to spend the amount of time chosen to give. If interested in helping with any of these projects, or if you would like more information on one of them, contact Diane Lovrencevic at webeditor@IrishGenealogical.org.

The website will only be as good and as useful as the work we put into it. Lend a hand and a couple of hours to make IGSI's website a great place to visit and use.

Diane Lovrencevic is the web editor and as a graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of the publications for IGSI. Diane has been researching her family history for 18 years and has moved on to her husband's Irish ancestors. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop

Records That Count

Some Modern Athletic History Produced by an Expert Authority on Various Lines of Sport.

Wonderful Success Achieved in This Direction by Irish-Americans and Irish-Canadians.

Many of Marvelous Olympic Achievements Were Considered Impossible a Few Years Ago.

Malachy Hogan, an expert authority on all lines of sport, writes from his home in Chicago to the Inter-Mountain Catholic the following letter on Irish athletes and the records made at the Olympic games.

The Irish and Irish-Americans are the greatest athletes in the world. The records prove it. Let us take a few. The highest records leap, 6 feet 5 3/8 inches, is held by Michael F. Sweeney. The fastest hundred yards ever run by man since the world began, so far as we know, was run by Arthur Duffy and Dan Kelly… The present marks for both hammer and the shot-put are held by Matt McGrath and John Flanagan… Martin… Sheridan, at Athens in 1906, won the shot-put, 46 feet, 5 inches, sixteen pound shot, against the world… In rowing, perhaps the greatest oarsman the ever sat in a shell was the Irish-Canadian, Edward Hanlan… The greatest all round athlete today, and perhaps the greatest the world ever saw, is Martin Kiely…

I might fill your columns of your newspaper with the names of famous Irish Celts, who in every department of athletics stand pre-eminently alone. Why, considering the paucity of their numbers in comparison with the world's population, they are such tremendous successes I leave to you to explain, for I cannot!

The Irish Standard, 8 Aug 1908

Irish People

Read the Immigration List for May

BOSTON, June 11. – Immigration figures for the port of Boston show that nationalities have shifted places as regards the number of aliens arriving. Where formerly the order was Italians first, Scandinavians second and Irish third the list is now headed by Irish immigrants, who came into this port last month 1044 strong, out of a total of 2655 for the month.

The immigration statisticians account for this by the steady demand for domestic service. The figures show further evidence of this in the proportion of females to males, which is '608' to '229'. Italian ports have sent only one-half as many as Ireland, 397 persons…

Lowell Sun, 11 Jun 1908

Wins Fight To Land Here

Great Britain Couldn't Stop James Carty, Wanted for Cattle Driving

After a bitter fight of a month, put up by the United Irish Societies of New York, James Carty, a young immigrant from Roscommon, Ireland, has been released from Ellis Island, where he was held as a pauper with a criminal charge against him. Carty was allowed to land Saturday night, and yesterday he was started on his way to Pawtucket, R. I., where he has relatives.

The fight against the admittance of Carty to this country was made by the English Government. Against Carty was a warrant held by the Royal Irish Constabulary, charging him with cattle driving in revenge for eviction by his landlord, who found it more profitable to use his land for grazing than to rent it.

Carty has been held up at Ellis Island since June 18.

The English Government finally decided that in the event of the American immigration authorities permitting Carty to land they would not put up an Indemnity bond and make the fight to get him sent back to Ireland, and as the United States authorities decided to admit him he was free to go where he wished.

The New York Times, 14 Jul 1908

Irish Presbyterianism

From reports submitted at the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, it appears that now has 663 ministers and '551' congregations, as against 651 ministers and 569 congregations a year ago. The population of the country is not increasing, and Irish Presbyterianism is steadily diminished by the immigration of members to America. The numbers received by the church upon examination last year were 4,104 as against 4,207 the previous year. There was a slight loss in Sunday school scholars but a significant gain in membership of young people's societies…

Galveston Daily News, 9 Aug 1908

Ask Connemara Kate

by Beth Mullinax

Dear Kate: Family stories say that there were four O'Donnell brothers who came to the U.S. together. They were Patrick, Martin, William and Michael. It is believed they came from County Cork, but this has not been proved. I've found several Patricks in Wisconsin where they settled. How can I tell which, if any, is mine? Also, Martin supposedly drowned while in Chicago. How do I sort this family out?

Dear Member: Since you sent in three full pages of information and I cannot publish it all, here is where I would start:

1) Try the Chicago newspapers for information on Martin's drowning. Such occurrences are reported as news in the papers.

2) Make a 'time-line' or 'chronology' for each O'Donnell, including all the Patricks. Begin with date of birth in Ireland, date of immigration, etc., information found on census records. These will be approximate dates, using ages and places of birth of the children. When this is done, compare them and see if anything jumps out at you. This will usually show you things you didn't recognize before.

3) You state that the date of 1841 was listed on the 1900 census as the immigration date and you checked that year. Don't take that exact year as absolute. Use at least a 5 year time span before and after that date to search. Remember, about 60 years had passed since his immigration and the question on the census. Memories are fallible.

4) The Wisconsin Department of Health has birth, marriage and death records as early as 1814, but they are sparse. Between 1865 and 1907 less than half of the records were filed. Complete vital records in Wisconsin began on January 1, 1907. So, you are left with church records, census, newspapers, land and military records. The Mormons (LDS) have microfilmed many of the original and published vital records and church registers of Wisconsin, including an index to marriage records from 1852-1907 and death records 1862-1907. The Wisconsin Historical Society's provides an online Wisconsin genealogy index at http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/vitalrecords/

5) Have you checked Civil War Records? Or put a Query in *The Septs?* Members of IGSI are allowed one free query per year; many of us have found relations through this.

Write for *The Septs*

The theme for the October 2008 issue of *The Septs* is Finding Your Ancestor's Place of Origin in Ireland. While our themes focus on Ireland, we are happy to accept articles on broader aspects of the topic.

We welcome all contributions. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to *The Septs* publication date. Submission date is August 1st for the October 2008 issue and November 1 for the January 2009 issue.

You can share your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history and become part of this publication. If you prefer not to write, recommend an author to us – someone active in genealogy – and we'll contact them. Send items of note to the Irish genealogical community and we'll include the information. As a society-based publication, *The Septs* thrives on the international diversity and expertise of its members.

We also welcome articles on topics not related to the themes described below. Tom Rice, Managing Editor, will work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community. E-mail: Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org.

Future themes include:

October 2008	Finding Your Ancestor's Place of Origin in Ireland
January 2009	Irish Social, Religious, Political, Cultural and Fraternal Organizations
April 2009	Siblings as a Genealogy Source and Goal -- i.e. why and how to study an ancestor's siblings
July 2009	Artifacts and Home Records as a Source -- e.g. Bible, pictures, letters, memorial cards

Irish Genealogical Society International

Membership

❑ Renew Member Mem No. _____
❑ New Member

Exp. Date _____

US Residents

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Postal Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Non-US Residents

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province/County _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

SURNAMES
Irish and Scot-Irish surnames only. PLEASE PRINT
One surname spelling and one Irish County per line please.
Surnames are searchable on the IGSI website www.IrishGenealogical.org Non-internet users may contact us.

	Surname	Ireland County (locale if known)	Other Country (locale) - [needn't write USA]
Example	*Stack*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*Can-QC; OH, MN (Rice Co), AZ*

Place additional surnames on blank sheet of paper.

PAYMENT

1 Year membership (US $25) US $ _____
Additional cost to mail THE SEPTS Journal outside USA (US $5) US $ _____
Donation - US tax deductible (Thank You) US $ _____

TOTAL US $ _____

❑ Check (Payable to IGSI) Preferred
❑ Credit Card ❑ MC ❑ Visa

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Mail to
IGSI Membership
1185 Concord St N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Need a Little Research Assistance?

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI staff search our Library for information requested by a current member.

With your request for research assistance, send

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- *Emigrant Savings Bank, New York* - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- *O'Kiefe, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- *The Search for Missing Friends*, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot*.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

If you are interested in research involving other publications or sources, send us a query. We will advise you if it can be searched.

The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of tube.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge.

IGSI Donations

The Society appreciates the generosity of our members. We offer a special thank you to those members who have donated more than $10 during the last quarter.

Charlene B. Anzalone	Green Valley AZ	Paul Hessman	DPO
Carol Barlow	Rocklin CA	Margaret A. Keegan	Stoneybrook NY
Kathryn Deiss	Ellsworth WI	Frances Luby	Tower Lakes IL
Sharon M. Donahue	Ann Arbor MI	Sharon Martin	Simi Valley CA
James B. Dougherty	Greenwich CT	Sylvia R. Meagher	Kalamazoo MI
Bob & Judy Dungan	Plymouth MN	Patricia N. Moon	Livonia MI
Mary J. Gartland	Lakewood OH	Gayle Garrity Soles	Simi Valley CA

Recent Library Acquisitions

H506 – *The People of Ireland 1600-1699, Part One*, by David Dobson. Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 2007, 100 p., alpha.

IS23 – *Across the Ocean of Promise. The Irish of Western Tennessee*, by Patricia K. Jones. Published by Author; printed by Evansville Bindery, Inc., Evansville IN 2008, 820 p., indexed. [Most of the information was taken from the U.S. Census.]

J176 – *Roots for Kids. A Genealogy Guide for Young People*, by Susan Provost Beller. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, MD, 2007 2nd Edition (1987), 104 p., illus., forms. [Available in the Bookstore. Great for beginners, no matter what age.]

K124 – *The Vestry Records of the United Parishes of Finglas, St. Margaret's, Artane and the Ward 1657 –1758* [Dublin], by Maighread Ni Mhurchadha. Four Courts Press in association with The Representative Church Body Library, Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 240 p., illus., indexed.

K125 – *The Vestry Records of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist Dublin, 1595 – 1658*, by Raymond Gillespie. Four Courts Press in association with The Representative Church Body Library, Dublin, Ireland, 2002, 240 p., illus., indexed.

Donations –

B014 – *The Sources for the Early History of Ireland: Ecclesiastical. An Introduction and Guide*, by James F. Kenny. Octagon Books, New York, 1979, 815 p., map, indexed. Donated by Mark E. McCartan, Bloomington, MN.

H217 – *The Parish Churches of North Tipperary. Commemorating a Two-Hundred Year Heritage*, by William J. Hayes and Joseph Kennedy. Lisheen Publications, Carraig Hill, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, 2007, 327 p., illus., maps. Donated by Arthur J. Paulson to MGS.

I041 – *The Scotch-Irish in America. Proceedings of the Scotch-Irish Congress at Columbia, Tennessee May 8-11, 1889*. Published by order of The Scotch-Irish Society of America, Cincinnati, Robert Clarke & Co, 1889, 210 p., ill. No index. Donated to MGS by Jeanette Kamman.

Family History – *Dunwiddie Family History. A Brief History of the Dunwiddie Family in Scotland*. Prepared and donated by Foster W. Dunwiddie, Henderson, NV, 2007. Unpublished & unpaged. Maps and illus.

Family History – *Dunwiddie Family History. A Brief History of the Dunwiddie Family in Ireland*. Prepared and donated by Foster W. Dunwiddie, Henderson, NV, 2008. Unpublished & unpaged. Maps and illus.

CD – *Generations Archives by Heritage Quest. Historic Profiles of the following cities: Brooklyn, Cincinnati, New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Richmond, and St. Louis*. 7 CDs. Donated by Larry W. Richards, Boise, ID.

Ireland by Bike. 21 Tours Geared for Discovery by Robin Krause. The Mountaineers, Seattle WA, 1993, 191 p., illus., maps. Donated by Gloria Brown, Bellevue, WA.

Fodor's Exploring Ireland, 2nd edition. Fodor's Travel Publications, Inc., New York, NY, 1996, 288 p., illus., maps. Donated by Gloria Brown, Bellevue, WA.

QUERY

FITZGIBBONS, DONLON

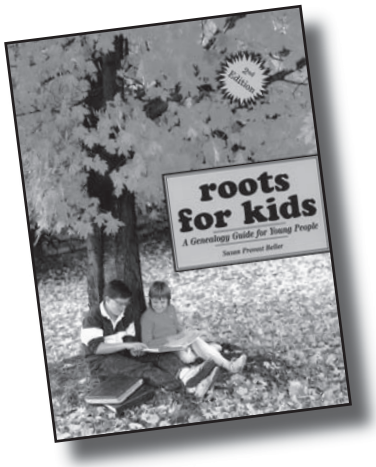
Patrick FITZGIBBONS m. Bridget DONLON about 1858 in the U.S. Bridget was born in County Clare, Ireland. Children are: Patrick, James, Thomas, Mary, John, Hannah, and Bridget. Thomas m. Mary Agnes WHITE. Mary m. D. McTIGE, Bridget m. John O'BRIEN, and Nora m. M.J. SCHOOLY. This family lived in the Gainesville, Warsaw, NY area.

Looking for other family descendents of Patrick FITZGIBBONS.

Sally Donlon Zimmer
43 Ontario Street,
Honeoye Falls, NY.14472.
Phone # 585-624-1085
sadz@rochester.rr.com

To get your query into *The Septs* send your name, address, member number, contact information and a description of what you are trying to find. Include pertinent information to help others with your query. Email to SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org.

You can also get help on the message board at the IGSI website IrishGenealogical.org.



NEW

Roots for Kids

A Genealogy Guide for Young People

by Suan Provost Beller

This will help children how to dig into their family history and create a simple family tree. This book was written for students from fourth grade to sixth grade levels but can be used by anyone starting out. (104 pp.) **$19.95**

bookstore Order Form

Book #	*Title*	*Author*	*Quantity*	*Each Price*	*Total Price*

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Date _____

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Tax: 6.5% for MN Residents _____

Shipping _____

Total _____

Total Enclosed _____

Due to the rate of the dollar overseas, prices are subject to change. Indicate date of issue beside were found. Prices good for 90 days beyond publishing date.

Send order form and check to:

Irish Genealogical Society International
1185 Concord Street North, Suite 210
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Shipping and Handling Cost	
1st Item	$4.00
Additional Items	$ .50
All Items will be sent Priority Mail	

Make check payable to: *Irish Genealogical Society Int'l*

Payment must be made in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. bank.

Visa Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

MasterCard # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Counties in Time

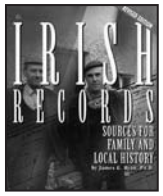
Documents and commentaries from the National Archives of Ireland

The records chosen in this CD-ROM cover the period from the late sixteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. The CD contains almost 1000 documents, scanned images and transcripts for those which are difficult to read. The CD is easy to navigate and user-friendly. *Order CD #J156* $**29.95**

Irish Records: Sources For Family And Local History

James G. Ryan, Ph.D.

Irish Records is the most comprehensive and easy-to-use resource for Irish historical records. It provides the researcher with a comprehensive listing of all available sources for Irish written records. Organized by county, this unique and detailed list helps you to find your ancestors' occupations, relatives and more. (Hardcover, 668 pp.) *Order Book #J056* **$38.50**



New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland - 2nd Edition

Brian Mitchell

This atlas is invaluable for tracing pre-1864 ancestors in church records and for locating post-1864 ancestors in civil records, with maps and descriptions of the civil administrative divisions to which all major Irish are linked. (175 pp.) *Order Book #A011* **$20.00**

Now You Can Order Your Books Online with PayPal at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

Irish Church Records

James G. Ryan, Editor

This book details the records of each of the eight major Irish religious denominations and their value for family history, and for church and local history. The locations for each church and guidelines for their access are provided. (208 pp.) *Order Book #K022* **$49.95**

General Alphabetical Index of Townlands, Towns, Parishes and Baronies 1851

GPC

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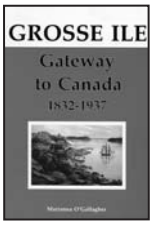

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Joseph A. King

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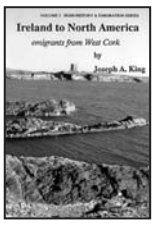

Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, Third Edition

John Grenham

Updated in 2006 to reflect Internet resources, this 3rd edition of the important Irish genealogical research aid combines informative text and reference source materials. Includes Catholic parish maps, checklist of sources for wills and testamentary records, National Library manuscript lists, etc. (374 pp.) *Order Book #J047* **$16.95**

The Irish Ancestor 1969-1986

Eneclann CD

The Irish Ancestor was a leading genealogical publication during its 18-year run. It printed articles ranging from source material (wills, bibles, church registers, gravestones, etc.) to biographies, estate inventories, domestic history and reviews. *Order CD #J155* **$79.95**

Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS)

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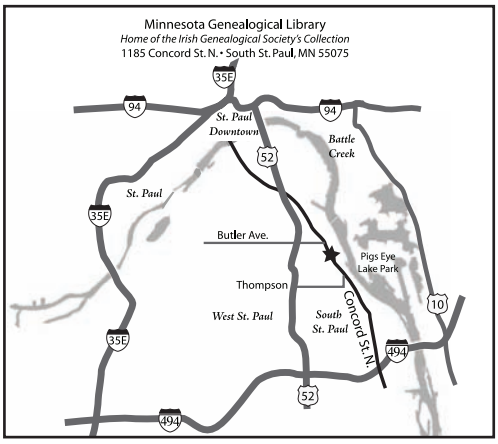

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The Septs

$7.00

Irish Genealogical Society International

Ireland
Place of Our Ancestors

Volume 29, Number 4

2008 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 12, 2008
FEBRUARY 9, 2008
MARCH 8, 2008
APRIL 12, 2008
MAY 10, 2008
JUNE 14, 2008
JULY 12, 2008
AUGUST 9, 2008
SEPTEMBER 13, 2008
OCTOBER 11, 2008
NOVEMBER 8, 2008
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(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Informal class for beginners at the library 10:30 am on the above dates. Other classes offered throughout the year. MGS Library number 651-455-9057.

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If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

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President's Letter

A Change in IGSI Officers

by Ann Eccles

There is no President's Letter for this issue.

In late August, Laurie Hanover, who has served previous terms as Secretary and as President, announced that she would be unable to continue to serve as President of the Society. We thank her for her service and wish her well.

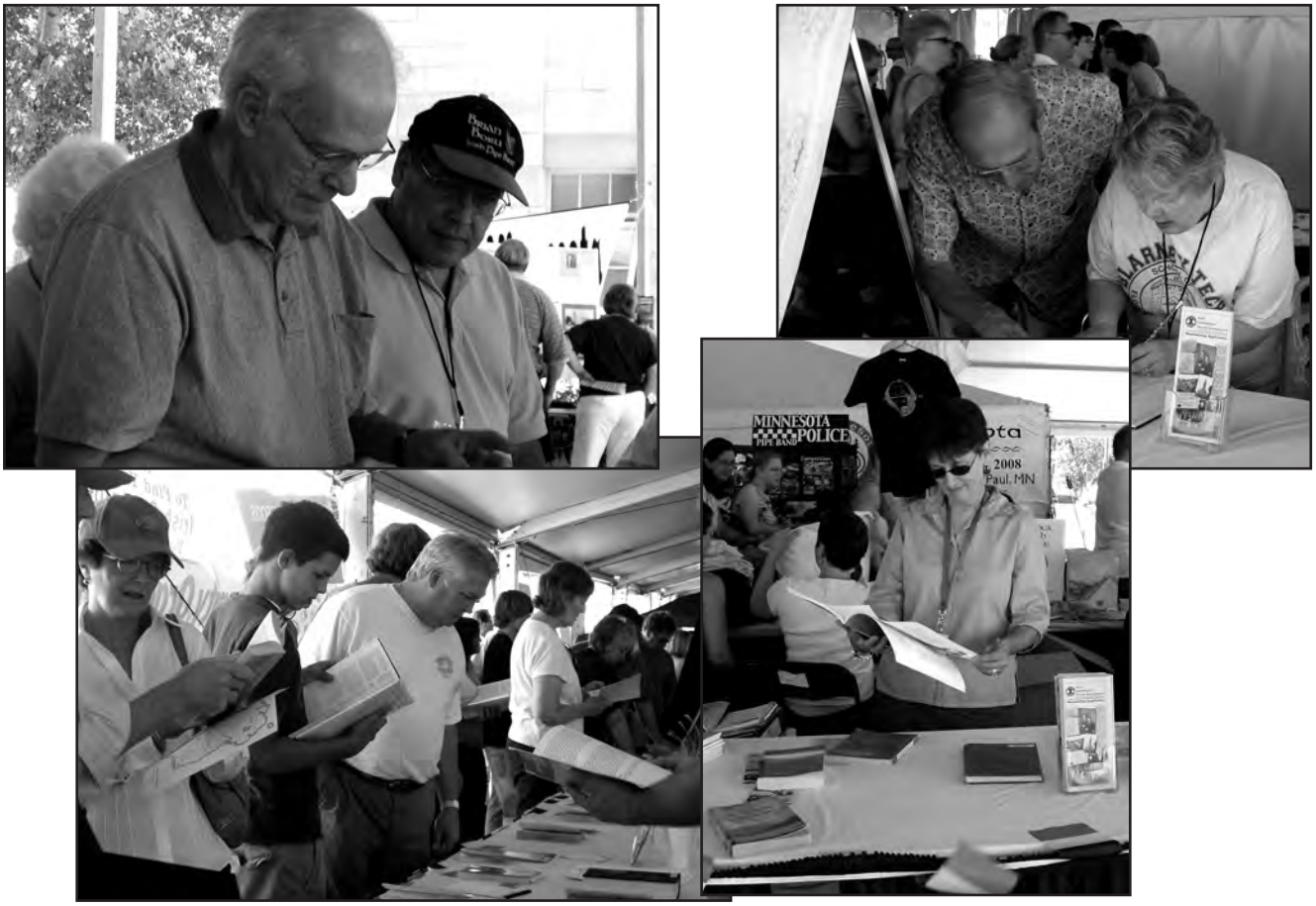
At the September 6 meeting, the Board discussed the current vacancies and determined a course of action. The current 1st Vice President (and former President) Linda Miller stepped forward to lead the organization once again. Board members Tom Rice and Diane Lovrencevic volunteered to fill the two Vice-President positions.

In addition to his responsibilities with the Publications committee and as Managing Editor of *The Septs*, Tom will work with the Education element of the Society, coordinating Programs and Classes during the next year. Diane Lovrencevic will assume responsibilities for Membership issues in addition to serving as Graphics Editor for *The Septs* and as Website Editor.

Kevina Munnich will continue as IGSI Secretary; Bob Zimmerman will continue as Treasurer.

With these experienced people directing the Society's business and activities for the coming year, we are in good hands.

IGSI at the 2008 Minnesota Irish Fair



Our Basic Quest

by Ann Eccles

Finding our ancestor's place of origin in Ireland. Isn't that the focus of all Irish genealogy? Finding the townland, visiting the homesite, returning to the land of our forebears.

Some of us have had the joy of standing on the farm in Ireland and talking with newly-found relatives. Others have walked the streets and byways that a great grandparent trod in Ireland. Others of us have successfully traced a family line through documents and records to a county or a townland, but may not have traveled to Ireland – yet. Some of us are working around and through "brick walls" to find a more specific origin point for our ancestors than "born in Ireland". No matter where we are in our search or genealogical travel, there is something of interest in this issue of *The Septs*.

Christine Mills, a member of the Irish Interest Group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, provides a wonderful article to serve as a guide for doing genealogical research in New Zealand, particularly referencing Irish immigrants.

Adrian Martyn, an author of Galway histories and genealogies, has transcribed the inscriptions from the cemetery at Portumna Priory. While a specialized area, this may be helpful to someone seeking a name in this particular corner of Ireland. David Rencher continues to share the bounty of the Family History Library microfilms. In this issue he details the contents of the John Joseph Greene collection, and gently reminds us that other surnames beyond Greene are included in many of the entries in this collection.

In the Beginning Genealogist column, Jay Fonkert offers some advice and reminders that all of us could heed. Another New Zealander, Malcolm McDonald, offers advice on finding the county of origin for an Irish ancestor. Thomas Fox's research into his surname has lessons for us about being open-minded and inquisitive about the spelling of our names.

In a lighter vein, Gabrielle (Ni Mheachair) Woeltje shares her adventures of doing family research in Ireland as part of a family vacation with young children in tow. Joe Owens recounts the adventures of his two trips to Ireland – trips that he calls "returns" – a combination of family research, connections, and soaking up the essence of his Irishness.

Tom Rice reviews a new website for searching Griffith's Valuation. Kathleen Strickland continues her review of the IGSI website, looking at some of the information under the Research tab. And Diane Lovrencevic announces an IGSI-sponsored research trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, next year. Check out the information and reserve a space early. It's sure to be a sell-out.

At the Society's August Quarterly meeting, members suggested that we place the announcement of the upcoming meeting in one place in the journal and not hide it by moving it around so much. The editors have discussed this. Beginning with this issue, the information for the Society's meetings and programs will appear on the inside back cover. That will be the place to look. We'll move the Bookstore order form just a page or so prior to that, but still at the back – for those who are always checking our new materials.

Happy reading!

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired and found almost every branch leading back to Ireland. Still a novice in accessing Irish resources, she continues to explore her many family lines. She has volunteered at IGSI, working with the surname database and membership updates the last couple of years

Ireland is where strange tales begin
and happy endings are possible.

– Charles Haughey

How to Locate the Place of Origin in Ireland:

New Zealand Resources

by Christine Mills

Regardless of where one's emigrant Irish ancestor settled, there are certain elements common to all searches for locating his/her place of origin in Ireland. This article is written from a New Zealand perspective but many of the suggestions herein could easily apply to the United States, Australia or the United Kingdom.

Introduction

Since the beginning of the eighteenth century more than nine million Irish people have emigrated from the "Emerald Isle". Their reasons for leaving home were many and varied but most left because of poverty and the desire for a better life abroad. Conditions in Ireland, in the nineteenth century in particular, were very poor, with most rural dwellers being landless impoverished laborers or tenant farmers renting a small number of acres from absentee, uncaring landlords.

The vast majority of Irish emigrants crossed the Atlantic to the United States or the Irish Sea to England and Scotland. Smaller numbers went to the new world of Australia with fewer still going to Canada, South Africa and New Zealand.

Irish Migration to New Zealand

The migration of Irish to New Zealand in the nineteenth century falls into a series of well defined phases.

Before 1840.
The number of people arriving from Ireland was small and any Irish immigrants were mostly transient visitors: whalers, sealers, sailors, missionaries and a few traders.

1840-1850. By far the greatest number of Irish left their homeland in the decades immediately after the Great Famine of 1845-1850 when approximately four million departed Irish shores. These people, for the most part however, were destitute and unable to afford the cost of a fare to remote New Zealand, which was over four times the cost of crossing the Atlantic to America.

The New Zealand Company[1] brought the first assisted immigrants to New Zealand in the 1840s but few were Irish as the prevailing stereotypical drunk, disorderly, indolent and illiterate Irish Catholic peasant was not deemed to be a desirable emigrant. By 1848, the Irish made up only 3.2% (approximately 4,500) of the colony's population.

Only in Auckland were the numbers of Irish prominent.[2] Few had come directly from Ireland however. Most, both ex-convicts and free settlers, had arrived via Australia. The first sizeable group of Irish immigrants was part of The Royal New Zealand Fencible Corps, a group of pensioners (ex-soldiers) from the British Army who were brought to create a garrison settlement of Auckland between 1847 and 1852.[3] These Fencibles arrived with their wives and children; and as many were Catholics from southern Ireland, they significantly boosted the Irish-born proportion of the local population.

1850s. Throughout the 1850s the influx of Irish-born laborers from Australia continued.[4] During 1858 and 1859 emigration agencies were established in England, Ireland and Scotland to encourage people to emigrate and to facilitate the journey for those seeking a new life in New Zealand. Less than ten of more than one hundred government immigration agents were based in Ireland, however, and few advertisements for immigrants were placed in Irish newspapers. When advertisements were placed there, it was generally only in newspapers in the north-eastern province of Ulster. This meant that most Irish emigrants to New Zealand came from that part of Ireland, particularly from the counties around Belfast and Londonderry. The bias against Catholic Irish immigrants continued and there was a degree of opposition to providing assistance to Catholic Irish from the more English areas of New Zealand, such as Wellington and Canterbury.

1860s. The Irish remained few in number outside of Auckland until the discovery of gold lured them to the Coromandel in the late 1850s, to Otago in the early 1860s, and to the West Coast from 1864.[5] Many Irish, who had previously migrated to Australia and to a lesser extent to South Africa or California, came to New Zealand to try their hand at mining when the mines in Africa and America were over-worked or depleted. Others were among recruits from Australia for the New Zealand Wars of the early 1860s.[6] By 1867, the Irish born had reached 12.8% and, by 1871, they comprised over one-fifth of New Zealand's immigrant population.

1870s and 1880s. The number of Irish continued to rise during the 1870s and early 1880s when the central government embarked on an ambitious program of immigration and public works; those who had come to New Zealand

in the 1860s eagerly nominated their friends and relatives for government-assisted passages. At that time, more than a quarter of those assisted by the New Zealand government were Irish. By 1878, when the total non-Māori population of New Zealand was 414,000, some 43,758 of the population was Irish-born.

Post-1890. Due to an economic recession, which dampened the domestic market, the inflow of migrants fell sharply from the mid-1880s and through the 1890s and remained at low levels until the turn of the century.[7]

Catholic or Protestant

There were two distinct groups of Irish immigrants to New Zealand -Catholics from Munster and Protestants from Ulster - with Ulster consistently outstripping any of the other Irish provinces in its supply of colonists to New Zealand. Munster, in the south-west of Ireland, was an area hard hit by famine. Ninety percent of the population lived on the land and the failure of the potato crop in the 1840s caused much hardship. Up until 1838, everyone, regardless of religious persuasion, had to pay tithes to the Church of Ireland; and tenants, despite crop failures, had to pay exorbitant rents to often absentee landlords. Non-payment could mean eviction and the famine years set in motion large scale emigration from all over the south and west of the country.

Ulster, too, was hit by famine but not as severely as other parts of the country because dependence on agriculture was not so complete there. The north east was more affected by industrialization. For generations, small farmers, laborers and cottiers[8] had supplemented their incomes by working from home as craftsmen or industrial workers. Industrialization and the invention of new factory machinery, which in the case of weaving meant looms that could do the work of 100 hand weavers, put a sudden end to this source of income. Tens of thousands in rural Ulster lost a valuable livelihood and many had no choice but to abandon their holdings and emigrate.

Identifying "Where" in Ireland

If "Ireland" only is known as an ancestor's place of birth then the first step, before attempting any research in Ireland, is to examine thoroughly all possible sources of information in the country in which the emigrant settled. Even if the surname is uncommon and a county of origin is known, it is vital to identify a parish and townland or town by searching all available records. It is very important not to limit the scope of the research and, if a particular source does not provide the immigrant ancestor's origins, one should move on to the next, documenting the immigrant's life back in time from his/her death and burial to their arrival in the country.

Because the New Zealand colony came into being when record keeping and storage were at relatively advanced stages of development, there is access to documentation from the very formation of the colony. Geographically, the country is not large and has a relatively small population that was, and is, easy to document. Records are many, comprehensive and mostly freely available.

It is almost impossible to know in advance which, of many available sources, is most likely to reveal the place of origin in Ireland. Some are more likely to provide birthplace information than others. The most helpful include:

- Records associated with death - including death certificates, obituaries and death notices, cemetery and burial records, funeral directors' records and probate documents.
- Old Age Pension Records
- Military/Militia Records
- Civil registration records of birth and marriage
- Church records
- Emigration records

Before starting a search of the records one would be wise to proceed with caution and bear the following in mind:

1. Do not accept as gospel all that you read in print! Attempt to corroborate a place of origin in Ireland as given in one source, against as many other sources as possible. For example, accepting as fact what is supposedly a place of origin from an obituary could set one off on a wild goose chase, thereby wasting many hours of research.

2. Be aware that information given by the immigrant himself is likely to be more reliable than that given by someone else, assuming the immigrant has nothing to hide. For example, information on the immigrant's marriage certificate, supplied by him/her self is likely to be more accurate than that supplied by a third party on the emigrant's death certificate.

Useful New Zealand Websites

Cyndi's List for New Zealand http://www.cyndislist.com/new-zealand.htm#Records

Helens' Page of New Zealand History http://www.angelfire.com/az/nzgenweb/index.html

New Zealand Directories http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~ourstuff/WisesDirectoriesHome.htm

NZ Department of Internal Affairs (for Births, Deaths and Marriages) http://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf

Varcoe's New Zealand Marriage Index http://marvin.otago.ac.nz/marriages/ Database of New Zealand marriage records, 1840-62. This index is designed to be used in conjunction with the microfiche Marriages Indexes published by the New Zealand Registrar-General's Office.

New Zealand Marriages 1840 from R.G.O. Index http://www.geocities.com/wlorac/nzmarr1.txt

The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand "Archives Research Centre" http://www.archives.presbyterian.org.nz/ contains links to New Zealand Presbyterian Marriage records available online up to 1920.

Anglican Church in Aotearoa,New Zealand and Polynesia http://www.anglican.org.nz/history.htm

3. Remain open minded about the spelling of Irish names found in records of the adopted country. Because of a lack of standardized spelling, illiteracy, and the strong Irish accents of recent immigrants, names, particularly placenames, written by record clerks can sometimes leave much to the imagination and be a challenge to find in any gazette, topographical dictionary or map.

Records Associated with Death

Civil Registration of Death. The civil registration of European births and deaths and an ordinance for regulating marriages commenced in the colony of New Zealand in 1848.[9] Because of some initial confusion about how to put the legislation into practice, early registrations were by no means complete. Neither were early death certificates comprehensive. From January 1876, they have included: the birthplace of the deceased, his/her parents' names, father's occupation, mother's maiden name, name of spouse, age when married, marriage place and length of residence in New Zealand. This is an extraordinary amount of information, invaluable to those researching their immigrant ancestor. Annual indexes, produced by the Office of the Registrar General, are widely available in libraries throughout New Zealand.

Burial Records and Monumental Inscriptions. The New Zealand Society of Genealogists, Inc (NZSG)[10] has created, over the last 30 years, a major collection of New Zealand cemetery records, primarily tombstone transcripts but often with additional burial book records, which list those without a headstone or who have been cremated. Almost every cemetery in New Zealand is covered. These have been microfilmed and are available on microfiche at many public libraries and other record repositories around New Zealand.

The NZSG has released on CD-Rom *The New Zealand Burial Locator*, an as-yet-incomplete[11] index to cemetery records, which includes information from newspaper death notices, obituaries and funeral directors' records. It does not include full details of deaths/burials but points the researcher to a source or sources where more details may be found.

Another recent development is the placement of burial records and/or monumental inscriptions on the internet by local councils and libraries.[12]

Consult all the above for a possible mention of a birthplace in Ireland of the emigrant ancestor.

Obituaries and Newspaper Death Notices. The first newspaper published in New Zealand was the *New Zealand Gazette* of 18 April 1840. Many other local and provincial newspapers followed until almost all small towns and country areas in the colony produced a newspaper of varying quality, circulation and longevity. The reporting of local events such as weddings or anniversary celebrations, funerals or coroner's inquests occupied a large portion of these papers. The biographical information to be found in them can be vital when tracing one's immigrant ancestors. The death of an early settler

usually rated a lengthy obituary detailing place of birth, early life, occupation and family details. In combination with death notices or reports of funerals, obituaries can give a potted life history not found elsewhere.

MR. DAVID MILLS

1934

The death has occurred at his home in Devonport of Mr. David Mills, aged 90 years. The deceased was born in County Kerry, Ireland, in 1844, and came to New Zealand by the sailing ship Merry Shepherd 69 years ago, landing in Opotiki during the Maori War, in which he saw service. On his discharge he took up farming pursuits, which he followed for 50 years, leaving Opotiki for Devonport in 1919, where he led a retired life.

Mr. Mills was twice married, the first time in 1877, his wife being Miss Harriet Sutton, of Bristol, England. He had four sons and one daughter by his first marriage, of whom Mr. W. D. Mills, of Gisborne, Mr. C. H. Mills, of Taneatua, Mr. J. Mills, of Wellington, and Mrs. E. W. Rash, of Wellington, are still alive. Two years after the death of his first wife, 48 years ago, Mr. Mills married Miss Maria Munro, of Tauranga, and they had two sons and three daughters; Messrs. F. and J. Mills, Mrs. R. Phillips, Mrs. M. Wall and Miss Edith Mills, all residing at Devonport. The funeral took place at Opotiki on Saturday, the service being conducted by the Rev. C. C. G. Salt.

Image 1. Newspaper obituary for David Mills.

Example: While the information given in this death notice and obituary for David Mills, an Irish emigrant to New Zealand, is useful, it is not totally accurate. Not only is his place of origin in Ireland incorrect, but the name of the ship, the year of his arrival in New Zealand and the date of both his marriages are incorrect. This does not render the obituary useless as it still gives much information that can be investigated further.

Douglas R Harvey's *Union List of Newspapers Preserved in Libraries, Newspaper Offices, Local Authority Offices and Museums in New Zealand* (National Library of New Zealand, Wellington, 1987), details surviving newspapers held throughout New Zealand and where they may be found.

About 50 newspapers, from all regions of New Zealand, covering the years 1840 to 1915, are available online through the National Library's *Papers Past* website http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast. The newspapers on this site are searchable by date, region, title, content and name/subject or they can be browsed. This is only a small proportion of the library's collection of newspapers but more titles are being added each year.[13]

Some newspapers have been indexed by local genealogical groups and are available for consultation at local libraries or museums.[14]

More New Zealand Directories

TeAra: The Encyclopedia of New Zealand, "History of Immigration to New Zealand" http://www.teara.govt.nz/NewZealanders/NewZealandPeoples/HistoryOfImmigration/6/en

Early New Zealand newspapers http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~nzbound/newpapers.htm

List of New Zealand's Irish Migrants http://www.geocities.com/nziconnection/immlist.htm

Passenger arrivals at Port Chalmers, New Zealand, March 1848 - January 1851 http://www.ngaiopress.com/drhocken.htm

A Little Corner of Ulster in New Zealand http://www.katikati.co.nz/kk_text/jasmine.html Jasmine Rogers' Masters dissertation on the Katikati settlement

Ships of the Waikato Immigration Scheme http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~shipstonz/waikato-immi.html

The Royal New Zealand Fencibles http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~rhaslip/Lesley/fencibles.htm

2nd Regiment Waikato Militia http://www.angelfire.com/az/nzgenweb/2ndregiment1.html

New Zealand Museums http://www.nzmuseums.co.nz

Probate Records. The first Supreme Court[15] of New Zeland was opened in Auckland in June 1842 and a second was opened in Wellington in 1843. The records of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/sc) include probate records of New Zealanders who died before 1842. These early original wills have been indexed in the *Supreme Court of New South Wales Probate Index 1800-1982*[16] which provides probate packet[17] and series number, name of the deceased, residence, date of death and instrument.[18]

The vast majority of wills filed for probate and applications for letters of administration[19] in the 1800s and early 1900s were related to the estates of immigrants to New Zealand. The content of a will may be either brief, with very little in the way of useful information for the genealogist, or a detailed treasure trove providing insight into family origins and relationships. At the very least, it gives a place and date of death; but it may even mention the names and location of beneficiaries in Ireland.

The High Courts transferred early wills and administrations to the local branch of Archives New Zealand[20] where they are freely available to researchers.

Members of the NZSG have indexed many wills and administrations; these indexes are available at libraries and museums.

Funeral Directors' Records. Funeral Directors are responsible for the organization of funerals. They record all the details required to register a death and arrange for death notices to be inserted in local and/or national newspapers. Their records give similar information to a death certificate. The name of the funeral director involved in an ancestor's burial may often be obtained from the death notice in the newspaper. Many funeral directors' records have been indexed and deposited in regional libraries.[21]

Old Age Pension Records

Old Age Pensions were introduced in New Zealand in 1896. The Old Age Pensions Department was established in 1898 to administer the act of the same name. Their records are an invaluable source of information when researching an immigrant ancestor. Applicants' details were recorded in registers; they include name, occupation, address, birthplace, date of birth, age next birthday, date of arrival in the colony and the name of the ship on which the applicant arrived. Applicants had to appear before a magistrate in the local District Court with evidence proving, amongst other things, that they were 65 years of age or older and that the value of their property did not exceed £50. Very few Irish-born applicants had proof of their age as they had been born before the introduction of civil registration in Ireland in 1864. Sworn evidence from a friend of long standing could be accepted and was recorded. Character references were essential as claimants were not eligible if they had been imprisoned in recent years or if they had deserted a wife, husband or children. Local newspapers often reported the early court pension claims with the name, age, amount of pension granted and sometimes part of the investigation.[22]

Some District Courts retain their old age pension records while many others have lodged them at Archives New Zealand local offices.

Military/Militia Records

The first imperial infantry regiment to be stationed in New Zealand was a detachment of the 80th Regiment which landed in 1840. Many others followed up to 1870, when the last British regiment left New Zealand shores. Many young Irishmen who joined the British army in Ireland were later stationed in New Zealand. Military records may provide their place of origin in Ireland.

The most useful records are the quarterly muster rolls and pay lists for each

More New Zealand Directories

Auckland Cityl Libraries http://www.aucklandcitylibraries.com/
Archives New Zealand http://www.archives.govt.nz/

ARCHWAY http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/ This is the search function for Archives New Zealand.

Websites of New Zealand Cemeteries http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~shipstonz/cemeteries.html

Kiwi Celts http://kiwicelts.com Includes a list of New Zealand cemeteries.

Maddern Genealogy: Online New Zealand Cemetery Database Page http://www.geocities.com/madderngenealogy/cemeteriesNZ

regiment. Each quarter year, officers and other ranks were listed alphabetically recording their regimental number, name, period covered and the number of days for which pay was due. Soldiers who had died, deserted or been discharged from the regiment were also listed each quarter with birth place, trade, enlistment date and date and place of discharge or desertion. Next-of-kin and address may be noted in the case of a death. The muster rolls and pay lists for regiments stationed in Australia and New Zealand were filmed between 1945 and 1988 by the Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP)[23] and may be viewed at Archives New Zealand.

Also useful are the following two books:

- *Discharged in New Zealand: Soldiers of the Imperial Foot Regiments who took their Discharge in New Zealand, 1840-1870*, by Hugh and Lyn Hughes (NZSG, 1988), details 550 Irish-born soldiers discharged from the 65th Regiment in New Zealand between 1846 and 1865.

- *The Deserters: Military and Naval Deserters as Settlers in Australia and New Zealand 1800-1865*, by Rae Sexton (Magill, S.A. Australasian Maritime Historical Society, 1984), gives details of 97 Irish-born men: full name, regiment, place of birth, date and place of enlistment and desertion – extracted from government gazettes of the Colonies of Australia and the Provinces of New Zealand and from advertisements in the *Sydney Gazette* newspaper.[24]

Chelsea Pensioners[25] were offered free transport to New Zealand and a home on one acre of land for each family, the title for which would be granted after seven years of service with The Royal New Zealand Fencible Corps, in return for defending Auckland settlers. Four military settlements were established just south of Auckland[26] to provide a defensive perimeter against Māori attack. More than half the 721 Chelsea Pensioners were from Ireland. They came to New Zealand in the period from 1847 to 1852 accompanied by 632 women and 1,228 children as Irish wives and children frequently travelled with the soldiers. Fencible passenger lists, and church and land records often noted the overseas birth, baptism, or marriage place and date of the pensioners.[27]

Check the army pension records payable to Imperial Forces and Fencibles, available on microfilm from the AJCP. *Imperial Pension Returns 1865-1891*, available at Archives New Zealand, gives extensive detail on individuals including age, physical description, place of birth and residence, whether or not married and if so, when and where.

Irish recruits from Australia for the New Zealand Land Wars of the early 1860s enlisted in the Waikato Militia when the New Zealand Government offered a land grant[28] and a 1 acre town allotment after three years of service. Nominal and Descriptive Rolls of the four Waikato Militia Regiments state, amongst other detail, the parish and county where born and age at enlistment. These records, registers for grants to Waikato Militia, and pay and acquittance lists may be researched at Archives New Zealand.

Civil Registration Records of Birth and Marriage

Registrars in local courts and district offices throughout New Zealand have been responsible for registering births and deaths since 1848.[29]

Early certificates were not comprehensive but birth certificates from January 1876 record, amongst other detail, the age and birthplace of each parent and the date and place of their marriage. Marriage certificates after January 1881 record the birthplace of the bride and groom, their parents' names, mother's maiden name and father's occupation.[30]

The information supplied to the registrar depended upon the knowledge, and willingness to impart that knowledge, of the informant. A child's birth or death certificate may give the parent or parents' origins in Ireland so the records generated by the immigrant ancestor's descendants should not be ignored. Neither should one forget the siblings of the immigrant ancestor(s) in New Zealand (and abroad[31]) who may have been born or died post January 1876 or married after January 1881 and may provide that direct link back to Ireland.

David Mills' New Zealand marriage certificate, dated 23 September 1888, and the birth certificate for his son James, dated 6 March of 1885, give much information of value, particularly a birthplace in Ireland for David. (See images 2 and 3 on page 200.) Because David was the in-

'How to Locate the Place of Origin in Ireland: New Zealand Resources' continued on page 200

The "Returns"

by Joe Owens

When you ask an American of Irish descent why they yearn to visit Ireland, the likely response will be misunderstood except by another Irish-American infused with the nature of being Irish in another land. The allure, mysticism and magic of Ireland have been heavily promoted to the point of becoming a universal vision, a postcard, a calendar picture. Envision the lush green fields and hills, the friendliness of the Irish people, the lure of the colleens, and the enchantment of the lyrical Irish brogue. These charms of Ireland are true, to be enjoyed first hand, and again in lasting memories.

For those of us raised by the warm hearth of proud Irish descendents, we acquired an inner depth and pride of being Irish. When asked our nationality, we were "Irish"— not Americans, or Americans of Irish descent, or Irish-Americans — simply "Irish". In fact, only recently did I realize that my stated nationality has somehow been blessed with a hyphen. When did I begin to refer to myself as "Irish-American"? I suspect it evolved as I became more deeply absorbed in discovering my genealogical roots, which requires a differentiation between being "Irish" and having "Irishness".

Some have but a smidgeon of Irish remaining in their DNA after generations of misguided, perhaps desperate, ancestral decisions. Some have more and varying degrees of Irish blood in their veins. Few have the fortunate genomic inheritance from those who only wed and bed a spouse from an unbroken Irish tree, such as Himself. I take great pride in having flawlessly selected my gene pool. But an American of any degree of Irish descent longs to visit the ancestral land, making a trip to Ireland an experience so much more intimate and profound than a walk in the rainforest or a climb to a summit or a weekend at Disneyworld. It is more than a visit. It is a *return*.

For an American of Irish descent is not merely an Irish-American but, more accurately, an Irish-Still-Away. As W. B. Yeats declared, "I am of Ireland…the Holy Land of Ireland."

Our First "Return" - 2005

For decades I had struggled intermittently with the mysteries of my ancestral roots. I would set it aside when unable to get past the "brick walls" erected in Rhode Island, Connecticut or New York to get a glimpse of my roots somewhere in Ireland. My wife, Pat, and her brother, Tommy, were relative beginners in searching for the lone Irish branch in their diverse family tree. But in short time they had information that indicated strongly that their Hanahan ancestors were most likely from County Mayo, and probably from the Tourmakeady area.

So off the three of us went for our first trip to Ireland in September 2005, they with their map of Mayo and an unflagging certainty they would find some of their Irish relatives; me with a list of 16 Irish ancestral surnames and a Michelin map of Ireland but neither a hope nor a prayer of finding anything but whatever Ireland laid before us.

Bleary-eyed from the overnight flight from Chicago we fueled our excitement and private reservations with trail mix and bottled water. From Shannon airport we made the obligatory visit to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, a delightful introduction to the Ireland our forebears left behind, and then did a tour of Killarney and St. John Castle. Exhaustion prevailed as we brought our first day in Ireland to an early close.

To County Mayo

While poor Tommy struggled to stay to the left and still avoid the ditch when sharing the narrow road with approaching cars, Pat and I swiveled our heads to capture the sights of the countryside, each outdoing the other with excitement: the hedgerows, the stone fences that outlined the plats of land, the remains of towers and castles and forts; sheep and donkeys on the hillsides or crossing the road. Farmers with caps to ward off either sun or rain, wisps of smoke from the pipes drooping from their mouths, leaned on pitchforks or shovels to contemplate the importance of the day.

We found our way through Ennis and bypassed Galway, saving it for the return route, then went on to Ballinrobe where there is a Research Center, but no helpful records for us. The road from Ballinrobe to Tourmakeady followed the shore of the north end of Lough Mask; it became narrower and more remote the further we ventured. Eventually we came to a cemetery and a couple of buildings, including a church, looking eastward across the Lough. We parked by the cemetery fence facing a large headstone with the name "Heneghan" inscribed upon it. That

was one of the original spellings of what became Hanahan.

Not having a clue where we were, we pulled alongside an elderly woman standing by a nearby building. She wore several sweaters over her long grey dress and was wrapped in a well-used shawl, sprinkled with crumbs from her morning biscuit. When I asked from the rear window if she could tell us where we could find Tourmakeady, she snickered and snorted and bobbed her head into and out of the rear window, then the front window, then the rear again, with a delicate strand of drool lengthening with each bob of her head. Gaining control of her mirth, she finally managed to say: "I am sorry; but I'm gigglin' because…sure, aren't yez in it?!" We had memorably arrived in Tourmakeady and been humbly welcomed.

"Spittin' Mary", as we came to fondly call her, sent us "up the hill and go up the steps" to a 140-year-old B&B that had once been the Parish house. Ann Marie, the owner of the Radharc na Coille B&B, welcomed us and invited us to stay, though she was clearly closing for the season. When we told her we were looking for Hanahan/Heneghan roots she exclaimed, "My husband's a Heneghan!" She put us in contact with her husband's elderly uncle, but again without any positive results. Their relatives had emigrated to Chicago more recently than had Pat's and Tommy's ancestors journeyed to Wisconsin. So we toured the area with a stop at a local pub where we met an Irishman who is a fishing guide in northern Wisconsin, and who was "home" for a week of fishing on the Lough. Then it was back to Ballinrobe to a new hotel, owned by a man whose wife is, of course, a Heneghan. As is often the case with the Irish, she knew nothing of her family history. So ended our search for family roots on this trip!

From County Mayo

From Ballinrobe we traveled to the-Connemara region in the west of County Galway, famous for its wild and rugged beauty. After a rewarding stop at Kylemore Abbey, we pushed on to Clifden for great music and craic! There, several pubs with local talent stir the crowds every evening; it's hard not to join in, so have a Guinness and enjoy. Then with a clear head in the morning, drive the lower and upper Sky Road for some breathtaking views.

When our stomachs had settled, we headed for Galway, a city not to be missed – especially the musicians and oddities of Quay Street. From Galway we drove to Kinvarra and Dunquaire Castle, very old and impressive; then to the old church and very ancient Celtic crosses at Kilfenora. These historic sites set a tone for our introduction to The Burren in County Clare, a region of limestone pavements noted for crisscrossing cracks, beneath which lie huge caves and rivers. The Burren is a geologic anomaly rather than an architectural wonder. It is sparsely populated with numerous potholes, megalithic tombs, Celtic crosses and wedge tombs. The trails yield spectacular views of Galway Bay and the Aran Islands.

I have traveled worldwide and tend to assimilate quickly, so I easily and without intent acquired mannerisms of Irish speech, much to the chagrin of my wife and brother-in-law who, until then, had been enjoying the trip immensely. Try though I did, I could not stop the inclination to turn an Irish phrase or to slip into a familiar lilt. When an elderly Galway woman asked: "Are you American, then?" I assured her I was from Ireland though "I've just been away a few generations, mum". Only in the pubs was I safe, for there — surrounded by a more appreciative, albeit intoxicated, audience and drowned by the drums and fiddles and pipes — I could sing in my best Irish voice with harm to none. As in Clifden and Galway, I left my mark in the pubs of Doolin and neighboring Roadford and was again disowned by my companions.

Joe and Pat Owens, waiting for the "craic". Photo courtesy of Joe Owens.

The Cliffs of Moher, a short drive from Doolin, are both beautiful and surreal. With sunshine sparkling from the Atlantic waves, the Cliffs appear to point toward those who left Ireland behind in search of a hopeful future, recalling them home. When dark clouds quickly dominate the sky and cast a pall upon the land, the Cliffs appear to beckon and stretch toward the sailors strug-

gling to make land. They are an amazing and impressive sight!

To County Kerry

But Kerry was calling! County Kerry – a name that always warmed my heart simply because it sounded so Irish. We took a ferry from Killimer across the Shannon River to Talbert in County Limerick; then we made a dash through Listowel, Tralee and Killarney in a hurry to get to the Ring of Kerry. We chose to bypass the Dingle Peninsula because we knew little about it and wanted to allow more time for the rest of Kerry. A mistake some would say, and probably true, but a good decision in the end. As my grandfather would say, when asked why he left a splash of whiskey in his glass, "That way I always have something to come back for."

County Kerry is gorgeous. The Iveragh Peninsula features Killarney National Park and the Ring of Kerry. We avoided most of the Ring, opting to see more of the Park's gorgeous scenery- lakes, forests, waterfalls and "Lady View". On the east coast of the Iveragh Peninsula we especially enjoyed Kenmare, a lively and friendly town with good restaurants and lively entertainment.

From County Kerry

Bantry in County Cork is beautiful with majestic views of the Caha Mountains. But southwest from Bantry, at the end of the Mizen Head Peninsula, there is an absolute must experience! When you run out of road, the "99 steps" beckon you to a footbridge that sways above a gorge awash with crashing ocean waves. Across the chasm is a lighthouse/weather station that has been transformed into a unique visitor center called "Mizen Vision". To stand at the very end of the peninsula, the southernmost point of Ireland, surrounded on three sides by crashing ocean waves and dramatic coastal views, is both humbling and mystical. But we still had the American attitude of "hurry up and get there". We were anxious to get to Kinsale, a town that had been highly recommended to us.

Mizen Head Peninsula. Photo courtesy of Joe Owens.

Kinsale is nice, but less than we expected. Perhaps its popularity has dampened the appeal. So we pushed on to Cork, the place where many of our Irish ancestors last stood on Irish soil.

Cork (or Cobh, pronounced "Cove") is stirring. It was called Queenstown when it was the port of departure for the majority of Irish famine emigrants. It was a moving experience to stand where my ancestors stood as they left their homeland. The Queenstown Heritage Center is a memorial to them and must not be given short shrift! A short drive north of Cork, Blarney is fun and to be done, not just seen. But beware! Bad luck follows all of us at times, but seems to anxiously await our poor Tommy's arrival. After the three of us had completed the obligatory kissing of the Blarney stone, we went to the kiosk near the entry to review the pictures. Tommy's was the only one of the hundreds of pictures that was not in the computer! So he turned around and climbed the tower and kissed it again!

[On another trip on his own in 2007 he visited Croagh Patrick, but had fallen behind his schedule. He had very limited time but was determined to climb Croagh Patrick- a daunting challenge for a strong person with lots of time available. So he ran to the top of the mountain and again back down, nonstop! I can respect that effort without granting admiration because Tommy is a marathon runner, and they tend to have an extra rattle or two on their best days.]

Back To Shannon

Beyond Blarney en route to Shannon lay the only place in Ireland where we found the people to be less than very

Tommy, who kissed the Blarney Stone twice. Photo courtesy of Joe Owens.

warm and welcoming. Mallow also has a dreary appearance and gives the impression that it needs a good cleaning. But we did see its famous white deer. Further north, as we headed back to Limerick, we stopped at Adare with its many colorful thatch roofed homes. It features a very nice Heritage Center with an interesting display of the history of the area. We came full circle when we reached Shannon Airport.

Shortly after this trip to Ireland I located a distant cousin who provided me with a wealth of family history. I discovered my maternal ancestral roots! They were from the west end of the Dingle Peninsula, of course. From a small and unusual townland called "Maumanorig". Like my grandfather's philosophy, this was my splash of whiskey left in the glass, a reason to go back to Ireland! A justification for another "return". And so we did… two years later.

Our Second "Return" – 2007

Prelude: The west end of the Dingle Peninsula, County Kerry, Ireland

Maumanorig is a prodigal townland, detached from its parent Parish, where my ancestors owned just a few of the 130 total acres and where their children were born, raised, educated, married and each given the "American wake" the night before they said their last "God with you". A cluster of stone houses bracing against the relentless wind, grudgingly losing the battle for immortality. Here stood the homes of my Flaherty and Kennedy ancestors who piled the stones and chinked the gaps, and thatched the roofs, and lived and died or left for "Amerikay".

Maumanorig is surrounded by the Civil Parishes of Ventry to the south and west, Kildrum to the east and Kilmalkedar to the north. Yet Maumanorig belongs to none of these. Instead, it is part of Parish Marhin, a collection of townlands lying to the north and west in the shadow of Mount Eagle. Maumanorig rubs shoulders with no part of Parish Marhin. (It is kept company by its lesser known sibling townland, Kilcolman, which apparently chose to drift away from home with its larger sibling.) It sits high on a hillside some miles east from the rest of its Parish and is praised for the best of views that are hidden from the contiguous block of Marhin townlands: Ventry harbor, haven for seafarers in peril and a second chance for the Blasket Islanders unable to overcome the power of Blasket Sound as they struggled for Dunquin or Slea Head and were pushed toward the eastward rocks; the golden crescent Ventry strand where most residents of the west end of the Dingle Peninsula gathered to barter or brawl, or to brag and beg a suitable match at markets and fairs, sometimes leaving with a little more than they brought, more often with much less; and the great Mount Eagle over which stalwart men trudged, carrying through the mountain saddle the newest coffin on its lone journey to be buried in Dunquin Cemetery, some ten miles distant. Hundreds of worried lads and lasses tramped over the great mount, barefoot to save their shoes, as they began their frightful journey to a new life, while those left behind – sharing only the start of their journey – trailed after the departing loved ones, bidding farewell again and again, for as long as the drink held out and long after they were beyond their bleary sight.

Maumanorig, or *Mám an Óraigh* in the language of the Irish, was what I had longed for in wistful dreams and during grueling hours of research filled with great expectations. It was what we all hope to find at the end of our genealogical rainbows: an ancestral Irish home. This was my pot of gold at the end of my rainbow, my destination. And this is how I got there.

Map of Maumanorig, County Marhin

A Dash To Dingle

My wife, Pat, has Irish ancestors from County Mayo only, and she has not yet pinned down their townland of origin.

'The "Returns"' continued on page 204

Portumna Priory Inscriptions

by Adrian Martyn

Portumna Priory is located quite close to Portumna Castle, Portumna, on the west bank of the Shannon River in County Galway. Originally possessed by the Clan Madden, the area was ruled by the Burkes of Clanricard after a Burke-Madden marriage in the 16th century.

Portumna Priory was a chapel attached to the monastery of Dunbrody, County Wexford, built in 1254 by the Cistercians and later taken over by the Dominicans in 1426. Suppressed during the Reformation it enjoyed a revival in the 17th century under the patronage of the Earls of Clanricarde before being finally abandoned in 1712. The Priory was used as a Protestant Church in 1762 until the completion of the existing church in 1832. The ruins are now a national monument and are in very good condition. It was the site of the marriage in December 1689 between Lady Honor Burke of Portumna and Patrick Sarsfield, Earl of Lucan.

My objective in all my transcription endeavours has been to document inscriptions on the oldest tombstones, whatever the surname. Thus, unless of special interest, those from the latter 19th through to the 21st century were ignored. Severely weathered inscriptions are given special attention, though several were undecipherable. A special attempt is made to record details of less common and rare surnames.

My reasons for compiling these lists – an ongoing task – has been both genealogical and philogical. To the best of my knowledge none of those noted above or to follow have been documented so I thought it worthwhile to record them as an addition to knowledge generally, and to genealogy, in particular. Used in conjunction with sources such as parish, civil, tithe and evaluation records, tombstone inscriptions can help fill out a family tree, and push back the known line of descent by at least one generation.

Most inscriptions tend to begin c.1760 or the following decade. These markers were erected by people of means. For the vast majority of the population their graves were marked perhaps by rough stones, or not at all. A good reason for people to care for what does exist.

Note: in this article, text in italics indicates exact renderings of the inscriptions. Normal text gives the relevant data in a more economical form. All but two, possibly three tombstones, in this priory were transcribed.

Outside Priory Walls

"Erected by John & Martin Ryan in memory of their father Thos. Ryan who departed this life Dec 25th 1806 aged 66 yrs."

"Eternal life o lord give unto the sould of Mary Gannon alias Dain who dep. this life Dec. 10th 1804 aged 50."

Patrick Whelan died 23 June 1833, aged 72.
His son, Denis, died 4 March 1834, aged 40. *"Erected by his son Thomas Whelan."*

Luke Burke died April 1805 age 56.
His wife, Mary Burke, died April 1805, age 60. *"Erected by their son, Patt Burke."*

"Eternal life o lord give unto the soul of Owen Kelly who departed this life 1780 age 81 yrs. Erected by Timothy Kelly."

"Erected by John Clarke in memory of his beloved wife Catherine Clarke alias McGennis ....." died 1st March 1816 aged 43.

"Willm. Fo..a...y died August 17 1767 aged 50 yrs. *Erected by his son John Fogarty."*

"Erected by Elenor Boughan alias Burke in memory of her father & mother John & Hannah Burke & brother John pray for them & posterity Dec ye 7th 1784."

"O Lord have mercy on the sould of Martin Quinn who departed Jan. 10th 1780 aged 95 yrs. Also his wife Mary Delapp dep. Jany. 6th 1799 aged 65 yrs. Erected by their son Thady Quinn March 1816."

"Pray fo ye soul of Mary Braderick who dyed ye year 1759 aged 21."

"This stone was erected by Francis maddin & Mary Maddin alias Burke ..." [undated, apparently late 18th century]

"This stone was erected by Thomas Howard in memory of his wife Mary Howard alias Ken who dept. this life Nov. 27th 1787 aged 51 yrs."

"Annabel Palmer, wife of John Palmer, Esq., died Fairy Hill, Co. Galway, 12th September 1816 aged 45 years. Her daughter Annabel Palmer died Santa Cruse House Co. Tipperary 8th November 1845, aged 35. Samuel Palmer Esq., of Palmerstown House, Co. Galway, died 1st September 1854, aged 72 years."

"This monument was raised by Jane Porter in memory of Mr. Phillip Porter Joseph Porter Isacc Porter & Thomas Porter who departed this life the 4th April aged 50 years Father son & grandson to said Phillip. They lived and died in the love and fear of the Great Creator."

Within Walls

"Here lies the body of Edmund Hearne of Tir Ehanandel Lisdavill his wife and the rest of that family God be merciful to them Amen 1688."

"This monument was raised by Thomas Higgison for his parents Valentine Higgision and Mary Higgison & their posterity forever 1688 Pray for them."

"Here lies the body of Dermot Meagher of Cloncrogin who dyed the 27 day of April 1681."

"To the memory of Allen McDonagh Esq., of Willmont House who departed this life July 1825 two of his children Thomas & Anne also lie beneath this tomb."

Catherine Golden alias Boughan died May 1789 aged 58. Also Margaret Goulden died 1780 aged 20. Erected by Owen Goulden.

Anthony Hough died 6 May 1818, 79 years. *"Erected by his sons John, Patrick & Edmond Hough."*

Thomas Connor died 4 March 1769.

John Connor died Feb. 4 1788. Bridget Connor alias Nilly died July 6th 1786. *Erected by son "Mr. John Connor."*

"Pray for ye soul of Mr. Wm. Madden died at Caherglas Xi e 7 8th 1757"

Elizabeth Heron died 17 January 1844 *"aged eleven months."*

"Hic est T V MV L Y S Cornei ii Coc ... H E T V OT AE Madden V XOR ISFIVS ET VCCE SSOR VMPRO OVIEVS OR ATE ORPRI 1648."

"Patrick Canavan & Clara Canavan his wife who raised this monument for themselves & there posterity 1688."

"Brassell Maddin of Creggin & Katherine Keog who raised this momvment ..... 1688."

"Orat epno Patribv SchrisI o Pherrowealsh. Ambrosio Madden. Petrol Vrcanet Thadae Olvrcanord. Praed Qvihnc Lapide Ehigfe Cervnt in Memoriamsvae Sepvltvrae et Aliorvm. Fratrvm. Anno 1670."

"Erected by Timothy Kirvore for his brother Jam Kirvore who died Jan 16th 1787 aged 20 yrs Also his father Edmd. Kirvore who died April 5th 1790 aged 78 yrs."

"..... Peter Pelly sometime Captain in the service of his most serene Highness the Elector of Bavaria his Breast was the seal of intergrity ..." [five almost illegible lines following this on Captain Pelly's qualities] "..... of his ancestors ..... common ..... Roman Catholic church the 18th of July 1790 His sister Anne Geoghegan alias Pelly erected this monument as a memorial of her ...."

Transcribed 20 June 2005.

Adrian Martyn was born Galway in 1975. His main area of interest in Irish genealogy is that of Galway families, particularly on the Tribes of Galway, of whom he is a descendant. He is the author of The Tribes of Galway *(2001) and many published articles. Under the pseudonym Fergananim, he has written several dozen articles on Wikipedia.*

Primary Research in Ireland: A Grand Adventure

by Gabrielle Ní Mheachair Woeltje

"Children, guess where we're going this summer?"

"Not Ireland again!" Maeve moans.

"Why not? Don't you like going home?"

"I'm sick and tired of graveyards, farm houses with old people and wild dogs, and castles with no princesses," Maeve insisted.

This sums up how my children felt about our trips to Ireland in those early years.

I spent more than fifteen years returning to Ireland doing genealogical research. My experiences there were incredible. When I recount them for people they assume that I am embellishing for the audience. I assure you I am not. Never underestimate the Irish experience. No matter who you are, or where you are from, it is sure to be a grand adventure.

Driving in rural Ireland is a feat for the brave and stouthearted, to which one must add an excellent sense of direction. Unfortunately, I am sorely deficient in all areas. I found myself driving in circles on rural roads with no signs other than the odd decorative one demonstrating Irish bilingualism. Some signs said that the next village was three miles straight on. When I reached the three-mile marker I found another sign saying the village was seven miles to the right. On reaching another cross roads the village was again three miles away. It seems that I was driving in circles and yet I was following all the signs.

I pride myself in always taking my mother's advice, "You have a mouth don't you? Well use it." I ask for directions. Sometimes this proves to be quite a challenge because rural gentlemen often speak English with an Irish accent, which can be difficult to understand. It never helps when they end their direction with the affirmation, "Right!" Then I forget everything they said and go right only to find myself totally lost on extremely narrow roads that weave and wind like a skipping rope. It seems that most people's ancestors come from *(aiteanna iargualta)* remote places, and I often arrived at my destination far too late to knock on any man's door. I return the following day if I can find my way. Being lost in Ireland is one of the greatest adventures of any genealogical trip.

Ireland has a reputation for begrudgery and naysayers. I have met more than a few in my travels. My least favorite is what I call the "Jesus syndrome" or the prophet in his own home. "Sure don't we all know who she is? And there she is going around the country pretending to do research shoving people's noses in it trying to be big people. Doesn't everybody know where her ancestors came from? There's more Mahers around here than you could count and they're all the one crowd." These people see my genealogical research as an effort to prove that I am something more than I am "Big People".

Then there are those who refuse to help or give out any information. They suffer from the "if I tell you then you'll know" syndrome. I found this syndrome particularly prevalent in my immediate family. It was most infuriating when my uncles refused to help me. One was particularly stubborn. I enlisted the help of my father to coax the information out of him. My father had the questions in his head and I had the pen and paper ready. However, my uncle was smarter than both of us and fielded each question brilliantly. I was so frustrated I could have cried. I was forced to go elsewhere to get the information that he had stored in his head since the old fireside with his father. Perhaps, he felt as one woman aptly described her feelings, "You're wasting your time here, girl; we're trying to forget the past not dredge it up."

When I ran into difficulty in one home I was sure to exaggerate at the next one. "Did your man tell you anything worth while?" I was asked. "Absolutely, he was a mine of information. That man knows everything about the Mahers. He's very intelligent, you know!" The latter remark is sure to set the competition going and challenge one source to out do the next.

One mother told me not to darken her doorstep again. Her family information was not for public use; besides, her teenage daughter had already done the family tree and that was to be the end of it.

My mother's friend refused to answer the door no matter how hard I knocked or how often I came by. Finally, I asked Mother what Mass she went to. I intercepted her in the foyer the following Sunday with pen and paper in hand. She was most congenial because she daren't let herself down in public.

Another woman insisted she had no idea where her husband was buried. She couldn't even tell me where the graveyard was. I drove back into town and asked directions for the local graveyard. I found it without difficulty. It was practically in the center of the town. As I drove in the main gates the grounds man came forward. I asked him if he knew anything about the grave. He rolled his eyes and said, "That would depend on what exactly you are looking for." I thought that a very queer reply. He took me

on a tour of the family graves and pointed to a grave that was dug open and lying in wait for a body. "That's her grave," he remarked. "But she's not dead yet," I replied in surprise. "I know that," he interjected, "but she wants to be sure that the family puts her down in the right place. She wants to be with her father and not with her husband," he went on. "Oh," said I, "and where might he be?" "Right over here," he pointed as I followed. I assured him I was no relation, but I was, and quite close at that.

One summer my daughter was potty training. It seems that she polluted Ireland from north to south that year. Ashamed as I am to admit it, she also left her territorial mark in many graveyards through out the county. In one graveyard as we hid behind a headstone a lovely lady came by and offered to teach her how to go outdoors without wetting herself. I was most thankful for the lesson. We chatted casually for a time before discovering that we were standing beside the exact gravestone I had spent hours trying to find.

Priests have very idiosyncratic ideas about the books (parish records). One priest I visited refused to let me see, touch, or interact with the book. He stood tall holding it firmly in his hands the whole visit while I made great efforts to read it upside down. I was forced to ask the questions and he found the answers. The next priest handed me the book and said, "Take it into town to photocopy and bring it back in an hour." Another insisted I call out the names and he would find them. His old eyes skipped pages, people, names and dates. I had to return year after year to get all the details. My favorite forced me to sit for hours chatting about the family, my work, America, the way the world has gone today, and so on and so forth. Finally, when I was frozen solid, dying for the bathroom, and weak with exhaustion, he brought out the book. "Sure, what hurry is on you?" he said to me when I suggested coming back another day. After a three-hour visit to another cold, damp, limestone house I was forced to seek succor in a neighbor's home to use the bathroom and to thaw out before continuing on my journey. Upon returning home at midnight on another occasion my mother was quite irritated saying, "What will the people think seeing you coming out of the priest's house at this hour?"

In one house a dog bit my tire and then proceeded to bite me. His teeth got stuck in my rubber soles. The woman of the house arrived to find me vigorously shaking him off my foot, but to no avail. He was stuck tight. She grabbed the dog and cast him aside before ushering me into her warm kitchen. Once inside I burst into tears and made a right fool of myself. Her son took care of my tire and she took care of me.

Imagine my shock, when the door of a house was opened by a man who looked exactly like my father, who happened to be ten years dead. The shock nearly killed me. I stood there with my mouth open and my mind frozen. When I went into his house I was transported back to the state of our house before daddy died. It was an eerie experience to say the least. Genetics are bizarre.

In all my years of research I found my people generous to a fault. All served hot tea, tart and biscuits. Some offered "the good stuff" but I dare not drink and drive! Some loaned or gave books, Mass cards, cuttings, photocopies etc. One man gave me a bag of Tipperary Turf to take back to America. Another gave me straw from the roof of the old home. All gave me great memories, which provide abundant fodder for my story telling. Every year I bring back an extra ten pounds of myself that I gathered graciously in their kitchens. My winters are spent writing and dieting in preparation for the next summer.

The saddest part of genealogical research is the people who don't wait for you. The old couple in the darling cottage was gone when I returned one year. Their cottage had been pulled down. I cried for the end of an age. Sissy, the ninety-year-old, most beautiful woman I had ever seen, was gone too. She didn't wait for me. Every year someone else is gone. I take it personally. I wonder why they don't wait for me. Just one more year, one more month, one more day! But they must be on their way, and I must write what they had to say.

Gabrielle Ni Meachair Woeltje is a native of Ivy Hall, Templemore, Co. Tipperary, Ireland. She moved to the USA as an adult and currently resides with her husband, Keith F. Woeltje, and young family at St Louis, Missouri. Gabrielle was an elementary school teacher for 15 years. Now she spends her time at writing children's literature, genealogical works, and working towards an M Ed. in Reading. She is the author of An Chailleach agus a Cuid Gruaige, An 2002, Liam agus an Leprechaun, An 2006-2007, The Killanigan Ryans, self published 2005, currently working on, The Killea Meaghers and a history of the Meachair Clan titled, "Meachair, the Story of a Clan." Gabrielle is a long-standing member of IGSI.

All Genealogists Were Once Beginners

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

I'm fond of a short daily feature on public radio called "The Composer's Notebook." The program shares both the triumphs and set-backs of famous and not so famous composers, and ends each day with the tagline: "All music was once new." Similarly, we should remember that all genealogists – even the acclaimed and famous – were once beginners.

Some of us have been "doing family history" for so long that we barely remember how we started. Most of us didn't bother to take genealogy courses or learn about source citations before we started climbing our family trees. We just started. Only later did we realize all there was to learn about sources and methods.

Let's be clear. We pursue family history and genealogy for the personal satisfaction of knowing about our roots. No professional genealogist can tell you which theme to develop or how to write your family history. Instead make your own music.

There is some science to go with the art. Poets, painters and composers create art from their hearts, but the most successful also have great technique – technique that requires study and practice. Just as artists improve their artistry through learned skills, so too can family historians produce better genealogies by learning about sources, analysis techniques and the mechanics of writing.

If you're reading *The Septs*, you're probably not a raw beginner. Whatever label you apply to yourself, you probably have come to the realization that there is more to genealogical research than *Google* and *Ancestry.com*. Perhaps, you're to the point that others ask you for advice. What advice would you give? Here are eight simple tips that I offer for advancing your genealogy and learning the skills to produce reports that will stand the test of time.

1) Dare to start. Be a Mountain Dew genealogist: do it. You can't finish anything you don't start. Some things to start, if you haven't already: go to the library, go to a courthouse, start writing (more on some of these later).

You say you've been doing genealogy for several years, but you didn't always file things or cite sources properly. Do you need to start over? No, but from this point forward try to do it the right way. Get your system going, and then go back, as time permits, and try to gradually bring the old stuff up to snuff.

2) Learn about genealogical sources. The best way to learn the ins and outs of genealogical sources – be they census records, vital records or Civil War pension files – is to use them. The more records you consult, the more familiar you become with them, and the more alert you become to their idiosyncrasies. Notice how a particular kind of record changes over time as these changes may reflect legal changes. Speaking of legalities, expect records to vary across states. Don't be afraid of a difficult source. Learn from it; use it with your eyes open.

One of the best places to learn about sources is a book called, simply, *The Source* (Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, eds., third edition, Ancestry, 2006). This book has chapters on important genealogical sources, including vital records, marriage records, church records, censuses, land records, military records newspapers and more.

Other books are devoted to individual records types. A few examples include:

- Christine Rose, *Courthouse Research for Family Historians*
- Patricia Law Hatcher, *Locating your Roots: Discover your Ancestors Using Land Records*
- Kathleen W. Hinckley, *Your Guide to the Federal Census*
- Michael Tepper, *American Passenger Arrival Records*
- James Neagles, *American Military Records: a Guide to Federal and State Sources: Colonial America to the Present*.

Archives and libraries often post web articles about the records they hold. Readers of *The Septs* should take a look at the websites of the U.S., British and Irish national archives.

- The National Archives of the United Kingdom has online research guides covering a variety of sources including censuses, parish registers, wills, and vital records. (http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/catalogue/RdLeaflet.asp?sLeafletID=84&j=1#8)
- The National Archives of Ireland offers primers on a variety of sources held in the archives, including census return, estate records, tithe applotment books and the *Primary* (Griffith) *Valuation*. (http://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy/sources.html)

- At the U. S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) website, you can find guides to census records, land records, Civil War pension files, naturalization and other records held by the them. A good starting point is the NARA genealogy and family history page (http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/).

The National Genealogical Society offers online courses covering introductory genealogy, census records and transcribing and abstracting records. NGS also offers a most intensive, 16-lesson Home Study Course. Learn about these distance learning options at the NGS Learning Center page (http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/edu.cfm). The Toronto-based National Institute for Genealogical Studies (http://www.genealogicalstudies.com/) offers a variety of online genealogy courses. Both the NGS and NIGS courses require tuition.

3) Join a local, state or ethnic genealogical society. Do it (genealogy) with others who share your interests. Genealogical society membership is a great way to connect with others who share your hobby, and in the case of ethnic societies, your particular heritage interests. If you are reading this article, you probably already belong to the Irish Genealogical Society International, affectionately known to us as IGSI. Don't just join; be involved. Serve on a committee, help with a conference or share your talents as an officer or board member. The people you meet will inspire you.

4) Take classes and attend conferences or institutes. Most of us start as hobbyists, but we pretty quickly find out we are doing some pretty complex historical research. For now, only a handful of colleges and universities offer academic genealogy courses or degrees. That might change in time, but you don't need to wait. Genealogical societies, including IGSI, offer numerous classes, workshops or conferences. A community college or K-12 school district might offer community education courses. Poke around your area to find what is available. These local offerings are often taught by Board-certified genealogists or other highly experienced professionals. If you're looking for something more advanced, consider these annual institutes:

- Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham, June (http://www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/),
- National Institute for Genealogical Research, NARA, College Park, Maryland, July (http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~natgenin/), or
- Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Genealogical Society of Utah, January (http://www.infouga.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=103&Itemid=103)

These offer classes for intermediate to advanced researchers, and frequently sell out.

5) Visit libraries and ask questions. While more sources populate the Internet every day, much more is tucked away in libraries and archives. Archivists and reference librarians know a lot about where to find records and how to use them. Ask them. State historical society libraries hold much hidden treasure. Even local public libraries can help you locate, and often borrow, materials you'd never find on your own. If you can't get to a distant library, start with its website (in fact, don't go to the library at all without exploring its website). In addition to the archives mentioned above, you may want to visit the websites of these outstanding genealogical libraries:

- Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah (http://www.familysearch.org/eng/Library/FHL/frameset_library.asp). Take advantage of the subject matter and geographic research guides available under the "Education and Training" tab on the Library main page
- Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana (http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/index.html)
- Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois (http://www.newberry.org/)

6) Read articles and family histories – not your own, someone else's. Articles and books that have nothing to do with your family will help you learn how other researchers solve problems. Challenge yourself to read peer-reviewed articles in journals like *The National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (NGSQ), *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* or *The American Genealogist*. These articles are sometimes dense and not easy to follow, but the work of reading them will strengthen your own analytical

skills. I like the NGSQ because the articles focus on methods for solving research problems.

Read your state or provincial genealogical journals because they will often give you ideas about the kinds of source materials available in your area. These articles are often excellent, but may not always meet the same high standards of national journals. Give these articles your own critique. Read carefully to see if they meet your own standards.

7) Write. Writing forces you to test your thinking. Writing puts your arguments out in the open and forces your to consider the logic of your arguments. Don't just write, ask a friend or other genealogists to read your work and give you comments and advice.

You don't have to wait until you've finished your research to write your family history. In fact, if you do wait, you might never do it. Write short pieces as you go along. These "in progress" writings preserve your thinking and ideas about evidence, so that when you return to the same research problem a couple of years down the road, you won't be starting from scratch. In these writings, include an account of how you found certain information or how you drew a conclusion. If you don't, you might not remember how you knew that Uncle Fred was only a half sibling of Aunt Martha.

8) Share. Go tell it on the mountain! A hoarded genealogy is one that will be lost to future generations. Share your findings with relatives in writing. Send your finished report to a local or state genealogical society. Publish your work on the internet. Submit an article to *The Septs* or another journal or newsletter. Whatever you do, make sure your work gets passed on in some tangible form. And do your readers a favor: document your sources so they can trust your findings.

You don't have to be a professional genealogist to do good genealogy But, if you go about your genealogy in a professional way, you will get better results. While other genealogists might give you an entirely different list of tips, these eight are among my best recommendations for being a better genealogist. In fact, I need to do a little better in some of these areas, myself… There is always more to learn. Have fun.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is director of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He has studied advanced genealogy research methods at the Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and completed the National Genealogical Society's home study course. He lectures on census research, vital records, Dutch genealogy, maps and geography, and other topics. He is senior health workforce analyst at the Minnesota Department of Health.

Society Membership
A Great Gift

The holidays are coming!

Are you looking for the perfect gift for the family historian tracing Irish ancestors? Give a membership (new or renewal) to the Irish Genealogical Society International. Members receive the following benefits:

- Access to the Member section of IGSI website
- Subscription to *The Septs*, IGSI's award-winning quarterly journal
- Back issues of *The Septs* for free download from the website
- Access to Surname Database with contact information
- Irish genealogical research assistance at low cost
- 15% discount on *Irish Origins Eneclann* genealogical website found at http:www.Origins.net/ and on all of *Eneclann* CDs.
- Free access to the IGSI (MGS) Library in South St. Paul, MN
- Email notification of IGSI events
- Discount on programs offered by IGSI

See page 218 for a copy of the membership form. It's a unique gift – one that will be appreciated throughout the year.

What's Your Surname?

by Thomas J. Fox

Go figure. How could my ancestors just all of a sudden decide to use a different surname?

My grandfather was John Francis Fox, born in June 1873, in Lackan Lower, County Cavan. His parents were Catherine and Michael Fox; his grandfather, Bernard Fox, was listed as the informant on John's birth certificate. Fox would then be the expected surname. Bernard was a farmer and occupied land in Lackan, Lower covering 4 acres 0 roods and 5 perches. He and his wife, Ann, had eleven children, six boys and five girls. From what I have been able to gather at least five of them emigrated to the U.S. All but one ended up in the San Francisco Bay area.

My grandfather arrived in New York on June 4, 1895, and made his way to San Francisco where he married Margaret Lambe on July 10, 1903, in St. Theresa's Catholic Church. Two of his brothers, Daniel and Bernard, joined him as longshoremen on the docks. His sister, Rose Flanagan nee Fox, also took up residence there and her husband James joined the others working on the ships. All used the surname "Fox".

I began my research with very little. A cousin had compiled a list of the siblings of John Fox and the year they were baptized. I decided to track these folk and determine where they lived their lives, in Ireland or the USA. I searched the records of the Family History Center; I Googled the surname Fox in County Cavan, and I looked at various periodicals which I found through PERSI. I spent hours on Ancestry.com searching for the Fox folk from Lackan Lower, County Cavan. I looked at all the available "Fox" listings in the U.S. census with some luck. I found some, but could not locate all of them.

Frustration had me asking for assistance from a genealogist in County Cavan, Ireland, who found all of the children from Michael and Catherine's union and their Baptismal dates. According to the RC Parish of Ballintemple, Margaret Ann was baptized 26 Dec 1868. Her surname was "Shanachey"; father Mic Shanachey and mother Catherine Mic Gaughran. The next child, born in 1870, was a "Fox" and all the other children were listed with "Fox" as the surname. Maybe something happened locally in 1868 and the family had to use "Shanachey" instead of "Fox".

I received transcriptions of the 1901 and 1911 Ireland Census for Lackan, Lower. The 1901 document states that the householder Michael and his wife Catherine use the surname "Fox". William, a son, lists his last name as "Fox". The 1911 document does not list Michael, but has William "Shanaghy" as the householder and his mother listed as Catherine "Shanaghy".

I revealed the findings to my family and to the members in my genealogy class, who accepted the story with skepticism. "Are you sure they are not different people?" I was asked. An Irish second cousin living in the United Kingdom was told that no one knew for sure why the surname was changed by some of the family. She was told that during "the troubles" some Irish used different surnames.

The Genealogist from County Cavan assured me that Fox is "mainly synonym of Kearney, MacAshinah, Shanaghy or Shinnock." She further assured me that the variant "Shanaghy" is in use today in the Ballintemple area of County Cavan. I found the same information on the web under surnames with varieties and synonyms. This revelation obviously opens up a whole new "name" to search. Maybe I should also check the "Shinnock", "MacAshinah" and the others – like I need more paper to file!

The question may never be answered why some of the family chose "Shanaghy", while most chose to stay with the surname Fox. Just messing with us I guess. I like Fox, so I will stick with it and be Sionnach Aboo (Fox forever).

Thomas J. Fox is researching ancestors in both Spain and Ireland. Retired from Santa Clara County (CA) Probation Department in 1997, he is married, the father of five children and proud grandfather of four. Other hobbies include reading and gardening.

Attention Washington State Members

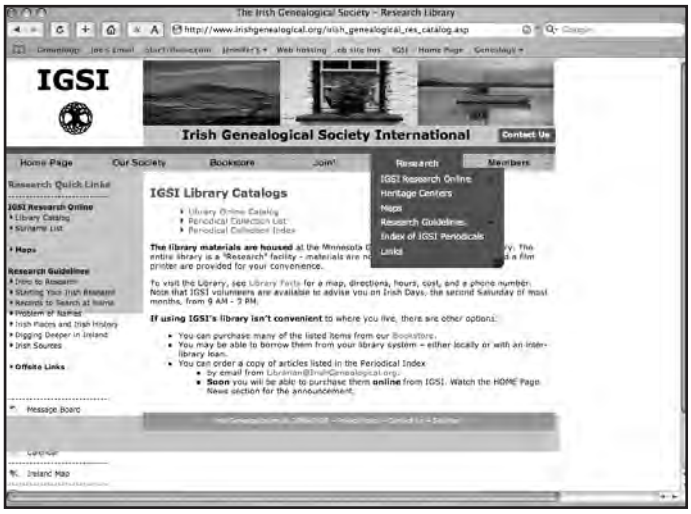
Betty Fulton, a new member in Washington State, is looking to contact other IGSI members in the same area. If interested, please write her at: Betty M. Fulton, 12624 Glenwood Ave SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

Rely on the RESEARCH Tab – Part 1

by Kathleen Strickland

The next stop on our electronic journey through the Irish Genealogical Society International website explores the Research tab at the right side of the orange menu bar. This tab leads to the IGSI databases, an expansive collection of sources about all things Irish—people, places, traditions—all available to help you in your pursuit of Irish families.

In this issue, I'll cover the first item on the drop-down menu under the Research tab, "IGSI Research Online" with its subheads: Library Catalog, Surname Search, *The Septs* and Databases. Each subhead leads to a wealth of resources.



Library Catalog

Does the IGSI Library hold items that you can use? Since we are not a lending library, any titles of interest in the catalog should be requested for interlibrary loan through your public library, or they may be for purchase at the IGSI bookstore.

Click on "Library Online Catalog" on the **Library Catalog** page to search for items by title, author, and/or county in Ireland.

- Use the title box if you know the exact title. If you are looking specifically for *Battle of Baltinglass*, entering the title will return the book of that name by Lawrence Earl. Try various spellings of anything you look up: typing "Griffiths" in the title box brings up only four results; for more Griffiths Valuation titles, you might also check "Griffith" and "Griffith's".
- Type a name in the author box to bring up all the works by that writer that are held in the IGSI collection. For example, a search for "Grenham" returns seven entries for Irish research expert John Grenham.
- Search by county name. Choosing "Wicklow" from the county list rewards you with more than 40 library holdings such as the Ulster Historical Collection's multi-county work *Clergy of Dublin* and *Glendalough*, which includes Wicklow, Dublin and Kildare.

Return to **Library Catalog** and click on "Periodical Collection List." Check out the journal titles in the IGSI Library collection. From *All Ireland Heritage* to *West Leinster Irish Chronicles*—83 periodicals cover people, places and things in 62 Irish counties. If you are researching Irish ancestors from New York, for example, you might want to examine the *New York Irish History Roundtable Journal*.

Back at **Library Catalog**, click on "Periodical Collection Index". IGSI created an index to the articles of magazines owned by the Library which is available on CD, *Index of Irish Periodicals*. Use the index at the IGSI library, purchase the CD from the IGSI bookstore, or become a member of IGSI and search the index at the Society's website online. Note that the library does not have every issue of every title;, ongoing indexing will continue as the IGSI collection grows. I'll write in more detail about the Index of Periodicals as I work my way down the Research tab.

Surname Search

Once again, return to the Research tab on the orange title bar, go to "IGSI Research Online" and click on the subhead **Surname Search**. This area features surnames that IGSI members are researching. Using this surname index, you can search by surname, Ireland county and locale, destination (state or province) and locale (city or county), or any combination of the three.. A Soundex search is also available, with a link to the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration website for its helpful article explaining the Soundex Indexing System. You can also specify how results are displayed: by surname, Irish location or emigration location. Another choice is to search by current members' surnames only or by all surnames of both current and past members.

Searching for a Doyle family that left Co. Wicklow for New York, I enter 'Doyle' into the surname box, choose to search ALL surnames, and sort by Irish location. The resulting search nets 20 Doyle researchers. Adding 'County Wicklow' to the search parameters brings 11 results, and specifying 'New York State' as a destination produces two results.

As a member, I can log in and choose the "Membership" tab, then click on Surname Search. My results are the same as above, but each Doyle entry includes contact information for the submitter. From the Doyle search results, I can immediately contact the current member who is searching for a Doyle family that left Co. Wicklow for New York.

The Septs

The third choice under "IGSI Research Online" is ***The Septs***. The key to all the back issues of IGSI's journal is here. Search by table of contents, issue theme or general index and find information on how to obtain an article.

Clicking on "Contents" takes you to a table where you can view the contents of any past year of *The Septs*. If you choose to view 2002, for example, all the articles of that year appear by issue; in the left-hand column of the page, you can click on a different year to see the contents of the four journals for that year.

Clicking on the "Themes" subhead of ***The Septs*** brings up an alphabetical list of each theme for every issue of *The Septs*, e.g., the issue dedicated to County Wicklow in January 1998, Volume 19, No. 1. To obtain a copy of an issue or article, look at the left-hand column of the "Contents" page showing a choice of hyperlinks.

- Members can click onto the "Members Area" of the website and download a free PDF copy of any issue of *The Septs*.
- A non-member may buy a paper copy of the issue from the bookstore after choosing an issue from the "Contents" and "Themes" lists.

Finding a journal article about a particular subject is easiest when using the "Index" link on *The Septs*. A page opens where you can frame your request according to author's name, geographic focus and title or keyword.

- Still looking for the Doyles, I select 'Wicklow' from the drop-down geographic list and 'Doyle' from the Title/Keyword list. The search found no articles with that combination. In a search for 'Wicklow' only, 11 titles appear.

If you are an IGSI member, proceed to click on the box to the left of each title that interests you. Notice that some listings are reviews of items added to the IGSI library rather than actual informational articles.

- After check marking your choices, click "view list" to bring up an Article List page showing your choices. Remove items you no longer want by clicking the "remove" link to the left of each item. Choose one of the following options:
  1. E-mail your list to yourself or anyone you choose.
  2. E-mail a request for article copies to IGSI (your mailing address already appears on the page).
  3. Fill in the number of copies of each item you wish to order.
  4. Decide whether to e-mail this list, save it and continue searching, or empty it.
  5. At the bottom of the page, find an estimated cost for copying. IGSI will answer your request and send a bill for copies.

Databases

I'll just touch on Databases here. While anyone can search the database, only members have instant, online access. Searches using surname, first name, Irish county and/or locale cover topics ranging from Assisted Emigration and Births to Passenger Lists and Minnesota Irish. Spend some time on http.//www.irishgenealogical.com and discover what is waiting for you in IGSI's Databases. Read more about these databases in the January issue.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, Illinois. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

John Joseph Greene Collection

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS

It is tempting as you scan the name of this collection to say "this couldn't apply to my family since the surname is Greene." *That would be a mistake!* As with anyone who is conducting research in a given area, a number of collateral families, servants, nurses, overseers and others are named in the abstracts. This collection is a great example of the numerous other persons named in the counties below.

This installment of the series on Irish Genealogical Collections focuses on the collection of John Joseph Greene and pertains primarily to the counties of Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Limerick, Tipperary, and Waterford in the Republic of Ireland. The names of the counties and dioceses covered in this installment are as follows:

Counties	Collection	Repository	FHL	Diocese(s)
• Clare • Dublin • Kildare • Kilkenny • Limerick • Meath • Tipperary • Waterford	John Joseph Greene	Genealogical Office & the National Library of Ireland	Yes	* Killaloe • Dublin • Leighlin • Ossory • Limerick • Meath •Cashel & Emly • Waterford & Lismore

The Greene manuscripts contain prerogative wills, parish register abstracts, marriage and memorial settlements for the family of Greene and allied families. The collection was compiled by John Joseph Greene during the era from 1891 1898. There are five volumes of abstracts which were deposited in the Genealogical Office, Dublin (Mss. 142 143; 149 151; 153 154; 156; 160; 170 172). A copy is also available at the National Archives in Dublin.

A cover letter to the collection gives details relating to the contents as follows:

> "The Green collection in the National Library consists of 31 Ms. volumes for the most part fairly written. It was made by Surgeon Major afterwards Surgeon Colonel J. J. Greene, who investigated the history of a great number of Greene or Green and collateral families in the Public Record Office during the years 1891 98. The volumes may be roughly divided into two classes, the one containing information derived from Public Records which in the main no longer exist, and the other containing information derived from sources outside the Record Office.
>
> ...Original Certified Copies issued from the Public Record Office: (A) A volume entitled 'Wills & Admons 1632 1825' and another 'Wills & Admons 1819 1894'. These volumes mainly contain original certified copies of wills and Grants of Probate and Administration. A few Probate Office copies of Wills and some extracts of Wills and Letters of Administration.
>
> ...Though the volumes mainly relate to various Greene or Green families, they are not confined to families of that surname and contain a great deal of information concerning various other families, the collection is particularly full of information concerning Waterford, Kilkenny, Limerick and Tipperary families."

The collection was microfilmed by the Family History Library in 1950 as part of the collection in the Genealogical Office, Dublin (G.O.) and is contained on three rolls of microfilm.

G.O. Mss. 142 – 143 (FHL microfilm no. 100,235, items 1-2)
This is a collection of wills and extracts mostly from the Prerogative Court of Armagh and the Dioceses of Waterford & Lismore. Each will is generally followed by an abstract of the associated entry made in the grant book. These will copies are for persons with the surname Greene/Green. Many are for the time period 1800 – 1857 which fills a gap in the abstracts of Prerogative wills made by Sir William Betham. The following example is evidence of why you should expand your horizons when it comes to copies of original records in your given area of interest.

Prerogative Will of William Greene of Janeville, County Waterford, 1829.
Pages 9-10, "I leave to my old and faithful servants, that is to say to Rose Divine, Richd Neil, Ellenor Revans, Ellenor Kennedy and Simon Neil the following annuities..."

G.O. Mss. 149 (FHL microfilm no. 100,235, items 3-4)
This section begins with an "Index to Chancery Pleadings County Palatine of Tipperary 1662 -1765." The names of the plaintiff and the defendants are given, along with the date of the bill and the number. The index is followed by nicely handwritten abstracts from the proceedings. Since these proceedings were destroyed in the Public Record Office in 1922, the value of the indexes and abstracts is considerable.

The Registry of Deeds was established in Ireland in 1708 and copies of many land deeds and marriage settlements are to be found therein. Reading the abstracts of these proceedings, one is immediately impressed by the number of deeds referenced in the abstracts that pre-date those to be found in the Registry of Deeds. The following sample illustrates the kind of information one may expect to find.

Chancery Bill, 9 November 1682: Greene, Elizabeth and John Greene & others, plaintiff
John Greene, William Cox and Charles Waters, defendants

> "Elizabeth Greene of Kilmanaheen, County Waterford was the widow of Godfrey Greene Senr of Kilmanaheen…He made his will in May 1682 and bequeathed to…Elizabeth Greene, the lands of Kilmanaheene Kilnamack & Kilmacome for ten years, certain stock on the lands etc. stated by said Elizabeth Greene to be worth £300 to enable her to maintain herself and the child of which she was then pregnant, and also the younger children of said Godfrey Greene by his 2nd wife. Said Godfrey Greene died 13th May 1682. She was only married to said Godfrey Greene about ¼ of a year & therefore ignorant of his concerns & of the value of his estate, whereas John Greene one of the Executors & William Cox, uncle to said John Greene & onne of the overseers did well know & also knew that a considerable sum of money was left by said Godfrey Greene at the time of his death & several considerable debts owing to him and also did well know the value of said Godfrey Greene's Estate & of the legacy bequeathed to said Elizabeth Greene.
>
> "Elizabeth Greene was nearly related to said Godfrey Green's 2nd wife…she had perfect confidence in said John Greene & said William Cox & she employed one Charles Waters as her friend.
>
> "Said Greene & Cox bribed said Waters with a sum of 20 Guineas to betray her & within 5 days after her husbands death & 'was in the height of her grief' they solemnly affirmed that the legacy left her was not worth above £1000, although they then knew it was worth £4000.
>
> "Out of sympathy etc and owing to the difficulty of arranging said Godfrey Greene's affairs they proposed she should accept £600 in ready money and £50 for the child yet unborn and diet and lodging for herself, her servants and her horse at £30 a year for her life in lieu thereof, and that said John Greene would give security to Francis Gough, one of the overseers, to pay the portions of the children said Elizabeth Greene still to have an eye over them.
>
> "She stated that said William Cox took the keys [to the house] and the money from Godfrey Green's pocket and that afterwards she was surpressed (sic) into the agreement said Cox gave the keys to said John Greene who has kept them ever since and though said John Greene has not performed his part of the agreement he has violently entered into the house or Castle of Kilmanaheen and without said Elizabeth Greene's consent brought his family there and seized upon £200 that was in the house and violently taken all the other keys of the house from said Elizabeth Greene and seized all the stock and all the other Estate of the said Godfrey Greene.
>
> "Elizabeth Greene married lately John Hanbury Merchant…"

G.O. Mss. 150-151 (FHL microfilm no. 100,235, items 3-4)
Exchequer Bills for members of the Greene family. There are two index books identical to the one described above, one for the years 1674-1850, and the second for the years 1682 -1717. The indexes are followed by the Exchequer Bills and Answers. The following two cases are good examples of how the poor get included in these abstracts as well as the upper classes.

Exchequer Bill, John Greene, plaintiff, Thomas Blyth, defendant, 7 December 1694

> "The Poor Petitioner John Greene late of Kelly, County Meath, now of the City of Dublin, Carpenter, states that in December 1672 Thomas Blyth of Rathmore in Co. Meath having a great pump and a pipe thereto, and that Petitioner was employed to mind said pump, and spent 14 days for which he charged 35s., but was not paid, and Defendant has also kept a cow which Petitioner had grazing on Defts. lands.

Exchequer Bill, George Sandford, plaintiff, John Power, Catherine ffling alias Power, defendants, 9 June 1736

> "Catherine Power, eldest daughter of John Power, married George ffling about 28th Septr. 1726, George ffling became a Papist. Issue of Marriage, Daniel. George Sandford as Protestant and discoverer claims the property certain houses in Kilkenny. (Plaintiffs Bill dismissed with costs)

G.O. Mss. 153-154, 156, 160 (FHL microfilm no. 100,236, items 1-4)
Manuscript 153 contains extracts from Prerogative Wills and a few post-1858 wills from the Principal Registry and the District registries.

Manuscript 154 contains extracts from parish registers for members of the Greene Family for the years 1692-1870, many from the Diocese of Ossory. Again, given the fact that many of the Church of Ireland parish registers were destroyed in Dublin in 1922, these may be the only copies of those entries. Most of these are certified copies made by staff of the Public Record Office.

Manuscript 156 contains additional extracts and abstracts from the Prerogative Rule Books, Grant Books and Wills. This section contains many extracts for the Diocese of Ossory for persons with surnames other than Greene. It also includes copies of marriage settlements and deeds recorded in the Registry of Deeds, Dublin.

Manuscript 160 continues the copies of deeds, indentures and conveyances from the Registry of Deeds.

G.O. Mss. 170-172 (FHL microfilm no. 100,237)
Manuscript 170 begins with additional entries from the Registry of Deeds, although the "title board" indicates that it is extracts of census returns for the years 1821-1851 for the Greene family. It contains summaries of the searches conducted in the Registry of Deeds and the Courts of Chancery and Exchequer for the surname Greene – by any measure, an exhaustive search of the available records. Perhaps a third of the way into this roll of microfilm, we do find the mentioned abstracts from the census records. Many others are named in addition to the members of the Greene family. The following is an example:

> Census Return
> Sunday 6th June 1841
> County Dublin
> Barony of Upper Cross
> Parish of St. Peter
> Townland of Rathmines West
> Town of Rathmines

- Frances Wolsely, 33, Head of Family, Widow, Married in 1825, no occupation, Native of Dublin
- Matilda Wolsely, 12, Daughter, Not married, Native of County Carlow
- Garnet Wolsely, 8, Son, Not married, Native of County Dublin
- Richard Wolsely, 7, Son, Not married, Native of County Dublin
- Frances Wolsely, 6, Daughter, Not married, Native of County Dublin
- Frederick Wolsely, 4, Son, Not married, Native of County Dublin
- Caroline Wolsely, 3, Daughter, Not married, Native of County Dublin
- George Wolsely, 2, Son, Not married, Native of County Dublin
- Cathn. Donoghoe, (no age) Occupation Dry Nurse
- Mary Simmon, (no age) Occupation Cook
- Deaths Since 6th June 1831
- Garnet J. Wolsely, 60, Husband, Cause of Death – Decline, Occupation Major, Date of Death 1840
- Wm. Wolsely, 4, Son, Cause of Death – Scarlatina, Date of Death 1834
- Elizabeth Wolsely, 2, Daughter, Cause of Death – Scarlatina, Date of Death 1834

Manuscript 170 continues with the Census Returns for the years 1821-1851, many for the Counties of Tipperary, Cork, and Kilkenny. This is the first section to contain material on Greene families in County Antrim.

Manuscript 171 contains extracts and information on births, marriages, and deaths for members of the Greene family with other surnames sometimes included. These have obviously been collected from a number of sources; many are on preprinted forms from the agencies que-

ried – i.e., Prospect Cemetery, Parish of Saint Paul, in the County of Dublin.

Manuscript 172 is preceded by a title board that states that it is also extracts from parish registers for members of the Greene family, but it reverts to extracts from the Prerogative Cause Papers and other extracts from the Prerogative Court of Armagh. There are extracts from the Marriage License Book for the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross for the surname Green and the other parties they married. The end of the film does include extracts from parish registers as billed on the title board, but this portion is small in relation to the rest of the material included in Ms. 172.

The handwriting for the John Joseph Greene collection is superb and very easy to read, making an examination of these three rolls of microfilm a delight for any researcher.

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS, is a professional genealogist since 1977, accredited in Ireland research in 1981 and certified in 2006. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.A. in Family and Local History. He is the course coordinator for the Irish Course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) – a five-day course taught every three years at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He is a past-president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and of the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) and a Fellow of that organization. He is also a Fellow of the Irish Genealogical Research Society, London.

Finding the County of Origin

by Malcolm McDonald

For many people the first they know of any Irish forebears is the appearance in a census record (of another country) noting a relative's place of birth as "Ireland". With excitement (or dread, depending on their knowledge of the vagaries of Irish records) they turn their attention to the "Emerald Isle". This is their first big mistake!

Most genealogical researchers agree that the bare minimum amount of information required for fruitful research into one's Irish ancestry is a county of origin. For this reason, you gather every scrap of information from all available sources in the destination country before you embark on research within Ireland.

But what if exhaustive inquiries bring no more information to light? Can anything help determine a county of origin within Ireland or to narrow the list of possibilities? Fortunately, yes, there is.

The information in this article should offer hope to those who feel progress is impossible when armed with only two paltry pieces of information: an ancestral surname and the fact they were from Ireland. The best known tools to help the researcher to narrow the list of possible counties of origin for an ancestor are Griffith's Valuation and the 1901 and 1911 censuses of Ireland.

Index to Griffith's Valuation of Ireland

Griffith's Valuation (more correctly entitled the *Primary Valuation of Tenements*) was first published on a Barony then Poor Law Union basis between the years 1848 and 1864. It lists the name of the principal occupier for every dwelling in Ireland and is regarded as a census substitute due to the lack of complete census records for Ireland prior to 1901.

More than one million names of occupiers are listed in Griffith's Valuation; these names have been indexed and are searchable in a variety of ways:

- On CD, Family Tree Maker's *Index to Griffith's Valuation of Ireland 1848-1864* is both convenient and user-friendly
- Online, via John Hayes remarkable website at http://www.failteromhat.com/griffiths.php
- Online, at Eneclann's subscription website of *Irish Origins* at www.irishorigins.com.

[Editor's note: Another new online site for searching Griffith's Valuation, announced in early August, can be found at Ask about Ireland's website. Read more about it on page 210.]

1901 and 1911 Census

The 1901 and 1911 are the only extant census records for the whole of Ireland and are available at the National Archives of Ireland. The National Archives of Ireland, in partnership with Library and Archives Canada, is in the process of digitizing these records and making them available free of charge via the website http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie.

At the time of writing, only the records for the 1911 census of Co. Dublin are available for viewing online. According to their website, Cos. Kerry, Antrim and Down are due for release in October 2008 with the remaining counties scheduled for completion by mid-2009. To see a list of the counties in the order in which they will be processed go to the aforementioned website and follow the link "Future Plans".

When completed, the search facility on this website will enable users to note the significant changes in the geographic spread of surnames within Ireland due to the effects of the famine and industrialization.

Surnames

Many books have been written on the subject of Irish surnames and their connection to specific regions within Ireland. They make valuable reading. To mention just a few:

- *The Master Book of Irish Surnames* by Michael O'Laughlin
- *Irish Family Names: Arms, Origins, and Locations* by Brian de Breffny
- And three books by the eminent Irish genealogist, Edward MacLysaght – *Irish Families, More Irish Families*, and *The Surnames of Ireland*.

A useful website to do a free online search of Irish telephone directories to ascertain the geographic spread of surnames in present-day Ireland is http://www.eircomphonebook.ie. The site allows surnames to be searched one county at a time.

The Irish Times website has an excellent surname search facility (http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/surname/). The free search provides the number and county location of households of the name (taken from Griffith's Valuation), variant spellings or similar names, and other information. A unique feature of this website allows users to search on a second surname. The results screen then lists the counties in which both surnames appear together in Griffith's Valuation. Full access to all the information requires payment of a fee.

Conclusion

Using the resources mentioned in this article, you can increase your chance of success and narrow the field a little with even the commonest of names. Of course, this is just the beginning. Once you have established a probable or possible county of origin for your ancestor, a whole new world of records awaits you. Good luck!

Malcolm McDonald lives in Orewa, New Zealand and has been researching his Irish forebears for nearly twenty years. He is the Convenor of the Irish Interest Group (a special interest group of the NZ Society of Genealogists, Inc) and regularly speaks at family history groups and conducts Irish genealogical workshops.

"An áit a bhuil do chroí is ann a thabharfas do chosa thú."

Your feet will bring you to where your heart is.

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

In Ireland's Cause
Irish Envoys Make Stirring Addresses at Associate Hall

Hon. Joseph Devlin, M.P., and Hon. Richard McGhee tell what has been accomplished during the last few years.

The demonstration under the auspices of the United Irish league at Associate Hall last evening was an enthusiastic success. The hall was packed, and the addresses by the Irish envoys, Hon. Joseph Devlin, M.P., and Hon. Richard McGhee were greatly enjoyed.

On the platform were seated Rev. Fr. Ronan, Rev. Fr. Flynn, O.M.I., Rev. John O'Brien, O.M.I., Rev. Fr. Phelan and Rev. Fr. Strauss, P. J. Gilbride, Edward Cawley, E. J. Gallagher, Supt. William E. Maloney, Patrick O'Hearn, Lawrence Cummings, James McCready, Albert E. O'Heir, Daniel Cosgrove, Rep. O'Donnell, Senator Hibbard, Michael Roarke and many others, including National Secretary John O'Callaghan, Dr. Timmons, Dr. Dillon, M. H. Creahan and Mr. Kennedy, all of Boston.
The Lowell Sun, October 19th, 1908

A Countess' Tobacco Farm
Tobacco Growing in Ireland Making Big Enough Strides to Excite the Opposition of Tobacco Trust

Irish tobacco, to all intents a new industry, is attracting considerable attention just now. Among others, a countess is running a farm, and in several parts of the Emerald Isle the industry is making great progress. Irish tobacco growers are now beginning to unite for the purpose of selling their wares independently, but the trust controls so many stores, and can cut its prices so fine, owing to its complete organization, the Irish tobacco will have to put up a stiff fight in order to do business.
Galveston Daily News, September 6, 1908

News From Ireland
Wicklow

On Oct. 22, Miss Annie Doyle, youngest daughter of Mrs. M. Doyle, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow, received the Black Veil at the Convent of Our Lady of Mercy, St. John's Birr. She will be known in religion as Sister Mary Joachim. The Right Rev. Dr. Fogarty, D. D., Bishop of Killaloe, performed the ceremony, assisted by the Right Rev. Dean Scanlan P.P.; Rev. J. O'Dea, Rev. B. O'Donovan, Rev. B. Crowe, Rev. Fr. Barrett and Rev. Father Powell.
The Irish Standard, November 14, 1908

Steamers Collide In A Dense Fog
One of Them Sunk and Four Lives Are Lost.

New York, Nov. 27.—In the thick of a fog off Sandy Hook the steel freighter *Georgic* of the White Star line rammed and sank the lightly laden Panama line steamer *Finance*, outward bound, with eighty-five passengers. The *Finance* went down within ten minutes after the collision, carrying to their death three of her passengers and one of the crew. The rest of the passengers, who included nineteen women and fourteen children, as well as others of the crew, were rescued by the boats of the *Georgic*. The freighter was not damaged.

Of the passengers lost, one was a woman, Miss Irene Campbell of Panama, who clung frantically to the rail of the sinking vessel. William H. Todd, third assistant engineer, jumped overboard and was lost. When a roll of the passengers of the *Finance* was called, it was found that Charles H. Schweinler, a policeman of Panama, and Henry Muller, a railroad conductor of Panama, had disappeared, and there is little doubt that they were drowned.
The Irish Standard, December 2, 1908

News From Ireland
Tipperary

Through the efforts of the Rev. J. Donnellan, P.O., Portroe, the tenants, about twenty, on the Heber Koe estate, situated in the parishes of Portroe and Youghal, have purchased their holdings. The terms agreed on are: First term, 20 ½ years' purchase. Negotiations have also been concluded for the purchase by the tenants of the estate of J. R. Lloyd, Traverston, the term being 21 ½ years' purchase of existing rents with securing of game rights to tenants, and interest in lieu of rent at 3 ½ per cent. The Rev. Father O'Donoghue, Templemore, worked earnestly on behalf of the tenants in bringing the efforts to purchase to a satisfactory conclusion.
The Irish Standard, November 28, 1908

'How to Locate the Place of Origin in Ireland: New Zealand Resources' continued from page 179

formant we can be most certain that the information is accurate. The spelling of the placename of origin (Drumcowra) differs slightly from that (Drumcoura) listed in the *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland*.[32]

The Registrar General Office (RGO) holds some records from before 1848. These are usually from parish registers and do not cover all places or denominations. The NZSG has released on CD-Rom a database of 1836-1956 marriages.[33] This contains some 23,000 marriages from the period 1836-1855 from church records, newspaper reports and other sources.

Church Records

While civil registration commenced in New Zealand in 1848, personal information for Irish immigrants may be found in the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials of local churches as early as 1815. Later church records, which may verify and add to the information found in the civil records, should not be ignored. Most early registers have remained in the possession of the churches concerned and may have been deposited at diocesan offices. Copies are often available in provincial archives, museums and libraries.[34]

Notices of Intention to Marry for the period 1856-1956, are held at Archives New Zealand in Wellington and are invaluable in determining where in New Zealand one's Irish immigrant lived. One of the marriage partners completed a notice for the district registrar before a marriage took place. These sometimes provide additional details such as length of residence in the district or who gave consent when the marriage involved a minor.

R.G. 3G

NEW ZEALAND

Certified Copy of Entry in the Register Book of Births Nº 370134

at OPOTIKI

CHILD	
1. Surname	–
2. Christian or first names	JAMES
3. Sex	M
4. When born	6 MARCH 1885
5. Where born	OPOTIKI
FATHER	
6. Name and surname	DAVID MILLS
7. Profession or occupation	FARMER
8. Age	36
9. Birthplace	DRUMCOWRA, CO: LEITRIM, IRELAND
MOTHER	
10. Name and surname	HARRIET JANE MILLS
11. Maiden surname	SUTTON
12. Age	28
13. Birthplace	HOLCOMBE CO: DEVON ENGLAND
14. Name and surname of child if there has been any addition or alteration after registration of birth.	–

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the above particulars included in an entry of birth in the Register Book kept in my office.

Dated at OPOTIKI the 18 day of JULY 1988

(K. CRICKEY)

FEE $14.00

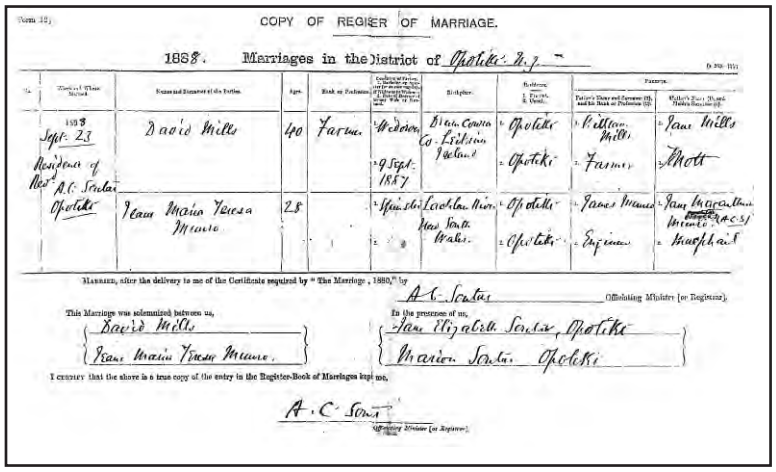
CAUTION—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution under the Crimes Act 1961.

Image 3. New Zealand birth register information for James Mills.

Emigration Records

Thousands of Irish emigrants came to New Zealand in the nineteenth century. Immigration records can provide information on their parish or townland of origin. Passenger lists in New Zealand were kept at the port of arrival. The earliest of those date from the birth of the colony in 1840 for the New Zealand Company vessels which arrived at the ports of Wellington, Nelson, New Plymouth and Otago. These lists provide the emigrant's name, age, occupation, wife's age and children's ages and gender. They may also give the immigrant's address in Ireland or county of origin.[35]

Each of the six provinces in New Zealand had its own immigration records, of varying quality and surviving quantity, from 1853 to 1871 when the government took immigration concerns from the hands of the soon-to-be abolished provincial governments.[36] Many newspapers of the day employed a ship's reporter whose job it was to board every vessel, ask the captain for an account of the voyage and for a list of the passengers and cargo carried. These reports were published in the local newspaper within a couple of days of the ship's arrival in port.



(Form 18.)

COPY OF REGISTER OF MARRIAGE.

1888. Marriages in the District of Opotiki N.Z.

No.	When and Where Married	Name and Surname of the Parties	Age.	Rank or Profession	Condition of Parties (whether Bachelor or Widow, Spinster or Widow)	Birthplace	Residence	Parents. Father's Name and Surname (Christian Name) and Rank or Profession	Mother's Maiden Name (Christian Name)
1888 Sept. 23 Residence of Rev. A.C. Sowter Opotiki		David Mills	40	Farmer	1. Widower 2. 9 Sept. 1887	1. Drumcowra Co. Leitrim Ireland	1. Opotiki 2. Opotiki	1. William Mills 2. Farmer	1. Jane Mills 2. Dead
		Jane Maria Teresa Meane	28		1. Spinster 2.	1. Lochlan New South Wales	1. Opotiki 2. Opotiki	1. James Meane 2. Engineer	1. Jane Langrathan (Maiden) (R.C.) 2. Unknown

MARRIED, after the delivery to me of the Certificate required by "The Marriage Act, 1880," by A.C. Sowter (Officiating Minister [or Registrar]).

This Marriage was solemnized between us,
David Mills
Jane Maria Teresa Meane.

In the presence of us,
Jane Elizabeth Sowter, Opotiki
Marion Sowter, Opotiki

I CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of the entry in the Register-Book of Marriages kept by me.

A.C. Sowter
(Officiating Minister [or Registrar]).

Image 2. Marriage Register information for David Mills.

With the passage of *The Immigration and Public Works Act* in 1870, an Agent General was appointed in London to offer government-assisted passages to immigrants who were willing to work in New Zealand. Many single Irish girls accepted a free passage to New Zealand to work as domestic servants; single men accepted assisted passage to work as labourers, building the New Zealand railways. The applications which the Agent General sent back to New Zealand gave the name, age, occupation, townland and parish of residence, as well as the names and addresses of previous employers and length of employment. Women had to prove that they were of good character to obtain a free passage so letters from previous employers or members of the clergy often accompanied their applications. These provide a direct link to a church and parish in Ireland where earlier records may be found.

This law also allowed an Irish resident in New Zealand to bring out friends and relatives at public expense. Those nominated to immigrate by family or friends already in New Zealand had their details entered on Nomination Forms signed by the settler who supplied the name, age, occupation, townland, parish and the relationship of the person nominated. Less than half (31,623) of the 74,284 relatives and friends nominated by New Zealand settlers from 1871 had arrived in New Zealand by June 1891. The remainder of those nominated either stayed where they were or emigrated elsewhere but information on them may still be found in the New Zealand nomination records. Archives New Zealand, Wellington, houses the surviving nomination records.

Group Settlements. Deserving brief mention are Irish group settlements such as the small Bay of Islands Special Settlement in Kawakawa of 1865, organized by an Anglican clergyman from Tyrone, and the 850 Pukekohe settlers who came from Ulster in 1865/6 as part of the Waikato Immigration Scheme. A third Irish settlement was organized by early settler and Tyrone man, George Vesey Stewart; he brought Protestant settlers from Ulster to settle the area around Katikati, in the Bay of Plenty, aboard the ships *Carisbrooke Castle* in 1875 and *Lady Jocelyn* in 1878. Stewart was a gentleman entrepreneur from County Tyrone who hoped to repair his fortune by land speculation in New Zealand. Through political contacts he obtained 10,000 acres (4,000 hectares), and eventually attracted four groups of settlers from Ulster.

The only Catholic settlement scheme of any size consisted of three shiploads of mainly female 'orphans' from Cork recruited by Dunedin immigration agent Caroline Howard in the mid-1870s. Recruited mostly from a Catholic servants' home attached to a workhouse in Cork, they were destined for the wealthier homes of Otago and Southland. When they arrived in Dunedin aboard the *Asia* in 1874, there was an outcry about this importation of 'certified scum'. Mrs. Howard was able to arrange for only two further sailings before being dismissed.[37]

Unassisted immigrants were numerous and records of their arrival should not be ignored. Because the fare was expensive, comparatively speaking, relatively few Irish found their way to New Zealand in the days before assisted passages.

Some museums hold good passenger and shipping lists and indexes for their area.[38]

Other Sources

Other sources to research for the place of origin in Ireland of a New Zealand immigrant ancestor include: land records, local and church histories, electoral rolls, post office directories, hospital and court records, *Who's Who in New Zealand*, family histories, diaries and local museums and libraries.

Land records can provide much useful information. This portion of a deed, dated 23 September 1874, records the sale of a property in Opotiki, New Zealand to our Irish immigrant David Mills by William Mills of Curraughashlan,[39] Co Leitrim, Ireland. (See image 4 on page 202.) The deed reveals that Thomas Mills, son of William and brother to David, died intestate on 28 October 1869 in New Zealand and his father, being his 'heir at law', inherited his two parcels of land in Opotiki. William later sold the properties to David for £20. Other useful information in this document includes the place of residence for David's father in Ireland.

One type of record not available in New Zealand, and conspicuous by its absence, is census material. These are not, and have never been, publicly available, as almost all census records were destroyed once the relevant statistical information had been extracted from them.

Last Word

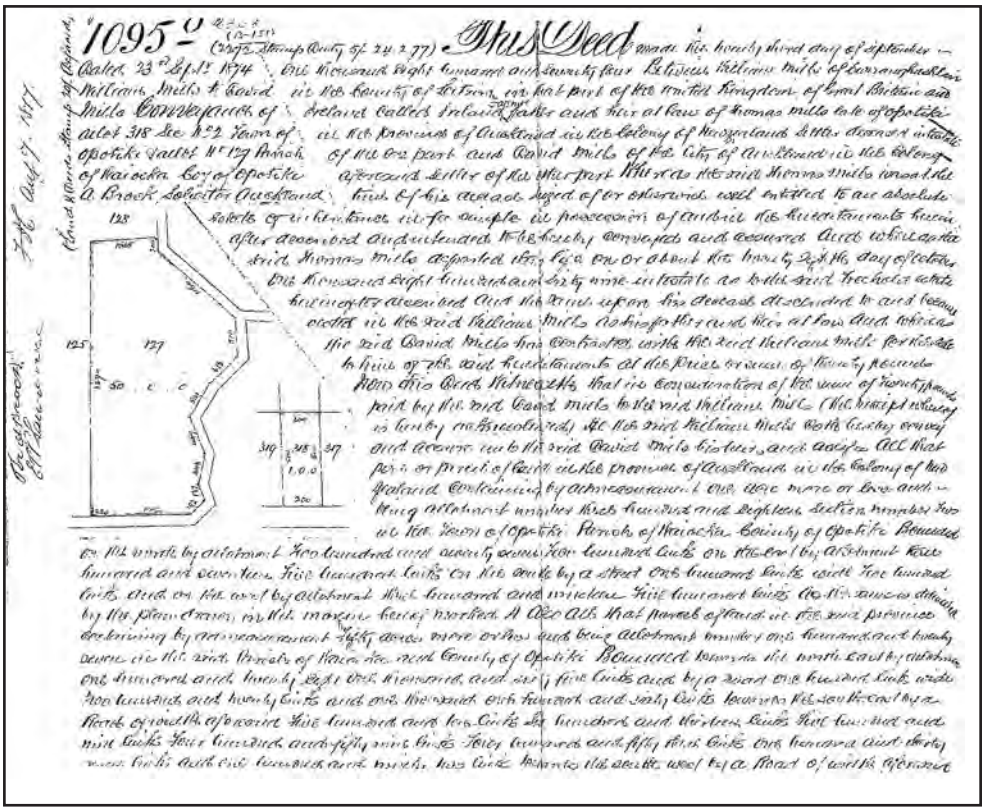


Image 4. Land deed re sale of property between William and David Mills.

One will encounter many problems when researching Irish ancestors. Some New Zealand researchers, unfortunately, will never know any more than the fact that their ancestor was born in "Ireland". The basic rule is: do not give up until every possible source has been tried. This means that one must learn what records are available and where they may be accessed. For those Irish who came to New Zealand after a period of time in a country other than Ireland – for example, those who went to California in search of gold – their origin in Ireland may be discovered in American records. Sources are many and varied and the search is not complete until all have been researched.

End Notes

1 The New Zealand Company was formed in 1839 to develop settlements in New Zealand for British migrants.

2 By 1851, the Irish born comprised 2,871, or 32% of Auckland's population of 8,840.

3 The British had assumed formal control of New Zealand in 1840 and war over land and resources between the new arrivals and Māori (Polynesian settlers who had been in New Zealand some five centuries prior to the arrival of the British) broke out repeatedly over the following three decades.

4 New Zealand required labourers and tradesmen to meet the needs of its growing population. Its appeal as a place to settle lay in the fact that it was seen as a land of opportunity where immigrant labourers, who aspired to, could become landowners by working and saving for a few years.

5 The population of New Zealand doubled as immigrant prospectors and fortune seekers flooded the goldfields. Gold production in 1866 reached 735,000 ounces, a level that has not been exceeded since then.

6 The New Zealand Wars (sometimes called the Land Wars) is the title most commonly used for the conflicts between Māori and British settlers that occurred from 1860 to the early 1870s. An offer of land in exchange for military service led to the formation of several regiments of militia, the members of which mostly were recruited in Australia.

7 According to the 1901 census, the number of New Zealand residents born in Ireland stood at 43,524, of a total population of 772,719 (approximately 6%).

8 A person who rented a small cottage, with or without a plot of land.

9 Before being declared a British Sovereignty in 1840, New Zealand was governed from New South Wales (NSW), Australia; early records, particularly of birth, death or probate may be registered there.

10 The NZSG founded in 1967, has more than 8,100 members in 93 affiliated branches and 19 Special

Interest groups, including one for those wishing to research their Irish heritage.

11 A second version will be released as soon as the records have been indexed.

12 A Google search for 'New Zealand cemeteries online' will bring up many websites with searchable online databases.

13 One can access a wider range of newspapers by visiting the library.

14 For example, Auckland City Library holds an index of all death notices which have appeared in the *New Zealand Herald* from 1886 to 1945 and *Hill's Index* which is birth, death and marriage notices from several New Zealand newspapers (*New Zealander, New Zealand Herald, Daily Southern Cross* and local Thames newspapers) covering the period 1843 to 1909.

15 From 1980 the Supreme Court has been known as the High Court.

16 The index is available on microfiche in many record repositories in New Zealand.

17 For further information on probate packets see: http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/archives_in_brief_84_2145.asp.

18 This information is required to order a copy of probate records from the Supreme Court of NSW.

19 Where a person died without making a will there may be a file of Letters of Administration containing the legal documentation required for giving permission for someone to administer the deceased person's estate.

20 Archives New Zealand came into being in 2000. The head office is located in Wellington; there are branches in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin. It exists principally for the collection and storage of records generated by Government departments, with each office holding records from government agencies located within their region. Researchers, via an online finding aid system called ARCHWAY (http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/), can search all holdings and access some indexes of material held.

21 For example, Auckland City Library holds an index to the order books 1897-1937 of C Little and Sons Ltd., Funeral Directors.

22 Records used in court investigations included land transfers, deed registrations and shipping lists and were extended in 1900 to include the records of the Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages. The ships' passenger lists, beginning in the early 1880s and ending in the early 1970s, were collected by the Customs Department, on behalf of the later-established Social Security Department, specifically to verify the eligibility of applicants for the Old Age Pension. The inclusion of detail from all these sources can make research into Old Age Pension Claims a very worthwhile exercise.

23 For further information on AJCP see http://www.nla.gov.au/collect/ajcp.html.

24 Details of these deserters are available online at http://www.angelfire.com/az/nzgenweb/dessert.html.

25 Chelsea Pensioners were soldiers who were no longer fit for active service who had been discharged through the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, England.

26 These were set up in what are now the suburbs of Howick, Panmure, Otahuhu and Onehunga. In the late 1840s, Auckland required defending from the Waikato Māori tribes to the south of the city.

27 Fencible records are available for searching at Archives New Zealand and Auckland Central Library.

28 Usually 40 acres per regular soldier.

29 Marriages were not consistently recorded until 1855/6.

30 Annual indexes to New Zealand births, marriages and deaths are available from 1848 to date. Published by the Registrar General's Office, they are widely available in New Zealand libraries.

31 Many Irish families had members living in several countries around the world so one should not forget the siblings of the immigrant ancestor in the same or other countries as a source of information. Research into their life might prove far more productive than that into one's direct ancestor.

32 The alphabetical index tells us that Drumcoura is a townland of over 700 acres in Drumreilly Parish, Barony of Carrigallen, Poor

Law Union of Bawnboy, County Leitrim.

33 This includes an index of the RGO marriage records from 1856 to 1956. Its principal purpose is to help identify the matching bride and groom entries in the RGO's index of marriages. After 1957, the spouse's surname is included in the RGO marriage index.

34 While many have been indexed by the NZSG and various church bodies there is no country-wide index so it is necessary to know where in New Zealand one's Irish immigrant family had settled.

35 These passenger and shipping lists are held at Archives New Zealand but there is no comprehensive set of records for the whole country.

36 The New Zealand provincial system of government, inaugurated in 1853, was abolished in 1876.

37 *Te Ara: Encyclopedia of New Zealand* see: http://www.teara.govt.nz/NewZealanders/NewZealandPeoples/Irish/4/en.

38 A few shipping records are available online – see http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~nzbound/ for passenger lists for various New Zealand ports. The Auckland Central Library website has lists of Auckland area inward passengers for the period 1838 to 1886 (names extracted from newspapers), and 1909-1921 http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/passengers/passenger.html

39 Identified in the *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland* as Curraghashillaun, Barony of Oughteragh, Poor Law Union of Bawnboy, County Leitrim

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Christine Mills is a native of County Cork who lives in Auckland, New Zealand. She has been tracing her Irish roots for more than 30 years. She is currently Secretary of the Irish Interest Group, a special interest group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, Inc. She regularly travels back home to Ireland to visit family and friends … and the odd genealogical repository!

Ireland's ruins are historic emotions surrendered to time.

Horace Sutton

'The "Returns"' continued from page 183

So this "return" was all about me! We landed in Shannon in early September 2007 and proceeded through the entry process and baggage claim with no difficulty. The Auto Europe rental agent was efficient and politely asked us to step outside the front exit where our vehicle would promptly arrive in five minutes. Two enquiries and forty-five minutes later we finally got into the car, but only after each of us had gone to the familiar side of the car and opened the wrong door. This would not be the last time we made that mistake!

After circling the airport exit roundabout twice, only to find myself back in the airport parking lot, it was time to single-task and focus on the difference between right and left, forward and reverse. I finally followed my wife's frantically pointing finger rather than my nose and we were soon headed toward the Dingle Peninsula in County Kerry.

It was a glorious sunny day in southwest Ireland and the drive to Tralee via Crag Cove was delightful. We were undaunted by wrong turns and uncertainty for we knew a great adventure awaited us. How we came to be in this enviable position is important, for when you get discouraged and are tempted to walk away from one of your brick walls, remember this: you never know where or how you will make a much needed connection. You must persevere and keep reaching out!

For years I tried to connect two Hunt men who farmed next to each other in Cordova, Le Sueur County, Minnesota, in 1870. I knew that Michael Hunt, from County Wicklow, was my paternal second Great Grand Uncle. I

believed that his neighbor, Owen Hunt, was his brother because it appeared that they had married O'Meara (O'Mara) sisters. Through *Ancestry.com* I contacted Michael Hoare, from outside Dublin, who was descended on his maternal side from Owen Hunt. He had proof that his Owen Hunt was from County Roscommon, whereas my Hunt family was from County Wicklow. These Hunt men were NOT related after all, but had, indeed, married O'Meara sisters. His Great Grand Uncle, Owen Hunt, married Margaret O'Meara; and my second Great Grand Uncle, Michael Hunt, married Margaret's sister, Mary Ann O'Meara. One riddle solved.

In the course of our online communications, I mentioned to Michael that I had Flaherty maternal ancestors from the Dingle area; he replied that he had a paternal Flaherty ancestor from the Dingle Peninsula. We are likely connected, though not related, through the Flaherty, as well. Small world.

Michael and I corresponded prior to our 2007 "return". He kindly offered to meet us in Ventry, just a few miles east of Dingle Town, and give us a two-day tour of our ancestral land. Michael had done the same for another online contact he had made, Kathleen Fitzgerald, his 4th cousin, with whom I had also connected, independently. Between the three of us we share several surnames in our family trees: Daly, Fenton, Fitzgerald, Flaherty, Hunt, McKenna, and O'Meara. Michael had met and hosted an O'Meara relative in County Cork prior to connecting with us in Ventry, which says a lot for his thoughtfulness and willing hospitality. Besides being a genuinely nice man, Michael has acquired a very thorough knowledge of Irish and European history. He is a joy to be with and a friend to be valued. I hope some day to verify that we are related.

Our Tour Guides

Michael Hoare, as good as his word, was waiting for us at our B&B in Ceann Tra Heights, which is within walking distance up the hill from the Ventry Inn, formerly Flaherty's Pub. Jet-lagged and bleary-eyed but fueled by hopeful anticipation, we were anxious to begin our tour.

But first, Michael introduced us to one of Ireland's many treasures. Thomas de h-Ora, or "Tommy Hoare", Michael's 92-year-old uncle, is from the Dingle area and has spent most of his life there. Fluent in Irish (Gaeilge), Tommy has a remarkable memory, an incredible gift for telling a tale, and he loves to reminisce and talk about the past. Quiet, unassuming and always ready with a remark that would make a curmudgeon smile, when Tommy spins a story he wraps you in his love of the land and of Ireland. But more than that, Tommy is a true ambassador for the west end of the Dingle Peninsula. Wherever we went Tommy either knew those we met and their family histories, or they knew and respected Tommy. Waiters and bartenders would welcome Tommy, who would ask, in Irish, about their family members by name. At the Blasket Center in Dunquin and at the Gallarus Oratory further north, Tommy was welcomed with respect and deference. As his guests, we passed through the gates with a warm welcome to enjoy what, in Tommy's view of his world, he already owned. It was great fun to watch him banter with any and all he encountered. We did have to make a stop, now and again, so Tommy could have a wee drop of his favorite tipple – and gloat just a bit at his fame and cunning persuasions.

The nephew has been learning at the uncle's knee, to be sure, and I am told that Michael's father, Willie Hoare, is a younger version of Tommy. When

Michael and Tommy Hoare at Gallarus Oratory. Photo courtesy of Joe Owens.

Tommy and Michael picked up a head of steam, I resorted to a micro-recorder for I could understand none of the Irish and less than half of the English. The brogue got stronger as the day wore on. I've spent many hours listening to my recordings, trying to decipher what was said.

We heard tales of banshees that forewarned an impending death and of the women "keening" at the wakes. Tommy, himself, helped carry coffins the long ten miles over Mount Eagle to Dunquin Cemetery. Great tales as we wandered the cemeteries: Dun Urlann at Ballyferriter; Dunquin, where Peig Sayers (of Great Blasket Island fame) is buried;

and St. Cathleen's in Ventry, where my Flaherty and Kennedy ancestors rest in unmarked graves. Michael informed us that the graves were unmarked – not because the people were poor – but for more practical reasons. It was the tradition to mark the grave with a stone taken from the home or from the stone fence of the deceased. There was no need for inscriptions because everyone knew who was buried under which stone. Oral traditions had preserved family lore for centuries and they saw no need to change it now. Our ancestors didn't count on descendents who would become family historians! Nor did they know that the stones they thoughtfully placed over the graves would, in time, sink into the fine-grained soil and be covered with new turf, leaving cemeteries filled with hummocks, like fields of lumpy sod, impossible to mow. Under some of those lumps lay my ancestors, though I will never know where, for sure. But I was soon to find where they had lived prior to their elusive final dwelling.

St. Cathleen's Cemetery, Ventry. Photo courtesy of Joe Owens.

Rainbow's End

From land records kindly researched by Kathleen Fitzgerald, my aspiring cousin, I knew where my Timothy Flaherty and Mary Daly had lived in Maumanorig, but had no idea where it was or how to find it. Michael and Tommy again had a solution. They introduced us to their friend, Dr. Breandán Ó Cíobháin [Kevane], a noted historian and retired place-names expert with the Place-Names Office of the Ordinance Survey. Breandán had a copy of an old Ordinance Survey map of Maumanorig that showed the houses and corresponding numbers. Tommy remembered that this cluster of five homes was often referred to as the Flaherty houses. There are three homes still standing, one is completely leveled with just a couple of cornerstones showing, and my ancestral home is one remaining wall with a grove of trees in the middle of the living room! Michael bravely barged through bushes and brush to remove a small moss-covered stone from the remaining wall. He presented it to me and I now proudly display it in my own living room. While I misted it daily for several weeks, the moss has turned brown due to lack of attention, for it cannot thrive on sweet memories alone.

Duty called Michael back to the east of Ireland and we were left to our own means. We failed miserably. At St. Mary's Church in Dingle we were able to review the records for a brief time but only under the watchful eye of the archivist, who was in an obvious hurry, though he was too polite to say as much. Unfortunately, I either forgot or overlooked the fact that Maumanorig is in, but detached from Parish Marhin, which belongs to the Catholic Parish of Ballyferriter. (Hence, the earlier geography lesson!) The records for Parish Ballyferriter are available only at the National Library of Ireland in Dublin, or from the Maritime History Archive at Memorial University of Newfoundland – or at St. Vincent's Catholic Church in Ballyferriter! One more reason to go back, another splash of whiskey in the glass.

More Rainbows and Empty Pots

We survived the lofty, foggy, thrilling Connor's Pass, driving from Dingle to Roscommon in a day, even when occasionally missing a turn or driving on the right – i.e., *wrong* – side of the road. But that left no time for sightseeing and resulted in an empty memory bank. Not even a picture in the camera, my trusty reminder. My Owens and Radigan ancestors hailed from County Roscommon. Coincidentally, Michael Hoare's mother's family, the Hunts, came from Roscommon, as did our mutual O'Mearas.

We headquartered at Strokestown, a crossroads of a town that actually has a boulevard, albeit only a couple of blocks long. Nevertheless, it is known for having the widest street in Ireland, excluding Dublin. A Bed-&-Breakfast on the boulevard had come highly recommended. Lovely and ancient Mena Martin, the proprietor, offered us a cup of tea and her largest and nicest room for our enjoyment. Alas, being sensitive to dust and mold, we thanked her regretfully and opted for the more expensive comfort of the Percy French Hotel. Lucky choice, that! 'Twas our good fortune to arrive in time for the annual Strokestown fair, and they were setting up the circus rides (both of them) and games of chance (both of them) and the snack food vendors (both of them) in

the parking lot on the side of the hotel. The "fair" resembled a small town flea market, with anything and everything offered for sale. The majority of vendors appeared to be "Irish Travelers", an itinerant Irish minority of common descent who have their own history, language, culture and customs, and must not be confused with "Gypsies".

At the end of the one-block "fair" was the entrance to the Strokestown Park, Garden and Famine Museum. The house was owned by the Mahon family for about 200 years; the gardens are large and impressive; but our lasting memories were taken from the Famine Museum with its original documents, artifacts, photographs and drawings. They stirred the sadness of the soul. It was well worth the visit, but we had come to find ancestral homes.

Precious Stones

A few months prior to this trip, I had made a wonderful discovery about my Owens and Radigan roots (my second great-grandparents). Unable to get past Rhode Island and tired of banging my head, I circumvented this particular brick wall. I knew that my Radigan ancestor had at least one sister and one brother and that they had each married Gibbons siblings. In a very small cemetery in Kilkenny, Le Sueur County, Minnesota, I found the headstone of Mary [Gibbons] "Ratigan" and the headstone of her brother, Patrick Gibbons. His was lying flat on the ground and was buried under a large bed of hostas. Inscribed on his stone was "Parish Kilgefin, Ireland". Online contact with Gibbons researchers had led me to suspect that they had come from either Parish Kilbride or adjoining Parish Kilgefin in Roscommon. Since all three couples – Peter Owens and Margaret Radigan, Thomas Radigan and Mary Gibbons, and Patrick Gibbons and Sarah Radigan – were married and had children before they emigrated, logic shouted that they all had come from the same small area of Ireland. But where?

Michael Hoare came to the rescue again, with yet another tour. He spent an evening with us in Strokestown. He showed us homesteads in Cloonshreen, just west of Strokestown, where his family came from. He also showed us where my ancestors likely came from, just south of Strokestown: Tuam and Aughamuck in Parish Kilgefin, home of the Owens and Gibbons families; and Cloonbony in Parish Kilbride, probable home of the Radigans. He took us down unknown roads so narrow that the tall grasses wiped the dust from the sides of the car; yet there was always a place to make room for the infrequent approaching vehicle, bicyclist, walker or animal. We found "Ratigan" headstones in Ballinderry Old Cemetery near St. Bridget's Church, Fourmilehouse, Parish Kilbride. The Kilgefin Cemetery in Aughamuck, near St. Mary's Church in Ballagh, had a smattering of Owens stones but was dominated by the Gibbons clan.

A subsequent visit to St. Bridget's Church at Fourmilehouse, just west of Cloonbony, introduced us to the humble and affable Fr. Browne, who gave us access to the Church records, albeit to no avail. At St. Mary's in Ballagh, the newly assigned Fr. Michael informed me that their records start in 1865, much too late for my needs. We had found no great genealogical pearls but had photos of many precious stones.

[A note about this area: Aughamuck is on the west side of Slieve Bawn, a mountain made famous in "Slieve Bawn and the Croppy Scout" by J. J. Gibbons, a tale of the Roscommon men and women who fought in the doomed 1798 "rising". There was even a character named Owens in the story- Paddy Owens, who was best known for his mountain potheen. How appropriate!]

Many Gibbons and Owens families live in the area, including Henry Owens, whom I had contacted via the Internet. He is a double Owens – his father married a second Owens cousin – but he had no information about my ancestors. As we were leaving Henry, my wife commented that Henry and I looked alike. Actually, she said that if Henry was 20 years older or I was 20 pounds lighter we would look a lot alike! I thought Henry looked like a picture of my great-grandfather, Peter Owens, Jr., so when we got home I sent him a copy of the picture. Henry's sister agreed with me. Maybe a DNA test would be helpful.

Michael returned to his real life and to his understanding and tolerant wife, Judith, again leaving us to our own devices So off we went to County Monaghan to roam the former homelands of my Smith, McKetrick, Byrne and Hanlon progenitors. We expected to have little success, so we were not disappointed. We visited Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Drumgoosat and St. Patrick Church in Carrickashedoge, both in Parish Magheracloone and both served by Rev. Thomas Finnegan. Many of the tombstones in their respective cemeteries

bore my ancestral names, but only time and a strong measure of Irish luck will allow me to connect with them. Still, I know they are there and it is an unbelievably satisfying feeling to walk in the footsteps of your Irish ancestors.

The Black Pool

If one is serious about Irish ancestry research, one must wade deeply into the "Black Pool" – 'Dubh Linn', or Dublin – home to major repositories and unparalleled historic sites. I planned to stop at a B&B as we entered Dublin, as I did not want to drive in the city. Little did I know there were no B&Bs in Dublin City. Nor did I know that the GAA (Irish football) championship was to be played in Dublin that upcoming weekend, featuring the greatest of rivals, Cork and Kerry. Before I realized it, we were in the heart of Dublin at 4:00 PM on a Monday without a clue where to park, much less where to stay. I took the first available parking space, a time-limited space in front of the Four Courts building. Following less than clear directions, we walked across a Liffey bridge and, with help from the Tourist Office, found a room in the Parliament Hotel in the Temple Bar area. Finding the car again was an entirely different matter!

While my wife waited at the hotel, I went back for the car. My prepaid hour to park had expired; I couldn't get the signs out of my head - the ones warning that illegally parked cars would be towed. I literally ran down the quay of the Liffey, desperately searching for my little silver shuttle. Reaching the last visible bridge, I was convinced that our car had been towed or stolen. Then I realized I was on the wrong side of the river! Ignore the pain in your side! Pick up your speed! Race to the car before the tow truck comes…or is it too late? Aahhh, thanks be to God and to Mary, I am saved. Into the car to dash back to the hotel, a mere eight or ten blocks away, and get settled into our room. But I didn't count on Dublin rush hour traffic, unknown one-way streets, a bus that broke down in the middle of a major street, and the difficulty of reading a cartoon-ized city map! Without a cell phone, I worried about poor Pat who, I knew, was worrying about poor Joe. I prayed she would wait for me. One hour and fifteen minutes later I pulled to the curb in front of the hotel, where my lovely bride awaited with her gracious Irish smile and a new furrow on her brow. Welcome to Dublin.

We found 'Dubh Linn' to be loud, crowded, bustling and dirty, as are most large cities; but you can't beat the history. We saw the sights that I have so often read about – O'Conner Street, formerly Sackville Street, with its massive spire and statues of patriots; the General Post Office ruined in the 1916 "rising"; Grafton Street, the Ha'Penny Bridge, City Hall, Christchurch; St. Patrick's Cathedral, originally Roman Catholic, now Church of Ireland; the vast Trinity College with the incomparable *"Book of Kells"*; and a passing glance at the Four Courts building. Most of these we saw while going to or coming from one or more of the repositories: the National Library, the General Register Office, the National Archives, the Register of Deeds, the Ordinance Survey, the Valuation Office, the Representative Church Body Library, and on and on. One can spend a lifetime in these vaulted repositories, if not for going blind too soon.

As the weekend and the GAA championship approached, our room rate went from $100/night to $300 for Friday and Saturday, and $400 for Sunday. We escaped to the outskirts, near Howth, where we spent one enjoyable evening with Michael Hoare and his charming wife, Judith. Our last visit before this journey's end.

From Howth we made side trips: to County Meath and the Boyne Valley where the Hill of Tara, erstwhile center of the druids and the Irish High Kings, and Newgrange, an incredible ancient tomb where the winds carry the spirits of the past that just might sit softly on your shoulder; to County Fingal (North Dublin) and Malahide Castle, where the Talbots reigned for almost 800 years; to Powers Court and Glendalough in County Wicklow, featured strongly in Edward Rutherfurd's two-part epic, *The Dublin Saga* – a "must read" for those who want to experience life as it was in Ireland throughout its entire history. Perhaps you can relate when I tell you that, at some transcendental point in my immersion into our family history, I began to know and love my ancestors. By reading Irish history, in a small way I have become a part of their past and can experience them as and when they lived.

Our second "return" had been a huge success and a wonderful adventure, but it was lessened by two experiences. First, our nonstop flight from Dublin

to Chicago was cancelled; after a wait of a few hours, we were put on a flight to Shannon, where we waited again. We arrived in Chicago about six hours late. Next time it's in and out of Shannon! Second, we're now talking about the "next time" – a third "return". And it's driving us crazy. We have lots of research to do before that time, and the economy will likely give us the needed patience. Maybe.

[Any errors in place names or locations are the author's, alone, despite his ardent efforts for perfection. If liberties have been taken, they also are the author's, though he will deny them. Slán.]

This article was originally published in the *Irish Genealogical Quarterly* (Irish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin) in two parts, March and June 2008; an excerpt of the first part was published in *The Researcher* (Sheboygan County Historical Research Center) in June 2008 and printed here with permission.

Joe Owens was sixteen when he began to document how he was related to the older people at a family gathering. It became a lifelong work in progress. He has traced most of his sixteen Great, Great Grandparents back to their Irish roots. Joe is a Realtor who lives in Janesville, Wisconsin, where he enjoys time with his grandchildren, gardening and writing.

Write for *The Septs*

We had such a wonderful supply of articles from members for this issue of *The Septs* that we have some that will be saved for the future issues.

You, too, can become a featured author in this journal by sharing your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to the publication date of *The Septs*. Submission date for the next issue, January 2009, is November 1. Submission date for the April 2009 issue is February 1.

The theme for the January 2009 issue is both cultural and genealogical, "Irish Social, Religious, Political, Cultural and Fraternal Organizations". Much information about the lives of our ancestors can be learned through the records of their participation in such groups. If you are knowledgeable about one or more such groups, contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org. He will also work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community.

Future themes include:

April 2009	Siblings as a Genealogy Source and Goal – why and how to study an ancestor's siblings
July 2009	Artifacts and Home Records as a Source – Bibles, pictures, letters, memorials cards
October 2009	Military Records – Irish, British, U. S., etc.
January 2010	Irish in Canada – those who stayed and those who moved on
April 2010	Methodology for Family Historians – planning for success
July 2010	Scots Irish – origins, culture, and as part of the Diaspora

Search Griffith's Valuation at *Ask about Ireland*

www.askaboutireland.ie

by Tom K Rcie, CG

Introduction

Griffith's Valuation is the key essential toll for genealogical research in 19th century Ireland. Richard Griffith was charged with the task of establishing a valuation for all land holdings for the whole of Ireland towards the middle of the 19th century. The results of his work conducted between 1847 and 1864 is a document that list all land occupiers arranged by place along with the name of their immediate landlord and a reference to the very detailed maps Griffith's team created during the course of this survey. Because of the loss of much of the censuses for the 19th century, this is the only remaining all Ireland record that includes such a large portion of the population. Hence, the importance of this resource and the great value to be had in being able to search this list either by name or place. Seeing a map of where a person lived and the surrounding area is just icing on the cake.

Ask about Ireland

There is a new powerful and free facility for searching Griffith's to be found at *Ask about Ireland* (http://griffiths.askaboutireland.ie/gv4/gv_start.php). *Ask about Ireland* is well worth a full review for all that it contains asides from its Griffith's search feature. *Ask about Ireland* has a vast amount of information about Irish history, places, culture, sports etc. Of special interest to the Irish family historian is its section on the "Poor Law Unions and their records" at http://www.askaboutireland.ie/show_topic.do?id=10 and another about "The Big Houses of Ireland" at http://www.askaboutireland.ie/show_topic.do?id=3. These are both extensive write-ups with many supporting images and examples of records.

Searching Griffith's Valuation

Search by Family Name

Searching Griffith's on this website is either by surname or by place. The Family Name Search page requires at least a surname entry. There is a place for a First Name if you want to narrow your search. More importantly there is the ability to limit your search by place. There are dropdown lists for limiting a search according to County, Barony, Union (Poor Law Union), and Parish (Civil). Once you choose an entry for one of these, the next lower land division selection is then limited to entries contained in the upper entry. For example upon entering Down as the county, you find the Barony list limited to just those 15 Baronies found in County Down. There is a link to a page that explains these land divisions.

One limitation to be aware of is surname spelling. This site searches only on the exact spelling submitted. For instance, entering Kilkenny in Galway finds twenty-six listings, whereas entering Killkenny in Galway finds only one listing. Thus it is up to you to enter all likely spelling variations.

A Family Name search will result in a list of all of those land occupiers that fall within the place units specified in the search request. Results for each entry show the occupiers Forename (first or given name), County, Parish and links to a transcripts of the entry in Griffith's, a copy of the page listing the occupier in Griffith's and an image of the map showing the location of the land occupied. The entry transcript shows information about the tenant, the landlord, the location and publication details. The copy of the entry page in Griffith's can be printed out. It comes via a pop-up that has tools for zooming in or out and navigating around the page. The legend for this pop-up gives the line where your search result can be found. Right click your mouse to get the print command. Printouts are quite good, but they do have a watermark regarding copyright. The map link brings up a very detailed map as referenced by the listing in Griffith's. The legend lists the specifics as to where your entry can be found as to parish, townland and even number of the individual holding. There is a full set of navigation tools on the map pop-up. Again, right click to print. The map printouts are of so so quality. Because this site is still under development, some people may have some trouble loading maps. When you navigate around a map wait for the full detail to be downloaded for the new section of the map you have selected to view.

Search by place name

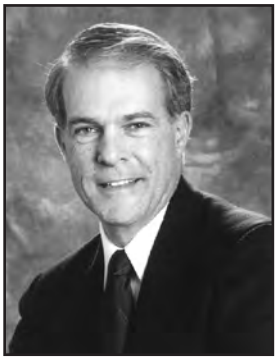
A search by place allows you to enter a place name for any level land division and then to further filter that place according to County, Barony, Union or Parish. For example, my search for the

townland of Tullymurry, limited to County Down, resulted in two listings; one in the parish of Down in the Barony of Lecale, upper; the other in the parish of Donaghmore in the Barony of Iveagh, upper (upper half). For each entry there are three link buttons. One is for occupants. This shows all of those listed in this place much as they would appear in a surname search. Another links to an image of the Ordinance Survey map for this place, created during the evaluation survey. This works as described above. The third link is to a modern map of the area showing either the current roads or a satellite view or a combination of the two. This map allows for the standard navigating maneuvers of zooming and movement of the map. The place search also provides a link to see what else this site has about places with that name. However, these results will not be limited to the selections you make in the drop-down section.

The site developers told me the following:

> We have a new version of the map coverage in development in which the original Valuation maps are being overlaid onto the current Google map system. This is to be launched in the autumn and will consist of more comprehensive coverage, panning across counties and will allow comparisons of an area from then to now. Until this is launched, although anomalies are being addressed when identified, the map accessand the links from records to maps will not be 100% accurate.

This is a very powerful and immensely useful tool for the Irish family historian. Griffith's is not the final answer to any Irish genealogy search, but it is essential. This site is quite useful and well designed. Because it is a work in progress it may stutter at times, and may evolve also. However, it is great as it is. Enjoy.



Tom Rice, CG is a professional genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher and writer. He is the managing editor of The Septs, *a former director of the Minnesota Genealogy Society, past treasurer and past co-first vice president of IGSI and a genealogy help desk volunteer for the Minnesota History Society. He can be contacted at info@heritagehunters.com.*

American Conference for Irish Studies

32nd Annual
Midwest meeting of the
American Conference for Irish Studies

will be held at the
Metropolitan State University
in St. Paul, Minnesota on
October 10 and 11, 2008

Conference theme is
Ireland: Arrivals And Departures

The meeting will explore the movements of ideas, people and more in Irish art, history, music, literature, cinema and culture in Ireland from earliest times to the present.

More information available from Jrogers@stthomas.edu

Let Us Know If You Travel

If you plan to go away for the winter don't forget to tell us or you will miss the winter issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Don't forget to advise us when you return so you don't miss any issues.

IGSI Sponsors Trip to Salt Lake City

by Diane Lovrencevic

What better experience can there be for a genealogist than a research trip and what better place than Salt Lake City? The largest genealogical library in the world, The **Family History Library** is an enjoyable, comfortable place to do research. More than 2.5 million rolls of microfilmed records and 250,000 books are available for your research. Best of all, the Irish Genealogical Society International is sponsoring a trip there on **September 15, 2009**. Here is your chance to go with a small congenial group of fellow researchers to America's largest repository of genealogical information and everyone is welcome. Individuals wanting to attend do not have to be members of IGSI or research Irish ancestors. It is open to all who want to research; plan a trip with someone you know.

Date of trip: September 15-20, 2009.
Cost of trip: $475 for single room and $262 for double room.
Deposit: $200 deposit due for single room; $150 deposit due for double room. *Deposit due at time of registration.*

- Our hotel, The Best Western Salt Lake Plaza Hotel at Temple Square, is within walking distance of the library.
- Enjoy a Welcome Reception on the evening of September 15. Get to know other attendees and network with other genealogists.
- Use the outstanding resources of one of the top genealogy collections in the United States. The Family History Library in Salt Lake City has the nation's largest collection of genealogical materials, both in print and in microform.
- Maximize your library experience with a class. One introducing you to the facilities and resources of the Family History Library will be scheduled in Salt Lake for those wishing to attend.
- Last evening's dinner is included in price of trip. Share research experiences daily at dinner with other attendees (use signup sheet for arrangements).

Hotel

The Salt Lake Plaza Hotel is next to the Family History Library. Rooms have been reserved for either single or double occupancy. If you choose to share a space and need help finding a roommate, contact Diane Lovrencevic at Trip2009@IrishGenealogical.org. If no roommate is available you must pay the single rate. Check in is Tuesday, September 15, 2009. The trip ends with check out on Sunday, September 20, 2009. Anyone wishing to stay additional days on either side of the trip at our discounted rate should contact Diane at the above email for details.

- Cost of trip for single room will be $475. ***Registration prior to March 15, 2009 will lower the cost to $450.***
- Cost of trip for two to a room will be $262. ***Registration prior to March 15, 2009 will lower the cost to $238.***

Transportation

Transportation to Salt Lake City is not provided in the tour package. Attendees must book their own flights. A complimentary shuttle from the airport will be available for those who arrive in Salt Lake City by 11:00 p.m. and depart the hotel after 6:00 a.m.

Deposits/Refunds

At the time of registering for the trip, please send a deposit of $200 for a single room and $150 if you are sharing a room with someone. Final payment is due by July 15, 2009. For those who must drop out, a full refund will be given up until July 15, 2009. From July 16 – September 1, 2009, full refunds will be given minus a $50 processing fee.

Dates to Remember

Early-Bird registration ends March 15, 2009.
Final payment is due on July 15, 2009.
Final registration ends July 15, 2009.

We are still making many of the plans for this trip and plan to announce additional reasons to join us but the best reason of all is to join others doing what we love best, researching. Checks should be made out to the Irish Genealogical Society International or IGSI and sent to:

Salt Lake City Research Tour
IGSI
1185 Concord St. North
South St. Paul, MN 55075.

For more information, contact Diane Lovrencevic at Trip2009@IrishGenealgoical.org.

Changes to Membership – January 2009

Over the last three years, membership in the Society has fallen more than 20%. As we looked into this we realized that many other organizations also had declining membership. One reason may be that more family historians are using the Internet and believe this is the best use of their genealogy research time and money. Another reason may be that some people have traced their lines as far as they can or think they can.

During the past year, the Board considered many issues related to membership and its impact on the Society's budget. We have seen our expenses increase over the last five years (since the last increase in membership dues). We have considered options to keep our expenses in line with our income, and concentrated on how we could function better, and more responsibly, without increasing dues.

We currently offer one class of membership that includes individual memberships, family memberships, and organizational memberships with all member benefits – all at the same price. Rather than increase membership dues, we will use Internet and electronic membership opportunities to reduce our expenses and will introduce new membership categories as of January 2009.

New Membership Categories

General Membership (US/International) will include what we currently offer to individual and family memberships at the price of $25 for a US member and $35 for an International member. This membership will provide a print copy of *The Septs* as well as all other member benefits.

Electronic Membership (US/International) will be a paperless membership at the price of $25. These members will receive the *The Septs* electronically in pdf format, rather than in print, and retain all other member benefits.

Journal Subscription (US/International) while not really a membership, offers libraries, genealogical societies, and similar organizations the opportunity to purchase a subscription to *The Septs* without receiving member benefits. The price for the subscription is $20 within the US and $30 internationally. A special benefit offered in this category will be an option to purchase additional subscription copies of *The Septs* in bulk for use with their members. Further information on this category will be sent to qualifying organizations.

Organizations wishing to retain full member benefits will need to join as a General or Electronic member.

Increase for International Members

The increased membership cost for International General Memberships (to $35) is due to the increased costs of overseas postage. If international members renew as Electronic Members, there will be no additional cost beyond the set membership dues of $25.

If you have questions, please contact us at: Membership@IrishGenealogical.org.

Benefits of Membership

- Membership number allows access to Member section of IGSI website
- Subscription to *The Septs*, IGSI's award-winning quarterly journal
- Download back issues of *The Septs* from the IGSI website
- Access IGSI Surname Database with contact information
- Irish genealogical research assistance at low cost
- 15% discount on *Irish Origins Eneclann* genealogical website found at http:www.Origins.net/ and on all of *Eneclann* CDs.
- Free access to the IGSI (MGS) Library in South St. Paul, MN
- Email notification of IGSI events
- Discount on programs offered by IGSI

KNOTT/S DNA Group

I live in Phoenix, Arizona. I'm looking for Irish KNOTT/S to have DNA tests. We have a KNOTTS Surname Study group, but it includes no one from Ireland. If you are interested in participating, contact the website http://www.familytreedna.com/ I suggest using the 25 marker test, which is about 150 US$. I am the co-administrator for the KNOTT/S group.

The person to be tested must be a male, with the KNOTT/S surname. The test is easy, just a swab inside of each cheek. I receive no pay or benefits from this program, other than KNOTTS family information.

Bob Knotts raknotts@qwest.net

Need a Little Research Assistance?

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI staff search our Library for information requested by a current member.

With your request for research assistance, send

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- *Emigrant Savings Bank, New York* - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- *O'Kiefe, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- *The Search for Missing Friends*, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot*.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of tube.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge.

IGSI Donations

We appreciate all of the members who have renewed and continue to support IGSI. We acknowledge those members who have contributed $10 or more to the Society between May and July 2008. Your generosity enables us to further our mission.

Bette Blair	Blaine, MN
Alice E. Boucher	Mechanicsburg, PA
William T. Bowler	St. Paul, MN
Frank R. Braun	Minneapolis, MN
Leo J. Casey	Charlottesville, VA
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Recent Library Acquisitions

Purchases:

H530 – *The Story of Baltinglass. A History of the Parishes of Baltinglass, Ballynure and Rathbran, in County Wicklow* by Claude Chavasse. Printed by the Kilkenny Journal, Ltd., 1970, 75 p., illus., map.

J177 – *Finding Your Irish Ancestors. Unique Aspects of Irish Genealogy* by Brian Mitchell. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2001, 84 p., illus., maps. Available in the IGSI Bookstore

Donations:

A390 – Map of Northern Ireland, published by John Waddington, Ltd., Leeds, England, 1947. Donated by Kevin Gellerman, Inver Grove Heights, MN.

H217 – *The Parish Churches of North Tipperary. Commerating a Two-hundred Year Heritage*, by William J. Hayes & Joseph Kennedy. CD of book by same title. Donated by Art Paulson, Minneapolis, MN.

H507 – *The Monastic Heritage & Folklore of County Laois*, by Joseph Kennedy. CD Donated by Art Paulson, Minneapolis, MN.

H531 – *Ballykilcline Rising. [Co. Roscommon] From Famine Ireland To Immigrant America*, by Mary Lee Dunn. Published by University of Massachusetts Press, MA, 2008, 218 p. illus. [Although a family history, there is so much history in the book, that I classified it with the histories.]

S086 – *Flannery. Irish Civil Vital Index 1845/64 – 1901. Civil Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths up to the 1901 Census.* Compiled and published by the Flannery Clan (Clann Fhlannabhra), Clondalkin, Dublin 22, Ireland. Donated by Flannery Clann. Index by persons & Districts, maps, illustration. [A beautiful book with loads of information on Flannery researchers.] Website: http://www.flanneryclan.ie

PER – *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society and Surrounding Districts*, Vol. V, 1906-1908. Published by Edward Ponsonby, Dublin, Ireland. Complete copy of Volume Five donated by Ronald Eustice, Savage MN. We now have the first five volumes of the Journal, thanks to Mr. Eustice.

Periodicals in the IGSI Collection:

The Ancestral Searcher. The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc., GPO Box 585, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia. Email: hagsoc@hagsoc.org.au Home page: http://www.hagsoc.org.au/

Australian Family Tree Connections. Published by Australian Family Tree Connections, PO Box 322, Gosford NSW 2250, Australia, Website: http://www.aftc.com.au

BIGWILL News. British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois, PO Box 192, Richmond IL 60071. Website: http://www.rootsweb.com/wiilbig

Connections. Journal of the Quebec Family History Society, P.O. Box 1026, Pointe Claire, Quebec, Canada H9S 4H9. E-mail: admin@qfhs.ca Website: http://www.qfhs.ca

Irish Family History Forum. Newsletter of The Irish Family History Forum, PO Box 67, Plainview NY 11803-0067.

Irish Roots. Irish Roots Media Ltd., Blackrock, Blessington, Co. Wicklow, Ireland. http://www.irishrootsmagazine.com

Kansas Kin. The Riley County Genealogical Society, 2005 Claflin Road, Manhattan, KS 66502-3415.

Les Argoulets. Journal of the Society of History and Genealogy of Verdun, Canada, 5955 Bannantyne Street, Verdun, Canada H4H 1Y6.

NBGS Miramichi Branch Newsletter. New Brunswick Genealogy Society (NBGS), Miramichi Branch, PO Box 403, Miramichi, NB, Canada E1N 3A8.

NGS Newsmagazine. For Generations Past, Present, and Future. National Genealogical Society, Arlington, VA. http://www.ngsgenealogy.org

Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Bulletin. Saskatchewan Genealogical Society, PO Box 1894, Regina SK, S4P 3E1, Canada. Website: http://www.saskgenealogy.com

Tiara. The Irish Ancestral Research Association, 2120 Commonwealth Ave., Auburndale, MA 02466-1909. Website: http://tiara.ie

Tierney Clans Society Newsletter. Naomh Antoine, 53 Ard Aoibhinn, Athenry, Co. Galway,Ireland. E-mail: otighearnaigh@eircom.net Web site: http://homepage.eircom.net/~thetierneyclan

NEW

The Irish Ancestor 1969-1986: CD-ROM

Rosemary ffolliott., editor,
Dublin: Eneclann

The Irish Ancestor was a leading genealogical publication during its 18-year run. It printed articles ranging from source material (wills, bibles, church registers, gravestones, etc.), to biographies, estate inventories, domestic history and reviews. Its focus was the 18th and 19th centuries. All 2,500 pages of the original publication including over 320 pages with illustrations are on this CD-ROM. *Order CD #J157* **$79.95**

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Counties in Time

Documents and Commentaries from the National Archives of Ireland

The records chosen in this CD-ROM cover the period from the late sixteenth

century to the mid-twentieth century. The CD contains almost 1000 documents, scanned images and transcripts for those which are difficult to read. The CD is easy to navigate and user-friendly. *Order CD #J156* **$29.95**

Irish Records: Sources For Family And Local History

James G. Ryan, Ph.D.

Irish Records is the most comprehensive and easy-to-use resource for Irish historical records. It provides the researcher with a comprehensive listing of all available sources for Irish written records. Organized by county, this unique and detailed list helps you to find your ancestors' occupations, relatives and more. (Hardcover, 668 pp.) *Order Book #J056* **$38.50**

Irish Families

Edward MacLysaght

One of the standard works on Irish surnames and Irish family history, subjects the author studied for over 50 years. First published in 1957, it is still being reprinted. Contains over 4,000 names and some coats of arms. (248 pp) *Order S021* **$49.50**

Now You Can Order Your Books Online with PayPal at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

Irish Church Records

James G. Ryan, Editor

This book details the records of each of the eight major Irish religious denominations and their value for family

history, and for church and local history. The locations for each church and guidelines for their access are provided. (208 pp.) *Order Book #K022* **$49.95**

General Alphabetical Index of Townlands, Towns, Parishes and Baronies 1851

GPC

Over 900 densely printed pages show the county, barony, parish, and poor law

union in which the 70,000 townlands were situated in 1851, as well as the location of the townlands on the Great Ordnance Survey maps, with appendices containing separate indexes to parishes and baronies. (968 pp.) *Order Book #A020* **$60.00**

County Longford Residents Prior to the Famine

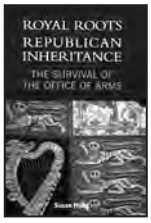
Guy A. Rymsza

Part I: Full Name Index of the over 12,600 tithe payers. Part II: Recapitulation of the Tithe Payer Records, arranged alphabetically by townland. Cross-referenced with Griffith's Primary Valuation. Part III: 27 Civil Parish Maps showing townlands. *Order Book #G065* **$49.95**

Royal Roots Republican Inheritance

Susan Hood

History of The Office of Arms, Ireland's heraldic authority. Records the survival of this institution as it bridged



the transition from Crown Government to Republican State. (285 pp) *Order Book #G197* **$32.95**

Ordnance Survey Memoirs - Index of People & Places

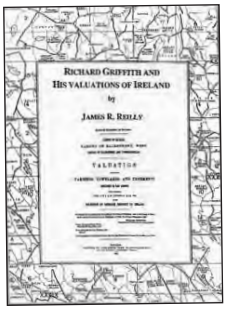
UHF

In 2002, Dr Patrick McWilliams completed an Index to the Memoirs. This Herculean work lists all people and places in the original 40-volume series, as well as all original drawings, OS and county maps reproduced in the volumes. (747 pp) Order Book #G112.I **$49.95**

Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland

James R. Reilly

Mr. Reilly helps with the intricacies of Griffith's Valuations, showing how an understanding of the abbreviations and shorthand used by the valuators can lead the researcher from the valuation to other Irish records and additional discoveries concerning one's ancestors. (108 pp) Order Book #G035 **$25.95**



Irish Genealogical Society International

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SURNAMES
Irish and Scot-Irish surnames only. PLEASE PRINT
One surname spelling and one Irish County per line please.
Surnames are searchable on the IGSI website www.IrishGenealogical.org Non-internet users may contact us.

	Surname	Ireland County (locale if known)	Other Country (locale) - [needn't write USA]
Example	*Stack*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*Can-QC; OH, MN (Rice Co), AZ*

Place additional surnames on blank sheet of paper.

PAYMENT

1 Year membership (US $25) US $ _____
Additional cost to mail THE SEPTS Journal outside USA (US $5) US $ _____
Donation - US tax deductible (Thank You) US $ _____

TOTAL US $ _____

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November Quarterly Meeting & Program

Irish Genealogical Society International presents

The Green in the Gray Flannel Suit: Irish America in the 1950s

Presented by

James S. Rogers
Center for Irish Studies and Editor of New Hibernia Review*, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota*

The Irish-American community went through an accelerated process of "ethnic fade" in the postwar years; however those same years generated enduring popular-culture images of Irishness such as *The Quiet Man, The Last Hurrah* and the first recordings of the Clancy Brothers among others.

Rogers will survey both popular culture and larger phenomena (suburbanization, tourism, Catholic triumphalism) to show that there was a distinctive Irish-American experience in what is too often dismissed as a "bland decade". What's more, that Irish American experience was often a bit contrary to the national mood.

James Rogers was born and raised in South St. Paul, Minnesota. His Irish antecedents came to Green Isle in Sibley County, Minnesota. He is currently vice president of the American Conference for Irish Studies.

Saturday, November 15, 2008

Held at Minnesota Genealogical Library,
1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul, MN

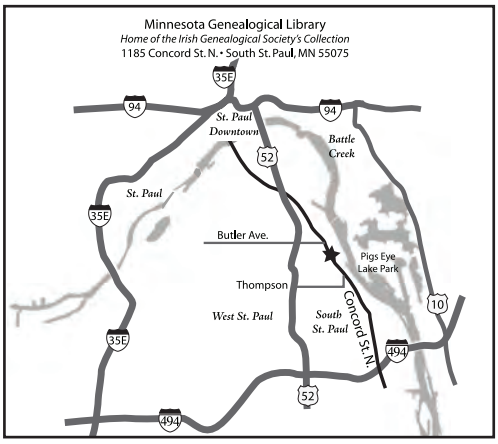
Onsite Registration:	8:30 AM
Business Meeting:	9:00 AM
Program:	10:00 AM
Cost:	$10 for IGSI Members
	$15 for Non-Members

Online Registration: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS)

Home of the Irish Genealogical Society International Research Library

Location of IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:30 to 9:30 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Society
1185 Concord St. N. * Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075
651-455-9057

During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

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Canàir (January) 2009

The Septs

$7.00

Volume 30, Number 1

Societies and Organizations

A K of C "Army Hut" in Europe during World War I. The motto of these centers of respite for U.S. soldiers was: "Everybody Welcome; Everything Free". Photo courtesy of the Knights of Columbus.

2009 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 10, 2009
FEBRUARY 14, 2009
MARCH 14, 2009
APRIL 11, 2009
MAY 9, 2009
JUNE 13, 2009
JULY 11, 2009
AUGUST 8, 2009
SEPTEMBER 12, 2009
OCTOBER 10, 2009
NOVEMBER 14, 2009
DECEMBER 12, 2009
(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Informal class for beginners at the library 10:30 am on the above dates. Other classes offered throughout the year. MGS Library number 651-455-9057.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218 • South St. Paul, MN 55075
Website address: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org
ISSN 1049-1783 • Indexed by PERSI

Editor	Ann Eccles	SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org
Managing Editor	Tom Rice	SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org
Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs is a benefit of membership in IGSI and is published quarterly - January, April, July and October. It is available through IGSI membership ($25 per year for Electronic memberships. $25 per year on US memberships including mailings of *The Septs* and $35 per year for International including mailings of *The Septs*). Contributions and article ideas are welcome.

Material intended for publication is due the 1st of February, May, August and November. Material should be emailed to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org, Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org or mailed to the address above, ATTN: Editor, and may be published or edited at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2008-2009

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President's Letter

Genealogy Resolutions

by Linda Miller

Dear Members and Friends,

If you have already broken most of your New Years resolutions for this year, I want you to know that it is perfectly legal to start over. You can make a new list and rededicate yourself to the things that are your most important priorities. My own goals for improving myself this year are much like last year's: *find a way to get rich quick, lose a lot of weight the same way, travel somewhere exotic (and cheap) and get organized.* However, this year, I decided to put become a better genealogist at the top of the list.

I am not a bad genealogist but I could do a few things to make myself better. Things like:

- Gathering all my genealogy notes, documents, photos, scrapbooks, files, boxes and totes in one place and organize the mess so I can actually find information when I need it
- Recycling hundreds of pieces of paper which hold duplicate ancestor information
- Actually interviewing that person which I have avoided for the last three years. This would take about an hour. I have spent probably 10 hours over several years just thinking about doing it, writing it on my TODO lists and beating myself up for not doing it.
- Attending a genealogical event like the IGSI trip to Salt Lake City this September.
- Writing more family stories and ancestor profiles
- Organizing and labeling the family photos and scanning them for electronic storage
- Going to the historical society and ordering microfilms of the newspapers from my parents' hometowns. I have been talking about doing this for years too.
- Deciding how to share my research and then doing it!

If any of this sounds familiar to you, you still have time to add some genealogical resolutions to your list. Of course, it is not enough to write them down. You have to actually do them. We don't have forever, you know.

Speaking of resolutions, I hope you are committed to recruiting others to become IGSI members during our membership drive. We have a goal of adding 100 new members and we can achieve that with your help. We all know someone who could benefit from belonging to IGSI. Memberships in genealogical societies are still a great value for your money. Our membership fee has not changed in years, although the benefits keep getting better and better. Anyone can belong to IGSI. They do not even have to be Irish! For information on joining, check our website: http://www.irishgenealogical.org. The membership drive is from January through March.

Linda Miller

IGSI Helps Boy Scouts with Merit Badges

Finding the Unexpected

by Ann Eccles

A new year begins. We often reflect on the activities of the past year as we set down goals and resolutions for the coming year. We often encounter the unexpected or serendipitous events in our genealogy research. So, too, it happens in life.

On the Monday before Thanksgiving I encountered the unexpected in my front yard –three wild turkeys strutted across the lawn, headed for the wooded berm a bit further west of our townhomes. In the 30 years that I've lived here, I had never seen such a sight! I'm not "way out in the country", you see, but rather in a suburb – though with a good deal of nature around me. A newspaper article later that week explained that the wild bird was being reintroduced to the ecology of the state – and that turkey sightings were becoming more frequent, even in the heart of the city.

As I reflected on my genealogy successes and activity of the past year, an "unexpected" item came to mind. When Googling my father's name (and middle initial) one result mentioned World War II accident reports. My father had been in the service and I knew that he had been in a plane crash. For a fee, I could order a copy of the report and photos. I suddenly had a bit more information as he never spoke of that accident to his children.

Our theme this issue is "Societies and Organizations". We all, during a lifetime, have belonged to many groups – alumni associations, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, social groups, as well as lineage and fraternal organizations. We have or have had memberships in historical and genealogy societies, church groups, and hobby clubs. But will our children find relevant information on our lives through these sources?

Tom Rice explains what the family historian can learn from an ancestor's membership in organizations and suggests a few places to start. Susan Steele, director of TIARA's Foresters' Project, writes about the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters, a fraternal benefit organization. Kathy Brady-Blake, a certified genealogist from Illinois, describes the history of the Repeal Association and its movement in the United States. With Dwight Radford's permission, we have updated his article on the Ancient Order of Hibernians that appeared in 1997 in *The Irish at Home and Abroad*. Mary Wickersham recommends a few websites for societies mentioned in this issue – and a few new sources to check.

Dennis Sullivan and William Romanski, two IGSI members, write about tracing their respective Sullivan ancestors and serendipitous findings that helped them along the way. Our president, Linda Miller, shares the story of a divorced ancestor. Jay Fonkert describes ways to prove and compare contradicting information. Maureen Reed offers hints and tips, with personal examples, for doing genealogical research. David Rencher provides the first of a two-part article on the materials to be found in the James B. Leslie manuscripts which have been microfilmed by Family History Library.

In this issue we introduce a new column "Scattered Emeralds" which will highlight Irish repositories of interest recommended by IGSI members. Everyone has unexpectedly found a resource where least expected. Sometimes it's an entire collection that may be overlooked – if not for a hint from a local person or an unexpected turn in the road (literally, or in research). The first column features the GAAA Irish Library in Buffalo, New York. If you know of a gem of a museum, library, or collection that would be of interest to Irish researchers, send a short article to Septseditor@Irish Genealogical.org.

And don't skip the regular columns and Society articles for updates on the activities of IGSI. It's a new year. Step into some new avenues of research. You may find something unexpected and enlightening.

Happy reading!

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired and found almost every branch leading back to Ireland. Still a novice in accessing Irish resources, she continues to explore her many family lines. She has volunteered at IGSI, working with the surname database and membership updates the last couple of years

Irish Repeal Associations

by Kathy Brady-Blake, CG

Introduction

I became interested in Irish Repeal associations due to a memento handed down in my family – a membership card for the "Newark Repeal Association," given to me by my aunt. The card was signed by the association's secretary, my 2nd great grandfather, Timothy Bestick. This began my search for information about the repeal movement and its supporters.

Repeal Associations – History

On 15 April 1840, the Irish statesman Daniel O'Connell founded the Loyal National Repeal Association. The purpose of the association was to seek repeal of the act of union between Great Britain and Ireland. Although it did not accomplish its goal, this association played an important part in Irish history.

O'Connell believed that peaceful mass demonstrations would convince the British government to agree to repeal. Within three years of its founding, the repeal movement had grown surprisingly large. At a time when the population of Ireland was 8.2 million (in 1841), and modern forms of communication and transportation did not yet exist, the Irish people clearly demonstrated their support of the cause. According to A. M. Sullivan:

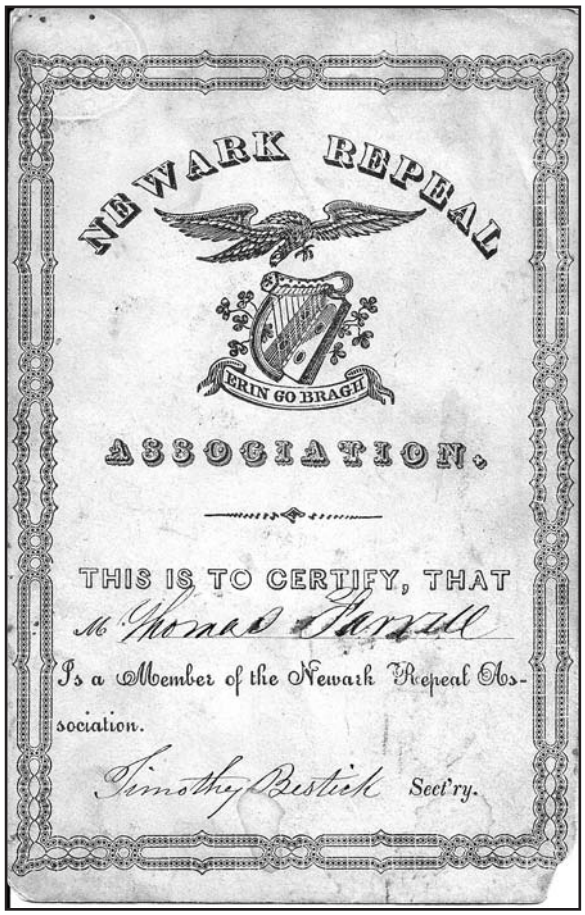
> Never did a nation so strikingly manifest its will. About three millions of associates paid yearly toward the repeal association funds. As many more were allied to the cause by sympathy. Meetings to petition against the Union were, at several places, attended by six hundred thousand persons; by eight hundred thousand at two places; and by nearly a million at one –Tara Hill. All these gigantic demonstrations, about forty in number, were held without the slightest accident, or the slightest infringement of the peace.

The repeal movement spread from Ireland to North America. The first American repeal group was organized by some tradesmen and laborers in Boston in October 1840, under the leadership of John James, a Protestant. The movement was strong in many cities with significant Irish populations, such as Boston, Chicago, Halifax, Minneapolis, New York, and Philadelphia. There were also repeal groups in smaller towns and rural areas. At the 1843 National Repeal Convention, held in New York, representatives were present from 13 states and one territory.

The repeal groups collected donations to support the cause. In the spring of 1841, American contributions supporting the repeal movement began arriving in Dublin. First to arrive was a check for two hundred pounds, sent to Daniel O'Connell from the Philadelphia repeal group, along with a list of 900 supporters who had contributed. By October 1841, the Philadelphia group had 3,223 members.

Genealogical Information Found in Repeal Sources

The study of repeal associations can provide historical context to help us understand our ancestors' lives. Beyond that, repeal sources can provide specific genealogical information on individual ancestors as well.


NEWARK REPEAL
ERIN GO BRAGH
ASSOCIATION.
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, THAT
Mr Thomas Parsell
Is a Member of the Newark Repeal Association.
Timothy Bestick Sect'ry.

Newark Repeal Association Certificate. Photo courtesy of Kathy Brady-Blake

Membership lists of the repeal associations were often printed in newspapers in the United States, Canada and Ireland. Some lists give only names and donation amounts. However, many lists provide additional information. These

lists are particularly valuable to genealogists because the repeal movement was a mass movement that encompassed a broad cross-section of society—from laborers to the son of the President of the United States.

In the United States, repeal association members were Irish citizens, naturalized Americans and Americans of Irish descent. Their occupations ranged from farmers, laborers, shopkeepers and tradesmen to mayors. *The Chicago Democrat* reported on 6 March 1844 that Augustus Garrett, Esq., Mayor of the city of Chicago, had donated five dollars to the repeal cause.

The vast majority of repeal association members were Catholic men. However, repealers included young and old, men and women, Protestants and Catholics. *The Brooklyn Eagle* of 20 March 1844 reported on a letter to the editor by Wm. E. Robinson, a Protestant, who gave his reasons for supporting the repeal cause and named several leading repealers who were also Protestants.

Often the lists include a place of origin in Ireland, usually just the name of the county of origin. Sometimes the name of a town or city was given. Occasionally, additional information is included, such as occupation, age or the names of relatives. This can be seen in the following excerpt from a list originally published in *The Island Magazine* 21 (Spring and Summer, 1987):

> Before October 24, 1843, 223 people attended a Repeal meeting at Charlottetown:
>
> 31. William Collings, Youghal, Cork
> 32. Mrs. Thomas Collins, New Ross, Wexford
> 33. Patrick Condon, Fermanagh
> 34. Thomas Condon, Mitchellstown, Cork
> 35. Edward O'Mahon Condon [son of #34]

The repeal lists can place a person in a particular location and time, between censuses and at a time when other records may be lacking. The lists can be used to identify persons from our ancestor's place of origin who may have been friends or relatives. The membership lists can be useful for sorting out individuals with the same surname.

Example

A membership list of the Repeal Association of the Friends of Ireland was published in the *Missouri Republican* on 10 May 1842. The St. Louis Genealogical Society republished the list in their quarterly (Summer 1978, vol. XI, no. 2) along with additional information gathered from four sources. This has since been posted on the society's website. The list includes names, places of origin, whether found in the other four sources, and where available, occupations and other comments.

Following are the Ryans included in this list. In these three lines, we learn that the Ryans of St. Louis came from three different Irish counties (therefore, probably not three brothers), that John and Patrick were also found in the 1850 census (C) and a marriage index (M), and that Thomas was a laborer whose daughter died in 1845.

Ryan, John	Longford	CM	
Ryan, Patrick	Limirick	CM	
Ryan, Thomas	Tipperary		Laborer. Dau. died 1845

Strategies

The main source for information concerning the repeal movement is newspapers of the 1840s. Newspapers carried announcements of meetings, letters to the editor debating the issue, and lists of officers, members and contributors. Many newspapers are now available on the internet, either for free or by subscription. Others are available on microfilm through inter-library loan. Still others have been extracted and republished by genealogical societies.

Some newspapers, such as the *Boston Pilot*, *The Register* (Halifax) and the *Freeman's Journal* (Dublin) reported on repeal activities in other localities. For example, the *Freeman's Journal* of 11 October 1841 described a meeting of the Young Men's Repeal Association in Newark, NJ. The article names speakers, committee mem-

bers, officers and contributors. The 52 contributors at the meeting were from 18 different counties in Ireland and two U.S. states. Contributions ranged from 25 cents to five dollars. It was reported that the contribution of one dollar by the lone woman contributor, Mrs. Daniel Sweeney of Cork, was met with immense cheering.

To begin the search for repeal lists that might include your ancestor, the first step is to check the Ireland Genealogy Projects (IGP) Archives website which contains transcribed lists of American repealers originally published in the *Freeman's Journal* .

The article listed below by Kyle J. Betit which appeared in *The Irish at Home and Abroad* contains publication dates for membership lists printed in the *Boston Pilot*. These are membership lists for repeal associations in various cities in ten states and New Brunswick.

Another method is to search indexed newspapers available online, such as the *Brooklyn Eagle*. A search of the Historical Newspapers database on *GenealogyBank.com* for the word "repealer" in 1840-45 found 355 matches. This included many reports of meetings held in cities other than the publication site of the newspaper. *The Freeman's Journal* of Dublin is indexed and available online by subscription through the British Library. In the United States, some major universities, such as Northwestern, University of Chicago and John Hopkins, subscribe.

If you identify a meeting date from indexed newspapers or published sources, then expand your search to local newspapers for additional reports. Also, check unindexed newspapers around the dates of major meetings and St. Patrick's Day. Be sure to search in all available newspapers for a city--some newspapers covered the Irish community in more detail than others.

Summary

Knowledge of the repeal movement is important to an understanding of the political climate in Ireland before the famine. Research into the existence of repeal associations in your ancestor's locality can help you understand the specific historic context of your ancestor's life. If you are lucky enough to find your ancestor on a membership list, it may even help you overcome a brick wall or take you across the ocean to their place of origin in Ireland.

My research into Repeal Associations led me to a remarkable discovery. My ancestor Timothy Bestick, who settled in Newark, New Jersey, before 1833, was mentioned in newspapers published in Dublin and Belfast in the 1840s. In the *Freeman's Journal* of Dublin, he was mentioned on 22 September 1843, along with other officers of American repeal groups transmitting donations to Ireland. He and several others were later mentioned again in newspaper accounts of the trial of Daniel O'Connell. *The Belfast News Letter* 23 January 1844 carries the headline "The State Trials—Treasonable Correspondence." This has given me a new focus for my research on the repeal movement and my ancestor's part in it.

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Kathy Brady-Blake is a certified genealogist who specializes in Irish-American and Midwestern research. She has taken genealogical courses at the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research, the National Institute on Genealogical Research and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and written articles for society quarterlies and genealogy blogs. She was the Local Publicity Chairperson for the 2006 NGS Conference in the States. Kathy is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, the British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois, and several local genealogical societies. She is an IGSI member who lives in the Chicagoland area.

Ginealas eNewsletter

Ginealas means genealogy – and what better name for our society's newest benefit. The Ginealas eNewsletter was premiered to our members last month.

This electronic newsletter will feature news about the society, genealogy tidbits and information from and about our members. Some of our society information will be moved from *The Septs* to the Ginealas eNewsletter and other information will be shared. The eNewsletter will be published quarterly in March, June, September and December. At this time, Diane Lovrencevic will be editor of this electronic publication, but IGSI is looking for another volunteer to take on this publication.

The eNewsletter will be posted on the website. An email with a link to the website page will be sent to members quarterly.

This form of communication will ensure compliance with anti-spam laws by:

- clearly identifying our emails
- containing clear header information in all emails
- automatically removing your address from our list upon request
- adding our company name and address information to each email
- providing Unsubscribe and Report Spam Abuse links in each email we send

Don't miss this new benefit. Keep your member information current and receive the eNewsletter. There are so many new and exciting things going on at IGSI.

Ancestral Membership in Organizations

by Tom K. Rice, CG

Few of our ancestors lived as hermits. They were part of the society of their times and place. This integration into society included – besides the obvious interactions with family, church and neighbors – membership in one or more of the many social organizations active during their lifetimes. Our ancestors' membership in these groups was a key aspect of their lives. We should study them not only for what genealogical information they may yield but also to better understand the lives of our ancestors.

There was a wide range of organizations available for our ancestors to join. There were ethnic societies such as the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Fraternal organizations such as the Odd Fellows and Masons. Religious groups such as the Knights of Columbus. Political groups that focused either on the politics of our immigrant ancestor's home country such as the Repeal Society or the political parties of their adopted country. Some of the more well off belonged to charitable organizations such as the Charitable Irish Society of Boston. They may have joined a veterans' group such as the Grand Army of the Republic or a lineage society such as the Daughters of the American Revolution. In addition there were trade unions or business groups they may have joined.

From a family history perspective, it is interesting to conjecture as to why our ancestors may have joined one or more of these groups. One likely reason was to connect with others of a like mind and interest and thus to associate with people who felt as they did and who would talk with them about topics of mutual interest. Another possible reason was to gain some benefit such as the insurance benefits some societies offered. They may have joined to support a cause. Or they may have joined for the social, business or career advantage membership may have offered them in the greater society of the day.

If we are going to research this aspect of an ancestor's life, we need first to learn what societies they joined. Unless we know this directly from written or oral family history, we must search for clues. One such clue would be the symbols found on tombstones or grave decorations. An obituary may mention the deceased's society memberships. We may have a picture of an ancestor in a uniform or wearing some symbol of society membership. If we are especially fortunate, we may have found membership papers or tokens or medals that point to a specific society. Without such clues to identify an ancestral membership in one or more societies, we may have to resort to scanning the membership rolls of those societies active in our ancestors' area which would have been the more likely candidates for membership. We can use city or county directories to identify which organizations were active there. Another resource is Alvin J. Schmidt's *Fraternal Organizations.*[1]

A key question to ask before we start on this quest is "why bother?" From a genealogical research standpoint the answer is simple. Organizational membership information may contain either direct answers to our research problem or important clues that can lead us forward in our searching. These membership applications may list family, place of current or past residence, or unit of military service. The very fact of a membership may be the answer to a question. Membership may point to the country of origin, a religion, past military service, or descendancy from some special group such as a supporter of the American Revolution or a passenger on the Mayflower. In addition to what we may find in membership records, the society may have put out one or more publications such as its own newspaper, journal or a special commemorative history of the society. If the ancestor held a position of authority in the group, we may find out about that activity by looking for mention of him in the minutes of the organization.

Once we are convinced of the importance of researching an ancestor's organizational memberships, we are faced with the task of learning where his or her membership records are to be found today. If we are fortunate, the organization is active in the same place where our ancestor was a member. However, because of an ongoing decline in membership in many organizations, we may have to hunt bit. If the organization is still active at all, records of defunct chapters may be with the closest chapter to that which our ancestor belonged, or they may be at state, regional or national headquarters of the organization. If the organization is no longer in operation, its records may have been preserved by a library or historical society. Use the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, NUCMC, online at http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/ to search for libraries or archives that may have holdings

of a society's records. Or find the addresses of currently active societies in Gale Research's *Encyclopedia of Associations*.[2] Cyndi's List also has a section specifically devoted to links to societies at http://www.cyndislist.com/socgen.htm. An Irish specific reference is Michael F. Funchion's *Irish American Voluntary Organizations*.[3]

Several websites dedicated to this topic are well worth visiting. These include Kyle Betit's article "Fraternal and Benevolent Societies," on the *Family Chronicle* website at https://familychronicle.com/FraternalSocieties.html. Rhonda McClure has an article, "Clues in Fraternal Memorabilia," at *Ancestry.com*, (http://learn.ancestry.com/LearnMore/Article.aspx?id=8316). An article about the founding dates of organizations and the organizational acronyms and abbreviations can be found at http://mill-valley.freemasonry.biz/marin-fraternities-06.htm. The online Phoenixmasonry Masonic Museum has posted "Chronological Establishment of Fraternal Organizations in America" at http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/masonicmuseum/fraternalism/chronology_fraternal_organizations_america.htm. A site that shows images of society medals and insignias is *Society Decorations* at http://www.hereditary.us/decorations.htm. Curt Witcher of the Allen County Public Library has an article, "Hunting for Heritage: Using Association Records," at *Ancestry.com* at http://learn.ancestry.com/LearnMore/Article.aspx?id=800. "Rootsweb's Guide to Tracing Family Trees" has a lesson on using organizational records at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rwguide/lesson18.htm.

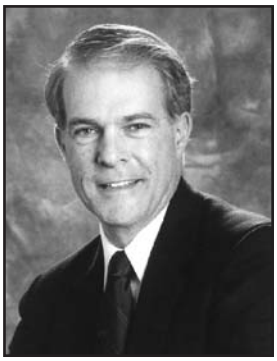
Endnotes

1 Alvin Schmidt, *Fraternal Organizations*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1980.

2 *Encyclopedia of Associations: Regional, State and Local Organizations*. Detroit: Gale Research Inc., 2000.

3 Michael F. Funchion, *Irish American Voluntary Organizations*. Westport, Connecticut: Green Wood Press, 1983.

Tom Rice, CG, is a professional genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher and writer. He is the managing editor of The Septs, *first vice-president, and past treasurer of IGSI, a former director of the Minnesota Genealogy Society, and a genealogy help desk volunteer for the Minnesota History Society. He can be contacted at info@heritagehunters.com.*



Notice of Solicitation for the IGSI Board of Directors

The Irish Genealogical Society International welcomes candidates for positions on the Board of Directors. The Board provides direction and oversight for IGSI's activities. A full statement describing the IGSI Board functions, a list of the current members of our board and the criteria for board members appears on our website (http://www.irishgenealogical.org).

Candidates should have the qualifications set forth in the criteria for board members. In addition, the IGSI Board encourages candidates who would bring any of the following talents and interests:

- Perspective and experience in marketing, public relations and/or publicity to help promote IGSI activities and membership growth, or
- Experience in fundraising, or
- Experience and responsibility for managing finances for a small business or non-profit organization, or
- Interest in volunteer recruitment and management, or
- Experience in programming (educational workshops, seminars, etc)

The Irish Genealogical Society International welcomes candidates who would provide geographic representation.

Please email me at President@Irish-Genealogical.org if you have questions or submit your name and letter of interest by February 15, 2009 to:

Linda S. Miller, President
IGSI
1185 Concord St. N
South St. Paul, MN 55075-1187

Deducing a Townland with Little Evidence:

The Origin of James Joseph Sullivan

by William Romanski

Even with scanty evidence and few available primary sources, it is possible to conjecture where in Ireland the immigrant came from. Using a variety of sources from Ireland and the United States, I have thoroughly documented my family, nearby families of the same surname, and other families who settled in the same neighborhood as mine. From this raw data I have surmised the townland from which my family hails.

James Joseph Sullivan came from Ireland and settled in Hartford, Connecticut, some time before 1884. The first record of him in the U.S. is his marriage to Bridget Moriarty in St Patrick's Church in Hartford.[1] Bridget was born in Glannagilliagh in the parish of Killorglin, County Kerry.[2] Her family is well documented in civil, parish and lands records in Ireland. James's birthplace and family has always been a mystery. I have lately connected him to a townland and a family.

To find James' birthplace, I was afforded several clues:

- James was born in Kerry, according to the birth record of one of his children[3].
- My mother's Aunt Mary claims James was born in the parish of Killorglin, the same as his wife.
- My mother's Uncle Art remembers that his grandfather was from "Puck Fair." Puck Fair is the name of the fair that is held in Killorglin town every August. More that once I have heard the place called by the name of the fair.

With the parish identified, I thought I could also determine the townland. That knowledge was still in the family until two generations ago. My grandfather's uncle traveled to Ireland to visit the place where James lived. He said that it was just "a pile of stones" when he arrived. I hope to make the same journey someday.

Sullivan Family 1891. Photo courtesy of William Romanski

There is also evidence of James' family:

- My grandfather's cousin Kitty, who lives in Killorglin, claims James was a "Fele Sullivan from Glenbeigh." Fele is one of many nicknames used to distinguish branches of the Sullivans. Glenbeigh is a neighboring parish to Killorglin.
- Another cousin has a photograph of a Margaret Sullivan who was a first cousin to my great-grandfather, i.e. a niece of James. The photo was taken at Rialto Studio of Brockton, Massachusetts.
- In probate court, James claimed to have had five brothers.[4]

So James is identified with a larger family group. His immediate family consisted of at least five brothers and other extended family.

Starting with these clues, I searched other sources that yielded both null and relevant results. Sharing the information I amassed, I pressed family members for more recollections, but no further details were forthcoming. James' death certificate did not document the names of his parents. The Waterbury and Hartford newspapers mentioned his death and funeral arrangements but did not say anything about family apart from his children.[5] Finally, a search of the church records in Killorglin produced no James Sullivans who fit his description. (There are many gaps in the records.) However these church files indicate that there is a family of which James might be a part.

The church held baptismal entries for a Sullivan family who was known by the moniker "Fiely." Daniel Sullivan and Mary Murphy had a family of at least six children in Laharan, Killorglin.[6] Their son, Daniel Sullivan, married Mary Kelleher before 1864.[7] Several of their children were born in Laharan. It turns out that this family settled in Hartford about 1883.[8] Were Daniel Sullivan and Mary Kelleher James' parents?

I found additional information:

- I posted a query on a rootsweb.com message board asking for information about Fele/Fiely Sullivans. A man whose mother was a "Feely" Sullivan from Glenbeigh replied and said that those Sullivans are related to the Sullivans in Laharan. This validates cousin Kitty's claim that James's Fele Sullivans were connected to Glenbeigh.
- Bridget Moriarty's sister, Ellen Moriarty, married John Sullivan. John Sullivan's sister was Margaret Sullivan married Timothy Sullivan, a son of Daniel Sullivan and Mary Kelleher from Laharan.[9]
- The Margaret Sullivan in the photograph mentioned above may have been the daughter of Timothy Sullivan and Margaret Sullivan. This family lived in Weymouth, Massachusetts, which is near Brockton.
- When they first arrived in Hartford, Daniel Sullivan and his family lived at 78 Avon Street. This was the address of the family of Timothy Sullivan and Bridget Galvin who were also from Killorglin. Timothy's sister, Mary Sullivan Doyle, lived at 366 Front Street.[10] When Bridget Moriarty and her family arrived in Hartford, this was their address. No doubt James and Bridget Sullivan lived there after they were married.

Margaret Sullivan. Photo courtesy of William Romanski

There are many Sullivan families and connections between them are convoluted and confusing. Nevertheless these connections are tangible.

With so little information to go on initially, finding a townland in Ireland for someone who was born in the 1850s and emigrated in the 1880s seemed near impossible. I exhausted the resources available to me to collect the data mentioned above, along with several other smaller bits of evidence. Thorough research, lucky breaks and appreciation of every clue put me in a position to draw a conclusion about the origins and family of James Joseph Sullivan:

> James Joseph Sullivan was a Fele/Fiely Sullivan born and baptized in Killorglin. The record does not survive. He might have been from Laharan where the only recorded Fele/Fiely Sullivans in that parish were from. Daniel Sullivan and Mary Kelleher from Laharan who also settled in Hartford were probably close relatives of James, maybe even his parents.

Endnotes

1 Vital Records of the City of Hartford, Connecticut, on microfilm at the Connecticut State Library.
2 Roman Catholic Records of the Parish of Killorglin, County Kerry
3 Vital Records of the City of Hartford, Connecticut, on microfilm at the Connecticut State Library.
4 Heritage Quest Digital Newspaper Database of *The Hartford Courant* at the Connecticut State Library.
5 Local newspapers on microfilm at the Connecticut State Library.
6 Roman Catholic Records of the Parish of Killorglin, County Kerry
7 Civil registration in Ireland.
8 U.S. Federal Census Records – digital images on Ancestry.com.
9 Vital Records of the City of Hartford, Connecticut, on microfilm at the Connecticut State Library.
10 Hartford City Directories – on microfilm at Connecticut State Library and at Ancestry.com.

William Romanski was born in Rhode Island and has been studying family history and genealogy since about 1989.

Fraternity, Unity and Charity:
The Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters

by Susan Steele

The subject of fraternal life insurance policies has received relatively little attention in genealogical publications. Access to this type of record is limited. This article discusses the records of the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters. The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA) acquired 60,000 insurance policies in 2005. Volunteers created an index to 20,000 policies. Those indexed policies are being prepared for digitization that will take place in late 2009.

Who Were the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters?

"An Order that seeks to relieve, assist and elevate our fellowmen" – this is how High Chief Ranger Captain Dennis F. O' Sullivan described the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters. In February 1879, a letter was circulated among Catholic men in Boston calling for a meeting to establish a "Catholic Mutual Benefit Society". The initiators of this letter were a group of businessmen who saw the need to form a "Catholic organization to provide for material relief in illness, distress and death." The institution that was founded became the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters (MCOF). The symbol the order adopted was a shield and cross emblazoned with the words "Fraternity, Charity and Unity."

A majority of the first 56 MCOF members were Irish men who were concerned about a population not served by other fraternal orders such as the Ancient and the Independent Orders of Foresters. There were thousands of Irish immigrants and their descendants who were not enrolled by these largely Protestant groups. When these Irish wage earners died, there were few resources for surviving family members. The Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters became the first Catholic fraternal insurance society in Massachusetts when it was founded in July 1879. The MCOF enrolled Irish and other Catholic immigrant groups. Although the MCOF had a significant German population early on, it remained a predominantly Irish group well into the 1930s. Women were admitted to the Foresters in 1894.

Officers of Captain Dennis O'Sullivan Court, No. 320. November 11, 1939. Front Row: Samuel A. Simonton, Francis L. O'Donnell, Virginia M. Harrison, Frances M. Little and Mary R. Dodd. Back Row: Virginia M. Harris, Edwina F. McGlory, Margaret M. Gambon and George T. Indingaro.

Local chapters of the MCOF were called Courts. Courts were often organized around church parish lines. There were separate men and women's courts as well as mixed membership courts. The organization grew from one small group in Boston to branches in cities and towns throughout Massachusetts. In 1930, there were 299 courts in Massachusetts and one court in Providence, Rhode Island. Total membership was about 60,000.

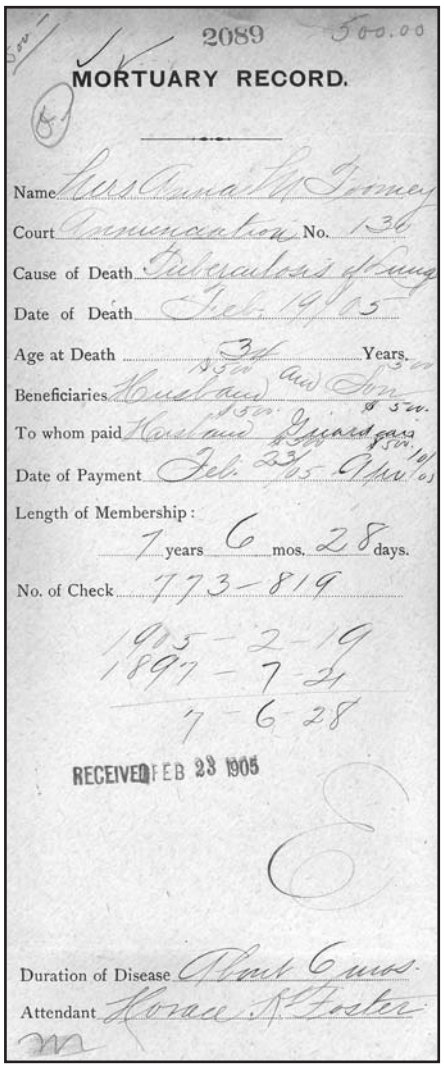
As in many fraternal groups, rituals were part of monthly meetings. An important Foresters ritual was the recognition of a member's death. Foresters marched in funeral processions and wore black mourning badges. The badges had a reverse side with the colors of the Court. The MCOF also offered social, spiritual, educational and charitable activities. Social events included dances, teas, picnics, and dramatic clubs. A youth division, added in 1939, included various athletic teams.

In 1960, the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters was renamed the Catholic Association of Foresters (CAOF). The CAOF still exists primarily as a fraternal life insurance society. The Foresters headquarters building in Boston was sold in 2005. New office space provided no storage for almost one hundred years of insurance policies. These policies were headed for the shredder when TIARA acquired them.

What Records Did the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters Create?

Each prospective Forester applying for life insurance coverage completed an application. The application included personal data, family information and

a physical examination. Subsequent death benefit disbursements named beneficiaries. Any additional correspondence regarding beneficiaries was also included in what the MCOF termed the Mortuary Record. An examination of the various sections of Mortuary Records follows.



2089 500.00

MORTUARY RECORD.

Name Mrs Annie M Toomey

Court Annunciation No. 136

Cause of Death Tuberculosis of Lungs

Date of Death Feb 19 1905

Age at Death 34 Years.

Beneficiaries Husband and Son

To whom paid Husband Guardian

Date of Payment Feb 23 1905

Length of Membership:

7 years 6 mos. 28 days.

No. of Check 773-819

1905 - 2 - 19
1897 - 7 - 21
7 - 6 - 28

RECEIVED FEB 23 1905

Duration of Disease Past 6 mos.

Attendant Horace A Foster

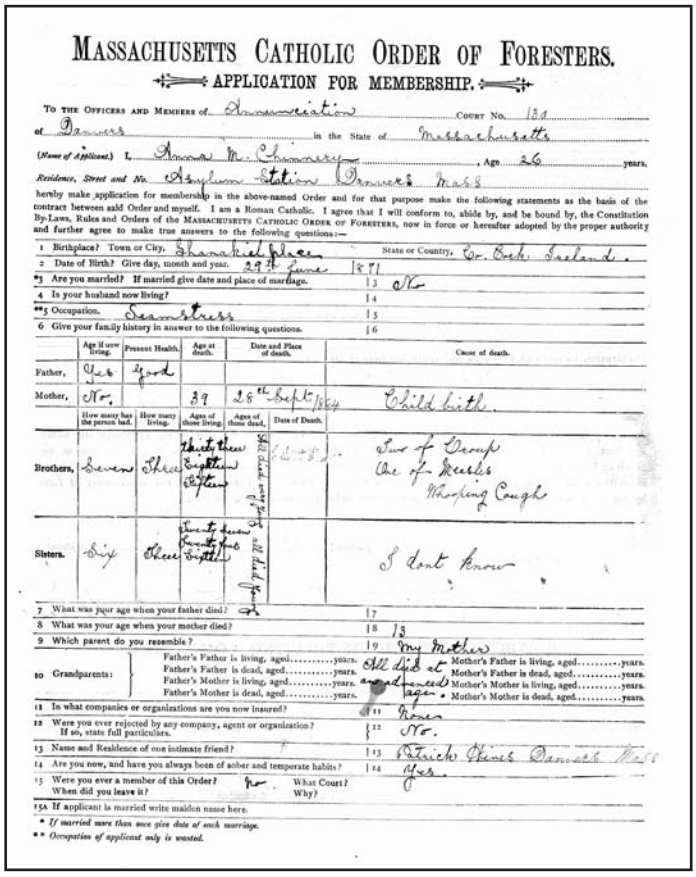
Envelope for Mrs. Anna Toomey

Mortuary Records

Mortuary Record Envelope. The materials for each Foresters policyholder were placed in a Mortuary Record envelope and given a number according to the date the policy was paid out. The envelope summarized the data. Mortuary Record 2089 was for Mrs. Anna Toomey, a member of the Annunciation Court. Her cause of death was Tuberculosis of Lungs, from which she suffered about 6 months. She died on February 19, 1905 – at the age of 34. The beneficiaries of her policy are her husband and her son. She had been a member of MCOF for 7 years, 6 months, 28 days.

The length of membership did not limit the beneficiary amount which was $1000. Family history researchers will appreciate finding the policyholder's signature on the application and the beneficiary's signature on a receipt or a cashed check that may be included in Mortuary Records. Two checks are noted in Anna Toomey's Mortuary Record. Her husband, Patrick Toomey, endorsed one check for $500; he endorsed a second check for $500 as the appointed guardian for four-year-old son, John.

Application for Membership. Each Mortuary Record includes an application for membership. From about 1881, this was a four-page document with about 50 questions. Before this time period, the application was a small two-sided document with scant information.



MASSACHUSETTS CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the Officers and Members of Annunciation Court No. 136 of Danvers in the State of Massachusetts

(Name of Applicant.) I, Annie M. Chinnery, Age 26 years,

Residence, Street and No. Asylum Station Danvers Mass

hereby make application for membership in the above-named Order and for that purpose make the following statements as the basis of the contract between said Order and myself. I am a Roman Catholic. I agree that I will conform to, abide by, and be bound by, the Constitution By-Laws, Rules and Orders of the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters, now in force or hereafter adopted by the proper authority and further agree to make true answers to the following questions:—

1 Birthplace? Town or City, Shanakiel Place State or Country, Co. Cork Ireland.
2 Date of Birth? Give day, month and year. 29th June 1871
*3 Are you married? If married give date and place of marriage. 13 No
4 Is your husband now living? 14
**5 Occupation. Seamstress 15
6 Give your family history in answer to the following questions. 16

	Age if now living.	Present Health.	Age at death.	Date and Place of death.	Cause of death.
Father,	Yes	Good			
Mother,	No.		39	28th Sept 1884	Child birth.

	How many has the person had.	How many living.	Ages of those living.	Ages of those dead.	Date of Death.	Cause of death.
Brothers,	Seven	Three	Thirty three Eighteen Fifteen	Six dead, ages not given		Two of Croup One of Measles Whooping Cough
Sisters.	Six	Three	Twenty seven Twenty four Eighteen	Three dead, ages not given		I dont know

7 What was your age when your father died? 17
8 What was your age when your mother died? 18 13
9 Which parent do you resemble? 19 My Mother
10 Grandparents: Father's Father is living, aged.....years. Father's Father is dead, aged.....years. Father's Mother is living, aged.....years. Father's Mother is dead, aged.....years. All died at about 60 years of age. Mother's Father is living, aged.....years. Mother's Father is dead, aged.....years. Mother's Mother is living, aged.....years. Mother's Mother is dead, aged.....years.
11 In what companies or organizations are you now insured? 11 None
12 Were you ever rejected by any company, agent or organization? If so, state full particulars. 12 No.
13 Name and Residence of one intimate friend? 13 Patrick Kiernan Danvers Mass
14 Are you now, and have you always been of sober and temperate habits? 14 Yes.
15 Were you ever a member of this Order? When did you leave it? No. What Court? Why?
15A If applicant is married write maiden name here.

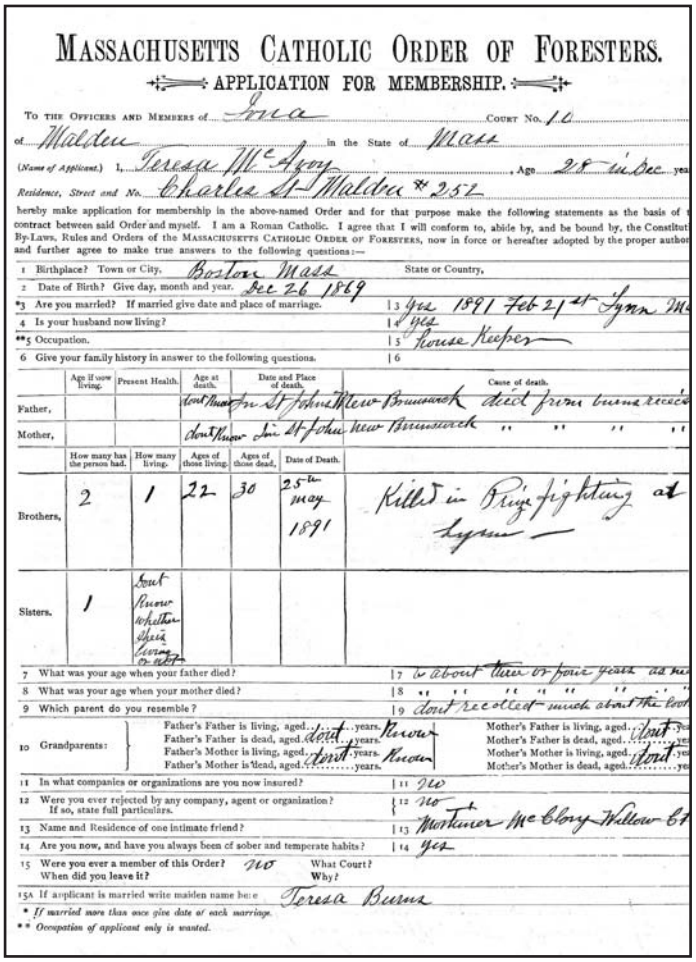
* If married more than once give date of each marriage.
** Occupation of applicant only is wanted.

Application for Membership for Anna M. Chinnery

The envelope for Mortuary Record 2089 (Anna Chinnery Toomey) was created at the time of death so it reflects Anna's married name. Inside Mortuary Record 2089 is an application for Anna M. Chinnery. When Anna applied for membership in the Annunciation Court in 1897, she was a single woman, age 26. She lived at Asylum Station, in Danvers, Massachusetts, and worked as a seamstress.

Her place of birth was Shanakiel Place, County Cork, Ireland.

The application requests information about family members. Anna's father was alive; her mother died in childbirth on 28 September 1884 at age 39. Anna resembled her mother and was thirteen when her mother died. Anna had seven brothers: three were alive when she applied for membership; four had died very young. Of six sisters, three died young. Anna gives the causes of death for her siblings: croup, measles, and whooping cough. Information about Anna's grandparents states that they "All died at advanced ages." Anna has no other insurance and has "always been of sober and temperate habits." The form asks for the name of "one intimate friend". For Anna, it was Patrick Hines of Danvers, Mass., who already belonged to the Foresters. The application also asks for dates and places for births and marriages.



MASSACHUSETTS CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the Officers and Members of Iona Court No. 10 of Malden in the State of Mass

(Name of Applicant.) I, Teresa McAvoy Age 28 in Dec. years

Residence, Street and No. Charles St Malden # 252

hereby make application for membership in the above-named Order and for that purpose make the following statements as the basis of contract between said Order and myself. I am a Roman Catholic. I agree that I will conform to, abide by, and be bound by, the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Orders of the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters, now in force or hereafter adopted by the proper authority and further agree to make true answers to the following questions:—

1 Birthplace? Town or City. Boston Mass State or Country.

2 Date of Birth? Give day, month and year. Dec 26 1869

*3 Are you married? If married give date and place of marriage. 3 yes 1891 Feb 21st Lynn Ma

4 Is your husband now living? 4 yes

**5 Occupation. 5 House Keeper

6 Give your family history in answer to the following questions. 6

	Age if now living.	Present Health.	Age at death.	Date and Place of death.	Cause of death.
Father,			dont know	In St Johns New Brunswick	died from burns receiv
Mother,			dont know	In St John New Brunswick	" " " "

	How many has the person had.	How many living.	Ages of those living.	Ages of those dead.	Date of Death.	
Brothers,	2	1	22	30	25th may 1891	Killed in Prize fighting at Lynn
Sisters.	1	dont know whether there living or not				

7 What was your age when your father died? 7 In about three or four years as he

8 What was your age when your mother died? 8 " " " " " " " "

9 Which parent do you resemble? 9 dont recollect much about the lost

10 Grandparents: Father's Father is living, aged ... years. Father's Father is dead, aged dont know years. Father's Mother is living, aged ... years. Father's Mother is dead, aged dont know years. Mother's Father is living, aged ... Mother's Father is dead, aged dont know years. Mother's Mother is living, aged ... Mother's Mother is dead, aged dont know years.

11 In what companies or organizations are you now insured? 11 no

12 Were you ever rejected by any company, agent or organization? If so, state full particulars. 12 no

13 Name and Residence of one intimate friend? 13 Mortimer McCloy Willow St

14 Are you now, and have you always been of sober and temperate habits? 14 yes

15 Were you ever a member of this Order? no When did you leave it? What Court? Why?

15A If applicant is married write maiden name here Teresa Burns

* If married more than once give date of each marriage.

** Occupation of applicant only is wanted.

Application for Membership for Teresa McAvoy.

Additional Information

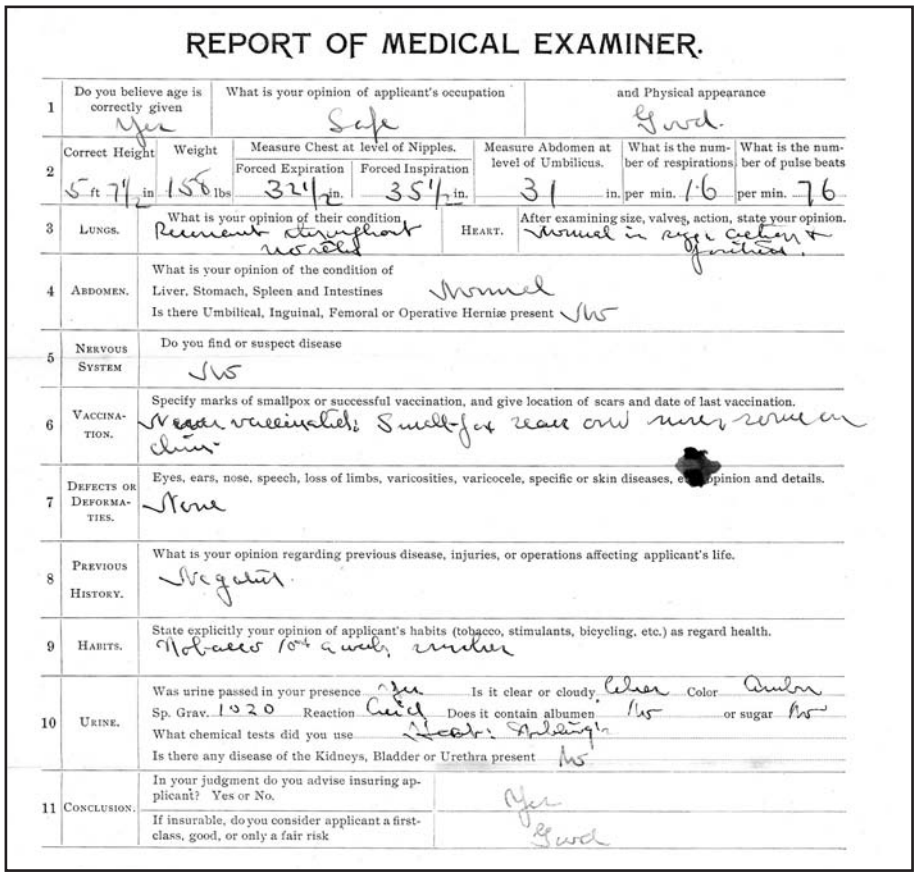
Although the application only asks for the date and cause of death of a family member, some applicants also give a place of death. Other applicants name the church where an event took place. Church records (including baptismal records from Ireland) and vital records (birth, marriage) are sometimes included as proof of age. Other vital records often appear in the Beneficiary section of the Mortuary Record.

Addresses given on MCOF applications have helped researchers locate families during previously "unaccounted for" periods of time. Many Foresters' applications have led researchers to material on the history of a specific area. Anna's address, Asylum Station, was an area surrounding the railroad station outside the grounds of the Danvers Insane Asylum. Anna worked as a seamstress. She may have been employed at the Asylum. Anna's application did not give the name of an employer but some applications do.

The 1897 application of Teresa McAvoy gives information on the cause of death of her parents "Both parents were burned to death in the St. John's fire..." Teresa's age at the time of the fire led to research on the Great Fire of 1877 in St. John, New Brunswick, Canada. A note about date and cause of a brother's death "Killed in Prizefighting at Lynn" led to newspaper articles about athletic exhibitions being held without licenses and a possible charge of manslaughter for the boxer who delivered the fatal blow.

Medical Exam Report. The first page of the medical exam includes the applicant's height and weight. A doctor listened to the applicant's heart and lungs and tested the urine for sugar. Questions were asked about previous illnesses, injuries, scars and whether the applicant had been vaccinated. Women were asked about pregnancies (confinement) and miscarriages.

James Sweeney was 5 feet 7, and 1/2 inches tall and weighed 158 pounds at the time of his medical exam in 1905.



REPORT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER.

1	Do you believe age is correctly given: Yes	What is your opinion of applicant's occupation: Safe			and Physical appearance: Good.	
2	Correct Height: 5 ft 7½ in	Weight: 158 lbs	Measure Chest at level of Nipples. Forced Expiration: 32½ in.	Forced Inspiration: 35½ in.	Measure Abdomen at level of Umbilicus: 31 in.	What is the number of respirations: 16 per min. / What is the number of pulse beats: 76 per min.
3	Lungs.	What is your opinion of their condition: Resonant throughout no rales		Heart.	After examining size, valves, action, state your opinion. Normal in size, action & functional.	
4	Abdomen.	What is your opinion of the condition of Liver, Stomach, Spleen and Intestines: Normal. Is there Umbilical, Inguinal, Femoral or Operative Herniæ present: No				
5	Nervous System	Do you find or suspect disease: No				
6	Vaccination.	Specify marks of smallpox or successful vaccination, and give location of scars and date of last vaccination. Never vaccinated; Smallpox 10 years ago; one scar on arm, some on chin.				
7	Defects or Deformaties.	Eyes, ears, nose, speech, loss of limbs, varicosities, varicocele, specific or skin diseases, e[illegible]pinion and details. None				
8	Previous History.	What is your opinion regarding previous disease, injuries, or operations affecting applicant's life. Negative.				
9	Habits.	State explicitly your opinion of applicant's habits (tobacco, stimulants, bicycling, etc.) as regard health. Tobacco 10¢ a week, smoker				
10	Urine.	Was urine passed in your presence: Yes. Is it clear or cloudy: Clear. Color: Amber. Sp. Grav. 1020. Reaction: Acid. Does it contain albumen: No or sugar: No. What chemical tests did you use: Heat & Sulphuric Acid. Is there any disease of the Kidneys, Bladder or Urethra present: No				
11	Conclusion.	In your judgment do you advise insuring applicant? Yes or No.			Yes	
		If insurable, do you consider applicant a first-class, good, or only a fair risk			Good	

Medical exam report for James Sweeney

He stated that he had smallpox about ten years before and was sick for one month. He was never vaccinated. He has smallpox scars on his arm and on his chin.

James Sweeney died during WWI in the sinking of the U.S.S. *Jacob Jones*. A Report of Death from the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, which was included in his Mortuary Record, gave additional information about him when he enlisted in 1916. He had a scar 1/2 inch long on the side of his forehead, another scar 1/2 inch long on his index finger, a tattoo of a star and wreath on his right forearm, and a tattoo of a star on his right hand.

James Sweeney's Mortuary Record contains an unusually large amount of physical description detail. Family history researchers who have no photographs of ancestors will find height and weight information of interest.

Upon the recommendation of legal counsel, TIARA provides Mortuary Records (with medical exams) consistent with federal privacy laws related to the release of census data. TIARA has made Mortuary Records for deaths from 1880 –1930 available in a pilot program for research requests. See the last section of this article for additional information.

Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries were designated at the time of application. However, a change in beneficiary designation was not unusual: women married, beneficiaries (parents, husbands, wives or other family members) died. Other conditions such as alcoholism, desertion or mental instability could cause a change in beneficiary designation. Many Mortuary Records contain additional correspondence regarding the status and location of beneficiaries at the time of death. In his 1887 application, James McCarey gave his place of birth as "Ireland" and designated his wife, Annie, as his beneficiary. He also stated that he had two brothers and six sisters. When James died in 1905, his wife had predeceased him; the couple had no children. The MCOF searched for the siblings indicated in James' application. Foresters located two siblings in Massachusetts, one in England, and four in Ireland. Addresses are included in the record for all McCarey siblings who were found. Three of the siblings in Ireland provided Power of Attorney documents for payment of the beneficiary amount. These forms gave the names of townlands in adjacent areas of Tyrone and Fermanagh.

Relationships: At the time of death, the entire family was often enumerated. This family enumeration might include information such as sisters' or daughters' married names. The

addresses of James McCarey's siblings in Ireland provide essential clues to determine place of birth. Power of Attorney documents were used to make payments to beneficiaries living at a distance, often in Ireland. Guardians were appointed for minor children named as beneficiaries. These court documents are also included in Mortuary Records.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that I, Mary Bogue of Grogey Coonenn, Five Mile Town, County, Tyrone, Ireland, do hereby constitute and appoint William E. Sisk, of Lynn in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, United States of America, to be my true, sufficient and lawful attorney, for me and in my name to ask, demand, use, have, recover and receive of and from the administrator of my deceased brother, James McCarey, late of Boston,

Power of Attorney for Mary Bogue, sister of James McCarey

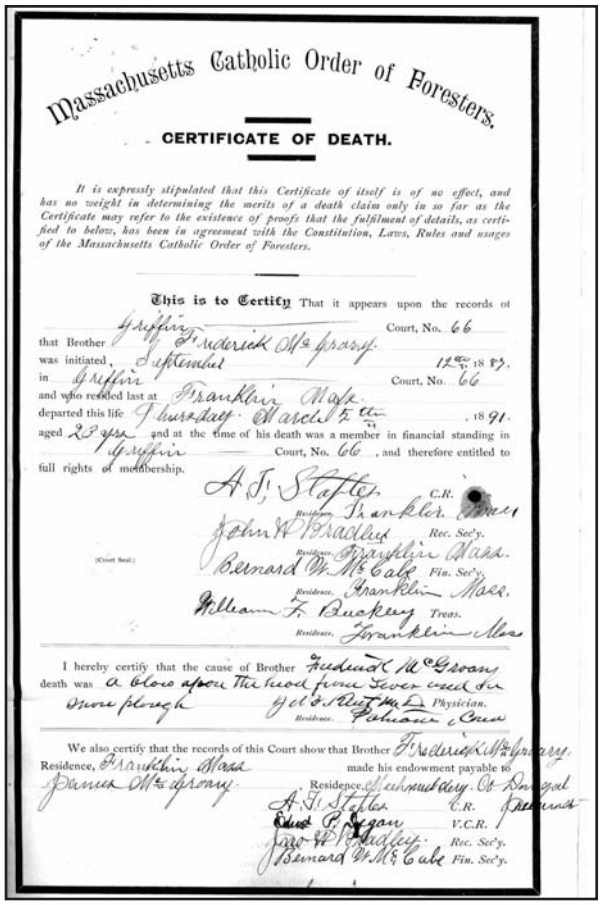
The MCOF required the submission of a vital record to prove the death of a beneficiary. Mortuary Records contain death records from cities and towns in Massachusetts and beyond. Researchers have discovered at least a dozen Irish Death Registrations in the 1880 – 1930 Mortuary Records. Some of these registrations were for policy beneficiaries who died in Ireland. Others registrations were for policyholders who were in Ireland at the time of their deaths.

MCOF Death Certificate

The Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters created a death certificate for their use. The bottom of the certificate had spaces for names of members of the order who viewed a body to identify it, a procedure required by the Foresters except when the death occurred at a distance or in war. Four members of the Griffin Court of Franklin, Massachusetts, identified the body of fellow member, Frederick McGroary, upon his death on March 5, 1891. The court physician certified that the cause of death was "a blow on the head from lever used on snow plough". The certificate also stated that Frederick McGroary made his endowment (beneficiary amount) payable to his father, James McGroary, age 55, of Meenawilderg, County Donegal, Ireland. Additional correspondence between the Griffin Court in Franklin, the High Standing Committee of the MCOF in Boston, and family members in Franklin and in Ireland is included in the Mortuary Record.

A letter from the Franklin Court to the High Standing Court outlined the circumstances surrounding Frederick McGroary's life and death.

> You will see that the endowment is payable to his father in Ireland. I enclose also bill of expenses of funeral. He was buried by the Court as his sister with whom he boarded has a family of small children and is quite poor. What little money he had saved, he sent to Ireland a week or two ago to bring out his brother and sister, leaving no means to meet an unexpected event as his death proved to be. This is our first death and I hope we have done



Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.

It is expressly stipulated that this Certificate of itself is of no effect, and has no weight in determining the merits of a death claim only in so far as the Certificate may refer to the existence of proofs that the fulfilment of details, as certified to below, has been in agreement with the Constitution, Laws, Rules and usages of the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters.

This is to Certify That it appears upon the records of Griffin Court, No. 66 that Brother Frederick McGroary was initiated September 12th, 18 89. in Griffin Court, No. 66 and who resided last at Franklin Mass departed this life Thursday March 5th, 1891. aged 23 yrs and at the time of his death was a member in financial standing in Griffin Court, No. 66, and therefore entitled to full rights of membership.

A. J. Stetter C.R.
Residence Franklin Mass
John H. Bradley Rec. Sec'y.
Residence Franklin Mass.
(Court Seal.) Bernard W. McCabe Fin. Sec'y.
Residence Franklin Mass.
William F. Buckley Treas.
Residence Franklin Mass

I hereby certify that the cause of Brother Frederick McGroary death was a blow upon the head from lever used for snow plough
Physician.
Residence Franklin Mass

We also certify that the records of this Court show that Brother Frederick McGroary Residence, Franklin Mass made his endowment payable to James McGroary Residence Glenmulbery Co Donegal

A. J. Stetter C.R.
Edward F. Regan V.C.R.
Jno H. Bradley Rec. Sec'y.
Bernard W. McCabe Fin. Sec'y.

MCOF Death Certificate for Frederick McGroary

> nothing but what is right. Yet it seems to me that if it is possible that there should be something over and above the bill enclosed, deducted for endowment to reimburse his people for the incidental expenses of funeral.

An itemized bill from a local funeral director included charges for a High Mass as well as a casket, robe, candles, hearse and a grave lot. After $147 was deducted for these expenses, $62.07 was sent to Frederick's sister for "expenses incurred by death and burial". James McGroary received the remaining $ 790.95 (161 pounds and 2 shillings). He wrote on his receipt returned to MCOF, "I wish to return my sincere thanks to you and through you to the Society you represent."

The actions of the Franklin Court – making sure that James McGroary received a proper burial and as well as providing for family in Franklin and in Ireland – exemplify the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters' logo of "Fraternity, Unity and Charity".

The records cited in this article reveal some of the richness of the material that can be found in this collection. One of the recipients of a successful research request called the MCOF Mortuary Records "a treasure trove". TIARA volunteers knew they had discovered "a treasure trove" when packing up these records in a dusty basement in early 2005. Four years later we continue to be amazed by the wealth of information in these records!

What are the current and future plans for the Forester Project?

In March 2006, TIARA offered a pilot program for research requests to its members. As of September 2008, more than 340 individual searches were completed – with a 33% success rate. The pilot program will continue as TIARA volunteers prepare the Mortuary Records for digitization. The Genealogical Society of Utah will begin digitizing the MCOF Mortuary Records sometime late in 2009. When digitization is complete, the Mortuary Records will be added to the website http://www.familysearch.org. TIARA plans to place an index to the 1880 – 1930 deaths on its own website http://www.tiara.ie. by early 2009. Look for the pull down menu item on the Foresters Project. For further details, send an email to ForestersProject@tiara.ie or write to

TIARA
Attention Foresters Project
2120 Commonwealth Avenue
Auburndale MA 02466

All graphics in this article are through the courtesy of Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters record, property of TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association)

Susan Steele is the current Director of TIARA's Forester Project. A member of The Irish Ancestral Research Association since 1994, she was co-editor of the TIARA Newsletter *1998-2006. Susan joined TIARA's Foresters Project in 2004 and became its Director in 2005. She has supervised 50+ volunteers who contribute countless hours to the Foresters Project. Susan has presented programs in the Boston area and at the National University of Ireland at Maynooth.*

Do You Have A Forester in Your Family?

Obituaries often provide clues about Forester membership. Other clues to Foresters membership may appear in probate records. Look for those letters "MCOF" or the word "Foresters." However, be warned that there were several other "Foresters" organizations operating in Massachusetts and other states during the late 1800s and well into the 1900s. Some other organizations were the Ancient Order of Foresters, the Independent Order of Foresters, and the Irish National Foresters. There is also a national organization called the Catholic Order of Foresters. TIARA holds only the records of the Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters.

Records of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in the United States

by ***Dwight Radford***

The Septs *editors acknowledge and thank Dwight Radford for his permission to update and reprint the following article which originally appeared in* The Irish at Home and Abroad *Vol. 4, No. 4, 1997.*

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) was originally organized in Ireland to protect persecuted Catholic priests and Catholics gathered for the mass as well as to correct some of the injustices of the English landlords in Ireland. Its American branch was established in 1836 in New York City. Although originally a secret society, it was strictly Catholic and remains so today. By 1840, the AOH had spread to Newark, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The AOH is organized into divisions by state and county. Membership requirements include:

- Irish descent or birth.
- Practicing Roman Catholic.
- At least 16 years of age.

During the American Civil War, members of the AOH served on both sides of the conflict. In addition, the AOH promoted the rights of nun/nurses to be on the battlefield and at front line hospitals.

The AOH offered insurance benefits to its members, published newspapers, and funded many Catholic causes and cultural activities throughout America. Records generated by the AOH of genealogical value include:

- Division records of membership applications and minute books.
- Directories of divisions (including a modern computerized directory).
- Histories.
- Newspapers.

Although the AOH is an active society in America today, as with other American fraternal societies, its membership has declined since World War II.

AOH Directories

Directories have been published by the AOH over the years. Copies of the five earliest surviving directories of 1884, 1903/04, 1905, 1907 and 1909 are held by the AOH National Archivist in Flushing, New York. These directories list the names of state, county, and division officials with their addresses. Included is the number of each division within each county as well as the location and hours that meetings were held. Old AOH directories are an excellent tool for determining the division closest to where an ancestor resided.

AOH Division Records

Records generated by local divisions include membership applications as well as minute books. The membership applications usually ask only whether a person was of Irish birth or descent and if he was a Roman Catholic. The membership application may give a physical description of the applicant, his age and occupation. If the applicant had been a Hibernian in another locality, he was asked for his former division's number.

The minute books provide a notation of transfers into the division and often from where the member transferred. Such details can assist in establishing a family's migration route. The books also list proposed candidates for membership and the members who proposed them; these proposal lists may suggest family relationships.

If a group of Irish immigrants joined a division at the same time, it's possible that they came from the same area in Ireland. This could open up new avenues for tracing the other men in the group.

Locating AOH Records

Many AOH records have been lost over the years. There are no provisions within the organization that require the keeping of old records. The Balch Institute in Philadelphia holds records of some defunct AOH divisions. If a division is still active, it may still have its old records.

In the case of a defunct division, its records may be with the families of the last division officers or may have been deposited at a local historical or genealogical society, library or other repository. If the last known officers of a defunct division are identified, nationwide telephone directories available on CD or the Internet may be utilized to contact them or their descendants.

When the nearest division is identified, it is necessary to make contact if it is still in operation or contact the AOH county officials if it is defunct. The AOH website has a list of links to currently active divisions at http://www.aoh.com/pages/divisions.html. Because every division may not have a website, contact the National Secretary for additional information.

When writing the AOH Headquarters, ask for the address of the state president, the county president, and the

division president of the area where an ancestor lived. Enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope and offer a donation or request a billing for staff time. The address of the AOH Headquarters changes when the National Secretary changes. For a current listing of AOH national officials, see the AOH website at http://www.aoh.com

The AOH Headquarters does not undertake genealogical research. It only furnishes appropriate addresses of local divisions to inquirers.

AOH Divisions as of 1903/04

Scanned copies of the 1884 and the 1903-1904 National Directories can be found online at the AOH website under http://www.aoh.com/pages/archives/directories.html. These directories give the county, division number, town where each division met, and the name of the local officers No directory is complete, so it may be necessary to check other early surviving directories (1905, 1907, 1909 or later) for the area in question.

If an ancestor's address is unknown in a large metropolitan area such as New York City or Philadelphia, it may be determined through city directories or civil records. The nearest division to his address may then be determined by comparing his address with the address of the divisions using a map of the city. Many city directories contain maps of streets and wards in the city.

The state of surviving AOH records in the United States is largely unknown. The topic has not been fully explored from a genealogical perspective. Therefore, a list of divisions from one of the old directories, including the version available on the Internet, may be used as a first step in determining what has survived in a particular locality. The AOH National Archivist is interested in knowing of any surviving AOH records or directories, especially those prior to 1903/04. Do visit the AOH website under Archives to see links to where records may be found.

Addresses

American Irish Historical Society, 991 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028. http://www.aihs.org/

Ancient Order of Hibernians in America. http://www.aoh.com

Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, Office of the National Secretary, Thomas D. McNabb, 31 Logan Street, Auburn, NY 13021, USA

Ancient Order of Hibernians National Archivist, Mike McCormack, Centereach, NY. E-mail: aohbard@optonline.net

Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies Library. As of January 2002 the Balch merged with The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA. http://www.hsp.org/default.aspx?id=554

Catholic University of American, 620 Michigan Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20064, USA. [The library contains a small eclectic collection of AOH materials.]

Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA.

Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA.

References and Further Reading

Funchion, Michael F. "Ancient Order of Hibernians in America (AOH)" in *Irish American Voluntary Organizations*.. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1983.

McGrath, Thomas Francis. *History of the Ancient Order of Hibernians from the earliest period to the joint National convention at Trenton, New Jersey, June 27, 1898, with biography of the Rt. Rev. James A. McFaul.* [Cleveland, Ohio: no publisher], 1898"

O'Dea, John. *History of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Auxiliary.* 3 vols. Philadelphia: Keystone Printing, 1923. Reprint, South Bend, IN; University of Notre Dame Press, 1995.

Ridge, John T. *Erin's Sons in America: the Ancient Order of Hibernians.* New York: Ancient Order of Hibernians 150th Anniversary committee, 1986.

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Canon James Blennerhassett Leslie Collection (Part I)

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA

This installment of the series on Irish Genealogical Collections again crosses the borders between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Much like the Tenison Groves collection examined in previous issues of *The Septs*, the Leslie manuscripts compiled by Canon James Blennerhassett Leslie (1865-1952) were fractured and shared among several of the major record repositories used in Irish research, including the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, the National Library of Ireland, the Representative Church Body Library, the Armagh Public Library, and the National Archives, Dublin (formerly the Public Record Office).

Counties	Collection	Repositories	FHL	Diocese(s)
Armagh	James B. Leslie	Public Record Office, Northern Ireland	Yes	Armagh, Dromore
Cavan		Genealogical Office	No	Kilmore, Meath, Ardagh
Derry		National Library of Ireland	No	Derry, Connor, Armagh
Donegal			No	Raphoe, Derry, Clogher
Down			No	Down, Dromore, Connor, Newry, Mourn
Dublin			Yes	Dublin
Louth			No	Drogheda, Armagh, Clogher
Meath			Yes	Meath, Kilmore, Armagh, Kildare
Tyrone			No	Armagh, Derry, Clogher

Canon Leslie worked closely with a number of contemporary colleagues, some of whom were also members of the clergy. There are references throughout his collection to copies of manuscripts and extracts drawn from the works of Rev. H. B. Swanzy, Rev. W. Reynell, and Tenison Groves.

Many of his succession lists of clergy for the various Church of Ireland dioceses were published during his lifetime. Copies of many of these are in various libraries. A complete collection is available in the Representative Church Body Library, Dublin. His published *History of Kilsaran* compiled a number of valuable extracts and copies of key record sources for a large portion of mid-County Louth.

History of Kilsaran (FHL microfilm 1,559,428, item 5)

This 350 page volume on the Church of Ireland parishes (some Roman Catholic burials) in mid-Louth contains a nice index and bibliography. It includes the Kilsaran Parish baptisms (1818-1840), marriages (1818-1905); burials at Castlebellingham (1739-1905); Stabannon Parish baptisms (1688-1846), marriages (1698-1876), burials (1701-1907); Mansfieldtown Parish baptisms (1830-1854), marriages (1824-1850), burials (1840-1884); Dromiskin Parish baptisms (1791-1840), marriages (1805-1903), burials (1802-1907); tombstone inscriptions of the Castlebellingham Parish Church, Kilsaran Graveyard and the Roman Catholic Church, Stabannon Parish Church and churchyard, Dromiskin Parish Church and churchyard, Manfieldstown Parish Church and churchyard; and extracts of wills of residents in the district (Appendix VI, pp. 323 339) primarily from the Prerogative Court of Armagh, and the Diocesan Courts of Drogheda and Armagh.

From the introduction of the book, this clarifying information is included: "Under different ecclesiastical arrange-

ments, the ancient parishes of Ireland, which were extremely numerous, were often grouped together to form incumbencies and the term 'Union' was applied to such combinations. The Union of Kilsaran comprises at present [1908], in the Church of Ireland ecclesiastical arrangement, the ancient Parishes of Kilsaran, Gernonstown, and Manfieldstown, together with the churches and portions of each of the ancient Parishes of Strabannon and Dromiskin."

National Library of Ireland (none on microfilm)

The following selected list of manuscripts deposited in the National Library of Ireland, Dublin enumerate the manuscripts of greatest genealogical value. For a complete list of the Leslie material, see Hayes, Richard J., *Manuscript Sources of the History of the Irish Civilisation*, 11 volumes, (Boston: G.K. Hall & Co., 1965) 3: 78-80.

Ms. 1774 - A typescript list with manuscript annotations of 981 wills of the 17th 19th centuries. These are arranged alphabetically under the testators surname and summarize the dispositions of each will.

Ms. 2599 – Abstracts of wills of Church of Ireland clerics, 1828-1839.

Ms. 2637-2641 – Five notebooks of notes on Irish wills and pedigrees extracted from Irish newspapers and other sources including Exchequer and Chancery Bills as well as from the Registry of Deeds. The notes are all recorded in pencil.

Ms. 2669 – Parish register extracts for the Church of Ireland parishes of Newtownhamilton and Mullabrack, County Armagh, possibly for the years 1622-1826.

Ms. 2670 – Extracts from the Church of Ireland parish registers of Durrow, 1731-1841.

Ms. 2673 – Contains a copy of the religious census for the parish of Termont, County Tyrone for the year 1780 (sic).

Ms. 2676 – Typescript copy of the Vestry Book, no. 1 of the Parish of St. Katherine's and St. James, Dublin for the years 1657-1692. A copy of this work is also deposited in the National Archives, Dublin, Ms. 5122.

Ms. 2692 – Miscellaneous pedigrees and genealogical notes extracted from the parish registers of Youghal. Included is information on the families of Allin, Swanzy and Ball, compiled by the Rev. H. B. Swanzy. There is also a list of the High Sheriffs of County Meath for the years 1714-1887 compiled by Rev. W. Reynell.

Ms. 2694 – Notebook containing extracts from the Church of Ireland parish registers in the City of Dublin, 17th -19th century. Some monumental inscriptions are included. These notes were compiled by Rev. W. Reynell in the late 19th century.

Ms. 4487 – Parish register transcripts for the Church of Ireland parish of Killmore, Cavan, 1702-1805.

Ms. 4488 – Will abstracts and genealogical notes on various families including the surnames French, Nixon, Hassard, Warburton and Swanzy, compiled by the Rev. H. B. Swanzy.

Ms. 4490 – Graveyard inscriptions from the Church of Ireland parishes of St. Anne's and St. George's, Dublin transcribed in 1885.

Ms. 4491 – A notebook containing miscellaneous genealogical and ecclesiastical notes including a few will abstracts for the late 19th century.

Ms. 4833 – A typescript copy of extracts from various parish registers and genealogical notes for the years 1663-1882, compiled from the Rev. H. B. Swanzy's notes.

Public Record Office, Northern Ireland

Mss. T281/1 – Leslie Mss. (Inventory on FHL microfilm 1,551,234)

This portion of the collection is not microfilmed per se, but the archival listing created by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland has been microfilmed. In these inventories, the record office tries to give enough information that individuals will only call up the records to examine originals when absolutely necessary, thus the microfilm inventory contains abstracts of the following wills (1692-1788) for these individuals:

- Brownlow, William, of Brownlow, Derry, Prerogative Will, 1739
- Buckworth, Sarah, Pb., 1692, buried Drumcree
- Burleigh, John, Gent., Portadown, Prerogative Will, 1752
- Corry, Joseph, of Dawson's Grove, Prerogative Will, 1769
- Ferguson, Henrietta, Portadown, Prerogative Will, 1769
- Jones, Valentine, Killmacurrcarty, Portadown, Prerogative Will 9 March 1693/4
- Kelly, Daniel, of Dawson's Grove, Prerogative Will 1772

Obins, Anthony, Portadown, Prerogative Will, 1754
Obins, Antony, Portadown, Prerogative Will, 1757
Obins, Deborah, wife of Rev. John Obins, D.D., 1775
Obins, Hamlett, of County Armagh, Prerogative Will, 1788
Obins, John (Rev.), of Portadown, rector of Ray and Clondehorky, County Donegal, Prerogative Will, 1775
Obins, Michael, of Castle Obins, Prerogative Will, 1798
Osburn, John, of Killmerety, Armagh Will, probated 1773
Overend, John, of Portadown, Prerogative Will, 1758
Pepper, George, of Ballyworkan, Armagh Will, 1741
Streaten, John, of Artabracka, Prerogative Will, 1721
Workman, Meredith, of Mahon, Prerogative Will, 1742
Workman, Meredith, of Mahon, Portadown, Prerogative Will, 1726
Workman, Meredith, Portadown, Prerogative Will, 10 November 1795
Workman, Richard (Meredith?), of Portadown, Armagh Will, 1713

Mss. T281/2 – Leslie Mss. (Inventory on FHL microfilm 1,551,234)
This section contains material circa 1629-1821, including copies of extracts of wills, marriage license bonds, and census extracts for the County of Armagh. The following named individuals are listed:

Carrick, Wm., of Loughgall to Ann Whalley, of Tamakeel, Drumcree (dau. of Wm. Atkinson), marriage lic. bond by Pat Murphy of Tamnamore, 4 July 1747
Carter, Wm., 1812
Carter, Thos, of Outleg Parish, Armagh, farmer, to Elinor Mitchell of Glen Parish, Derrynorse, spinster, 18 November 1777 (marriage lic. bond)
Carter, Margaret, of Mulleynure and Joseph Brown, of same parish, Armagh, (marriage lic. bond) n.d.
Graves, Jane, otherwise Hodson, widow of Rev. John Graves of Gravesend, County Derry, 1789
Graves, Samuel, of Castledawson, Prerogative Will, 1728
Hamilton, Hans, Frankfield, County Armagh, Prerogative Will, 1728
Houston, Jane, spinster, Prerogative Will, 1727 (Advouson of Donaghenry)
Judith, Countess of Farnham, Prerogative Will, 1775
Percivall, Wm., Rector of Aghanlo, County Derry, Prerogative Will, c. 1747
Rafferty, Anne, of Lis[...]achren, County Derry, Admon to her father, 3 May 1804
Richardson, James, Derry City, Prerogative Will, 1729
Stone, George, Armagh, Prerogative Will, 1729
Stuart, James, parish of Clonoe, Prerogative Will, 1737
Whaley, David, farmer, Armagh Will dated 3 February 1728
Whaley, Daniel, of Tullyhue, Armagh Will dated 20 March 1812
Whaley, George, of Tullyhue, parish of Ballymore, Armagh Will, 1825
Whaley, Joseph Carter, Armagh City, grocer, to Whealy, Sarah of the Park of Ballymore, spinster, 5 April 1808 (marriage lic. bond)
Whaley, William, of Kilmorerty, Armagh to Cregan, Cecily, of same parish, 19 August 1780 (marriage lic. bond)
Workman, Meredith, Portadown, Chancery decree, 23 February 1780; also a decree against Meredith Workman, Portadown, 8 July 1758, by Rev. Hen: Blackbr (sic) and others, executors of Jas. Twigg.

Also included are extracts from the 1821 Census of the Townland of Outlack, Lisnadill, Armagh for the surnames Carter, Griffen, Balls, Bevins, Carpendale, Kelly, Miller, White, Cleland, Allott, and Ryan. There are also extracts from the 1821 Census for the Townland of Tullyhue [Tullyhugh], parish of Ballymore, Armagh for the surname Whaley.

Mss. T281/3-7 – Leslie Mss.
There are no additional details in the microfilm copy of the inventory for the sections 3-7 of this portion of Mss. T281. The information contained in those sections is as follows:

Mss. T281/3: Crown rent receipts for the County of Armagh for the years c.1642-c.1795.
Mss. T281/4: Book of traditional tales and anecdotes of [the Diocese] of Connor, c.1315-c.1813.
Mss. T281/5: List of the freeholders for the district of Portadown, County Armagh for the years 1747-1802. [Note: These are not listed in John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, 3d, Armagh Source Lists, p. 177.]
Mss. T281/6: List of the freeholders for the district of Portadown, County Armagh for the years 1795-1802, including the Fruit Returns (First Fruits).

Mss. T281/7: Subsidy rolls for the year 1634 (Portadown area) and additional extracts from the 1821 Census for Portadown, Armagh (no surnames listed).

Mss. T305 – Leslie Mss. (FHL microfilm 247,319, item 1)
The material in T305 is a collection of documents for the following:

- Diocese of County Down, 1760
- First Fruits for all of the Dioceses in Ireland, 17th century
- Procurations for the County of Down, 1813
- Visitation at Lisburn, 7 June 1758

The genealogical gold mine in this series is by far the "Visitations at Lisburn, 7 June 1758" which lists the Chief Tenants names of roughly 118 persons and specific details about the tenements. For example:

> "John Bond, 52 Ft. (Breadth in front); 229 Ft. (Length); 153 Ft. (Breadth in rear); 1 (Number of houses); Observations: A Cabbin (sic) – about 30 feet of this Tenement not built as p. map."

Mss. T305A – Leslie Mss. (FHL microfilm 247,319, item 2)
This typescript volume begins with this note: "This Index is an Index of 'Notes relating to Ministers of the Gospel' Commonwealth Period by Dr. Seymour. That MS. Runs to 118 pages. With it is incorporated an Index of an MS. Presented also to R.C.B. [Representative Church Body] by Dr. Seymour, entitled 'Transcripts from the Council Books of the Commonwealth' also concerning 'Ministers of the Gospel' which runs from page 119 to 222."

It is indexed by both name and locality; from the locality index, it is clear that the coverage includes the whole of Ireland. There are numerous references to schoolmasters for the period mentioned.

Mss. T469 – Dioceses of Raphoe, Derry and Dromore (not microfilmed)
This manuscript includes portions of visitations dated 1733 for the dioceses of Raphoe, Derry, and Dromore, copied from the Beresford correspondence.

To be continued in April 2009 issue.

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A Day for the Irish

May Your Day be Filled with Joy

The Irish have observed March 17th as a religious holiday for thousands of years. They celebrated the day as a religious feast day and the anniversary of St. Patrick's death in the fifth century.

On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink, and feast—on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place not in Ireland, but in the United States. Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched through New York City on March 17, 1762. Along with their music, the parade helped the soldiers to reconnect with their Irish roots, as well as fellow Irishmen serving in the English army.

Over the next thirty-five years, Irish patriotism among American immigrants flourished, prompting the rise of so-called "Irish Aid" societies, like the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick and the Hibernian Society. Each group would hold annual parades featuring bagpipes (which actually first became popular in the Scottish and British armies) and drums.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by people of all backgrounds throughout the world.

IGSI wants to wish everyone a

Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Set the Table for Success:

A Simple Technique for Making Sense of Your Evidence

by J. H .Fonkert, CG

"Evidence" is perhaps one of the most feared words in genealogy for beginners. Genealogy guides and workshop speakers tell us to dig for all the available information from as many sources as possible, evaluate its credibility, and draw only conclusions supported by it.

So, we scurry to and fro, collecting birth records, census records, passenger lists, death records and more. Sometimes the information from several sources conflict, begging us to decide the truth.

Elizabeth Shown Mills reminds us that evidence is a mental concept. Source documents provide the seeds of evidence, which becomes apparent only as we arrange the information to show patterns. We generate evidence by arranging and correlating the information from multiple sources.

Sometimes, it is hard to keep track of all those scraps of information, whether in our head or on sheets of paper piled on our desks. I want to share a simple technique for seeing the relationships between two sets of evidence about the same person or family. Just as family group sheets and ancestor charts are convenient ways to organize information, simple tables are a way to set information from multiple sources side by side and see the patterns that emerge.

Tracking family composition

A census record paints a portrait of a family at a point in time. Putting several censuses together creates a sort of motion picture, showing how a family moved and changed over time. A table, in which each column summarizes information from a census year, lets us view several frames from this motion picture at once.

For example, the table below shows how the Kuisle household evolved. In 1910, William Kuisle and his Irish wife were recently married with a two-year old son, Albanis. By 1920, the Kuisles had added four more children. All were still at home at the time of the 1930 Census, except Albanis, who would have been in his early 20s. Perhaps, he married or simply moved out on his own. The census also suggests the possibility that the daughter known as Regina in 1920 was later known as Alice. Further research would be necessary to conclude that Alice and Regina were the same.

William Kuisle Family, 1910 – 1930

Census		
April 15, 1910 Eyota Twp. Olmsted Co.	**January 1, 1920 Eyota Twp. Olmsted Co.**	**April 1, 1930 Eyota Twp. Olmsted Co.**
William Kuisle, 37	William Kuisle, 47	William Kuisle, 57
Agnes M., 24	Mary A., 35	Mary A., 44
Albanis A., 2	Albanis E., 13	
	Mary, 8	Mary M., 18
	Joseph W., 5	Joseph W., 15
	Catherine L., 3	Catherine L., 13
	Regina, 7 mo.	Alice G., 11
		William J., 3

Matching up Broken Families

When deaths, divorces or other events break up family groups, it can be difficult to track ancestors through time. The same kind of table can help relate apparently unrelated households from two different census years.

Mumford Fawkner seemed an unusual enough name that he would be easy to track. Mumford married in Kentucky in 1828, implying a birth date in the 1800 to 1810 range. Fawkner has many variants: Faulconer, Fortiner, Faulkner, to name a few. The

Ancestry.com index for the 1850 U.S. Census produced only 74 Mumfords, but none came close to matching the man for whom I was looking. A wildcard search for first names starting with "Mum" yielded another 39 names. One of them – indexed Mumphred Forlines – was 40 years old and born in Virginia, warranting a closer look.

Names are often indexed incorrectly, but in this case the name on the census manuscript does look something like "Forliner" or "Fortiner." When I tried to trace Mumphred forward to 1860, the only good candidate was Mumphord Faulconer of Grant County, Kentucky. He was a Virginia-born 50 year-old farm laborer, apparently a single man in the household of Jonathan Hedger. If he was the Moultrie County man from 1850, where were his wife and children?

Going back to Illinois, I reasoned that Clarinda is an unusual name, and started a country-wide search for a Clarinda born about 1848. I found a Clarinda Faulkner, age 12, in Putnam County, Indiana. Putting the 1860 Indiana family side by side in a table with the 1850 Illinois family matched up the three children: Margaret, Thomas and Clarinda. They were living in the James Darraugh household. A light went on. Mumford Fawkner's 1828 marriage was to Elisabeth Darraugh. Although the fate of that marriage remained unknown, it was evident that Margaret, Thomas and Clarinda were living with their mother's relatives in 1860.

Reconstruction of the Fawkner Family

Moultrie County, Illnois - 1850	Putnam County, Indiana - 1860
Mumphred Forliner, 40 (b. Virginia)	James Darraugh, 57 (b. Kentucky)
Elisabeth, 42 (b. Kentucky)	Evaline, 48 (b. Kentucky)
John C., 14 (b. Indiana)	Jeptha, 26 (b. Kentucky)
Henry, 12 (b. Indiana)	Whitfield, 20 (b. Kentucky)
James, 10 (b. Indiana)	Nancy, 16 (b. Kentucky)
	Lewis, 14 (b. Kentucky)
	Peggy, 88 (b. Pennsylvania)
Margarett, 7 (b. Indiana)	Margaret Faulkner, 17 (b. Indiana)
Thomas F., 5 (b. Indiana)	Thomas J., 15 (b. Indiana)
Clarinda, 2 (b. Indiana)	Clarinda A., 12 (b. Indiana)

Unpuzzling Name Changes

Sometimes I think our ancestors were purposely trying to throw us off their trail. Some claimed to age only 6 years between decennial censuses. Other times, they took on new and confounding names. An example is Norwegian immigrant Nels Oversvea. While searching for the origins of Anton Overland of Otter Tail County, Minnesota, I found Anton living in 1920 with the family of Nels Oversvee 200 miles away in Lake County. I had reason to suspect Nels was Anton's nephew, but the names just didn't work. I decided I needed to be able to track both men's identity through as many records as possible over time. The following table helped me see the pattern.

When the Norwegian church records told me Nils' mother Marta Pedersdr was a sister of Anthon, I knew that Nels was indeed Anthon's nephew. But, I was still confused by the names. The table helped me trace Nels' identity through time, but I still can only speculate how Anthon came to use the surname Overland and Nels used the surname Oversvee.

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Name Changes and Family Relationships: Overland and Oversvee

	Anton	Nels
Birth Record	Anthon (b. 1844) F: Peter Johannesen M: Karen Anna Andersdatter	Nils (b: 1883) F: Nikolai Arntsen Sve M: Marta Pedersdr.
Norwegian Emigration		Nils Nicolais. Swee
U. S. Immigration	Anton Overland	Nils N. Svee F: Andreas Svee Uncle: Andreas P. Overland
1st Papers		Nels Nikolaysen Oversvee
Final Papers	A. P. Overland	Nels Nikolayson Oversvee
Obituary	Anton Peterson Overland	Nels Oversvee (b. 9 Feb. 1883)
Death Certificate	Anton Overland F: Pete Overland M: Martha	Nels Oversvee F: Nikolai Oversvee M: unknown

Matching European and American Records

One of the challenges in tracing ancestors back to the Old Country is to ascertain that we are looking at the same individual or family on both sides of the Atlantic. A simple table displaying information from European church records, passenger arrival records and the U.S. census can help us make the case.

Sake and Grietje Limburg had four children on the Dutch island of Terschelling before emigrating to Illinois in 1869. The Limburg family was difficult to trace in Illinois and later in Iowa, because an Ostfrisian family of the same name lived nearby the Dutch Limburgs in both Illinois and Iowa. Lining up the Dutch church records, the New York passenger arrival records and the U.S. Census records made it clear I was tracing the correct family, but also led to some deductions about the family's fate.

Despite a name shift from Sake to Jas. and creative spelling of other names, the Dutch and American families matched well. More importantly, putting the three sets of records side-by-side permitted me to hypothesize that the child born in Terschelling in April 1869 survived the voyage, but died soon after. Another daughter, also named Trijntje, was born in 1870 in Illinois.

The Sake Limburg Family in Terschelling and America

Birth Dates in Dutch Church Records	Passenger List Manhattan 2 June 1869	July 1870 Census Stephenson County Illinois
Sake Limburg 13 September 1834 Wonseradeel	Sake Limburg, 35	Jas Limburg, 35 b. Holland
Grietje Smit 28 April 1835 Terschelling	Grietje, 34	Grietje, 34 b. Holland
John 24 May 1863 Terschelling	Jan, 6	John, 8 b. Holland
Japke 2 October 1863 Terschelling	Japke, 4 [indexed Jdjike]	Japka, 6 b. Holland
Grietje 16 September 1866 Terschelling	Grietje, infant	Grietje, 3 b. Holland
Trijntje 16 April 1869 Terschelling	Trijntje, infant	
		Trijntje, 1 mo. b. Illinois

A Taste of Ireland

I'm just beginning my own Irish research, so I have no any Irish examples. But, you can apply the same strategies to your Irish research.

My wife's great-grandfather Bartholomew Lee was with his family in Bristol, England, in 1851. By the 1871 census he had left his wife and children and gone to America, never to be heard from again. Bartholomew was not to be found in 1861, but a John Lee of the correct age in Dorset caught the eye. A comparison of the information from the two censuses (see table below) yielded a plausible match: an Irish-born John Lee was a good match for Bartholomew Lee in every way but given name. In 1857 in Bristol, Bartholomew had married Eleanor Price, a reasonable match for Ellen in 1861.

One last piece of evidence clinched the case. Civil Registration records showed that Charles Lee was born 14 January 1861 in Melcombe Regis to Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Lee, formerly Price. Bartholomew was a porter for the Great Western Railway. Bingo! Now, I need to get acquainted with Cork!

Barthlomew/John Lee

1851	1861
33 Host St. St. Augustine the Less Bristol	13 Belvidere M. Melcombe Regis, Weymouth Dorset
John Lee, 46 Mason's laborer, b. Ireland-Cork	
Hannah Lee, 43 b. Ireland-Cork	
Margaret, 19 b. Ireland-Cork	
John Lee, 7 b. Ireland-Cork	
Bartholomew, 14 Single - Porter b. Ireland-Cork	John Lee, 24, Married - Porter b. Ireland
	Ellen Lee, 24 b. Gloucester, Bristol
	William Lee, 3 b. Gloucester, Bristol
	Charles, 1 b. Dorset-Weymouth

Tables: Not just for Experts Anymore

You need no special skills to makes tables like these. You can draw them free-hand with paper, pen and straight-edge, or you can use a word-processing program like Microsoft Word. To make a table in Word, follow these steps:

- Click on "Table" in the menu bar at the top of the page.
- From the drop-down menu, select "Insert" and then "Table."
- Use the up/down arrows in the dialogue box to set the number of columns and rows you want, and click "O.K."

Your table will now appear. Just type the information in the boxes. Don't worry if you decide you need more rows or columns. Just place the cursor in one of the table cells, and then click on "Table" in the menu bar. Click on "Insert" and indicate whether you want to add another column or row. Your tables don't have to look fancy – you're just using them to make order of your information. But, if you're writing a family history report, you might consider using a table like those in this article to help your reader make sense of your data.

Now, go set the table and get ready for some good genealogical dining!

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1 Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Working with Historical Evidence: Genealogical Principles and Standards," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 87:3 (September 1999), p. 179.

2 For a more complete account, see J. H. Fonkert, "Two A. P. Overlands in Fergus Falls: Sorting out Identities, " *Minnesota Genealogist*, 2008, forthcoming.

3 For a more complete account, see J. H. Fonkert, "Three C's for Genealogical Research," *Family Chronicle*, November/December, 2008, forthcoming.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is president of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He has studied advanced genealogy research methods at the Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and completed the National Genealogical Society's home study course. He lectures on census research, vital records Dutch genealogy, maps and geography, and other topics. He is senior health workforce analyst at the Minnesota Department of Health.

Write for *The Septs*

You can become a featured author in this journal by sharing your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to the publication date of *The Septs*. Submission date for the next issue, April 2009, is February 1. Submission date for the July 2009 issue is May 1.

The theme for the April 2009 issue is "Siblings as a Genealogy Source and Goal". The why and how to study an ancestor's siblings can lead directly to the ancestor of choice. If you have something to share about this theme or any article idea, contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org. He will also work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community.

Future themes include:

July 2009	Artifacts and Home Records as a Source – Bibles, pictures, letters, memorials cards.
October 2009	Military Records – Irish, British, U. S., etc.
January 2010	Irish in Canada – those who stayed and those who moved on
April 2010	Methodology for Family Historians – planning for success
July 2010	Scots Irish – Origins, culture, and as part of the Diaspora

Clues, Tips and Pointers

by Maureen K. Reed

Adopt a Mindset

1. Proceed with genealogical inquiry ONLY if you're willing to learn things you didn't really want to know about your people, families, and circumstances. Most of our ancestors were neither as virtuous as we might hope nor as sinister as we might fear. They were simply people struggling to make it in an uncertain world.

   Example: Despite family stories, most of us are not descendants of queens, kings, and nobility. Do the math. There were more commoners and peasants than royalty.

   Example: A 50 year old falling-out in our family probably didn't occur exactly the way I was told in my childhood. The other side of the story (as I learned years later) called into question the judgment, motives, and actions of my loved ones.

   Tip: Be a realist not an idealist.

2. Be prepared to cast a wider net than you think you'll need. If you can't find direct information on your ancestor, investigate siblings, spouses, children, cousins, etc.

   Example: I simply want to find out where my great-grandfather was born. But there was little existing information about him. Collecting info about his better-known brothers yielded some important clues. But having still not found the answer, my search continues by pursuing his cousins.

   Tip: Expect a convoluted journey.

3. The old genealogy saw is, "Work backwards – step by step – from what you know to what you don't know."

   Example: If your Great-grandmother Mary Sullivan who died in Chicago was born in Ireland, don't start by trying to find her in Ireland. You will fail. Instead, trace her from her place of death, to her place(s) of residence, to her place of marriage, to her time/place of immigration, etc. Somewhere along the way you'll find a clue to her county of origin and can then make the leap back to Ireland.

   Tip: Accept the old saw.

Face the Facts

4. Don't be wedded to any particular "fact," regardless of its source. Instead, consider your current "facts" to be "working hypotheses" or "educated guesses."

   Example: A cousin is so wedded to a grandiose story that her grandmother told her, that she can't let it go – despite considerable evidence to the contrary. No surprise that she can't make much headway in her searches; she doesn't like the answers.

   Tip: Reject and reform your theories as soon as new information calls your existing theories into question.

5. Every single "fact" comes with some sort of bias or built-in problem. Human factors (such as memory lapses, familiarity, education, ulterior motives, level of interest, attentiveness, distraction) are one source of bias.

   - Information obtained at or near the time of the event is far more likely to be correct than information recalled years later.

   Example: A death date written in a diary or death certificate is more likely to be accurate than a date recalled years later.

   Tip: Determine the date of the entry and compare with the date of the event.

   - Data obtained from a knowledgeable informant is more likely to be correct than info obtained from a less knowledgeable source.

   Example: Census data on the age of children is more likely to be correct if the informant was the children's mother rather than a neighbor or a twelve year old child. Census data is notorious for inaccuracy because anyone in the household or neighborhood may have provided it to the census-taker.

   Example: Death certificate information obtained from the spouse or oldest child is more likely to be reliable than that obtained from a grandchild or landlord.

Tip: Determine the informant in order to judge the quality of the data.

- Information obtained from a person who has nothing to gain or lose is more likely to be correct than info obtained from someone with an ulterior motive.

Example: Many informants are quite reluctant to relay stories that they perceive as potentially damaging to the family name, even if the people are long dead. My ancestor was very hesitant to give information about a beloved alcoholic uncle (dead 40 years!) until she was sure that I was going to use the info respectfully.

Example: People repressed by authority figures in their homelands were often deeply suspicious of authority figures in this country.

Tip: Try to determine if the informant has something to gain or lose or something to protect.

- Officials who copy information for you may be unsympathetic or may not have the background to know that ancillary information is extremely helpful to the family historian.

Example: The witnesses in marriage records or the people you weren't looking for (but who have the same surnames) can be crucial clues to relationships.

Tip: Request a photocopy, even though you won't always get it.

- Dates, times, and places recorded in official documents are not always accurate. Then as now, personnel were sometimes busy, distracted, poorly trained, or wanting to cut corners.

Tip: Be wary and watch for clues of short-cuts.

6. Non-human factors (loss of records, information out of context, time delay, legibility) are another source of bias.

- We only know what we know. The information burned in the courthouse fire or the story never written cannot give counterweight to the data that survives.

Tip: Ask yourself, "What's missing?"

- Dates that are sequenced (e.g., civil birth records, church baptism records, or cemetery internment records) are more reliable than isolated pieces of information.

Example: A distant cousin's birth certificate didn't fit well with other known facts. Inspection of the actual registry revealed that the certificate had been created from the "delayed birth record." This delayed birth registry data was given to the court more than 45 years after the event.

Tip: View the actual source whenever possible.

- Poorly legible records are a fact of life.

Tip: View and copy the records with several different magnifications, light settings, etc. Ask an expert's opinion.

7. The "real" story is gleaned from the preponderance of evidence, not just a single fact.

Tip: Whenever possible, verify every important fact by an independent second source. Until it is verified, consider it suspect.

Explore the Errors

8. Personal stories and recollections (even if hazy or inaccurate) can yield clues about an ancestor's personality, circumstances, beliefs, etc. Or they can lend a perspective about how the individual was viewed or wanted to be viewed by others. Usually, there is some combination of truth and fiction in every story.

Tip: Try to determine which is which and why.

9. Errors can actually be helpful.

Example: A great-great aunt's birthplace was listed as "Scotland" not Ireland. While this is incorrect, it hints at an intriguing connection to Scotland. Perhaps she was of Scottish ancestry or lived for a time in Scotland.

Tip: When something is obviously an error, hypothesize about why the error occurred.

Pay Attention to People

10. The personal touch often pays off.
    Example: Churches can be very cautious and are often short-staffed.

    Tip: If there's no response to your letter, drop in on the church secretary and politely ask to see the baptism registry itself.

    Example: Lowering the barriers to a response can also speed the response.

    Tip: Enclose a SASE and/or a donation with your request.

11. Nobody cares about your ancestors and your family history except you. Really. The time of church, courthouse, and library staff is best spent helping clients find information.

    Tip: Spare the staff your stories. Really.

Share Your Information Cautiously

12. Be extremely cautious about publishing, printing, or communicating "facts" that have not been verified by an independent, second source. As one of my genealogist cousins told me, "Fixing genealogy errors is only slightly more difficult than unscrambling eggs."

    Example: My aunt wrote a "Family History" in 1934 as part of her high school literature class. But the Bible, the sole source of her information, contained several errors. Years later she mailed the Family History to her cousin who dutifully copied it into a journal. Subsequently that journal was photocopied and sent to other relatives. A distant cousin recently transcribed the errant Family History into an electronic database. You get the picture.

    Tip: Find that second, independent source.

13. Uploading your data to websites that you do not control is very dangerous. First of all, you have no idea who will have access to it and what they will do with it. Second, you will certainly discover that some of your initial "facts" are wrong, and you'll naturally want to correct them. Sorry, Charlie, no such luck. The errant "facts" will swirl in cyberspace, dogging you and misleading other researchers.

    Tip: Don't do it.

Maureen Reed is a medical doctor, an expert in state health care policy, a playwright, and a former chair of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. Her interest in genealogy dates back to her childhood. She continues to pursue the goal of identifying the townlands of origin of her eight Irish great-grandparents. Three of them are proving quite elusive.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, which traces its roots back to Ireland in the 17th century, organized in America in 1836 in New York. The organization was open to men only. Fifty-eight years later, in 1894, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians held an organizational meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. They took the name "Daughters of Erin". In 1906, they received permission from the National Chaplain and National President of the A.O.H. at the national convention of the Order at Saratoga Springs, New York, to function as a separate organization under the name of "Ladies Auxiliary to the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America" (L.A.A.O.H.) In 1984, at the National Constitution Convention of the Order held in Albany, New York, the name changed again – to "The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians" (L.A.O.H.)

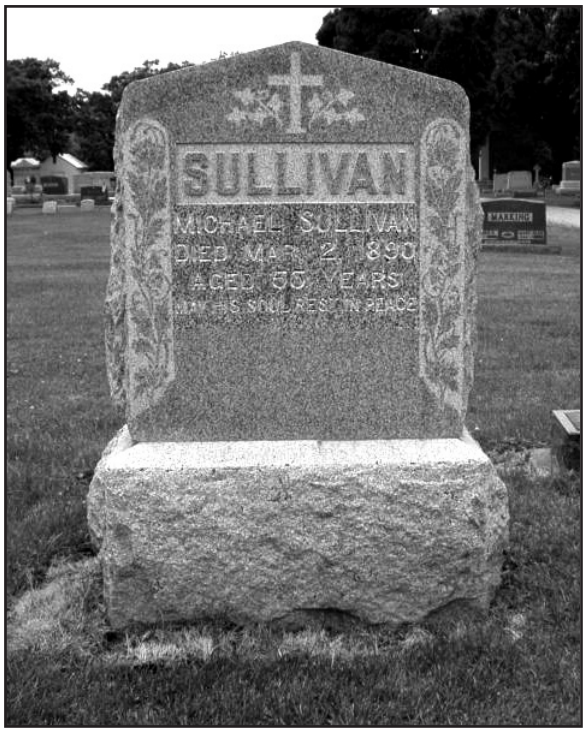
The primary purpose of the women's organization was to protect young immigrant Irish girls coming to the United

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians continued on page 45

My Sullivan Family Search

by Dennis Sullivan

My genealogy goal was to identify the birth and death dates for each of my grandfather's brothers and sisters by the 100th anniversary of his mother's death. With a little luck and perseverance, I was able to complete this goal and have the results carved in stone. This is the story of my twenty-year hunt for the Sullivan family information.



The Basics

As my first step, I read the obituary for Patrick and discovered that he was born in Lake City, Minnesota. The hunt for his parents began there. My first disappointment was the lack of information on the grave markers. Simply Mother, Father, Nellie, and Mary. No dates, no last names, in short, no information other than the headstone that said Michael Sullivan, age 55, and a death date.

I gathered the names of the nine children using the U.S. census records for 1870 and 1880 and the Minnesota censuses of 1875 and1885. The census revealed that the first four children were born in New York but there were no clues about where in New York. I researched the oldest son Dennis (my name source); his marriage certificate said he was born in Kingwilliamstown, New York. I never found this town; the closest was Williamstown in Oswego County. I ordered all of the 1860 census records on interlibrary loan but I did not find any of my Sullivans in this county.

On one of my trips to the Lake City Library, I discovered a name index for the city newspapers going back to the earliest editions of the two newspapers published in that city. Wow! All of the Sullivan's were listed in one spot in several volumes of index books. I found articles on marriages, burials, and murders. The murder caught my eye and I went right to the spot on the microfilm to learn that Hanna (Sullivan) Walsh was hacked to death by her son. An important clue: she was born in St. Lawrence County, New York, and that she was the daughter of William Sullivan. Through interlibrary loan of 1860 census records for this county, I found my Michael Sullivan family living in Canton, New York, with a William Sullivan family.

During this period of my research, my oldest son was doing his medical internship in Salt Lake City. I visited my son once a year and spent a few hours in the Mormon Family History Library while there. On my first visit I searched for all of the resources for St. Lawrence County, New York, and found a gem in a priest's handbook of records for Oldensburg, New York. He would come to Canton once a month and perform marriages, baptisms, and burials. From this microfilm, I learned that Anne's maiden name was Sullivan, the date of her marriage to Michael Sullivan and records for the baptisms of the first of their four children.

The Chicago Sons

I now had the key bits of information for the marriage and the birth dates for four of the children. I had the information for three of the boys but I was missing two sons and three daughters. Two of my father's uncles lived in Chicago so I used the computer to research the Illinois Vital Records for Cook County. The problem was that I was looking for a James Sullivan, who was called Uncle Jim, and for a John Sullivan, who was called Uncle Jack. The two common names grew into four. I restricted my search to the years when I knew they were alive because I didn't have a death date. I knew that they had attended the funeral for their oldest brother Dennis who died in 1915 but they did not attend the funeral for their youngest brother Patrick who died in 1944. My search covered the years between 1915 and 1945. I found 85 James Sullivans and 127 John Sullivans during those years. I made a trip to the Illinois archives to begin the task of reading the index and pulling the reels. I went through 50 or so reels to find the correct record for John which showed his mother's and father's names. I found James in the next 18 reels. I was very methodical in recording the age at death for every name that I found but the vital records depart-

ment would not use my information to improve their index.

The Sullivan Daughters

The daughters were not as difficult as I imagined they could be without a clue about their married names. I had ignored reading the obituary of Nellie Sullivan in Lake City because the person who recorded the information had made a reference to a different Michael Sullivan. Now up against the wall, I read the story and followed up on the information by getting a death certificate for her in St. Paul. As it turned out, this was sister Nellie who was buried in the family plot. And as luck would have it, her sister Catherine signed the certificate; I now had Cate's last name and I could get her death certificate.

My last problem was Mary. I turned to the death index in the Minnesota History Center as I assumed that she died in Minnesota. I decided to research all of the single Mary Sullivans assuming that perhaps she never married. There were 10; I looked at each reel to see if the correct parents were listed. I lucked out and found the correct Mary Sullivan on the second reel. My information on the birth dates and death dates was now complete but I wanted to read the obituary for Mary. It was in the September 19, 1915 issue of the *Pioneer Press*: "Mary Sullivan, *well known to the underworld*, died. " Now what would possess a lowly obit writer to attribute that statement to a great aunt of mine? Will I ever find enough information to be truly finished? I want to publish a family book, but I sure would like to know the meaning of this before I do.

Dennis Sullivan lives in Monticello, Minnesota. Raised in East Grand Forks, Minnesota, he moved to the Twin Cities area after graduating from the University of North Dakota. He is married and is the father of three sons. He retired from Unisys; his retirement activities include golf, genealogy, and volunteer tax work for AARP.

Let Us Know if You Travel

If you plan to go away for the winter don't forget to tell us or you will miss the winter issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Don't forget to advise us when you return so you don't miss any issues.

Rely on the Research Tab - Part 2: Databases

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

On the IGSI website, a wealth of information lies waiting under the "Research" tab located on the orange menu bar of the main page. The first item is IGSI Research Online, and clicking on that takes you to a drop-down menu featuring the "Databases" selection.

Databases

Click on "Databases" to access "Researching in IGSI's Database". Databases are arranged under the headings of:

- Assisted Emigration
- Births
- Book and Article Indexes
- Censuses and Substitutes
- Deaths
- Marriages
- Miscellaneous Records
- Passenger Lists
- Minnesota Irish

To search the databases, click on the link "Search the following databases…" You'll bring up a search form asking for Surname, First Name, Irish Location - County (drop-down list) and Locale (usually City/County). From this page, you can search across all of these databases, but it is not possible to browse through a particular one.

If you fill in just a surname on the search form, results will show that name and any other name of which it is a part. For instance, typing "Askin" returns listings for the surname "Heaskin," and "Malley" will bring up results for "O'Malley."

Be sure to use various spellings when you search the databases: Typing "O'Malley" brings up that name, but typing Omalley brings up no results. Similarly, "Macnamara" results in hits but "Mac Namara" – with a space in the name – does not.

To search further, fill in a county name and bring up all the entries for that county. Using just a surname finds that name wherever it occurs in the records. Combine the surname and county to narrow your choices. For example, typing the surname "Boyle" retrieves 67 results, but combining "Boyle" with County Cavan in Ireland returns just one: Pat Boyle, age 20, in the Census and Substitutes collection for County Cavan, Parish of Killeshandra, 1841. Using this search, typing in just a first name will not work, nor will typing in a locale only.

If you search for John O'Malley combining the surname and first name search boxes, one entry comes back showing the source as "USA, MN, Dakota County, Rosemount." A look back at the Database page identifies this source in the "Deaths" category. Members may take this research further by clicking on "view record" to bring up the entire listing for Rosemount, including birth and death dates and grave locations (sections A through F). Here you find John O'Malley, 1880-1950, and Sade O'Malley, 1880-1966, with no grave location stated.

A search on the surname Heaskin returns the source "Assisted Emigration, County Monaghan, Shirley Estate." On this results page, you'll find all the names that appear in an article by Patrick J. Duffy, as well as a description of the original source, further sources of information on the subject, and an explanation of how to get copies of the relevant pages.

Any visitor to the IGSI website may use these indexes to see what's available in the collection. To see the indexed record, however, requires membership. To view a record, you must fill in the search form. Once your search brings up a record collection, you can browse it. With membership, a researcher gets more of a return on each search.

Ireland's Heritage Centers and Libraries

Going back to the "Research" tab at the top of IGSI's website, click on the second item in the list – Heritage Centers. This returns contact information for the Heritage Centers and libraries in each Irish county.

Heritage Centers are a network of record collections across Ireland. Most counties have one or more centers, and each center maintains databases of local records that they will search for a fee.

As an example, search for the Doyle family from County Cavan. First, click on "Research," then "Irish Heritage Centers and Libraries," scroll down to County Cavan. The link leads to County Cavan Genealogy Research Centre and Cavan County Library. On the left side of your screen is a collection of Quick Links to other counties. Click on Monaghan, and you will arrive at a page listing Monaghan Ancestry at the Clogher Historical Society and the Monaghan County Library, along with direct links to their websites.

An Attractive Divorcee

by Linda Miller

Maps

Click on "Maps," the next item down on the Research tab, to access the first page of IGSI Maps. This page displays a color outline map of Ireland with every county numbered according to the key county list on the right-hand side of the page.

On the left-hand side of the page are links to various other Ireland maps. Click on "County Map of Ireland (B/W)" and you'll see a more standard map of the island. From this list, you can also access a map of Canada and a map of the United States.

Next Steps

The section on "Research Guidelines," the next step on the Research tab, offers plenty of information on how to research your Irish roots. It serves as a research reference for both the beginning researcher and for one well on the way to building an Irish family history.

In the next article exploring the IGSI website, we'll delve into more treasures in the Research tab: how to start your Irish research, where to look for records, Irish places, Irish history and more.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, IL. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

"Don't look too deep. You might find a horse thief", my uncle teased. I laughed and ignored him. After all, my family members had never been anything other than law-abiding rule followers. I would have actually welcomed finding a horse thief or two. I pursued my family history research, plowing through libraries, historical societies, and courthouses; reading old newspapers; and making trips to Ireland, Canada and locations around the United States. Gradually, my family tree grew not just with places and dates but with details of the lives of the previous generations. All except for one of my mother's uncles and his large family.

> "Mom, what ever happened to your Uncle Patrick's family?"
>
> "Oh, they moved away."
>
> "Well, why don't I ever hear anything about them? Nobody talks about them. Where are they? It's like they dropped off the face of the earth!"
>
> "Well, they moved away around 1929. They ended up in California."
>
> "Yeah, but why aren't they in touch?"
>
> "Well, they aren't really out of touch. I visited my cousin Sarah the last time I went to California."

I sensed there was more to the story and there was. Eventually, my research led me to San Diego. My sister was with me when a librarian at the San Diego public library provided the answers. My heart skipped several beats as I read the San Diego newspaper from several days in 1951. The first one featured my mother's family name in bold, front-page headlines followed by the word, MANHUNT and photos of my mother's cousins and her aunt. My mother's first cousin had shot and killed his sister, who was referred to as *"an attractive divorcee"*. What did her appearance or marital status have to do with this, I wondered. The next several issues told of his flight across the southwest. He died at a roadblock in Arizona in a shoot-out with the police. He was 21 years old. So much for horse-thieves.

The newspaper stories revealed that, unbelievably, the family held a double funeral for the brother and sister and buried them side by side in a San Diego cemetery. You can guess where our next stop was. Not only did we find them there but also their parents and a couple of other siblings.

What does a family history writer do with a discovery like that? When we returned from San Diego, I told my mom what we had learned and immediately regretted it. She cried and told me the version of the truth she had been told. She believed it all these years until now. The story went that a gun went off while her cousin was cleaning it and it killed his sister. He took his own life in despair. While in California, I contacted one of my mother's younger cousins and learned another explanation circulating in the family there. This version told of a mentally ill young man (the truth) who killed his sister but there the truth ended. This story put the focus on the San Diego Police Depart-

ment, whose officers allegedly came to the home after the crime and shot the brother "in the living room, in front of his parents".

The story had been buried and distorted for forty years and may have stayed that way but for me. What responsibility did I have now, I wondered. Should I continue to keep the truth buried? I hesitated to write about it or even document it in my research because there were living family members who would be hurt to learn the truth. In the end, I decided to include the dates, location and causes of death of them both in the online genealogy, but not the story of what happened. That remains in my private records.

When I write about family members who are gone, I try to remember that they were human and they made mistakes. I don't think every stumble in a person's life needs to be revealed to the world but in this case, what happened was central to the lives of two young people. As family historians, I don't believe we should engage in altering history or distorting the truth.

Tyler Schulze, who tracked down his own black sheep, became "so enthused by his discovery that he launched http://www.blacksheepancestors.com, a website with directions on how to track down a family felon".[1]

The well known Megan Smolenyak, chief family historian for *Ancestry.com*, said, "We love finding out that a great-great-grandfather was a bigamist or something. It's unique. Those family secrets we used to hide we now celebrate."

Ms. Smolenyak, whose great-grandfather murdered her great-grandmother, was the genealogist who uncovered the family links between civil-rights leader Al Sharpton and segregationist politician Strom Thurmond. She also recently discovered that Wayne Gretzky's grandfather left behind a young wife in Belarus when he immigrated to the United States in 1912.[2]

One thing that makes researching black sheep so interesting is that most records we find about our ancestors document very normal, routine things and don't have much information. Records on criminal ancestors are just the opposite. There are detailed paper trails with newspaper accounts, court records and prison or jail records. It doesn't get much more insightful and interesting.

If you haven't looked for black sheep in your own family, you might want to start. "The black sheep are a lot more interesting," says Schultze. "I would be really surprised if somebody couldn't find a single black sheep in their family." He estimates that one in 10 of his ancestors have left behind some evidence of involvement in unlawful activity – a few cow thieves and an axe-murder victim among them. "I'm not embarrassed by it," Mr. Schulze says. "I mean, it's pretty crazy, but at least it makes for a good story to tell."[3]

In preparing this story, I checked for a newspaper story in Arizona about the shootout involving my mother's cousin. I found a small article in the *Nevada State Journal* in Reno, Nevada, and there it was again. The victim was referred to as *"an attractive divorcee"*.

End Notes

1 White, Patrick. "Black Sheep, Good Sheep" in Globe and Mail June 19, 2007, viewed on the website, http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070619.wxlgenealogy19/BNStory/lifeFamily/home

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

Linda Miller is the president of the Irish Genealogical Society International. She volunteers as the bookstore manager and leads the IGSI writing group located in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a member of the Association of Personal Historians and a certified Soliel Lifestory Network teacher who offers lifewriting workshops and other memoir services. A former police officer, Linda lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area.

Fraternal Organizations' Websites

by Mary Wickersham

Listed below are some websites about fraternal organizations.

Ancient Order of Hibernians in America: The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a Catholic, Irish American Fraternal Organization founded in New York City in 1836. Its website provides detailed organizational history. The Archives section provides AOH directories for 1884 and 1902 are available. The 1902 directory includes ladies' groups; it is a very large portable document format (PDF) file, so close other software before you open it. http://www.aoh.com

Daughters of the American Revolution: The DAR is a lineage-based organization dating back to as early as 1890. Its website provides a Patriot Index Lookup Service, where you can submit a request online providing the details of the men and women "whose service (between 1775 and 1783) has been established by the National Society". Check the genealogy link at http://www.dar.org, or go to http://www.dar.org/natsociety/pi_lookup.cfm for the form.

Freemasonry: Freemasons is a fraternal organization dating from the late 1500s and is worldwide in membership. Various websites offer information on this organization: general information (but no genealogy) at http://web.mit.edu/dryfoo/masonry/ Background information related to genealogy searches on the organization of Masons http://bessel.org/genealogy.htm

Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War: The GAR was a fraternal organization of veterans of the Civil War; it was formally dissolved in 1956. Its successor was the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The Sons' website has a research page with links to other sites as well as pages within its own site. http://www.suvcw.org/research.htm

Independent Order of Odd Fellows: This international fraternal organization started in North America in 1819. The website provides some information about family history research: membership records are kept at the local jurisdiction; contact information is available for the jurisdictions. This page gives advice as to how to request a records search. http://www.ioof.org/genealogy.html

Knights of Columbus: The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal benefits and charitable organization. General information about the organization can be found at http://www.kofc.org/un/index.cfm They have a "Find a Council" feature that allows one to select a country, region and town name or a zip/postal code for a list of local councils at http://www.kofc.org/un/officers/findcouncil/index.cfm A contact form is provided to send an email to the contact person for each council, and links are provided to separate websites for some councils.

Modern Woodmen of America: This fraternal benefit society started in Illinois in 1883. In addition to a history of the organization, the website provides an explanation of grave markers and jewelry. http://www.modern-woodmen.org/Public/AboutUs/History/

Cyndi's List: This links directly to the page on "Societies and Groups – Fraternal Organizations" where the list is long and varied. Museums and libraries, newsgroups and publications related to the topic are listed as well. http://www.cyndislist.com/soc-frat.htm

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Mary Wickersham writes the "100 Years Ago in the News" column with her sister, Sheila Northrop. She is a member of IGSI as well as treasurer for the Minnesota Genealogical Society and chair of its Research Committee.

Ireland's ruins are historic emotions surrendered to time.

Horace Sutton

Get Your Membership Free For One Year!

by Diane Lovrencevic

You can share the fun and excitement of researching family history by giving your Irish friends and family members gift memberships in the Irish Genealogical Society International. You already know the exhilarating experience that family history researchers experience as they travel the fascinating road of discovery and learn the facts and stories of their immigrant ancestors from Ireland. Now you can help someone else experience the enjoyment of the fastest growing hobby in North America.

When you purchase two gift memberships between January 1 and March 31, 2009:

- **You will receive** a one-year complimentary membership for yourself and a 20% discount coupon for the IGSI bookstore.
- **Your gift recipients will receive** a 20% discount coupon for the IGSI bookstore. The coupon will accompany our letter announcing your generous gift of a complimentary IGSI membership.

As the premier international Irish genealogical association, our members receive an amazing array of benefits:

- Access to the Member section of the IGSI website at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org which includes:
  - IGSI online member Surname Database with contact information for other IGSI members
  - Research Databases
  - *The Septs* past issues
  - *Ginealas eNewsletter*
- One-year subscription to *The Septs*, IGSI's award-winning quarterly journal. You can download back issues of *The Septs* from the IGSI website to help with your research.
- Irish genealogical research assistance at low cost. We are here to help our members.
- Free access to the IGSI (MGS) Library in South St. Paul, Minnesota.
- The IGSI bookstore featuring some of the best Irish genealogical books, CDs and maps available.
- Discounts on books and CDs through Eneclann
- Discount subscription to Irish Origins.
- Email notification of IGSI events
- Discounts on IGSI programs
- Occasional opportunities for IGSI family history research trips

Take advantage of this offer between January 1 and March 31, 2009. Use the gift membership form included in this journal or make your purchase online at our website. If you purchase your gift memberships on our website (www.IrishGenealogical.org), please email us at membership@IrishGenealogical.org to start your free membership or, if you are already a member, to extend your membership for one year at no cost. Contact us about this or any information regarding this promotion at membership@IrishGenealogical.org.

This promotion is part of our 2009 Membership Drive. Help boost our membership by buying your gift memberships today!

Diane Lovrencevic is the 2nd Vice-President of the Irish Genealogical Society, International among other volunteer positions for the organization. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of publications for IGSI, is editor of the website and has recently started the IGSI eNewsletter. Diane has been researching her family history for 20 years and has moved on to her husband's Irish ancestors. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Irish Genealogical Society International
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Indicate Membership Category

❑ General ($25) ❑ International ($35) ❑ Electronic ($25)

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Mail to
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South St. Paul, MN 55075

http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

Researching with IGSI at Salt Lake City

by Diane Lovrencevic

The IGSI 2009 research trip is waiting for you. It is research where you can find ancestors quickly. You won't wait on microfilm to be shipped from afar. You don't need to worry about only having one source to find your family's name, just move from one film to another! If your ancestors aren't mentioned in one book, there are often dozens more in which you may find them!

Date of trip: September 15-20, 2009

Cost of trip: $475 for single room and $262 for double room.

Deposit: $200 deposit due for single room; $150 deposit due for double room. Deposit due at time of registration.

Early Bird Special: $450 for single room and $238 for double room. Early Bird Registration must be made prior to March 15, 2009

Transportation to Salt Lake City is not provided in the tour package. Attendees must book their own flights. A complimentary shuttle from the airport will be available for those who arrive in Salt Lake City by 11:00 p.m. and depart the hotel after 6:00 a.m.

Using LDS library's collection, it's one stop shopping for many of your genealogical questions. You will have access to:

- more than 2.4 million rolls of microfilmed genealogical records
- 742,000 microfiche
- 310,000 books, serials, and other formats
- 4,500 periodicals
- 700 electronic resources

Pre-trip planning is an integral part of the experience. IGSI will send registered participants a list of suggestions on what to do to hit the library prepared. IGSI will offer two classes in preparation of the trip at the MGS library in South St. Paul. Handouts of these classes will be sent to participants unable to attend.

You'll be staying within walking distance of the library at The Best Western Salt Lake Plaza Hotel at Temple Square. Rooms have been secured for individual or double occupancy. We will make the arrangements and deal with any special needs you may have. Your shuttle to and from the hotel will be arranged for you.

Two special evenings have been arranged for your entertainment: a Welcome Reception and a Wrap Up Dinner. Take this time to meet and mingle with other members of IGSI.

The best reason of all to go on this trip is to join others doing what we love best, researching.

Make checks payable to the Irish Genealogical Society International (or IGSI) and send to:

IGSI
Salt Lake City Research Tour
1185 Concord St. North
South St. Paul, MN 55075

For more information, contact Diane Lovrencevic at Trip2009@IrishGenealogical.org.

Reservations to receive the Early Bird Special rate are due March 15

2009 Salt Lake City Research Trip

Final reservations due July 15

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

Courtship in Ireland

An Irish boy married when he has a rid house and an Irish girl just when she pleases. Sometimes she so pleases while yet her years are few; at other times she is content to wait upon wisdom. In the latter case, of course, she makes a wise choice, but in the former almost always a lucky one, for luck is the guardian angel of the Irish.

"You're too young to marry yet, Mary," the mother said when Mary pleaded that she should grant Laurence O'Mahony a particular boon.

"If you only have patience, mother. I'll cure myself of that fault," was Mary's reply.

"And she's never been used to work, Laurence," the mother said to the suitor discouragingly.

"If you only have patience, ma'am," was Laurence's reply to this, "I'll cure her of that fault." And he did too—

Seamus McManus in *Lippincott's Monthly Magazine*, as quoted in *The Bucks County* [Pennsylvania] *Gazette*, 19 Feb 1909

Foresters' Officers

Mr. Davidson, of Winnipeg, is Chosen as District High Chief Ranger

High Secretary Speaks

George Faulkner, high secretary, in usual happy vein, traced the history of the order from its inception. He pointed out that the order was first love, because he believed it to be the strongest fraternal organization in Canada from every viewpoint. Fraternity in this order, as in all other such organizations was exactly what they made of it. If they were true to their principles then the fraternity showed itself, and no order offered more inducements along this line than their order.

. . .

C. E. Britton, past district high chief ranger of the order, took advantage of the fact that St. Patrick's day was being celebrated, to pay a glowing tribute to the Irish. In reference to the relation of man to man he declared that the highest tribute be paid to any person lay in being able to say to him, "He is a man." The order should emulate this ideal and emulating it the fraternity would progress.
The Winnipeg Free Press, 18 Mar 1909

Waterford

A Nationalist demonstration was held at Ballyduff Upper, Co. Waterford, on Dec. 8, to protest against the eviction of three tenants on the Grant Estate, Raspberry Hill. Sixty police were present, and the promoters were informed that they could not hold the meeting at the place originally selected, and which adjoined the evicted farms. Mr. P. O'Gorman, chairman, Waterford Co. Council, presided, and addresses were delivered by Messrs, J. J. O'Shea, M.P.; Dr. Dennehy, P. F. Walsh, Wm. Stack and others.
The Irish Standard, 2 Jan 1909

City in Brief

On Monday evening last, at Columbus hall, an excellent entertainment was given by the Sinn Fein society. Choice musical numbers by Mr. and Mrs. Jas. O'Donnell and a recitation, "The Exile of Erin" by Leonard O'Donnell, were part of the attractive program. I. Ceslins read a paper on "The Claims of Ireland to Nationhood" and Mrs. J. J. Daley interestingly told of her recent trip to the Emerald Isle. Exhibitions of Irish dancing were given by J. I. Casey, P. Y. O'Donnell and G. J. Collins. The next meeting will be held Feb. 1, when the regular election of officers will take place.
The Irish Standard, 9 Jan 1909 Page 5

Emmet's Birthday Observed In Butte

Literary And Musical Programme At Hibernia Hall

Many Delightful Features

Address in Irish, talk on organization and oration by W. K. Dwyer, superintendent of public schools of Anaconda-Beautiful singing.

Hibernia hall was crowded last evening, the occasion being the celebration of the birthday of Robert Emmet under the auspices of the Robert Emmet Literary association. A literary and musical programme was admirably rendered, a number of songs in Irish being highly enjoyed. P. F. Boland acted as chairman. The address in Irish by J. P. Moriarty was a delightful feature of the evening. Michael Gavigan recited with good effect the speech of Emmet from the dock. Judge J. J. Lynch gave and address on the Irish organization which was replete with interesting historical facts. The principle address of the evening was delivered by W. K. Dwyer, superintendent of public schools of Anaconda.
The Anaconda [Montana] *Standard*, 8 Mar 1909

100 Years Ago

Charity's Cause Gets Big Push

Annual Festival of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Bernard's Church

On the Monday before Ash Wednesday, as regularly as Lent itself, the annual charity festival of the St. Vincent de Paul conference of St. Bernard's parish is held in city hall, its measure of success seems to expand with each recurring year, till now the attendance has reached such proportions that the capacity of the hall is taxed to the utmost.

. . .

The big event of the afternoon was the work of two local youths, known to the stage as Martin Brothers. Oriental jugglers, acrobats and dancers. They succeeded in pleasing the vast throng of little ones and helped to make the afternoon memorable for the children. The little ones had full swing in the hall from 1:30 to 4:30, and during the period city hall was a busy scene.

The Fitchburg [Massachusetts] *Sentinel, 23 Feb 1909*

News from Ireland

Westmeath

At Mullingar Guardians, Mr. Ronan presiding, it was decided that the North and South Westmeath Executive invite J. E. Redmond, M. P.; L. Ginnell and Sir W. Nugent, to the anti-ranching meeting to be held in Mullingar. On the suggestion of the chairman, Mr. Lennon, proposed that Mr. J. P. Hayden, M. P., be also invited, as they had decided to bury everything. Mr. E. Egan said he hoped this would put an end to differences in North and South Westmeath, and the resolution was passed unanimously.

The Irish Standard, 16 Jan 1909

Membership Categories

by Diane Lovrencevic, IGSI Membership Chair

IGSI developed new membership categories (see the October 2008 issue of *The Septs*) to reach the needs of our membership. These new categories start this month (January 2009). All current members will remain in the General Membership category unless they request the move to the electronic category when renewing. Members want a choice and the new categories give them that.

Benefits of Membership

- Membership number to access the Member section of the IGSI website.
- Subscription to *The Septs*, IGSI's award-winning quarterly journal.
- Download of back issues of *The Septs* from the IGSI website.
- Access to IGSI Surname Database with contact information.
- Email notification of the IGSI Ginealas eNewsletter.
- Irish genealogical research assistance at low cost.
- Free access to the IGSI (MGS) Library in South St. Paul, MN.
- Bookstore of the best Irish Genealogical books, CDs and maps available.
- Discount on books and CDs through Eneclann and subscription to Irish Origins.
- Email notification of IGSI events.
- Discount on programs offered by IGSI.

New Membership Categories

General Membership ($25/US $35/International) will include all that we currently offer to individual and family memberships. This membership will provide a print copy of *The Septs* as well as all other member benefits.

Electronic Membership ($25/US and International) will be a paperless membership. These members will receive the *The Septs* electronically in pdf format, rather than in print, and retain all other member benefits.

Journal Subscription ($20/US and $30/International) while not really a membership, offers libraries, genealogical societies, and similar organizations the opportunity to purchase a subscription to *The Septs* without receiving member benefits.

Increase for International Members

The increased cost for International General Memberships is due to overseas postage. If international members renew as Electronic Members, there will be no additional cost.

The new application form can be found on page 50 of this issue.

Gift Memberships are available either through the website or by mail. The new Gift Membership application can be found on page 41 of this issue.

If you have questions, please contact us at: Membership@IrishGenealogical.org.

Scattered Emeralds

This is a new column which will introduce and highlight small gems of Irish genealogy resources in museums, libraries and other locales. You may find something in your neighborhood or in a location to plan a visit. Please send a short description of your favorite Irish research gem to Septseditor@IrishGenealogical.org. We will include something new in each issue.

GAAA (Gaelic American Athletic Association) IRISH LIBRARY

In early 1996 Mr. Roy Phelps of Niagara Falls, New York, presented a gift collection of 300 Irish history and related books which became the core of an Irish library at the Buffalo Irish Center in Buffalo, New York. The library also houses research and reference materials of the Buffalo Irish Genealogical Society (BIGS). It has evolved into a unique ethnic library in Western New York.

The Irish Center was designed to enable the West New York Irish-American community to share a common space where they could foster interest in their Irish heritage. The Gaelic American Athletic Association (GAAA), was formed to own and operate the Buffalo Irish Center.

The centerpiece of the Phelps collection is a limited-edition reproduction of the *Book of Kells*, an illuminated, Celto-Saxon style rendition of the Four Gospels. Other unique reference materials in this gem of a library include:

- The complete set of *Buffalo Irish Times* newspapers from Feb/Mar 1992 to the present
- *The Royal Irish Constabulary: A Complete Alphabetical List of Officers and Men, 1816-1922*
- The 16-volume collection of Albert E. Casey's *O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*
- *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* by Samuel Lewis
- *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland*, based on the 1851 Census of Ireland
- Individual phonebooks from Ireland that include regional phonebooks within the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland
- *Index to Griffith's Valuation of Ireland, 1848-1864*: an Index of Surnames and Locations (Family Tree Maker CD #188)
- The "Little Black Box of Surnames" – index cards which list queries for quick referencing.
- Microfilms of Holy Cross Cemetery in Lackawanna; indexing of the cemetery Day Books is in progress.

BIGS members assist patrons with genealogical research every 1st & 2nd Saturday and the 3rd Tuesday each month from October thru June or by appointment throughout the summer months.

For more information on the Irish Library or the Irish center, check the websites: (BIGS) http://www.geocities.com/dwrd_patton and (Buffalo Irish) at http://www.buffaloirish.com

Information provided by Donna Shine, IGSI member and co-founder of BIGS

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians continued from page 33

States, by helping them find employment, by giving them the opportunity to be with others like themselves, and by helping them to overcome discouragements and homesickness. The motto of the Ladies group is "Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity"; their patron is St. Brigid.

The group today is more of a Catholic Action group with activities of spiritual, civic and charitable nature. Their activities are many. Among them, the National Board sponsors an annual Irish Essay contest for students and a partial scholarship to Trinity College in Washington, DC. They assist in funding a chair at the University of Notre Dame for the study of the history of the Catholic Church in the U.S. and Irish contributions to that history.

The Minnesota L.A.O.H. has been a very active group: holding the first state L.A.O.H. convention, establishing a "fraternal benefits fund" for its members, and contributing to local scholarship programs. In 1925, membership in Minnesota's L.A.O.H. numbered 8,210 – the highest membership in the country – but has decreased since then. They played a prominent role in the Women's Suffrage movement, particularly in the Midwest; they supported the Irish cause of reunification in the 1940s. In 1978, they organized the first Irish Heritage Fair in Minnesota. This has become an annual event with its own planning group – but the L.A.O.H. continues a visible support.

Information supplied by Anna Mae Hogan, President of the Ramsay County (MN) L.A.O.H.

Need a Little Research Assistance?

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI staff search our Library for information requested by a current member.

With your request for research assistance, send

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- *Emigrant Savings Bank, New York* - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- *O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- *The Search for Missing Friends*, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot*.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of tube.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge.

Stay Up to Date

by Diane Lovrencevic

Keeping our members informed is important to IGSI. As our society increases the services and benefits of membership, it becomes more important to have the correct contact information of our members. Your postal and email addresses are your lifeline to information from IGSI. Your mailing address is critical for receiving The Septs; your email address is IGSI's mode of contact for other information from the society. For the members who do not have email, we will make every effort to keep you informed by mail.

Email allows us to send information to our members faster and cheaper. We find that more than 99% of our members have email, although some emails are old and no longer working. In October, we contacted all members to authenticate their email addresses. Those members with bad email addresses were contacted by letter asking them to update their member information.

You can make the change to your adresses online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information); you can mail your changes to IGSI at 1185 Concord Street North, Suite 218, South St. Paul, Minnesota 55075; or you can send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org.

Don't miss anything. Keep your membership information up to date.

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

October , November, December 2008

by Beth Mullinax, IGSI Librarian

Purchases:

G014.31 – *An Daonchartlann. The Official Opening of the Archive of the Genealogical Society of Ireland, Martello Tower, Seapoint, County Dublin*, edited by Margaret Control. IGS #31. Published by the Genealogical Society of Ireland, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, 2004, 42 p., illus.

H533 – *In West Cork Long Ago*, by Flor Crowley. Published by Mercier Press, Dublin and Cork, 1980 (1979), 127 p.

H535 – *Ireland: Graveyard of the Spanish Armada*, by T. P. Kilfeather. Published by Anvil Books, Dublin, Ireland, 1979 (1967), 142 p.

H538 – *Finding Tipperary. A Guide to the Resources of the Tipperary Studies Department, Tipperary County Library, Thurles, County Tipperary*, by Denis G. Marnane & Mary Guinan Darmody. Published by County Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee, 2006, 184 p., illus.

IM40 – *Finding Your Chicago Irish*, by Sharon Shea Bossard. Published by Lake Claremont Press, Chicago, IL, 2008, 198 p., illus.

J179 – *Your Irish Ancestors. A Guide for Family Historians*, by Ian Maxwell. Published by Pen & Sword Family History, South Yorkshire, England, 2008, 194 p., illus. [Watch Book Sales]

Canadian – *Men of Upper Canada: Militia Nominal Rolls 1828-1829*, by Bruce S. Elliott, Dan Walker & Ffawne Stratford-Devai. Published by the Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto, ON, 1995, 376 p.

Canadian – *Index of Land Claim Certificates of Upper Canada Militiamen Who Served in the War of 1812-1813*. Published by the Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto, ON.

Donations:

H532 – *Kerry Memories*, by Bertha Beatty (nee Creagh). Second edition with the notes of Maurice G. McElligott. Published by the North Kerry Literary Trust, Listowel, County Kerry, Ireland, 2007 (1st Edition 1939), 104+ p., illus., indexed. Donated by Beth L. Mullinax, Fridley, MN.

H538 – *William Molyneux of Dublin, 1656 – 1698*, by P. H. Kelly. Published by The Leinster Leader Ltd., Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland, 1982, 176 p., illus., index. Donated by Beth L. Mullinax, Fridley, MN.

Book #1-D – *Irish Sources of Information for Towey Family Research*, Donated by Virginia Mahoney, Maplewood, MN.

FH – *Generations of Morans: Branching From Mayo to the New World, 1855 through 2007*, by Kathleen Moran Tully. Published by Author, 2007,193 p., illus. Donated by Kathleen Moran Tully. [Great book to look at if you are planning to write your own family history.]

FH – *Descendants of John Hawkshaw of Louisburgh, County Mayo, Ireland through His Second Son, James Hawkshaw* (1795-1848): *A Personal Narrative* by Evelyn Hawkshaw Rogers. Published by Evelyn Hawkshaw Rogers, Truth or Consequences, NM, 1997, 145 p., indexed, illus. Donated by Michael Driscoll, South St. Paul, MN.

FH – *Ancestors & Descendants of C. Marie Burns & Edwin John Kraemer. With Michael Murphy, John Potter, Patrick Walsh, Adam Hutter & Christopher Gramer Lines*. Compiled and donated by B. Ann Kraemer Smith Neviaser, Madison, WI, 2008, 241 p., illus., index.

FH – *Genealogy of James Bourke & Anne O'Neill*, by James Burke. Published & donated by James Burke, Syracuse, NY, 2007, 355 p., illus.

Misc. – *The Tangle-Coated Horse, and Other Tales. Episodes From the Fionn Saga*, by Ella Young. Published by David McKay Company, Inc., New York, NY, 1957 (1929), 187 p., illus. Donated by Sue Kratsch, West St. Paul, MN.

Beth Mullinax is a past president and has held various other Board positions of IGSI since 1983. She lectures on various research topics, basic and advanced, throughout Minnesota and several other states. She led four genealogy research trips to Ireland and has been a contributor to The Septs.

Having been the IGSI librarian since the library's inception, she has been instrumental in building the Irish research collection housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's Library to its status as one of the best Irish Collections in the USA.

People and Places Series

A brief genealogical history of the family origins in Ireland. Includes bibliographical references, pictures and maps. A short list of the family's biography and significant events of the family.

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S052	O'Malley People and Places (97 pp)
S054	O'Neill People and Places (70 pp)
S067	Dunne People and Places (119 pp)
S084	Mac Carthy People and Places (79 pp)
S085	(O) Kelly People and Places (98 pp)

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bookstore Order Form

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Due to the rate of the dollar overseas, prices are subject to change. Indicate date of issue books were found. **Prices good for 90 days beyond publishing date.**

Shipping and Handling Cost	
1st Item	$4.60
Additional Items	$ .50
All items will be sent Priority Mail	

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Irish Genealogical Society International
1185 Concord Street North, Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Make check payable to: ***Irish Genealogical Society Int'l***

Payment must be made in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. Bank.

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Irish Records Sources: for Family & Local History

James G. Ryan

This is the most inclusive and easy-to-use resource for Irish historical records. It provides the researcher with a comprehensive listing of available sources for Irish written records. Organized by county. (668 pp.) Order Book #J056 **$38.50**

The Course of Irish History

T.W. Moody and F.X. Martin

This book has been the core text in both Irish and American Universities for 3 decades. Considered the definitive history among the Irish themselves, it is the essential text for anyone interested in the history of Ireland. (462 pp.) Order Book #H001 **$18.95**

Memorials of the Dead: Counties Galway & Mayo

Eneclann CD

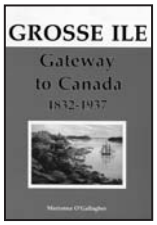
This CD includes full transcripts of the surviving 3000 memorials found in the 128 graveyards in the western half of counties Galway and Mayo. There are 8,000 names, detailed maps and indexes of names, addresses and occupations. IBM compatible. Order CD #C124.1 **$69.95**

Now You Can Order Your Books Online with PayPal at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

Grosse Ile – Gateway to Canada 1832-1937

Maranna O'Gallagher

The running of the St. Lawrence Quarantine Station coincided with the famine migration making most of the immigrants from Ireland. This is the heartbreaking story of those fleeing the famine only to find danger aboard ship. The genealogist will find a list of 600 orphans, names of ships boarded and photos. (185 pp.) Order Book #L010 **$16.95**



Richard Griffith And His Valuations Of Ireland

James R. Reilly

All Irish genealogists rely on Griffith's Valuations to locate ancestral homelands and discover relationships. The volume explains its origins and limitations as well as how to best use it in your research. (108 pp) Order Book #G035 **$25.95**

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Compiled and Edited by Stephen McCormac

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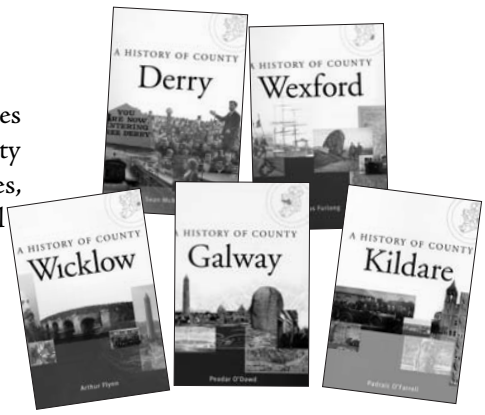

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The February Quarterly Meeting will feature IGSI's annual Brick Wall Q & A.

What better way to find answers to those brick walls you bang into than to have your questions answered by IGSI's research specialists. No matter where you live you can send in questions for the panel to select. If your question is selected we will contact you with the answer after the program. Send questions by mail at the address below or by email to questions@IrishGenealogical.org. Pose a very specific question and tell us what you already know about the person or event. Send questions to IGSI by February 1st, 2009. Not all questions may be answered during the program.

Saturday, February 21, 2009

Held at Minnesota Genealogical Library,
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Onsite Registration:	8:30 AM
Business Meeting:	9:00 AM
Program:	10:00 AM
Cost:	$10 for IGSI Members
	$15 for Non-Members

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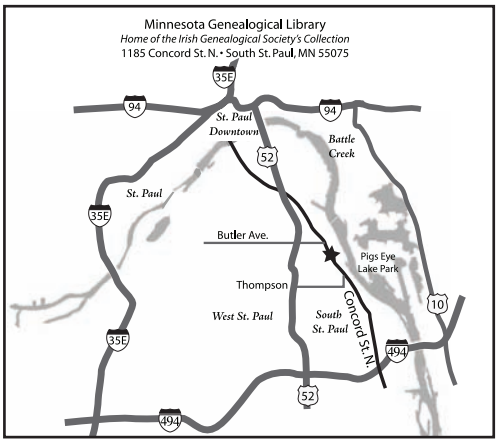
Home of the Irish Genealogical Society International Research Library

Location of IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



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The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

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An t-Alöredn (April) 2009

The Septs

Volume 30, Number 2

Irish Genealogical Society International

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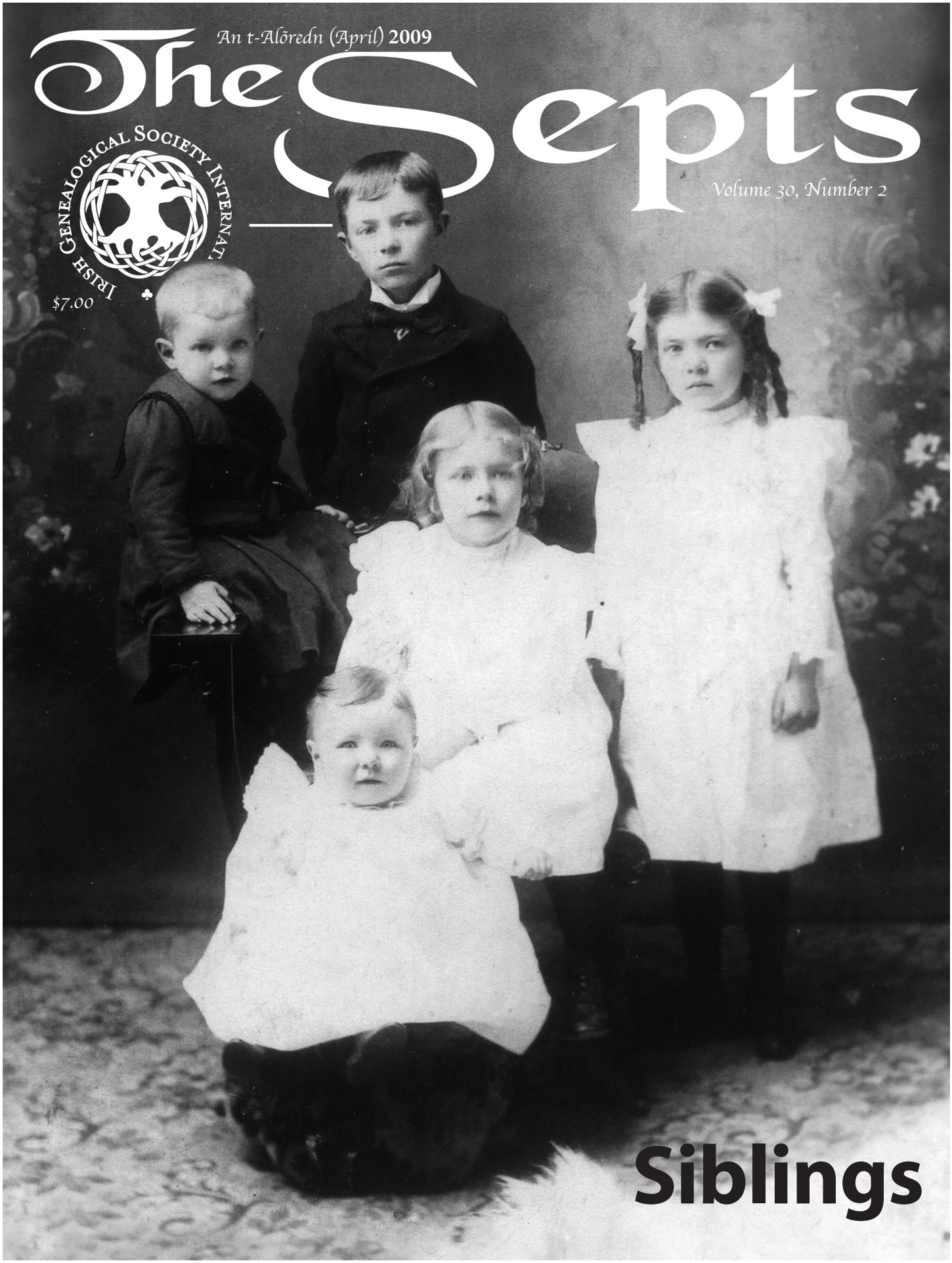

Siblings

2009 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 10, 2009
FEBRUARY 14, 2009
MARCH 14, 2009
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(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Informal class for beginners offered at the library 10:30 am on the above dates. Other classes offered throughout the year. MGS Library number 651-455-9057.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218 • South St. Paul, MN 55075
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Material intended for publication is due the 1st of February, May, August and November. Material should be emailed to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org, Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org or mailed to the address above, ATTN: Editor, and may be published or edited at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2008-2009

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John and Margaret Deeren Bennett family. This photo taken on Margaret's 90th birthday includes Francis, Edward, Bernard, William, Leo, Anna, Margaret, Laura and Mary.

Cover photo is of the five oldest Bennett children William, Edward, Anna, Laura and Leo. *Photos courtesy of Judy Dungan.*

President's Letter

Leaders for the Future

by Linda Miller

We are making plans for the busiest season of the year for IGSI. Our annual meeting and Board elections take place in May. Our summer activities include the fabulous and fun Irish Fair on Harriet Island in St. Paul. Thousands of Fair goers enjoy Irish music and dance, sample treats, attend workshops, shop for all things Irish and, in general, have a great time. Hundreds of people stop at our exhibit to learn about their Irish surname and all the ways we can help them uncover their Irish family history.

Even with all these fun events, our officers' and board members' thoughts are never far from the realization that times are tough for genealogical societies. Family history research is still one of the fastest growing hobbies around, but many societies seem to be on a fast track to extinction. Did you know that membership is declining in most societies? The Internet is the lure, and it has been the lure for several years now. It's fast and cheap; many people assume that everything they need is available there. That, of course, isn't true. David Rencher, the well known genealogist and speaker, says that the present model of genealogical societies is dead and, that to survive, the 2000 societies across the United States will have to go virtual.

Some have taken the message to heart and are making changes. Others haven't and they probably won't survive. We at IGSI know we can not turn things around by doing what we've always done. We have implemented many important changes over the past few years but we also know there is more to do. Change is hard, but it is necessary.

This is where you come in. If you want to see the Irish Genealogical Society survive and flourish, then it is the time to get involved. IGSI is a membership driven organization, meaning that membership fees are our main source of income. Today, our membership is just half of what it was seven or eight years ago, and our income has dropped with it. The trend continues.

If you have thought about stepping into a leadership position with IGSI , this is the time to offer your services. Do you have ideas of things IGSI should be doing or doing better, or a suggestion on how we could attract more members? Let us know what they are. We need your help as we set our agenda for the future. We will need leaders and other volunteers with skills and experience and who can commit to helping us set the direction and carry out the task of implementing change.

No matter where in the world you live, you can volunteer for the Irish Genealogical Society International. We need dozens of helping hands to handle the small tasks and daily business of the organization and to provide services to our members. This is what keeps our membership dues low and the benefits of belonging high. Among the variety of jobs available are some that you can do at home in the comfort of your computer chair. All you need are some reasonable typing skills and a word processing or spreadsheet program on your computer (Excel or Works do great), a passion for genealogy and a desire to "give a little back" to this passion. Here are some positions currently or soon to be available. Please look them over. I'm sure there is something you can do.

- Officers and Directors: The IGSI Board meets monthly for two hours. Some Board positions can be done from wherever the member lives. They can attend meetings via Skype. Our election takes place at the Annual Meeting each May; the terms of officers are for one year. Besides the five elected officers, there are five Board Directors with a variety of responsibilities.
- Bookstore Assistant
- E-newsletter Editor
- Events Coordinator
- Fundraising
- Lookups for members who live elsewhere
- Meeting Hospitality
- Membership Assistant
- Marketing/Publicity Assistant
- Project Workers: indexing, word processing, data entry
- Proofreaders for the journal and the e-newsletter
- Researchers: help others with their research

You may be very surprised at how few folks actually give their time and talents to run the organization. Most of them have been volunteering for years and I wonder and worry when they will decide they have done enough. They do an amazing job providing the services you use in your search for your family history. With your help and fresh ideas, we can take this organization to the next level.

Some of our volunteer positions require a significant time commitment; others can be done in a short time. Some are ongoing commitments; others are one-

President's Letter continued on page 85

Connecting Through Siblings

by Ann Eccles

Siblings. I guess that you could say that was why I started searching my own family history.

After my father's death, when my brothers and I were cleaning out his apartment, we came across some family papers in his desk. Among the copies of various records, I found: baptismal certificates for me and for my brothers, marriage records for my parents and for both sets of grandparents, and a birth record for my Dad's father. This record stated that my grandfather was the eighth living of eleven children born to his mother.

That gave me pause. Where were the other seven? I knew my father was an only child; I think I assumed the same of my grandfather. Both my paternal grandparents were born in Rockville, Connecticut, a small town northeast of Hartford. In the 1950s, my family would visit there during the summer months – but always with relatives from my grandmother's side of the family.

It may have been mere curiosity, or the reference librarian with a new question to work, or the mystery reader hoping to discover the solution before the end of the book. Take your pick. But I wanted to find and learn more about my grandfather's brothers and sisters – to be able to fit him into a larger family. I have now, to a certain extent. All the Eccles had left the town or died long before the 1950s. His brothers moved to other states for jobs in the woolen mills; some of his sisters married and moved; the others died before 1930. I have yet to track down descendents of his siblings. I wonder if they, too, are unaware of the family connections that were lost so many decades ago.

In another line, I made a connection to a researcher through the mention of the children's names. Timothy O'Connor's youngest son was ordained a priest. The woman researching her great-grandfather knew of his brother, Fr. Mike. Seeing my message board posting that included both her ancestor's name and that of Fr. Mike convinced her that we should talk/meet. We have, and we have shared information. I knew more about Timothy's family; she had photos of Fr. Mike. We both benefited.

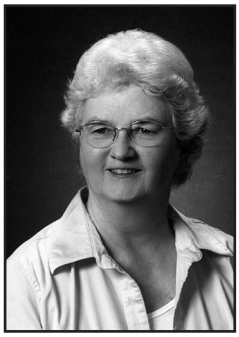
The articles in this issue will help and motivate you to use sibling research strategies to connect with your ancestors as well as with contemporary cousins. Colleen McClain and Maureen Reed have written for us in past issues and are welcome contributors again. Colleen McClain explains why we should research the family members related to our biological ancestor. What we may find through one of them may lead us to new understanding of our ancestor's family life we never expected. Maureen Reed, using examples from her own family research, shows that research information on an ancestor comes from many directions and sources. Tom Rice gives solid reasons why we should study siblings. Jay Fonkert explains what can be found in various records – and how the full picture of an ancestor's life comes from piecing the information together.

We welcome two authors – Dwight Radford and David Ouimette – to *The Septs*. We previously re-published a few of Dwight Radford's articles from *At Home and Abroad*. This is a new piece in which he shares some of his best strategies for finding an immigrant's origins. Thinking out of the box will provide some new sources to investigate. David Ouimette of FamilySearch shares with us the news and use of the newly accessible Irish Civil Registrations Indexes at *FamilySearch.org*. These online indexes are transcriptions from Family History Library microfilms. This definitely makes the searching easier.

Mary Wickersham suggests some websites for finding ancestral siblings and more current relatives. David Rencher concludes his two part examination of the Leslie Collection, the works deposited at PRONI. Kathleen Strickland continues her explanation of the IGSI website contents. And two first-time member writers – Kathy Deiss and Alison Emery – provide short pieces on their family research.

Two articles not to miss are the Membership Column and the President's column. It seems that the changes of Membership categories have confused even the best of us. Diane sheds some light on it. So, read it before you renew. And as Linda notes, we really do need volunteers. The old saying of "many hands make light work" certainly is applicable to us: the more people who help, the less work for each person. Contact one of us and pick up a small piece of the work.

It's all about connecting – and family. May your connections increase as you learn more about your families.



Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired and found almost every branch leading back to Ireland. She continues to explore her many Irish lines. She has volunteered at IGSI, working with the surname database and membership updates the last couple of years. She also volunteers for IGSI as a Board member, assisting in the library and with membership tasks.

Ancestral Siblings: Why We Search for Their Stories

by Colleen McClain

How many of our family legends begin, "...and there were three brothers who came to the new country from Ireland ..." Unfortunately, our family lore often only follows the trail of the brother, or sister, who was our immediate ancestor and loses sight of the siblings who traveled with them. Yet, restricting our search to the life story of only our biological forebear is like viewing our family history through only one window in the ancestral house. By also researching our ancestor's siblings we can look through other windows to see a wider landscape of the events, the opportunities, the constrictions, that shaped our ancestor's life and influenced our family heritage.

To understand why our ancestral siblings play such a vital role in unraveling the mysteries of our family legacy, we need to know why they were so crucial in the lives of our ancestors. Several reasons stand out.

Siblings as Historians

Why our ancestors made the choices they made, how they viewed the world and their place in it, centered around the historical context of their times. Tracing the life stories of siblings can often reveal a much fuller picture of the forces outside the family that shaped our ancestors' lives.

For instance, it was only through researching the siblings of my ancestor, Jane Henry of County Antrim, that I discovered, to my surprise, that her brother, a Presbyterian linen bleacher and merchant, had moved to Dublin where he joined the United Irishmen in 1792. There was his name listed alongside the likes of James Napper Tandy and Thomas Addis Emmet, leaders in the Rebellion of 1798. So it appeared that the staid, orderly Scots-Irish family of my ancestors were not as conservative as they appeared after all.

Another ancestral sibling, one of my Anderson family, Roman Catholics of County Carlow, was also stirring up rebellion at the same time. From his mill in Clonegal, the peaceful farmers of the area were secretly forging weapons and talking of revolt.

Such different families, divided socio-economically, religiously, and geographically, and yet forever linked together in the forge of history. If only our genealogical research had begun earlier so my father, the descendent of those stiff upper-lipped County Antrim Scots-Irish, and my mother, the descendent of the rebels of County Carlow, had known that both had family who fought on the same side!

Siblings Reveal Socio-economic Milieu

Sometimes the history of our ancestor is so limited that it's very difficult to learn much about them and the lives they led. But their siblings may have left a more substantial trail to follow. Such was the case with my Timmons family in County Carlow. I'd found baptismal records that included the name of the street where they lived, and the record of their marriage in a nearby rural parish. But it was discovering names of siblings that filled in the picture. Their stories took me to a small farm near the town of Carlow where the family had lived since at least the 1800s. Following land records, it became clear that the size of their farm gradually became smaller and smaller.

Other records revealed a sister, Bridget, who married a man named Walter Rice in the early 1800s. Baptismal records located Bridget and Walter in a rural area in County Carlow. But by 1832 they were in Carlow town living on the same street where my ancestor would arrive a few years later. Walter was a £10 householder, which entitled him to vote. The right to vote in Ireland had always been based on economic worth. But by 1832, the financial qualifications were so high that most of the Catholics in Ireland were excluded from voting. The 1831 Carlow census noted that the 9,012 residents of the town of Carlow occupied 1,334 homes, but only 350 households occupied homes valued at £10, so Walter was what these days we might call middle class. He was included in a list of "marksmen", meaning that he signed using his "mark" since he didn't know how to write. So clearly his middle class status didn't include a formal education.

Learning this background about the siblings of my County Carlow ancestor was like finding, not just another piece in a jigsaw puzzle, but a much more complete picture of a family struggling to hang on to a modicum of affluence finding themselves more and more disenfranchised in their own country. And it explained the almost fierce urgency, when my ancestor arrived in America, to recreate the status that had slipped away.

Sibling Hierarchy

In Ireland, the practice of primogeniture, introduced by the Normans, resulted in the eldest sibling being given the responsibility of carrying forward the family inheritance. Usually that meant the eldest male sibling inherited whatever properties his parents possessed. By keeping the property in the hands of only one of the siblings, the family estate stayed intact, thus increasing the wealth and influence of the family as a whole. In the Irish system, the tenderhearted parent who fairly divided the family possessions equally among all the children insured that none would have much in the end.

In exchange for inheriting the family farm, however, the elder sibling also assumed responsibility for looking after the welfare of his siblings. Through this practice, an inevitable hierarchical structure of family dynamics unfolded influencing sibling relationships. Elder siblings often took on the role of family decision makers at the top of a pecking order, doling out familial obligations, and inevitably stirring up both devotion and resentment.

To understand our ancestors, we need to know where they fit in the family hierarchy. In looking at my own forebears, I found some families clearly following the guidelines of primogeniture. The eldest son inherited the land, but worked to improve the livelihood of his younger siblings. The eldest daughter took on the role of family matriarch taking a special interest in looking after the welfare of nieces and nephews. This system operated like clockwork.

And then there were the families who did not stay with the program at all. For instance, in County Antrim there was the eldest brother, Henry Beattie, whose widowed mother refused to give him the rights of primogeniture. My ancestor, a middle child, was caught up in trying to make peace in the family. His younger siblings cheered their mother's decision and jeered the once powerful elder brother. Deprived of the role he thought to be rightfully his, Henry disappeared, never to be heard from again, throwing the entire family into trauma and guilt that lasted for generations. Before researching the family's history, I only knew the residual emotional dislocation in the family experience, but could find no cause for it as I searched the story of my own ancestor until uncovering the tale of the tragic elder brother. One more time, searching through a sibling's tale, there was an "Aha!" moment that explained so much that my family had carried, silently and secretly, for generations!

Sibling Chains

As the Irish took on the enormous task of migrating abroad, most participated in serial chains of migration, sending forerunners, usually unmarried young adults to test the waters, so to speak. When the first family members to arrive found a way to earn a livelihood, they were expected to help finance the migration of the rest of the family and supply them with at least temporary lodging and assistance when they arrived.

Whoever arrived first and managed to get settled often found themselves in a position of power in the family hierarchy, even if they weren't one of the elder siblings. After all, they were the ones who knew the ropes, and could help newcomers with vital information and advice. Or it could operate in reverse. The fact that they did arrive first could turn their role into one of subservience, as they were expected to subjugate their own needs to the needs of those who followed them. Putting their own hopes and longings first could seem like an act of disloyalty.

The dislocation of emigrating could easily reshuffle expectations especially in a country and at a time when Irish were unwelcome. Expediency rather than tradition could reorient the family hierarchy so that, rather than the first to arrive or the eldest sibling assuming the most powerful role in the family, that role was given to whichever sibling managed to find a job or secure a bit of land to farm.

In researching my family, I found serial migrations from Ireland aplenty. There were the proverbial three Enright brothers from County Cork who arrived in the port of New Orleans in 1850, and in a few months had found work upriver in Indiana. Their parents and younger siblings traveled the same route the following year. Before researching, I had assumed that my ancestor, Robert Enright, must have been an only child since our family was devoid of any hint of great aunts and uncles. It was a small, insular family of few relatives. By searching beyond identifying Robert's parents, I found not only his three brothers but discovered that Robert was the youngest of many siblings. I was surprised that, although his older siblings had named

their children after aunts and uncles, none of their children were named "Robert". Nor had Robert named his children after any of his siblings. Then I found their father's will, leaving everything to his youngest son, Robert, the lucky beneficiary of all the sacrifice and struggle of his older siblings who had paved the way for his success. Apparently, it did not set well, but did set up a pattern of distancing, cutoff relationships that persisted for generations. Without the search for siblings, I would not have had a clue as to why our family dynamic had evolved the way it did.

Sibling Spokes in the Wheel

The Irish were well experienced in leaning on each other for support and intimately acquainted with the difficulties of living in a hostile land, even though Ireland had been their homeland for centuries. So it was not surprising that as newly arrived immigrants, the Irish, more than most ethnic groups, relied on family networks in order to survive. Often as not, they had little choice but to cling together as they faced hostility and uncertainty in a strange, new land. As all the siblings lined up like spokes in a wheel, the family could roll on, over the harsh terrain. Not only their material and economic security but also the survival of their cultural continuity were at stake. In their quest to earn a place of respectability in a country where they were less than welcomed with open arms, the Irish survived by banding together.

But sometimes the band of brothers, and sisters, was so tightly knit that it chafed and constricted growth. Rather than propelling the individuals in the family forward, it packed them into such a dense, snugly packed circle, that no one could move. Breaking free from the pack was often difficult and painful. The family "golden boy" would receive all the resources of the family so at least one of the siblings could succeed. Or a designated daughter would take on the caretaker role tending aging parents or orphaned younger siblings freeing her brothers and sisters to move on. The family "black sheep" would fall by the wayside. Finding where our ancestor fit, or didn't fit, into the sibling circle of support can be quite an eye opener.

The picture of closely-knit sibling bonds became poignantly clear as I sorted through the many McClains in my ancestry. Illiterate and impoverished, they clung together for generations. How they kept in touch remains a mystery, but a clear pattern emerged. Over and over, their stories included making arduous journeys across unsettled lands to arrive in the same county as their sister or brother. Brothers and sisters helped build each other's houses. Orphaned children were raised by aunts and uncles. Brothers marched into the Civil War shoulder to shoulder, and left their worldly goods to their siblings when they returned fatally crippled. Their reliance upon each other that I discovered in researching their stories helped explain why it was so important to my grandfather McClain to make the long journeys home to Indiana from the wilds of Arizona in the early 1900s. It explained why those photos of his siblings I would never meet and hadn't been able to name were so precious.

Siblings Needing to be Known

Finally, I suspect that we who research our family histories are called to a larger role than compiling a long list of who begat whom. In some way, the stories we uncover comprise a legacy that we carry forward to bequeath to the next generations. Without the presence of the siblings of our ancestors, we give only a partial picture, like a patchwork quilt missing whole pieces of cloth, deprived of color and texture. And those of us who have been at this for a while recognize the gleam in the eye, the excitement of the search that must go on if there's one more ancestor to research. Did you know there is a picture of a genealogist beside the word "obsessive" in the dictionary?

Colleen McClain, M.Div., M.S., is a former IGSI Board member who has made two family history research trips to Ireland. As IGSI vice president in charge of Quarterly speakers, she had the pleasure of hosting several well known professional Irish genealogists, authors and historians. She lives in Portland, Oregon, where she continues to enjoy the benefits of her IGSI membership and the fascination of Irish genealogical research.

Siblings: Gateway to the Gold

by Maureen K. Reed

In pursuing our heritage, the plethora of extended relatives may divert, daunt, and even depress us. How much do we really care about Great-grandma's step-sister or Great-granddad's obscure bachelor brother? The answer often lies in the infinitesimally narrow zone between "absolute zero" and "barely measurable." However, when we're stuck – really stuck – in our primary pursuit of a direct ancestor, the discovery of a sibling becomes more than attractive. It becomes a map to the gold mine.

The Odds

How often does it happen that our primary pursuit of a direct ancestor pays off? And how often must we investigate the siblings in order to discover the information we seek? Perhaps more frequently than we might wish.

The table on page 64 is a very real – and definitely non-random – sample of eight Irish great-grandparents[1]. The information we sought was the ancestor's townland birthplace and the full names of his or her parents. (In other words, the names of our great-great-grandparents.) Two things are immediately apparent from this table. First, the great-grandparent was usually not the ultimate source of the desired information. Exhaustive investigation of the direct ancestor most often did not reveal either townland birthplace or parents' names. Such answers frequently required exploration of the great-grandparent's siblings.

The second obvious fact is that the materials which ultimately yielded the desired information represent the entire genealogic smorgasbord – baptisms, bibles, births and more. There is no single vein that preferentially leads to the mother lode.

From No-brainers to Brain-busters

Marching through these eight examples provides a short case study in mining for genealogic gold. From the effortless to the exasperating, these cases reveal the power of siblings.

- The case of Great-grandmother #1 is as beautiful – and as rare – as 24 karat gold. Isabelle Vogan Reed's personal bible listed her birthplace and her parents' names, plus numerous other fascinating facts. Lucky for us it did. No other materials contained this information, and Isabelle had no siblings.

- Similarly, Great-grandmother #2 provided her own preliminary information, as the 1860 Minnesota census enumerated Johanna Shiely Duffy with her parents and siblings. The details of her mother's full name were inscribed on her mother's gravestone in Sibley Co., Minnesota, where the Shiely family farmed.[2] Identification of Johanna's birthplace was a bit more obscure, however, as her parents' path from Ireland took them through New York State. Here's where a sibling figured prominently in the successful search. Johanna's brother was born in Ellenburg, New York, according to his daughter's death certificate. This information, juxtaposed with New York census data, identified Ellenburg as Johanna's probable birthplace. But the frosting on this cake was that we did none of the work. A great-granddaughter of Johanna's brother had already collected copious information and documented her exhaustive investigation.[3] That's two for two. We'll be done in no time.

- Great-grandfather #3 proved to be a genealogist's dream. A married man with four sons, Patrick Kennedy farmed for decades just outside of Caledonia, in Houston Co., Minnesota. Patrick's genealogic error was that in the final years of his life he moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, where city newspapers took little note of the passing of a seventy year old transplanted Irish farmer. Fortunately, years later his granddaughter remembered the names of his three brothers who did not make Patrick's mistake. They died on their farms. The 1882 gravestone of one proudly proclaimed him a native of Co. Wexford. The small town obituaries of the other two further specified their birthplace as "Cranford"[4] and named several siblings who still resided "on the ancestral land." The 1901 Irish census microfilm pinpointed this farm to be in Ballyregan Townland. In an act of hope more than confidence, we wrote to a Daniel Kennedy listed in the online Irish phonebook as living near Craanford. By remarkably good fortune, the letter fell into the hands of a distant cousin[5] who had conducted extensive, painstaking research on the Kennedy family in Ireland. This cousin, and other cousins with a keen interest in the Kennedy past, provided the names of Patrick Kennedy's parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents as well as photographs of their gravestones and the old family home. This trans-oceanic correspondence

is alive and well today. Who could ask for better?

- Great-grandfather #4, Hugh Reed, made a few mistakes himself. He was born too early; he resided in various large cities (New York and Quincy) before settling in northeast Iowa; and he died before Chickasaw County begat its newspapers or record-keeping system. Fortunately, Hugh was clever enough to marry a woman whose bible captured some of his birthplace information "Parish Tynan, Co. Armagh". Unfortunately, it did not list the names of his parents or siblings. Identifying his siblings proved difficult indeed. It required cross-referencing Iowa, Massachusetts, and New York census data with Iowa deed records and with what turned out to be his mother's will filed in courthouse probate records. Although the gravestone of Hugh's brother in Brooklyn confirmed Tynan Parish as birthplace, information on the family's townland was still lacking. Moreover, Hugh himself was born before the Tynan church baptism registry commenced. But his younger siblings? There's the gold mine. Microfilm of the baptisms documented that they were born in Enagh and Manooney Townlands. We'll call that more than good enough.

- Great-grandfather #5 initially represented a conundrum as well – until his sister stepped into view. Although James Duffy was fairly well known as a stonemason in early St. Paul, his short-comings were his short tenure in the city and his all too short life. Both factors limited the interest of the city newspapers in his origins. However, James' biggest genealogic hiccup occurred when his wife quickly succeeded him in death, eliminating the transfer of detailed information to their seven small children. From his gravestone we know that James hailed from Co. Clare. We would have been paralyzed at that juncture had not his older sister and his niece come to the rescue. A careful genealogy project undertaken by his sister's descendants[6] identified the parents on a death certificate. By family story, the sister's daughter was born at "Strasburgh Estate," a manor in Co. Clare. Sure enough, the 1901 Irish census documented the Duffy family as still residing there. Death records obtained from Ireland's Civil Registrations Office documented the demise of James' mother and father. Subsequently, baptismal records confirmed the births of five Duffy children – including James – in Nuaff Townland. Done and dusted. Isn't this easy? Let's just find the sibs or their devoted descendants and we're home free.

- At first glance, Great-grandfather #6 promised a straight-forward search. Thomas Clarken farmed continuously for fifty years in northeastern Iowa, faithfully attended church, and fathered five children who became teachers and avid letter writers. Thomas' undoing related to two facts. First, he arrived early in Iowa and married before the church was built. Additionally, his farm, located on the Howard and Chickasaw County line, was many miles from the equidistant county seats in what turned out to be a newspaper "dead zone." Thank goodness he had brothers. One of them had moved into the nearby town of Lawler, established a popular bookstore, and married, for a second time, after the county required parents' names on the marriage application. Two brothers who were socially involved warranted extensive obituaries which identified Co. Monaghan as their birthplace. Another brother married before the family emigrated, but this brother erred by marrying a woman with a ubiquitous surname[7] long before church records were reliably preserved in Co. Monaghan. Despite a scouring of the extant records by a highly regarded Co. Monaghan historian[8], and letters written to current residents, the exact place of the Clarken origins in west central Co. Monaghan remains unknown.

- Great-grandmother #7, Maria Griffin Clarken, proved even more challenging. True, her parents' names were later penciled into the family bible possessed by her son-in-law. But tracing her origins was anything but linear. Maria was an orphan who spent a decade in New York City with several siblings before migrating to the prairie. Once in Iowa, she lived in the newspaper dead zone mentioned earlier. Her passing warranted the respectful but uninformative four sentence obituary reserved for a "motherly mother". Although we knew her to have siblings, identifying them required splicing together information from Iowa obit-

uaries, deed records, and newspaper social columns. Once identified, however, the siblings began to pay off. A sister's obituary designated "Co. Galway" as her birthplace, and a history book[9] verified Co. Galway as the birthplace of her brother. Despite the fact that two brothers held elected offices and one became a very wealthy farmer, their usefulness as sources for genealogy information diminished markedly when, late in life, one moved to the Louisiana prairie and the other relocated to Sioux City, Iowa. As hope faded for more specific birthplace information on Maria, the death certificate of her nephew revealed a most unusual fact: his father's birthplace was recorded as "Tuan" in Co. Galway.[10] While efforts to verify this through other sources (such as Tuam baptism records) have not yet been successful, Maria's siblings have begun to reveal her origins.

- The most stubborn of all cases is that of Great-grandmother #8. Mary Sheehan Kennedy didn't try to be obscure. She farmed with her husband for forty years in Houston Co., Minnesota, and reared the four sons previously mentioned. Her biggest genealogic mistake was that of immigrating with no brothers or close male relatives. The historical anonymity of a single woman was compounded when she and her younger sister settled in St. Louis, a city awash in immigrants by the thousands heading west. Simply establishing the existence of her sister was excruciating – a task that required the triangulation of 1880 census data, online St. Louis cemetery interment records, microfilmed church records, and more. But were it not for her sister's church marriage record which listed the bride's parents, we would not know Mary's mother's name. And Mary's place of birth? Still unknown, despite hundreds of hours spent sifting through St. Louis' extensive cemetery, church, civil, and newspaper obituary files. The sole clue regarding her origins is a badly deteriorated gravestone that may point to Gorey, Co. Wexford as the birthplace of a person who may be her maternal uncle. Searching the Wexford marriage, death and church records for likely relatives has yielded no solid clues. Even the tactic of writing blind letters to Sheehan residents around Gorey has yet to pay off. (It has paid other dividends, however. There are some very nice people of Sheehan surname living in Co. Wexford willing to reply to a stranger's letter.) Perhaps one of Mary's siblings is still out there – in cyberspace or in Ireland – waiting to be discovered.

These eight stories catalog the elation and the aggravation of genealogic pursuits. But do they contain any larger lessons?

Time, Geography, Gender and Culture

Although their parents may disagree, not all siblings are created equal – at least not in genealogy research. The possibility of a sibling contributing meaningful information to our primary pursuit is highly variable. What circumstances favor a sibling's records becoming the golden lynch pin to the family story? Time, geography, gender, and culture all affect the usefulness and completeness of the written and oral record.

First, time. The further we search back in time, the more likely it is that civil, church, and personal records will have been degraded or obliterated. The cumulative ravages of time – fire, loss, intentional destruction, memory lapses – prompt us to pursue siblings who have left more recent, as opposed to more remote, footprints. Some interesting exceptions exist. As demonstrated above, 1860-1880 gravestones of Irish immigrants to the Midwest appear more likely to include information about county and parish of birth than do later (or earlier) gravestones.

Second, geography places a heavy imprint on the extant record. Ancestors who settled on the prairie before churches were constructed or lived in places with no courts are far less likely to have had their life events recorded than their siblings who lived in cities replete with registrars and clerics. But while city dwellers experienced the advantage of sophisticated social structures, all but the most prominent metropolitan citizens suffered from anonymity. By contrast, the neighborly – and sometimes nosey – newspapers of small and medium-sized towns hungered for personal stories. In such locales the obituaries, personal columns, and business stories eagerly exposed the lives of rather ordinary citizens. Moreover, the person who resided in a single location for an extended period was better known and the subject of greater attention than were itinerant brothers and sisters.

	Great-grandparent	Birthplace Data: Person as Source	Birthplace Data: Type of Source	Parental Names: Person as Source	Parental Names: Type of Source
1	Isabelle Vogan Reed 1825-1910	Preliminary: not applicable		Preliminary: not applicable	
		Final: herself	Family Bible	Final: herself	Family Bible
2	Johanna Shiely Duffy 1851-1879	Preliminary: herself Secondary: her sister	Census Census	Preliminary: herself	Census
		Final: her brother's daughter	Death Certificate	Final: her mother	Gravestone
3	Patrick Kennedy 1843-1918	Preliminary: his brother Secondary: his brothers	Gravestone Obituaries		
		Final: his brother	Irish census	Final: his great-grandnephew	Family Records
4	Hugh Reed 1819-1870	Preliminary: his wife	Family Bible	Preliminary: his siblings	Census
		Final: his siblings	Baptism Records	Final: his mother	Will
5	James J. Duffy 1843-1879	Preliminary: himself Secondary: his sister's daughter	Gravestone Family Story		
		Final:himself	Baptism Records	Final: his sister	Death Certificate
6	Thomas Clarken 1832-1900	Preliminary: his brothers	Obituaries		
		Final: not yet known		Final: his brother	Civil Marriage Record
7	Maria Griffin Clarken 1834-1891	Preliminary: her siblings Secondary: her brother's son	Obituary; History Book Death Certificate		
		Final: not yet known		Final: her son-in-law	Family Bible
8	Mary Sheehan Kennedy 1844-1918	Preliminary: uncle	Gravestone	Preliminary: herself	Death Certificate
		Final: not yet known		Final: her sister	Church Marriage Record

Third, while gender equity is a 21st century goal, such was hardly the case in past centuries. Historic written records heavily favor the males in our ancestry making it easier to trace brothers than sisters. Notable exceptions may be school records and educational stories that prominently feature the women who flocked into the teaching profession beginning in the later 19th century America.

Finally, other cultural and social factors play important roles. Siblings that were educated, financially secure, members of the dominant culture, or possessed of sufficient health and time to travel to City Hall have a greater likelihood of being captured in the record than those who were less advantaged. And siblings who were married with children offer the possibility that their life stories were bequeathed to descendants who have guarded them well.

Cutting to the Chase: Efficiency vs. Breadth

How and whether a researcher chooses to investigate one sibling versus another depends upon more than just these external factors. It also depends on the researcher. A researcher whose goal is to expeditiously find the genetic line will hunt differently than one who wishes to uncover the social context of the ancestor's life and times. A researcher who has the luxury of time and access will conduct an investigation differently than one who is paying hotel bills or worried about catching a plane. Most of us are limited occasionally by time, place, and convenience. So how might we use knowledge of external factors to guide our research priorities?

The essence of efficiency involves casting the net only as wide as necessary to ensnare the one person who yields the "answer" we are seeking. At the outset this is a probability exercise, because the researcher does not know which sibling is ultimately going to "pay off". The larger lesson is this: when crunched for time, first pursue the civil, church, and newspaper trails of brothers who were wealthy, married and educated, and who resided for extended periods in established small or medium-sized communities.

Even for the researcher who wishes to color the entire canvas of the family tree, this isn't a bad initial tack. As facts are discovered about more prominent siblings, these can guide the exploration of more mysterious family members.

Golden Siblings

When frustrated by lack of information about eight great-grandparents, we initially pursued their educated, prominent male siblings who lived for decades and then died in rural and small town America. This approach proved too utopian for our all-too-human subjects who had the audacity to relocate, remarry, and die. Although pursuing the "ideal" sibling is a good prioritization strategy, realism demands that we be prepared to investigate less ideal siblings if we are serious about answering serious questions.

In one respect, life would be splendid if our inquiries led backwards in step-wise fashion from parent to grand-parent to the great- and the great-greats living at the very dawn of the family's written record. But in genealogic discovery as in scientific discovery, the "line" becomes linear only in retrospect – after multiple sources have been consulted, countless blind alleys explored, and many ambiguities untangled. And therein lies the gold that is a family's heritage.

Endnotes

1 A random sample of Irish great grandparents might yield the same sources and materials.
2 The Tithe Applotment Book identified the origins of Johanna's parents as Knockkerry East Townland in Kilrush Parish, Co. Clare.
3 Dieble, Therese Shiely, "The Shiely Roots", 1984; great-grandniece of Johanna Shiely Duffy.
4 This represents a misspelling of "Craanford."
5 Martin Whelan of Co. Wexford, great-grandnephew of Patrick Kennedy.
6 Eileen Duffy Donovan, great-grandniece of James J. Duffy
7 Duffy was the surname, and both Duffy and Clarken were very common 19th Century Monaghan surnames.
8 Theo McMahon, of the Clogher Historical Society
9 Fairbairn, R. H. , *History of Chickasaw and Howard Counties, Iowa* (Chicago: J. J. Clarke, Pub. Co., 1919)
10 Because there is no "Tuan" in Co. Galway, this almost certainly represents a misspelling of "Tuam."

Maureen Reed is a medical doctor, an expert in state health care policy, a playwright, and a former chair of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. Her interest in genealogy dates back to her childhood. She continues to pursue the goal of identifying the townlands of origin of her eight Irish great-grandparents.

Irish Civil Registration Indexes on FamilySearch.org

by David S. Ouimette

In January 2009, FamilySearch published a 23-million-name database of Irish civil registration indexes of births, marriages, and deaths. This index, the largest and most comprehensive Irish database ever published online for family history research, covers over a century of vital records in Ireland, 1845–1958. For this time period, civil registration is the best single record source available for Irish family history. You can now search Irish civil registration indexes online by name, year, and place and more easily find your Irish ancestors' births, marriages, and deaths.

The FamilySearch Indexing Project

In 2008, FamilySearch launched an online project to index the civil registration indexes of births, marriages, and deaths for Ireland. Volunteers transcribed all the information listed in these national indexes from digital images of Family History Library microfilms. Each index entry includes the event type, given name, surname, year (and quarter when available), registration district, register volume, and register page number. For death entries, the age at time of death was also transcribed, with an estimated birth year calculated based on death registration year and age at time of death.

The national index of births began including the maiden surname of each child's mother in the early twentieth century. FamilySearch Indexing picked up this additional field in the later years of this index (though unfortunately not for all years it was available).

To ensure the creation of a high-quality index, FamilySearch Indexing used a double-blind indexing process: two people independently indexed each page, with a third person comparing the results and resolving any differences between the information keyed by the two indexers.

Volunteers indexed all births, marriages, and deaths registered with the Irish government for these years:

For all Ireland (before 1922):

- Birth indexes, 1864–1921
- Marriage indexes, 1845–1921 (only non-Catholic marriage indexes for 1845–63)
- Death indexes, 1864–1921

For the Republic of Ireland only:

- Birth, marriage, and death indexes, 1922–58

Ireland Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958, on FamilySearch.org

The resulting online index is now available to the public on FamilySearch.org. For the next few months, you can access Ireland Civil Registration Indexes in the Record Search pilot, currently found at http://pilot.FamilySearch.org or accessed from the Search tab at FamilySearch.org. (In the not-too-distant future, this pilot will be fully integrated into the main search page on FamilySearch.org.) Once in the Record Search pilot, click on "View all collections" and then click on the "Ireland Civil Registration Indexes 1845-1958."

You may search births, marriages, or deaths separately or all at once. Just enter the given name, surname, event type, year, place, or any combination of these parameters, and then click the "Search" button. You can also choose whether you want to view only "Exact matches" or whether you want to see close or partial matches as well.

Remember, death entries also include estimated birth years, so you may be able to find these entries through either a birth search or a death search.

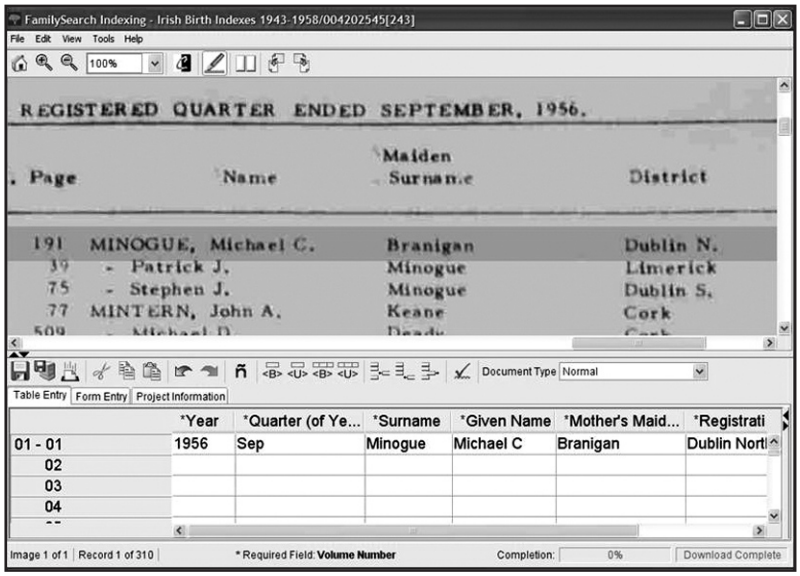


Figure 1. FamilySearch Indexing example: Irish civil registration index of births. © 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

The search results may include alternate spellings of the names you search on. For example, if you search on O'Connor you may see results spelled either O'Connor or Connor. This feature makes it easier to find relevant results faster.

As you search these records you will see that the "event" place is not the place of birth, marriage, or death; rather, it is the location of the registration office where the vital event was registered. Keep this in mind as you search these records. Searching by registration district does not always yield all matching results in the Record Search pilot; you may need to search on "Exact, close, & partial" matches to search by registration district effectively. FamilySearch has identified all the counties associated with each registration district, allowing you to also search the index by county.

Obtaining a Copy of the Original Record

Along with the name of the individual, each index entry includes the year or quarter of registration, the name of the registration district, and the volume and page number where the original certificate or entry was recorded. Using this reference information, you can either look up the original register on microfilm at the Family History Library or order a copy of the original record from the General Register Office (see http://www.groireland.ie). Family History Library microfilms of the actual registers are incomplete, covering only the following years:

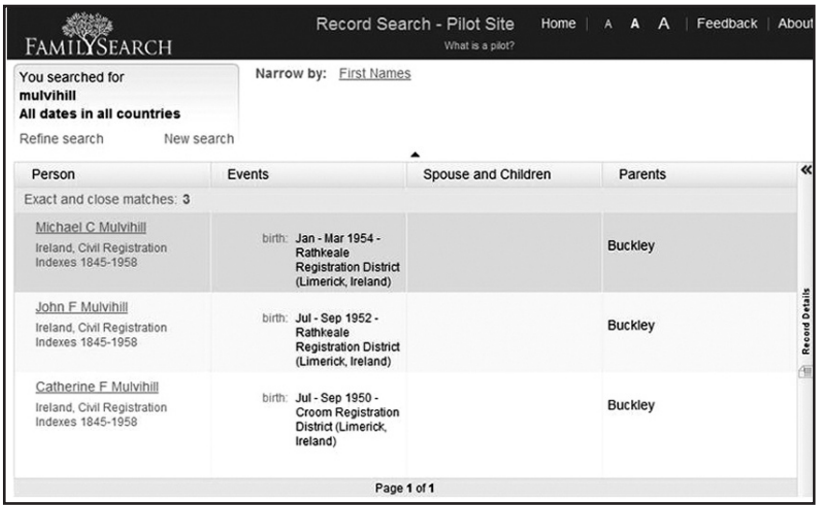


Figure 2. FamilySearch Record Search: results of a search using a child's surname and mother's maiden surname. © 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

For all Ireland (before 1922):

- Birth registers, 1864–March 1881; 1900–13
- Marriage registers, 1845–70 (only non-Catholic marriage registers for 1845–63)
- Death registers, 1864–70

For the Republic of Ireland:

- Birth registers, 1930–55

For Northern Ireland:

- Birth, marriage, and death registers, 1922–59

The original registers contain many significant personal and family details. You will find the following information recorded in the original registers:

Contents of Irish Birth Registers

- Name of child
- Birth date and birthplace
- Gender
- Father's full name and place of residence
- Father's rank, profession, or occupation
- Mother's full name (including maiden name) and place of residence
- Informant's name, place of residence, signature, and qualification
- Date of registration
- Registrar's signature
- Registrar's district, Superintendent Registrar's District, and county of registration

Contents of Irish Marriage Registers

- Full names of the bride and groom
- Marriage date and place, including the church or registrar's district
- Ages of the bride and groom
- Marital statuses of the bride and groom

- Places of residence of the bride and groom
- Ranks or professions of the bride and groom
- The names and professions of the couple's fathers
- Signatures of the officiating authority, bride, groom, and two witnesses
- Whether the couple was married by license or banns
- Registrar's district, Superintendent Registrar's District, and county of registration

Contents of Irish Death Registers

- Full name of the deceased
- Death date and place
- Gender
- Marital condition
- Age at last birthday
- Occupation
- Certified cause of death and duration of final illness
- Informant's signature and place of residence
- Qualification of informant, and perhaps the relationship to the deceased
- Date of registration
- Registrar's signature
- Registrar's district, Superintendent Registrar's District, and county of registration

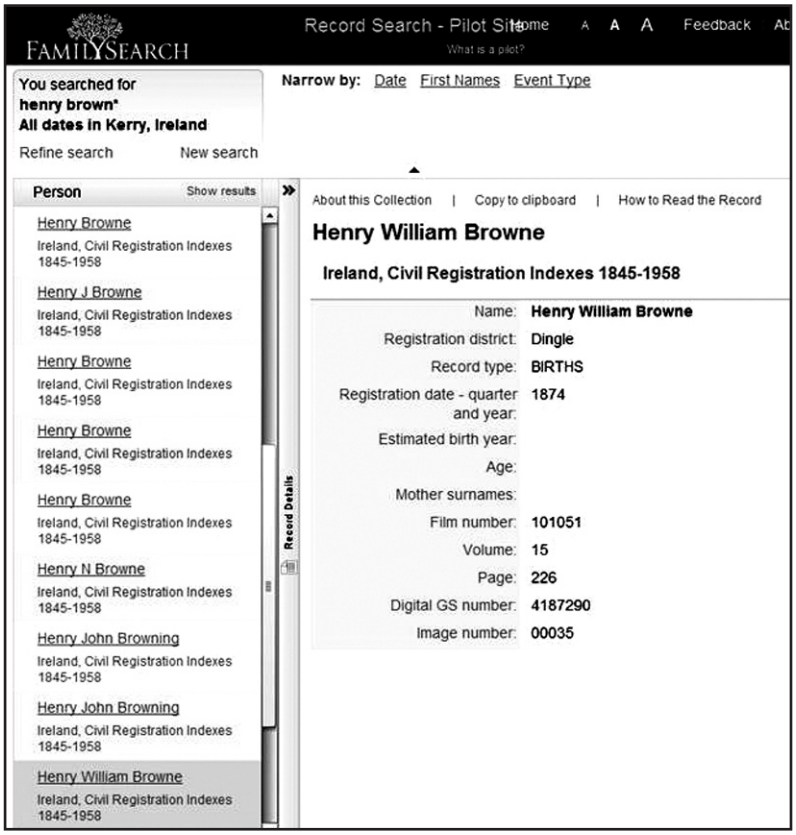


Figure 3. FamilySearch Record Search: details indexed for a typical birth entry. © 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

In Summary

Searching Irish civil registration indexes on FamilySearch opens up new possibilities for Irish family history research. Gone are the endless hours of painstaking searches year by year, microfilm by microfilm, to find ancestors and their families. Ancestral and descendant research will be greatly facilitated by the introduction of this new online record collection. A number of organizations are digitizing additional Irish records of value to genealogists and family historians. FamilySearch will continue to digitize and index key records for Irish family history research in the months and years to come. Stay tuned.

Further Reading on Irish Civil Registration

Civil Registration Districts of Ireland. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Library, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1983.

Ó Dúill, Eileen, and Steven ffeary-Smyrl. *Irish Civil Registration—Where Do I Start?* Killester, Dublin: Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations, 2000.

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Ireland. Dublin: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1891.

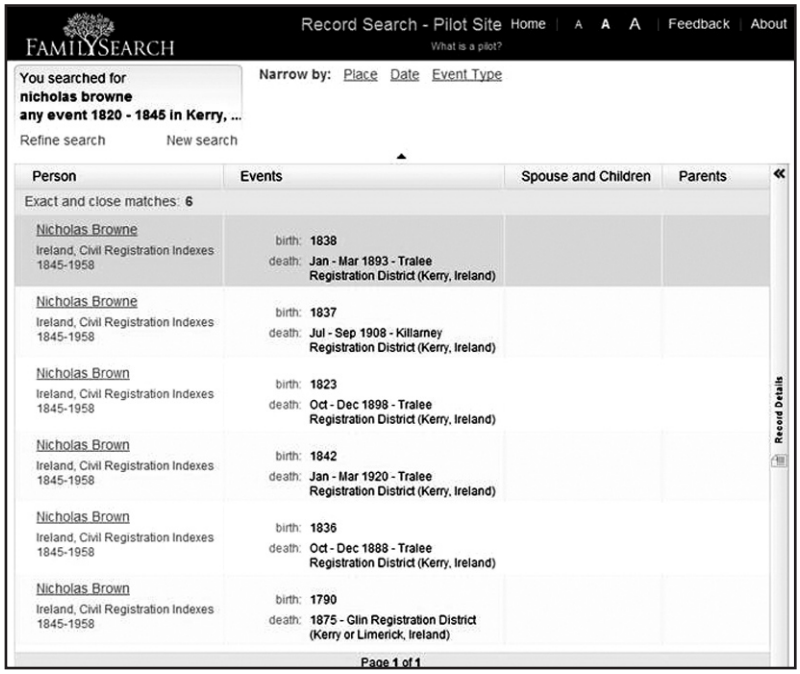


Figure 4. FamilySearch Record Search: searching death events by birth year. © 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

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Click on **Manage Your Member Profile** and you'll see a new page with new options.

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Of particular importance to keep current are email and home addresses.

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Tracing Siblings of Immigrants to Find Origins

by Dwight A. Radford

An often-overlooked strategy in Irish immigrant research is tracing the siblings of your ancestor in order to find where the entire family originated. Sometimes tunnel vision obscures the obvious. As genealogists, we should be accustomed to thinking outside the box. Researching the siblings of your ancestor is another strategy when the obvious straight forward research does not reveal where your ancestor was born.

As family historians know, it's not uncommon to check every available record for your ancestor and find that none of them tell where in Ireland the family came from. At this point it's essential to branch out and identify the siblings of the immigrant using the assumption that all the siblings of your ancestor were born where your ancestor was born. While this is reasonable, it is not always true.

As a professional genealogist, I've found myself searching in the less obvious more often than I have the obvious. My rationale is: if the person I'm researching had five siblings, then I've increased my odds five times for finding Irish origins by taking a hard look at the entire family as a unit. In this article I will outline a few of the strategies (rather than sources) that I use to approach sibling research. While this article is aimed at an American audience, the principles are just as applicable to any country where the Irish settled, just reverse some of the principles.

Identifying Siblings

When you do not know who the siblings are, the first task is to make some educated guesses. You might be wrong, but this is the place to start. For example, if your Donnelly family was living in the same town or county in Iowa as other Donnelly families from Ireland then I would assume that they were either siblings or cousins if the generation is right. The same goes for godparents to the christenings of your family in Roman Catholic registers. If there are people by the same surname, then my assumption is that they are siblings or perhaps cousins. If cousins, then this still will lead you back to the correct place in Ireland, in most cases. Remember, women in the registers generally gave their maiden names. Use the same beginning point in your studies of census schedules, land deeds, church registers, historic published county histories and even in your cemetery research.

Of the many sources which can be examined, I've had the best success with Catholic Church registers. For example, I would take all the Donnelly listings for a ten or twenty year period in the christenings and marriages and line them up in date order or, if needed, by family unit. At that point I look for patterns in the chaos. Where does the person I'm researching appear as a godparent or witness? Who in the family I'm researching appears for these events?

This can be expanded further for the chosen years to study to include the families where the mother in the christening records is a Donnelly (to follow the same example). By the time you have detailed all families in a parish for a specific time period, you will know who is who, who was associated with your family, and who was not. This may be the first step in separating the various Donnelly families in the parish. Remember, they don't all have to be related and, in cases of common names such as Kelly and Sullivan, they may not all be related.

This same strategy can be applied to tax lists. If you're researching a Scots-Irish family in Kentucky in the late 18th century and early 19th century, the tax lists will be the main source. Kentucky had a head tax; all males over twenty-one years of age were listed regardless of whether they actually owned land, slaves or horses. In this case, let's use the example of the McMurray family. The tax lists document land by watercourse; in larger counties, people are listed within a district (company) and a watercourse is noted by the person's name. In this case, all the "M" or perhaps "Mc" surnames are together by district (company). You can document the McMurrays by paying special attention to what watercourse their land was on. By grouping the McMurray families by watercourse (a map helps) and district, you have removed potentially unrelated families from the ancestral family. In this example, when the males first appear in the tax list, subtract twenty-one years. You will see the pattern appear. This is helped even further since family members are often listed close to each other on the pages of the tax rolls.

Regardless of the sources that you use to identify potential siblings, once you have their names you can check the old county histories, military records, tombstones, published family histories or church registers and look for their immigrant origins. To find one may be to find them all.

Church Registers

Church related records are another excellent source. Aside from the christenings/baptism, marriage, and death/burial registers, most denominations generated other records just as valuable. Among these are newspapers, death-related records, religious order records, and minutes. Much depends on the denomination and its tradition of record keeping practices. The religious denominations

of the Irish and Scots-Irish that kept the best records in the United States include: Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Moravian (United Brethren), Quaker (Society of Friends), and Latter Day Saint (Utah LDS Church and the Missouri RLDS Church, now the Community of Christ). Denominations whose records may or may not be as helpful, but still need to be explored, are: the Methodist, the Calvinistic tradition (Reformed, Presbyterian, Congregational, Huguenot), the Baptist (various branches), the Seventh-day Adventist and the Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement (Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Church of Christ) – to name a few. Other movements that were popular in America during particular time periods also require special attention. Among these would be Spiritualism (1848-1880s, WWI, 1920s) and Christian Science (1880s-WWII).

In the case of the Roman Catholic Church, if a family member joined a religious order, the records of the order or mother house may hold detailed information about the priest or nun. These individuals in a family tree are important as they were educated for service and thus documented. The same can be said for ministers. Presbyterian, Congregational and Methodist ministers may have good records generated about their service. Some ministers accepted the call to preach through a personal experience. With no education requirements, as in some Baptist traditions, no records are generated. The Utah LDS Church provides an interesting example because of the member's interest in genealogy. Even if your ancestor did not join the Mormons, a sibling may have joined, and it may be within the records of the LDS Church that your Irish origins are preserved. Denominations such as the Moravians have lengthy written death notices similar to an obituary today which are part of the church records. These often name birthplaces in Ireland. In the case of 19th and early 20th century Spiritualism, the fact of an ancestor's sibling who became a professional medium or spiritual healer may have been included in a newspaper, county history, or obituary.

Siblings in Other Countries

Another part of this sibling search strategy is useful if an ancestor had a sibling who moved to another country. When you can't find the place of birth using American records, look to the sibling who moved to Australia or New Zealand, for example. They have smaller populations and genealogy is a favorite hobby in both countries. At some point the records of these two countries will tell the Irish origins of the immigrant. Their records and their genealogical societies are very good. One could argue that their record-keeping practices are much better than those in the United States. Whenever I need help in these two countries, I e-mail the Society of Australian Genealogists or the Society of New Zealand Genealogists, tell them what I need and ask for a price quote. Their help is but an e-mail away.

The same can be said about far-flung places such as Argentina, Chile, South Africa and British India. It may be within the records of one of these societies that the family origins are found. In the records of the United Kingdom (England, Wales, Scotland), the census reports will sometimes tell the parish or the county in Ireland where a person was born. Fascination in recent years with the Irish who went to Latin America has generated more information in print and on the Internet than ever before.

Genealogy is a popular hobby today. It's not uncommon to find research guides either published or on the Internet telling how to approach research in just about any country imaginable. So take the time to reach into unfamiliar areas to see what you can find. You might be very surprised.

Conclusions

I've outlined only a few areas for sibling research. The list of potential avenues is vast indeed. Whether church records, military records, land grants, cemetery surveys or simply studying every published history for a county or town, it doesn't matter. Your imagination is the only limit to identifying and then researching siblings or potential siblings. With Irish immigration problems, sibling research often is the only way to identify that elusive ancestral home in Ireland. This type of research may be time consuming but, from my experience, it's well worth the time invested.

Dwight A. Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City, Utah, specializing in Irish and Scots-Irish immigrant research. He is co-author of A Genealogists Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He can be contacted at dwightradford@msn.com.*

Errata

A misstatement in a past issue of The Septs was recently brought to our attention in Maxine Keoghan's article (pp 62-68 in the April 2006 issue). St. Mary's Academy was founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1885.

The McNevin Family

by Alison Emery

Researching the siblings of my grandparents and great-grandparents has helped me to verify census records, prove a family connection and find missing pieces of information. Researching siblings also prevented me from adding a wrong person with the same name to my extended family tree. I realize that to do any searching in Ireland it will be helpful to look for the whole family that I know was born there.

Some online family trees had some names that matched some of my ancestors. They had various census records attached to them. Not all of these census records were for the same family or even the same person. I verified census records by checking for the complete family that should have been living in that year. I found extra children I did not know about. However, I was able to verify when these children died. When my ancestor had a common name and a sibling had a more unusual name it was easier to trace the sibling.

We knew that my great-grandparents should be in the 1880 Federal Census in Delaware, Ohio. My grandfather was born and baptized there in 1879. My sister and I looked and looked for them. She went to a research library near her home in Southern California to continue the hunt. The librarian suggested that she try looking by occupation as they may have dropped the "Mc" from their name. Fortunately for us, my grandfather, Thomas McNevin, was quite proud that his father, Patrick McNevin, had been a shoemaker. My sister found a shoemaker named Patrick Naven, but no McNevins. A check of the complete record for the Naven family showed that the wife and eight children had the same names and ages as the Patrick McNevin family.

My grandfather was Thomas Joseph McNevin, the youngest of Patrick's children. He had told his children and grandchildren many family stories. He had lived with or near his sister Margaret most of his adult life. The only mysteries were his two brothers. I traced his brother, John Patrick McNevin, in Saint Paul, Minnesota, using city directories, old family letters that listed his daughters' names, census records and cemetery records. I checked census records for a McNevin family with daughters. Because I had the girls' names, I was able to locate the boys' names. I then checked the city directories for more information on the children as young adults. The oldest son, William, disappeared from the records in Minnesota. I found a William McNevin on the 1920 and 1930 Federal Census Records living in Spokane, Washington, and a 1954 death record for him. I then checked the obituaries of his siblings to see if they listed a William in Spokane, Washington. The siblings' obituaries verified that I had the right William in Spokane. Knowing the names of the siblings helped me to piece together information on this family.

When I had my family tree fairly complete, I put it online. I received an e-mail from a fellow genealogist. He knew that John Patrick McNevin was his wife's great-grandfather. He had pulled his death certificate and read that John's father was Patrick McNevin. He had then pulled the 1909 death certificate for a Patrick McNevin. He noticed what I had noticed; the certificate has Patrick's name, an address of 903 West Central, burial in Morris, Minnesota, and his age as being 67. There was no informant. He asked me how I knew that the Patrick McNevin of the 1909 death certificate was the right Patrick McNevin and how I knew that he had so many children. Well, my grandfather had talked about his siblings: Kitty and Margaret, who his children grew up knowing; Mary, who died in infancy; Patrick, who had died by being kicked by a horse; Alice, who died in Seattle in 1905; James, who lived in Brooklyn; John, who lived in Saint Paul; and Lizz, who stayed in Morris, Minnesota. I had traced all of his siblings. On November 1, 1888, Margaret McNevin and James Joseph Carey were married in Morris, Minnesota. They moved to Saint Paul where Jim worked for the Great Northern Railway. According to the Saint Paul City Directories they lived near the Great Northern Shops for many years. In 1902, they moved to 903 W Central. My grandfather and his father are listed in the Saint Paul City Directories as boarding at 903 W Central. Putting the address together with his obit in the *Morris Tribune* and his gravestone in Calvary Cemetery in Morris I am sure it is the right death certificate with the wrong age on it.

Alison Emery grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has a degree in History, with an emphasis on American Immigrant History, from the University of Minnesota. She has been interested in recording her family stories since she was old enough to write. She is taking the Intermediate Genealogy Courses currently offered by the Minnesota Genealogical Society.

Why Study the Brothers and Sisters?

by Tom Rice

Why should we care that most of our ancestors had brothers and sisters? More importantly why should we bother studying them? Why look for their records? As with any effort we need motivation to start and continue with an activity that will surely consume our time and money.

The answer is simple: studying our ancestor's siblings may be the key to other information. It may

- Enable us to identify our ancestor's parents
- Help us find the family unit in census records
- Help us be sure we have found the correct family unit, especially when the surname is a common one
- Help us better understand the family life of our ancestor
- Help us find others studying the same lineage. Cousins, the descendants of our ancestor's siblings, may have made progress where we have stumbled. They may have the family bible or pictures, etc.

A list like this is easily stated. Appreciating the full importance of it takes some thought.

Genealogy is the constant pursuit of the identity of the previous generation. The single most important feature of a sibling from a genealogical standpoint is that they shared at least one parent with our ancestor. While we may not have found a clue to our ancestor's parents' identity while scouring all of the records of their life we can find, we may find those parents mentioned in records of their siblings. This was the case in my own genealogy. None of the records I found for my great grandmother, Emily Julia Woolman Rice, gave any hint as to the surname of her mother. However, the death records of two of her sisters did yield this long-sought-after bit of key information.

Identifying Family Groups

Another way siblings can help with the identification of an ancestor's parents is if the family followed an ethnic traditional naming pattern. While your ancestor may have been the fourth son or daughter, there was a first born of each sex. The first-born son may well have been named after the paternal grandfather just as the first-born daughter may bear the given name of her maternal grandmother, with the second-born son being named after his mother's father and the second-born daughter named after the father's mother. These naming patterns are as much a myth as a fact. You will have to do a bit of study to see if they are being followed. One clue is the names of the third-born son and daughter. If they bear the names of their parents, then the pattern may be in play in that family. Looking at the names of the children of several siblings can serve to tell if this pattern is being followed. If so, you are given a good clue to who the parents of your ancestor were.

Remember also, that if these siblings are close to your ancestor in age, they probably lived together for a while, at least during their early years. Thus this sibling's birth place and birth date give strong clues to the same information regarding your ancestor. The further apart siblings are in age, the greater the chance they may have been born in different places and perhaps even have been half siblings due to the death of one of the parents, or divorce, or abandonment. Do pay attention to clues that indicate family members were anything other than full siblings. Blended families are not a new phenomenon. A sibling may not even be a blood relative but rather a step-brother or sister. Knowing the exact relationship, full sibling, half sibling or step sibling, is critical when using a sibling's records to identify parents of your ancestor.

The best siblings are the ones with unusual names. When chasing Smiths it is good to have siblings in the family with names such as Manning, Nelson and Able. Thus, when you can not tell one John Smith family from another, look for the ones with these three uniquely named brothers. Matching them by birth order will add to the certainty of locating the correct family.

Finding Living Relatives

Another way to employ an ancestor's siblings is to identify the sibling's descendants. The bigger an ancestor's birth family the more likely it is that the descendants of one or more of those siblings are also trying to put the same lineage together that you are. Look to surname message boards, surname associations, and websites identified as focusing on the same surname. Another place to look for these cousins is on message boards relating to the locations where the family lived. If the surname is unusual, you might try cold calling people with that family name in one or more of the places the family lived.

The reason to find and contact these cousins is that they may have succeeded

where you have met a brick wall. One or another of them may have been blessed with family artifacts such as a bible, pictures, war mementos, a diary, letters or family records. One of them may even still live on the family homestead. Properly approached they may be willing to share, especially if you have complementary data or resources.

Exceptional Finds

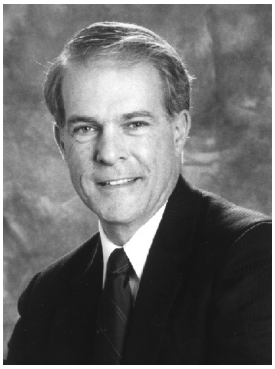
You may consider studying your ancestor's siblings not so much for what they can do for your genealogy but for the understanding they can give you into your ancestor's life. They were a part of your ancestor's family for at least a while. They may have been a major part of their lives, immigrating together, living as neighbors, and even migrating to the next place together. This sibling relationship may even have been compounded when your ancestor and their sibling married siblings – a not uncommon event. The more likely scenario is not as the myth would have it (that the three bothers each traveled their separate ways upon immigration – one going north, the other south and your ancestor to the west) but that they hung together, perhaps for life.

I have an additional reason to study my ancestors' siblings. My direct line is among the dullest people I have come across in either my personal or professional genealogy travels. So, I have studied their siblings to become more familiar with record types I wanted to know about but which were not to be found relating to my direct line. Because I have not yet discovered a direct ancestor who served in the military, I have used my great grandfather's brother as a reason to delve into a Civil War veteran's compiled records and pension file. The reward was a 196 page pension file that could easily be turned into a novel. By searching for more about a 2nd great grandmother's brother, I found a family history written by his son and grandson that identified the family townland in Ireland. This, in turn, led to a cousin who had the three hundred pages of notes the authors of that work gathered during their research. This gave me an extract of the 1821 Irish census which listed my 3rd and 4th great grandparents. Their research was performed in 1915, years before most of the 19th Century Irish censuses were destroyed in the Civil War of 1922. The 1821 census no longer exists today. It is only because I showed an interest in the 2nd great grandmother's brother that I found this family history and made contact with the cousin who had these working papers that I found these gems.

Charts

A word about charting is in order. Charts can be of great assistance to genealogist. They allow you to see families and lineages in a graphical form, and they bring to your attention what may escape your notice when the same information is presented in verbal form or only as separate windows on a computer screen. Descendant charts, either of the box or compressed format, show all of the siblings in each generation. Either of these chart types is a good way to view how siblings fit into the overall scheme of things. Pedigree charts are good for seeing the direct line and family group sheets do a fine job of showing details of each couple's family; but they are both limited in what they show. You need to use at least three types of charts: pedigree for the lineage, family group sheets for details of each family unit and descendant charts for the overall big picture. Do not just produce these charts, but rather study them asking yourself which sibling of an ancestor should be studied in greater depth to learn more about the family and your ancestor.

It is a maxim of genealogy that when you are stumped you should study those around your ancestor: their siblings, other relatives, neighbors, friends, fellow church members and co-workers. Of these, the siblings often serve as the best path to follow. Following that path may not always get you to the answer you seek, but it will enrich your understanding of your ancestor, of the times and of genealogical record types. It is a good path to follow. Say hello to your ancestors' brothers and sisters. They want to help and they have a story to tell you.



Tom Rice, CG is a professional genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher and writer. He is the managing editor of The Septs, *irst vice president of IGSI, a former director of the Minnesota Genealogy Society, and a genealogy help desk volunteer for the Minnesota History Society. He can be contacted at info@heritagehunters.com.*

Canon James Blennerhassett Leslie Collection (Part II)

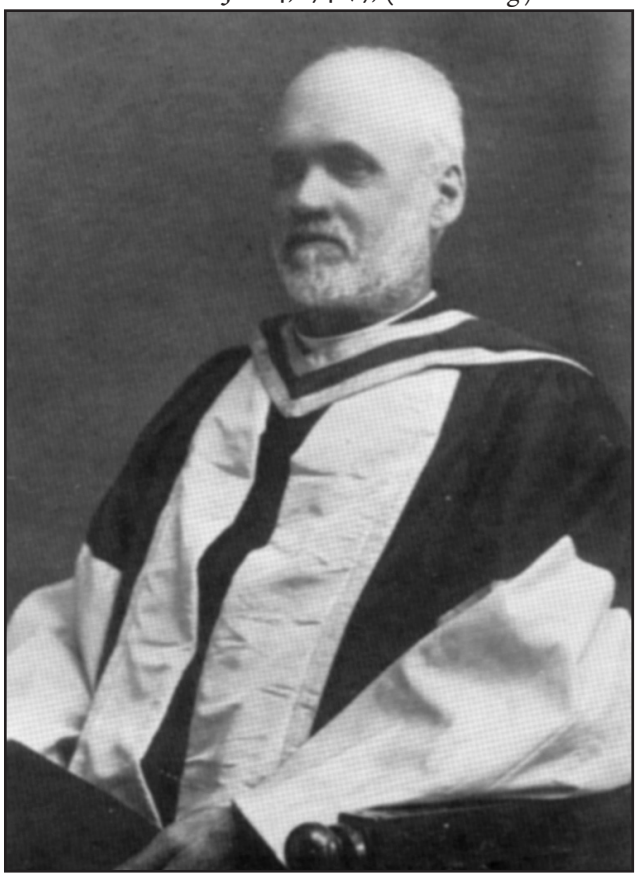
by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS

This is the second of a two-part article (see the January 2009 issue of *The Septs*) describing the massive collection of genealogical and historical information gathered by Canon James B. Leslie. Part Two deals exclusively with his collected works which were deposited in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast. Due to the biographical succession lists, much of the material in this collection refers to the whole of Ireland. To direct users to the most pertinent information, I have selected the counties and dioceses of most relevance for the following table:

Mss. T1075 – List of Clergy, Dublin Diocese, Volume 1 (FHL microfilm 258,614)

This is a typewritten work with an index at the beginning, containing 645 pages of material. Each member of the clergy is detailed with information about their service in the Diocese of Dublin and when known, biographical details about their family. Biographical information tends to relate to the clergy who served in the 19th and 20th centuries. The parishes are arranged alphabetically such that you can see the succession of clergy within each parish. The following is a typical entry:

> **St. Andrew's Parish, Dublin, page 249**
> 1741. **Warter Wilson** Lic. June 20, (D. R.)
> Son of Matt. W[ilson]. "Aurifex" [Goldsmith], b. in Dub., ed. By Mr. Quigg, Dublin, ent[ered]. T.C.D. [Trinity College, Dublin] June 27, 1730 aged 19, Sch. 1732, B.A. 1724, M.A. 1737. He d. Curate of St. Andrew's Jan. 4, 1746/7, (Lond. Mag.)



Canon James Blennerhassett Leslie. Photo courtesy of Representative Church Body Library.

While this may not be your ancestor, the genealogical significance may be useful to your family history. In this instance, my 4th great-grandparents, John Rencher and Elizabeth Grant, were married in St. Andrew's parish in 1741-2. It is likely that Warter Wilson was the minister who performed the marriage. This detail is lacking from the transcribed copies of the parish registers (destroyed in the Public Record Office in 1922) published by the Dublin Parish Register Society.

Mss. T1075 – List of Clergy, Meath Diocese, Volume 2 (FHL microfilm 258,615)

A volume identical to the one described above. The indexes at the beginning of this volume and the one above both have very tight bindings leaving some of the information difficult to discern. This volume has a succession list of the Bishops of Clonmacnoise dating back to the year A.D. 663. The volume contains 658 typewritten pages.

Mss. T1075 – Counties Down, Kildare, Cashel & Dublin, Volume 3 (FHL microfilm 258,616, item 1)

This piece of the collection contains a miscellany of returns; the contents listed are as follows:

- Bishops Returns to First Fruits Office c. 1722-63 (Armagh Registry)
- Visitation of Dromore Diocese 1783
- Visitation of Down Diocese 1760
- Visitation of Down & Connor 1813
- Co. Kildare Inquisition 1657
- Calendar of 17 Documents in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin
- Regal Visitation of Cashel, Emly, Lismore & Waterford, 1607
- Calendar of a Register of Cashel in Armagh Registry made by Ven. St. J.D. Seymour, D. Litt., covers the 17th and early 18th centuries
- List of Ordinations compiled from Reynell Mss., 1638-1862 covering all dioceses in Ireland
- Catalogue of a Collection of Letters of Distinguished People
- Letter of Rev. Edward Hughes, 1731

The fascinating thing about genealogical collections is that they can always

Counties	Diocese(s)
Armagh	Armagh, Dromore
Cavan	Kilmore, Meath, Ardagh
Derry	Derry, Connor, Armagh
Donegal	Raphoe, Derry, Clogher
Down	Down, Dromore, Connor, Newry, Mourn
Dublin	Dublin
Louth	Drogheda, Armagh, Clogher
Meath	Meath, Kilmore, Armagh, Kildare
Tyrone	Armagh, Derry, Clogher
Waterford	Cashel, Emly & Lismore

Table 1.

yield the most unexpected results. A seemingly innocuous entry like the one above "Calendar of 17 Documents in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin" contains the following reference to a tradesman who could be your ancestor.

Letter no. 5. 1672 (page 109)

Agreement dated 9 June 1672. Between **Thos. Beele, Dean & the Chapter and Thos. Spencer of City of Dub., plasterer** that he before 17 Sep. next shall plaster all the roof of the great Aisle and the 2 small aisles on each side: the roof over the Chapter house, and over the vault of the Quire "as far as the same is now" in all 2028 yards finding all materials &c: he to receive £4 down and £24 yearly for 2 years from 25 Mar. last from Sir Jas. Cuffe, Knt. And Edmund Bradshaw, Gent.

Mss. T1075 – Counties Down, Kildare, Cashel & Dublin, Volume 4 (FHL microfilm 258,616, item 2)

The second item on this roll of microfilm contains:

- Inquisitions of [the] parishes of Co. Armagh, 1657
- Inquisitions [of Co.] Louth, 1658 with an index at the end of the volume

The word Inquisition in most contexts has a negative connotation. In this instance however, it simply means that a jury was assembled of the persons most likely to understand and be able to provide information about the disposition of lands. In this instance, the lands in question all relate to property held by the Church of Ireland and often give additional genealogical details like those found in the synopsis for the parish of Carlingford & Omeath Parish, County Louth:

"...the other two parts [of land] then in the possession of Silvester Plunket's widow who paid a rent unto the Exchequer for the same, but how much the said Jurors cannot tell, which said two parts were then worth sixtye pounds per annum..." (Inquisitions Co. Louth, page 72).

Mss. T1075 – Dioceses of Derry & Raphoe, Volume 5 (FHL microfilm 258,616, item 3)

The third item on this microfilm lists the following:

- State of Derry Diocese 1693
- State of Derry Diocese 1733
- State of Raphoe Diocese 1733

The following extract from the State of the Diocese of Derry, 1693 provides interesting details about the state of the Cromwellian settlements.

> "The Ancient Church stood at Fahanvale in the center of the parrish, but was removed by the Company of Grocers, London to a place called the Must, a plantation of theirs now decayed nearer one end of the parrish."

During this era, there were a number of settlers from the guilds of the City of London, England who settled this part of the country. Occasionally, pieces of information such as the one above may lead one on the trail of possible estate records for the plantation called the "Must."

Mss. T1075 – Calendar of Miscellaneous Manuscripts – Armagh Registry, Volume 6 (FHL microfilm 258,616, item 4)

There is a typewritten index at the beginning of the volume with this note, "(This index is not Exhaustive, but includes Index of all the Subjects, parishes, places (except Townlands), and

of all the Clergy and principal persons mentioned.)"

When archive staff detailing collections use the word "miscellaneous" it often means that there is a "grab bag" of information that could be included. The title of the collection would defy the odds of unveiling the following entry:

> "Certificate in favour of Ant. Gavin, late Chaplain in ye Navy, 1722. We underwritten do certifie that ye Revd Mr. Anthony Gavin lately Chapn. In his Majy Navy, since December last at which time he came to Corke, hath beheaved himself to ye satisfaction of all that have conversed with him, giving in his Sermons and Conversation a Certain proof of his true affection to ye King and his Governt. As Witnesses our hands. Corke ye 4th of Octobr. 1722. Rob: Atkins, Geo. Bennett, Vic. Com., Dan: Pearse, Majr."

Mss. T1075 – Descriptive List Information (FHL microfilm 1,551,238)

For reasons unknown to the author, the microfilming of the remainder of Canon Leslie's collection in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland ceased. Additional materials contained in Mss. T1075 are described in the descriptive lists which are on microfilm in the Family History Library. Of the remaining collection described in the "Descriptive List," I believe the following will be of the most interest to genealogists:

- Case of Rob. & Geo. Bell, tenants to part of the Primates Lands in [the] Barony of Dungannon
- 1722. Information of Danl. Mulcahy, Co. Tipperary against conspirators.
- Petition of Stafford Lightburn; suit for a Glebe in Drangan Magowry Co. Tipperary
- 1725. Petition of inhabitants of Cork for continuing duty on coals for building churches. (Note: these are probably Protestants).
- 1667. Names of persons excommunicated by George, late Bishop of Derry
- 1671-1769. Genealogical detail of [the] family of Rev. Sam. Henry in 1695 Presbyterian Minister of Sligo who joined the Established Church & died Dec. 1752. Vicar of Union of Dunkit Gaulskill, Killcolum. Also extracts from his Ossory will and an Exchequer Bill dated 21 May 1750.
- Register of Baptisms of Newtown Hamilton Parish, Diocese of Armagh (Jan 1823-July 1826)
- Copies of Mullaghbrack Marriage Registers. Baptisms: 22 May 1764-22 Nov. 1811 (not included in this copy). Marriages 29 January 1767-27 December 1783 and 23 April 1798-22 May 1811.
- 1753. Copy of the visitation book for Dublin & Glendalough from the Lodge Mss.
- Genealogical notes on the following families: Radcliffe, Dobbs, Stewart, Bristow, Clarke, Jones, Magrath, Brassington, Lambert, Dawson, Kelly, Ovens, Whaley, Burrowes, Davenport, Nesbitt, Sanderson, Noble, Dillon, Harkness, Scott, Stirling, O'Reilly, Tandy, Forster, Ninch, Skelton, Bird, Folvil, Baker, Harte, Humphreys, Winder, Baillie, McGusty, Tandy, Magrath, Reed, Brabazon, Bellingham, Bickerton, Gouldsbury, Hare, Foulke, Walsh, Gosselin, Finnis, Smith, Luther, Keating, King, Smyth, Fox, Coane, Rennick, Pendleton, Carlow, Frith, Mulholland, Siree, Eames, Copeland, Forster (of Tullaghan), Dobbs (of Carrickfergus), Swanzy (of Cavan), Pockrich, Dancy, Fitch, Vowell, Van Homrigh, Revell, Reade, Despard, Becker, Jellett, Bradshaw & Knight, Benson, Young, Stanford, Bredan, Harman, Noble, Fleming, Booth & Bell, Baker, and Drope families.
- Extracts of various wills, chancery and exchequer bills.
- 1806. Copy of private baptisms book of Cork families – Bleaxby, Gibbings, Warren Hutcheson endorsed "Private Baptisms during the time I resided in Rutland house unattached to any parish."
- List of contents of Blair Smith Mss. Made by J. B. Leslie. The Mss. Is circa 1680-90.
- Lombard Family Pedigree & Misc. notes.
- Fleming Family Pedigree, 1518-1708.
- West Family Pedigree
- Magennis Family notes
- Moore Family notes
- Pedigree of McCulloch Family of Co. Antrim, 1682.
- Genealogical Notes on the Cuppage Family by H. B. Swanzy.
- Genealogical Notes on Families: Butler of Co. Meath and Co. Kerry; Mills; Davis of Co. Cork; Connell of Castle Lyons; Corry of Rockcorry & Newry; Kenah; Hudson of Co. Louth; Nicholls; Nixon; Hopkins.

- Genealogical Notes on Harman; Fleming; Davenport; Veitch; Vantrumph; Evanson; Clements; Hamilton.
- Genealogical Notes on Poyntz; Chute of Co. Kerry; Nixon; Ellis; Henry; Beatty; Boyd; Veitch; and Armstrong.

Conclusion

While much of this collection obviously pertains to members of the Church of Ireland, remember that during this era, Roman Catholics were supposed to be buried in Church of Ireland burial grounds and a fee paid to the Church. There is also a possibility that workers mentioned in various vestry minute books may have been members of the Catholic Church. Over a lifetime of service to the Church, Canon Leslie preserved, collected, transcribed, and assimilated a vast amount of information of interest to historians and genealogists – enjoy the thrill of the hunt!

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS, is a professional genealogist since 1977, accredited in Ireland research in 1981 and certified in 2006. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.A. in Family and Local History. He is the course coordinator for the Irish Course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) – a five-day course taught every three years at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He is a past-president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and of the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) and a Fellow of that organization. He is also a Fellow of the Irish Genealogical Research Society, London.

Irish Naming Pattern

Many families in Ireland followed a traditional ethnic naming pattern. Looking at the names of the children can serve to tell if this pattern was used by the parents. If so, you have a good clue to who the parents of your ancestor were.

Sons

- **First son** after father's father
- **Second son** after mother's father
- **Third son** after father
- **Fourth son** after father's oldest brother
- **Fifth son** after mother's oldest brother (Sometimes father's 2nd oldest brother)

Daughters

- **First daughter** after mother's mother (or father's mother)
- **Second daughter** after father's mother (or mother's mother)
- **Third daughter** after mother
- **Fourth daughter** after mother's oldest sister
- **Fifth daughter** after father's oldest sister (Sometimes mother's 2nd oldest sister)

Representative at Large

Are you wondering what this new Board of Directors position is? Well, here's the scoop! It's still in a process in evolution; the first incumbents can shape the position within the scope of the Board's definition.

- Any member who lives outside the Twin Cities metro area can apply to the Board for this position.
- Members will be appointed by the Board for a one year term, July 1 Through June 30.
- Representatives at large will promote IGSI in their geographical area through delivery of brochures to appropriate organizations, contacts with other genealogical societies, etc.
- The Representatives at Large will serve as decision-makers on the IGSI Board of Directors and will advise the Board on issues, concerns and new activities, representing the needs and ideas of their area.

What are the benefits to you?

- A greater degree of involvement and activity within IGSI.
- Member of the Board of Directors, with Leadership level access and responsibilities.
- Participation in Board and/or committee meetings through Internet technology (e.g. Skype).
- Opportunity to promote or sponsor an IGSI program in your home area.

When All the Pieces Don't Come in the Same Box

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

Doing genealogy is a bit like doing jigsaw puzzles. The complete picture emerges only when we put a lot of pieces together in the right pattern. There's one big difference between jigsaw puzzles and genealogy: jigsaw puzzles usually come with a picture on the box cover so we know the final pattern before we start. In genealogy, we only see the picture after we've correctly assembled the pieces.

The pieces are bits of information gathered from many sources and converted into convincing evidence. And, in genealogy, all the pieces don't come in one box. We have to search many boxes (sources) and follow clues from one box to another.

Genealogists quickly discover the benefits of doing two things: 1) mining all the information in a particular source, and 2) following the clues in the information to other sources. To extend the jigsaw analogy: successful genealogists look at all the pieces in the box, alert to clues leading to pieces in other boxes.

We often begin our search in a census record or a vital record, such as a death certificate. These relatively easy-to-find genealogical source "boxes" are loaded with information, as well as leads to other sources.

Box 1 – Death Records.

If I was looking for a maternal grandmother, Mary Reeves, whose death I remembered from the 1970s, I might start with her death record and work back in time. (Mary Reeves is real, but she's no relation to me). It helps that I know she lived in Minnesota. Indeed, a search of an online index of Minnesota death certificates turns up Mary Reeves, who died in St. Paul, Ramsey County, in 1973. She was born in Ireland 28 December 1889 and was the widow of Thomas. The informant reported that Mary's father's name was Morgan McCarthy.[1]

I've already learned a good deal – birth date, spouse's name, father's name – but now want to follow these leads to other source boxes in hopes of validating the information and finding more.

Box 2 – Census Records.

I'm ready to look in the 1930 Census, the most recently available, for a Mary Reeves (or possibly McCarthy) born in Ireland in 1889. A nation-wide search for a Mary Reeves, born in Ireland five years either side of 1889, produces only two hits, including one in St. Paul. The St. Paul household includes divorcee Mary, 37; Julia M., 10, and Dorothy M., 9. Both daughters were born in Minnesota. Mary said she immigrated in 1918, but she was not a U.S. citizen. The 1930 Census asked for age of first marriage, but Mary apparently declined to answer. The family lived at 776 Seminary St.[2]

Despite the divorce, this seemed a promising match. Now, let's move on (back) to the 1920 Census. The *Ancestry.com* index lists six Mary Reeves fitting our search criteria; one is the wife of Thomas Reeves in St. Paul. The census enumerator recorded the following individuals:

> Thomas T. Reeves, head, age 34, born in Ireland,
> Mary Reeves, wife, age 28, born in Ireland,
> Julia, daughter, age 6 months, born in Ireland, and
> Patrick McCarthy, brother-in-law, 24, born in Ireland.[3]

I am certain this is the right family because Mary's death certificate indicated that her deceased husband was named Thomas and her father's surname was McCarthy. Here, we have her apparent brother, Patrick. Suppose we had gone to the census first, and did not yet have Mary's death certificate. Patrick's presence in the 1920 household alone would have been a solid clue to Mary's maiden name.

Let's read across the entire census page, and see what else we can garner.

- Thomas was a renter in a multi-family residence at 284 Mt. Airy Street.
- Thomas came to the United States in 1909 and became a citizen in 1919. This gives us a clue when to look for citizenship papers; if the family was in St. Paul by 1919, the final papers may well be in Ramsey County.
- Thomas was a spring-maker in a railroad shop. This information might not be immediately helpful in tracing his origins, but will help us match him with the correct Thomas Reeves in other records.
- Patrick was a machinist's apprentice in a railroad shop.

We're wondering about Thomas' absence from his wife and children in 1930. Returning to the 1930 census, we can now find Thomas, age 44 and single, a lodger in a boarding house on Charles Avenue. He was in the occupation of "trucking" at a railroad yard. His wife and daughter were not with him. The

Searchable Online Indexes

Searchable online indexes make it much easier to find records than in the past. Except for the marriage record and naturalization records, which required a visit to the Minnesota Historical Society, I found all the records used in this article in a couple of hours on the internet.

Vital records (birth, marriage and death). Many vital records indexes are available online. Check county Genweb sites, state and local genealogical societies, state archives and county government websites.

Census records. Every person indexes are available through *Ancestry.com* and *Heritage Quest*. Many libraries provide free access to these subscription data bases. Also check county Genweb sites and local societies for indexes and transcriptions.

Passenger records. *Ancestry.com* offers searchable indexes of thousands of passenger records. A librarian can help you find published indexes.

Naturalization records. Naturalization records are harder to find because any court of record – local, state or federal – could perform naturalizations. If you have an idea where and when the naturalization occurred, you will have a better chance. I was lucky because most Minnesota records have been indexed by county.

census again reported his immigration date as 1909.[4]

Because the 1920 census indicates that both Thomas and Mary came to the United States in 1909, I tried to find them in the 1910 U.S. Census. After searches using several combinations of name, age and birth place, I was unable to find a good match for Thomas or Mary in 1910. Don't despair – this does happen. There are several possibilities. The 1909 immigration date might have been incorrect. The census-taker might have missed Thomas. *Ancestry.com* might have misconstrued the name, making it difficult for me to find him in the index.

Box 3 – More Vital Records.

With a daughter born about six months before the January census enumeration and Mary's claim to have immigrated in 1918 (1930 Census), we suspect a marriage in St. Paul about 1918-1920. Indeed, Ramsey County marriage records list the marriage of Thomas Reeves and Mary McCarthy 8 August 1918.[5] Civil marriage records such as these often give little information beyond names of the groom and bride. This record does not even give their ages.

However, we are lucky to already have Mary's maiden name from her death certificate. This doesn't always happen. Where else could we look? Birth certificates often give the maiden name of the mother. Indeed, Ramsey County birth registrations for daughters Julia[6] and Dorothy[7] both name their mother as Mary McCarthy.

A 1944 death certificate recorded the death of Thomas Reeves in St. Paul[8]. He was a blacksmith helper for the railroad. The certificate reported that his surviving wife was Mary Reeves, age 53. The informant for the death certificate, Mrs. Mary Reeves, did not know the name of Thomas' father, but said his mother was Julia Whalen. He was living at 776 Seminary (Mary's 1930 residence) when he died, suggesting he and Mary may have been back together.

Box 4 – Naturalization Records.

Thomas Reeves told the census-taker that he immigrated in 1918. These dates aren't always reliable, but they help us narrow our search. Again, we are fortunate. Declarations of intent for citizenship after 1906 required information about last place of residence and occupation. Starting in 1916, forms required information about marriages and spouses.

In his 1917 Declaration of Intention (first papers), Thomas reported he was born 27 August 1885 in Kilkenny, Ireland, and that he entered the United States at Boston on the *Ivernia* in April 1909.[9] In his 1919 Petition for Naturalization (final papers), he reported, his wife Mary was born 27 December 1892 in Galway, Ireland.[10] (This may be a more reliable date than the birth date on her death certificate).

Box 5 – Passenger Arrival Records.

Having information about arrival date, ship and port from the census and naturalization records makes searching for a passenger arrival record much easier. In this case, it is a snap. A search for a Thomas Reeves, about age 23, arriving between 1908 and 1910, produces only one match on Ancestry.com, and it is a solid match.

Thomas Reeves, age 24, arrived on the *Ivernia* at Boston, 29 April 1909. His destination? His sister Margaret Higgins at 449 Laff_n in St. Paul, Minnesota. His closest relative or friend was Tom Higgins

of Paulstown, County Kilkenny. Thomas' last residence was Paulstown, where he was born.[11]

Putting the Pieces Together.

We don't yet have all the pieces, but we can start to put the picture together. Thomas Reeves came to St. Paul in 1909, preceded by his married sister Margaret. Their mother may have been Julia Whalen. The Reeves probably came from Paulstown, County Kilkenny. Mary McCarthy, the daughter of Morgan McCarthy, probably came to St. Paul about 1918, possibly to join her brother Patrick. Thomas and Mary married in 1918, and soon after had two daughters. They were separated, and possibly divorced, by 1930, but may have later lived together again.

There are still holes – missing pieces – in the picture. Some questions remain. Was there a divorce? Or just a separation? When did Mary emigrate? Did Thomas and Mary have other siblings? When did Patrick come to Minnesota, and what happened to him? From where in Galway did the McCarthys come?

We will need to open more boxes to find the pieces to fill in the gaps. But, what a picture it will be when we're done!

Endnotes

Death Records

1 Mary Reeves Certificate of Death, Minnesota Department of Health, state file no. 16,642, local file no. 1,719, Minnesota State Archives Microfilm.

Census Records

2 1930 U. S. Census, Minnesota, Ramsey County, St. Paul, Ward 12, Enumeration District 62, Sheet 4A, dwelling 27, family no. 34, Mary Reeves household, National Archives and Records Administration microform publication T626, roll 1,123, digital image viewed at http://www.Ancestry.com, January 2009.

3 1920 U.S. Census, Minnesota, Ramsey County, St. Paul, Ward 9, Precinct 4, Enumeration District 107, Sheet 1A, dwelling no. 1, family no. 3, Thomas Reeves household, National Archives and Records Administration microform publication T625, roll 854, digital image viewed at http://www.Ancestry.com, January 2009.

4 1930 U.S. Census, Minnesota, Ramsey County, St. Paul, Ward 10, Block 227, Enumeration District 62-129, Sheet 26A, stamped p. 201, dwelling no. 265, family no. 317, National Archives and Records Administration microform publication T626, roll 1,120, digital image viewed at http://www.Ancestry.com, January 2009.

More Vital Records

5 Thomas Reeves and Mary McCarthy marriage license and certificate, Ramsey County (MN) Marriage Book 91, p. 108, Minnesota State Archives microfilm publication 433, roll 29.

6 Julia Mary Reeves Certificate of Birth, Ramsey County, Minnesota, no. 239, filed at Minnesota Bureau of Health, state file no. 1918- 48,456.

7 Dorothy M. Reeves Certificate of Birth, Ramsey County, Minnesota, no. 776, filed at State of Minnesota Division of Vital Statistics, state file no. 1920-52,714.

8 Thomas Reeves Certificate of Death, Minnesota State Department of Health, Division of Birth and Death Records and Statistics, state file no. 24,735, Minnesota State Archives microfilm.

Naturalization Records

9 Thomas Patrick Reeves Declaration of Intention, Ramsey County (MN) District Court, no. 8,042, stamped no. 139, 24 April 1917.

10 Thomas Patrick Reeves Petition for Naturalization, Ramsey County (MN) District Court, no. 4,227, stamped 249, 24 June 1919.

Passenger Arrival Records

11 List or Manifest of Alien Passengers for the United States Immigration Officer at the Port of Arrival, S. S. Ivernia, Port of Boston, 29 April 1909, Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Boston, Massachusetts, 1891-1943, National Archives and Records Administration microform publication T843, roll 23, digital image viewed at http://www.Ancestry.com, January 2009.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is president of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He has studied advanced genealogy research methods at the Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and completed the National Genealogical Society's home study course.

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

Filled Pocket With Dirt

Then Carried the Dirt Home to Place in Memory's Hall or Affection's Shrine

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said", "this is my own – my native land". Well, scarcely, and in some sense in Alton or vicinity right now that fact is being advertised by the presence of a handful or two of dirt rubbed off of "real Irish grown, Irish potatoes" by a native of Erin's Isle who dropped into "Louie" L'Eplatenier's commission house in east Second street the other day. After gazing long and tenderly at the black soil covered spuds from over the sea, he began taking the potatoes one at a time in his hand, and when he thought no one was looking he rubbed off the accumulated soil of Ireland and placed it in his coat pocket. He lingered long enough to rub clean several potatoes and must have succeeded in gathering two or three good sized handfuls of the land of his birth and which he and every other Irishman loves so well and when he left the store he was in an unmistakably happy frame of mind over the treasure he had in his pocket.
Alton Evening Telegraph (Illinois)
Thursday, April 15, 1909

50,000 Pilgrims For Irish Home Going

Washington, D.C., April 19. – "Ireland for the Irish, 1910 – meet me at Kilkenny."

With this as their slogan the friends of the proposed "Irish home going" movement in 1910 want not less than 50,000 of the sons and daughters of Erin to make the pilgrimage to Ireland then for an industrial revival of that country. The occasion promises to be the greatest epoch making event in the history of Ireland. …

The principal motive underlying the proposed pilgrimage is the development of the natural resources of Ireland and upbuilding of its industries. It is urged that the emerald isle, blessed with almost unlimited latent natural resources offers splendid opportunities for the investment of capital in its many fields of Industry.

The point is made that Irishmen who have made a success in the United States can carry back to Ireland ideas relative to government, manufacture, commerce, and capital which may be employed there equally to the advantage of Ireland and to those who return to their native land. …
Waterloo Semi-Weekly Courier (Iowa)
Tuesday, April 20, 1909

News from Ireland

Kerry

The sad spectacle was witnessed on April 6, in the Tralee station, of the departure for America, of almost dozen fishermen belonging to the Ballydavid district. Frequent incursions of steam trawlers, necessitated their seeking their bread and butter in the far-off Pacific Coast of America.
Irish Standard (Minnesota)
1 May 1909

Brawny Lads of the Gaelic League

Years before Greece became known as the great center of sports, Erin was the hunting grounds of the athlete. Ever since the landing of the sons of "Mileadh" on the beautiful shores of Banba, her sons have been looked upon as the greatest exponents of clean sports on earth. Tailtean, now Telltown, in the County Meath, was to Erin what Athens was to Greece. …
Anaconda Standard (Montana)
30 May 1909

City in Brief.

William M. Knight, county commissioner, says that Hubert Finley, who swam over St. Anthony falls last Saturday without harm to himself, is not the first man who ever went over the historic falls and lived. He asserts that on Nov. 15, 1854, his uncle, William H. Hickey, went over the falls and landed safely on Spirit Island below. Mr. Hickey was crossing the river at night from Fifth avenue northeast and Main street. He mistook a light in a house below the falls for the light in Col. Stevens' house and was drawn over the cataract. At that time the falls were forty feet high and had no apron. Mr. Knight says the roar of the falls on a still day could be heard four miles.
Irish Standard (Minnesota)
5 June 1909

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop and Mary Wickersham share the writing credits for the "100 Years Ago" column. They are sisters as well as co-presidents and partners in Midwest Ancestor Research. Sheila is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, the Minnesota Genealogical Society and many local and regional genealogical and historical associations throughout the country. Mary retired from bank operations and software development in 1998. She is active with IGSI and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

Tracking the Elusive Danahers

by Kathy Deiss

All that we knew of our great-grandmother Mary Danaher's family was the story our mother had told: Mary's mother had died, her father remarried, and his children did not get along with their new stepmother, so they were sent from Ireland to New York to live with unnamed relatives of their mother. Mary was sixteen; in her care were her younger sister and brother, Anna and Michael. That's as much as we knew about the Danahers before they came to America.

On October 8, 1864, when Mary was eighteen, she married thirty-year-old widower Sylvester Burrows in Rome, Oneida Co., New York, where their first three children were born – Andrew, Ellen, and Margaret. In the early 1870s the family moved to Stillwater, Minnesota, where the youngest child, Michael, was born. Mary was only forty-six when she died on September 29, 1892 – well before death certificates were required in Minnesota.

We hoped that the Danahers had followed the same naming pattern as our Murphy and Devereaux ancestors from County Wexford, with the oldest son and daughter being named after the father's parents, and the next son and daughter named after the mother's. It seemed likely. Both Michael and Anna had also moved west to Minnesota, marrying and settling in Minneapolis. Anna married Mortimer Grogan; their second son and second daughter were named Andrew and Nellie. Michael and Mary (Ring) Danaher didn't follow the pattern exactly, but they did have a son Andrew and a daughter Ella. Sylvester Burrows was an orphan who didn't know his parents' names – the oldest son and daughter of Sylvester and Mary were Andrew and Ellen. With a fair amount of wishful thinking, we decided that the parents of the three Danaher immigrants were probably/possibly Andrew and Ellen/Nellie. But with Mary's early death, and only a short obituary with no information on her parents, we didn't know how we would prove our theory.

Standing: Margaret Burrows, James Lynch (husband of Nellie) and Nellie Burrows. Seated: Sadie Grogan. The girls in this photo, taken about 1890, are the daughters of Mary (Danaher) Burrows and Anna (Danaher) Grogan. *Courtesy of Kathy Deiss*

Then it occurred to us that, very possibly, Anna and Michael had lived into the 20th century, and may well have had death certificates. Sure enough, Anna died in 1909; her death certificate gives her parents as Andrew Danaher and Nellie Hays. Michael lived until 1924; his certificate says that his parents were Andrew Danaher and Mary Ellen Hayes. As a wonderful added bonus, they both give a birthplace of County Limerick! So, it most surely pays to check out those collateral ancestors when you've hit a dead end on your direct line.

One more item on the Danahers – as an affirmation that old queries never die. Back in the early 1980s I had put a query in the Minnesota Genealogy Society newsletter, asking for information on the three Danaher siblings and their descendants. A couple of replies came in which added some details to our outline of the family, but that was it for several years. Then in the early 1990s a call came from a Danaher descendant in California.

He had hired a genealogist in Minnesota to search for information on the family. She had located that 10-year-old query. We traded information on our branches of the family and he sent a copy of a family history written in the 1920s by a nun, Sister Mary Leonard. She and our caller were descended from previously-unknown Thomas Danaher, an older brother of Andrew, who had settled in Iowa. Her writings were a treasure trove, telling about family branches that were brand new to us, including Andrew's older sister Ann (Mrs. Patrick Ring) and younger brother John, both of whom had settled in Minneapolis. The real gems were the names of the parents of Thomas, Ann, Andrew, and John – Michael and Mary (Ryan) Danaher, and the name of their village in County Limerick – Doon! We have traveled to Doon twice, and found the marriage record of Andrew Danaher and Mary Ellen Hayes and the baptisms of their children. All thanks to a long-forgotten query.

Kathy Deiss, a retired teacher, lives in Ellsworth, Wisconsin. For thirty years she has been obsessed with tracing her children's ancestry. This addiction led to six trips to Ireland; she is looking for an excuse for a seventh. She is the current president of the St. Croix Valley Genealogical Society and the corresponding secretary for the Pierce County Historical Association. She teaches beginning genealogy classes in the St. Croix Valley.

How Do I Start? Where Do I Look?

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

If you're just beginning to investigate your Irish roots, get started with the Research Guidelines listed under the Research tab on the IGSI website, http://www.irishgenealogical.org. Use the "how to" information in this section of the IGSI website to knock down—or at least erode—your brick wall problems. You'll find lists of possible search starting-points plus help in using what you already have as a jumping-off point to build on your family tree.

Seven areas of research make up the Research Guidelines:

- Introduction to Research
- Starting Your Irish Research
- Records to Search at Home
- The Problem of Names
- Irish Places and Irish History
- Digging Deeper in Ireland
- Irish Sources

Introduction to Research

Are you just starting to research an Irish family line? In "Introduction to Research," Tom Rice, CG, lays out a game plan for conducting your genealogical research, Irish or not. Tom explains the basics of genealogical research—beginning with yourself and working your way back in time—stressing the importance of keeping records and organizing results. He encourages beginners to share results with others and to continue learning in the genealogy field by reading, attending lectures and seminars, joining societies and much more.

Starting Your Irish Research

Ready to hit the ground running? This IGSI webpage offers six basic steps to put you well on your way down the road to discovering your family history. In summary:

- First, define who you are looking for. Let's say it's your great-grandfather John Leahy who settled in St. Louis, Missouri; gather up all the information you now have about him.
- Second, you must know where to look for more information about John Leahy. Research his life where he settled in St. Louis.
- Third, pull together a picture of his family—all known members including aunts, uncles, siblings and cousins, and throw in the neighbors for good measure.
- Fourth, use these clues to find your way back to where in Ireland Great-grandfather Leahy lived.
- Fifth, discover when he left Ireland. A gap of several years between his departure from Ireland and arrival in St. Louis may point to another residence in between.
- Finally, discover how John Leahy came to his final destination. Did he pass through Castle Garden and move on to Upstate New York first, only to end up years later in St. Louis? Perhaps he came through Canada before heading to one of the bordering states and then on to Missouri.

Records to Search at Home

"Records to Search at Home" follows a basic genealogy guideline—first investigate what is close at hand. Gather up available records for all of your family, and then concentrate on those pertaining to your Irish ancestor. This page features specific starting points and lists of resources to take you beyond what you have found at home.

The Problem of Names

What did my family call themselves: Malley, Maley, Maille, Melly; with O or

without? Visit this webpage to puzzle out all possible (and seemingly impossible) variations of the names you are researching. In Irish Christian names, a translation from Gaelic to English may seem to have no similarity at all: I have an American "Jerome" on my tree who was "Dermot" in Ireland. Click the links here to examine a list of variations of Irish Christian names and an explanation of the origins of Irish surnames.

Also on "The Problem of Names" webpage, find tips on ferreting out maiden names, which can be deeply hidden in the records of fathers, husbands and children.

Irish Places and Irish History

Poor Law Unions, Civil Parishes, townlands—the divisions of Ireland can confuse the most organized and logical of us all. This is the place to learn the purpose and scope of geographic and political divisions of Ireland and to learn how to map them when seeking out your ancestors' home town.

Click on the link under Civil Divisions for a great rundown on civil parishes, Poor Law Unions and more at the Fianna site on *RootsWeb*. Another link takes you to *IrishTimes.com* for the *1851 General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland*. A third links to a townland database where, if you enter a county name, you are rewarded with a list of townlands within the county along with the size of the townland in acres, its barony, civil parish, Poor Law Union and province.

The Irish history section places your ancestors in their Irish environment at the time of their emigration. Perhaps they left during the famine, with so many others; perhaps they were politically active and the situation became too hot for them to remain in the country.

Knowing Irish history and civil geography will help you understand what motivated your people to leave their home and cross oceans to the United States, Canada, Australia, and other places of refuge.

Digging Deeper in Ireland

Sometimes all you possess is one small piece of information. Follow this link for help in using that bit of information to expand your search, even if all you can provide is "Ireland." Know the county, parish or townland? Don't waste time—your search is heating up!

Irish Source

Once you have a good understanding of your family's history in their new country, and you have an idea of where in Ireland they originated, it is time to check out Irish sources. On this webpage, you'll find information about using Tithe Applotment records, *Griffiths Primary Valuation*, church records, civil registrations, land and military records, and more.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, IL. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

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time events. Whatever your available time or talents, we can find a place for you in IGSI.

And finally, I want to hear from you about our organization. What have you wished we would do that we don't? If you were an officer or board member of IGSI, what is the one thing you would change or introduce? What are you willing to do to help?

If you want to help IGSI or if you have suggestions, please contact me at President@IrishGenealogical.org or at 952-831-8286. I would love to hear from you!

Linda Miller is the president of the Irish Genealogical Society International. She volunteers as the bookstore manager and leads the IGSI writing group located in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a member of the Association of Personal Historians and a certified Soliel Lifestory Network teacher who offers lifewriting workshops and other memoir services. A former police officer, Linda lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area.

IGSI Research Trip

Please note: The IGSI Research Trip to Salt Lake City sold out before the early bird deadline. We cannot take any more reservations.

Websites to Connect to Other Family

by Mary Wickersham

Websites can be very useful tools in making connections with other family members. That second or third cousin whom you never knew may have a crucial piece of information or a family photo. They'll welcome your participation, too, when you can identify the twins in the Model T in their "mystery photo".

Many genealogy websites include message boards that allow you to post a message about your ancestors. The posting will be visible to other researchers who can reply to your entry. Your email address may or may not be made public.

When making a post, keep it short, but include enough details to help your cousins decide easily if there may be a fit with their family. For example: "Looking for info/other descendants of my g-g-grandparents James O'Rourke & Margaret Cawley/ Cauley; both b. Ireland, came to the U.S. abt. 1854. NJ -> PA, then to IL by 1870. James was a coal miner."

Some words of caution: while the Internet allows you to reach a wide audience, anyone can easily use information you post for their own purposes. You have little control over the information once it is published, so be careful not to publish detailed information about yourself and immediate ancestors. Save the details for when you and the cousins have connected and can share information privately: via mail, email, telephone, etc.

Genealogy Message Boards with World-wide Coverage

Ancestry.com (http://www.ancestry.com) requires you to have an account in order to post messages. Email addresses are visible to other subscribers, so they can contact you directly, not just through the message board. Entries are indexed by surname and by location, so if you're researching a common name, browse to the location and search for the surname within the location. Subscribers: click on the Community tab on the links bar at the top of the page.

GenForum (http://genforum.genealogy.com) allows you to search the postings without registering, and is a good place to become familiar with message board behavior. You will need to register in order to post a message, so you can receive an automatic email when a researcher replies to your post. Your email address remains hidden. (Although Ancestry.com and Genealogy.com are owned by the same company, their databases contain different posts.)

***Rootsweb* Surname List** (http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com) is free. It consists of surname, from and to dates, migration locations, submitter name and comment. The submitter names are links which open a window with the contact information for the submitter. This can be an email address, a mailing address, a website, or all three. Once you open that information, you can see all surname entries for that submitter, and you can see how much overlap you have with the submitter's interests.

Ireland & UK-Specific Message Boards

***Virtual Irish Community* website** (http://www.vic.ie) This free Irish Roots Message Board has a board for each county. Use the search feature for surnames of interest to you, or click into a county section to search within that county's message board. The first few lines of each post will be visible on the results list. You must register in order to post. Once you do, your email address will be available to those who read your post.

***Family History UK Community* Forum** (http://www.forum.familyhistory.uk.com) is free. Registration is required. This site has lots of free-flowing chit-chat and questions back and forth about how to find information. Each member's post is followed by a list of their surname interests. Forums include separate Roots areas for English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish, and by type of vital record. Members control whether their contact information is viewed, and only registered members can view contact information.

Social Networking Websites

Geni (http://www.geni.com) Free. After you register, start entering your family tree information, including email addresses. Geni sends email to those family members, encouraging them to add to the family tree. Only family members who have been invited to see the tree can access it (due to privacy concerns). Existing family tree records can be imported from a GEDCOM (GEnealogical Data COMmunication), which your PC software should be able to create. A monthly fee is charged if you want the premium service, where you can export a GEDCOM from Geni.

Facebook (http://www.facebook.com) You may have heard of this as a social networking website for young people,

but its audience is expanding. Registration is required. You set your profile and control what information is public or private. Of course, you can add your photo. Search by name or interests, and a list of individual entries appears for those who have listed the same interest. If you want to contact one of them, click on their "send a message" link to send an email. Doing so will give that person permission to view your list of friends, as well as other information you provided when you registered, for one month.

Note

If you are concerned about having your email address made public, as some of these sites do, you may want to obtain a separate email address reserved for your message board activity. If you start getting spam, switch to a new email address.

If you change your email address, be sure to update it on the message boards. It is extremely frustrating to find someone who posted information, only to find you can't connect with them because the email address no longer works. You should need to change the address just once on each site, not for each posting.

Mary Wickersham retired from bank operations and software development in 1998. She is active with IGSI and chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society With her sister, she also writes the "100 Years Ago" column for The Septs.

IGSI Elections

by IGSI Board of Directors

Save the date of May 16 for our Annual Meeting and Board Elections – to be held at the MGS Library building in South St. Paul, Minnesota. The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.

The current slate of officers is only partially filled as of the date of this writing (early March). If you are interested in having your name on the ballot for any office (even one with a nomination), please contact the President. The term of office for all officers is one year, commencing July 1.

President: Linda Miller (incumbent)
1st Vice-President: Open
2nd Vice President: Diane Lovrencevic (incumbent)
Secretary: Kevina Munnich (incumbent)
Treasurer: Open

Treasurer

IGSI is looking for a candidate for the position of Treasurer on our Board. The Treasurer needs to be someone local who will help us with budgeting, manage our banking, and work with our bookkeeper. If you have treasurer (or equivalent) experience and are interested in this position, please contact President Linda Miller at President@IrishGenealogical.org before May 10.

New "At Large" Board Member Position

Recognizing that our many members live throughout the United States and in other countries, IGSI will introduce an appointed "At Large" board position to be filled by a member from outside the metro area of Minnesota. Most work of a Board no longer requires the physical presence of all members in one location for meetings. All one needs is a telephone, a computer and internet access to be as connected as those sitting at the same table.

We always need people with skills to help our organization. For example, experience serving on a board of a non-profit business, fundraising, networking, program or project experience, background in adult learning, member/customer service and marketing are all skills we can use. Of course, we don't expect to find them all in one candidate!

If you are interested in joining our Board, please contact President Linda Miller at President@IrishGenealogical.org before May 10.

Frequently Asked Questions About Membership

by Diane Lovrencevic

The Society recently added new membership categories. Right now these categories all sound similar, but in the future changes such as cost may differentiate them. The new membership categories have generated questions among our members and we want to share some of these questions and answers with you. Should you have questions, be sure to contact us at Membership@IrishGenealogical.org.

Dear IGSI Membership,
As a General Member in the past I have received paper copies of *The Septs* on a regular basis. My question with regard to becoming an Electronic Member is how long I will have access to the electronic/computer-generated copies of *The Septs* in the future? With *The Septs* in my possession, I can always refer to them. Will that be possible via the electronic version?

> Dear Member,
> One of the best benefits of membership to IGSI is *The Septs* journal. The decision to place all the journals online was made to allow members to read past issues they may not have received. These issues and the ones to come will remain online forever. A member will be able to access them as long as he/she renews membership. Think of it as our storing them for you.

Dear Membership Committee,
I'm confused on what category I should join. Do I need to join the International category to get information about Ireland and other areas outside the U.S.? Why would I join the electronic membership? What is the Society Subscription about?

Dear Member,
We understand your confusion. Whenever something changes there are questions that arise. To better serve the membership, the IGSI board decided to offer different categories to meet the needs of our members everywhere.

The General Membership offers everything our membership has in the past. There are no changes to this membership, including its cost.

Some members live outside of the U.S. and for them we offer the same benefits as we do to any member. The cost of mailing *The Septs* outside the U.S. has increased. We decided that the best way to cover this is to charge more to the members who live overseas to cover the cost of these mailings. We call this membership our **International Membership**. Only people living outside the U.S. should join under the International Membership category.

The Electronic Membership offers everything that the General (or International) membership offers. The only difference is that you do not receive a printed version of *The Septs*. You will receive a quarterly notice notice to go online to our Members Website and download the publication. You can then choose to read it on your computer or print it off on your printer. This membership may be desirable for those that do not want to add more paper to their lives, for members who live outside the U.S. and want to pay a smaller membership fee, or for members who are ecologically minded and want to save on the environment.

You need to join or renew in one of these categories

Finally, the **Journal Subscription** is available only to organizations. It is designed for libraries or genealogical societies who want our publication to put on their shelves for researchers in their area to find. This category does not allow any access to the members website nor do subscribers receive any other benefits of membership. Journal subscriptions are not available to the individual.

Dear IGSI,
I forgot to renew and now I'm unable to get on to the website. How can I renew online if I cannot get online?

> Dear Member,
> Your access to the Members Website expires with your membership. If you miss the renewal while still an active member the best thing would be to contact us at Membership@IrishGenealogical.org and have us help you with this online process. Or, you can send in your check for renewal, should you prefer to go this way. We try to provide you the same member number. So even renewing after you have lapsed you can be assured your membership continues with the same member number.

Dear Membership,
I did not receive my last issue of *The Septs* in the mail. I didn't renew on time but I did get it in by December 23 and *The Septs* came out in January. Why didn't I receive my January issue? I was a member by that time.

> Dear Member,
> The editors must provide the printers with the mailing list for *The Septs* two weeks before the mailing date. Any changes -- a change of address or a lapsed renewal -- need to be to our membership committee by the two-week deadline. In your case, your renewal was after the December 15th deadline for the mailing list. Of course, you can download *The Septs* for free now that you have renewed or purchase a hard copy through the bookstore for $7. Deadline dates for renewals or address changes to assure the mailing of *The Septs* are the 15th of December, March, June, and September.

Diane Lovrencevic is the 2nd Vice-President among other volunteer positions for the organization. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of publications for IGSI, is editor of the website and has recently started the IGSI eNewsletter. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Donors to IGSI

We wish to thank the following members for their support of the Irish Genealogical Society International. Their generosity allows us to provide additional materials and services to the membership.

Thomas Brengan	Seattle, Washington
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Marguerite Wenzel	Chicago, Illinois

Need a Little Research Assistance?

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI staff search our Library for information requested by a current member.

With your request for research assistance, send

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- *Emigrant Savings Bank, New York* - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- *O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- *The Search for Missing Friends*, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot*.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of tube.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge.

Write for *The Septs*

You can become a featured author in this journal by sharing your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to the publication date of *The Septs*. Submission date for the next issue, July 2009, is May 1. Submission date for the October 2009 issue is August 1.

The theme for the July 2009 issue is "Artifacts and Home Records as Genealogy Sources". Family Bibles, photos, letters, even memorial cards can provide information or lead one to new genealogical discoveries. If you have something to share about this theme or any article idea, contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org. He will also work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community.

Future themes include:

October 2009	Military Records – Irish, British, U. S., etc.
January 2010	Irish in Canada – those who stayed and those who moved on
April 2010	Methodology for Family Historians – planning for success
July 2010	Scots Irish – Origins, culture, and as part of the Diaspora

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

October , November, December 2008

by Beth Mullinax, IGSI Librarian

Purchases:

H539 – *The Zulu Fishermen. Forgotten Pioneers of Donegal's First Fishing Industry*, by Pat Conaghan. Published Bygones Enterprise, Aghayeevoge, Killybegs, Co. Donegal, Ireland, 2003, 339 p., illus, indexed.

H542 - *The Way It Was*. Ballinacourty, Ballinroad & Clonea. [Co. Waterford]. The Families & Their History, by Eddie Cantwell. Printed by Modern Printers, Kilkenny, 2004, 186 p., illus, indexed.

K126 - *Granabane Church* [Co. Waterford]. Bi-Centenary Souvenir, by Eddie Cantwell. Published by the church, 2007, 59 p., illus.

L102.Vol. II - *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853*, by Terrence M. Punch. Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore MD, 2009, 191 p., illus., indexed.

P053.7 – *Irish Emigrants in North America, Part Seven*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2008, 112 p., illus., alpha.

P052.5 – *Scots-Irish Links, 1575-1725, Part Five*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2006, 130 p., alpha.

P052.6 – *Scots-Irish Links, 1575-1725, Part Six*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2007 (2006), 122 p., alpha.

P052.7 – *Scots-Irish Links, 1575-1725, Part Seven*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2008, 116, alpha.

Donations:

F044 - *Growing Up In Rural Ireland In the 1940s* [Co. Cork], by Tim O'Sullivan. Published by author, Tim O'Sullivan, Perrineville, NJ, 2003, 153 p., illus.

Beth Mullinax is a past president and has held various other Board positions of IGSI since 1983. She lectures on various research topics, basic and advanced, throughout Minnesota and several other states. She led four genealogy research trips to Ireland and has been a contributor to The Septs.

Having been the IGSI librarian since the library's inception, she has been instrumental in building the Irish research collection housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's Library to its status as one of the best Irish Collections in the USA.

Member to Member

Genealogy brings out the best in all of us. How many times has someone taken a few minutes to answer your question or help you with a problem. They don't ask for anything and yet will take time and trouble to help someone out. It is the part of genealogy I like the best. IGSI would like foster this by offering a chance for each of us to go the extra inch. The *Ginealas* eNewsletter will have a running column called Member to Member where you can offer help-with one thing for one member.

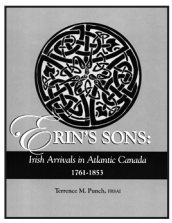
Do you have access to a genealogical library, historical society or important genealogical books? Are you willing to go to the local cemetery to take photos of graves or share information you thought was your family's information only to discover it had nothing to do with your ancestors? You can help other members by volunteering to do look-ups, take a photo or share with others. You decide what you have time to do.

The Member to Member column in the eNewsletter will be the place for members to reach out to each other. We will post these wonderful volunteers on our members website so others can find them.

If you are interested in helping others by doing look-ups in your area, contact eNewsletter@IrishGenealogical.org.

Erin's Sons:
Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853

Terrence M. Punch



These two volumes each cover the same time period, 1761 to 1853, when there was a steady stream of Irish immigrants arriving in Atlantic Canada (Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island). Terence Punch, the region's leading authority on early immigration, has transcribed records from many sources: ships' passenger lists, newspaper articles, regimental records, church records, prison records, burials, etc. to provide information not available in other sources. Vol. 2 also includes lists of runaways and deserters, transported convicts and indentured servants. These books consolidate a valuable body of source records pertaining to thousands of humble folk who left Ireland for a better life. (Each book about 200 pages.)

Order Book	Vol. 1	#L102.1	$30.00
	Vol. 2	#L102.2	$30.00

---

bookstore Order Form

Book #	*Title*	*Author*	*Quantity*	*Each Price*	*Total Price*

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Shipping _____

Total _____

Total Enclosed _____

Due to the rate of the dollar overseas, prices are subject to change. Indicate date of issue books were found. **Prices good for 90 days beyond publishing date.**

Shipping and Handling Cost	
1st Item	$4.60
Additional Items	$ .50
All items will be sent Priority Mail	

Send order form and check to:

Irish Genealogical Society International
1185 Concord Street North, Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Make check payable to: ***Irish Genealogical Society Int'l***

Payment must be made in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. Bank.

Visa Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

MasterCard # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Irish Church Records

James G. Ryan, editor

This book details the records of each of the 8 major Irish denominations and their value for family history, and for church and local history. The locations for each church and guidelines for their access are provided. (208 pp) Order Book #K022 **$35.95**

Irish Records Index Vol.1

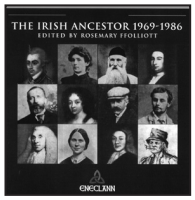
Index of Irish Wills 1484-1858

Eneclann CD

This CD is a comprehensive index to the Testamentary Records in the National Archives. These sources have never been digitally indexed or published before. They include records identified in all the National Archives card catalogues as well as the Inland Revenue Will Registers and Administration Registers 1828-1839. Order CD #G036 **$39.95**

The Irish Ancestor 1969-1986: CD-ROM

Rosemary ffolliott., editor



The Irish Ancestor was a leading genealogical publication during its 18-year run. It printed articles ranging from source material (wills, bibles, church registers, gravestones, etc.), to biographies, estate inventories, domestic history and reviews. Its focus was the 18th and 19th centuries. All 2,500 pages of the original publication including over 320 pages with illustrations are on this CD-ROM. The Adobe Acrobat Reader Bookmarker feature allows for the easy browsing of the titles of each issue. The Reader's Search feature retrieves data from the entire run of articles for any word, name or phrase and then will go directly to the page that contains your search term Order CD #J157 **$79.95**

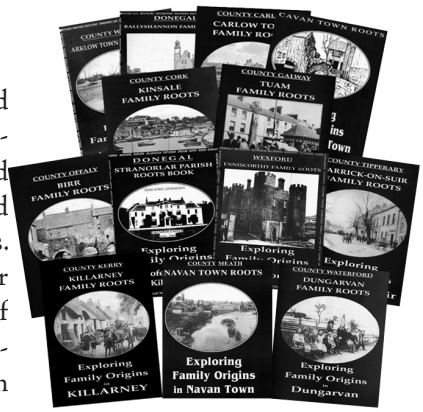
New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland - 2nd Edition

Brian Mitchell

This atlas is invaluable for tracing pre-1864 ancestors in church records and for locating post-1864 ancestors in civil records, with maps and descriptions of the civil administrative divisions to which all major Irish are linked. (175 pp.) *Order Book #A011* **$20.00**

Exploring Family Origins Series

Noel Farrell



These books have helped thousands of Irish people across the world find their Irish roots and their Irish family origins. Each book contains over 12,000 Irish names of natives living in that specific town in the olden times - Irish Genealogy at its best. Noel Farrell's hard work makes subsequent research easier. The fold-out maps are a valuable visual resource.

J073	Carlow Town, County Carlow
J051	Cavan Town, County Cavan
J123	Kinsale, County Cork
J125	Youghal, County Cork
J015	Ballyshannon, County Donegal
J016	Donegal Town, Inver, Mt. Charles, County Donegal
J018	Letterkenny, County Donegal
J019	Stranolarl/Ballybofey, County Donegal
J020	Ballinasloe Town, County Galway
J153	Tuam, County Galway
J040	Killarney, County Kerry
J021	Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim
J154	Rathkeale/Newcastle, County Limerick
J022	Longford Town, County Longford
J158	Ballina, County Mayo
J162	Castlebar & Westport, County Mayo
J023	Navan Town, County Meath
J025	Monaghan Town, County Monaghan
J034	Birr, County Offaly
J026	Tullamore, County Offaly
J027	Old Roscommon, County Roscommon
J118	Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary
J167	Nenagh, County Tipperary
J061	Dungarvan, County Waterford
J163	Athlone, County Westmeath
J164	Mullingar, County Westmeath
J030	Enniscorthy Town, County Wexford
J031	New Ross, County Wexford
J033	Arklow Town, County Wicklow

All Books in Exploring Family Origins Series are $20.00

Irish Genealogical Society International Membership

❑ Renewal
❑ New Mem # _____

IGSI Member who Suggested Membership _____

Indicate Membership Category

❑ General ($25) ❑ International ($35) ❑ Electronic ($25)

For Gift Memberships go to www.IrishGenealogical.org or write to IGSI at address below.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State/Province _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

SURNAMES
Irish and Scot-Irish surnames only. PLEASE PRINT
One surname spelling and one Irish County per line please.
Surnames are searchable on the IGSI website www.IrishGenealogical.org Non-internet users may contact us.

	Surname	Ireland County (locale if known)	Other Country (locale) - [needn't write USA]
Example	*Stack*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*Can-QC; OH, MN (Rice Co), AZ*

Place additional surnames on blank sheet of paper.

PAYMENT

1 Year General Membership ($25 US) $ _____
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1 Year Electronic Membership ($25 US) $ _____
Donation - US tax deductible (Thank You) $ _____

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South St. Paul, MN 55075

http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

May Quarterly Meeting & Program

Irish Genealogical Society International presents

A Lecture on

How do we interpret our family stories? What role do they play in our lives?

by Dr. Brian Nerney

Dr. Brian Nerney, Associate Professor of Writing at Metropolitan State University, recently discovered that a story passed down to him by his father about family violence in New York in 1891 was a sanitized version of the truth. As Brian searched genealogical and historical records at libraries and museums nearby, in New York and in County Cork, he found himself pursuing an answer to the question, why did my father not tell the whole truth? He will tell of his journey into Murphy/McNerney family secrets and how they have shaped his ideas on storytelling and his relationship with his parents and ancestors.

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Held at Minnesota Genealogical Society Library,
1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul, MN

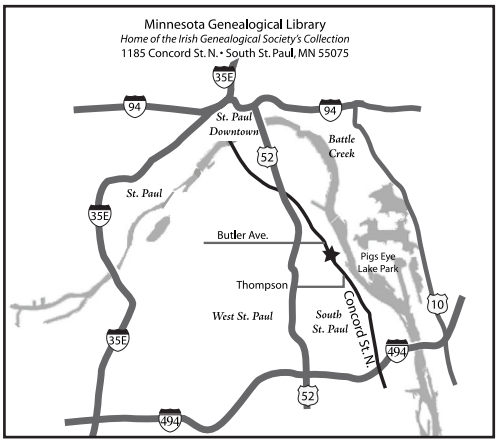
Onsite Registration:	8:30 AM
Business Meeting:	9:00 AM
Program:	10:00 AM
Cost:	$10 for IGSI Members
	$15 for Non-Members

Online Registration: http://IrishGenealogical.org

Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS)

Home of the Irish Genealogical Society International Research Library

Location of IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:30 to 9:30 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Society
1185 Concord St. N. * Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075
651-455-9057

During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

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The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

Volumne 30, Number 3

lúil (July) 2009

Artifacts and Home Records as Genealogy Sources

2009 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 10, 2009
FEBRUARY 14, 2009
MARCH 14, 2009
APRIL 11, 2009
MAY 9, 2009
JUNE 13, 2009
JULY 11, 2009
AUGUST 8, 2009
SEPTEMBER 12, 2009
OCTOBER 10, 2009
NOVEMBER 14, 2009
DECEMBER 12, 2009
(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Classes offered throughout the year. Information can be found online at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org or in this journal.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218 • South St. Paul, MN 55075
Website address: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org
ISSN 1049-1783 • Indexed by PERSI

Editor	Ann Eccles	SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org
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Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs is a benefit of membership in IGSI and is published quarterly - January, April, July and October. It is available through IGSI membership ($25 per year for Electronic memberships. $25 per year on US memberships including mailings of *The Septs* and $35 per year for International including mailings of *The Septs*). Contributions and article ideas are welcome.

Material intended for publication is due the 1st of February, May, August and November. Material should be emailed to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org, Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org or mailed to the address above, ATTN: Editor, and may be published or edited at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2009-2010

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Cover photo and above album page courtesty of J.H. Fonkert, CG.

President's Letter

2009 Annual Meeting Activities

by Linda Miller

The entire audience at IGSI's 2009 annual meeting sat in rapt silence as Dr. Brian Nerney discussed his decision to investigate and write about a family secret from three generations past. His father told him the story years ago, but it was a sanitized version of the truth. As Dr. Nerney worked on his family history, he recognized that his father intentionally or unintentionally gave him a clue when he said, "It was written up in the paper." Nerney's curiosity eventually got the better of him and, with the help of a librarian, he dug into 1891 issues of the *New York Times*. There he read his family's tragic story of violence and betrayal, which had remained mostly hidden for almost a century.

It barely resembled the story he knew. Shaken, but fascinated, he searched genealogical and historical records at libraries and museums in New York and in County Cork, trying to discover why his father didn't tell him the whole truth. Eventually, he decided to write about what he learned and set the family record straight.

Dr. Nerney said that learning the truth had a profound affect on him, on his understanding of his ancestors, of his father and his father's siblings and even of himself. When other family members read his story, some told him that knowing the truth helped them make sense of things they had long wondered about the family.

Audience members peppered Nerney with questions. I had the sense that many were thinking of their own family secrets.

Dr. Brian Nerney is an Associate Professor of Writing at Metropolitan State University in the Twin Cities.

Elections

IGSI holds elections at every Annual Meeting. Officers elected for the next year are:

President	Linda Miller
1st Vice President	Vacant
2nd Vice President	Diane Lovrencevic
Secretary	Kevina Munnich
Treasurer	Vacant

Since no one stepped forward to fill the offices of 1st Vice President and Treasurer, I will appoint someone to handle those duties until we are able to fill the positions. The three officers elected are all in their second terms. Our constitution limits officers to two consecutive terms so all three officers must step down in 2010.

Volunteer Appreciation

Although we have a need for several additional volunteers for specific jobs, we currently have dozens of active volunteers who make IGSI the dynamic organization it is. From the people who work in the library helping visitors locate the information they need to those who work from their homes on projects for IGSI, we know we could not get along without every volunteer we have.

I think the best example of how much volunteers do for us can be found in Diane Lovrencevic, our 2nd Vice President. At the annual meeting, we presented Diane with our top honor for volunteers, the Beth Mullinax Award. Diane is responsible for the recent increase in IGSI membership. She sent a letter to former members who did not renew their membership and asked them to return as members. They responded by stuffing our mailbox with renewals. Diane lays out our journal, *The Septs*, designs our flyers and other documents, handles much of our website content, writes the on-line newsletter, has recently re-introduced IGSI genealogical research trips and does a seemingly unending list of other tasks. Diane is an "idea" factory. She isn't one to wait for direction from others. She takes the initiative and makes things happen. We are grateful for her devotion to IGSI.

I hope you have plans for some summer genealogy research. Whether it's a trip to a courthouse, a visit to IGSI in Minnesota or a trip to Ireland, I hope it's fun and eventful. If we can help direct you, get in touch with your questions and requests.

One last thing – if you have the ability to help grow our membership, let us know. Can you place our membership forms at a library in your town, for example? Or would your local historical society be willing to have our brochures available? What other ideas do you have to help us spread the word? We will happily send the materials if you can distribute them. Thanks and have a great summer.

Linda Miller is the president of IGSI. She volunteers as the bookstore manager and leads the IGSI writing group located in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a member of the Association of Personal Historians and a certified Soliel Lifestory Network teacher who offers lifewriting workshops and other memoir services. A former police officer, Linda lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Family Artifacts and Family History

by Ann Eccles

While reading articles for this issue, I recalled a scrapbook of old photos my mother had kept, and occasionally shared, when I was a child. After my father's death some twenty years ago, my youngest brother pleaded for the scrapbook and other photos of my parents. While he wanted all of the photos, some were distributed to the rest of us. As the youngest, he may not have known all of the people in the photos – but he saw this as his connection to the family. Unfortunately, this collection was lost about a decade ago, shortly before I started on my genealogical research. Alas, also lost was the visual connection to grandparents and older cousins I had hoped to use and share. They were gone; only memories remain, with no stamp of genealogical evidence.

A friend of mine, Mary Kennedy, recently wrote about the memories evoked by old photographs contained in her great-aunt Hattie's tin box. A 1907 picture of her great aunt's family in front of the family home shows Irish immigrants in their Sunday best and, in the style of the time, with stoic faces. A 1914 penny postcard offers fervent wishes that the family would be together for the Christmas holiday. These are similar to mementos that will be mentioned in the articles in this issue and can be clues to an ancestor's life or lifestyle.

As a matter of fact, the contents of this issue are similar to the contents of a box found in your grandmother's attic – quite a miscellany. We have some articles about the theme of the issue, but just as many on other topics.

Tom Rice, as always, is on topic with advice for following up on the family treasures found in a dresser drawer or attic. Jay Fonkert describes how various items found in a box in an attic helped him find additional information to follow his wife's ancestral line. Diane Lovrencevic writes about the surprises revealed through the entries in her mother's journal. Sue Kratsch tells of her Aunt Maude's scrapbook – and how she resolved the contradictory data it yielded. All of these articles provide solid information and reminders for us to check and double-check our facts, to look thoughtfully at the items and to seek the stories behind them. Mary Wickersham identifies a few websites with information to help you preserve your family artifacts.

John Cunningham provides a tale of a caeli house – a house where dancing and music was to be had. He tells us that the house in the story is "gone now to a few grass-covered mounds of stone" but he brings it to life for us in his story. Adrian Martyn, interested in the history of the name "Bernard" in his family, shares his research into the origins of that name in the McDermott clan. Sharon Shea Bossard and Margaret Jordan provide accounts of using DNA to find or confirm ancestral lines. Sharon writes of her search for other Shea relatives in Ireland and her use of DNA testing for that purpose. Margaret Jordan, who voluntarily coordinates the O'Shea yDNA Project and the Ireland yDNA Project, provides the documentary information of how a DNA project works and can help in genealogy. It might just inspire you to look into this technique for your research.

We have an article describing the Friends of St. Patrick, whose purpose is to build positive relationships between the United States and the northern part of Ireland, particularly in Saint Patrick's country of Counties Armagh and Down. David Rencher shares information on the contents of the collections of Irish will abstracts created by Rev. David Stewart and Dean Rev. Henry B. Swanzy that have been microfilmed by the Family History Library. Kathleen Strickland continues to explore the IGSI website. We have three book reviews and the usual complement of Society information.

Mary Kennedy continued in her article: "Each of us carries a piece of history with us wherever our life's journey takes us. In times when we are tested, we can draw upon the strengths of our family. We can find familiarity and comfort in our ancestors' words and photographs… Would we be who we are or where we are today if those who came before us hadn't shared all that they shared?"

We who are the genealogists and family historians should be extremely grateful for the items kept and shared by our family. The clues we find around the house can be as valuable as the census and civil records we discover elsewhere.

Happy reading – and research!

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired. Finding almost every branch leading back to Ireland, she continues to explore her many Irish lines. Ann serves on the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Mining Family Treasures for Genealogy

by Tom K. Rice, CG

Clues to your genealogy may be all around you but go unrecognized. Like a valuable ore, these clues need to be sought out, mined and refined to bring out their true value. What are these clues? They are the artifacts, documents, and memorabilia pertaining to your family and its history found in your homes buried in the depths of drawers and boxes stored on top closet shelves and in attics. You should consciously seek them out – go prospecting for them, mine them, bring them to the surface, and then process them to bring out their full value.

In Genealogy 101 you are told to start with the known and move back in time. Well, this is the corollary: start with what is at hand before heading to the courthouse and library. So where should you look? Everywhere around the house and then some. Look in all drawers – desk, dresser, cabinet, etc. Look high and low – in the attic and in the basement; inside and out – in the house, in the garage and in the storage unit. Make the search an in depth one. Do not just open the drawers and glance in, but open the envelopes and boxes in those drawers. There may be genealogical gold in the stuff in those drawers, in those envelopes, in those boxes and on those shelves.

Do not limit your world of genealogically valuable material to just your immediate surroundings. Give your siblings and cousins a call. See if you can get them engaged in the hunt. They may be the ones who were given the family Bible or the copy of the homestead patent. They may not know the value of what they have. You may have to educate them as to what to look for and what it means. Genealogy becomes more enjoyable when it is shared with others. However, your relatives may not want to share their portion of the family's genealogical treasures. Your approach to this should be an offer to share what you have. Show them that when the parts that each has are put together, the whole family story becomes richer.

Sometimes, things of value are where you least expect to find them. Family history related materials may have left the care of the family. Take a look at flea markets and Craig's List for where the family lived. Sometimes, as households get cleaned out or pared down, items of little monetary value are discarded and later recycled by others. Check local area and surname message boards. Someone may be looking to re-home something they came across that they feel someone else may value. Your family records may have found their way to a library or archive. A NUCMC search (http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/) may tell if there is a manuscript collection relating to your ancestors out there. In fact, some organizations make an effort to gather family Bibles and publish them or make them available on the Internet: NGS at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/ and the Library of Virginia at http://www.lva.virginia.gov/whatwehave/bible.htm.

So what are these home-based treasures? The list is long, but these come quickly to mind, in no special order: the family Bible, diaries, letters, military medals, society badges, memorial cards, photos, scrapbooks, account books, Christmas card lists, pay stubs, baby books, newspaper clippings, jewelry, quilts, postcards, official and legal documents, samplers, genealogies, lineage society applications, books owned by ancestors, souvenirs of trips and events. And not to forget, modern technology has placed genealogical value on something quite personal and lying about the house – your DNA.

Finding these gems is only part of the job. To get value from them, look at them with an inquiring mind. At times, the search for the inner value is easy; a document may directly answer your genealogical question. The family Bible may lay out generations of relationship and events. Deeds may tell you when and where the family settled. Letters and diaries may explain hard to unravel relationships. Some of these finds may not be genealogical *per se*, but they may tell you more about your ancestors and relatives and the lives they led. Other artifacts may help you to better understand the times when your ancestors were alive. In many cases, your findings will offer only clues, not direct answers. The value of these items relates to the effort you put into following these clues. Like the valuable ore, once it is found it needs to mined and refined.

Step 1. Define the Treasure

So, how do you harvest value from your genealogical artifacts? First, you must clearly define the object. What is it, who owned it, when, what information does it convey directly and does it have any intrinsic financial value? The following are ways to harvest value from some specific genealogical treasures.

The family Bible. If you are fortunate to have a Bible with birth, death and marriage information written into it, you have a significant find. However, take care. Even though some ancestor or relative gave this to you, it may have as

many mistakes as some Internet postings. Look at the copyright or printing date. If it is later than some of the entries, then obviously these were entered some time after the event(s) in question. This red flag should motivate you to look for alternative records to confirm the information. Whenever there is a significant time span between an event and the record of the event there is more opportunity for error to creep in due to effect of time on the accuracy of memory. If the handwriting and ink are all of one style, again perhaps the entries were all made by one person at one sitting. This, too, should have you question the accuracy of at least some of the entries. Knowing the provenance, that is the past ownership of the Bible, may help you to judge the probability of the accuracy of the entries.

Items such as **society medals, badges,** and **membership cards** should direct you to look for membership records that may provide more family history, such as the role your ancestor played in the organization, or what it says about his/her religion, ethnic origin, occupation, military service or economic status.

A **Christmas card list** may point to other relatives unknown to you and where they lived. Where these relatives lived may be where your ancestors lived at one time or another. The names may give clues as to whom female members of the family married. **Saved cards,** Christmas or otherwise, probably had value beyond the pretty image on the front. Was there a message, who was the writer? **Old phone and address books** can yield the same sort of clues about unrecognized or lost relatives.

Military medals, pictures of someone in uniform, veterans organizations membership cards or **discharge papers** give hints that, if followed diligently, enable you to enrich your understanding of your ancestor's part in our nation's struggles.

Step 2. Confirm the Treasure

Another maxim of good genealogical research is that no source should stand alone. Each of these finds cries out for confirmation or follow-up. You should look for church records or civil vital records to confirm the information given in the family Bible. You should look for more evidence of your family in the town where the photographer's studio was noted on that portrait. You should look for the service and pension record of that fellow shown in the military uniform. You should try to identify those people listed in the funeral guest book or on the Christmas card list. Often it is not the genealogical artifact in and of itself that is of major value but what it leads to. However, you must approach it with an inquiring mind, always asking, seeking the whole story and where to find out more. Just like a valuable mineral, it is not enough to know where it is; you must work to get full value from it.

Step 3. Preserve the Treasure

What is the next step after you have defined your find, and followed its clues about your heritage? Well, there are decisions to make. How will it be preserved for future generations? To whom will you entrust it so your descendants can treasure it as you do? To encourage that treasuring, you should add some form of documentation to accompany it. You may want to address all of the home source items together, to catalog them, or create some sort of "Home Sources" album with photos and write-ups.

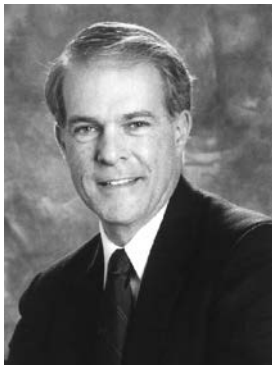
For items with an intrinsic monetary value you should get a knowledgeable appraisal, consider insuring it, and decide how to protect it and store it safely from both physical damage and theft.

Step 4. Share the Treasure

Since genealogy is most rewarding when shared, let others in your immediate and distant family know about these items. But most importantly, let them know what these objects say about your common heritage. One way to do this is to share pictures and the write-ups you created.

A personal observation: I treasure what few family artifacts and memorabilia I possess probably more than the census or other records I have found because my family and ancestors owned these items, they were part of their daily lives, they handled them and saw them day by day. These things make my ancestors all that much more real to me.

Tom Rice, CG is a professional genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher and writer. He is the managing editor of The Septs, *a past officer of IGSI and past director of the Minnesota Genealogy Society. He is a genealogy help desk volunteer for the Minnesota History Society. He can be contacted at info@heritagehunters.com.*



Treasures in the Attic

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

It doesn't hurt to have a little luck when you're searching for your family history. As any good detective knows, some of the luckiest clues can jump up from the darnedest places – like right at home. That's why beginning genealogy books and classes almost always suggest starting with what you can find at home.

In this case, the clues necessary to piece together the story of my wife's English great-grandparents came from a box that was roasting in the attic space above a cousin's garage. Lois always had kept up with family lore, but when she and her husband found the old box while packing for a move, she said, "Toss it." Her husband countered, "I don't think so. You better see what's in it, first."

She did look, and knowing my reputation as the intrepid family historian, she carted the boxes 50 miles to our St. Paul home one weekend. The English Tidballs had stumped me; I needed new leads. Voila! The box contained three treasures. The first was a photo album assembled by my wife's great-grandmother Mary Ann (Lee) Tidball. The second was a Bible given to Mary Ann Lee by her grandmother. The third was a series of letters written in the 1930s when her Minnesota nephew wrote to the Bristol, England, police seeking information about his family back in England.

Starting at Home

As so often happens, this family history search started after most of the generation that might have known the story was lost to us. But my father-in-law did leave behind some family history notes, likely typed up about 1970 when his sister Marian was still living. Marian was the caretaker of family memories passed down by her paternal grandmother Mary Ann (Lee) Tidball. The notes offered several kernels of evidence.

- John Tidball was born 17 June 1862 in Bristol, England.
- He married Mary Ann Lee 12 March 1884 (location unknown), and the couple left for America three days later.
- Mary Ann Lee, known as Polly, was born 30 March 1862 in Melksham, Wiltshire.
- John Tidball had a brother Thomas born in Bristol 29 December 1860. He came to Minnesota and married Emily Agnes Fear.
- John and Thomas' parents were William Tidball and his first wife Elizabeth, who died soon after John's birth. A conflicting remark in the notes says that William's first wife only had one son, Thomas. This note says William married Elizabeth around 1859.
- William Tidball also had a son, Andrew, and a daughter, Margaret, and possibly two more sons. (The conflicting note says three more children were born to the second wife, and possibly two other sons).

Moving on to American Records

The evidence was direct, but begged for documentation. In genealogical research, it is always wise to dig close to home before trying to cross the ocean. Minnesota sources supplied additional information, improving the odds of making good matches when I jumped to English records.

- A death certificate for John Tidball stated that his father's name was "Wm", but did not record John's mother's name. It confirmed John's birth date as 17 June 1862 in England.[1]
- A death certificate said Mrs. Mary Ann Tidball was born 30 March 1862 and was the daughter of Bartholomew Lee and Elenore Price. But, it gave her birth place as Bristol, not Melksham.[2] Melksham is about 20 miles southeast of Bristol.
- Thomas Tidball's death certificate said he was born 29 December 1859 in England, but the informant did not know his parents' names.[3]

Several questions remained, including the name of John and Thomas' mother and the certain identity of any brothers and sisters. Geographic clues pointed to Bristol and Melksham, but the family knew nothing more about the origins of either the Tidballs or the Lees.

The Clues in the Box

The Tidball name is not common, but an *Ancestry.com* search found some three dozen William Tidballs in England in 1881. I really wanted more clues before I tried to match the Minnesota Tidballs to an English family. The photo album, Bible and letters were all treasures in their own right; together, they gave me the clues I needed to match the Minnesota Tidballs with the correct Tidball family in England.

Photo album. The photo album, as a voice from the past, whispered several new hints, including the following:

Memorial cards and photos in album. Photo courtesy of J.H. Fonkert.

- A death notice card stated William Tidball died 28 January 1899 "in his 76th year" and was buried in Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol. Possibly, this William was the father of Thomas and John.

- A death notice card for an Elizabeth Jennet carried a handwritten note with the name "Tidball" inserted between the first and last name, probably indicating her maiden name was Tidball. Elizabeth died April 1885 at age 28, and was buried in "the family grave" at Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol.

- Handwriting on a photo of a winsome young woman identified "Elizabeth Tidball". Beneath the photo, a note said "John Tidball's sister".

- A photo of an older, not so handsome woman with a child about 2 years old carried a handwritten note: "Liz's baby and boys' stepmother". Handwriting on the page below said "J. T.'s stepmother and Elizabeth's baby".

- A photo of a striking young man was labeled "Michael Tidball – brother".

The photos and death notices crystallized a likely family composition: John and Thomas Tidball had a brother Michael and a sister Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Jennet. Elizabeth was probably born about 1857, and her probable father William was born about 1823. John Tidball had a stepmother, so William Tidball had likely remarried.

Bible. The Bible apparently belonged to Mary Ann Tidball, nee Lee. An inscription inside the front cover reads:

> *M. A. Lee:*
> *With best wishes from her loving grandmother*
> *March 30th, 1878*

On a facing page, another inscription reads:

> *Mary Price, my dear grandmother, gave me this bible on my 18th birthday. She died in 1882 at Colston's Almshouse on St. Michael's Hill. When she died, she was the oldest but one on the premises. She was respected by all who knew her. Buried at Arno's Vale Cemetery, Bath Rd., Bristol.*

A small card found in the bible has a handwritten note:

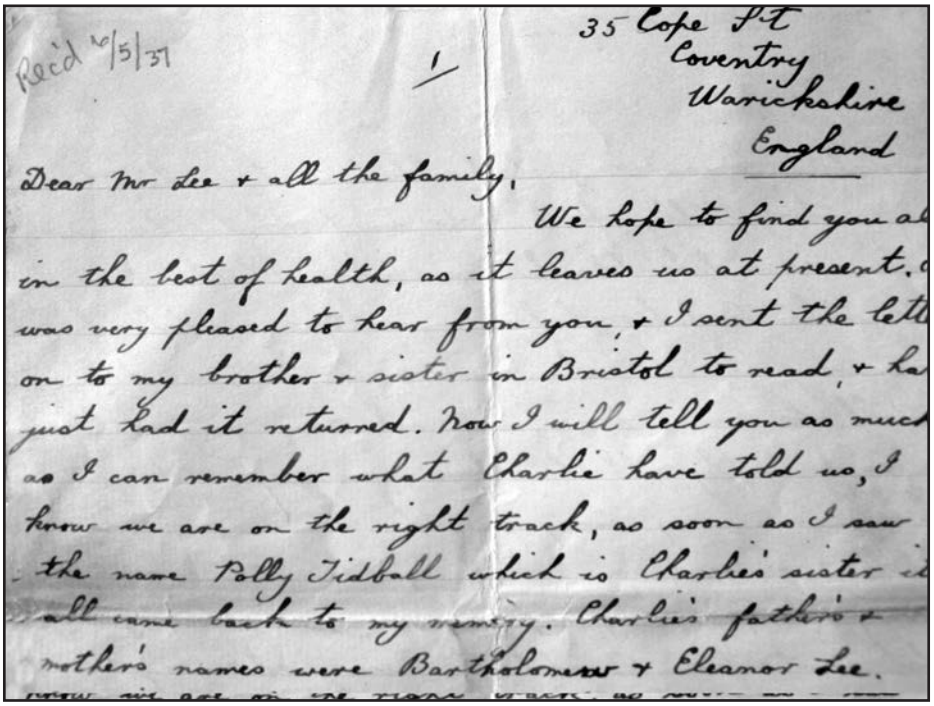
> *For dear Pollie*
> *With love and best wishes from her loving "Mother"*
> *March 30, 1878*

Immediately below on the same card, in different handwriting, is:

> *This is the card I got when my grandmother gave me the Bible on my 18th birthday.*

Pollie was likely Mary Ann Lee's nickname.[4] Presumably, Mary Price was the married name of Mary Ann Lee's maternal grandmother. However, if Mary Ann Lee was born in 1862 as other records have indicated, March 20, 1878, would only have been her 16th birthday. Now, both the Tidball and Lee families were placed in Bristol, making my English search more manageable.

The Lee Letters. Among the letters was one sent in 1937 by the Minneapolis Superintendent of Police, on behalf of Minneapolis resident Charles Lee, to the Bristol police asking for help in locating William and Charley Lee in England.



Rec'd 20/5/37

1

35 Cope St
Coventry
Warickshire
England

Dear Mr Lee + all the family,

We hope to find you al
in the best of health, as it leaves us at present.
was very pleased to hear from you, + I sent the lett
on to my brother + sister in Bristol to read, + ha
just had it returned. Now I will tell you as much
as I can remember what Charlie have told us, I
know we are on the right track, as soon as I saw
the name Polly Tidball which is Charlie's sister it
all came back to my memory. Charlie's father +
mother's names were Bartholomew + Eleanor Lee.

Letter from Mrs. Bamford in England. Photo courtesy of J.H. Fonkert.

The Bristol police placed a query in the local press, and received a response from Mr. George Lockier of Bristol. Mr. Lockier knew nothing of William Lee, but said that Charlie Lee was his stepfather, who had died in Bristol in May 1936. He said Laurie Lee was on the *Titanic* when it sunk in 1912. He gave no indication of who Laurie was.

A few weeks later, the Bristol and Minneapolis police passed along a short letter from Mrs. B. Bamford of Coventry, Warwickshire. She had received a letter from her brother in Bristol (George Lockier?) regarding the inquiry about Charley and William. She said she was Charlie Lee's stepdaughter and that Charlie had died two years earlier. Now the key: she remembered Charlie talking about his sister who went to America "some forty to fifty years ago." Sadly, he had never heard from her since. In a subsequent letter to Mary Ann, she said, "I know Charlie said when you were children you lived in Wade St."

The Lees were coming into focus, but the Tidballs were still at large. Soon, Mrs. Bamford sent a longer, more revealing letter. She now wrote: "As soon as I saw the name Polly Tidball, which is Charlie's sister, it all came back to my memory." This simple statement confirmed the link between the Lees and Tidballs. Mrs. Bamford was surprised to hear that Polly was still alive, as "Charlie always said he did not have any one belonging to him; Charlie often talked about Jack [nickname for John] Tidball taking his sister to America."

She reported that Charlie Lee's parents were Bartholomew and Eleanor Lee. A match! And, she dropped an intriguing story line – one that still dangles there, waiting for research and answers. "Charlie's father left his [Charlie's] mother with the children and went off to America at the time when the gold rush was on and got killed out there." Mrs. Bamford thought she remembered Charlie saying his sister (Mary Ann) was married at St. Philips Old Market Street Church in Bristol.

English Records

I could now hypothesize that Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Elizabeth Price had five children: William, Mary Ann, John, Charles and Laurie. Mary Ann had married "Jack" Tidball and gone off to America. The letters from Mrs. Bamford supported the Tidball notes suggesting that Mary Ann and John Tidball were married in Bristol's Old Market Street Church. John Tidball and his brother Thomas were sons of William Tidball, probably by his first, as yet unknown, wife. They probably had a brother Michael and a sister Elizabeth.

Now I would test my hypotheses against information in English records using online resources to search English census and civil records. First, *Ancestry.com's* United Kingdom census index led to the Tidball and Lee families in the 1851, 1861, 1871 and 1881 censuses.

The Tidballs. In 1881, fifty-nine year-old William Tidball was living on Albert Place in Bristol with his wife, Elizabeth, and two children: Jane, 18, and Michael, 16.[5] Michael fit with previous evidence, but Jane did not.

Jane's 1881 occupation was "labourer," somewhat unusual for a young woman. A look back to the 1871 census cleared things up. Jane of 1881 was probably actually John, who was 8 years old in 1871. The rest of the family matched up. Thomas, age 11, was still at home in 1871.[6] Ten years earlier, the Tidballs lived on Leigh Street. William Tidball was married to his apparent first wife, Mary Ann. Thomas was 1, and his older sister Elizabeth was 5.[7]

Second, Civil registration (vital records) fleshed out the story. Indexes at *FindMyPast.com* led to records that could be ordered from the General Register Office. William Tidball married Mary Ann Bisgrove 6 March 1855 in the parish church of St. Philip and Jacob.[8] They had four children: Elizabeth (1856)[9], Thomas (1859)[10], John (1862)[11] and Michael (1865).[12]

William's first wife, Mary Ann, died 9 May 1865[13], several months after Michael's birth. William remarried a year later to 40 year-old Elizabeth Selina Morrish in the parish church of St. Mary Redcliff in Bristol.[14]

Twenty-two year-old John Tidball married Mary Ann Lee 12 March 1884 in the Old Market Street Chapel[15], the location remembered by Mrs. Bamford from Charlie's account.

The Lees. The Lees were more difficult to pull together in the census because Bartholomew Lee, at one point, gave his name as John and because he apparently went to America, leaving his family behind.

Mrs. Bamford remembered that the Lees lived on Wade Street. Wade Street, indeed! The 1871 England Census listed an Eleanor Lee living at 26 Wade Street in Bristol. Her children included 13 year-old William, 9 year-old Mary Ann and 1 year-old Laurie. Mary Ann's birthplace was Melksham. Without doubt, this was the correct Lee family.

Ten years later, in 1881, widow Eleanor Lee lived in the same neighborhood on Flook Street with her children: John, 18, born Melksham; Charles, 16, born Trowbridge, and Laurence, 12, born Bristol. Mary Ann was absent.[16] Instead, Mary Ann Lee, single, 19 and born in Melksham, was a cook in the home of her Uncle George Pocock in Bedminster.[17] George Pocock's wife Elizabeth was probably a sister of Eleanor Lee.

You might notice that son John was not with his mother Eleanor in 1871, and Eleanor's husband Bartholomew was absent in both 1871 and 1881 – suggesting that Mrs. Bamford's story about him going to America in search of gold might be true. But, Bartholomew really did marry Eleanor Price, 12 May 1857 in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bristol. Fathers of the bride and groom were John Lee and Charles Price, a mason's laborer and a milkman, respectively[18].

One other important piece of evidence from the box also stood up. Just as Mary Ann Lee wrote in her Bible, the widow Mary Price, age 81, was an almswoman in Colston's Almhouse in 1881.[19] She had lived at Colston's in 1871.[20] A decade earlier, in 1861, she and her husband Charles lived in the St. Paul's district of Bristol.[21] All three censuses gave her birthplace as Cardigan, Wales.

Apropos the Internet connections, everything clicked. Well, almost everything. No evidence surfaced for Andrew or Margaret, the alleged children of William Tidball; Mary Ann Lee's birth date remains unproved; and some Lee family mysteries remain. But, my research firmly established my wife's Tidball and Lee ancestors in Bristol, England.

So, where's the Irish in all this? Census records indicate Bartholomew Lee was born in Cork. I'm now off in search of my wife's Irish ancestors!

Lessons for All of Us

This research odyssey confirmed three things my genealogy mentors had taught me:

- Start at home. Find the family papers and photo albums and pay attention to every clue.
- Back up the family lore with primary sources. When the evidence coincides, you can be pretty sure you've got the facts straight.
- Pay attention to the females. In this case, the English origin of the Tidballs came into view through Mary Ann Lee's family.

Another lesson: while those old family stories often contain errors, they usually hold enough truth to be helpful. Use them; but find the records to back them up.

End Notes

1 John Tidball death certificate, filed by local registrar (St. Louis Co., MN) 26 May 1922, Minnesota Department of Health, Section of Vital Statistics, state file no. 1922-MN-24713.

2 Mary Ann Tidball death certificate, filed by local registrar (Lake County, MN) 17 April 1958, Minnesota Department of Health, Section of Vital Statistics, state file no. 1958-MN-8616.

3 Thomas Tidball death certificate, filed by local registrar (St. Louis Co., MN) 10 July 1928, Minnesota Department of Health, Section of Vital Statistics, state file no. 1928-MN-26899.

4 Christine Rose, *Nicknames Past and Present*. San Jose, CA: Rose Family Association, 2002, p. 11.

5 1881 Census of England, Civil Parish of Bristol St. Philip and Jacob Out, Registration District of Barton Regis, Subdistrict of St. Philip and St. Jacob, Gloucestershire, p. 22, Schedule No. 120, William Tidball household, Record Group 11, Piece 2497, Folio 35, GSU microfilm roll 1341602, digital image viewed online at *Ancestry.com*, February 2008.

6 1871 Census of England, Civil Parish of St. Philip and St. James, Registration District of Clifton, Subdistrict of St. Philip, Gloucesteshire, p. 38, Schedule No. 1516, William Tidball household, Record Group 10, Piece 2558, Folio 72, GSU microfilm roll 835265.

7 1861 Census of England, Civil Parish of Bristol St. Philip, Registration District of Clifton, Subdistrict of St. Philip and Jacob, Gloucesteshire, p. 19, Schedule No. 113, William Tidball household, Record Group 19, Piece 1735, Folio 37, GSU microfilm roll 542859.

8 William Tidball and Mary Ann Bisgrove marriage registration, 6 March 1855, no. 265, Registration District of Bristol, copy issued by General Register Office, 24 September 2003.

9 Elizabeth Tidball birth registration, 21 January 1856, no. 230, Registration District of Clifton, Sub-district of St. Philip and Jacob, copy issued by General Register Office, 8 July 2005.

10 Thomas Tidball birth registration, 30 December 1859, no. 463, Registration District of Clifton, Sub-District of St. Philip and Jacob, copy issued by General Register Office, 7 February 2007.

11 John Tidball birth registration, 17 June 1862, no. 297, Registration District of Clifton, Sub-District of St. George, copy issued by General Register Office, 22 September 2003.

12 Michael Tidball birth registration, 14 February, 1865, no. 177, Registration District of Clifton, Sub-district of St. Philip and Jacob, copy issued by General Register Office, 7 July 2005.

13 Mary Ann Tidball death registration, 9 May 1865, no. 495, Registration District of Clifton, Subdistrict of St. Philip and St. Jacob, copy issued by the General Register Office, 4 July 2005.

14 William Tidball and Elizabeth Selina Morrish marriage registration, 17 June 1866, no. 30, copy issued by General Register Office, 8 July 2005.

15 John Tidball and Mary Ann Lee marriage registration, Registration District of Bristol, 12 March 1884, no. 86, copy of an entry in the certified copy of Register of Marriages, Registration District of Bristol, issued by General Register Office, 24 June 2003.

16 1881 Census of England, Civil Parish of St. Philip and Jacob, Clifton Registration District, Gloucestershire, p. 28, Eleanor Lea household, Record Group 11, Piece 2498, Folio 115, GSU microfilm roll 1341602, digital image viewed online at *Ancestry.com*, January 2008.

17 1881 Census of England, George Pocock household, Civil Parish of Bedminster, Registration District of Bedminster, p. 44, Schedule No. 249, Record Group 11, Piece 2456, Folio 115, GSU microfilm roll 1341591, digital image viewed online at *Ancestry.com*, January 2008.

18 Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Price marriage registration, Registration District of Bristol, 12 May 1857, copy of an entry in the certified copy of Register of Marriages, Registration District of Bristol, issued by General Register Office, 7 June 2005.

19 1881 Census of England, Registration District of Bristol, Subregistration District of St. Augustine, Civil Parish of Bristol St. Michael, p. 2, Colston's Almshouse, Record Group 11, Piece 2476, Folio 19, GSU Microfilm roll 1341596.

20 1871 Census of England, Registration District of Bristol, Subregistration District of St. Augustine Civil Parish of St. Michael, p. 1, Schedule No. 8, Colston's Almshouse, Record Group 10, Piece 2532, Folio 19, GSU microfilm roll 835259.

21 1861 Census of England, Civil Parish of Bristol St. Paul, Registration District of Bristol, Subregistration District of St. Paul, Gloucestershire, p. 15, Schedule No. 96, Charles Price household, Record Group 9, Piece 1719, Folio 10, GSU microfilm roll 542856.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is president of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He has studied advanced genealogy research methods at the Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and completed the National Genealogical Society's home study course.

Preview of Themes for *The Septs*

The theme for the October 2009 issue of *The Septs* is "Military Records". Records relating to Irish, British and U.S. military history can provide a wealth of information to the family historian. Deadline for submission of articles for the October issue is August 1.

The editors of *The Septs* also seek and welcome articles related to the themes of upcoming issues. If you have something to share about the themes listed below, contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org. If you wish to share your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture or history, share a family story or an idea for an article – contact the editors. They will work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community.

Future themes of The Septs

January 2010	Irish in Canada – those who stayed and those who moved on
April 2010	Methodology for Family Historians – planning for success
July 2010	Scots Irish – Origins, culture and as part of the Diaspora
October 2010	Newspapers

Announcing
The 2010 IGSI Research Trip

Ireland
Home of our Ancestors

Travel with IGSI for 12 days in Ireland. Time availble in both Belfast and Dublin to research or sightsee followed by a tour of Southern Ireland's best sights.

Detailed information to come in October's issue of The Septs.

Gold Mine in a Red Notebook

by Diane Lovrencevic

Mementos and memorabilia are often passed from one generation to another because someone found importance or meaning in the object. Often, the stories attached to these items are long forgotten. Yet we save and cherish them, as did the generation before us. Take a better look at this memorabilia. It is more than old letters or great grandpa's favorite jewelry; it can be the catalyst in finding elusive bits to the family tree.

I found a gold mine shortly after my mother died. It came to me in the shape of a dilapidated spiral notebook. This cheap red book's cover was dirty, creased and had a corner torn off. Someone had doodled all over the cover and scribbled out items here and there. My family was cleaning out my mother's home when I came across a pile of photos, documents and papers. I almost put it in the box for later when I decided to look and see if I could immediately throw this old notebook away. I opened the cover to see what it was and in a paragraph or two knew that I wouldn't be doing anything else until I read the scratched up entries in this journal. It was an early draft of memories my mother was writing about her life with her adopted mother. I called to my sisters; we sat together taking turns reading what was in this notebook. The only marking of time was when one of us would say, "I never knew that" or "this can't be true". It was so different from what my mother had shared with any of us that I wanted to discover more. This extraordinary find led me on a genealogical quest that I'm still involved in today.

After reading it a second time, I had to find out if what my mother wrote could be true. Many of the facts in the notebook I had never heard before. I knew she grew up during the Depression and was never well off, but she never spoke of her mother in such graphic detail. She wrote of her mother being unstable and emotionally abusive. The amount of times she moved and the number of schools she attended was almost beyond belief; yet she gave dates, places she lived, and even the names of the schools she attended. I started by interviewing family or friends that knew my mother and grandmother. This led me to legal documents found in dusty offices and libraries throughout Michigan and then to the paperwork to obtain her adoption papers.

While waiting for the paperwork to come, I went through all the boxes of papers left by my mother. This took me to my second big find, an old school photo from a college in Michigan. I would not have paid close attention to this photo had I not been looking at my mother's life so closely. It was a photo of a group of students at graduation. It would have been easy to overlook, but something about the date caught my eye and made me take a second look. My mother would have been just 17 years old at that time. Writing to the school, I learned my mother had graduated as a bookkeeper at the age of 17. This meant that she had graduated high school early. My mother loved going to school and attended college off and on throughout her life. It was surprising to learn she went to college at this time in her life as she had never mentioned finishing high school at such a young age.

The spiral notebook set me on a path to learn about my mother's life and to look beyond the obvious, but it was nothing compared to all I learned regarding my adoptive grandmother. To say my grandmother was complicated didn't even start to explain her. I decided to research her life as well, but that is a whole other story.

My mother knew that she was adopted. By the time I was born, she had found her birth family and knew her father and siblings well. Seeing her adoption papers might help me understand why my biological grandparents gave my mother up for adoption.

The packet sent to me by the Michigan State Adoption Department contained a wealth of information about those few years of my mother's life. The file included reports and letters and the approval to send for my mother's original birth certificate. I immediately did so and received my third astonishing revelation. The man my mother knew as her biological father - wasn't. The name of her real father was written on the birth certificate. It listed where he lived at the time and his occupation. Regardless of the story my "grandfather" told us, now I had the true answer to why my mother, as

the fifth child of nine children, was the only one given up for adoption.

It is human nature to remember the past and my mother decided to share her memories through a journal. She decided long ago to tell her children only parts her life and to leave the harder memories behind her. Only as she grew older did she realize her need to talk about it. And so she wrote in that grubby spiral notebook. What a lucky day for me that she did. It gave me a clearer idea of how her life started, what she went through and the woman she became.

My advice is to take a good hard look at those family mementos you know so little about. Jewelry can tell you the kind of life an ancestor lived. An old tintype image could be a relative you might not recognize but could find. And old letters or journals could lead you to places you can't even imagine.

Diane Lovrencevic is the 2nd Vice-President among other volunteer positions for the organization. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of publications for IGSI, is editor of the website and has recently started the IGSI eNewsletter. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

From Brian To Bernard: Researching a Forename

by Adrian Martyn

In memory of John Bernard, Bernie, Bernard, and all others of the name.

Bernard is a forename that was given to my late granduncle, Bernard "Bernie" Doherty of Athenry and Dublin, and to my late uncle, John Bernard Martyn. It was not a name previously used in either family, but my great-grandmother, Mary (Morris) Doherty, introduced it after her younger brother, Bernard Morris. In each case, all three men bearing the name were younger brothers, though I cannot say if this was by design or accident. I also learned that my great-grandmother had an uncle named Bernard Mac Dermot, and it was at this point that my research took a new turn.

Bernard is an Anglicization of the Gaelic-Irish forename Brian. This may have come from an earlier latinisation of Brian to *"Bernardus."* At any rate, Brian and Bernard were and continue to be popular names among the Mac Dermott clan of Moylurg, a kingdom located in what is now north County Roscommon. An offshoot of the royal dynasty of Connacht, they are well-documented in both genealogical and official records. I surmised that further research on persons named Bernard (or Brian) MacDermott might, in time, provide a link with ancient Gaelic-Irish records and push my family tree back several centuries.

I believed that use of the name began with the scholar and clan chief, Brian na Cairraige Mac Diarmada, who died in 1592. He was the patron and one of the scribes of *Annala Loch Ce/Annals of Lough Ce*, covering the years 1014-1652. As Brian na Cairraige was honored by the use of his name among his senior descendants (who are the main line of the entire clan Mac Dermott), I reasoned that the same may have been true for the junior lines. If so, there was a chance that I could trace my ancestry back to Brian.

However, it was not so simple. The more I researched, the more the name Brian turned up – not only contemporary to Brian na Cairraige, but predating him by at least 200 years. Strangely, in some of the better-documented cases, they too seemed to be younger brothers, as was Brian na Cairraige himself. Further research both in Roscommon and in Dublin will be needed to uncover more.

This line of research began with men from whom I was not directly descended. In some cases, they left no descendants at all. It has since become less straightforward yet more interesting. The possibility that I may be able to push my generation-by-generation descent back before the 18th century, is something not every Irish person can do. And thus, all the more precious.

Tracing Back the Name

The following resources demonstrate the continued use of the name **Brian** among the Mac Dermotts of Moylurg, since at least the 14th century; its transition into **Bernardus/Bernard** during the 17th and 18th; and its

continued use by the clan into the 21st century.

Annals of Loch Ce

[This manuscript records significant historical events, arranged by date. Brian Mac Dermot of Carrick-Mac Dermot, County Roscommon, who died in the year 1592, wrote and compiled it. Dr. Thomas Leland, a fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, purchased the annals at a book sale in Dublin in 1766 and eventually gave it to the library of that University.]

1342: "**Brian** son of Ruaidhri Mac Diarmada captured Conchobar [O Conchobair?] "and delivered him into the hands of Conchobhar Mac Diarmada, who afterwards placed him in The Rock to be imprisoned."

1349: "**Brian** Mac Diarmada, royal heir of Magh Luirg, was unfortunately killed in Ros Comain, by the Bishop O Finnachta's people, with one discharged of an arrow; and the man who was convicted of the shot Ruaidhri int Seomra O Donnchadha, was slaing and mangled there."

1538: Death of **Brian** mac Eoghan mac Conchobhar mac Ruaidhri Buidhe Mac Diarmada.

1554: "Tadhg mac Ruaidhri Buidhe and **Brian** mac Melechlainn Donn Mac Diarmada were killed by O Flanagain, i.e., Edmond mac William O Flannagain, that committed the homacides. Baile na hUama was begun by **Brian** mac Ruaidhri Mac Diarmada, after it had previously been demolished by O Domhnaill, for he too three quarters out of it."

1555: **Brian** mac Eoghan Mac Diarmada surrendured to the Mac Diarmada.

1557: "**Brian** mac Eoghan mac Tadhg Mac Diarmada was killed by Mag Samhradhain and by some of the they descendants of Tomaltach an Einigh Mac Diarmada...[he] was a great loss, for there was hardly a man of his age who gave and presented more to poets and professors, and to persons soliciting requests."

1582: "**Brian** mac Fergananim mac Conchobhar Og Mac Diarmada, died."

1589: "The son of Tomaltach Mac Diarmada, i.e., Tomaltach Og, was liberated by **Brian** Mac Diarmada and by Mac David from the Queen's prison. ... **Brian** mac Eoghan Grana [Mac Diarmad]", was killed at a conference at Ard in Chomla.

1636: "The kalends of January on Sunday; anno Domini 1636. **Brian** Og, son of **Brian**, son of Ruaidhri, son of Tadhg, son of Ruaidhri Og, i.e., lord of Magh Luirg and Airtech, and Tir Tuathail, the best man of his age and estage and high lordship of the Gael of the West of Europe in his own time ... After going to Ath Luain, where they chieftains of Connacht were before him, holding council in expectation of a plantation, his mortal illness, dysentry, seized him, and he died the 28th day of January, that is to say, Saturday ... having been fifty-three years of age when he died. And he was interred nobly, honourably, in clonmacnoise, under the protection of God and Ciaran, on the festival day of Brigid. And twenty lords of his kindred were interred, moreover, in that cemetry before him."

1652: "Aedh mac **Brian** mac Ruaidhri Mac Diarmada died in Grainsech na Manach, the fourth day of the month of March, 1648. Mael Ruanaidh mac Aedh mac Diarmada wrote that little portion, 1652." These are the last lines.

Mac Dermot of Moylurg

[This history of the MacDermot family was the result of many years of research by Dermot MacDermot and was published after his death.]

1582: **Bryan m'Owen M'Dyermod**, and Teig m'Brien m'Dermot of Corboghill.

1585: **Brian M'Dermot** of [Carrickbeg], husbandman.

1608: "Jan 12, Brussels. Orders to continue payment of the grant of 15 crowns monthly to **Bernard MacDiarmada** of the Irish Infantry."

1636: "July 1, Brussels. Grant of 40 crowns monthy to **Bernard MacDiermot,** regt. of col. Thos Preston."

1743: **Bernard M'Dermott** "ne le 17 Juillet 1743 a Elphin", alive 1794."

1744: **Bernard M'Dermott**, "ne le 21 mai 1765 a Elphin" alive 1794. "From Elphin so, together with Francis, from the same Leamgire branch as Peter's sons but in the next generation."

1814: **B. & J. M'Dermott**, Messers. Brownvill, Castlerea, County Roscommon.

1817: **Fr. Bernardus McDermott**, Prior of the Dominicans of Waterford.

Irish telephone directories in 1985 contained the following McDermotts

Benny	Ardsallaghmore, Co. Roscommon
Bernadette	Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal
Bernard	Lifford, Co. Donegal
Bernard	Ballina, Co. Mayo
Brendan	Navan, Co. Meath
Brendan	Carlow, Co. Kildare
Brendan	Limerick, Co. Limerick
Brendan	Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
Brendan	Longford town, Co. Longford
Brendan	Castlebar, Co. Mayo
Brian	Nass, Co. Kildare
Brian	Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan
Brian	Gouldavoher, Co. Limerick
Brian	Buncrana, Co. Donegal
Brian	Stranorlar, Co. Donegal
Brian	Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

Irish telephone directories in 2008 contained

8 B. McDermott
1 Bernard McDermott
1 Bernie McDermott
7 Brendan McDermot

Resources:

Annala Loch Ce/The Annals of Lough Ce, exact facsimile reprint of the first edition 1871, De Burca Publishers, Dublin, 2000.

Mac Dermot of Moylurg: The Story of a Connacht Family, Dermot Mac Dermot, Manorhamilton, c.1990.

Book of Irish Names: First, Family & Place Names, Ronan Coghlan, Ida Grehan, and P.W. Joyce, New York, 1989.

Irish Telephone Directory/Eolai Telefoin na hEireann, Part Two/Cuid a Do, 1985.

07/09 Phonebook 2008 for counties Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Donegal, Leitrim and Roscommon.

Adrian Martyn was born Galway in 1975. His main area of interest in Irish genealogy is that of Galway families, particularly on the Tribes of Galway, of whom he is a descendant. He is the author of The Tribes of Galway *(2001) and many published articles. Under the pseudonym Fergananim, he has written several dozen articles on* Wikipedia.

Towey Clan Gathering

Submitted by Virginia Mahoney

Most of us with the Towey surname have our family roots in Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon, Ireland, according to the clan historian, Richard E. Towey. That will be the location of the Towey Clan Gathering in 2010, from May 14-16.

The Towey Clan is an officially recognized clan of Ireland. In 2001, there was an inaugural gathering in Dublin; in 2004 and 2007, the gathering took place in Ballaghaderreen. For more details, check our website, http://www.Toweyclan.com or contact one of the following:

Mike Towey, Clan Chairman, honorary Clan Chieftain and contact in Ireland
toweymike@hotmail.com

Janet Towey Mann, Clan Secretary
jtafmn@snet.net

Richard E. Towey, Clan Genealogist/Historian
toweylr@comcast.net

If you would like to spread the word about your clan or family reunion, send the information to the SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org at least six months prior to the event.

To forget one's ancestors
is to be a brook
without a source,

a tree without
a root.

ancient Chinese proverb

Maude Shaw's Scrapbook

by Sue Kratsch

A woman I never met, who died when I was a child, created one of the keys to the puzzle of my Mooney family. Maude Shaw, the daughter of Silas A. and Jane (Mooney) Shaw, was born on October 11, 1876, in Joliet, Will County, Illinois, lived there all of her life, and died there on June 2, 1953. She never married. After her death, her effects were parceled out to siblings; but, somehow, the scrapbook came to her cousin – my grandmother, Gertrude (Mooney) Hahney.

My grandmother showed me the scrapbook when I became interested in family history in 1978, and later gave it to me. It's a small account book, about 5" x 8" with numbered pages and ruled lines and columns for bookkeeping. In it Maude recorded lists of family births and deaths, pasted obituaries and articles on family and friends, and inserted loose notes and papers between the pages.

My challenge has been to interpret the contents of the scrapbook. Many of the newspaper clippings are undated and unidentified. Birth announcements have no year. Most notes are undated. I know that many of these items are from the 1930s and 40s, but Maude also recorded lists of births and deaths of which she would have no direct knowledge. Nevertheless, over the years, I have been able to identify nearly all of the people mentioned.

The most significant dates for me personally are the births and deaths of my great-great-grandparents (and Maude's grandparents.) Lydia Ann (Burt) Mooney's vital information in the scrapbook is consistent with what I've found in other sources: she was born in 1816 and died in 1907. But dates for James Wesley Mooney, my great-great-grandfather, are recorded in four places in the scrapbook, and no two are alike:

p. 32	born November 6, 1815
p. 26	born November 1813 died December 22, 1883 - Lockport [Will County, Illinois]
p. 164	born November 1814 died 1884
p. 165	born November 1814 died December 22, 1884

Which, if any, of these is correct? While there is no death certificate for James, there are other sources to check.

Woodruff's *History of Will County, Illinois*, published in 1878, contains a biographical sketch of the family on page 773, stating that James was born on November 6, 1815; since James was still alive in 1878, there is no death date. This perfectly matches scrapbook page 32; can I conclude that 1815 is the correct date? Or does it mean that Maude copied this date from Woodruff's book?

The Mooneys are buried in Lockport Cemetery, and their granite stones are in excellent condition. I checked my photos of the stones and found

James W. Mooney
Nov. 6, 1814
Dec. 23, 1884

This mixture of dates is close to scrapbook page 165, with the addition of a birth day and a change of death day. Are these the right dates? My grandmother told me that her Aunt Fanny, another Mooney daughter and the sister of Jane, had the stones placed at some time after Lydia Ann's death in 1907. This recollection is consistent with the use of granite, which came into general use after about 1900. Thus James's stone was made more than 20 years after his death. Might there be an error in the inscription?

What other records might resolve these conflicts? The family never owned property, and there was no probate record or will. But after searching several newspapers and nearly giving up, I finally found, in the *Joliet Daily Press* for Wednesday, December 26, 1883:

> Jas. W. Mooney, an old settler and resident of Du Page, died Sunday morning at 2 o'clock, a.m., and was buried Wednesday at 10 o'clock, a.m. Mr. Mooney was an old resident, and came to this country in 1849. He was seventy years old, and was respected by all who knew him as a model, upright man and a conscientious Christian gentleman. He was greatly beloved by his relatives and neighbors, and his loss will be deeply mourned.

This brief item provides contemporary corroboration of James's death, and a clue to his birth. Du Page, where the family lived in 1880, is the township north of Lockport. Sunday was December 23

in 1883. This appears to be the most accurate date of death, matching the day on the headstone, though not the year. Death at age seventy places James's birth in 1813. The pairing of 1813 with 1883 in the scrapbook adds weight to a birth in 1813 as well. The birth day of November 6, while appearing in three places, must be taken on faith as there is no contemporary record to confirm it.

Putting all the clues together, I have concluded that James Wesley Mooney was born on November 6, 1813, and died in Du Page township, Will County, on December 23, 1883. These dates don't quite match anything in the scrapbook, nor do they match the cemetery headstone. But far from diminishing the value of the scrapbook, this inconsistency has taught me to pursue every source of evidence concerning my family.

St. Paul resident Sue Kratsch is a retired computer professional now spending what used to be her working hours on family history. Although she is three-quarters Swedish and one-eighth German, she was inspired by the Irish eighth to devote 30 years to the pursuit of elusive ancestors in Ireland, New York, and Illinois. She is past President of the Yankee Genealogical Society.

Book Review

Ballykilcline Rising: from Famine Ireland to Immigrant America

by Mary Lee Dunn

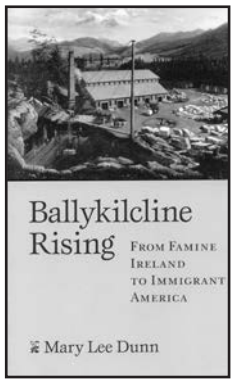
Amherst, Massachusetts: University of Massachusetts Press, 2008. 218 pages

Reviewed by Jeanne Bakken

Mary Lee Dunn tells the story of forced emigrations from Ireland, the Ballykilcline rent strikes, and the murder of landlord Denis Mahon in this book. She doesn't just focus on the events that happened in Ireland, she includes the circumstances that led up to the events and the details of the emigrants' lives in America.

While researching her own family history in Kilglass parish, County Roscommon, Dunn discovered a book written by Robert Scally, *The End of Hidden Ireland*, that included the Ballykilcline rent strike and her Riley and Colligan ancestors. In the chapter titled "Introduction and Methodology", Dunn shares with the reader her sources for searching her Ballykilcline ancestors and demonstrates what a thorough job of research she did for this book. There are many ideas for genealogists researching their own family lines.

The author traces the Mahon Estate near Strokestown from the 1600s providing an interesting bit of history and background leading up to the 1835 rent strike. She also includes a chapter on Irish emigrants' involvement in the civil war and the Fenian movement in America and Canada. While most of the evictees from Ballykilcline settled in Rutland, Vermont, and worked in the marble quarry, a few went to Massachusetts, Illinois and Minnesota. A brief but interestingpassage details the lives of the McGanns and McGintys that settled in Hennepin County, Minnesota, in the 1850s. By using church and census records as well as information from direct descendants, Dunn paints a picture of what life would have been like in these communities.



Why do I recommend this book? Even if your ancestors are not from Ballykilcline, the book provides interesting insights into the life of the Irish in the mid-1800s, the famine period, and traces the Irish emigrants' journey in the United States. Her combination of history and thorough research makes *Ballykilcline Rising* a good read for an Irish genealogist.

Jeanne Bakken has been an active member of IGSI since 2001. She has served on the Board and chaired various committees including her current post as Volunteer Coordinator of IGSI. She searches for Irish ancestors in County Kerry and County Limerick and has traveled to Ireland twice.

Use of DNA in Irish Genealogical Research

by Margaret Jordan

I came across DNA testing for genealogy back in 2002 when my father and I were researching our O'Shea surname. In 2003, I helped to start a surname project for this surname. Later, in 2006, I was involved in setting up "The Ireland yDNA Project". So, I have been involved in managing Irish-related yDNA projects for over six years now and in that time I have seen a huge increase in the number of people using DNA in genealogical research. The variety of DNA tests which are currently available is extensive and the number of companies which do testing has increased enormously over the years. The choices can seem mind-boggling to someone unfamiliar with DNA testing. So, it is important to understand the basics before embarking on genetic testing for genealogical purposes.

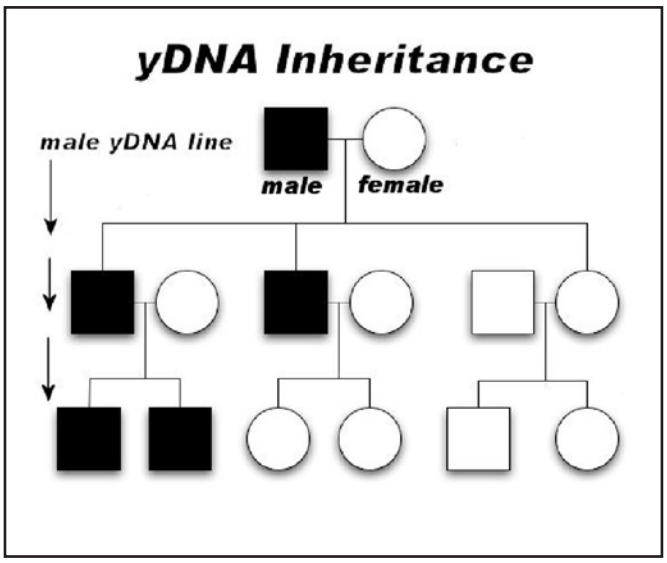
Types of DNA Testing Used in Genealogy

There are two main types of testing used in genealogical research:

- mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)
- Y-chromosome DNA (yDNA)

We all have mitochondrial DNA, usually termed "mtDNA", which is passed down by a mother to all her children. However, males do not pass on their mtDNA, so the value of mtDNA testing is in tracing a maternal line (your mother, her mother, etc.)

Only men have y-chromosome DNA, usually abbreviated to "yDNA", which is passed down from father to son (see diagram below). yDNA mutates very infrequently over generations and, therefore, it can be used to trace a biological paternal line. The most significant benefit of using yDNA in genealogical research is that the surname is generally co-inherited with the yDNA.



In this article, I will focus on yDNA testing as it is the most productive in solving genealogical questions. Note, *The Septs* journals in 2007[1] and 2008[2] have interesting articles on yDNA testing used in Irish family history research.

yDNA testing can be as simple as a mouth swab, done at home and mailed back to the testing company. The same sample can be used for both yDNA and mtDNA testing.

yDNA Helps Irish Genealogical Research

"Ireland has one of the oldest patrilineal hereditary surnames in the world"[3] according to the experts, so yDNA testing is suitable for Irish people who want to trace their lineage using their surname. A man with a paternally inherited surname can represent his family in yDNA testing. Where the paper trail runs into a brick wall, yDNA can take up the hunt!

There are many reasons for considering yDNA testing. You might want to find where your family lived in Ireland before emigration to the New World and you hope to match someone with the same surname who lives in Ireland. You may want to find some connection to a particular family in Ireland or to confirm your surname ancestry. In a past case, three people – one in Australia, one in the USA and one in Ireland, all with the same surname – did a yDNA test to test for relationship. They were convinced by genealogical research that they were related but, despite a lot of research, no paper trail could confirm it. Amazingly, they all matched each other confirming relationship.

We know that genealogical records before 1850 can be limited or non-existent for the vast majority of Irish people. Some surnames changed when immigrants reached the USA and other countries and often depended on the person writing down the surname at the port of entry. For example, some people with the surname Shea became known as Shay. Other surnames were changed so radically that they are virtually unrecognizable. So, connection to the

homeland can be lost in several ways. The Irish diaspora needs more Irish men to get involved in yDNA testing, so their results can be used as benchmarks for Irish yDNA.

Irish people who still reside in Ireland often claim they "know who they are" and say that they do not need to do yDNA testing. In fact, they too can benefit from yDNA testing by finding relatives with whom their families lost contact in the past. Many Irish families based in Ireland say that members of their family went to America (and elsewhere) a long time ago, but they don't know where the descendants of these relatives are, or even who they are. "Blood of the Irish"[4] , a programme shown on the Irish national TV channel, highlighted some of the benefits which can be gained from DNA testing by the Irish who reside in Ireland. Hopefully, as awareness levels rise, more Irish-based families will join their respective surname yDNA Projects.

People involved in yDNA testing generally focus on finding matches with people of the same surname. They can then share notes and try to find their most recent common ancestor. The statistics involved in analysis of yDNA results can provide two people with an estimate to how far back their common ancestor might be.

People talk euphemistically about "non-paternity events" where yDNA results are not as expected. I have seen situations where a person's yDNA consistently matched the results of another surname completely different from his own. The unexpected results of a yDNA match to a different surname, other than the family surname, can be a shock. On the other hand, people with questions regarding adoption in their family may want to find their biological paternal line.

yDNA Testing and Surname Projects

If you are interested in using yDNA as part of your genealogical research, the first thing to do is to decide what you hope to achieve and which family surname you want to research. Select a male with that paternally inherited surname and choose a testing company. *Family Tree DNA*[5] testing company (which started in 2000), for example, offers a discount on the cost of the yDNA test if you join through a project. Project administrators, who are all voluntary, will assist with decisions regarding the level of testing required. The level of testing relates to the number of yDNA markers. This can vary from a basic 12 marker test to 67 markers. Each testing company has information on its website to explain how many markers are recommended. At *Family Tree DNA*, a "37 marker yDNA" test is suggested in order to enable matching sufficient to identify people who are closely related.

It is important to join an Irish surname project. Surname Projects often run in conjunction with clan studies.[6] Others are "one name studies" which means they are "projects researching facts about a surname and all the people who have held it, as opposed to a particular pedigree". If no suitable Irish surname yDNA project is available, the *Ireland yDNA Project*[7] is available at *Family Tree DNA*. This project aims at providing a project for Irish men who do a yDNA test but do not have a surname project to join.

Once you have ordered the kit, taken a swab, and returned the sample to the testing company, all you have to do is wait patiently! In a few weeks, you will receive the DNA results. Then the excitement of seeing who you match begins. Making contact with people you match can be helpful in assessing the match. You may need to compare notes and then go back to the paper trail to find your common ancestor.

You can add your results to *Ysearch*,[8] an online database of yDNA results from the many testing companies worldwide. This database gives you even wider scope for finding yDNA matches. There is another similar database, *Ybase: Genealogy by Numbers*, at http://www.ybase.org

What Next?

You may become fascinated by what yDNA can tell you so below is a flavour of what is going on in Irish yDNA research and also the global situation.

Irish geneticist Dan Bradley of Trinity College Dublin[9], whose research pioneered the use of yDNA in studies of the origin of Irish surnames, said in 2009: "The human data definitively showed that our [Irish] strongest relatedness was with the northern Iberian Peninsula, with this genetic signal strongest for the Irish living today in the west of Ireland."

Another Irish-based genetic study by the Trinity College genetics department found that several Irish family lines with

different surnames all descended from the putative founder of the Ui Néill dynasty, "Niall of the Nine Hostages"[10]. Early genealogical records on the Ui Néill[11] and other Irish mythologies have been explored using yDNA.

yDNA testing indicates which haplogroup[12] a person belongs to in terms of deep ancestry. There are many haplogroups which tend to be specific to people with Irish lineage. The *Eupedia* website[13] has a diagram showing the "age, spread and ethnic association of European yDNA haplogroups and subclades" and provides helpful information about yDNA and mtDNA testing as well as links to other websites of interest. Haplogroup projects focus on deep ancestry.

For the enthusiast, DNA testing called "SNP" testing can further break down the haplogroups and the migration of your ancestors over thousands of years can be determined. The National Genographic Project[14], started by Spenser Wells in 2005, traces this migration back to Africa, many thousands of years ago. He asks: "Where do you **really** come from? And how did you get to where you live today?" He goes on to say "DNA studies suggest that all humans today descend from a group of African ancestors who – about 60,000 years ago – began a remarkable journey."

In Conclusion

yDNA testing can be exciting and surprising. Finding genetic cousins can open up new lines of communications across continents. With email and the internet, they can initiate an exchange of photos, family history and meetings. Using genetic testing in genealogy adds an exciting dimension to family history research, but it may produce some interesting genealogical twists.

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Unlocking the Mystery of Genealogy Through yDNA

by Sharon Shea Bossard

The idea of utilizing DNA to help unravel who is connected to whom sounds very CSI – a simple cheek swab and the mystery is revealed. It seems way too easy, doesn't it? Crime scene investigations are one thing, but trying to unearth information that has been buried for a hundred years or more, well, that's another matter altogether. And how do you convince strangers of your desperate need for their participation – their cheek swab – to help put the family puzzle together?

The science of DNA was never a consideration when I began my search for family in 2002. I had enough to do: reading microfilm, gathering documents, and following the paper trail I was creating. But I hit a brick wall when it came to my grandfather from Cahersiveen, County Kerry, Ireland. I couldn't locate his townland, nor could I identify any relatives still living in the Cahersiveen area. All four of my grandparents had immigrated to America in the late 1800s, and I had successfully located the townlands of three of them. My grandfather, Michael Shea, born in 1859, remained a mystery as Irish civil birth records are not available prior to 1864. Numerous visits to Ireland, sifting through records, visiting churches and libraries, brought no new information to light. It seemed this mystery would remain so until another family member chose to pick up the torch, long after my demise.

Then, on one of our fact finding missions through Ireland in 2006, my husband and I happened to pick up a copy of *Irish Roots* magazine; inside was an article asking for those with the Shea/O'Shea surname to join their yDNA project, administered through Family Tree DNA in Austin, Texas. I couldn't believe my luck in finding this, and tucked it away knowing I would work on it the minute I returned home. I learned that the project administrators live in County Cork, Ireland, and that they work diligently to put the results of the yDNA test into a readable and understandable context for its members. Most importantly, it's possible they can match you with someone who shares your surname (if they are already in the yDNA surname project and testing at the 37 marker). This seemed to be the solution to my dead-end search.

On my most recent journey to Ireland in September 2008, in another attempt to solve the whereabouts of my grandfather's birth, I was prepared. My brother had agreed to do the yDNA swab and those results were in the Shea/O'Shea project data base. Now that we had a place in the data bank, I needed to find a Shea male in the Cahersiveen area willing to join the project. Still a difficult task, but this time I felt it had more purpose.

During this visit I met with the genealogist at the National Archives in Dublin. I had reached the conclusion that the only way to get close to securing a Shea birth cert would be to check if my grandfather's mother, Julia Shea, maiden name of Falvey, gave birth to other children after the year 1864, for these records survived the 1922 Irish Civil War. After a quick search through her data base, the genealogist located a birth cert for a James Shea, born in 1869, mother's maiden name Julia Falvey, townland of Rathkerin in the Cahersiveen area. This was an amazing find; this James could be a brother of my grandfather Michael. It took the expertise of a qualified genealogist to know exactly where to locate this material, saving me the time-consuming task of searching for documents at the General Records Office in Dublin.

My husband and I drove to County Kerry that very afternoon, located the parish of Rathkerin townland, and met with the priest. Unfortunately, the church records for the time that Julia Shea had lived in that parish showed extreme mildew damage and were unreadable. The priest reviewed what little information he had and informed me of the one remaining O'Shea family living in the area where Julia (Falvey) Shea had lived in the late 1800s. I wasn't convinced this lead would render information, for I hadn't considered the O'Shea name vital in my search. But the priest suggested I speak with the family. Since I had traveled to Ireland to locate the area where my grandfather was born, even though I thought this to be a shot in the dark, I thought it best to meet with them. We drove to the O'Shea cottage, knocked on the door, and were welcomed in. Patsy told me that his O'Shea family had been in that area for generations and that any Sheas living in the townland of Rathkerin in the late 1800s would definitely be related to them. I explained my mission and asked if he would participate in the project. I would pay for the test. He agreed. Since his wife is a practicing nurse in Cahersiveen, she understood what I was asking for and why I needed it. There was no hesitation to my request for a

cheek swab. When I returned home, I contacted Family Tree; they sent the swab kit to Patsy. I alerted our project administrators in County Cork of the new participant; the project coordinator, James O'Shea, assured me that when he received the results from Family Tree, he would contact me. After six weeks, the results came in stating that Patsy O'Shea in the Glen and our Shea family are definitely related.

My journey to collect more data continues, but, this time, it's with the help and support of the project administrators: Margaret O'Shea Jordan, James O'Shea, and Brian O'Shea (http://www.osheaclan.org). The O'Sheas have been undaunted in their quest to put together the Shea/O'Shea puzzle for all counties of Ireland and other places throughout the world; I am the fortunate benefactor of their hard work. I could never have known that the one O'Shea family left in the Glen would be related to me, if not for the Shea/O'Shea yDNA project and the continuing follow-up work of Margaret Jordan O'Shea. Locating elusive ancestors is a difficult task and one that doesn't often yield results. Now we have the help of experts, such as the project administrators, who work tirelessly to interpret the results of yDNA.

If you've hit a brick wall in your search for ancestors, log on to *Family Tree DNA* at http://www.familytreedna.com. Check to see if your Irish surname is part of a yDNA project. If so, get on board; you may unlock the mystery of your genealogy.

For those interested in joining the Shea/O'Shea project, contact one of the project administrators at http://www.osheaclan.org and discover how you can rev up your search through DNA.

Sharon Shea Bossard is the author of the book Finding My Irish, *an inspiring memoir of her relentless quest to unlock her Irish heritage. In her most recent book,* Finding Your Chicago Irish, *she steers readers beyond the shamrocks and green beer and into the heart and soul of Irish Chicago with her entertaining and comprehensive guide. Visit http://www.findingmyirish.com for additional information.*

Annie's Letter: The Story of a Search

by Robert Burke

Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland: Flyleaf Press, 2004. 179 pages. Out-of-Print.

Reviewed by Harold E. Hinds, Jr., Ph.D.

One of the benefits of writing columns and review essays for genealogical journals is the emails and letters I receive from readers. Some time ago, Paul Milner wrote to recommend a book he'd recently read, *Annie's Letter.*

Annie's Letter is a terrific example of the process of discovery. Burke makes completely transparent the steps he and his colleagues took over several years to research their family history. It all started with a single heirloom letter, written by the author's great-grandmother on his father's side, Annie (Goodwin) Burke, addressed to her son Thomas Burke. The letter discussed family history and, despite its many gaps, "it provided all the facts and clues that eventually led to this trail of startling discoveries" (p. 11). Burke's short volume is difficult to put down as he leads you through the search process, with its ups and downs, and unexpected results. The book is nicely illustrated with excerpts from Annie's letter and with a series of family trees, each of which represents an advance in his search.

While it's the *Story of the Search* that will engage you, the volume also offers considerable advice on the process of discovery. I found the following examples particularly interesting:

(1) Did his ancestor, James Dominick Burke, marry the niece of Admiral

Collingwood, Nelson's second-in-command at the Battle of Trafalgar? "This was certainly a good story, but no more than that as it eventually transpired" (p. 14). In order to move beyond the story, he realized some "genuine research would be needed" (p. 11).

(2) A search at the Public Record Office at Kew, which extended well beyond the obvious genealogical records, led to the discovery of a series of letters from the Governor of the Leeward Islands that dramatically detailed the fate of Annie and her husband in the West Indies.

(3) The author and a distant cousin both had contacted the Royal College of Surgeons in London, some 25 years apart. James D. Burke had been a surgeon. The College informed Michael Burke of Robert Burke's existence and interest in the family surgeon. Michael tracked Robert down. Now there was a team effort, Michael researching in London, Robert in Ireland. This once again proved the sound advice to track down cousins, since they may have inherited key documents. Michael possessed "the journal [which] described an emigration journey made by James Dominick from Ireland to Liverpool in seventeen ninety-nine" (p. 30), and which revealed that the Burkes were Irish, not English.

(4) "An important lesson was learned… By researching the Collingwoods we had come across important Burke information… It demonstrated the logic of not confining research to the male line" (p. 40).

(5) Visit the locales your ancestors inhabited and engage local historical societies and experts. By doing so, Robert located the grave of Louisa Jane Collingwood who had married his ancestral surgeon.

(6) When new facts are uncovered, reevaluate previously collected information. Robert had located a manuscript Collingwood genealogy "many years previously in the Genealogical Society in London" (p. 53), but Jane was not on the family tree. With the discovery of a brother who was on the tree, it became clear that Jane was not the niece of the famous Admiral Lord Collingwood, but a cousin.

(7) *Annie's Letter* presents several good examples of collateral research. James Dominick Burke was Irish, but where in Ireland was he from? All efforts to answer this key question failed, until the author traced one of James' daughters to New Zealand. She had given up marriage to care for her deceased sister's children by Michael Creagh. In researching the Creagh family, Robert discovered that the surgeon James D. Burke was from Becan, County Mayo, Ireland.

(8) Assumptions about religion often are incorrect. The author assumed James D. Burke was a Protestant since his wife and children were Church of England. But the Burkes were Catholic!

(9) Serendipity always seems to play a role in a search this complex: "I would probably never have come across it [the marriage settlement] but for my error in recalling the year of their marriage" (p. 95).

(10) "By checking all of the Burke records perhaps I would stumble across a lease or sale of land, or a marriage settlement or a Will, any of which could provide vital clues. It was simply a matter of persistence" (p. 113). Robert Burke cast a wide net, was persistent, and thus made several key discoveries.

(11) At several critical junctures, research in newspapers was essential. At Gilbert Library in Dublin, the author discovered that one of two surviving newspapers of 1764 contained the marriage of his third great-grandmother.

(12) Robert Burke repeatedly stresses the importance of researching female lines. "To have traced my twentieth great grandfather, was the greatest achievement of my search so far, and yet again this breakthrough had come from following the female lines" (p. 134).

(13) The author concludes: "so where do I go from here?" (p. 155). As is the case with all genealogies and personal family histories, even some facts central to a quest remain unanswered. For example, he still hasn't located a marriage record for James Dominick Burke and Louisa Jane Collingwood!

Annie's Letter is a great example of the process of discovery. I can attest, from having done research in England and Ireland, that if you have English, or especially Irish ancestry, you will greatly benefit from a careful reading of Robert Burke's search for his roots.

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Dinny and Maggie's Caeling House

by John B. Cunningham

Before the arrival of the great blight in Ireland – and I am talking about the blight of television which has destroyed so much of our oral history, music and heritage rather than the potato blight that brought the great famine of the 1840s and killed millions – the countryside was full of caeling houses. Especially during the long nights when the day's work was done, the cattle foddered, the hens and ducks safely in their respective, fox proof dwellings (hopefully) then it was time to go on your caeli to some of your neighbours' houses. You might even be the recipient of caeliers yourself.

A hand-held torch or a moonlight night encouraged the caeliers. Safely inside the warm house with the gentle hiss of the Tilley lamp the night's conversation began. The gossip of the day was discussed, the evening news on the radio, the deaths, marriages and births of the locality, the news from abroad, emigrant letters were read and the night passed in cosy comfort around a good roaring fire. At the due time the woman of the house made tea that you could trot a mouse upon with thick slices of homemade bread generally freshly made. With all the important hard information and the numerous soft conclusions drawn therefrom, everyone relaxed.

Someone known to have a song or two in them, or a recitation, would be gently nudged into giving a bit of entertainment – much against their will apparently, with excuses of having a touch of the cold, not remembering the words, or "..ah, you've have heard it all a hundred times before." Eventually the protests were worn down and tales of love and lost love, of emigration and poverty, of bad landlords and cruel eviction or of Ireland's interminable religious and political feuding would once again be given an airing. Occasional mutters of approval such as "good man yerself" or "good girl yourself" punctuated softly. The performer got absolute cuineas (quietness) and a burst of applause rewarded the singer. Such is human nature that sometimes the most reluctant would be very offended if not persisted with and not given an opportunity to show their paces. Many of the singers were known for their favourite items. Francy Murphy always sang "If We Only Had Old Ireland Over Here" which begins with "I was dreamin' of old Ireland and Killarney's lakes and dells." Jack Cassidy inevitably rendered the Percy French song, "Abdul Abulbul Amir."

On other nights the subject would be ghosts, of which there was a seeming plethora at the time. Every gap in the hedge along the roadside seemed to have a ghostly presence of some kind, and the skilled story teller could send the children creeping to bed and wanting the little oil lamp lit on their bedroom table. In our house, my mother would soon put an end to the ghost stories as she said they would frighten the children and, thinking about it now, perhaps frighten mother as well. When you had to walk home in the dark and perhaps pass a graveyard, maybe on a night after a funeral, you never knew who or what you would meet. One household retold their fullest repertoire of ghost stories to do their best to scare old Felix Eves on his way home. He was not the most handsome of men, to put the matter mildly, and being pressed on what scary apparition he might meet on the way home, responded that he had never seen anything worse looking than himself.

Sometimes, a musical instrument was to hand and invariably handed to the visitor first if they were known to be able to coax a tune from it; and sometimes, an impromptu dance broke out, especially if there were some girls about the house. More formally organised house dances occurred from time to time with the men charged a fee and girls admitted free. It was important to put no obstacle in the way of attracting as many girls as possible. Sometimes, in another room of the house, men would play cards and, in return for the admission fee, all were treated to tea and homemade bread.

Thus the people of the Irish countryside entertained themselves and passed on the music and lore of the past before the age of television brought in mass-produced drivel. But back to Dinny and Maggie's caeling house which was situated under the sturdy height of Crocknacunny Mountain along a lane that once had eighteen houses and now has none. Instead of the traditional range of

three rooms side by side, which was the norm of the Irish cottage, Dinny's house had two rooms, one above the other. His first wife had died when he was constructing the house so he built upwards instead of sideways. The kitchen, as it was called, was downstairs with a big open hearth fire at one end and the dresser, with its lovingly assembled collection of plates and mugs, along the opposite wall. Beside the fire was a bed curtained off where the old couple slept and, opposite, a table with a chair beside where a bucket of water sat with a cup nearby to slake your thirst. The house was comfortably thatched; Dinny and Maggie's was a much loved caeling house.

Dinny and Maggie were good raconteurs and the hospitality was traditionally good, but several things made this house unusual. Firstly, Dinny suffered from asthma and on star-filled frosty nights he got ease from his complaint by sitting at the open door taking in the chill night air. The rest of us were in a semi-circle about the big hearth fire where lengths of rhododendron, or as Dinny called them "dandrums", gave out a tremendous heat. The hedges round about had lots of dandrums which would burn at any time of the year on account of an oily sap that they contained. From his station at the door, Dinny kept up his part in the conversation as well. For years Dinny was "dying" with his asthma but he often commented that many of his apparently more healthy caeliers had dropped off while Dinny was still there wheaseling away at his front door.

The other unusual feature of the chat around the fire was a teasing chat, with no malice intended; it began with someone starting the thread of a conversation which had some connection to someone in the group. If the individual didn't spot the reference, others added to it; and if one was slow on the uptake, your friends could be talking about you for five or ten minutes. When you eventually found out and commented, everyone burst out laughing. You had to be on your toes among these conversational experts where an immediate, accurate response to a friendly jibe was a prized quality. It was no use whatever thinking of a smart answer next day; the mind and the tongue had to respond wittily and instantly.

Everyone knew quite an amount of each other's business. The number of cows and sheep they had, the next baby due in the locality, and stories of emigrant relations and how they were faring abroad were all grist to the mill about the fireside. The big world did not often intrude but when it did it was squeezed to fit in with the local scene and circumstance. One of the regular caeliers, Mick McGrath, went to London for a week to see one of his daughters who had just had a baby. On his return among the caeliers, everyone was dying to hear stories of London and other "faraway places with strange sounding names," as the song says, but every hint dropped by the company was ignored by Mick. Finally, in desperation, as the group was about to break up for the night, old Dinny broke all the rules of protocol which governed our gatherings and did the unthinkable. He asked the direct question, "How was London Mick?" With a smile of triumph at having outlasted everyone's probing, Mick declared, "You know they are lovely people over there in London. That nice Mr. Wilson (Prime Minister, 1964-1970) is very dacent and brought us in for tea and – do you know what – when we were leaving he took down the hurricane lamp and led us to the end of his lane." I can hear the laughter yet.

John Cunningham lives in Belleek, Co. Fermanagh and has written about Irish local and National history since 1980, producing over 30 books and about 100 articles. In addition to writing, he is an Irish National Tour Guide, and a genealogist. He has transcribed most of the records of graveyards, school records, etc. of his area. His principal hobby is fishing in the local mountain lakes. See some of his books at http://www.erneheritagetours.com/

David Stewart and Henry B. Swanzy Collections

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS

This installment of the series on Irish genealogical collections focuses on the works of two noted clergy antiquarians, Reverend David Stewart and Dean Reverend Henry B. Swanzy. Since much of the collections are taken from the Prerogative Court of Armagh which covered the whole of Ireland, no table listing coverage by County is presented in this issue.

Rev. David Stewart

The Reverend David Stewart collection consists of copies of extracts of Prerogative wills for the time period 1655 - 1812 and principally for families in the Diocese of Down and/or families who were living in the counties of Antrim (Belfast), Down, and Dublin. The Prerogative wills are not always noted as taken from that court. A copy of the collection is deposited at the Public Record Office, Northern Ireland, Belfast (Ref. T403). A typescript copy obtained by the Family History Library was microfilmed on FHL microfilm 1,183,517 item 2, but was unfortunately withdrawn in June 1999. In the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, the volume of typescript wills may be examined in book form, FHL British Book QArea 941.5 S2st.

The volume, entitled *Wills Chiefly in the Diocese of Down, from the originals in the Record Office Dublin*, extracted by Rev. David Stewart, B.A. Cregagh, Belfast, 1928.

This typescript copy was presented by the Rev. David Stewart and was acquired by the Family History Library in August, 1956. The forward, written in Stewart's own hand, reads:

"These extracts were made by me in the period between the years 1897 and 1916. In March of the former year I became minister of the congregation in Tralee, and, on visits to the North, it was customary for me to spend a little time in Dublin. On such accessions (sic) I usually spent some time in the Public Record Office and made notes of matters which were of interest to me.

I lent my manuscript book of extracts of wills to the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, Belfast, to copy and received this duplicate copy of the same in recognition of my assistance."

Sample extracts:

McROBERT, ANDREW

Listooder, Co. Down. "In ye name of God, Amen. I Andrew McRobert, in ye parish of Kilmore, & County of Down, farmer, being weak in body, but of sound & perfect judgment, do make & ordain this to be my last will and Testament.

First, I order my body to be buried in ye church yard of Kilmore after a decent manner, and for ye worldly goods wch it hath pleased God to bless me with I dispose of [same] in ye following manner.

First, I leave to my beloved wife Ann McRobert twenty pounds One by bond from Rev. Mr. Benson, and an equal share with any of my children.

Secondly, I desire and will gt (sic) all my money, goods, chattels, credits I die possessed of be equally divided amongst my wife, my sons William, John, James, and my Daughters, Christian Scott, Jane Russell, & Elizabeth Cunningham. Only I do order that my son William, being my eldest, may have my lack mare in ye mountain, over & above his child's part.

I also leave ten shillings to ye poor of ye parish of Kilmore: And I do appoint William, John, & James Executors of this my last Will and Testament. Dated ye 25th day of January 1746. Andrew McRobert. Signed, sealed, & pronounced in ye presence of Trevor Benson, William Donner, John Hamiltion. Probated at Saintfield 15th Oct. 1746 – by Phil Gayer, Surrogate.

Dean Rev. Henry Biddall Swanzy

Dean Rev. Henry B. Swanzy compiled an extensive collection of approximately 860 will abstracts, many of which are deposited at the Public Record Office Northern Ireland (Ref. T282 and T1746). The dates of the Prerogative material in this collection span the time period 1681 - 1846. This material supplements Sir William Betham's abstracts due to the extended time period beyond 1800. Much of the material also pertains to the diocesan courts of Clogher and Kilmore and it is probable the Prerogative material relates to individuals in these dioceses as well. The extracts are richer in detail than Betham's and are typewritten making them much easier to read.

The Swanzy Collection of wills deposited in the Genealogical Office, Dublin (G.O. Mss. 420) was microfilmed by the Family History Library on FHL microfilm 100,176 item 2. These Prerogative will abstracts are mixed in with abstracts from the diocesan courts

and are roughly in alphabetical order, but should be thoroughly examined. The Prerogative wills are noted with the term "P. Will" or "Prerog. will" following the name of the testator. These wills are indexed in the Irish periodical *Analecta Hibernica* Vol. 17.

Dean Rev. Henry B. Swanzy's life was cut short, ending the biographical work he had been so anxiously engaged in creating succession lists. He was visiting and participating in the marriage of a relative in London, England, when, on the night of 19 November 1932, he was struck by a motorcar in the streets of Kensington and rendered unconscious. He died a short time later in a London hospital.

Dean Rev. Swanzy spent his life living the gospel and tending to the needs of his parishes where he served in Omeath, Carrowdore and Newry. He was able to publish solid genealogical works on the families of French, Nixon and Green.

Sample extracts:

ROSE, HICKMAN (P. Will) of Cuffe St., Dub. Ppty. In Queen's Co. bros.-in-law Samuel & John Hanady. Wife Jane. 3 daus. Mrs. Lucy Kirby, Mrs. Eliz. Dick & Mrs. Mary Anne Daniel. Sons-in-law John Kirby, John Dick & Michael Daniel. Dated Mar. 18, 1823, proved April 2, 1823. Witnesses Hickman B. Bolesworth, John Andrews, John Mathews.

TUITE, PHILIP (Prerog. Will) Esqr. Of Newcastle, Co. Meath. Sister Mary Dease. Sister Rose. Sister Sarah. Sister Dromgole. Sister Frances Dalton. Cousin Theobald Tuite. Nephews Thos. & Anthony O'Reilly. Beloved wife Martha Tuite. Cousin Walter Dowdall, Esq. of Castlerickard. Dated 2 July, 1773, proved 14 May 1778.

STEWART, CHARLES (Prerog. Will) of City of Dublin, Esq. My intermarriage with my dear wife Sarah Moutray. I charge my manor of Baillyburrow with £150 a year for her, & £100 a year extic. & my coach & harness and one pair of my best coach mares or horses, &c. Son William to inherit. I have power by the settlements on my first marriage to charge the lands of Gilstown, Co. Meath, various lands in Cavan, and Mount Stewart and Dunmucky, Co. Dublin, with £4,000. It is to be paid to my daughter Rebecca on her marriage. If son William tries to hinder payment of wife's jointure, the lands to be sold. Exrs. Wife, Benjamin Gregory, Leslie Corry and Stewart Wilder, and whereas I and my first wife Margaret, Edward Cosby, Esq. and James Lucy, as of Hillary Term, in the 8th year of Queen Anne, levied fines. The deed or settlement made on my first marriage dated 24 Nov. 1711. Will dated 8 April, 1740, proved 18 June, 1740, by Rev. Benjamin Gregory.

RICHARDSON, WM. (Armagh Will) of Tatukyl, Kildress, Co. Fermanagh. To be bur. In Kildress Chu. £120 due by my uncle John Cheevers to go to my sister Catherine Richardson: £10 to my cousin Anna Cranston, £70 due by John Cairns of James Gledstains, remainder to sole Excr. My father James Richardson. Witnesses James Richardson, E. Cranston, wm. Cranston. Dated Mar. 3, 1689, proved April 16, 1690.

NOBLE, JOSEPH STORY, Clk (Prerog. Will) Late Grandfather, Rev. Joseph Story, did leave me the lands of Knockadawk, Co. Wexford, after the death of my late mother, Elizabeth Noble, who departed this life the 14th day of February, 1819. I leave said lands to my daughter Elizabeth Noble. If she die without issue to go to my brother Francis Noble. All other property to my wife Jane's own disposal. Excrs. My brother Francis Noble & my relative James Hamilton Story. Will not dated or witnessed. J. N. Rath swore to the signing 13 Jan. 1855, proved 23 Jan. 1855.

NOBLE, JEROME (Prerog. Will) of Summer Hill, Co. Dublin, Esq. To be buried in the Churchyard of Coolock, Co. Dublin, as near the remains of my late Dear Wife Elizabeth Noble, otherwise Crawford, as possible. To my dear wife Mabella Noble £50, dau. Margaret Noble; dau. Prudence Noble £300 ster. charged on the lands of Drumbrocus, Co. Cavan, by deed of Settlement entered into & executed upon or previous to my intermarriage with my said late wife Elizabeth Noble, otherwise Crawford. Son Mungo Noble. Margaret Crawford, widow, mother of my late wife. Lands of Tombeg, Co. Fermanagh, perhaps from the Crawfords. Exors. Rev. Mark Noble, Francis Noble, Esquires & Brabazon Noble, Merchant. Dated 17 Jan. 1784, Proved 15 May, 1784. (N. B. Prerogative Marr. Lic. 30 Dec. 1782, between Jerome Noble, of the City of Dublin, Esqre. & Mabella Goodlatt, of the Parish of St. Mary's, Dublin, widow). The 1st wife was Elizabeth, dau. of the Rev. John Crawford, R.V. Errigkeerogue (Armagh), by Margaret, dau. of John Rynd, of Derryvolen, High Sheriff, Co. Fermanagh, 1708.

Conclusion

You can see from the styles of the two abstracts that Rev. David Stewart and Dean Rev. Henry B. Swanzy chose what was important differently – Rev. Stewart making almost a total copy/abstract of the will, whereas Dean Rev. Swanzy made a briefer synopsis. In either case, to have these copies as well preserved as they are, we can all be grateful for their efforts to preserve the information that was contained in the original wills. Examining a variety of will abstracts, particularly for those who had a will in the Prerogative Court of Armagh, is very important given the different abstract/extract methods and the fact that there very well may be more than one copy with varying details.

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS, is a professional genealogist since 1977, accredited in Ireland research in 1981 and certified in 2006. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.A. in Family and Local History. He is the course coordinator for the Irish Course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) – a five-day course taught every three years at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He is a past-president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and of the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) and a Fellow of that organization. He is also a Fellow of the Irish Genealogical Research Society, London.

Preserving Family Artifacts

by Mary Wickersham

I started research for this article thinking that the only family history artifacts I have are a few photographs, and a crystal vase and shawl that belonged to my great-grandmother. Expecting to find advice about preservation of papers, photographs and clothing in non-acidic storage, I was pleased to find sites with information specific to preservation of family history. These cover not only artifacts you can touch, but also the digital artifacts most of us have been accumulating since the arrival of personal computers, digital & video cameras and audio devices.

Take a look at the sites below. They may provide answers to some of your questions.

The National Archives: Caring for Your Family Archives This website provides advice on caring for family papers and photographs, converting videotapes to digital, and links to sources for document conservation professionals (for document repairs). The site offers guidelines for storing digital copies of images, but states that those copies will not replace the originals, and provides storage suggestions for original photographs and negatives. http://www.archives.gov/preservation/family-archives/

The Library of Congress: Preparing, Protecting, Preserving Family Treasures The three sections go into detail about each topic: "Preparing" covers placement within the home and insurance; "Protecting" runs the gamut of paper to digital media; "Preserving" offers advice and how-to videos on the handling of treasures after they are damaged. http://www.loc.gov/preserv/family-treasures/ftprepare.html

National Archives of Australia: Keeping records safe and accessible over time Although written for Australian government agencies, this site provides insights into preservation of electronic data. http://www.naa.gov.au/records-management/secure-and-store/index.aspx

Cyndi's List: Cyndi provides a go-to list of links to almost 200 preservation-related websites, including sites for paper, photographs, textiles, video & audio, and links to vendors of supplies, software and services. http://www.cyndislist.com/preservation.htm

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Mary Wickersham retired from bank operations and software development in 1998. She is active with IGSI and chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society With her sister, she also writes the "100 Years Ago" column for The Septs.

Introducing the Friends of Saint Patrick

by Kathy McGorray Dougherty

Those with a genealogical link to the north of Ireland may already be familiar with Saint Patrick's history in that part of the isle. Counties Down and Armagh are filled with historic sites associated with Ireland's patron saint. In fact, the only museum in the world dedicated to Saint Patrick is located in Downpatrick, County Down.

This museum, the Saint Patrick Centre, provides visitors with a multimedia exhibit that tells the story of Saint Patrick, based on his own writings along with other sources. The Centre captures his lasting legacy, both in Ireland and around the world. Moreover, given the turbulent times that Northern Ireland has experienced, Saint Patrick provides a centerpiece for the reconciliation work being carried out at the Centre. "Patrick was from Great Britain and is now recognized as the patron saint of Ireland. There's no better symbol for the peace process in our part of the world," according to Dr. Tim Campbell, Director of the Saint Patrick Centre.

It was during his visit to the United States in 2007 that Dr. Campbell began crystallizing the idea for a network of Friends of Saint Patrick organizations. "We have a local Friends chapter in Downpatrick, supporting the work of the Centre. While talking to people in the U.S., it became clear that there was a great deal of interest, hope and support for the work we're doing, as well as for the overall reconciliation efforts in Northern Ireland," said Campbell.

Initial discussions with interested folks in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, led to the creation of the first two Friends of Saint Patrick chapters in the United States in 2008. The mission of the Friends of Saint Patrick is:

> To build positive and on-going relationships between the United States and the northern part of Ireland and particularly Saint Patrick's Country in Counties Armagh and Down. To learn about and experience the cultures of Northern Ireland and the reconciliation work which is going on there, through the Saint Patrick Centre and other organizations. Through education, action and celebration, the Friends of Saint Patrick will take forward and nurture Patrick's legacy both in America and Ireland.

In the United States, we often only hear about Northern Ireland when there is a violent incident to report. Many Americans have traveled to the Republic of Ireland, even several times, but have never visited the North due to their perceptions or perhaps, their misperceptions. The Friends of Saint Patrick chapters focus on educating people about the new realities in Northern Ireland, and how people in other parts of the world can help ensure that their reconciliation efforts continue to move forward.

A major project for both the Saint Patrick Centre and the Friends chapters has been the Northern Ireland Young Ambassador Program. Now in its second year, the Young Ambassador Program brings American college students and recent graduates to Northern Ireland for several weeks. The purpose is two-fold:

1) To promote a greater understanding of the shared cultural heritage of Northern Ireland, and
2) To establish a network of informed individuals in the U. S. who can accurately and actively represent the northern part of Ireland to others in their communities.

"The experience was truly unique and not one that I would have been able to get anywhere else," according to one participant. While in Northern Ireland, the Young Ambassadors develop their own cultural projects, utilizing local resources and the people they meet to craft a well-rounded, first-person account of their time there.

Upon their return, the Young Ambassadors share their projects in a myriad of ways. Young teachers who participated in the first year of the Young Ambassador Program developed everything from a "reader's theater," to inform high school students of the history of the Troubles, to projects focused on the Ulster-Scots influence in Northern Ireland for younger children.

Through varied and various activities, the non-denominational Friends of Saint Patrick chapters seek to inform, educate support and celebrate the reconciliation efforts taking place in Northern Ireland.

If you'd like to learn more about the Friends of Saint Patrick or the Saint Patrick Centre go to http://www.saintpatrickcentre.com or e-mail Dr. Tim Campbell, Director of the Saint Patrick Centre, at director@saintpatrickcentre.com.

Kathy McGorray Dougherty is Board President of the Minnesota Chapter of the Friends of Saint Patrick. She may be reached at nirelandtravels@juno.com

Friends of St. Patrick's Young Ambassadors at Belfast Castle. Photo courtesy of Friends of St. Patrick.

Research Assistance

Every family researcher needs a little help every so often. To that end, the Irish Genealogical Society International lends a helping hand to its members with research assistance. It is among the benefits for Society members – that IGSI staff search our Library for information requested by a current member.

With your request for research assistance, send

- All the genealogical information you have that will help in the search,
- Your IGSI membership number,
- Your contact information (name, address, email or phone number) in case additional information is needed to complete the research.

Do not send payment when requesting a search. When we know the cost, we'll inform you. Research of most indexed publications is free.

For a fee of $5.00 per hour, IGSI staff will search specific non-indexed sources or studies. Member may set a maximum amount to pay. [Note: A one-name search is usually not over three (3) hours.] Staff will generally search the following sources:

- *Emigrant Savings Bank, New York* - must have first names and approximate years in NY.
- *O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, 16 volumes, usually referred to as the "Casey's Collection" (East Kerry & West Cork only) - submit first name, surname, and location in Cork or Kerry if possible.
- Irish Passenger Lists in our library sources (both books & CDs) - submit surname(s), first names, approximate age and year of arrival into a U.S. port.
- *The Search for Missing Friends*, all eight volumes, 1851 – 1905 (books contain Irish Immigrant advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot*.) - submit names, and if possible, location in Ireland.
- Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis microfilms of parish records for parishes identified as Irish.

The cost of copying the large townland maps is rounded up to nearest dollar. If the map is rolled for mailing, add $1.50 for the cost of a tube.

We can provide a study of a surname in a known county in Ireland. For $10, the surname(s) will be 'mapped' out on a parish map of the County. If a couple was married in Ireland, we will do both surnames for the same price on the same map. If the surname is too numerous to get a meaningful result, we will notify you and there will be no charge.

Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853, Volumes I and II

by Terrence M. Punch

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2008-2009.

Reviewed by Beth Mullinax

When the first volume of this book was received as an addition to our library, I couldn't believe the information it contained! The author used newspaper articles and advertisements, local government documents and church records, land records, military records, and passenger lists to identify the Irish immigrants and their places of origin. What is so extraordinary is that in many of the entries the county and often the town or townland of origin in Ireland is listed. In Volume II, Punch gathered information from cemetery records and headstone inscriptions, even poorhouse records. They are easy to use; the books contain Surname and Ship indexes.

Both volumes cover the same time period, 1761-1853. Early records of Irish immigrants in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador are scarce. The books contain a wealth of information for U.S. researchers as many Irish ancestors passed through the Atlantic areas of Canada. Remember, many of the Irish took transport to Canada instead of the U.S. as the fare was much cheaper.

A sampling of the records included in the books:

- Ulster Scots in Nova Scotia in 1761
- Irish-born Inmates in the Halifax Bridewell 1817/1818 (jail)
- Cape Breton Census of 1818: the Irish
- County Derry to Newfoundland, 1834/1835
- Fortunes of Sea Travel from Ireland, 1816-1852
- Irish Marriages in Nova Scotia
- Irish Weddings in Nova Scotia 1809-1820

Both volumes are in the library (call number "L102") and are available for purchase from the IGSI Bookstore.

Beth Mullinax is a past president and has held various other Board positions of IGSI since 1983. She lectures on various research topics, basic and advanced, throughout Minnesota and several other states. She led four genealogy research trips to Ireland and has been a contributor to The Septs.

1911 Ireland Census Site Updated

Have you viewed the 1911 Census of Ireland at the website of The National Archives of Ireland? As of June 1, an additional five counties have been added to the website. Returns for Cork, Donegal, Wexford, King's County and Galway can now be searched online. Returns for Antrim, Down, Dublin and Kerry were released last year. The remaining counties have yet to be added; plans call for their inclusion by summer's end.

In September, the site's owners plan to rebuild the site to include full transcription of all of the data on the household forms for 1911, including religion, occupation, relationship to head of family, literacy status, marital status, county or country of origin, Irish language proficiency, specified illnesses, and child survival information.

You can find the online Irish census returns at http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie, where you can also read about the data included on the census returns and some unique aspects of the Irish census.

The 1901 and 1911 censuses are the only surviving full censuses of Ireland open to the public. Both censuses cover the entire island of Ireland. The 1911 census was taken on 2 April 1911.

The National Archives plans that the 1901 Irish census, with all data transcribed, will be launched online towards the end of 2009.

Accessing the IGSI Library Periodical Collection

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

In the 1990's IGSI initiated an indexing project which became known as PIP – IGSI's Periodical Indexing Project. What has been indexed so far is available on the Society's website. It opens the door to accessing more than 12,000 articles held in the IGSI Library periodical collection. On the Society's homepage (http://www.irishgenealogical.org), simply click on the Research tab and then on "Index of IGSI Periodicals." Directly from the website, you can download or order articles you can use in your family research.

On the ***Search*** page, enter your terms of search. This includes one or a combination of:

- Author last name
- Geographic Focus
  - Irish County
    - Any
    - All Ireland
    - Choose a County
  - Country—From Australia to the USA to Wales and more
- Periodical Name
- Title (or Keywords)

Choose to sort your results by:

- Author
- Title
- Publication Date
- Publication Title
- County/Country

Note that if your research returns more than 100 results, only 100 will be displayed; if you get 556 results, you will see only the first 100. Try narrowing your search so that your results will be fewer. For instance, if you get too many results searching "Co. Cork," try adding a **Keyword** relevant to your search, such as "immigration" or "Kelly."

[At this time, while the webpage instructions on Selecting an Article direct you to mark a box preceding the article's title – there is no box. Nor is there the option to Record Picks to save your choices. The website editor is aware of these problems and working to resolve them. Perhaps by the time you read this they will be resolved.]

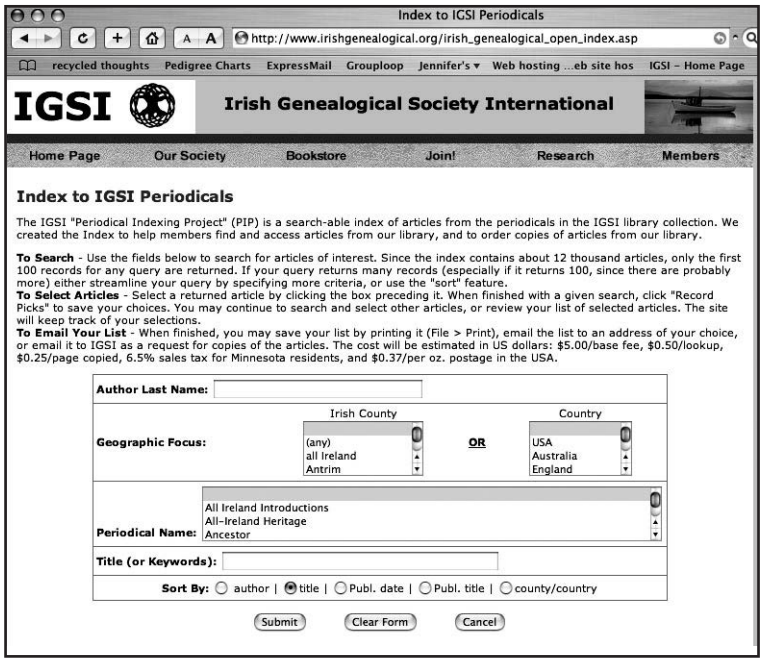
Author Last Name

Let's say, I read a great article by Tom K. Rice in my current issue of *The Septs*. I'd like to read more of his articles, so I navigate to the IGSI website, click on ***Research*** and then click on ***Index of IGSI Periodicals.*** On the search form, I enter the word "Rice" in the **Author** box. The search brings up 14 results, including authors named [P]rice. Since the **Author** box allows only a single-word search —I can't look for Tom in particular—I am going to sort the results by periodical name to find all the Rice articles in *The Septs*. My final results are nine articles in *The Septs* with Rice as the author. At this point I can choose to order articles, or—since I am an IGSI member with access to past issues of *The Septs*—I can log in, click on **Member** and choose ***The Septs*** from the dropdown menu. From this page, I can download any issue of *The Septs* I choose at no charge.

Geographic Focus or Country List

If I'm looking for articles that will help in researching my Regan family who emigrated to Canada from County Cork, I enter "Cork" into the **Geographic Focus (Irish County)** box. The search returns 556 results of which I can browse the first 100, noting the article title and periodical name on the left of the page, along with the location focus and the issue number on the right-hand side. To make my search more manageable, I search on both "Cork" and "emigration" and wind up with two results.

Searching for "Canada" in the **Geographic Focus Country** box gives me 611 results. To make the search more useable, I add "Cork" in the **Geographic Focus (Irish County)** box and "Regan" in the **Keyword** box. This narrows the results to six, including titles such as "Tribute to Bernard O'Regan" in the *Mizen Journal*. Using the same method, with "Canada" in the **Geographic Focus Country** box and "Regan" as a **Keyword**, turns up two results, including "Irish Gems in Quebec City" from *The Septs*.



Periodical Name

If you wish to see a list of articles from a particular publication, type in the name in the **Periodical Name** box. If you'd like to see what IGSI has available from *The Irish Genealogical Quarterly,* for example, choose that title from the dropdown list and hit enter. You'll have 182 results from PIP. If you enter *The Irish Genealogical Quarterly* plus "Cork" from **Geographic Focus (Irish County),** the list is narrowed to six, including "Casey's Remarkable Collection of Genealogical Sources for Kerry and Cork, and How to Use it."

Title or Keyword

This search box offers a great amount of freedom in how you search PIP. Searches for two-word phrases, such as Cork City, Irish music or James Joyce work well. Searching two surnames—Murphy + Kelly, for instance—seems less likely to bring results. Using a keyword to narrow your results from any general search is the primary function of the **Keyword**.

You can find a title if you know some of it. Typing in "Donegal Ancestors", for instance, brings up a book review in *The Septs* for the book *Tracing Your Donegal Ancestors.*

Sort By

Finally, give some thought about how to sort your results. If you're looking for an article in a particular magazine, sort by publication title. This is also a good idea if you find many articles of interest showing up in one magazine. You can call up your subject of interest for that periodical only. If you are researching a general topic such as the Famine, you can sort by county for your places of interest—for example, you will get 15 entries for Co. Mayo and 10 for Co. Clare.

Requesting Articles

After you have completed your search and identified the articles you want, you can send a list of the articles for which you want copies to IGSI. The charge for photocopies is a combination of a $5 base fee plus 25 cents per page and postage. Minnesotans will also pay the state sales tax.

Don't overlook the PIP! You may find just the details you've been seeking tucked away in Volume 25, Issue 12, of a magazine you have never (yet) seen.

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, IL. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

"I promise that if you will keep your journals and records, they will indeed be a source of great inspiration to your families, to your children, your grandchildren, and others, on through the generations. Each of us is important to those who are near and dear to us and as our posterity reads of our life's experiences, they, too, will come to know and love us. And in that glorious day when our families are together in the eternities, we will already be acquainted."

Spencer W. Kimball

You Are Priceless

***Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless.* – Sherry Anderson**

We talk a lot about how much we need your help to keep this organization vital. It's true; the work of this organization is done by people – members who care about others and about Irish genealogy. Without the efforts and work produced by the few who serve the many, IGSI's influence and capabilities would fall short of the mark. The following individuals have contributed their time and efforts to the Society during the past year. We thank them and acknowledge their support.

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Carol Tindell

To get more information on volunteering email Volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org

***Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.* – Author Unknown**

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

Waterford

Mrs. Shea, of Dunhill Co., Waterford, a claimant for an old age pension, is producing novel evidence that she is over 70 years. The parochial register wherein was a record of her baptism, was burned some years since, and attempts to get her age from the census returns proved fruitless. The Kilmacthomas sub-committee being fully satisfied from the statement of the parish priest that she was at least three score and ten, allowed her claim, but this decision was reversed by the local government on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence of her age. As the poor old woman was lamenting her ill-luck a neighbor discovered clear proof of her age in the Dunhill graveyard, where a modest tombstone testifies that her father died 72 years ago. Mrs. Shea, who was 3 years when her father died, has made a second application for the pension, and this time her claim can scarcely be added to the bogus list.
Irish Standard, Minneapolis, Minnesota
14 Aug 1909, Page 6

Over the Northwest

John Flynn, who came to Duluth when it was made up of only two or three rude shanties in the wilderness, celebrated his ninety-sixth birthday, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. C. Daly of 3902 West Third street. John Flynn was the first white man to make the trip from St. Paul to Lake Vermillion to trade with the Indians. He came to Duluth on the fourteenth day of April, in 1865, from Illinois. He has five sons and one daughter. One son, Richard Flynn of 127 South Twenty-eighth avenue west, and one daughter, Mrs. J. C. Daly, reside in the city.
Irish Standard, Minneapolis, Minnesota
3 Jul 1909, Page 8

A Heroic Priest

A thrilling race with death was ridden and won by Father McKinnon, of Nelson, B. C., a few days ago when Aimee Amicon, an employe (sic) of the Trail smelter, fell into a vat of acid, receiving such injuries that immediate death was inevitable. The doctors said Amicon might live half an hour and the unfortunate man asked for the priest.

Father McKinnon got the message at Nelson and forthwith applied to Henderson Brothers' livery for their fastest mount. He was given the race horse boarder, Oregon John, with which he started for Trail at a hard gallop, taking a new short cut, reducing the distance to eight miles by going dizzily down the mountain.

Here the horse ran away, the priest hanging on until thrown, within a few hundred yards from Trail Hospital. He sustained a broken rib and many bruises, but paid no attention to them until he had comforted the dying man and administered the sacraments. Amicon died three minutes later.

The priest's ride stands as a record, lasting just 19 minutes.
Irish Standard, Minneapolis, Minnesota
21 Aug 1909, Page 5

Around Rhode Island

Irish Volunteers Prohibited from Bearing Arms – Use of the Burnside Memorial in Bristol

The Irish Volunteers have discovered that the militia bill passed at the last session of the General Assembly absolutely prohibits their parading under arms and attaches a penalty of not more than $300 for each person who disobeys its provisions… Colonel Bowen could hardly be convinced that the law had been drawn in a manner which made it impossible for his organization to carry arms in its parades… Thomas F. Cooney, who appeared for the Irish Volunteers at a joint hearing of the militia committees of the house and senate when the mater (sic) was pending expressed the opinion that there had been either a serious error or a breach of faith…
Newport Daily News, Newport Rhode Island,
23 Jul 1909, Page 4

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop and Mary Wickersham share the writing credits for the "100 Years Ago" column. They are sisters as well as co-presidents and partners in Midwest Ancestor Research. Sheila is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, the Minnesota Genealogical Society and many local and regional genealogical and historical associations throughout the country. Mary retired from bank operations and software development in 1998. She is active with IGSI and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

New Committee Leaders

by Ann Eccles

We have four members who have agreed to head up committee efforts in areas needing leadership: Volunteers, Education, Outreach, and Projects.

Volunteers

Jeanne Bakken returns to the position of Volunteer Coordinator after a period of rest from these duties. Though she hasn't been inactive. Jeanne tells us, "I joined IGSI in 2001 and became active as the Volunteer Coordinator in 2002; I held that position until 2006. During that time, I served for two years as the 2nd Vice President and spent a year working with other members on PIP (Periodical Indexing Project). In 2007, I took on the task of Data Entry Project Coordinator and I continue to be active in that role." She is also a member of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, which she joined in 2002.

Upon her retirement from a 22-year career with the Federal Government, Jeanne made a trip to Ireland with five cousins. That's when she started her search for Irish ancestors in County Kerry and County Limerick. She goes on to say, "Two trips to Ireland, one in 2003 and another in 2004, aided in my search for great grandparents. In 2004, I spent a week in Dublin researching with seven other IGSI members. We had tours of all the large repositories and some smaller ones – a great learning experience and great fun, too.

I look forward to helping IGSI as the Volunteer Coordinator. The volunteers make it all happen." If you want to volunteer or to learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Jeanne at Volunteers@IrishGenealogcial.org .

Education

Sheila Northrop will coordinate Educational opportunities offered by IGSI. She has been a long-time member and contributor to *The Septs* and to the organization. She plans to work in conjunction with current instructors and leaders for input but also wants IGSI's general membership to be a source of program or class suggestions and volunteers. Sheila will keep aware of and better coordinate with Minnesota Genealogical Society on Education committee programs, even seeking possible joint opportunities.

Direct your suggestions, program ideas, and willingness to help with IGSI programs to Sheila at Education@IrishGenealogcial.org Prospective education volunteers are also encouraged to contact her as well!

Outreach

Elizabeth Beckers is the incoming chair of the Outreach Committee. She says that she reluctantly started doing her family research about 30 years ago when her mother said, "Why don't you write this down?" She mentally groaned, but dutifully did as her mother directed. She pursued her research while raising a family and working. She is a past president of the Itasca Genealogy Club (now joined with Itasca Historical Society) and has taught a short series of classes for them.

She has taken several classes and attended state and national conferences when possible. Elizabeth notes, "I love the search – watching the names and dates, or pictures in old photo albums, flesh out and become people with stories. It's interesting to see how often the dates and events our school teachers said were important and should be learned affected the lives of our families. And I'm always surprised to see how much information can be found when we use unusual sources to find our way around a brickwall. I'm looking forward to promoting IGSI as one of the sources around the Irish brickwalls."

If you would like to contact Elizabeth or learn more about the Outreach efforts of IGSI, you can contact her at Outreach@IrishGenealogcial.org

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Projects

Even in retirement, Mary Wickersham continues to be a very busy lady. She is a co-president and partner, with her sister Sheila Northrop, in Midwest Ancestor Research. She chairs the Minnesota Genealogical Society's Research Committee and she writes a column for *The Septs*. But she still has time to step in and serve as IGSI's Project Manager.

Mary has a way of recruiting and involving members in helping the Society to continue its work. Even in small ways. If you are willing to help with a project or looking for a way to learn more about the Society or Irish resources, contact Mary at Projects@IrishGenealogcial.org

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

May, June,July 2009

by Beth Mullinax, IGSI Librarian

Purchases:

H173 - *Donegal: The Making of a Northern County,* edited by Jim MacLaughlin. Published by Four Courts Press, Ltd., Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 382 p., illus., indexed.

H540 - *The Bodyke Evictions [County Clare],* by John S. Kelly. Published by Clare Champion Ltd., Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland, 1987, 184 p., illus.

H544 - *History of Crossmolina,* by Tony Donohoe. Published by Dublin De Burca & Castlehill Donohoe, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland, 2003, a reprint, 627 p., indexed, illus, maps.

H545 - *The World of the Gallowglass: Kings, Warlords and Warriors in Ireland and Scotland, 1200-1600,* edited by Sean Duffy. Published by Four Courts Press, Ltd., Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 219 p., illus.

H546 - *The Irish Hedge School and Its Books, 1695-1831,* by Antonia McManus. Published by Four Courts Press, Ltd., Dublin, Ireland, 2004, 270 p., illus., indexed.

H547.V.01 - *A History of the Town of Belfast From the Earliest Times to the Close of the Eighteenth Century,* by George Benn. Published by Blackstaff Press, Belfast, 2008, 755 p., illus., maps. [This is a facsimile of the original book published in 1877 in Belfast.]

H547.V. 02 - *A History of the Town of Belfast. From 1799 till 1810, together with some incidental notices on local topics and biographies of many well-known families,* by George Benn. Published by Blackstaff Press, Belfast, NI, 2008, 246 p., indexed.

IE46 - *Ireland, Philadelphia and the Re-Invention of America, 1760-1800,* by Maurice J. Bric. Published by Four Courts Press, Ltd., Dublin, Ireland, 2008, 363 p., indexed.

J093.2 - *Tracing Your Donegal Ancestors,* by Helen Meehan & Godfrey Duffy. Published by Flyleaf Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2008, 160 p. illus. (Second Edition). Also in IGSI Bookstore

Donations:

Journal of Kildare Archaeological Society, Volume VII, 1912-1914. Published by the Council of the County Kildare Archaeological Society, Kildare, County Ireland. Donated by Ronald Eustice, Savage, MN. [Note: Mr. Eustice has donated all seven volumes of this journal. If you have Kildare County ancestors, you need to search these volumes.]

Beth Mullinax, having been the IGSI librarian since the library's inception, has been instrumental in building the Irish research collection housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's Library to its status as one of the best Irish Genealogy collections in the USA.

She is a past president and has held other Board positions of IGSI since 1983. She lectures on research topics, basic and advanced. She led four genealogy research trips to Ireland and has been a contributor to The Septs.

IGSI Classes On September 12

IGSI continues its class offerings this fall. During Irish Saturday on September 12th IGSI will offer two classes at the Minnesota Genealogical Library. Both will be taught by our well-received instructor, Beth Vought.

Ulster Ancestors? Look at Presbyterian Records

Time: 10:00 am • Cost: $10

If you have, or think you have, ancestors from Ireland's Ulster Province (Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry, Monaghan, Tyrone) or one of the adjacent counties, there is a good chance that they were Presbyterian. This class gives a brief history of the Presbyterian church, discusses access to the records, and shows what you may find useful in the church records.

Why is Griffith's Valuation Important and What Can it Tell Me?

Time: 1:30 • Cost: $10

Is Griffith's Valuation still a mystery to you? Do you wonder how it will help with your search for an Irish ancestor? In this class, learn the basic concept of Griffith's, when it is be beneficial to your research, and what information you may find when using it. And get some hands-on in class using Griffith's on CD and the Internet.

People and Places Series

A brief genealogical history of the family origins in Ireland. Includes bibliographical references, pictures and maps. A short list of the family's biography and significant events of the family.

All Books in People and Places Series are $14.95

People and Places Series

S043	Burke People and Places by Eamonn Bourke (124 pp)
S067	Dunne People and Places by Joe Dunne (119 pp)
S035	O'Brien People and Places by Hugh W.L. Weir (76 pp)
S051	O'Connor People and Places by Hugh W.L. Weir (98 pp)
S084	MacCarthy People and Places by ALicia St. Leger (79 pp)
S002	O'Doherty People and Places by Fionnbarra O'Dochartaigh (82 pp)
S006	O'Donoghue People and Places by Rod O'Donoghue. (128 pp)
S085	(O') Kelly by Joseph M. Kelly (98 pp)
S052	O'Malley People and Places by Sheila Mulloy (97 pp)
S054	O'Neill People and Places by Nuala O'Neill (70 pp)

bookstore Order Form

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Tax: 7.125% for MN Residents _____

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Total Enclosed _____

Due to the rate of the dollar overseas, prices are subject to change. Indicate date of issue books were found. **Prices good for 90 days beyond publishing date.**

Shipping and Handling Cost	
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Additional Items	$ .50
All items will be sent Priority Mail	

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South St. Paul, MN 55075

Make check payable to: ***Irish Genealogical Society Int'l***

Payment must be made in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. Bank.

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Signature _____

Tithe Defaulters
Eneclann CD

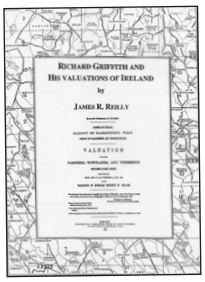
The CD contains all personal details from the original files, as well as copious information about the parishes that the people resided in. It includes nearly 30,000 individual defaulters, addresses, occupations and all other details about the defaulters appearing on the original record, complete records for 232 parishes and more. Order CD # G009 Cost: $39.95

Tracing Your Irish Ancestors
3rd Edition
John Grenham

John Grenham's Tracing Your Irish Ancestors is arguably the best book ever written on Irish genealogy. Now updated to reflect the enormous changes brought about by the Internet, the new edition marks another huge step forward in Irish genealogy. (526 pp) Order Book #111 Cost: $16.95

Richard Griffith and
His Valuations of Ireland
James R. Reilly

Mr. Reilly helps with the intricacies of Griffith's Valuations, showing how an understanding of the abbreviations and shorthand used by the valuators can lead the researcher from the valuation to other Irish records and additional discoveries concerning one's ancestors. (108 pp) Order Book #G035 Cost: $25.95

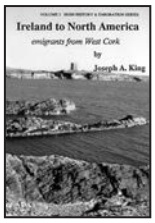


General Alphabetical Index of
Townlands, Towns, Parishes and
Baronies 1851
GPC

Over 900 densely printed pages show the county, barony, parish, and poor law union in which the 70,000 townlands were situated in 1851, as well as the location of the townlands on the Great Ordnance Survey maps, with appendices containing separate indexes to parishes and baronies. (968 pp.) Order Book #A020 Cost: $60.00

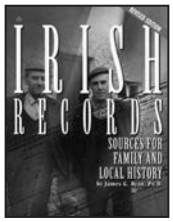
Ireland to North America,
Emigrants from West Cork
Joseph A. King

Emigration story of a family from a remote parish in west Cork in the early nineteenth century. Follows them to Canada and their descendants westward following rivers and railroads to Maine, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Pacific Northwest. (124 pp.) Order Book #I018 Cost: $13.95



Irish Record Sources
for Family & Local History
James G. Ryan

This is the most inclusive and easy-to-use resource for Irish historical records. It provides the researcher with a comprehensive listing of available sources for Irish written records. Organized by county. (668 pp.) Order Book #J056 Cost: $38.50

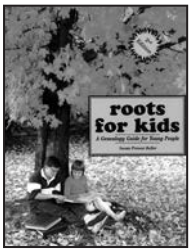


Ordnance Survey Memoirs
Index of People & Places
UHF

In 2002, Dr. Patrick McWilliams completed an Index to the Memoirs. This Herculean work lists all people and places in the original 40-volume series, as well as all original drawings, OS and county maps reproduced in the volumes. (747 pp) Order Book #G112.I Cost: $49.95

Roots for Kids
A Genealogy Guide for Young People
by Suan Provost Beller

This will help children dig into their family history and create a simple family tree. This book was written for students from fourth grade to sixth grade levels but can be used by anyone starting out. (104 pp) Order Book # K123 Cost: $19.95



Irish Records Index Vol.3
The 1851 Dublin City Census
Eneclann CD

Prior to the destruction of the 1851 census, Dr. D.A. Chart of the Public Record Office compiled a comprehensive list of the names and addresses of heads of households for Dublin City. The CD contains over 60,000 names and addresses in the city of Dublin. Order CD #G173 Cost: $42.95

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For Gift Memberships go to www.IrishGenealogical.org or write to IGSI at address below.

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Irish and Scot-Irish surnames only. PLEASE PRINT
One surname spelling and one Irish County per line please.
Surnames are searchable on the IGSI website www.IrishGenealogical.org Non-internet users may contact us.

	Surname	Ireland County (locale if known)	Other Country (locale) - [needn't write USA]
Example	*Stack*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*Can-QC; OH, MN (Rice Co), AZ*

Place additional surnames on blank sheet of paper.

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August Quarterly Program

Keeping the Irish Oral Storytelling Tradition Alive

What tales did your Irish ancestors know? Which Irish stories survived – and how? Come learn insights of the ancient origins of Irish fairytales. Starting with a tale from the mythological cycle of the Fenian warriors, David Zander will guide us on a path deep into the mists of Irish folklore sharing a few of his favorite stories and introducing some of the characters he has met along the way, including a traditional storyteller recorded by folklorists in the 1930's. David will conclude with a few tips to encourage you to learn and tell Irish stories.

If you know little about Irish mythology, this will be a great introduction to Irish Wonder tales, Mythological Gods & Giants, Warriors, Warrior Queens and an earlier genealogy of the fairy folk or little people.

David Zander is a local cultural anthropologist and storyteller. Born in London, he trained at the University of London as a teacher and taught in England, Kenya, and the Bahamas before coming to Minnesota. He is a graduate of the anthropology and education program at the University of Minnesota. An interest in storytelling is a common theme weaving in and around all the aspects of his professional life. He currently works for the State Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans as a community and legislative liaison. He has appeared as a storyteller at the Irish Festival in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Hope to see you there!

The August Quarterly Program follows the Membership meeting on August 15, 2009. The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. with registration starting at 8:30. Time of the program is estimated at 10:00 a.m.

Fee for members: $10,
for non-members: $15

IGSI Donor List

April, May, June

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Join a new IGSI Project

Pedigrees and Family Trees

By year's end, IGSI will add IGSI Pedigrees and Family Trees to the Society's website. This project will use the pedigree charts submitted by members when they first joined the Society and/or updated GEDCOM files that you submit to us.

In pre-computer and Internet days, the pedigree charts were collected for research use by members at the Library. Placing this information on the website expands its access to a greater number of members. And it will be only members who see the pedigree information; it will be located in the Members section of the website. For more information on the project, check http://www.IrishGenealogical.org.

If you do **not** want your family pedigree chart included in this project, **contact us by August 31** at pedigree@IrishGenealogical.org. If you want to **submit an updated GEDCOM file** of your family information, send it to the above email address. If you would like to volunteer to help on this project, contact the Volunteer Coordinator today at Volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org.

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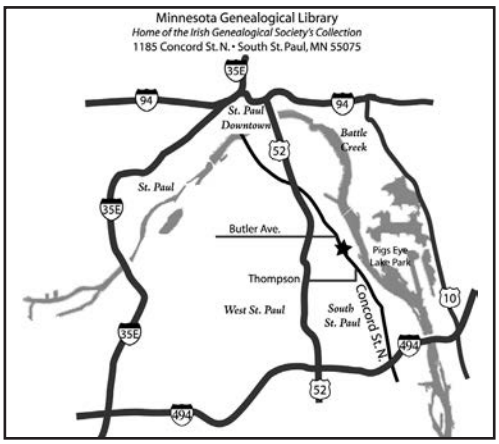
Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS)

Home of the Irish Genealogical Society International Research Library

Location of IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:30 to 9:30 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Society
1185 Concord St. N. * Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075
651-455-9057

During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

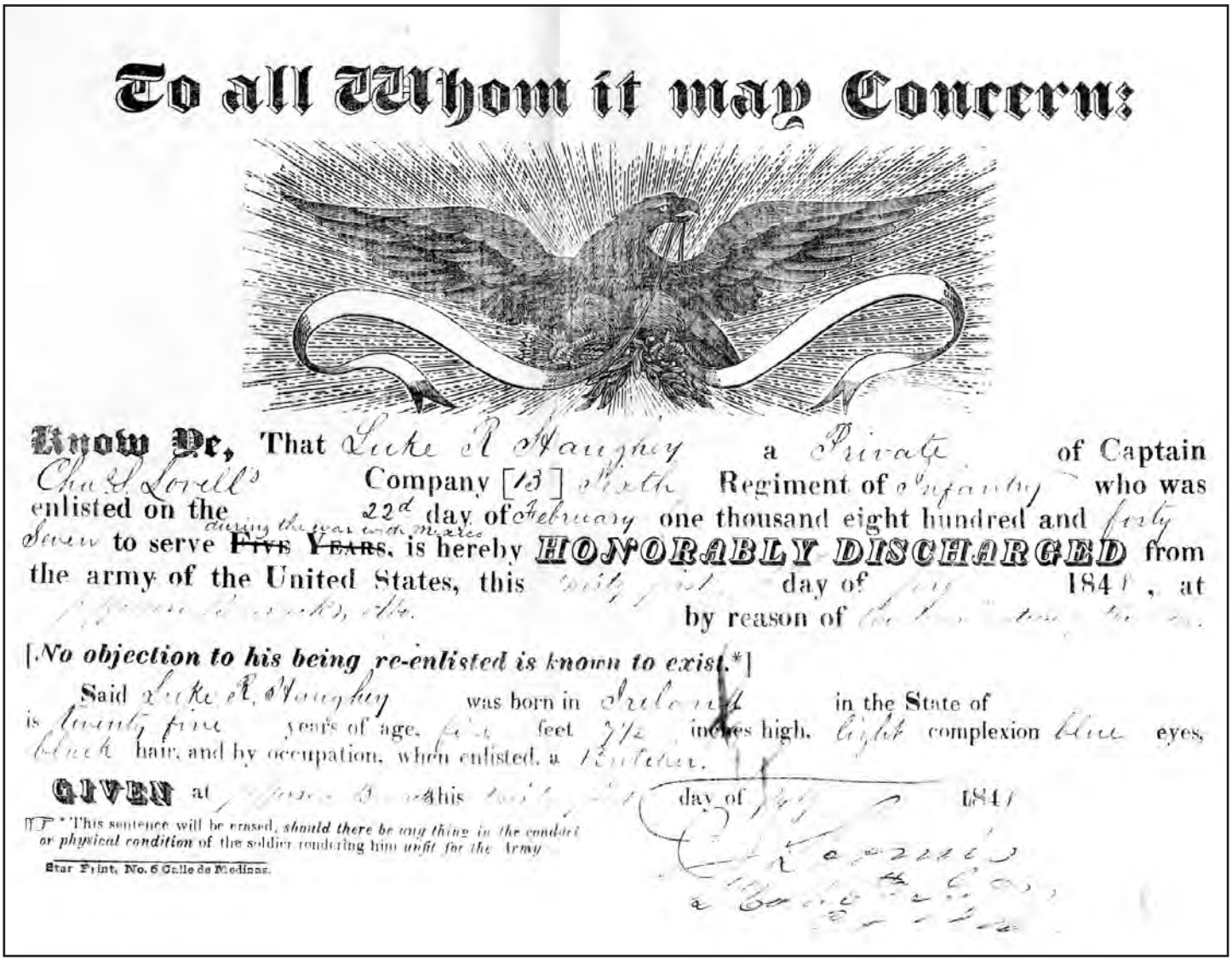
$7.00

The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

Volumne 30, Number 4

Deireadh Fomhair (October) 2009



To all Whom it may Concern:

Know Ye, That Luke R Haughey a Private of Captain Chas G. Lovell's Company [13] Sixth Regiment of Infantry who was enlisted on the 22d day of February one thousand eight hundred and forty Seven to serve ~~Five Years~~ during the war with Mexico, is hereby HONORABLY DISCHARGED from the army of the United States, this [illegible] day of [illegible] 1847, at [illegible] by reason of [illegible]

[No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist.*]

Said Luke R. Haughey was born in Ireland in the State of is twenty five years of age, five feet 7½ inches high, light complexion blue eyes, black hair, and by occupation, when enlisted, a Butcher.

GIVEN at [illegible] this [illegible] day of [illegible] 1847

[illegible]

* This sentence will be erased, *should there be any thing in the conduct or physical condition* of the soldier rendering him *unfit for the Army*

Star Print, No. 6 Calle de Medinas.

Military Records

2009 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

OCTOBER 10, 2009
NOVEMBER 14, 2009
DECEMBER 12, 2009

JANUARY 9, 2010
FEBRUARY 13, 2010
MARCH 13, 2010
APRIL 10, 2010
MAY 8, 2010
JUNE 12, 20010
JULY 10, 2010
AUGUST 14, 2010
SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. If you have questions, call Beth Mullinax at (763) 574-1436.

Classes offered throughout the year. Information can be found online at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org or in this journal.

New Address?

If you have moved and forgotten to tell us, you will miss the issues of *The Septs* as well as other information sent by us. *The Septs* is mailed at postal bulk rate and is not forwarded to a new address or returned to IGSI if undeliverable. You can make the change to your address online at the IGSI website (under Manage Your Member Information) or send an email to Membership@IrishGenealogical.org at least two weeks before the publication dates – January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

The Septs Quarterly Journal

1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218 • South St. Paul, MN 55075
Website address: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org
ISSN 1049-1783 • Indexed by PERSI

Editor	Ann Eccles	SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org
Managing Editor	Tom Rice	SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org
Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs is a benefit of membership in IGSI and is published quarterly - January, April, July and October. It is available through IGSI membership ($25 per year for Electronic memberships. $25 per year on US memberships including mailings of *The Septs* and $35 per year for International including mailings of *The Septs*). Contributions and article ideas are welcome.

Material intended for publication is due the 1st of February, May, August and November. Material should be emailed to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org, Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org or mailed to the address above, ATTN: Editor, and may be published or edited at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2009-2010

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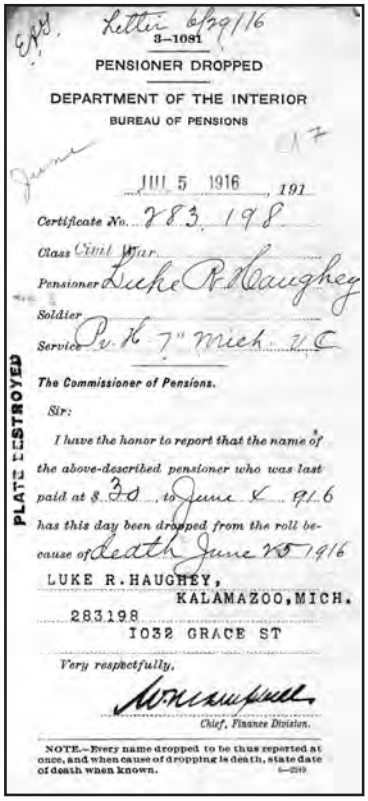

Letter 6/29/16

3—1081

PENSIONER DROPPED

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF PENSIONS

JUL 5 1916, 191

Certificate No. 283 198

Class Civil War

Pensioner Luke R. Haughey

Soldier

Service Pv. K 7th Mich. V.C.

PLATE DESTROYED

The Commissioner of Pensions.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the name of the above-described pensioner who was last paid at $ 30, to June 4 1916 has this day been dropped from the roll because of death June 15 1916

LUKE R. HAUGHEY,
KALAMAZOO, MICH.
283198
1032 GRACE ST

Very respectfully,

Chief, Finance Division.

NOTE.—Every name dropped to be thus reported at once, and when cause of dropping is death, state date of death when known. 6—219

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Cover image and above image courtesy of Tom K. Rice.

President's Letter

Planning for the Future

by Linda Miller

Dear Friends,

One of the biggest challenges the IGSI Board faces is how we can best serve our far-flung members. It has become easier in recent years because most of you are online, able to make use of our website and to keep in touch via email. Still, we wonder how we can take member services to the next level.

The Board and some key volunteers met in July to discuss direction for the coming year, considering what we can provide that our members want and need. What is obvious is that we must remain a healthy, growing society if we are to maintain and enhance member benefits. That means we need to grow our membership and find new sources of income. We need to strengthen and expand our volunteer program and we need to offer convenient, affordable educational and research opportunities for all members.

The meeting generated many ideas for us to consider. Some, like placing more emphasis on membership renewals and membership growth, are things that we will work on all year. Others ideas in which we are very interested and which we will pursue will require a financial investment – in technology or for offering our programs in other areas of the country.

Increasing the scope of our financial resources is important so we can avoid raising membership dues. At the meeting we talked about providing research classes on-line for a low fee for members and for a higher fee for non-members. Another suggestion was to provide Irish genealogy programs in other locations, for conferences or meetings. We discussed expanding our research services to non-members at a higher fee than members pay. Our current member fee for research is very low. We talked about initiating an annual request for donations where the donor could earmark their contribution for a specific project, such as indexing records or supporting the library. We also want to increase promotion of our Irish genealogy books and maps.

We need your input. Twelve people generated these ideas. There are more than a thousand of you who read this journal; I am certain that many of you had an idea or two that came to mind as you read this letter. Think about what you want and need from IGSI. What do you wish we offered that we don't? Do you know of something that worked well in another organization that could be adapted for IGSI? Do you have a fundraising idea or one on how to increase membership or find more volunteers? Please help by sharing your suggestions. You can contact me via email: lindamiller106@gmail.com or write me at Linda Miller, Irish Genealogical Society International, 1185 Concord St. N, Suite 218, South St. Paul, MN, 55075.

You can provide input in another way as well. We are preparing a survey about our educational programs. I hope you take a few minutes to complete it. The information from this survey will guide what we do in the area of member education during the next year or more.

Remember, you have a voice in how we face our challenges and take member services to the next level.

Linda Miller is the president of IGSI. She volunteers as the bookstore manager and leads the IGSI writing group located in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a member of the Association of Personal Historians and a certified Soliel Lifestory Network teacher who offers lifewriting workshops and other memoir services. A former police officer, Linda lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

November Quarterly Program
Research Trip Tips

In September 2009, a number of IGSI members traveled to the Family History Center of the LDS in Salt Lake City. A panel of these members will share their research experiences and offer tips for research trip preparations. They will tell about their successes and, perhaps, of their "not yet successful" searches for elusive ancestors. Come, listen, learn, question and share with them.

The November Quarterly Program follows the Membership meeting on November 21, 2009. The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. with registration starting at 8:30. Time of the program is estimated at 10:00 a.m.

Fee for members: $10
Non-members: $15

Military and Family Secrets

by Ann Eccles

Some researchers are lucky; their family has a long history of military or naval service. I haven't had much success in searching such records to find nuggets of family information. To my knowledge, neither of my grandfathers served in World War I; nor can I find records for them (or their fathers) for the Civil War or other times of military service.

What I do know: my father served in World War II for less than two years (discharged for disability) and was overseas for just eight months. Growing up, I knew of the disability (loss of sight in one eye and two fingers on one hand) and that Dad's service in the military played a big role in his life. He instilled patriotism and a love for his country into the family life. It was in the small, everyday things.

I remember that he loved to watch the Army and Navy battle shows on television – the ones that were so popular in the 1950s. We would visit nearby Quonset or another base during open houses or fairs to see the Blue Angels or Thunderbirds fly in formation over the crowds. Although he never wore them, his uniform and flight jacket hung in the closet and remained there nearly forty years, until his death. As children, my brother and I occasionally "borrowed" his canteen for hikes in the neighborhood. And he took advantage of the GI Bill to get a college degree.

Dad rarely spoke of those years in the Air Force – at least not to me, his daughter. His military records have told me more about that short time in his life than he ever did. I have heard others say the same thing about relatives who served in other wars; they don't talk about it to family. So, military records can be helpful to learn about the background and assignments of our ancestors who served their country – in war and in peace. And there is plenty to learn from this issue.

Tom Rice provides an overview of the topic: he identifies which military records will prove helpful for research to fill in the blanks of knowledge and lists references to learn more about the topic. He includes books and Internet sites which will deliver more in-depth knowledge to a family historian. In her column on related websites, Mary Wickersham shares Internet resources for military research for the U.S. and other countries.

We welcome John Kitzmiller, an accredited genealogist, as an author in this issue. He and David Rencher contribute articles describing some of the British Military Records relating to Ireland. David Rencher provides a table of Family History Library microfilms which contain the records of the Irish Militia in the 18th and 19th centuries and other key information. Both authors note that while FHL has some microfilmed records and indexes to records, other records are to be found at the National Archives in England or Ireland. John Kitzmiller lists War Office record numbers for regiment Station Returns in the 18th and 19th centuries; he discusses Chaplain Returns and District Returns and lists of War Office record numbers to assist a researcher. He also shows the progression and transformation of names within an artillery regiment from 1660 to 1879. Great information!

Two other articles of interest in this issue: a reprint of a newspaper article on the life of a North Dakota resident who served in the Spanish American War and Jim Sullivan's story of his research and the role that U.S. Civil War Pension records played in identifying the Irish source of his Sullivan family. By the way, Jim Sullivan is a first-time author with *The Septs*.

In addition, David Rencher continues his series on the topic of genealogical collections with information on the Rev. David Stewart collection to be found in PRONI. Jay Fonkert provides insight into his Irish research on the Lee family. Kathleen Strickland investigates the wealth of Irish-related Internet links found under the Research tab on the IGSI website.

In the Society's news areas, look for the photos of two projects: helping with a Girl Scout badge project at the library and working our booth at the Minnesota Irish Fair in August. And don't miss the announcements of two new projects. Diane Lovrencevic describes the Pedigree Chart database that is highlighted on the IGSI Website (page 184) and announces a new research trip (page 191). You may want to participate in one or both.

It's another information-filled issue for your genealogical education and reading pleasure. It's also the last issue of the current year. So, while it seems a bit early – may you all enjoy the holidays of November and December.

Ann Eccles delved into genealogy after she retired. Finding almost every branch leading back to Ireland, she continues to explore her many Irish lines. Ann serves on the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

What Did Great Grandfather Do in the War?

by Tom Rice, CG

The question is not only "What did great grandfather do in the war?" You need to ask additional questions: which ancestors served in the military, what conflict did they serve in, what side did they serve on, where and when did they serve, were they wounded or killed, did they or their family members receive a pension, did they register for the draft, were they given a warrant for bounty land and, if so, what did they do with that, were they given a bonus, who else served with them, and so on. If any of your ancestors served in the military, it was a significant event in their life and the life of their family; as such, it is well worth learning more. So where do you find the answers to these questions? Military records will answer most of these and may provide answers to many more genealogical queries.

Most lineages will include one or more ancestors who served in the military given the many conflicts that have occurred over time. A list of these depends, of course, on the country or colony where your ancestors lived. Because of the wide scattering of the Irish Diaspora over centuries, it is impractical to list all of these. However, it is useful to recognize that most of the Irishmen who stayed in Ireland or moved to Britain served in one of the British services. As a consequence, their military records will most likely be found in the British National Archives (http://nationalarchives.gov.uk). A good discussion of these records as they pertain to the Irish is the "Military Records" chapter in *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors* by Dwight A. Radford and Kyle J. Betit. This chapter also gives the reader a good list of resources for further study. A good entry point into the British National Archives holdings of military records can be found on line at http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/militaryhistory.

By way of example, the list of conflicts for North American colonies and what eventually became the United States is a long one.

- **U. S. Colonial Military Actions and their European Counterpart:**
  - King William's War: 1689-1697 - War of the League of Augsburg
  - Queen Anne's War: 1702-1713 - War of the Spanish Succession
  - King George's War: 1744-1748 - War of Austrian Succession
  - French and Indian War: 1754-1763 - Seven Years War

- **U. S. Military Actions:**
  - Revolutionary War: 1775 to 1783
  - War of 1812: 1812-1815
  - Indian Wars: 1780s to 1890s
  - Mexican War: 1846-1848
  - Civil War: 1861-1865
  - Spanish-American War: 1898
  - Philippine Insurrection: 1899-1902
  - World War I: 1917-1918
  - World War II: 1941-1945
  - Korean War: 1950-1953
  - Vietnam War: 1965-1973
  - And on and on – plus many military actions not declared a war

Your ancestors may be in U. S. military records if they served in a state volunteer unit that was then mustered into federal service during wartime, if they served in a local militia or national guard unit mustered for federal service during an emergency, if they were a widow or heir who applied for pension or bounty land benefits, if they enlisted in one of the regular U. S. military forces and/or enrolled for the draft held during one of the wars listed above.

Possible information of genealogical value that might be found in your ancestor's military record would be your ancestor's age, birth date, birth place, parents' names, spouse's name and marriage information, children's identity, your ancestor's death date and death place.Information of family history value would include the military unit in which your ancestor served, his occupation while in service, a physical description, where he lived when he entered service, his service history and possibly details of his life after service, and burial place. These are all facts than any good family historian wants to gather.

As with any record relating to one of your ancestors – to get full value from it, you have to put it in context. This means studying the record, the conflict, and the history of the time and place. As for the record itself, you should have some understanding of who or what agency created the record and why. As for the history around your ancestor's service, you should drill down from studying the big picture of the conflict, to understanding specific engagements, to learning how the conflict affected his family's community and, finally, how his service and the war affected him and his family.

To find military records relating to your ancestor it helps to know the conflict in which he served. A help to figuring this out is to match his age against the time periods of the various conflicts. You should also know what branch of service and what rank(s) your ancestor had during his service. Also was he an officer or enlisted person? Of major importance is finding his regiment. This often points back to his place of residence and vice versa. To get answers to these questions, check the following for clues:

- Service and pension indexes
- Regimental or unit histories
- County histories
- Tombstone inscriptions
- Photographs
- Discharge papers
- Pension records found with family papers
- Membership in veteran organizations
- Membership in lineage societies

Service related records, depending on a host of variables, can include a wealth of information: draft registration, enlistment record, compiled service records (for volunteer service between 1775 and 1902), payrolls, order books, hospital records, prisoner of war records, promotions, desertion records, records of court martial, state records of service and, finally, discharge records. Post-service records may include pension records, bounty land warrants, soldiers' home records, cemetery/burial records, veterans' lineage society records. U.S. census records in 1840, 1890, 1910 and 1930 counted veterans and pensioners. In 1900, 1910 and 1920 the census had special counts of military and unit histories. Because military conflicts are major, costly, government-run operations, and because governments are prolific record keepers, the above list is just a fraction of what can be found if you dig deeply. Of all record types, pension records are the ones most likely to contain information of genealogical value.

To know which Military Records you should search, decide what it is you wish to find. Table I on the next page applies mostly to pre-20th century U.S. records. It points to both a potentially rich harvest of information and to a rather long list of record types. When all the possibilities are considered, the category "military records" consists of a wide array of document types found scattered among many repositories. This may discourage some researchers, but it may encourage others to dig in and harvest this richness of information.

These records can be found at the national level, at the state level and even in local repositories. For anyone who served in a national conflict there is some sort of record at the National Archives. If the person entered service through a state volunteer military unit, there will be state records to be found either at the state archive, the state history society library or possibly at the state adjutant general's office. For many years, military personnel registered a copy of their discharge papers with the local county courthouse upon leaving service. You may want to consider other resources: newspaper accounts of individual service men, of combat deaths, of engagements, or of units leaving or returning from service. A cemetery or tombstone serves as a form of military record – at least as a pointer to the existence of military records.The Family History Library in Salt Lake City has filmed many of these records, and they are available for viewing at your local Family History Center. The Internet is filled with websites dedicated to various military conflicts, engagements, and service units. The Internet is also a good place to learn more about various record types and the holdings of key repositories: national, state and local.

A Few Selective Military Records References:

General Reference

Eales, Anne Bruner and Robert M. Kvasnicka, Section B: "Military Records." *Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States*. Third Edition. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000.

Neagles, James C. *U.S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1994.

Szucs, Loretto Dennis and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, Chapter 9, "Research in Military Records." *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1997.

Pension Records

White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing Co., 1990-1992. [Abstracts of genealogical data from Revolutionary War pension files at the

	Record Type							
Look Here -> **To Find**	**Service**	**Pension**	**Bounty Lands**	**Draft**	**Cemetery**	**Soldier Home**	**Veteran Lineage Society**	**Military Biography**
Age	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Birth Date		X		X	X	X	X	X
Birth Place	X	X		X		X	X	X
Children		X				X	X	X
Death Date	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Death Place	X	X					X	X
Spouse / Marriage		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Military Unit	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Occupation	X			X		X	X	X
Parents							X	
Physical Description	X	X		X		X		
Residence	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Service History	X		X				X	X

Tabel 1 [Table copied from *Research Outline: U.S. Military Records*, (Salt Lake City, Utah: Family History Library, 2000)]

National Archives, including births, deaths, marriages, places of residence and immigration data. An every name index for 350,000 names.]

National Genealogical Society. *Revolutionary War Compiled Service Records, Pension Application Files, and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.* Rev. ed. Arlington, Va.: The Society, 1994. [A discussion of how to access these records at the National Archives, a list of published lists of Revolutionary pensioners and information on the pension laws.]

Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society. *DAR Patriot Index.* 3 vols. Washington, D.C.: DAR, 1994. [Lists Revolutionary soldiers with known dates of birth and death, name of wife or wives, and state from which he served.]

White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files.* 3 vols. Waynesboro, TN: National Historical Publishing Co., 1987.

White, Virgil D. *Index to Old Wars Pension File, 1815-1926.* 2 vols.

Waynesboro, TN: National Historical Publishing Co. 1987.

White, Virgil D. *Index to Indian War Pension Files, 1892-1926*. Waynesboro, TN: National Historical Publishing Co. 1987.

Neagles, James C. *Confederate Research Sources: A Guide to Archive Collections*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry 1997. [Includes detailed summaries of pension laws and practices in the various states.]

Bockstruck, Lloyd DeWitt. *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996. [Covers Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. Typically includes name of claimant, state of service, rank held, date of record, and acreage.]

Census

U.S. Department of State. *A Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Service: With Their Names, Ages, and Places of Residence in 1840*. 1841. With A General Index. Prep. by the Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1965. Reprint (2 vols. in 1), Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996. [Arranged by state; lists the names, ages, and places of residence for pensioners enumerated in the 1840 federal census.]

National Genealogical Society. *Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications in the National Archives*. Special Publication No. 40. Rev. and enl.ed. Washington, D.C.: The Society, 1976.

Modern Records

Johnson, Richard S. *How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military*. 7th ed. Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.: Military Information Enterprises, 1996.

Knox, Debra Johnson. *World War II Military Records: A Family Historian's Guide*. Spartanburg, SC: MIE Publishing, 2003.

Internet sites

U.S. National Archives: types and dates of military records held and how to request order forms
http://www.archives.gov/research/military/

NARA. National Personnel Records Center holding and order forms
http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/military_personnel_records.html

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS)
http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss
[The granddaddy of all Civil War sites: 6.3 million soldiers' names both Union and Confederate, Navy to come. Search last name and first initial or whole first name, search unit and battle histories, unit rosters – downloadable, cemetery information, prisoners for Ft. McHenry and Andersonville.]

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Burials and Memorials. National Cemetery Administration
http://www.cem.va.gov

Army Mortuary Affairs History Page
http://www.qmfound.com/mortuary-affairs.htm

Military History Institute Photograph Database
http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/USAMHI/PhotoSearch.cfm

An excellent help guide for Searching Military Records from the Mesa Family History Center Library
http://www.surnames.com/begin/research_consultant_training/Appendix_11_US_Military_Records/PDF_Military_Records_Help_Guide.pdf

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British Military Records Relating to Ireland

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS

Introduction

The value of British military records cannot be overlooked when tracing Irish pedigrees. For Catholic families, it was not uncommon to have at least one son serve in the military. In an agrarian culture, parents often saw this as an opportunity to provide for the child by ensuring he had steady employment year-round. Protestant families served in many capacities – especially as officers. The key to finding persons who served in either the Army or Navy is to identify the specific regiment or ship on which they served.

Army

"The basic unit of the Army was the regiment, under the command of a colonel. The regiments were of various types; cavalry, infantry, artillery and engineers. A regiment usually consisted of two (or, later, more) battalions, each with about ten companies (troops in the cavalry) of about a hundred men each. One of these battalions would be based at the regimental depot, to recruit and train soldiers for the active battalions. Whenever a new regiment was needed a colonel was given a 'beating order' to enlist, and recruitment headquarters were established, usually in local inns. Garrisons were established for the quartering of troops throughout the country, and in times of war when the garrison troops were needed elsewhere, special battalions of veterans would be raised to take their place.

The Army was manned by commissioned officers (from the wealthier classes: commissions were generally bought), and other ranks (often drawn from the poorest classes, including criminals and paupers). From 1780 to 1914 there was voluntary enlistment, normally for life. Few stayed the course for life: some bought themselves out; some were wounded, incapacitated and discharged; many were discharged at the end of various wars. Boys, in law if not in practice, had to be eighteen before they could enlist: younger boys often enlisted as drummers."[1]

There were four types of commissioned officers:

- **General officers** -- who coordinated the efforts of the whole army: field marshal, general, lieutenant-general, major-general.
- **Regimental officers** -- colonel (in command of a regiment), lieutenant-colonel, major.
- **Company officers** - captain (in command of a company), lieutenant, cornet (cavalry), ensign (infantry). In 1871, cornets and ensigns became second lieutenants.
- **Others** -- paymaster, adjutant, quartermaster, surgeon and chaplain.[2]

"Many of the service records of British Army soldiers discharged before 1913 are in the Public Record Office. There is very little before 1660, and, for other ranks, not much more before about 1730. However, from the mid-eighteenth century onwards, a considerable amount can be discovered about Army ancestors."[3]

Militia Regiments

"The eighteenth and nineteenth century militia was a county-based part-time force, additional to the standing army: it was not the same as the earlier militia. Most militia records will be found in local record offices, although the [National Archives] does have some major sources."[4]

A microfilmed listing of the Irish Militia records follows:

Vol.	Description	FHL No.
28	Record of service of the Regiment Donegal Royal Field (Reserve) Artillery 1854 – 1909	917,055
29	Records of officer's services – Donegal Artillery 1860 – 1907	
30	Regimental Order Book 1900 – 1908	
31	Record of officer's services – Dublin City Artillery 1877 – 1906	
32	North Irish Division Royal Artillery enrollment And description book and Dublin City Artillery	
59	Regimental order book – City of Limerick Artillery	917,059
60	Record of officer's services – City of Limerick Artillery	
61-62	Enrollment and description book – City of Limerick Artillery	
63	Regimental roll book – City of Limerick Artillery	
64	Record of Officers services – Londonderry Artillery	

Vol.	Description	FHL No.
65	Enrollment and description book – Londonderry Artillery 1875 – 1908	917,060
66	Regimental number book – Londonderry Artillery 1841 – 1908	917,060
67	Casualty book – Londonderry Artillery 1876 – 1884	
68	Record of Officer's services – Tyrone Artillery 1854 – 1909	
69	Record of Officer's services – Mid-Ulster Artillery	
70	Record of Officers services - Mid-Ulster Artillery 1883 – 1895	
71	Enrollment and description book Mid-Ulster Artillery 1886 – 1896	
72	Casualty book – 6th Brigade North Irish Artillery (Dublin City)	
76	Record of Officers services - Sligo Artillery	917,061
77	Enrollment and description book - Sligo Artillery	
88	Service of Regiment - Tipperary Artillery 1793-1897	917,063
89	Regimental record - Tipperary Artillery	
90	Record of officers services - Tipperary Artillery 1826-1891	
91	Record of officers services - Tipperary Artillery 1891-1909	917,064
92	Militia Reserve Book - Tipperary Artillery	
93	Regimental order book - Tipperary Artillery 1855-1869	
94-95	Casualty book - Tipperary Artillery 1861-1906	
95	Casualty book continued...	917,065
96-97	Record of Officers services Waterford Artillery	
118	Regimental record - Wicklow Artillery 1885-1909	917,067
119-120	Record of Officers services Wicklow Artillery 1892-1908	
121	Digest of Services - 3rd Brigade Northern Division Artillery - Wicklow 1888-1909	

Vol.	Description	FHL No.
173-174	Record of Officers services - Royal Irish Artillery	917,076
221-222	General Order book - Donegal Militia, Dublin	917,158
223-224	General Order book - Inniskillin	917,159
224-226	General Order book - Inniskillin	917,160
227-230	Enrollment and description book - Donegal Militia	917,161
296-297	Letters and guard orders - Carlow Militia	917,174
298	Letter book - Carlow Militia	
299	Attestation book - Carlow Militia	
302-303	Enrollment and description book - Carlow Militia 1854	917,176
304-305	Enrollment and description book - Carlow Rifle Militia	950,817
306	Digest of services - Kings Royal Rifles, North Cork Militia	917,176
307-310	Record of Officers services - North Cork Artillery	
311-312	Enrollment and Description book - North Cork Rifle Militia	950,818
313	Digest of Services - Louth Militia	917,469
314	Nominal roll book - Royal Irish Rifles	
315	Enrollment and description book - Royal Irish Rifles	
316-318	Enrollment and description book - Monaghan Militia	950,819
319	Digest of Services - North Mayo Militia	917,469
320	Digest of Services - Connaught Rangers Militia - South Mayo Militia	
321-322	Record of Officers services - North Mayo Militia	
323	Record of Officers services - South Mayo Militia	
324	Record of Officers services - Connaught Rangers	917,469
325-327	Enrollment and description book - North Mayo Militia	950,820
328	Enrollment and description book - South Mayo Militia	
329	Digest of services - Westmeath Militia	917,470

Vol.	Description	FHL No.
330	Historical registers - Westmeath Militia	917,470
331-332	Regimental Order book - Westmeath Militia 1815-1861	917,470
332-333	Regimental Order book - Westmeath Militia 1815-1874	916,779
334-335	Letter book - Westmeath Militia 1858-1875	
368	Quarterly pay list - Cork City Militia 1856	916,783
382	Record of Officers services - 3rd Inniskillin Militia 1897-1917	917,562
383	Rules and regulations for the formation, field exercise and movements of His Majesty's Forces - Armagh Militia	
384/1	Succession of Officers - Armagh Militia	
384/2	Letter book - Armagh Militia	
385/1-2	Monthly return book - Armagh Militia 1801-1809	950,826
385	Fortnight return book - Armagh Militia 1807-1809	
386	Returns of Men enrolled - Armagh Militia 1803-1805	917,563
387/1	Garrison Order book - Clonmell Militia 1808-1811	917,563
387/2	Roster of Officers - Armagh Militia 1797-1816	917,564
387/3-4	Review Returns book - Armagh Militia 1808-1818	
388/1	Garrison Order book - Armagh Militia 1803-1808	
388/2	Regimental Order book - Armagh Militia 1813	
388/3	Regimental letter book - Armagh Militia 1809-1816	
388/4	Regimental letter book - Armagh Militia 1813-1815	917,565
388/5	Government letter book - Armagh Militia 1824-1854	
389/1-3	Regimental Order book - Armagh Militia 1803-1815	

Vol.	Description	FHL No.
390/1-3	General Order book - Armagh Militia 1803-1813	917,566
391	Garrison Order book - Armagh Militia 1805-1807	917,567
392/1-2	Regimental Order book - Armagh Militia 1811-1814	
393/1-2	Garrison Order book - Armagh Militia 1810-1815	
394	Beginning of volume 394.	
394	Garrison Order book - Armagh Militia 1813-1815	917,568
395	Adjutants Orderly book - Armagh Militia 1812-1813	
396/1	Casualty book - Armagh Militia 1803-1809	
396/2	Returns of men enrolled - Armagh Militia 1807-1810	917,569
397/1-6	Garrison Order book - Armagh Militia 1809-1814	
398	Weekly states book - Armagh Militia	950,826
399	Detail of Duty - Royal Irish Fusiliers 1809-1810	950,826
400	Family ticket register book - Armagh Militia	917,570
401	Regimental letter book, returns, account books - Armagh Militia 1808-1850	
402	General Order book - Cavan Militia 1793-1812	917,571
403/1-3	General Order book - Cavan Militia 1800-1859	
404	Record of Officers services - Cavan Militia 1838-1879	917,572
405	Enrollment and description book - Cavan Militia	950,827
408/1	King's Own Light Infantry Militia (3rd Battalion Leinster Regiment)	
409	Adjutants Monthly roll - Cork City Militia 1813	917,573
410/1	General Order book, letters, etc, Kerry Militia 1858-1859	

Vol.	Description	FHL No.
410/1	General Order book, letters, etc, Kerry Militia 1859-1873	917,574
410/2	Regimental letter book - Kerry Militia 1856-1857	917,574
410/3	Circulars of the Inspector General - Kerry Militia 1871-1876	
411/1-2	Court Martial book - Kerry Militia 1793-1858	
411/3	Bounty Board book - Kerry Militia 1771-1814	
412/1-3,5	Regimental Letter book - Kerry Militia 1855-1876	917,575
412/4	Staff & Regimental Order book - Kerry Militia 1867-1872	
456-457	Enrollment books - Kilkenny Militia 1855-1877	950,832
475	Description and enrollment register – Roscommon Regiment of Militia 1854-1860	950,837
476	Description book - Armagh Militia	917,592

Kilmainham and Chelsea Registers

The Royal Kilmainham Hospital was founded in 1679 and served as the permanent hospital facility for disabled soldiers (i.e. "in-pensioners") and also served the function of distributing money to "out-pensioners." You will often find pensioners listed in various records of genealogical value. In lieu of an occupation, they will be listed as pensioner, or pensioner's widow. The admission books (1704-1922) form an excellent source of information for registering both in-pensioners and out-pensioners. These are found in the records of the War Office in record class (WO-118). The discharge documents for these pensioners are recorded for the years 1783-1822 (WO-119). There is also a large amount of material relating to the Kilmainham Hospital in the collection at the National Library of Ireland (377 volumes covering the years 1780-1890).

A number of Irish sailors and soldiers had their pensions administered by the Royal Chelsea Hospital or the Greenwich Hospital. Records for these pensions survive for the time periods 1842-1862 and 1882-1883; they are in record class WO 22/141-205 and 209-225. These are arranged by district and are very useful for identifying changes in residence and for the death dates of soldiers and sailors.

Navy Records

"The fighting officers of the Royal Navy held office by virtue of a royal commission: they were, in descending order of rank, admiral of the fleet, admiral, vice-admiral, rear-admiral, commodore, captain, commander, lieutenant-commander, lieutenant and sub-lieutenant. The initial promotion to the commissioned rank of lieutenant was by examination: subsequent promotions were by merit and luck as far as captain, and by seniority above that. The names of the ranks changed their meanings somewhat over time, and in particular 'captain' was often used as the title for the officer in command of a vessel, whether he was a captain or a lieutenant."[5]

There is a large collection of Naval Wills in the National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey. These are in record group ADM 142. An example from the Indexes is below:

Name	Date	Residence of Executor or Administrator
Burke, Francis	2 Jan 1787	Adrigould, Ireland
Bennet, Patrick	8 Feb 1781	Barry, Longford
Burn, Daniel	24 Dec 1789	Neese, Kildare
Battrim, Mathw.	24 Apr 1795	Kiltwin, Ireland

You can see from the example above that the residence listed is the residence of the executor or administrator. Often, the relationship to the executor or administrator is listed. In many instances, since these were relatively young men, they are the parents, aunts, uncles or the spouse.

Conclusion

British military records provide a wealth of information that can increase the information known about a particular family, extend an ancestral line a generation or two, or provide the key information needed to confirm a birth date and place, marriage or death. In his article in this issue of *The Septs*, John Kitzmiller extends the possibilities of identifying these key pieces of information by sharing the depth of his expertise in additional records relating to the Irish in the British military.

Key Historical Dates in Army History

Year/s	Historical Event
1645 Jan 6	Formation of New Model Army
1650	Britain's oldest regiment, the Coldstream Guards, formed

Year/s	Historical Event
1664	Royal Marines established
1684	Admission of first pensioners to the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Ireland
1692	Admission of first pensioners to the Royal Hospital Chelsea
1708	Provision of pensions to widows of officers
1716	Royal Artillery founded
1717	Corps of Engineers founded
1740	First publication of the Army List
1757	Militia Act revives local militias
1760	Institution of soldiers' pension documents
1787	Corps of Engineers becomes Royal Engineers
1796	Establishment of Army Chaplains Department
1810	Army Medical Department established
1811	Royal Corps of Miners and Sappers set up
1833	Long Service and Good Conduct Medal instituted
1839-1915	Hart's Army Lists
1854	Institution of Distinguished Conduct Medal
1855 May 25	Ordnance Board abolished
1856 Jan 29	Victoria Cross instituted
1857	Army Hospital Corps formed
1859	Volunteer regiments formed
1867	Second Class Army Reserve established
1870	Army Enlistment Act introduced short service engagements of 12 years for soldiers
1870	Abolition of purchase of commission
1881	Abolition of numbered regiments of foot and their re-establishment as regiments with county affiliations
1886	Institution of Distinguished Service Order
1898	Royal Army Medical Corps formed by merger of Army Medical Department and Army Medical Staff Corps
1918 Apr 1	Formation of Royal Air Force from Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service
1922 Dec 6	Irish regiments disbanded on independence of Irish Free State
1940-1944	Home Guard (Local Defence Volunteers)[6]

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End Notes

1 Amanda Bevan and Andrea Duncan, *Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office*, 4th edition, (London: HMSO, 1990) 107-8.
2 Ibid, 110.
3 Ibid, 103.
4 Ibid, 108.
5 Ibid 131.
6 Simon Fowler, *Army Records for Family Historians*, (London: PRO Publications, 1992) 56-58.

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British Campaigns and Wars

Year/s	War/conflict
1642-1649	English Civil War
1660 May 25	Restoration of Charles I
1688	Glorious Revolution
1701-1713	War of Spanish Succession
1704 Aug 13	Battle of Blenheim
1715	Jacobite Rebellion
1740-1748	War of Austrian Succession
1745	Jacobite Rebellion
1756 May 3-1763 Feb 10	Seven Years War
1775-1783	American War of Independence
1789	French Revolution
1793 Feb 1-1815 Jun 22	Napoleonic Wars (or French Revolutionary Wars)
1808 Aug 1-1814 Mar 30	Peninsular Campaign
1815 Jun 18	Battle of Waterloo
1812 Jun 19-1815 Jan 8	Second Anglo-American War (War of 1812)
1854 Sep 14-1856 Mar 30	Crimean War
1854 Oct 25	Charge of the Light Brigade
1857 May 10-Dec 6	Indian Mutiny
1860, 1862-1864	Maori Wars in New Zealand
1878-1879	Massacre of British Troops at Isandhlwana, Zululand
1878-1881	First South African (Boer) War
1881 Feb 27	Defeat of British troops at Majuba Hill, South Africa
1882-1885	Egyptian and Sudan Campaigns
1885 Jan 29	Capture of Khartoum
1898	Sudan Campaign
1899 Oct 12-1902 May 31	Second South African (Boer) War
1900 Feb 28	Relief of Ladysmith, South Africa
1900 May 17	Relief of Mafeking, South Africa
1914 Aug 4-1918 Nov 11	First World War (WWI)
1914 Aug 22-23	Battle of Mons
1915 Apr 25-1916 Jan 8	Gallipoli Campaign, Turkey
1916 Jul 1-Nov 8	Battle of the Somme
1917 Jul 31-Nov 10	Battle of Passchendaele (Third Battle of Ypres)
1916 Apr 24-May 1	Easter Rising, Dublin
1922 Dec 17	Last British troops leave Southern Ireland
1939 Sep 3-1945 Sep 2	Second World War (WWII)
1940 May 27-Jun 4	Evacuation from Dunkirk
1941 Apr 22-May 29	Greek and Crete Campaigns
1942 Feb 15	Surrender of Singapore
1942 Oct 23	Start of Battle of El Alamein
1943 Jul 10	Allies land in Sicily
1944 Jun 6	Allies land in France (D-Day)
1945 May 8	Germans surrender (VE-Day)
1945 Aug 14	Surrender of Japan (VJ-Day)
1947 Aug 15	Last British troops leave India
1948 May 14	Last British troops leave Palestine
1950 Jun 26-1953 Jul 27	Korean War
1956 Oct 31-Nov 7	Suez Crisis

Never forget the importance of history. To know nothing of what happened before you took your place on earth, is to remain a child for ever and ever.

~ Source Unknown ~

Additional British Military Records Relating to Ireland

by John M. Kitzmiller, II, M.S., AG, FSA(Scot), FSG(Eng)

Introduction

As mentioned in David Rencher's article on military records, many Irish ancestors could be found in the military – whether Catholic or Protestant. He discussed many of the main sources in his article – so on to some more unusual sources. The main goal in ancestral military research is to locate the regimental name and/or number. That is the key to the finding the record groups that are needed to determine an identity. Many of the sources mentioned herein will deal with location-based sources, since that is usually what one starts with in this type of search: "My ancestor was born at Birr, Ireland – I think his father was a pensioner". Locality base – Birr, was a major barracks centre; and "a pensioner" indicates that he was in the military.

Station Returns (W.O. 17)

Station Returns detail the regiments that were stationed at a specific locality monthly, and so are also known as Monthly Returns. This series of War Office records covers the years 1759-1866. *In Search of the Forlorn Hope*[1], written to mirror the information in these series, was based on a variety of sources, including regimental histories. An overview of the information in this series is the following tables.

Garrison Baptisms & Marriages (W.O. 156)

Registers of baptisms and marriages from 1808-1958 were kept at several garrisons in the British Isles. The information listed was the birth date, baptism date, child's name, parents' names, residence, trade of father, and

Dates Covered	Description	Piece/Volume Nos.
1756-1865	Regiments (by precedence), Colonial Forces, Fencibles, etc.	1-787
1758-1834	Garrisons	788-791
1754-1795	Independent Companies	792
1759-1805	Invalids	793-802
1796-1811	Foreign Corps	803-810
	Districts & Depots, Hospitals	811-873
1760-1860	Militia	874-1002
1794-1800	Fencibles, Cavalry, Volunteers	1003-1011
1703-1802	Fencible Infantry	1012-1014
1795-1803	Yeomanry	1015-1023
1795-1804	Volunteers	1024-1040
1811-1862	North Britain	1041-1070
1792-1865	Ireland	1071-1125
1801-	Ireland – Militia	1126-1141
1811-1860	Ireland – Districts & Depots	1142-1152
1810-1865	West Africa	1162-1217
1814-1815	North America	1218
1806-1807	South America	1219
1812-1814	Anhalt	1220-1221
1854-1865	Australia – colonies	1222-1233
1837-1865	West Australia	1234-1261

Dates Covered	Description	Piece/Volume Nos.
1810-1865	Bahamas	1262-1316
1761-1762	Belle Isle	1317
1811-1865	Bengal	1318-1372
1755-1865	Bermudas	1373-1430
1811-1865	Bombay	1431-1485
1810-1814	Cadiz	1486-1488
1758-1865	Canada	1489-1569
1776-1786	Canada: British, Provincials, & Germans	1570-1580
1795-1865	Cape of Good Hope	1581-1646
1804-1865	Ceylon	1647-1704
1840-1865	China	1705-1728
1807	Copenhagen	1729
1854-1856	Crimea	1730-1731
1801-1816	Curacao	1732-1737
1863-1864	Falklands	1759
1815-1818	France	1760-1763
1839-1846	Gambia	1764-1771
1813-1814	Germany	1772-1773
1759-1865	Gibraltar	1774-1851
1856-1865	Gold Coast	1852-1861

who performed the baptism – in general, very similar to a normal church record. Two garrisons are listed for Ireland: 1) Buttervant, January 1917-January 1922 (W.O. 156/4); and 2) Fermoy, March 1920 to September 1921 (W.O. 156/5) – both available at the National Archives in London. Other garrisons listed in this group are Canterbury, Dover Castle, Shorncliffe, and Hythe – in case the Irish ancestor was stationed at those localities.

Regimental Registers (GRO, 1760-1924)

The Regimental Registers contain records of official births and baptisms of soldiers and their dependents – either at home or overseas. The originals, created and originally kept by the individual regiments, were later stored at St. Catherine's House in London, but now are found at the General Register Office. The records have an index and supplement as shown below and they should be used together. The copies of the indexes are available through the Family History Library.

- Index: 1761-1924 (FHL microfiche 6137402)
- Supplement: 1761-1924 (FHL microfiche 6137403)

Chaplain's Returns (GRO, 1796-1880; 1796-1955)

The Chaplain's Returns were certified copies of births, marriages, and burials of soldiers and their families stationed overseas. Previously held at St. Catherine's House in London, the originals now are kept at the General Register Office. Family

History Library indexes cover the following time periods for the Chaplains Returns:

Births

- 1796-1880 (FHL microfiche 6137330)
  fiche 1 A-Jer (GRO no. F540)
  fiche 2 JEF-WIL (GRO no. F541)
  fiche 3 WIL-ZAM (GRO no. F542)

Marriages

- 1796-1880 (FHL microfiche 6137413)
- 1881-1885 (FHL microfiche 6137414)
- 1886-1890 (FHL microfiche 6137415)
- 1891-1895 (FHL microfiche 6137416)
- 1896-1900 (FHL microfiche 6137417)
- 1900-1905 (FHL microfiche 6137418)
- 1906-1910 (FHL microfiche 6137419)
- 1911-1915 (FHL microfiche 6137420)
- 1916-1920 (FHL microfiche 6137421)
- 1921-1925 (FHL microfiche 6137422)
- 1926-1930 (FHL microfiche 6137423)
- 1931-1935 (FHL microfiche 6137424)
- 1936-1940 (FHL microfiche 6137425)
- 1941-1945 (FHL microfiche 6137426)
- 1946-1950 (FHL microfiche 6137427)
- 1951-1955 (FHL microfiche 6137428)

Deaths

- 1786-1880 (FHL microfiche 6137109)

District Pension Returns (W.O. 22)

Pensions were awarded to soldiers who had completed their length of service, and were dispersed via the Royal Kilmainham Hospital in Dublin and the Royal Chelsea Hospital in London.[2] Pensioners were divided into two classes: out-pensioners who received pensions and lived away from the hospital; and in-pensioners who needed institutional care in the hospital itself. Most of these records are available at the

Dates Covered	Description	Piece/Volume Nos.
1808	Gottenburg	1862
1855-1857	Greece	1863
1810-1821	Heligoland	1864-1874
1810-1865	Honduras	1875-1929
1846-1848	Hudson's Bay	1930
1806-1864	Ionian Islands, Sicily, etc.	1931-1981
1790-1865	Jamaica	1982-2055
1865	Lagos	2056
1808-1814	Madeira	2057-2061
1811-1865	Madras	2062-2116
1800-1865	Malta	2117-2171
1810-1865	Mauritius	2172-2226
1800-1824	Mediterranean	2227-2235
1763-1802	Minorca	2236-2240
1791-1853	New South Wales	2294-2337
1847-1865	New Zealand	2338-2355
1807-1865	Nova Scotia	2356-2412
1816-1866	St. Helena	2413-2448
1815-1865	Sierra Leone	2450-2459

Dates Covered	Description	Piece/Volume Nos.
1762-1828	Spain & Portugal	2460-2477
1813-1814	Spanish East Coast	2478
1809	Walcheran Expedition	2479
1761-1765	Windward & Leeward Islands	2480-2554
1783-1873	Artillery	2555-2574
1809-1865	Artillery Districts & Depots	2575-2641
1805-1850	Artillery – Ireland	2642-2649
1796-1806	Foreign Artillery	2650-2706
1817-1856	Invalid Attachments	2707-2708
1859-1878	Cadet Company	2709
1798-1855	Engineers	2710-2768
1778-1861	Quarters of Troops in Great Britain	2782-2812

National Archives in London. These records consist of muster rolls, admission books, and an index. The four main series for out-pensioners are located in W.O. 177, W.O. 118, W.O. 120, and W.O. 22.

Pensions were paid by government officials whose jurisdictions were arranged into Districts. The forms used by these officials consisted of sections entitled: 1) "Pensioners Transferred to District", 2) "Pensioners newly admitted to Out-Pension", 3) "Pensions renewed, made permanent, or increased", 4) "Pensions expired or reduced", and 5) "Pensions ceased by death".

The sections of the document contained the following information, listed in columns:

1) Pensioners Transferred to District: Regt or Number, Rate of Pension, Date of Admittance, Rank, Name of Pensioner, Date to which Pensioner was paid prior to transference, Remarks stating whether the Pension is permanent or temporary
2) Pensioners newly admitted to Out-Pension: Regt or Number, Rate of Pension, Date of Admission to Out-Pension, Rank, Name of Pensioner, Date on which Pension commences being paid in the District; Remarks stating whether the Pension is permanent or temporary
3) Pensions renewed, made permanent, or increased: Regt or Number, Rate of Pension, Date of Admission to Out-Pension, Rank, Name of Pensioner, Nature of Alteration in Pension, Date from which alteration of pension is to commence, Authority for Alteration, and Remarks relative therein
4) Pensions expired or reduced: Regt or Number, Rate of Pension, Date of Admission to Out-Pension, Rank, Name of Pensioner, Remarks explanatory of the cause of reduction, and Period from which the same is to commence
5) Pensions ceased by death: Regt or Number, Rate of Pension, Date of Admission to Out-Pension, Rank, Name of Pensioner, Pension whether permanent or temporary, Date of Decease, Age at Decease, Remarks

When does one use these records? Many documents may reference an individual as a "pensioner"; this is a key to search for the local pension office. When an individual was admitted to pension, he was paid out of these pension offices. When he moved out of the district, to continue his payments he would have to register with the new pension office.

Why is this important? To access British military records, one must know the regimental name or number, since the regiment is the jurisdictional level needed to find these records. The District pensions list the regimental name/number of the pensioner, when he was listed in the office, when he left, and when his pension ended (usually due to death), and the death date.

District Pension Offices

The records for these District Pension Offices would be in the following W.O. 22 sections:

- Armagh, W.O. 22/141, 1842-1852; W.O. 22/209, 1882-1883
- Athlone, W.O. 22/143, 1842-1852
- Ballymena, W.O. 22/145, 1842-1852
- Belfast 1st, W.O. 22/147, 1842-1852
- Belfast 2nd, W.O. 22/149, 1852-1862
- Belfast, W.O. 22/210, 1882; W.O. 22/211, 1882-1883
- Birr, W.O. 22/150, 1842-1852 (major barracks)
- Birr; W.O. 22/212, 1878-1881; W.O. 22/213, 1882-1883
- Boyle, W.O. 22/152, 1842-1852
- Carlow, W.O. 22/153, 1842-1852
- Carlow, W.O. 22/154, 1852-1862
- Castlebar, W.O. 22/155, 1842-1852
- Cavan, W.O. 22/156, 1842-1852
- Cavan, W.O. 22/157, 1852-1862
- Charlemont, W.O. 22/158, 1842-1852
- Charlemont, W.O. 22/159, 1852-1862
- Clonmel, W.O. 22/160, 1842-1852
- Clonmel, W.O. 22/214, 1882; W.O. 22/215, 1882-1883
- Cork 1st, W.O. 22/161, 1842-1852
- Cork 1st, W.O. 22/162, 1852-1862
- Cork 2nd, W.O. 22/163, 1842-1852
- Cork 2nd, W.O. 22/164, 1852-1862
- Cork, W.O. 22/216, 1882; W.O. 22/217, 1882-1883
- Drogheda, W.O. 22/165, 1842-1852
- Drogheda, W.O. 22/166, 1852-1862
- Dublin 1st, W.O. 22/167, 1842-1852
- Dublin 1st, W.O. 22/168, 1852-1862
- Dublin 2nd, W.O. 22/169, 1842-1852
- Dublin 2nd, W.O. 22/170, 1852-1862
- Dublin, W.O. 22/218, 1882; W.O. 22/219, 1882; W.O. 22/220, 1883
- Ennis, W.O. 22/171, 1842-1852
- Ennis, W.O. 22/172, 1852-1862
- Enniskillen, W.O. 22/173, 1842-1852
- Enniskillen, W.O. 22/174, 1852-1862
- Fermoy, W.O. 22/175, 1842-1852
- Fermoy, W.O. 22/176, 1852-1862
- Galway, W.O. 22/177, 1842-1852
- Galway, W.O. 22/178, 1852-1862
- Galway, W.O. 22/1882; W.O. 22/1882-1883
- Kilkenny, W.O. 22/179, 1842-1852
- Kilkenny, W.O. 22/180, 1852-1862
- Limerick, W.O. 22/181, 1842-1852
- Limerick, W.O. 22/182, 1852-1862
- Londonderry, W.O. 22/183, 1842-1852
- Londonderry, W.O. 22/184, 1852-1862
- Longford, W.O. 22/185, 1842-1852
- Longford, W.O. 22/186, 1852-1862
- Maryborough, W.O. 22/187, 1842-1852
- Monaghan, W.O. 22/188, 1842-1852
- Monaghan, W.O. 22/189, 1852-1862
- Newry, W.O. 22/190, 1842-1852
- Newry, W.O. 22/191, 1852-1862
- Omagh, W.O. 22/192, 1842-1852
- Omagh, W.O. 22/193, 1852-1862
- Omagh, W.O. 22/223, 1882-1883
- Roscommon, W.O. 22/194, 1842-1852
- Roscommon, W.O. 22/195, 1852-1862
- Sligo, W.O. 22/196, 1842-1852
- Sligo, W.O. 22/197, 1852-1862
- Tralee, W.O. 22/198, 1842-1852
- Tralee, W.O. 22/199, 1852-1862
- Tralee, W.O. 22/224, 1882-1883; W.O. 22/225, 1883
- Tullamore, W.O. 22/200, 1842-1852
- Tullamore, W.O. 22/201, 1852-1862
- Waterford, W.O. 22/202, 1842-1852
- Waterford, W.O. 22/203, 1852-1862

Another source for researching Army pensioners who lived abroad is the book *British Army Pensioners Abroad, 1772-1899*[3]. In preparing this work, the War Office documents that were consulted were W.O. 120: Volume 35, Volume 69, and Volume 70. Pensioners were residing in Canada, India, South Africa, Gibraltar, Ceylon, Australia, and so on.

Royal Artillery

The artillery was in Ireland as well, as early as 1716. The Royal Artillery was configured into companies, battalions, and brigades. *The Battery Records of the Royal Artillery, 1716-1859*[4] is a superb source in following where the artillery was posted. This source also follows the company commanders and their careers, and enables one to determine where an ancestor in a specific battery may be at certain times in Ireland and elsewhere.

Uniform of the Royal Irish Artillery

Year	Battalion	W.O. 10/	Company	Commander	Location*
1797	5th	318	1st	Rogers	Dublin
1798	5th	331	1st	Rogers	Dublin
1798	5th	331	1st	Rogers	Birr
1799	5th	357	1st	Rogers	Ireland
1800	5th	382	1st	Rogers	Ireland
1801	5th	407	1st	Rogers	Athlone, Birr
1801	7th	413	2nd	R. Thornhill	Dublin
1801	7th	413	3rd	O. Jackson	Dublin, Londonderry
1801	7th	413	4th	E. Pritchard	Belfast
1801	7th	413	5th	L. O'Brien	Limerick
1801	7th	413	6th	J. Gilbert	Galway
1801	7th	413	7th	J. Viney	Kelkenny
1801	Invalid	409	12th	M. Young	Dublin
1802	7th	447	2nd	R. Thornhill	Cork
1802	7th	447	3rd	O. Jackson	Charlemont
1802	7th	447	4th	E. Pritchard	Belfast, Carrickfergus
1802	7th	447	5th	L. O'Brien, A. Duncan	Limerick, Cork
1802	7th	447	6th	J. Gilbert	Galway, Athone, Dublin

Continued on page 178

Civil War Pension
The Key to Our Journey to County Cork

by Jim Sullivan

My genealogy research began in 1977 when my Aunt Mary, who turned ninety this year, gave me all of the Sullivan family tree information that she had recorded on the back of recipe cards.

About that time, Aunt Mary had visited Doylestown, Columbia County, Wisconsin, where my Sullivan ancestors from Ireland are buried. She found the grave sites of four great aunts, one great uncle, my great grandmother and great grandfather and my great-great-grandmother in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Doylestown. My great grandmother and great grandfather and great-great-grandmother were all born in Ireland. All we knew about them was that they were from County Cork as indicated on their gravestone. My great-great-grandmother was born in 1798 according to her gravestone. No one had a clue of the whereabouts of her husband or even what his name was. My grandfather James was one of five boys born to their Irish immigrant parents and strangely enough, these five boys fathered only two male siblings to carry on the Sullivan family name. One of them never married and the other was my father, James Jr. My father, a World War II veteran, passed away in 1976, before I began my family tree research. I am an only son with three sisters. I have two sons, one married and one single; my married son is expecting their first child.

For many years, before computer and Internet research, I traveled to the same Doylestown cemetery. I also traveled to the location of the cemeteries where my grandfather and his other three brothers were buried in hope of finding some clue to additional information. Their grave sites are located in Proctor, Minnesota; Columbus, Wisconsin; Cassville, Wisconsin; and Chicago, Illinois. I requested death certificates and I researched census records. Nothing on any of the documents provided any information about the "Mystery Mr. Sullivan", my great-great-grandfather who was not buried alongside his wife, son and daughter-in-law in Doylestown, Wisconsin.

In 2003, Aunt Mary recalled that when she was very young, one of her aunts once mentioned a Sullivan family member who served in the American Civil War – however she had no additional information. Around this same time period, Aunt Mary came across an obituary of one of her uncles by the name of Patrick who had passed away in 1932. This obituary stated that Patrick, another brother, and a sister were born in Caledonia, Livingston County, New York. It further stated that their parents, Daniel and Margaret, and their grandmother Ellen (all buried in Wisconsin) had settled there when they arrived from County Cork, Ireland in 1851. How and why they settled in Caledonia, which is south of Rochester, New York, and when and why they moved to Wisconsin was still a mystery – but we felt we were making progress. With the information about the Civil War and the obituary referencing Livingston County, New York, I began some New York State research. The1860 Livingston County, New York, federal census record listed my great-great-grandmother Ellen and her two sons, Daniel (my great grandfather) and James. The 1865 New York State census again showed Ellen and Daniel, but now there was a Margaret (Daniel's wife) and two children. This was beginning to get exciting. I was curious about the other son James. It was the time of the Civil War. I contacted Livingston County for research and I did some Civil War Soldier research in New York State. Both came back showing that James had been killed at the Battle of Petersburg on July 1, 1864, and that his body was never returned to New York. This interesting find confirmed my Aunt Mary's great memory; however, we didn't yet see it as any kind of breakthrough on our research. How wrong I was!!

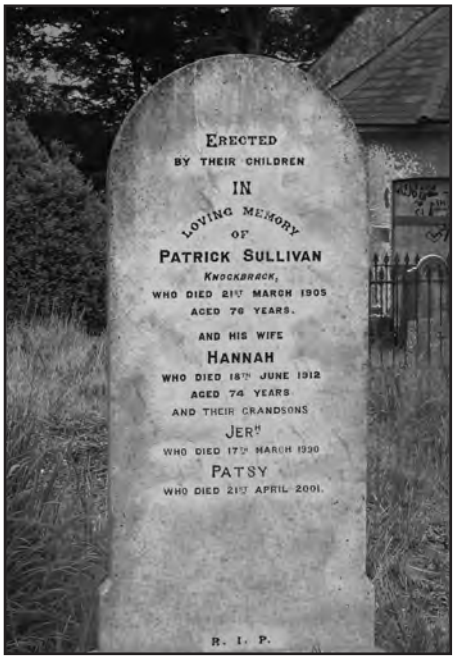
I've been a member of the Irish Genealogical Society International since 1995. Over the years, I have attended several seminars and classes provided by IGSI. The assistance I have received and the knowledge I have obtained from so many wonderful volunteers is invaluable. I received an NATF Form 86, (National Archives Order for Copies of Military Records) to use to verify the Civil War military service of James Sullivan. The documents I received after filing the form showed that James Sullivan had been a Prisoner of War in 1862 and that he was killed in 1864. Yet none of the documents provided any information to take us back to Ireland, specifically County Cork. I've used additional forms to verify the military service of relatives that served in the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II. The major breakthrough came in 2005 while talking with the most knowledgeable genealogist I've ever met, Beth Mullinax. She suggested I submit an NATF Form 85 (National Archives Order for Copies of Federal Pension or Bounty Land

Warrant Applications). She stated that it would cost about $35, whether they found the requested information or not. I thought it would be worth the investment – and was I ever right. Several weeks later I received a large envelope with 30 pages of documents regarding the pension record of James Sullivan, killed in the Civil War. I had struck gold!

As I read through the documents, I felt like a kid at Christmas time. These were the key to the mystery, a 28 year search to learn where our Sullivan family had lived in County Cork, Ireland. The pension record provided us the following information:

- Our Sullivan family moved from New York State to Wisconsin in the summer of 1866
- The name of my great-great-grandfather: Cornelius
- Cornelius died on March 1, 1840, in Ireland
- The Sullivans lived in Rahan Civil Parish, County Cork, Ireland
- Ellen Sullivan's maiden name was Kenny
- Ellen and Cornelius were married March 25, 1826
- A letter from James Sullivan's Company Commander to the Sullivan family stating that James had been killed at the Battle of Petersburg on July 1, 1864
- Ellen received James' Civil War Pension of $8.00 a month until her death in 1883

This information in this document provided answers to many questions. Shortly therafter, I began my research in Griffith's Valuation and with Mallow Heritage Center in County Cork. Within a short time, I was able to determine that the Sullivans lived in Knockbrack Townland. Griffith's Valuation was completed in 1851 in their area; we were fortunate to find Ellen, Daniel, Mary, John, Jeremiah and



Timothy listed. Additionally, printed maps showing precisely where they lived in Knockbrack Townland. Mallow Heritage Center provided Baptism Records showing the Baptism date of four of the Sullivan children born to Cornelius and Ellen between 1830 and 1840. Unfortunately, record-keeping began in 1829 in County Cork, so there is a gap between the Sullivan wedding date in 1826 and the initial record-keeping date in 1829. I also received a copy of the Tithe Applotment of 1825 which shows Cornelius Sullivan along with three brothers as land owners in Knockbrack Townland.

With this newly gained knowledge, my wife Ruth and I began to plan for our first trip to Ireland. We made our first journey to the homeland in March 2006. We landed in Shannon and drove down through Limerick, staying for three nights at the Round-About-Inn in Mallow. We matched our maps from 1851 against the current map of Rahan Civil Parish and were pleasantly surprised at how closely the rural roads matched. We greatly appreciated the assistance and kindness from the local people with whom we talked. Mr. Tommy Healy kindly took us directly to the old stone Sullivan house which sat precisely on the location shown on the 1851 Griffith's map. It was derelict and abandoned; we were told the last residents were Patsy and Jeremiah Sullivan. Another helpful individual, Pat O'Donnell, directed us to their grave site. Unfortunately, we didn't locate any living relatives on this trip, but the experience was priceless.

Upon returning home, I researched the 1901 and 1911 County Cork, Rahan Civil Parish, Knockbrack Townland census records and found some Sullivans that I am certain were related. My wife and I enjoyed ourselves so much on our first trip to Ireland that we decided to visit again in May 2008. We toured Dublin and Belfast this time, but we also retraced our steps in County Cork to see if we had left any clues unturned. We again found no living Sullivan relatives; however, we made contact with some Kenny family, descendents of my

Continued on page 166

Reverend David Stewart Collection

by David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS

The series on Irish genealogical collections expands on the works of the Reverend David Stewart from the prerogative probate records detailed in the last issue. In fact, the Rev. Stewart was an active transcriber and abstracter from original records in the record offices of both Ireland and England for Irish related materials, particularly for County Down.

Although his massive collection is yet to be microfilmed or digitized, it is an important collection to understand. Searches may be performed in these records using the assistance of an Irish Record Agent or Irish Genealogist.

Counties	Collection	Repository	FHL	Dioceses
Antrim	Rev. David Stewart	Public Record Office of Northern Ireland	No	Connor, Derry, Down, Dromore
Donegal				Raphoe, Derry, Clogher
Down				Down, Dromore, Connor, Newry, Mourne
Londonderry				Derry, Connor, Armagh
Tyrone				Armagh, Derry, Clogher

As a strategy for collecting the materials needed for his research, the Rev. Stewart often transcribed or abstracted entire collections for his areas of geographic interest. From these abstracts, he compiled a number of genealogies on specific families – obviously, the Stewart family was one of his areas of focus. Over the course of his years compiling genealogical notes, he transcribed a number of Presbyterian and a few Church of Ireland Church registers.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

T. 563 – Muster roll for areas in Counties Antrim and Down for the year 1642. Rev. Stewart copied these from the originals in the National Archives, London.

T. 586 – Transcript of the rent roll of the estate of Dr. Saunders for the parishes of Newtown and Cumber in County Down for the years 1770-1780. Rent rolls typically include the names of the tenants, a description of the type of lease by which they are allowed to live on the land, and often give other valuable genealogical details and/or relationships.

T. 611 – Extracts relating to the Stewart family compiled from the 1821 census returns for parishes in County Down and from the Presbyterian registers of Drumbo, Portaferry and Dundonald, all in County Down. Also extracts from the muster roll of Lord Claneboye's Regiment for the year 1842.

T. 836 – Contains annotations to the Hamilton manuscript in the possession of the Rev. David Stewart, c. 1440-1800. Rev. Stewart gathered a number of complete manuscripts when he could acquire them. From his extensive research, he augmented the Hamilton manuscript with additional information from his research and various transcripts.

T. 1037 – Marriage register for the Presbyterian Congregation of Rathfriland, County Down for the years 1782-1811.

T. 1119 – Lists relating to the Stewart family in various townlands of County Down abstracted from the 1821 and 1841 censuses of Ireland.

T. 1759 – Comprises the bulk of the Rev. David Stewart collection and was purchased by PRONI from his family after his death. This portion contains approximately 100 volumes and documents for the years 1600-1940. It is particularly important for its material on the Elizabethan and Plantation period in Ulster with specific references to the Scottish settlement in the seventeenth century.

Genealogical Notes

There are extensive genealogical notes relating to the following County Down families: Bennett, Cleland, De Berniere, Edgar, Elliott, Gillespie, Gordon, Hamilton, Henderson, Heron, How, Hutton, McKee, Moffett, Montgomery, Moore, Morrow, Mure, Oliver, Perry, Rea, Savage, Shaw, Smyth, Stewart, Wallace, Weaver, and Winder.

Will Abstracts

Additionally, there are will abstracts for the following County Down families: Arbuckle, Bailie, Barnet, Bennett, Blackwood, Boyd, Bradshaw, Brownhall, Bruce, Bryanton, Creighton, Cromellin, Cumine, Cumming, Cowan, Dickson, Ekenhead, Echlin, Fairlie, Getty, Glendie, Halliday, Hamill, Hamilton, Hattridge, Hill, Hutcheson, Isaac, Johnson, Johnston, Kennedy, Legg, Macartney, McGawan, McRobert, Magenis Maxwell, Mercer, Nevin, Price, Reid, Ross, Savage, Stewart, Traill, Vaughan, Walker, Wallace, Weld, and Wilson.

Church Records

There are a number of extracts to Presbyterian Church records relating to the history of Presbyterianism in Ulster. Some Church of Ireland parish registers are included in the following:

- Armagh Presbytery Minutes, 1654-1841
- 1st Donegore, Antrim Presbyterian Registers, baptisms 1806-1821, marriages 1806-1841
- Armagh Presbytery Minutes, 1810-1840
- Armagh, Armagh, Presbyterian Session Book and Registers, 1707-1728
- Rosemary Street Presbyterian, Belfast, baptisms 1788-1806, marriages 1741-1761; with genealogical notes on families of Boardmills and Saintfield, County Down c. 1800.
- St. Anne's, Belfast Parish Registers [C of I], 1745-1799
- 1st Ballynahinch Presbyterian Registers, 1841-1859
- Saintfield, Co. Down Parish Registers [C of I], marriages 1724-1754
- Kilmore, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, marriages, 1833-1845
- Drumbo, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, 1699-1716
- Bright Presbyterian, Co. Tyrone Registers, 1837-1882
- Boardmills Presbyterian, Co. Down Registers, 1782-1889; includes references to burials
- Killaney Presbyterian, Co. Down Baptismal Register, 1846-1854
- Downpatrick, Co. Down Parish Registers [C of I], baptisms 1733-1856, marriages 1700-1875; burials 1719-1876
- Inch Parish [C of I] Registers, 1796-1933
- Killinchy Presbyterian, Co. Down Registers (with index), baptisms 1835-1915, marriages 1835-1845 with typed index 1812-1845 (sic); also, Assessment of seat holders for 1785
- Raffery Presbyterian, Co. Down, baptisms, 1843-1885, marriages 1845-1877
- Killyleagh Presbytery Minutes, 1725-1732
- 1st Killyleagh, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, baptisms 1835-1882, marriages 1833-1871
- Killyleagh, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, baptisms 1693-1713; marriages 1692-1757
- Kirkcubbin, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, baptisms 1778-1826; marriages 1781-1845
- Lissara, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, baptisms 1809-1872; marriages 1811-1849; burials 1810-1872
- Rathfriland, Co. Down Presbyterian Registers, marriages 1782-1811 (Note: this is a duplicate of manuscript T.1037 listed above).
- Bangor, Co. Down Presbytery Minutes 1706-1723; 1739-1842
- Down Presbytery Minutes 1707-1715; 1785-1841
- Associate Presbyteries of Moira and Lisburn Co. Down/Antrim 1774-1786
- Presbytery of Laggan Counties Londonderry and Donegal Minutes 1672-1695
- Associate Synod of Ireland (Secession Synod) Minutes 1736-1782; 1788-1840; 1868-1900

Extracts from Muster Rolls, etc.

Co. Down muster roll 1630 – taken from manuscript copy in possession of the Presbyterian Historical Society

- Co. Londonderry and Donegal muster roll 1631
- Co. Antrim muster roll 1631
- Co. Down Inquisition 1657
- Co. Down miscellaneous papers relating to the census of 1659, Subsidy rolls, forfeited lands, original planters of Ulster and the Subsidy roll of 1663 (with index)
- Kilmore [Co. Down] Tithe Applotment 1834

The Calendar of Government Documents in the outer search room of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland is inconsistent in its detailed listing

for this collection. In the instance of the Rev. David Stewart extracts of muster rolls, none of the names are listed in the inventory. However, in contrast, the detailed listing of the 1664 Hearth Money Rolls for County Armagh in T604 gives an every name index. Perhaps the fragility of the two documents is different and the staff has determined that the Stewart manuscripts can endure more handling by the public. Perhaps it is simply a matter of available staff time and/or volunteer time to create the index. Whatever the reason, the detailed listings for any documents in PRONI should always be consulted since the names of the persons you are seeking may be included in the inventory.

The Society of Friends (Quakers)

Notes on the origin of the Quakers in Ireland and their ministry; comprising six volumes. They were compiled in 1930.

Conclusion

Reverend David Stewart was relentless in his pursuit of compiling genealogical notes and spent much of his spare time combing through the records of Ireland. We can be grateful that he was so persistent for he was able to transcribe many documents that were later destroyed in 1922. Further, his analysis and compiled conclusions from his extracts are of extreme value to the modern genealogist and family historian.

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIGRS, is Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch, a professional genealogist since 1977, accredited in Ireland research in 1981 and certified in 2006., he is the course coordinator for the Irish Course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR).

He is a past-president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and of the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) and a Fellow of that organization. He is also a Fellow of the Irish Genealogical Research Society, London.

Civil War Pension Continued from page 163

great-great- grandmother, Ellen (Kenny) Sullivan, who is buried in Doylestown, Wisconsin. We stay in touch with them and I'm confident that persistent research may still lead us to relatives of our Sullivan family. Our whole experience and trips to Ireland were a direct result of the valuable information that came from the Civil War Pension of James Sullivan. Without it, we would still be sitting on our 1977 information.

If there's a moral to this story, it is to never stop researching, to never stop talking to people, and to use all the resources available at IGSI, on the Internet, and in Ireland. My journey has been as interesting as its destination.

Jim Sullivan and Ruth, his wife of 32 years, were born in Chicago, but have been Minnesota residents for many years. In 2004, Jim retired from the Minnesota Army National Guard after 27 years of service. They have researched the Sullivan family tree since 1977 and made two trips to Ireland to do research and to enjoy the hospitality of the Irish people.

Crowley Clan Reunion

The Crowley Clan Council has announced that the Crowley Clan will gather in Kinsale, County Cork on the weekend of September 10-12, 2010. All Crowleys from around the world are urged to begin making plans to attend.

Since 1970 the modern Clan Crowley has gathered in West Cork once every three years. The last was in 2007 in Clonakilty.

For more information you can go to www.crowleyclan.com or e-mail Marian Crowley Chamberlain at crowleychamberlain@msn.com.

Pembina Pioneers

Tales of Times Now Long Passed as Lived by Early Settlers in This Territory and Who Now Reside Here Or Who Have Recently Moved Away

by Robert Thacker

In the late summer of 1879 an 11 year old boy had the thrilling experience of leaving his old home in Pittson, counties of Leeds and Grenville, Ontario, and traveling westward to the new land of promise just opening to settlement. From that time until recently his life has been full of interesting experiences and adventures. Although past the meridian of life, Alexander H. Louden of Bathgate [North Dakota] still is intensely concerned with the trend of human events.

Mr. Louden is the oldest of a family of 13 children, 11 of whom still survive. This family, like many others of those pioneer days, went through many hardships of dauntless courage and zeal that has carved this splendid commonwealth out of a virgin land.

Very shortly after leaving the old Canadian home these difficulties began to develop. Upon the arrival of Mrs. Louden and the children at St. Vincent, Minn., they had to stay at the railroad station for two days before getting out to the home of James Quinnell, six miles northeast of Bathgate. A log shanty thatched with hay and mud was rented from Paul Norman on the Pembina River 12 miles west of Pembina. Young Louden saw many Red River carts go by his father's house loaded with furs en route to the trading posts. He has seen as many as 100 at a time go by. Mr. Louden Sr. filed on land three miles northwest of Bathgate, which he owned until his death. Howard Vaughn was in charge of the U.S. Land office at that time and the log house that had been purchased "previously" was moved down onto this land.

Alex & Margaret Louden with children, Bill & Bernice
Photo courtesy of Linda Miller.

Jud Lamoure Helps

After the first big spring thaw, the weather turned quite cold so that a very heavy crust was formed on the snow. Mr. Louden Sr. started for Pembina. He met a team of Indian ponies coming over the crust; they stopped when his father met them. The driver asked him if he was cold and would have drink. Louden took a drink with them. One of the men asked Louden where he was going. He said he was going to Pembina to see Jud LaMoure. LaMoure and Goodfellow ran a store at that time. He asked what he wanted to see LaMoure for. Louden said that he had been told that he might get some groceries from Jud LaMoure. The speaker said that Jud was not at home, and he put his hand in his pocket and gave Louden a twenty-dollar gold piece. He said, "That will get you some groceries." Louden did not want to take it. He asked the donor's name, and he said, "I am Jud LaMoure." From that day on, the Louden family never went hungry. At that particular time Jud LaMoure was on his way to St. Joe in company with a priest.

As settlers grew in numbers they deemed it necessary to get some civil organizations. Under the leadership of Con Slagerman, George Roadhouse and Louden, Sr. donated an acre of land, hauled the lumber, and erected the building, gratis, known as the Louden schoolhouse. Miss Viola Yoemans of Joliette was the first teacher. She received $35 a month. This building was used as a community center. Here Protestants and Catholics alike held their religious services, and Sunday schools. Even a night school was established for the boys who had to work during the day. Louden, Sr. and Con Slagerman were the teachers.

Clothes Cheap

As time went on, the conditions of all the settlers became improved. With

the exception of frosted wheat, everybody seemed to be getting along well. There were no great hardships or anyone going hungry after 1881. Buffalo coats could be bought for $9 each and robes for $3. These robes were used in homes as bed coverings, and many used them for horse blankets. One Roy Kraft had the first threshing machine in that neighborhood. He did that work from Pembina to Walhalla. Let us now turn to the personal experience and adventures of Alexander H. Louden when he became of age.

After he was 21, he began his formal schooling. He entered the fifth grade of the Bathgate School and went through the eighth grade in one winter. He sawed wood for his room and board after school hours and when he was twenty-four, he decided to go west to the Pacific coast.

He arrived in Seattle shortly after the big fire. There was no work to be secured because of the rush of people out there at that time. W.P. Watson, a civil engineer for the Great Northern, had established his first engineering office. Louden got a job and was sent to Ballard, Washington, to Mr. Stixrud, who had a surveying party there. He finally became topographer for a survey party, which position he filled for some six years. With the completion of the project he returned to Bathgate.

Upon his return he found that there was an election on. Jud LaMoure was seeking election as State Senator from this first district. Louden, remembering the gift of the $20 gold piece and the other good turns Jud had rendered to his father, decided to try and repay him slightly by working for his election. Jud was elected and the Senator further rewarded Louden with an appointment as officer in the State penitentiary. A little later he was appointed bill clerk in the senate. Shortly after this he became a soldier.

Goes To War

In April 1898, when war was declared against Spain he was a member of the Governor's Guards, Co. A., Bismark. He resigned his office at the prison and enlisted in the volunteers for two years or for the duration of the war. North Dakota's quota was two battalions of 670 men. They were moved westward to the Pacific coast where they embarked for the Philippine Islands. The outfit landed in Manila August 7th, after a 37 day voyage across the Pacific. They were taken as near the shore as possible in small boats on account of the shallow bay, and then waded ashore, and camped in a peanut patch six miles from Manila Aug. 11. On Aug. 13, they went into battle against the Spanish. At two o'clock the same afternoon the Spanish flag was pulled down and the Stars and Stripes put up "where it has remained until this day," says Mr. Louden.

He further says, "We surrounded the walled city on the night of August 13 to keep Aguinaldo and his insurgent army out so they would not kill foreigners and the Spanish remaining there. From then until February 4, we did outpost duty. On February 4, the insurgent army attacked us. From that time until next August we campaigned in nine different provinces after the insurgent army. About half of us had intermittent malaria, dysentery, dolor itch, (a disease of the skin contracted from wading in the tropical jungles). The regiment was in 36 engagements; of this number I was in 23. We had no right to stay for the insurrection, but we volunteered to stay until President McKinley could organize an army to take our place.

During our campaign in the Philippines we never dug in. I was color sergeant, and I will swear that we never retreated one foot in all the battles. There was no rear to go to. We were front, rear, and everything else. In the Province of Moron was the only American town known in the Islands. We took it and never let a Philippino reenter. There was small pox and black plague, (bubonic plague). When the natives died we burned their houses and bodies. No American had bubonic plague, but some Chinamen that we had allowed in the commissary department died from the disease. We burnt their bodies and houses.

Food Is Poor

When we were relieved at Moron there were 27 out of 84 men that did not answer sick call; a good many should have done so, but did not want to take quinine. The doctors finally lined the men up in the company formation, and gave each man his dose off a spoon seeing that each man swallowed it. The food, part of the time, was very poor, especially on the trip over. Fresh water was short, due to inefficiency on the part of the government being poorly prepared for war. Stories of the embalmed beef were not

too highly exaggerated at the time. During the last part of the insurrection and on the journey home the men received the best of treatment. We returned on the transport Grant and received the best accommodations.

Upon our arrival at San Francisco we received a rousing welcome from both the citizens of California and the U.S. Government. We were mustered out; turned in our accoutrements; returned home on money sent to us by the State of North Dakota. Out of the 670 mustered, less than 100 of the old North Dakota regiment returned. We have a reunion on August 13, every year at Spiritwood Lake near Jamestown, N.D. We eat, drink and be merry, and tell more lies than I am telling here. The boys are all good Americans, white headed, and a good many went to France as officers, and I believe are ready to go again if the call comes."

Mr. Louden has a numerous collection of Spanish-American and Philippino war souvenirs and mementos including some of the personal possession of the late William G. Lamb of Hamilton who was Pembina County's one soldier slain in the Philippino Insurrection. A large monument was erected to his memory in the Hamilton cemetery. His body also rests there.

Congressional Medal

Among Mr. Louden's special keepsakes are: Spanish American War Medal, Congressional Medal, known as the McKinley Medal, given for Loyalty, Fortitude and Patriotism.

Mr. Louden has a wonderful record as a rifle marksman. In the army rifle matches, he shot down all regiments, regular and volunteer, at the Presidio, near San Francisco, Calif. He was requested to join the National Rifle Association, which he did and has competed with all teams at the association from Bangor, Me. to Pasadena, Calif. He says, "Our team, known as the Dickinson, N.Dak., took second place. Individually, I was beaten once."

Among other experiences of Mr. Louden were those of visiting the Hawaiian Islands on the voyage to and from the Philippines, where they were royally entertained. He also had the opportunity to visit a number of the leading cities in Japan where his outfit received excellent treatment. During his time in the Philippines he had the pleasure to be in the presence of Admiral George Dewey the hero of Manila bay He also has seen and been near the famous Philippino leader, Emilio Anginaldo, who immediately following the Spanish-American war led the Philippinos against the American forces in the Islands, only to be finally defeated.

When one hears or reads of the experiences and adventures that some of our fellow citizens have during one short lifetime we sometimes wonder how they can lead the simple life again and seemingly enjoy it as our old friend Mr. Louden seems to be doing. May the coming years be full of peace and happiness for him and his family.

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June, July, August

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Following Clues Across the Water

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

I've been doing genealogy for a long time, but I'm still very much a beginner in Irish research. I didn't even know I had any Irish (my wife's ancestors) to research until a few years ago. I figured that was just fine, because my genealogy friends had told me that Irish research was next to impossible.

Now I'm ready to find out what might be possible. I invite you to follow along on my quest to learn about the origins of Bartholomew Lee of Bristol, England. I introduced you to Bartholomew in the last issue of *The Septs*. Family lore said he was the father of Mary Ann Lee, who married John Tidball just before the young couple sailed for Minnesota in 1884. One story said he had deserted his wife and children to search for gold in Minnesota. No one knew he was Irish, although there has been a persistent streak of red hair in the family.

In the last issue, I told you how some recently re-discovered family photo albums and letters led me back to the Tidball and Lee families in Bristol. In this column, I'll follow the clues back to County Cork.

Starting with the Basics. Before jumping across the ocean in our search for ancestors, it is a good idea to gather all the information we can find on this side of the water in hopes of finding a clue to a locale for the home country search. In this case, the water to be crossed is the Irish Sea, rather than the Atlantic, but the principle is the same: first find what I can in England and then tackle the Irish origin problem.

The 1884 marriage registration for John Tidball and Mary Ann Lee had confirmed that her father's name was Bartholomew[1], but I was unable to find him in the 1881 or 1871 English censuses (he had probably already absconded). Since Mary Ann was 21 when she married, I figured her parents might have been married in the 1850s or early 1860s.

I used an online index of English marriage registrations to locate a probable marriage, and ordered a copy of the record. It showed that 21-year-old Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Price married on 12 May 1857[3]. I was confident that this was the correct Bartholomew for two reasons. First, I was confident that Mary Ann's mother was named Eleanor because I had found a good match for Mary Ann living with her mother Eleanor in 1881; her husband Bartholomew was absent (presumably gone to America)[3]. Second, the name "Bartholomew Lee" was uncommon; my search of the Ancestry.com index didn't find any Bartholomew Lees in England or Wales within five years of the expected age of the Bartholomew who married in 1857[4]. The marriage record told me that Bartholomew's father was a mason's laborer.

From his daughter's marriage registration, John Lee's occupation allowed me to pin the family down with confidence in the 1851 Census[5].

John Lee, 45, mason's laborer
Hannah, wife, 43
Bartholomew, son, 14, porter
Margaret, daughter, 19
John, son, 7

All were born in Cork. The ages of the children implied that the family had come to Bristol from Cork sometime between 1844 and 1851. Ireland was in sight, but I no idea where in Cork to look. I needed more.

My next step was to follow the Lee family forward in the English censuses to see if I could find any more specific birth place information. I had not been able to find Bartholomew after 1851, but perhaps I could find his parents or siblings in a later census.

I found two Lee households in 1871 that seemed to hold promise. One was the household of John Lee in the St. James district of Bristol[6].

- John Lee, 66, Mason's Labourer, born Middleton, Ireland
- Joanna Lee, 65, [occupation blank], born Castle Martin, Ireland.
- John Lee, 7, grandson, scholar, born Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

While the U.S. Census usually gives only state or country of birth, the English census often provides local place names. After some quick Internet searching, I found the town of Midleton about 15 miles northeast of the city of Cork and Castle Martyr about five miles farther east.

At first, I confused this family with another John and Johanna Lee who were enumerated nearby in the Bristol Workhouse. The workhouse John Lee was also 66, but both he and his 56-year-

old wife were born in Limerick. The seven-year-old grandson living with the Cork Lees was the other key to separating the families. He was the son of Bartholomew Lee. Ten years later, in 1881, he was living with his mother in St. Philip and Jacob, Bristol. The 1881 Census said 18-year-old John was born in Melksham, Wiltshire, but he had a 16-year-old brother born in Trowbridge[7], which is close by Melksham. Thus, I was confident the Melksham-born John was the seven-year-old John Lee in the 1871 Census.

On the Ground in Cork. I now had a locale in which to focus my Irish search. Some quick Googling with various combinations of "Lee," "Castle Martyr" and "Midleton" led to an 1846 Irish directory. Listed in Castle Martyr were Thomas Lee, a bootmaker; Christopher Lee, a saddler and harness-maker; William Lee, a tailor; and Margaret Lee, a straw bonnet-maker.[8] Presumably, the John Lee family was already in Bristol by this time, but finding other Lees in Castle Martyr added to my confidence that I was in the right locale.

The directory also provided information about the towns of Castle Martyr and Midleton. Castle Martyr was a small market town in the civil parishes of Itermorrough, Ballyoughtera and Mogeely. The only place of worship was the Church of Ireland parish church, but there were several Catholic chapels in neighboring hamlets. Midleton was a market town in the Barony of Imokilly, with a parish church and two Catholic chapels.

I next looked for records from Midleton and Castle Martyr. The Family History Library has the 1751-1811 Vestry Book of the parish church of Castlemartyr, and some court records for both Castlemartyr and Midleton, but none of the church records or civil registration records that I am accustomed to finding for other countries.

Irish censuses were taken beginning in 1821, but virtually all census records prior to 1901 were lost to fire or government-decreed destruction. For ancestors or their families who lived in Ireland after mid-century, searching Griffith's Valuation (1848-1864) is an option. The Lees were already in England at this time but Griffiths still might help identify relatives who stayed behind.

John Grenham's excellent book, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, helped me understand that I needed to know the difference between Roman Catholic and Protestant records.

Civil registration of marriages (Protestant only) did not start until 1845, and registration of births did not start until 1864, so I knew I would have to turn to church records. Protestant parishes mostly coincide with civil parishes, but Catholic parishes do not. They tend to be larger, encompassing several towns.

I really didn't know if my Lees were Protestant or Catholic. I thought them likely Catholic because Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Price were married at St. Mary's Catholic Church. I also knew that the Lees lived on Host Street in Bristol. Host Street was in one of the most Irish neighborhoods of Bristol.[9] The Roman Catholics bought St. Mary's from the Catholic Apostolic Church (Irvingnites) in 1843[10], motivated in part to serve the many Catholic families living on Horse (now Host) Street in central Bristol[11]. So it makes sense that an Irish family living on Host Street in 1851 might well have been Catholic.

Help from IGSI. Before going much farther, I looked to IGSI for help. The IGSI website (http://www.irishgenealogical.org) gave me a useful introduction to Irish research (click on the "Research" tab). My Irish friends had told me how critical place is to Irish research, so I turned to an article by Brian Mitchell in the July 2007 issue of *The Septs*. Mitchell's article explained the difference between counties, baronies, townlands, parishes and other geographical and administrative units. I learned that knowing the county of origin wasn't enough. Townlands are the smallest land division and the key to finding ancestral homelands.

Several standard Irish reference books from the IGSI Library helped me understand the record-keeping geography of the area.

- Grenham's *Tracing Your Ancestors* includes an inventory of Roman Catholic parish registers by year of coverage. Records covering my period of interest (mostly the 1830s) in Cloyne parish were available at

the National Library of Ireland and the Mallow Heritage Center.

- Brian Mitchell's *A Guide to Irish Parish Registers* gave me similar information, plus the reference number used in county maps that accompany the householder's index to Griffith's Valuation.
- Mitchell's *New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland* showed me the Roman Catholic parishes of East Cork. Cloyne is a sprawling octopus-like parish encompassing several towns.
- An 1861 *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland* gave me the barony and poor law union for the townlands and towns I'm interested in: Ballycroneen, Castle Martyr and Lurrig (which may be transcribed as "Lorog" in the church records; see below). This information will help me when I extend my search for other Irish records.
- The Cork Townland Index (no. 9, A112) for the 1933 Ordinance Survey of Ireland clearly showed the townlands in the area I am researching.

Another good view of the area comes from the 1:50,000 scale Discovery Series maps available for sale from the Ordinance Survey of Ireland. I used the Cork-Waterford map (No. 81).

Finding the Catholic Records. I contacted a professional genealogist in Ireland to search the Cloyne records in the National Library of Ireland. He had a better idea: he directed me to the online index of the Irish Family History Foundation (https://brsgenealogy.com/ifhf/index.php). The professional told me the index contained entries of baptism records for Lee children in Cloyne and the neighboring parish of Aghada that might match the Margaret, Bartholomew and John that I found in the 1851 English Census.

After registering, a researcher can search free on the IFHF website. The index is easy to use. One can search all of Ireland or by individual county. For example, a search for a Margaret, daughter of John Lee, yielded two hits in Cork – a Margaret born in 1831 and another in 1835. The search result does not name a parish for the baptisms, but clicking on a magnifying glass symbol at the right of each entry brings up a search screen that allows parish-specific searches. I searched for Cloyne and a handful of nearby parishes, and discovered that the 1831 Margaret was baptized in Aghada, the next parish west of Cloyne.

I repeated this process for Bartholomew and for John. I found baptisms for a Bartholomew (1836) and a John (1843), both sons of a John Lee in Cloyne; I also found two John Lees, sons of John, in Imogeeley just to the east of Cloyne. My hope was that Margaret, Bartholomew and John all had a mother named Johanna.

The free search results do not give the mother's name. Some people think genealogy should be free, but it costs money to create online indexes of records. The complete transcription of the baptismal record at IFHF can be viewed for 5 Irish pounds. In this case, it was worth it, because Margaret, Bartholomew and John all had the same parents: John Lee and Johanna Kenefick. Margaret was baptized October 1831 in Aghada Parish; Bartholomew and John were baptized May 1836 and May 1843, respectively, both in Cloyne Parish.[12]

In addition to parents' names, Catholic baptism records often give a family address. The Lee family lived at Lorog when Margaret was born in 1831. I have not been able to find any townland or place named Lorog, but a Lurrig is located about halfway between Cloyne and Aghada. Lurrig is in Rostellan Catholic Parish. The family lived at Ballycroneen when John was born in 1843. Ballycroneen is on the coast in one of the sourth-reaching fingers of Cloyne parish. No address was recorded at Bartholomew's birth.

Yes, I had crossed the Irish Sea and found convincing matches for the 1851 Lee family of Bristol. I have a pretty good idea, within a few miles, of where the Lees and Kennefick's lived before 1830. I may be close to a dead-end, but I now plan to dig into Tithe Applotment books and possibly even some estate records.

What I've Learned. My foray into Irish research has reinforced one of the basic prescriptions for successful genealogical research: you gotta know the territory. I leave you with three tips:

- Be alert to any and all clues to the locality of your ancestor's origins,

- When you find a locale, get to know it; find it on a map and get familiar with nearby places, and
- Learn about the records from the locale, including the civil and church administrative units that kept them.

Irish genealogy is certainly not easy, if you do these things and have a little bit of luck, it is possible to at least get close to your family's origins. It really does help to have clues to a location below the county level. In my case, the clues came from the English census. Your clues may come from somewhere else. May the luck of the Irish be with you.

End Notes

1 England, General Register Office, Certified copy of an entry of marriage, County of Bristol, District of Bristol, John Tidball to Mary Ann Lee, 12 March 1884, copy issued September 2003.

2 England, General Register Office, Certified copy of an entry of marriage, County of Bristol, District of Bristol, Bartholomew Lee to Eleanor Price, 12 May 1857, copy issued 7 June 2005.

3 1881 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol, St. Philip and Jacob, p. 6, schedule no. 34, Eleanor Lee (indexed "Leo" household, digital image, viewed 31 July 2009 at www.ancestry.com.

4 In 1861 Census of England, Bartholomew was enumerated as "John Lee," living in Melcombe Regis, Dorset. A summary of the proof is in J. H. Fonkert, "The Three C's of Genealogical Research," *Family Chronicle*, February 2009, p. 54.

5 1851 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol, St. Augustine the Less, p. 13 (stamped), John Lee household, digital image, viewed 30 July 2009 at www.ancestry.com.

6 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol, St. James, p. 20, Schedule no. 22, John Lee household, digital image, viewed 30 July 2009 at www.Ancestry.com.

7 John was born in Melksham 4 September 1863. General Register Office, Certified copy of an entry of birth, Melksham Subdistrict, Volume 5a, p. 101, John Lee, issued 14 February 2007.

8 *I. Slater's National Commercial Directory of Ireland* (London: I. Slater, 1846), pp. 182-83 and pp. 288-89; digital image viewed at http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mturner/cork/slaters_cloyne.htm.

9 D. Large, "The Irish in Bristol in 1851: A Census Enumeration," in R. Swift and S. Gilley, ed., *The Irish in the Victorian City* (London: Crown Helm, 1985," reprinted in "Irish Migrants in early Victorian Britain," NEAB syllabus produced by "Ireland in the Schools" for the Warrington Project in association with the Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool (The Warrington Project, 1998), retrieved from http://iiresource.org/Documents/0A3_AL_Irish_Victorian_Britain.pdf, 31 July 2009.

10 Andrew Foyle, *Bristol*, Pevsner Architectural Guides (London and New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004), p. 103.

11 Posting of an unidentified Bristol local historian accompanying a photo of St. Mary on the Quay posted at http://www.flickr.com/photos/brizzlebornandbred/2130887110, viewed 30 July 2009.

12 Irish Family History Foundation, digital transcripts of baptism records, Aghada Parish, Margaret Lee, 22 October, 1831; Cloyne Parish, Bartholomew Lee, 19 May 1837, and John Lee, 7 May 1843, downloaded 28 June 2009.

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Your Key to the Irish on the Internet

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

We continue to explore the **Research** tab on the IGSI website homepage. At the bottom of the Research tab you'll find the Links button. Click on this to find a treasure trove of information on all things Irish. Be careful—this link can lead to years of exploration in an ever-changing cyber world.

With the **Links** button, IGSI attempts to bring some order to the massive amount of research material available on the Web for Irish researchers. The Links button breaks down into four categories:

- Geographic Sites
- Research Methods
- Comprehensive Irish Genealogical Sites
- Sites of General Irish Interest

"Geographic Sites" orders websites by the region they most closely cover. The eight categories of geographic sites include:

- Australia and New Zealand
- Canadian
- Ireland General
- Ireland – Connaught Province
- Ireland – Leinster Province
- Ireland – Munster Province
- Ireland – Ulster Province
- United States

Let's take a look at a few leads you can find here.

Australia and New Zealand Geographic Links

This heading offers two selections; first, Australian and New Zealand: General; second, New Zealand Society of Genealogists, Hamilton Branch. Note that the second entry has a short description off to the right to let you know that this is for the Hamilton branch of the society.

- Australian and New Zealand: General contains a list of 10 websites, from the official vital records registry site to a transcribed passenger list for the Saldanha, a passenger ship that sailed from Liverpool to Victoria in 1856.
- New Zealand Society of Genealogists, Hamilton Branch lists links to various interest groups, including an Irish Interest Group webpage with contact information and a group newsletter.

Canadian Geographic Links

The IGSI Canada links include a general section and then a breakdown by province, including entries for British Columbia, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. A sample of the offerings found here includes:

- Canada GenWeb Project, which features free information from the well-known GenWeb organization. Besides general Canadian links, these categories include provincial and territorial GenWeb sites, lists of current projects, and how-to help.
- Canada 411, a telephone directory for the country.
- Canadian Genealogy and History Links. As well as a list of provinces, the website provides links in categories such as cemeteries and military.

Dig under the provincial links for finds like the British Columbia Archives Records Online; Maritime History Archive for Newfoundland; and St. Columban, Quebec— a website about the Irish immigrants who settled in there in the 1820s.

Ireland Geographic Links

Some of these are very large, comprehensive sites. Here is a synopsis:

- Ireland as a Whole: Cemeteries features the Forthill Cemetery records of St. Augustine's Church in Galway.
- Ireland as a Whole: General is a long list of links which includes the National Archives of Ireland and a guide to the Archives, the General Records Office (GRO) in Dublin, the IreAtlas Townland Database, and Ireland's Local Catholic Church History and Genealogy. You will also find several commercial site listings, such as GoIreland.com.
- Ireland as a Whole: General, Genealogical Centres by County holds contact information for each Centre as well as links back to its homepage in the National Archives of Ireland website.
- Ireland as a Whole: General, The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA). A collection of the Associations links broken down by province and county.
- PRONI, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, maintains an online index to a million cataloged items in their archives.
- Irish Family Historical Foundation (vital records) is a research service that works with the Genealogical Centres, providing a free database for searching. A fee is required to obtain information from a referenced document.
- FamilySearch Pilot Site maintains a database for the Irish Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958.
- Ireland GenWeb, part of the Worldwide GenWeb, is a broad-based free research site with transcribed records, e-mail lists and more.

Ireland: Connaught Province

This link reaches a separate page of the IGSI website covering the counties of Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo. A sampling of these informational websites includes:

- James Hardiman's History of Galway
- Leitrim-Roscommon Genealogy website
- GENUKI (United Kingdom and Ireland Genealogy) for Co. Mayo
- Carrick-on-Shannon [Roscommon] Workhouse and the Great Famine
- Sligo Ireland GenWeb/World GenWeb

Ireland: Leinster Province

Included in Leinster Province are the counties of Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenney, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Wicklow, Westmeath and Wexford. One finds the following interesting links:

- County Carlow, Kildare and Wexford GENUKI sites
- The Dublin City Public Libraries page
- "Women and Personal Possessions: 17th Century Waterford and Kilkenny"
- The Heath School in Portlaise, Co. Laois
- Counties Longford and Wicklow Ireland GenWeb Project
- Creggan [Co. Louth] Visitors Centre
- Meath Heritage Centre
- The History of Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Separate links lead to more information about the Kildare, Offaly and Louth GenWeb sites.

Ireland: Munster Province

The IGSI Munster links include a general section and then break out further by county—Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford. This is a sampling of the treasures:

- The Burren, a limestone region in northwest Co. Clare
- The Mallow Heritage Centre, Co. Cork
- The website of Ballyferriter Catholic parish in Co. Kerry
- Diocese of Limerick page
- County Tipperary Historical Society
- Dungarven Museum Online (Waterford Co. museum)

Ireland: Ulster Province

Following are just a few of the links concerning the counties that make up Ulster: Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Monaghan and (London) Derry. Note that when you click on the Ulster General link on the IGSI Links: Geographic page, you will find more county links—in addition to the ones listed separately on this page—below the "general" link. Here is a small selection:

- General: Ulster Historical Foundation
- Co. Antrim Genealogical links
- South Armagh Genealogy Project.
- Cavan Co. History (Dr. Jane Lyons)
- The Famine in Donegal.
- Co. Down Resources
- Fermanagh Heritage World
- Monaghan History and Information
- History of Derry
- Co. Tyrone Genealogy Page

United States

Finally, we have the United States Geographic Links. As you can imagine, this category also offers a multitude of Irish-related links. They break out into five main sections: U.S. General, U.S. Cemeteries, U.S. Passenger Lists (Ireland to the U.S.), Town/County Search (U.S.) and New England Societies. Here is just the tip of the iceberg:

- General: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).
- Cemeteries: General includes organizations such as the Association for Gravestone Studies as well as individual entries for California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, New York and Wisconsin.
- Passenger Lists: General provides helpful websites, including a link to the Ellis Island records.
- Town/County: While not specifically Irish, these can be helpful; such as the Ashland, Pennsylvania, page with information about the local coal mining history.
- New England Societies may have information about arriving Irish; includes The Irish Ancestral Research Association link.

IGSI's collection of website links gathers together a wealth of sources for the Irish family researcher. The websites mentioned above give only a partial picture of all that is available from the Links button on the Research tab. Still to come: Research Methods, Comprehensive Irish Genealogy Sites and Sites of General Irish Interest. Be ready to add great things to your Favorites and Bookmarks lists!

Kathleen Strickland, an IGSI member, is an editor and writer living outside Chicago, Illinois. Her grandmothers told wonderful family stories that set her on her quest for her roots many years ago.

Websites for Military Records

by Mary Wickersham

In preparing for this column, I was pleased to find some nice online surprises with great family details. I haven't gleaned a lot of genealogical information from military records over my years of research. While World War I draft registrations have been quite helpful, my ancestors seem to have been the wrong age for draft registration, or they served in the military during non-wartime. Understandably, online databases seem to focus on war service to their countries.

Australia

The AIF Project: Australian Anzacs in the Great War http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au:8080/index.html provides a searchable database of more than 330,000 Australians who served in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) during World War I. Details provided about individuals include religion, age, next of kin, residence, place of death and burial, if killed while on duty.

Canada

The Library and Archives of Canada provides searchable databases of military records. The database "World War II Canadian Armed Forces War Dead" includes: birth, death, and, frequently, the names of parents. The database "Soldiers of the First World War" includes links to images of original enlistment records, complete with detailed physical descriptions, and next of kin information. http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/

Ireland and the United Kingdom

No surprise databases here. We all have to do our homework to figure out where to start. There are some helpful websites to make this less painful:

The British National Archives guides you through the records you need by having you click on the military branch and dates of service to bring you to the correct research guide or contact information for the organization holding records. http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/militaryhistory/

Ireland and U.K. Genealogy has an extensive section regarding how-to information. http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/MilitaryRecords.html

The FamilySearch Wiki provides research guidance, as well as information about military records on film at the Family History Library. https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Ireland_Military_Records#Twentieth_Century_Records

United States

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) provides **e-VetRecs**, an online form to complete and submit to obtain DD Form 214, Report of Separation. While you complete the request information online, the request will not be processed until a printed page with the signature of next of kin of a deceased member of the military is mailed to the stated address. (Next of kin is defined as a surviving spouse who has not remarried, father, mother, son, daughter, sister, or brother). http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html

If you are not next of kin to the person whose record your seeking, or if the person is living, you may find some information available through the Freedom of Information Act. See http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/public/general-public.html NARA also provides several searchable databases, including these for World War II: Army enlistments, prisoners of war, relocated Japanese Americans, and Naval Intelligence duty records: http://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-list.jsp?cat=WR26

Cyndi's List is always a good launching point to find other sites: http://www.cyndislist.com/milres.htm

Gravesite Locator Search for burials in National cemeteries. http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov Search results usually offer an opportunity to view a map of the cemetery, with the grave location displayed on the page for easy printing and use when visiting the cemetery.

Mary Wickersham retired from bank operations and software development in 1998. She is active with IGSI and chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society With her sister, she also writes the "100 Years Ago" column for The Septs.

Minnesota Irish Fair

Volunteers Make It a Success

The 31st Irish Fair in St. Paul, Minnesota – the 8th to be held at Harriet Island – included music groups, Irish dancers, food, sporting events, and exhibits of all kinds.

The Irish Genealogical Society International could again be found at the Irish Fair. Member volunteers staffed the exhibit, answering questions about Irish heritage and surnames from all who asked. Beth Mullinax also offered two classes in Beginning Irish Genealogy.

Our thanks to the volunteers who helped with the IGSI booth!

Minnesota Irish Fair 2009 Volunteers

Frank Braun
Cathy Burianek
Greg Buss
Cathy Carroll
Joe Carroll
Kathleen Conard
Mary Theresa Downing
Ann Eccles
John Friel
Kathy Horan-Grambsch
Mark Hartnett
Donna Hogenson
Theresa Larson
Lance Little
Diane Lovrencevic
Mary May
Tom May
Linda Miller
Mary Jean Mulherin
Beth Mullinax
Sheila Northrop
Tom Rice
John Sammons
Pat Sammons
Kay Swanson
Carol Tindell
Bob Zimmerman

'Additional British Military Records Relating to Ireland' continued from page 161

Year	Battalion	W.O. 10/	Company	Commander	Location*
1802	7th	447	7th	J. Viney	Kilkenny, Dublin
1803	7th	471	2nd	R. Thornhill	Cork, Bandon
1803	7th	471	3rd	O. Jackson	Charlemont, Londonderry
1803	7th	471	4th	E. Pritchard	Carrickfergus, Belfast
1803	7th	471	5th	Duncan, Walker	Cork, Dublin
*Where there is a double location, the Company was there 6 months each or in equal divisions					

"Irish" Regiments

Regiments with Irish names are many, and they went through several stages until a more consistent name was given. The following table shows the progression through names of the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards regiment.

4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards							
Unit Name	Type	Name of Colonel	Date From	Date To	Unit Name Changed To	Status	Regiment Name in 1881
Royal Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	Oxford, Earl of	1660	1685	6th Arran's Horse	Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
6th Arran's Horse	Cavalry of the Line	Arran, Earl of	1685	1687		Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
6th Arran's Horse	Cavalry of the Line	Arran, Earl of	1687	1688	5th Selkirk's Horse	Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
5th Selkirk's Horse	Cavalry of the Line	Selkirk, Earl of	1688		5th Godfrey's Horse	Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
5th Godfrey's Horse	Cavalry of the Line	C. Godfrey	1688	1693	5th Langston's Horse	Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards

Unit Name	Type	Name of Colonel	Date From	Date To	Unit Name Changed To	Status	Regiment Name in 1881
5th Langston's horse	Cavalry of the Line	F. Langston	1693	1713	5th Joceylyn's Horse	Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
5th Joceylyn's Horse	Cavalry of the Line	G. Joceylyn	1713	1715	P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	Irish Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	S. Davenport	1715	1719	P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	O. Wynne	1719	1732	P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	T. Pierce	1732	1739	P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	Lord Tyrawley	1739	1743	P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
P.O.W. Own Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	J. Brown	1743	1746	1st Reg't Horse	English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
1st Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	J. Brown	1746	1762		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
1st Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	J. Johnston	1762	1775		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
1st Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	J. Johnston	1775	1778		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards

Unit Name	Type	Name of Colonel	Date From	Date To	Unit Name Changed To	Status	Regiment Name in 1881
1st Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	G. Warde	1778	1788		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
1st Reg't Horse	Cavalry of the Line	G. Warde	1788	1803	4th Royal Irish Dragoons	English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards	Cavalry of the Line	M. Staveley	1803	1814		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards	Cavalry of the Line	Sir H. Fane	1814	1827		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards	Cavalry of the Line	Sir George Anson	1827	1849		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards	Cavalry of the Line	R. Pigot	1849	1868		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards	Cavalry of the Line	Sir J. Chatteron, Bt	1868	1874		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards	Cavalry of the Line	Sir E. Hodge	1874	1879		English Establishment	4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards

Other Irish regiments that went through this same type of name changes include:

- 5th Royal Irish Dragoons
- 6th Inniskilling Dragoons
- 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars
- 18th Royal Irish Regiment
- 27th Inniskilling Regiment
- 83rd County of Dublin Regiment
- 86th County Down Regiment
- 87th Royal Irish Fusiliers
- 88th Connaught Rangers
- 97th Earl of Ulster's Regiment.

Royal Marines

Obviously not part of the Royal Army, still a few words concerning their records might be useful. Under the jurisdiction of the Admiralty Office (ADM 157), attestation type records are in this class. Name, physical description, age, where and when enlisted are in these records. Officers' Lists (ADM 192) is similar to the Army Lists and start in 1760.

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2 Ibid, pp 41-42

3 Norman K. Crowder, *British Army Pensioners Abroad, 1772-1899* (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1995)

4 M.E.S. Laws, *Battery Records of the Royal Artillery, 1716-1859* (Woolwich, England: Royal Artillery Institute, 1952)

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IGSI/MGS Girl Scout Event

by Sheila Northrop

More than 36 Girl Scouts, accompanied by 23 adults, worked on their Heritage Hunt merit patch at the Minnesota Genealogical Library on July 19. Tours of the library and opportunities for using computers, maps and other resources introduced the Scouts to the wonders of genealogy. Leaders termed the event a success.

Thank you to all of our volunteers that made this event a success!

Volunteers take a day to pass on the hobby to the next generation. Tours, instructions and a little research.

100 Years Ago

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

Irish Industrial Protection

From Daily Consular and Trade Reports

Industrial associations have been organized in several parts of Ireland for the encouragement of native manufacturing and the protection of Irish made goods against foreign competition and spurious imitations abroad. The principal leader for this movement is probably the Irish Industrial Development Association at Cork, which has registered an Irish national trademark, adopted by many Irish manufacturers and serving as a guaranty of bona fide Irish production. Thus such widely imitated goods as Irish crochet, linen and poplin can be protected to some extent against foreign counterfeits. The association also has in hand the prosecutions of persons who represent alien goods as Irish made.

The Washington Post, December 5, 1909, Page 53

"Tay Pay's Visit"

T. P. O'Connor's present visit to America must convince him of the continuous growth of the sentiment here in favor of home rule for the Emerald Isle. In every city that he has visited he has been welcomed with a cordiality whose alacrity was beyond all doubt.

There was a time in America when very little attention was paid to the problem of the Irish people. "Home rule" was a slogan, but there were not many native-born Americans who knew that, as applied to Ireland, it was much more than a happy phrase for a utopian ideal.

In recent years, however, "Tay Pay" and other Irish leaders in visiting this country have sown the seed of understanding. Men born in this country and even those whose American ancestry extends back for many generations have come to realize the meaning of Ireland's struggle. They have come to understand that the fight of the people of Ireland is little different from the struggle of the American colonies.

The Washington Post, December 16, 1909, Page 32

Asquith Tells About Flag Incident

No Insult Was Offered Nor Intended in Ireland Against America

London Oct. 23 – The recent hauling down of the American flag at Castlerea during the visit of Captain O'Meagher Condon and Mr. O'Callaghan to that city has been brought before parliament.

In the House of Commons Mr. P. O'Brien asked the prime minister whether when a public reception was given by the inhabitants of Castlerea to two citizens of the United States Sergeant Kerrigan of the Royal Irish Constabulary, ordered a licensed publican in the town to haul down the United States flag from his house, whether this incident was regarded in the United States as an insult to the flag and whether in view of the friendly relations supposed to exist between America and Great Britain, he would cause the British ambassador at Washington to explain and to apologize for this unauthorized action on the part of Sergeant Kerrigan.

Asquith Explains

In reply Mr. Asquith said "As the solicitor general of Ireland has already informed the honorable member of the display of a flag on a public house is an offense against the Licensing (Ireland) Act. I understand that on several occasions the police have requested publicans to remove the Union Jack when it was so displayed. It must be quite clear that no insult to the flag of the United States was attempted in the case in which the flag was ordered to be hauled down at Castlerea and it is not intended to make any communication to the government of the United States on the subject."

No representations have been made by the United States government regarding the incident and the foreign office expects none.

Oakland Tribune, October 24, 1909, Page 3

Irish Witty Before Foe

Col. Nugent, commanding officer of the Irish guards, at the annual dinner of the Windsor and Eton chamber of commerce, told a story of an Irish soldier in the last war.

At dusk of a day throughout which they had been lying under heavy fire, an officer crawled up with orders for the battalion to assault, upon which the Irishman got up, shook himself and said: "And whoy not?"

On another occasion when a man screamed at the loss of a finger on the battlefield a sergeant shouted to him: "Hold yer row, yer cowardly skut; there's a mon over there who's lost his head, and he hasn't said a word."

Elgin Echo, September 9, 1909, Page 8

Current Affairs in Old Ireland

Dublin, Nov. 5 – One of the most remarkable traits of the Irish character is the ability to absorb foreign settlers, and in the course of a single generation make them as Irish as the Irish. This national power of absorption has been most successfully practiced on the British settlers in our country. At all times since the first conquest of Ireland there has been a more or less continual stream of British settlers, who rapidly become blended with the mass of the people. This can be shown with certainty of each successive stream of settlers, who have enabled the Irish to increase in members and power. All the British who came into Ireland with the invasion of Henry II, have continually been increasing the stock of the Irish, and it could be shown that a large number of the names in Ireland which are now absorbed into the language, customs and religion of the Irish were old British who came over in a vain attempt to subdue us.

Anaconda Standard, November 21, 1909, Page 22

Mary Wickersham and Sheila O'Rourke Northrop share the writing credits for the "100 Years Ago" column. They are sisters as well as co-presidents and partners in Midwest Ancestor Research. Sheila is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, the Minnesota Genealogical Society and many local and regional genealogical and historical associations throughout the country. Mary retired from bank operations and software development in 1998. She is active with IGSI and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

Data Indexing Update

by Jeanne Bakken

The Data Indexing projects have kept the volunteers busy. In the first six months of 2009, we finished 16 projects that will soon be featured on the website. Currently, the Data Indexing volunteers are working to index four manuscripts. These completed indexes also will be placed on the IGSI website for members to search for family names.

The four manuscripts are:

The Reverend Samuel Houston V.D.M., by George West Diehl. A history of the Scots-Irish settlers in Virginia, 1643-1839.

St. Columbkill Catholic Church. A history of the Irish settlement in Goodhue County, Minnesota, 1847 to the present.

Castle's Woods: Frontier Virgina Settlement, 1769-1799, by James W. Hagy. A narrative account of the frontier settlement of Castle's Woods in Virginia.

The Tinkling Spring, Headwater of Freedom, by Howard McKnight Wilson. An account of the Scots-Irish settlers in Fishersville, Virginia.

Two new index volunteers missed being included on our list in the July issue of *The Septs* – Jan Magnuson and John Bowen. Thank you, Jan and John, and all the data indexing volunteers, for your help!

Jeanne Bakken has been an active member of IGSI since 2001. She currently serves as the Volunteer Coordinator, a position she has held before. She has also been active with database projects and has served as Data Entry Project Coordinator. Jeanne has visited Ireland twice, searching for information on great-grandparents in both County Kerry and County Limerick.

IGSI's Ancestor Database

by Diane Lovrencevic

Genealogy starts with a fact or a clue leading to research to discover more facts and clues, and so the process continues. Pedigree charts and family trees are great sources of clues to help anyone doing their research.

To help our members with their search, we have created the **IGSI's Ancestor Database**. This will allow members to run a search for a name in other members' family trees and pedigree charts. This search looks at all names on every pedigree or family tree chart in the database, more names than the ones members submitted on their focus surname lists.

In the fall of 2009, IGSI volunteers will enter pedigree charts that were previously submitted by members. Many of these pedigree charts have not been updated and changed since they were sent in. Even though the information might not be the most current, they may help others find clues for their search. If you previously sent in a chart but would rather have a current one added to the database, or if you have not done one at all, let us know by contacting us at pedigree@IrishGenealogical.org.

To increase this database, we are asking members to send IGSI your family trees in GEDCOM format. These will then be added to our database for other members to search for common ancestors. Members who submit the chart will retain the ability to update or make changes in their family files. Others may only view your information.

If you are willing to place your family tree into **IGSI's Pedigree Family Trees,** you can do so by following these steps:

Step one: Create a GEDCOM-format of your family tree by using your genealogy program to save your info as a GEDCOM file. Your saved GEDCOM file should end with the extension of .ged.

Step two: Email your file to Pedigree@IrishGenealogical.org with the following information:

- **Your Name, Member Number and Email Address:** This provides information to list your file; the email address is one at which you can be reached as contact for information in your tree.
- **Family Tree User Name**: Select a name for your family tree. Each family tree you submit will need a user name. Should the name already be selected, a number will be added to make your tree's user name unique.
- **Password:** Your password will be private and the same as your password to our 'member's only' site. If someone else is using the code you will be contacted to select another.

At this point, we will upload your tree into the database for others to search. **You will have the ability to change and add new members to your family tree.** *Everyone else will have read only abilities.*

> **Privacy Policy:** *The pedigree files of our members will not be used for any other purpose than this searchable database. IGSI will not share these files with any other group or organization.*

Join other members in building this database by submitting your GEDCOM file to IGSI. The database will become available for searching in early 2010. This database of family trees is another benefit of being a member of IGSI.

Diane Lovrencevic is the 2nd Vice-President among other volunteer positions for the organization. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of publications for IGSI, is editor of the website and has recently started the IGSI eNewsletter. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Recent Library Acquisitions

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases:

C129 - *Old Irish and Indian Graveyards*, by Kabristan Archives, Shropshire, England. Published by Kabristan Archives, undated, 21 pages.

E040 - *The Downshire estates in Ireland, 1801-1845: The management of Irish landed estates in the early nineteenth century*, by W. A. Maguire. Published by Clarendon Press, Oxford, England, 1972, 284 p., maps. [Parts of Counties Antrim, Armagh, Donegal, Down, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny, Meath, Offaly, Tipperary Tyrone, Waterford & Wicklow] [This is not a list of tenants, but a general study of the estate system in Ireland.]

H506.Pt.2 - *The People of Ireland, 1600-1699, Part Two*, by David Dobson. Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 2009, 102 p., alpha.

H548 - *The Streets of Sligo: Urban Evolution over the Course of Seven Centuries*, by Fiona Gallagher Published by Fiona Gallagher, Sligo, Ireland, 2008, 864 p., illus., maps, index of streets, but not people mentioned.

H549 - *The Rebellion in Wicklow, 1798*, by Ruan O'Donnell. Published by Irish Academic Press, Dublin, Ireland, 1998, 441 p., illus., indexed.

H550 - *The People with No Name: Ireland's Ulster Scots, America's Scots Irish, and the Creation of a British Atlantic World, 1689-1764*, by Patrick Griffin. Published Princeton University Press, Princeton, England, 1965, 244 p., indexed.

H551 - *Migration in Irish History, 1607-2007*, by Patrick Fitzgerald and Brian Lambkin. Published by Palgrave MacMillan, Hampshire, England, 2008, 403 p., illus., indexed

H629 - *The Road to the Somme: Men of the Ulster Division Tell Their Story*, by Philip Orr. Published by Blackstaff Press, Belfast, NI, 2008 (1997), 337 p., illus., indexed.

H638 – *Parknasilla: The Centenary Book [Kilcrohane Civil Parish, County Kerry]*, by Frank Coor. Published by Great Southern Hotels, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Ireland, 1995, 94 p., illus., Indexed.

I042 - *Scots-Irish in Early America: Chasing the Frontier*, by Larry J. Hoefling. Published by iUniverse, Lincoln, NE, 2005, 280 p., indexed.

K127 – *"An Old Dublin Vestry Book"*, by Rev. Canon J. B. Leslie. Published in the Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, Vol. 13, Part II, 30 Jun 1943, 10 pages (this article). [Mostly 17th Century records. This journal also has several pages of 18th Century Irish Tombstones.]

L103. *V. 1 & V. 2 - Century of Farewells: A Biographical Dictionary of Prince Edward Island Immigrants, 1800-1900*, by J. Clinton Morrison. Published by Crescent Isle Publishers, Summerside, PE, Canada, 2009, 512 p., alphabetical, illus.

Donations:

Donated by Kenny's Book Store, Galway, Ireland

B038 - *Periodicals Relating to Ireland. A Catalogue from Kennys Bookshop, Galway.* Published by Kenny's. Book Store, Galway, Ireland, 2009, 187 p., illus. [Index of publications.]

Donated by Gloria Brown, WA

H570 - *The Irish World: the History and Cultural Achievements of the Irish People*, edited by Brian De Breffny. Published by Thames & Hudson Ltd., London, England, 2000 (1997), 296 p., illus., indexed.

The following books were donated by Beth L. Mullinax, MN

H552 - *The Great Irish Famine: Words and Images from the Famine Museum Strokestown Park, Co. Roscommon*, by Stephen J. Campbell. Published by The Famine Museum, Roscommon, IR, 1994, 56 p., illus.

H553 - *The Tree of Liberty: Radicalism, Catholicism and the Construction of Irish Identity, 1760-1830*, by Kevin Whelan. Published by University of Notre Dame Press, Notre Dame, IN, 1996, 236 p., indexed.

H554 - *Ireland and Australia*, edited by Colm Kiernan. Published by Mercier Press, Dublin, Ireland, 1984, 85 p.

H555 - *Tragedies of Kerry*, by Dorothy Macardle. Published by AP/RN Print, Dublin, Ireland, 1990 (1924), 70 p. , illus.

H556 - *Kerry Landing, August 1922: an Episode of the Civil War*, by Niall C. Harrington. Published by Anvil Books, Dublin, Ireland 1992, 193 p., illus., indexed.

H557 - *How the Irish Saved Civilization: the Untold Story of Ireland's Heroic Role from the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Medieval Europe*, by Thomas Cahill. Published by Doubleday, New York, NY, 1995, 246 p., indexed.

H558 - *Kerry*, by Des Lavelle and Richard Haughton. Published by The O'Brien Press, Dublin, Ireland, 1986, 72 p., illus.

H559 - *Dingle Down the Years*, by Tom Fox. Published by Brandon Book Publishers, Ltd., Dingle, Co. Kerry Ireland, 1992, 160p., illus.

H628 - *Blasket Island Guide*, by Ray Stagles. Published by The O'Brien Press, Dublin, Ireland, 1982, illus.

The following books were donated by Mary Johnson, MN

H630 - *The Boyne Water: The Battle of the Boyne, 1690*, by Peter Berresford Ellis. Published by Blackstaff Press, Dundonald, Belfast, NI, 1976, 163 p., ill., indexed.

H631 - *In the Tracks of the West Clare Railway*, by Edmund Lenihan. Published by Mercier Press, Dublin, Ireland, 1990, 232 p., illus.

H632 - *One Hundred and Fifty Years of Irish Railways*, by Fergus Mulligan. Published by Appletree Press, Ltd., Belfast, NI, 1990 (1983), 192 p., illus., indexed.

K128 - *To the Greater Glory: a History of the Irish Jesuits*, by Louis McRedmond. Published by Gill and Macmillan Ltd., Dublin, Ireland, 1991, 359 p., illus., indexed.

The following books were donated by Mary Corcoran, MN

H633 - *Because They Never Do*, by Patrick Erin Monaghan. Published by The Blackthorn Scribe, Whitewater, WI, 2002, 410+p..

H634 - *The Great Irish Potato Famine*, by James S. Donnelly, Jr. Published by Sutton Publishing Ltd., Gloucestershire, England, 2001, 292 p., illus., indexed.

H635 – *Ireland, Art into History*, by Brian P. Kennedy and Raymond Gillespie. Published by Town House & Country House, Dublin, Ireland, 1994, 240 p., illus., indexed. MN.

H636 - *The Irish Famine: a Documentary History*, by Noel Kissane. Published by National Library of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland, 1995, 184 p., illus., indexed.

H637 - *History of Ireland*, by Richard English. Published by Gill & Macmillan, Dublin, Ireland 2002 (1991), 172 p., illus.

H639 – I*reland: a Concise History, by Maire and Conor Cruise O'Brien. Published* by Thames and Hudson Inc., New York, NY, 1999 (1972), 192 p., illus., indexed.

H640 - *Living Places: Archaeology, Continuity and Change at Historic Monuments in Northern Ireland*, by Colm J. Donnelly. Published by The Institute of Irish Studies, Queen's University of Belfast, NI, 1997, 146 p. , illus., index.

H641 - *Atlas of Irish History*, by Sean Duffy. Published by Gill & Macmillan Ltd., Dublin, Ireland, 1997, 144 p., illus., maps, indexed.

H642 - *The Irish Cottage*, by David Pritchard. Published by Real Ireland Ltd., Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland, 1998, unpaged, illus.

H643 - *Irish Cottages*, by John A. Jackson. Published by Real Ireland Design Ltd., Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland, 1991 (1985), unpaged, illus.

H644 - *Landlords and Tenants in Ireland, 1848-1904*, by W.E. Vaughan. Studies in Irish Economic and Social History 2. Published by the Economic and Social History Society of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland, 1994 (1984), 50 p.

H645 - *From Famine to Feast: Economic and Social Change in Ireland, 1847-1997*, by Kieran A. Kennedy. Published by Institute of Public Administration, Dublin, Ireland, 1998, 174 p.

H646 - *Riotous Roscommon: Social Unrest in the 1840s*, by Anne Coleman. Published by Irish Academic Press, Dublin, Ireland, 1999, 64 p., illus.

H647 - *Ireland since 1690: a Concise History*, by Roy Douglas, et. al. Published Blackstaff Press Ltd., Belfast, NI, 1999, 247 p., indexed. .

H648 - *The Irish Famine*, by Peter Gray. Published by Thames and Hudson Ltd., London, England, 1997 (1995), 191 p., illus., index.

H649 - *The Great Famine and the West, 1845-1850*, by Peadar O'Dowd. Published by Galway Corporation Famine Committee, Galway, Ireland, undated, 24 p., illus.

K129 - *Religion and Society in Nineteenth-Century Ireland*, by Sean Connolly. Studies in Irish Economic and Social History 3. Published by The Economic and Social History Society of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland 1994 (1985), 69 p.

K130 - *The Church of Ireland: a History*, by Kenneth Milne. Published by Church of Ireland, Rathmines, Dublin, Ireland, undated, 57 p.

P065 - *Passage to the New World; Packet Ships and Irish Famine Emigrants, 1845-1851,* by David Hollett. Published by P.M. Heaton Publishing, Gwent, England, 1995, 232 p., illus., index.

P067 - *Regional Perspectives on Emigration from the British Isles.* Published by Merseyside Museum, Liverpool, England, undated, 140 p., illus.

P068 - *The Leaving of Liverpool: the Story of 19th Century Emigration. Information and facsimile copies of documents from Liverpool Emigration.* Published by Merseyside Maritime Museum, Liverpool, England, 1986.

P069 - *Ship & Seafarers: 19th Century Liverpool,* by National Museums & Galleries of Merseyside. Published by Merseyside Maritime Museum, Liverpool, England, undated. [A Selection of facsimile documents from Merseyside Maritime Museum],.

Beth Mullinax, having been the IGSI librarian since the library's inception, has been instrumental in building the Irish research collection housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's Library to its status as one of the best Irish Collections in the USA.

She is a past president and has held other Board positions of IGSI since 1983. She lectures on research topics, basic and advanced.

Write for *The Septs*

You can become a featured author in this journal by sharing your knowledge of Irish genealogy, culture and history. The deadline for submission of articles is two months prior to the publication date of *The Septs*. Submission date for the next issue, January 2010, is November 1, 2009. Submission date for the April 2010 issue is February 1, 2010.

The theme for the January 2010 issue is "Irish in Canada". Many Irish first arrived in Canada before entering the United States. Many family researchers can benefit from a look north. If you have a story to share about this theme or an idea for an article for any issue, contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org. He will work with writers on any article of interest to the Irish genealogical community.

Future themes include:

April 2010	Methodology for Family Historians	January 2011	Newspapers
July 2010	Scots Irish	April 2011	Women in Irish Genealogy & Culture
Oct 2010	20th Century Emigration	July 2011	Irish resources on the Internet - revisited

Towey Clan Reunion

Most with the Towey surname have family roots in Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon, Ireland, according to the clan historian, Richard E. Towey. That will be the location of the Towey Clan Gathering May 14-16, 2010. For more details, check our website, http://www.Toweyclan.com or contact one of the following:

Mike Towey, Clan Chairman, honorary Clan Chieftain and contact in Ireland toweymike@hotmail.com

Janet Towey Mann, Clan Secretary jtafmn@snet.net

Richard E. Towey, Clan Genealogist/Historian toweylr@comcast.net

The Towey Clan is an officially recognized clan of Ireland.

If you would like to spread the word about your clan or family reunion, send the information to the SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org at least six months prior to the event.

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Irish Records: Sources For Family And Local History

James G. Ryan, Ph.D.

Irish Records is the most comprehensive and easy-to-use resource for Irish historical records. It provides the researcher with a comprehensive listing of all available sources for Irish written records. Organized by county, this unique and detailed list helps you to find your ancestors' occupations, relatives and more. (Hardcover, 668 pp.) *Order Book #J056* **$38.50**

General Alphabetical Index of Townlands, Towns, Parishes and Baronies 1851

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Over 900 densely printed pages show the county, barony, parish, and poor law union in which the 70,000 townlands were situated in 1851, as well as the location of the townlands on the Great Ordnance Survey maps, with appendices containing separate indexes to parishes and baronies. (968 pp.) *Order Book #A020* **$60.00**

Irish Families

Edward MacLysaght

One of the standard works on Irish surnames and Irish family history, subjects the author studied for over 50 years. First published in 1957, it is still being reprinted. Contains over 4,000 names and some coats of arms. (248 pp.) *Order S021* **$49.50**

Now You Can Order Your Books Online with PayPal at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

Irish Church Records

James G. Ryan, Editor

This book details the records of each of the eight major Irish religious denominations and their value for family history, and for church and local history. The locations for each church and guidelines for their access are provided. (208 pp.) *Order Book #K022* **$49.95**

Counties in Time

Documents and Commentaries from the National Archives of Ireland

The records chosen in this CD-ROM cover the period from the late sixteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. The CD contains almost 1000 documents, scanned images and transcripts for those which are difficult to read. The CD is easy to navigate and user-friendly. *Order CD #J156* **$29.95**

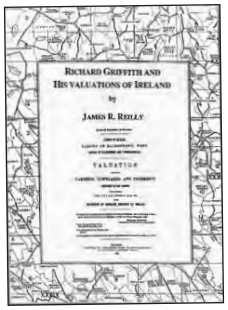
County Longford Residents Prior to the Famine

Guy A. Rymsza

Part I: Full Name Index of the over 12,600 tithe payers. Part II: Recapitulation of the Tithe Payer Records, arranged alphabetically by townland. Cross-referenced with Griffith's Primary Valuation. Part III: 27 Civil Parish Maps showing townlands. *Order Book #G065* **$49.95**

Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland

James R. Reilly



Mr. Reilly helps with the intricacies of Griffith's Valuations, showing how an understanding of the abbreviations and shorthand used by the valuators can lead the researcher from the valuation to other Irish records and additional discoveries concerning one's ancestors. (108 pp.) Order Book #G035 **$25.95**

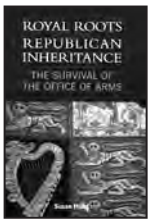
Ordnance Survey Memoirs - Index of People & Places

UHF

In 2002, Dr. Patrick McWilliams completed an Index to the Memoirs. This Herculean work lists all people and places in the original 40-volume series, as well as all original drawings, OS and county maps reproduced in the volumes. (747 pp.) Order Book #G112.I **$49.95**

Royal Roots Republican Inheritance

Susan Hood



History of The Office of Arms, Ireland's heraldic authority. Records the survival of this institution as it bridged the transition from Crown Government to Republican State. (285 pp.) *Order Book #G197* **$32.95**

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IGSI's Research and Travel in Ireland

by Diane Lovrencevic

Ireland has it all: the beauty of the land, the ruggedness of the coastlines, history and culture, and the warmth of its people. It's the home of our ancestors. How can any of us ask for more? Well, perhaps a visit there – combining time for research and time to see its beauty and encounter its pleasures.

It has been more than ten years since IGSI offered a trip to Ireland and it is past time for us to travel to such an enchanting spot. Come with us for twelve days of research and fun in the Emerald Isle, September 19-30, 2010.

Our trip will include four full days for research in Dublin. If you are not doing research, the sightseeing in the city is great, and the bus will provide day trips to other areas. We will spend seven days touring across Ireland, along the Dingle Peninsula and back to Dublin for our departure home.

September 19 – September 30, 2010

The cost of this Land Package tour is based on a core number of people, with two people sharing a room. The few single rooms available are based on the number of double occupancies we fill. The prices below are for a "Land Package" only. Participants must make their own flight arrangements to and from Ireland.

Cost :

- Double Occupancy: $1975 - Per person sharing
- Single Occupancy: $2425 - Number of singles limited

Deposit:

Double Occupancy: $200
Single Occupancy: $300

Registration deadline for the trip is June 15, 2010, by which date the registration form and a deposit must be received. ***The deposit is non-refundable.***

The IGSI Ireland Research and Tour is limited in size. Members who want to ensure a reservation and save a few dollars should book by May 15, 2010, to use the 'Early Bird Special'. Anyone signing up after **May 15** must sen in the complete price of the trip.

'Early Bird' Cost:

- Double Occupancy: $1950 - Per person sharing
- Single Occupancy: $2400. - Number of singles limited

Included in Trip

- 10 nights accommodation in excellent 3 star standard hotels
- Full Irish breakfast each morning (except morning of arrival)
- 8 evening dinners (2 dinners excluded in Dublin to provide time to find that perfect pub.)
- Entry tickets to most sites
- Luggage handling, one suitcase per person
- Deluxe touring coach to suit size of group
- Professional driver/guide for duration of tour
- Transfer to and from airport.

Twelve days in a fascinating country with people of like interest should be a great time for the first time visitor and for the one with a dozen visits. Join IGSI in September 2010 for our trip to Ireland. For more details on the trip, including the itinerary and the registration form, go to our website at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org/trip or email Diane Lovrencevic at Trip@IrishGenealogical.org.

1911 Irish Census Online

Have you heard? The information from the 1911 Irish Census for all 32 counties is now available online through the National Archives!

You can search the census and find a full explanation of the records available by visiting the National Archives of Ireland's 1911 Census website at: http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie.

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During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.