Irish Genealogical Society International

The Septs

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$7.00

The Septs

Volumne 31, Number 1 **Canàir** (*January*) **2010**

Canadian Records

2010 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

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
OCTOBER 9, 2010
NOVEMBER 13, 2010
DECEMBER 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

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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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President's Letter

Looking Back and to the Future

by Linda Miller

I'm still talking about our great trip to Utah! In September, IGSI organized a group of about forty members and friends for a research trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. It was a treat to have four entire days of uninterrupted research time at that amazing facility and it was wonderful meeting and getting to know our fellow travelers from all over the country. We shared many laughs and some of us made real genealogical discoveries. Even the sunny, warm and beautiful weather couldn't keep us from working in the library every day from dawn to dusk.

I believe that the 2010 IGSI trip to Ireland for research and touring will be another genealogical adventure not to be missed. Space is limited so reserve early. After a few days research in Dublin repositories we'll have a week to see the Emerald Isle's beauty as we travel from coast to coast with our own tour bus and guide. Check the website for full information.

I am proud to report that in November IGSI received an award from Fáilte Minnesota recognizing IGSI for its lasting contribution to Irish Americans researching their family history. In accepting the award, we presented a slide show highlighting our organization's history and work in preserving and researching Irish family history.

The Fáilte Minnesota organization has been working for eight years to raise funds to establish and sustain an Irish center in Minnesota. Their goal is that the new Irish Cultural Center would be a place where all the Irish cultural and social organizations could be brought together under one roof and where "present and future generations can participate in activities that preserve, promote and celebrate Irish culture".

The Green Tie event, at which the award was presented, was an evening of entertainment and dining held at the St. Anthony Main Event Center overlooking the beautiful Mississippi River and downtown Minneapolis. Irish singers welcomed guests; bagpipers piped us into a wonderful buffet dinner; and the music of the Irish group, Paddy Wagon, entertained us during the evening. As if all this weren't enough, three IGSI members won raffle prizes. It was a great evening for the Irish. I wish you all could have been there.

To learn more about Fáilte Minnesota, check their website at http://www.failteminnesota.org/.

A friend inspired my genealogical resolution for 2010. She ended decades of speculation about her great-grandfather's death by the simple act of picking up a telephone. We had been talking about our brick walls and she told me the family story about her grandfather. He had found work far from home in another state and not long after he left, his wife received word that he had been killed on the job. In this case, Great-Grandpa was a bit of a scoundrel and family members always suspected that he faked his own death to avoid family obligations and responsibility.

I urged my friend to try verifying the story. After our conversation, she decided to call the cemetery where he supposedly had been buried. She learned that, scoundrel or not, her grandfather really had been killed in an accident at work all those years ago and was indeed buried in that cemetery. With a five- minute phone call, she rehabilitated her grandfather's reputation and filled a hole in her research.

It made me think about the clues I have sitting in my files, waiting for me to follow-up on some day. That day (or days) will come this year. Whether it's a phone call, a letter, an email or checking our IGSI resources, it's time for me to take five minutes and get an answer.

I hope you will do the same. IGSI may be the place to get your lingering research puzzles solved. We have expert researchers who will help you get the information you need. Our research rates are very reasonable. To contact an IGSI researcher, email Research@IrishGenealogical.org

Happy New Year!

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.

Assumptions and Presumptions

by Ann Eccles

Assumptions are part of our everyday lives. Assumptions are things we expect and take for granted without any concrete evidence. I assume that the morning paper will be outside my door before breakfast. Presuming believes something to be true within the circumstances. Either way, as genealogists, we frequently assume and presume facts and family connections – without finding the source or evidence to support our premise or theory.

We might assume that the classical Irish naming pattern works 100% of the time. It doesn't. A friend presumed her great-grandmother's name was Ellen because her grandfather named his daughter that. Wrong! His mother's name was Johannah.

We might assume that an ancestor fled Ireland and arrived directly in New York. Not always true. I have an ancestor family that left Ireland at the start of the Famine, moved to England, and lived there for a dozen years or so before sailing into Boston harbor. I've heard other stories of the Irish who moved into Canada before entering the United States – and of others who stayed there.

We all have images of what life was like for our ancestors in Ireland or early times in America. The only census indicator for what could have been one of my ancestors in 1900 was a listing of him in the city jail. (Nope. Not mine. All of my guys are upstanding mill workers. Perhaps poor, but not law-breakers.) A year or two later I had his death certificate in hand – a train accident. A newspaper article about the accident indicated that he was identified by a local policeman "as he was well-known to the police". That shot that assumption, and perhaps explained why there wasn't much mention of him by the family.

One assumption I've never had is that of finding a manor house in Ireland with my family's name attached. The two lines I've traced back indicate farmers who left around the time of the Famine. Here in the U.S. they became mill workers.

An assumption that I still hold onto is that one ancestor was literate and another was not. Why? For one family I have 13 different spellings of their surname (between 1830 and 1920). For the other, the name is spelled exactly the same way in every census and vital record that I have found (from 1870 to current day). And 'Eccles' is one name that surely could be mangled by officials.

There are other examples I could cite, but you have the general idea. So, on to describe the treasures and finds in this issue of *The Septs*. No assumptions here.

In this issue, our authors introduce you to many Canadian resources. If your ancestors came through or stayed in Canada, you may have found and used some of these sources already. Others may be new or newly updated so I encourage you to visit or revisit them. A few of our active members share their stories or research tips with you.

Laura Hanowski provides a Canadian's introduction to online genealogy resources for her country. Kathy Lund offers insights into researching Irish in Canada as well. Val Morrison shares information on the "Irishtown" area of Ontario. William Grimes provides information and tips from his research on Irish ancestors in Ontario and Quebec.

William Romanski tells of successfully finding a Canadian ancestor in the US Army. Using some of the resources mentioned in the last issue of *The Septs*, he hit what he calls Irish Gold. Gabrielle Woeltje shares the secrets of why some travelers in Ireland have difficulties in connecting with their cousins.

Kathleen Strickland explains the 1901 and 1911 indexes to the Canadian censuses. Jay Fonkert introduces some methods or principles for use in our research. David Rencher provides insight into the T.G.F. Paterson collection – housed in the Armagh County Museum Library, but also available through the Family History Library.

We've made a slight change to the "100 Years Ago" column. Now some of the information is from newspapers that are 100, 125, even 150 years old. It makes for interesting snapshots of the times. Sheila Northrop has provided a list of classes being offered on Irish Saturdays, and Diane Lovrencevic provides more information on the IGSI Research Trip and Tour to Ireland.

I'm not merely assuming or presuming that you will find something of interest in this issue. I know that you will – even if your ancestors did not come through Canada. Enjoy!

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.

Researching Irish in Canada

by Kathy Lund

So the trail of your family roots has taken you to Canada. Now what? As with all genealogical research, the key is to assess what you know and move toward the unknown. Basic facts are the person identified as residing in Canada, the time period, and the place of residence.

Canada is a very large country although relatively lightly settled. Place names can be tricky. Many are obsolete; many are repeated. *Natural Resources Canada* has a very good atlas online at http://geonames.nrcan.gc.ca/index_e.php. A query for Enniskillen, for example, returned six matches: four in Ontario, one in New Brunswick, and one in Saskatchewan. You can also search for current or past names as well as geological features.

European settlers generally moved from eastern areas to the west. Knowing the time period your ancestor lived in Canada can be a clue to his residence if all else fails. Among the 18th century Irish who settled in Canada were fishermen working seasonally and later settling, especially in Newfoundland; military men in the British Army who might have received land grants; and Tories loyal to the Crown who left the United States before and after the Revolutionary War. These latter settlers are United Empire Loyalists (U.E.L.), a fairly well-documented group in Canada. While New Brunswick is nicknamed the Loyalist Province, Tories also settled in the Eastern Townships of Quebec and along the north shore of Lake Ontario.

In the 19th century, Irish settlers came during the depression after 1815 following the Napoleonic Wars. There were emigration schemes by Irish landlords, the British government, and others to resettle their tenants in America – the most famous being the Peter Robinson settlements. During the great famine from 1845 – 1852 many Irish came to Canada. Grosse Ile, near Quebec City, served as a point of entry. Of course, there were many lesser known groups. Since Canada and Ireland were both members of the British Commonwealth, emigration was cheaper and more convenient into Canada than the United States. From 1763 through 1946 anyone born in British Crown lands or colonies was deemed a British subject.

Canada began to unite in 1867 under the British North America Act when Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick formed the Dominion of Canada. Other provinces joined later: Manitoba (1870), British Columbia (1872), Prince Edward Island (1873), Alberta and Saskatchewan (1905), and Newfoundland and Labrador (1906). By the 20th century, most Irish had been in Canada for several generations. Recent immigrants to Canada should be well documented as records proliferated. People moved freely between the U.S. and Canada as the border was porous and records of U.S. immigration from Canada were not well kept. The best organized of such records are the St. Albans Border Crossings from 1895 – 1954. Read more about them at http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~holdenclan/albans.htm.

As you start your research, attempt to identify the correct province using sources which initially led you to Canada. These might be censuses, vital records, passenger lists, obituaries, etc. Trace descendant and collateral lines, if necessary. Prior to Confederation, Ontario was called Upper Canada then Canada West in 1842. Quebec was Lower Canada/ Bas Canada then Canada East. (You may see these referenced as birthplaces in U. S. censuses.) Each province has a distinctive profile.

Once you have identified your ancestor and know his identifying characteristics – age, occupation, siblings, spouse, children, etc. – it's time to drill down or dig deeper. Check both major Canadian sources and specific sources in available provincial records. Local genealogical societies can help with family and county histories.

Census

Canadian provincial censuses are spotty prior to 1871. Since that date Canada proper has done a decennial census, the records of which are available to the public after 92 years. A Canadian census often includes information beyond the population count that may further direct your search. Data from a question on religion can lead to church records. In Quebec, French-speaking census enumerators generally listed a wife with her maiden name – a real find!

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has many microfilms of Canadian censuses through 1881. The Family History Library (LDS) in Salt Lake City has most of the available censuses on microfilm. You can check an index to the 1881 census at the *FamilySearch* website, http://www.familysearch.org. *Automated Genealogy* (http://automatedgenealogy.com/) has cooper-

ated with *Library and Archives Canada* to index census information from 1901, 1906 (where applicable), 1911, 1851/52 (Canada West and Canada East) and the 1851 New Brunswick. There are linkages with the census images and other databases. [See Kathleen Strickland's article for more information on the indexes.] For a fee, *Ancestry.ca* and *Ancestry.com* have the 1891, 1901, and 1911 censuses with indexes.

Church Records

In Quebec, excellent church records can form the backbone of your research as they served as official vital records until the 1930s. The most well-known of Catholic sacramental records prior to the 20th century is the Drouin collection, available on microfilm at the Family History Library. *Ancestry.ca* and *Ancestry.com* have also has digitized them.

The Family History Library has microfilms of church records from most of the provinces. Be sure to search under specific counties as well as under denomination, e.g., Anglican. The Anglican Church Archives are in Toronto. See http://www.ontario.anglican.ca/archives/

Land Records

Land records are especially important in English speaking areas. Check for Land Petitions if they arrived early; but not all immigrants received grants. In a land petition your ancestor will have argued his case which may yield significant clues. Initial Crown land grants in Ontario are indexed by surname and by county and concession on fiche at the Family History Library. Land records from other provinces are also on microfilm at Family History Library but may also be indexed online. Remember, your ancestor may not have settled on his grant; you should check subsequent land transfer books in Land Registry Offices. These offices frequently kept wills and other legal documents on file, as well. *Libraries and Archives Canada* offers an excellent overview of sources to check for provincial land records at http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-912.002-e.html.

Vital Records

Birth, marriage, and death records vary in each province as to time period and information. Check provincial sites online and *FamilySearch.org*.

Additional Resources

Internet

Libraries and Archives Canada (formerly the National Archives of Canada): http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html

Canada Genweb Gateway to Free Canadian Genealogy information. http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canwgw/index.html

Genealogylinks.net Free genealogy links; it includes a section on Canadian sites. http://www.genealogylinks.net/index.html

Genealogy.com Contact information and links to Canada's Provincial Archives. http://www.genealogy.com/00000151.html

Print

The Irish at Home and Abroad, edited by Kyle J. Betit and Dwight Radford, 1993 -1999. (An out of print magazine, but some issues are available from IGSI bookstore.)

Baxter, Angus. *In Search of Your Canadian Roots*, 3rd edition. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2000.

Douglas, Althea. *Here Be Dragons!* Toronto, ON: The Ontario Genealogical Society, 1996.

Douglas, Althea. *Here Be Dragons Too!* Toronto, ON: The Ontario Genealogical Society, 2000.

Elliot, Noel M. *The French-Canadians 1600-1900*, three volumes. Toronto, ON: The Genealogical Research Library, 1992.

Merriam, Brenda Dougall. *Genealogy in Ontario*, revised 3rd edition. Toronto, ON: The Ontario Genealogical Society, 2002.

Kathy Lund has almost 100% Irish ancestry. She has been a member of IGSI since 1993 and served terms as its Treasurer, 2nd Vice-president, and President. She was a Director on the Minnesota Genealogical Society Board for eight years. Currently she is responsible for staffing the library and volunteers there on Irish Day. Her research may never be finished!

Using Online Canadian Records to Find the Ancestral Home in Ireland

by Laura M. Hanowski

Today – archives, government agencies, libraries and genealogical societies post more and more images on the Internet making the task of finding the ancestral home in Ireland somewhat easier. However, individual researchers must develop a research plan that ensures that the names found online are indeed those of their ancestors. In this article I will describe a few Canadian resources that could be of help to find that illusive ancestral home, along with suggestions for how to use the resources.

Step One - Discover When They Came to Canada

Irish people have come to Canada for centuries. Census records for these immigrants survive in Newfoundland from 1675 to 1945. Extractions and indexes for these records are found online, on microfilm and in archives. There are also pre-1851 census records in other provinces. Nominal census records for Canada begin in 1851 and are open to 1911. These records are only available on microfilm, but indexes and images can be found online. The 1901 and 1911 census for Canada, the 1906 Census of the Northwest Provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba), and the Census Returns for 1916 of the Prairie Provinces have a question that asks for the year of immigration to Canada.

Check all the census records that include your Irish ancestor to look for migration patterns within Canada by noting the birthplace of each member of the family. These locations could point to provinces where vital records could be found.

Always read the complete census for each enumeration district where you find family members. Do not rely on an index to interpret each and every name. You may find other family members of whom you were unaware. The 1901 – 1916 census records provide the exact location for each family.

Indexes have been created for all the Canadian census records. Paper copies of the indexes for some years prior 1901 were created by genealogical societies. Online indexes have been developed for genealogical research sites for the 1871 – 1916 Canadian census records. Indexes and extractions can also be found for the pre-1851 census records on some Canadian genealogical society web pages.

Availability

The Canadian census records are only available on microfilm. Microfilm copies are found in many libraries and archives, through Interlibrary Loan in Canada, the Family History Library and Family History Centers. Images of some of the census records may be found online.

Step Two - Where They Came from and Where They Went in Canada

Immigration Records

Canadian passenger lists from 1865-1919 are arranged by port and year of arrival. The lists include questions that ask where each person was from and where he/she was going. Passenger lists between 1919 and 1935 ask for the name, address and relationship of the nearest relative in Ireland, and the name, address and relationship of the person being joined in Canada. Sometimes the latter person is an employer. Each location provides important clues to check. Some pre-1865 lists, along with interesting articles about immigration to Canada, are found online at the University of Waterloo web page.

Availability

The Canadian passenger lists are only available on microfilm. Microfilm copies are found in many libraries and archives in Canada. Microfilm copies are also available through Interlibrary Loan in Canada or can be viewed at the Family History Library or Family History Centers. Images of the census records are currently found online. The "Ancestor Search" page of *Library and Archives Canada* (LAC) has images of the passenger lists 1865 – 1922 online. These are arranged by port, name of the ship and date of arrival but are not indexed. Images of the 1925 – 1935 lists are also online and can be searched by name.

Military Records

Military records, particularly for those who served in World War One, have valuable information about next-of-kin that may still be in Ireland. The Census Returns for 1916 of the Prairie Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) has a question that asks about military service. An "O" indicated a person was overseas; a "C" indicated the person was in Canada and the location of the camp in Canada was entered.

1. Attestation Papers are the applications for those who enlisted in the army in World War One. The key questions are the place of birth and the address of the next-of-kin. It is important to note that women

who enlisted as nursing sisters are included in this collection.

2. *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (http://www.cwgc.org/) provides a "Debt of Honour Register" allowing one to search for those who died and are buried in Commonwealth War Cemeteries throughout the world. Some of the entries for Canadian men include the names and locations of parents in Ireland and the names of their wives.

Availability
Images of most attestation papers and the War diaries are found through the "Ancestor Search" page of *Library and Archives Canada*. The War Diaries are also available on microfilm and can be borrowed through Interlibrary Loan. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission information is available online.

Vital Statistics Records
Vital statistics documents exist for different time periods in each province. Each registration or genealogy copy may provide important genealogical clues. The questions changed over the years. Post-1920 questions may ask the names of the parents, (including the maiden name of the mother), their ages and places of birth. For some years, the date and place of their marriage is listed. Marriage registrations provide the name, marital status, age and birthplace of the bride and groom, and the names of their parents. The death registration provides the name, marital status, date and place of death and burial place. There were some years when there was a question about year of immigration and length of residence where the person died. Note who provided the information and when the record was registered. Use the information in the registrations to conduct further genealogical research in church records, newspapers, cemeteries and local histories.

The "Upper Canada (Ontario) Marriage Bonds 1803 – 1865" and "Lower Canada (Quebec) Marriage Bonds 1779 – 1865" databases at LAC provide information about marriages of early Irish immigrants in Canada. There are other records about names appearing on marriage licenses for Upper and Lower Canada before 1867 which do not give details about parents but do place people in a particular community on a particular date.

Availability
Each province maintains the vital statistic records in their province. Forms to request copies are available in provincial government offices and online; some restrictions may apply. A number of the provinces provide online indexes for records that are open to the public. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of some provincial vital statistic indexes and records, probate and divorce records. *Ancestry* has the index and records for British Columbia and Ontario.

Newspapers
The names, dates and places found in vital statistic records can lead to newspaper announcements. Weekly newspapers, in particular, carried extensive information about places of residence and extended family. Sometimes they invited other newspapers to copy their column. If this happened, that newspaper would provide more information about that person's life in their community. Until a few years ago, it was possible to check the classified section for a "Notice to Creditor" announcement of an estate for the deceased that was to be probated. These generally were published about a month after the person died. Probate records list the names of those who received an inheritance along with their address and their relationship to the deceased. This can be of particular interest if researching a single man who came from Ireland and died with homestead land.

During the wars, newspapers carried information about people in their community who had volunteered for service. More information was provided if the men were lost in action or were killed. At the end of the war, they reported on those who returned. In each November 11th edition after the war, there were more write-ups about those who served

Availability
Many newspapers are available on microfilm in local, university and provincial libraries or archives. Online library catalogues include the names of the papers and the dates in the collection. Some newspapers may be available by Interlibrary Loan. Genealogical societies frequently index birth, marriage and death records found in their local newspapers and note such information on their web pages.

Cemetery Records
Monuments in cemeteries can be excellent sources of family information – and misinformation. Pioneer cemeteries, in particular, contain monuments that record the maiden names of women, as

well as information about their birthplaces in Ireland. Other clues may come from the names of others buried in the same or a nearby plot.

Availability
Due to privacy restrictions many cemetery owners no longer provide information about those buried in their cemeteries. Some larger cemeteries have alphabetic lists of those buried, along with the plot location and year of burial, on their web page. Maps may be found there as well. Beware: some of the burials listed may be of those moved from former burial sites. Many genealogical societies in Canada recorded the names and locations of cemeteries in their counties or provinces for many years. In some cases, they copied the names of people and the information on the stones and published them in booklets that are available for sale. Other societies offer to conduct a search of their records for a fee. In addition, individuals have recorded cemeteries and published them online. A good place to check for these is the provincial page at *CanadaGenWeb.org*.

Local and County Histories
Not every family contributed a family history to a local history book or was included in a county history. Such books contain valuable information about the early history of the community: information about churches, schools, cemeteries, businesses, organizations and clubs. Many have pictures of persons who served in the military. These books provide insight into the lives of those who lived in these communities, many of which no longer exist. Books published in the last few years may have lists of those buried in the local cemeteries.

Availability
Copies of local histories are found in local, university, legislative and genealogical society libraries. Many are found in the collection at *Library and Archives Canada*. Check library catalogues for details. Images of local and county history books may be found online as are books with information about Irish settlers and their settlement in Canada. Use the subject category in the catalogues and databases to find the titles of these books. The *Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions* (CIHM) is an excellent source to locate microfiche copies and digitized collections of histories, pamphlets and manuscripts and to learn more about their digitization project, Canada Online, which documents Canada's heritage.

Internet Resources

Alberta Family Histories Society http://www.afhs.ab.ca/data/census/1906/index.html
- index to the 1906 census

Ancestry.ca http://ancestry.ca
- Canadian census and immigration records
- some records for individual provinces
- free use of the library edition, available at many libraries

Automated Genealogy http://automatedgenealogy.com/
- indexes for 1851 census of New Brunswick, 1901, 1906 and 1911 census

Canada GenWeb http://CanadaGenWeb.org
- genealogical sources for all of Canada and individual ancestry

Canadiana.org http://www.canadiana.org/en
- "Early Canada Online" (ECO), an online digital library of full texts, contains many of the documents as digitized texts that were first included in the CIHM microfiche collection

Canadian Genealogy and History Links http://www.islandnet.com/~cghl
- information about sites that have Canadian genealogical information

Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM)
CIHM microfilm collection includes works as early as the 17th century and as recent as the 1920s printed or published in Canada, about Canada, or written by Canadians. Items available in university libraries.
- "Using the Online CIHM Database", a library guide to using CIHM microfiche at the university http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/libguides/3-24.html

Family History Library http://www.familysearch.org
- 1881 census index
- index and records to vital statistics for British Columbia and Ontario
- probate indexes and records for British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland

InGeneas http://www.ingeneas.com/

- passenger lists, immigration records and other genealogical resources
- some 1800 extractions from church records are part of the database
- an index search will identify where a particular reference is found
- you can either look for the reference yourself or pay for a copy

Library and Archives Canada http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca

- Many databases and resources for research
- "Canadian Genealogy Centre" offers an online starting point and background information about genealogical resources throughout Canada http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html

"Ancestor Search" provides a multiple database search:

- images of the census records– 1851 Canada East (Quebec), Canada West (Ontario) New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 1881- 1911
- passenger lists 1865– 1922
- Soldiers of the First World War-CEF (1914 – 1918) - Attestation Papers
- Marriage Bonds for Upper and Lower Canada 1779 - 1865
- names appearing on marriage licenses for Upper and Lower Canada before 1867
- and more

Our Roots-Nos Racines http://www.ourroots.ca/

- digitaized local histories, images for books from throughout Canada; searchable by title, author or subject and then by individual name

Peel's Prairie Provinces http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/index.html

- dedicated to helping researchers of all types in exploring western Canadian history and the heritage of the Prairies

University of Waterloo

- "Immigrants to Canada" has information about early immigrants from Ireland to Canada http://ist.uwaterloo.ca/%7Emarj/genealogy/thevoyage.html

Print References

Irvine, Sherry and Dave Obee. *Finding Your Canadian Ancestors: a beginner's guide*. Provo: Ancestry Publishing, 2007.

Laura Hanowski is a Certified Saskatchewan Instructor and Researcher and a member of APG. She is the editor of two books: Tracing Your Saskatchewan Ancestors: a guide to the records and how to use them *and* Tracing Your Aboriginal Ancestors: a guide to the records and how to use them.

Help for an Irish Brick Wall

Have you hit a brick wall with one or more of your Irish ancestors? We've all hit at least one of them, and some of us many.

One of the benefits of IGSI membership is getting a helping hand with your research at a low cost. Irish only, please! Send a query by email or letter letting us know what you are looking for and can't find. Be sure and let us know what you have already done, i.e. U.S. census, Griffith's Valuation, etc.

A researcher will check IGSI library sources for information pertinent to your family. IGSI owns over 2700 books, maps, CDs, microfiche/film and has a membership to the online database, *Irish Origins*.

If a simple question, we will answer immediately by e-mail, with no charge. The research fee is $10 per hour, with extra charge for copies and postage. Do not send a fee until notified of the cost. If you have a limit you want to spend, just let us know. When writing, either by e-mail or letter, include your name and address. Who knows, we might help you break down that brick wall.

Send your query to Research@Irish-Genealogical.org or to:

Research
Irish Genealogical Society International
1185 N. Concord St. Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Include your Member Number and contact information. The fee for research is $10 per hour with extra charge for copies and postage.

Researching Around "Irishtown" Ontario

by Val Morrison

Have the names Irishtown (now St. Columban), Carronbrook (now Dublin) or Seaforth occurred in your research? If so, you are searching for ancestors in Ontario, Canada. These three towns are located on the road between Goderich, the Huron County seat, and Stratford, the Perth County seat. When researching in the area, be sure to search both counties for information as both counties were part of the Huron Tract, an earlier Canadian land division.

Famine refugees from the 1840s flooded into Canada about the time this area opened for settlement, and many Irish ended up here. There was no plan to settle people from a certain area or estate of Ireland in Perth County as was the case with the Peter Robinson immigrants. The town of Perth, Ontario, located in Lanark County is associated with an 1820s Irish re-settlement scheme.

The Dublin area became home to Irish-born settlers, Protestant and Catholic, from all over Ireland. In the St. Columban (Catholic) cemetery, 21 of 32 Irish counties are mentioned on the gravestones according to the Huron County Genealogy Society's publication. To test your surnames, try the large *Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid* (OCFA) online database, http://www.ocfa.org. It has cemetery listings from all over Ontario and provides guidance to further information.

Both Stratford and Goderich are welcoming towns if you can research in person. The earliest records are more often found in Goderich, a Lake Huron port and thus a Huron Tract entry point. Stratford is a well-known summer theater center, and both towns have a variety of hotels and restaurants. A visit to the historic gaol, or jail, in Goderich is strongly recommended. The Perth County Archives is housed in a historic brick building in the heart of Stratford, near the newer registry office (for land deeds).

Goderich Gaol. *Photo courtesy of Val Morrison*

When researching land records in Ontario, it is important to identify the Township, Concession and Lot number of the land if your ancestor was farming. Four townships meet near Dublin: Logan and Hibbert in Perth County and McKillop and Tuckersmith in Huron County. Keep the information on township, concession and lot close at hand while you research. Local librarians and researchers can often help you more when you provide this information. For example, the previously mentioned St. Columban cemetery is in Conc. 1, Lot 26, Hibbert Township, Perth County. Many township histories name each owner of every lot; these books are available in local libraries and archives. Some older histories can be seen online at http://www.ourroots.ca.

Most early settlers in the Huron Tract leased land from the Canada Company (a private London, England based investment group, not the government) under a scheme that provided for ownership if the lease was faithfully paid for several years. This was often difficult for ill-prepared or unlucky new farmers. But records of their petitions for land and the early leases have been kept, as well as the land deeds that followed.

The Canadian censuses of 1851 (done in January 1852 in Ontario) and 1861 provide agricultural schedules that are worth pursuing via your local Family History Center or the Canadian Archives. Check the *Automated Genealogy* website (http://www.automatedgenealogy.com) for an index of the 1852 census. *Ancestry.ca*, a subscription site, is adding Canadian census records as well.

The Perth County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) offers a free lookup in the 1863 directory for Concession and Lot numbers, although they require you to send a written request.

Resources to Check

- Perth County Branch. *Avondale Cemetery, Roman Catholic Sections, Stratford, Ontario*, 1992
- Perth County Branch, OGS. *St. Columban R.C. Cemetery, Hib-*

ert Township, Perth County, ON, undated.

- *Genweb* sites for both Huron and Perth counties
- *Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid* website at http://www.islandnet.com/ocfa/
- *Ontario Genealogical Society* website, http://www.ogs.on.ca, provides connections to the individual county branch sites, which is where you will find their cemetery listings and other books for sale.
- *Our Roots* website, http://www.ourroots.ca/ contains Canadian local histories
- *Rootsweb* hosts a site that focuses on McKillop Township and the "Irishtown" area: http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~irish/indhuron.htm

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Valerie A. Morrison has been researching her Irish, Scottish, English & French-Canadian family history for ten years. A past president of the Irish Genealogical Society International (IGSI), she is the current Treasurer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS). She can be contacted at valmorrison@earthlink.net.

Migrations to and Through Canada

by William Hall Grimes

In doing my family genealogy, I have done much research in Canada for migrations from Ireland and, in some cases, from Canada onward to the U.S. The Canadian research covered both Ontario and Quebec, and involved time periods prior to the Irish Famine years of 1845-49. It involved both Catholic and non-Catholic Irish families.

Quebec Ancestors

My oldest family, named Gould or Goold, came to Quebec from somewhere in Ireland in the late 1700s. The name was Goold in Ireland and was changed to Gould in Canada, possibly to look 'less Irish', then changed back to Goold in the U. S. as Gould was considered 'too Jewish'. The family moved to Vermont by 1840, to Orleans, New York, by 1850, and were in North Branch, Lapeer County, Michigan, by the time of the 1860 census. They were non-Catholic.

My Catholic Irish ancestors originated in Counties Waterford and Cork. In the early 1820s, the British Government created an experimental emigration program of poor Irish families to unpopulated Canada. The Government appointed Peter Robinson as their representative to organize the migrations, find ships, select the families, and provide supplies and equipment.

Most of the people who were selected were poor Irish from County Cork, with a few from other areas. In 1823, seven ships were chartered, filled with people and sent off to Canada. On one ship, the *Stakesby*, was James Brown from County Waterford. Upon arrival in Canada, most of the people were taken to the area around Peterborough, Ontario, but if they had family or sponsors elsewhere, they were they were allowed to go there. For whatever reason, my James Brown ended up in the town of Tingwick in Arthabaska County, Quebec.[1]

In 1825, Peter Robinson sent a 13 ship convoy full of Irish immigrants to Canada. Among these people were four different Buckley families, each of which included a daughter named Catherine. One Buckley family and daughter Catherine also settled in Tingwick. And in 1831, James Brown married Catherine Buckley in Tingwick and their son, James Brown Jr., was born there in 1835. While I've not yet proved that the James Brown and Catherine Buckley of Tingwick were from the Peter Robinson emigrants, the ages and timing match up so well that I have 'adopted' them as being from these settlers in lieu of any other information as to their origins.

In 1808, Edmund Goggin was born in Glan, Schull (civil) or Skull (Catholic) parish in County Cork, near Bantry Bay. Research in Ireland identified many Goggin families living in the area, but there was only one Edmund Goggin in the records. In 1836, Edmund married Mary Ann Hodnett in Cork City, Cork. In 1841, they too migrated to Tingwick, where their daughter Mary Anne was born in 1843. In 1861, James Brown, Jr. married Mary Anne Goggin at Tingwick. And, in 1868, they moved to Birch Cooley in Renville County, Minnesota.

The churches in that area of Quebec kept good records which have survived to present time. I found useful information at St. Patrice (St. Patrick) de Ting-

wick, St. Michell (St. Michael) de Sherbrooke, and St. Menard de Warwick. The Goggin-Brown family Bible, kept by my Brown grandmother, led to the Goggin and Brown connection to Tingwick.

In 1995, with a computer and Internet access, I found a website that had Canadian names and addresses. It provided information for three Goggin families in the Tingwick area; I wrote a letter to each of them. I heard nothing back from any of them for about seven months until I received a letter from a lady in Connecticut. Her name was Brodeur, nee Goggin. Her 80-year-old brother in Tingwick had received my letter, but being more French than Irish, he could not read it. And being somewhat forgetful, he put my letter in a drawer and forgot about it until seven months later. He sent the letter to his English-speaking sister in Connecticut who contacted me. The sister sent me a lot of family data which I combined with research I have done. I shared this information with a cousin in Wisconsin who later made a trip to Tingwick. She found living cousins, toured cemeteries, reviewed church records, etc. Between us, we have identified most of the family prior to the time of their move to Minnesota in 1868.

When James Brown, Jr. and Mary Ann Goggin moved to Minnesota from Quebec in 1868, they had three small children and Mary Ann was pregnant with a fourth. I believed that they would not have traveled alone on a trip that far. After much research I determined that at least five other families traveled with them. These were the Sullivan, Buckley, Gleason, Murphy and Williams families. I have yet to discover why these five families migrated together from Quebec to Minnesota. Perhaps it was the shorter growing season in Quebec compared to Minnesota, that farming in Quebec was not able to support a large family. I suspect that someone visited Minnesota ahead of time to reconnoiter the territory, since the area they settled in was pretty remote.[2]

Barriers to Easy Research

One item of interest that I discovered in my Canadian research is that there was an annual poll tax in the 1800s, an assessment of $1.00 on each male 16 years and older. This had to be paid in specie, either silver or gold. The upshot is that, in official records like census records, males stayed under age 16 as long as possible, due to the scarcity of hard money.

Another challenge I faced was that Canada had different names for geographic areas over time. Originally, there was only Quebec and the term Canada was not used. Later, when people settled in the current Ontario area, the administrative areas became Eastern or Lower Canada (modern Quebec), and Western or Upper Canada (modern Ontario). Then, when the Provinces came into being, the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario were established. I even found the original Middlesex County in Ontario was split into two counties, Middlesex and Huron. The boundaries also changed over time.

A further problem was that Irish first names were rendered in French in the Quebec records, similar to the use of Latin in Catholic records in the US. One had to learn about Patrice (Patrick), Michel (Michael), and Guillaume (William).

Ontario Ancestors

The first known Hall was George Hall I, born c. 1780 in County Galway. His wife was Jane Pardy, born in 1788. They were married c. 1823 in Ireland and migrated to Middlesex County, Ontario, Canada, in 1841 with sons Peter, George II, and Thomas.

About the same time period, two families by the name of White came from Ireland and settled near the Halls in Biddulph, Middlesex County, Ontario. Charles White (1) and his wife Jane Glass, from Clones in County Monaghan, arrived in 1838; Charles White (2), also from County Monaghan, and his wife Jane Green arrived in 1842. Charles White (1) had a daughter named Jane who married George Hall II; Charles White (2) had a daughter named Sarah who married Thomas Hall, brother of George II.

George Hall II and Jane had eight children, including William (the oldest), George III, my grandfather Alfred James, and a daughter named Anna. In 1870, the entire Hall family, some of the White families, and a number of other Middlesex families (Hayes, Mays, et al) migrated to the Muskoka Lakes District of Ontario, near the towns of Port Carling and Glen Orchard.[3] William married Hannah Orchard and obtained a homestead in 1880.

That same year, 1880, saw the entire Hall family except William emigrate

to Michigan. Most settled in the Cass City area of Tuscola County, Michigan, as did a Patterson family. One brother, Alfred James, settled in Coleman, Midland County, Michigan. There George Hall III married Jane Patterson and his sister Anna married James Patterson. My grandfather, Alfred James Hall, married my grandmother, Minnie Gould. George Hall IV, son of George III, married a woman named Janet who was called Jane.[4]

In the late 1970s, some previously unknown Hall cousins who lived in Port Carling, Ontario, Canada, contacted my mother, Ruth Hall Grimes. Born in Michigan in 1911, my mother was orphaned at age six and raised by her Gould mother's family. She lost contact with the Hall side of the family in Canada.

The Canadian cousins were putting together a Hall family tree and family history as part of a planned family reunion, scheduled for 1980. My mother and I contributed a tree and history for the Hall contingent that had moved to Michigan from Ontario in 1880. The planned 1980 family reunion corresponded to the 100th anniversary of the homestead, which is still in the family.

The Hall family tree and history became the centerpiece of the 1980 family reunion. In late 1978, the original Hall family house from 1880 was moved across the lake on eight large sleds pulled by teams of horses during the winter when the lake was frozen solid. The house became the main museum building of a pioneer village in Muskoka Lakes , Ontario. The Hall family tree is displayed on the wall of the museum.

Quebec Sources

Grimes-Doheny Family Bible, dating from 1845, as kept by Sarah Jane (Sadie) Brown Grimes and passed down to the author.

Goggin-Brown Family Tree and Family History, compiled by multiple people and published by Thomas Shay in 1963.

Drouin books of Quebec marriages, births, and deaths, 1621-1847, compiled by Gabriel and Joseph Drouin.

Personal research done in the records and cemeteries of Tingwick, Warwick, Menard, Princeville and other areas of Quebec by Mary Jane Johnson Fury and William H. Grimes.

Canadian census records in Quebec: 1825, 1831, 1842.

Ontario Sources

Hall family tree and family history, compiled by multiple people and published by Muriel Hall of Port Carling, Ontario, 1980.

History of Middlesex County, Ontario, published by the Ontario Historical Society, 1982.

Personal research done in the records and cemeteries of Lucan, Ailsa Craig, and Biddulph in Middlesex County, Ontario.

Personal research in the records and cemeteries in Tuscola and Lapeer Counties in Michigan.

Census records: Ontario, between 1842 and 1901; Michigan, 1880 and 1930.

End Notes

1 Tingwick and the nearby towns of Warwick and Princeville lie about 75 miles NNE of Montreal. This area seems to be an Irish enclave among the French in this rural area. Other Irish families that settled there include Gleason, Williams, Mullen, Sullivan, Murphy, and Grace.

2 The Birch Coulee, Renville County area settled by these families was in the middle of the Sioux Indian territory. It had been the site of an uprising of the Indians in 1862 that resulted in the deaths of hundreds of settlers.

3 This area is about 100-120 miles north of Toronto.

4 You may notice that there are four generations of George Halls married to Janes and two Charles Whites (who may have been related) married to Janes. Thomas Hall had two sons named Thomas, one of whom died in infancy.

William Hall Grimes lives in Round Rock, Texas, near Austin. He is a distant cousin to the husband of the late Ida Troye, longtime editor of The Septs. *They are both direct descendants of Thomas Doheny of Jessenland, Sibley County, Minnesota, fame. (Article in the October 2004 issue of* The Septs).

Canadian Irish Gold in an Unexpected Place

by William Romanski

Has a male Canadian ancestor ever gone missing between the 1861 and 1871 censuses? Perhaps he fought in the U.S. Civil War. As suggested in the October 2009 issue of *The Septs*, military records are a source of a vast amount of genealogical information. I recently discovered that U.S. military records can be a resource for researching Canadian ancestors.

Several of my New Brunswick Irish ancestors have disappeared during the long ten-year spans between censuses. Nineteenth century record keeping in that province is spotty at best, so I've had to guess the fate of the missing. For the very young or very old I have assumed they died. Adult males either died or moved "out west." Adult females either married or moved "out west." Although most conclusions are this morbid, there was one possibility that escaped my imagination.

The McCashions, like many of my Irish ancestors in New Brunswick, came from Ireland before the Famine. They were a large Roman Catholic family. The children married and had large families; many moved to the United States by 1900.

They were also mysterious in typically Irish genealogical ways. I didn't know where they were from in Ireland. Several children disappear after a single mention in official records. The dates of death of several are unknown. Places of burial are equally elusive. Some are even missing from a census or two. All this is just par for the course in New Brunswick genealogy though.

After years of floundering, the veil finally lifted. On a whim, I entered the name "McCashion" into the *Ancestry.com* search bar to see what came up. There are so many different spellings of that name; I figured that if I used the modern spelling then I would be steered toward the smallest number of results. As expected, many results appeared and I dutifully looked through them all for something that I recognized.

Something in the "American Civil War Soldiers" caught my eye. A Patrick McCashion of Robbinston, Maine, born about 1846, enlisted in the Union Army in 1864. Patrick was the name of one of my missing McCashions—mine was born in 1844—and Robbinston is a town close to Maine's border with New Brunswick. I had to know more about this Patrick McCashion who enlisted in Maine.

Wasting no time, I ordered copies of Patrick's Compiled Military Service Record and Federal Military Pension File. The National Archives and Records Administration website has a page (https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/) where these files can be ordered online with credit card payment. Both file requests were quickly filled.

The Compiled Military Service Record arrived first. The information it contained left no doubt that the Patrick who enlisted at Robbinston was my missing Patrick McCashion. Furthermore, the file contained information regarding his death at a Washington, DC hospital after receiving a gunshot wound in battle. The real treasure was revealed when the Pension file arrived. Patrick's mother Mary Ann applied for his pension. Since he was her sole support, his mother was eligible for an $8 per month pension. The petition she filed contained affidavits from her friends, neighbors and family, all to the effect of her great need for the money.

Some of the details included were

- Mary Ann's place of birth
- The date of her death
- The date of her husband Neil's death
- The names and dates of birth of all her children
- The date and place of marriage of Neil and Mary Ann, including the name of the priest who married them
- Mention of a family Bible

In my many years of research of 13 lines of Irish ancestors who settled in New Brunswick, this is the only time I have learned of a townland of origin. Later, I found out the church records for the parish the McCashions came from in Ireland survive only from the period after they departed. So even if every record in Ireland was indexed and available to me, I never would have found where the McCashions came from were it not for Patrick's military service.

William Romanski was born in Rhode Island and has been studying family history and genealogy since about 1989. He may be contacted at wdromanski@hotmail.com.

Finding Your Irish Ancestors in the Canadian Census Returns for 1901 and 1911

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

Irish emigrants streamed out of their homeland during periods of political and economic upheaval and famine in the 19th century. More emigrants set out for Canada than anywhere else except the United States. Today, those of Irish heritage comprise the fourth-largest ethnic group in Canada.

If you are searching for Irish families who settled in Canada, a rich source of information awaits you in the Canadian census returns. The 1901 and 1911 returns are available online from the *Library and Archives Canada* (LAC). On the LAC website (http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/census/index-e.html), you can browse the census by geographic location: province, district and subdistrict. The website, however, has no search feature for finding individual surnames.

Automated Genealogy (AG) is one organization filling in the surname search gap. Their volunteer network of transcribers has created every-name indexes to these two censuses. Using flexible surname search features to locate your person of interest, you can pull up the digitized census image from LAC by clicking on links from each name in the index to the corresponding images.

As in any census search, the more information you start with, the fewer number of people you will have to wade through. Knowing province, name and year of birth will work more quickly than having just a name, approximate date of birth and a residence of "Canada."

That being said, you can work both to finely tune searches and to cast a broad net.

Canadian subscribers to *Ancestry.ca* and also anyone with an Ancestry World Deluxe subscription can search the 1901 and 1911 censuses through the Ancestry.com system. If you wish to search through the Ancestry databases—which offer the same digitized pages from LAC as the ones found at AG—but do not have a World Deluxe subscription, you may wish to check with your local library to see if you have free access to Ancestry there through your library membership.

1901 Census

The 1901 census enumerates the population of Canada as of 31 March 1901. The census form stretches across two pages for each line entry and, after line, house and family numbers, offers 30 more categories of information—from the residence and personal description to citizenship, nationality and religion, to details of employment and literacy.

This census covers the provinces as they existed in 1901: British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec, as well as the Territories: Alberta, Assiniboia East and West, Saskatchewan and the Unorganized Territories. Each province is divided into census districts which are in turn divided into subdistricts.

At AG's search page for the 1901 census, http://automatedgenealogy.com/census, notice first a list of links to the Canadian provinces and territories; second, a search box "National Surname Search" (with an optional first initial for given name) to search all of Canada; and third, an alphabetically searchable national surname index.

Much of the rest of this page is directed to volunteer indexers. However, under the heading "Documentation" you'll find a link "How to locate a place in the census" which can help you find places names that come up as you search for people throughout Canada.

If you know the subdistrict where your person of interest lived—perhaps from research in an earlier census—you can look it up in the "Alphabetic listing of all subdistricts," keeping in mind that subdistricts may have changed names, borders or disappeared between censuses.

Searching for Richard Cain

To show how the AG index works, let's use my search for Richard Cain. He was born in 1845 somewhere in Canada (probably Ontario) and he married a woman named Bridget.

From the 1901 census index page, click on Ontario since that is Richard's most likely province of residence. At the Ontario search page, type "Cain" into the surname box. This page provides a number of Soundex variations of the name. Since the name can be spelled "Kane," check

that box and then click on "merge." The results will include all the people enumerated as "Cain" or "Kane." On this page one can filter results. Enter "Richard" into the given name filter and 1845 (plus or minus 5 years) into the birth year.

This filtered search brings up two Richard Cains:

- Richard Cain, age 56, Ontario, District of Bothwell, Subdistrict Sombra & Walpole Island, Enumeration District f-3, page 4, line 37.
- Richard Cain, age 60, Ontario, District of Wellington (Centre), Subdistrict Peel, Enumeration District i-4, page 5, line 14.

Clicking on "page 4" for the first Richard, we find him as head of household and married to "Bridget" with children Joseph B. and Louisa. To see the census image, go to the top left of this screen and click on "split screen" which brings the image to the top of the page while the transcribed index remains displayed at the bottom. Reading over the page, you will notice that a family named "Downs" lives next to the Cains. Previous research revealed the Cain family intermarried with a Downs family. This match looks like it has possibilities.

Note that Louisa is the last entry on this page. To see if there are any more children, we need to look at page 5. To get there, we return to the previous page and, at the top left, click on f-3 under "subdistrict," then "view" across from the "page 5" notation. Here on page 5 is the rest of the family: Nora A., Peter R., Eliza A. and Genevieve G. Once again, click "split screen" at the top of the page to view the rest of the family on the census image.

Now to check out the second Richard Cain. Go back to the results page and click on "page 5" for Wellington. This Richard is married to "Ann" and is less likely to be the man we seek.

At this point, check out the whole District of Bothwell to see if there are any more names, like Downs, that are associated with the Cain family history. Clicking on f-3 once again brings up the "Bothwell" District which comprises 17 census pages. Clicking on each page and reading through each transcribed index, you find more surnames of known friends and relatives of the Cains: Kehoe, McEvoy, Callahan and Regan. Then you hit gold: There is a "Cuin" family, headed by Johanna and including her children Richard, Agnes and William, that is almost certainly the family of "Johanna Cain," a known relative of Richard. "Cuin" has the same Soundex as Cain, but we didn't merge it with Cain, only the alternative spelling of Kane. It can pay to merge many possible variations of the name you're looking for.

Finding the Place

Since the Richard who resides in the subdivision of Sombra & Walpole Island is likely the one we need to know about, let's see where Sombra is located. To do this, return to the Census 1901 page and look for the "Documentation" heading, then click on "How to locate a place in the census." At the end of that page, you see a "Canadian Geographic Names Base." We enter "Sombra", click submit, and select Geographical Area. From there, select "click here to view additional details." Among the statistics returned are the latitude and longitude of Sombra and a choice to "view on map." By clicking on the map to modify the view — you find that Sombra is located along the St. Clair River.

This feature is great for finding a place name that could be anywhere in Canada. A search for "Trout Creek," for instance, returns rivers of that name in almost every province. However, if you are looking for a village, the area of interest narrows to two unincorporated areas: Trout Creek in British Columbia and Trout Creek in Ontario.

The Big Search

If searching for Richard and Bridget Cain throughout all of Canada, you could enter the name Cain into the National Surname Search box and then choose the initial "R" from the "given name starts with" drop-down list and then merge the results with "Kane." The results reflect how many people with this name were reported in each province and territory in that census year. Using the filter again, add "Richard" and the birth year of 1845 (plus or minus 5 years).

The results are the same as for the Ontario-only search, strengthening your confidence in having found the "right" Richard Cain.

IGSI Donations

1911 Census

The 1911 Fifth Census of Canada asked nearly the same questions as the 1901 census. The enumerators started out on 1 June 1911 to cover a population of 7,206,643 — 34 percent more residents than in 1901. This time, provinces included Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Saskatchewan; two territories, Yukon and Northwest, were covered by the census.

The 1911 Census search at AG (http://automatedgenealogy.com/census11/) is similar to that for 1901. At the start of the page provinces are listed, but unlike the 1901 census page, there is no option for an "All Canada" search.

To work with Richard Cain once again, you click on Ontario and then, on the Provincial Summary Page, where you enter Cain into the surname search box. At the top of this page above the resulting list is a breakdown of the name Cain in each of the provinces, and finally, a choice of "all." Checking all returns the "all Canada" results.

Going back to the Ontario search and entering the filters of given name "Richard" and birth year 1845 plus or minus 5 years, you narrow the search once again to two Richard Cains—one who resides in the District of Lambton West, Subdistrict Sombra. It appears that while Richard is still in the subdistrict of Sombra, the district has changed.

Clicking on the "split-screen" link at the top of the page brings up what appears to be Richard's family of 1901, with some of the children gone—moved or died? —and the oldest, Joseph B., married and living next door. You can continue to mine the census for various spellings and for allied families in the same manner as for the 1901 census.

While exploring the census through *Automated Genealogy* can be limiting because of the few search parameters available, it does encourage real searching through likely localities. A wealth of information lies in the 1901 and 1911 Canadian censuses if you have the patience to work within the AG search system.

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.

We thank the following donors for their generosity in supporting the work of the Irish Genealogical Society International during the last quarter. We appreciate the on-going support of such members near and far who continue to give an extra donation to our organization. Thank you!

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The T. G. F. Paterson Collection

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

This edition of the series on Irish genealogical collections features the collection of "Thomas George Farquhar Paterson, MA OBE (1888-1971) who was born in Canada, but raised in Cornsacreeb near Tandragee, County Armagh where he returned with his family as an infant. Educated at the National School, Arghory, County Armagh, and initially worked as a grocer. He was an amateur historian who collected traditional tales and dialect phrases and proverbs, and made detailed sketches of local architecture and furniture in South Armagh. In 1931, he became Honorary Curator of Armagh County Museum, and later in 1935, was appointed the first full-time curator at the Museum, retiring in 1963. He published widely, contributing to local journals and newspapers. He was a founding trustee of the Ulster Folk Museum from 1958, served on the South Armagh Hospital Committee and the Northern Ireland Committee of the National Trust, was an active member of the Armagh Field Club and of the Naturalists' Society, and in 1941, became a member of the Royal Irish Academy. He was awarded an OBE in 1954 and an honorary membership of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society in Nashville, Tennessee, the latter for his genealogical research on the Campbellites."[1]

The T.G.F. Paterson collection is located at the Armagh County Museum Library in Armagh, Ireland. The library has an impressive collection of materials and the Paterson collection is one of its pillars. There are 300 notebooks "concerned with pedigrees and genealogies of families connected with County Armagh, local history, dialect, archaeology, folklore, and place-name studies. Paterson published regularly in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology, County Louth Archaeological Journal, Seanchas Ardmhacha* and the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*. He was elected member to the Royal Irish Academy in 1941. As well as Paterson's own notes the collection comprises correspondence from various sources and volumes from such noted genealogists as Tenison A. Groves and Philip Crosslé.

"The strength of this collection lies in the mass of material relating to the genealogy of families in county Armagh and the surrounding counties. There are many notes relating to wills, chancery and exchequer bills, memorials of deeds and leases from the Registry of Deeds in Dublin, marriage settlements and license bonds (late 17th century, 18th century). There are also extracts from William Petty's 'Census' of circa 1659 and extracts from the 1821 census."[2]

A good portion of the collection was microfilmed by the Family History Library in 1984 at the Armagh County Museum Library and is on 16mm microfilm. Single odd entries for one instance in a county are not listed in the table below, (e.g. Tew Family of County Louth on microfilm 1,279,352). *See table below.*

FHL Microfilm 1,279,324

Registered freeholders, County Armagh 1800-30; Kilmore Parish tithe payers 1831-4; Armagh and Lower Fews barony freeholders 1813-20; Upper Fews barony freeholders 1820; Meigh barony freeholders 1822; Lisdrumgullear barony freeholders 1821; Liperaw barony freeholders 1823; Lower, Upper Orier and O'Neiland West barony freeholders 1813-20; Armagh County freeholders 1825-28; O'Neiland East and Turney barony freeholders 1813-20; Kilmore tithe book 1834-7; Mullabrack tithe book 1834; family histories on the families of Ussher, Weaver, and Blayney; notes on Old Carrickmore, County Tyrone (people and traditions); Armagh Militia notes 1660-1816; Ulster clockmakers with histories on individuals; Miss Rosamond Stephens' diary 1892; Col. Bellingham's diary 1688;

FHL Microfilm 1,279,325

Greggan Parish 1611-1840; Ulster place names; photocopies of Matthew Bell letters; extracts from the records of the Parkanaur Estate; notes on the Kirkpatrick family; pedigrees for the following Armagh County families –

Counties	Collection	Repository	FHL	Diocese(s)
• Armagh • Down • Tyrone	T. G. F. Paterson	Armagh County Museum Library	Yes	• Armagh • Down, Connor & Dromore • Derry & Clogher

Lodge, Kidd, Read, Roe, Kelly, Barker, Theaker, Lucas, Hobson, Greer, Whaley; Memorial of the voyages and travels of Leonard Gillespie, M.D. of the Royal British Navy 1804-5; Armagh City Corporation records 1732-1840; Registry of voters for County Armagh 1851-1871; Tullaniskin Parish 1600's-1900's; Abstracts of wills and family charts (Vol. 1) Hockley, Atkinson, Murray, Hardy, Campbell, Williams, Boyd, Weaver, Walker, Swann, Clarks, Coburn, McCartney, Tweedy, Ross, Fulton, Tipping, McKinstry, Cardwell, Scott, Baxter, Rowan, Graham, Couser, Moffit, Cross, and Young.

FHL Microfilm 1,279,326

Abstracts of wills and family charts continued (Vol. 2) Maxwell, Seaver, Nicholson, McBride, Magennis, Kirker, Dawson, Simpson, Acheson, Ross, Johnston, Symons, Chambre, Foxall, Trevor, Bolton, Reilly, Scarva, Woolsey, Ferguson, Stephenson, Arnold, Campbell, Titterington, Stephens, McMordie, McCreight, Vogan, Glenaul, McWilliams, Donaldson, McCartney, Monroe, Tennant, Emerson, Finlay, Barrett, McCann, Gardner, and Corry; (Vol. 3) Colvin, Kennedy, McGlelland, Moore, Miller, Foster, Wilson, Crossley, Scott, Gillespie, Searight, Shellington, Coghill, Trew, Rogers, Barrett, Wilson, Jenkinson, Pringle, Lodge, Bunting, Gordon, Creery, Richardson, Sturgeon, Morton, Dawson, Collyer, Graham, Sarham, Noble, Verner, Purmel, Lane, and Henry; (Vol. 4) English, Graham, McGeough, Robinson, Johnston, Hutcheson, Ashmur, Mathers, Corey, Donaldson, Gervais, Dawson, Lyle, Pringle, Barnes, Hoop, Carlisle, Woolsey, Williamson, Murray, Downham, Hamilton, Greer, Thompson, Quin, Campbell, Stephenson, Cherry, Woods, Todd, Acheson, Bell, Russell, Graham, Montgomery, Houston, Verner, and Douglas; (Vol. 5) Wolsey, Atkinson, Searight, Ogle, Patterson, Trueman, Watson, Kilpatrick, Macan, Prentice, May, Wilkin, Greenaway, Montgomery, Carlile, Sweenerton, Fulton, Strawbridge, Pillow, Graham, and Kerr; Protestant Dissenters 1775; Mullabrack Parish Register extracts Baptisms 1764-1779 and Marriages 1767-1811; Annals of Aughnacloy and the parish of Carnteel, County Tyrone; County of Armagh general Assizes (Summer 1830); South Armagh Ramblers Club minute book and Army officers books 1 and 2 (World War I).

FHL Microfilm 1,279,327

Protestant Householders for Derrymore and Tynan parishes – 1740; Extracts from the Vestry Book of the parish of Carnteel 1711-1807; Loughgall parish notes for the 1600's – 1900's. Abstracts from the Caledon Vestry Book 1691-1841; High Sheriffs of Irish Counties 1657-1900; Muster rolls for the counties of Antrim, Cavan and Donegal; Notes on the parish of Clonoe; Patent Rolls, James I 1603-1624; Townley Family, County Louth; notes on the families of Beachall, Blackhall, Ball, Skelton, Vincent, Courtenay, Palmer, Simpson, Maxwell, Jellett, Carlile, McBride, Galbraith, O'Neil, McCrum, Henry, Campbell, Palmer, Wentworth, Von Stieglitz, Burleigh, Gill, McAlindon, Wolsey, Whaley, Thompson, Taylor, Hart, and Williamson for the 1600's – 1700; a list of the inhabitants for the town of Armagh for the year 1770; William Gillialand Journal 1765-1793; Books of Survey and Distribution for County Armagh 1654 – 1703; Rose letters – collection written by Richard Rose from various ships in Her Majesty's Navy, one letter from Thomas Rose (b. 1680 – d. 1731) of Charleston, USA; Estate papers for the Richard Johnston Estate including surveys, maps and tenants names circa 1731; Armagh guardian abstracts 1843-1907; pedigrees for the families of Simpson and Macan 1700's – 1800's; Yeomanry, volunteers and militia 1779 – 1792 and 1796-1834; Armagh muster roll, 1630; Armagh Hearth Money Roll, 1664; Armagh Poll Book 1753; and Armagh Rentals from the rentals of the Archbishops of Armagh 1615-1746 (continued on microfilm 1,279,329).

FHL Microfilm 1,279,328

Notes on the families of Close, Granard, Smyth, Rosb orough, Maxwell, Moody, Blacker (Yorkshire and Armagh), Cooke, Cope, Verner, Greer, McWilliam, and Montgomery; meanings of the names of 1,074 towns and townlands in County Armagh crafted by David H. Milsop; Grand Jury records for the County of Armagh 1810-1869; and Armagh County freeholders list 1600's-1700's.

FHL Microfilm 1,279,329

Armagh Rentals from the rentals of the Archbishops of Armagh 1615-1746 (continued from microfilm 1,279,327); County Armagh depositions 1641; Tithe accounts for the parishes of Grange 1832 and Derrynoose 1785-1787; Earl of Charlemont leases for the County of Armagh for the Char-

lemont Estate 1750-1829; A variety of parish histories and historical notes on mixed congregations as follows: St. Francis Church, Annaghmore 1856-1956, the Catholic Parish of Drumcree, lists of priests and curates, 1704-1972; a history of the parish of Seagoe by Padraic Keenan giving place names and historical notes; a History of Clarkesbridge & First Newtownhamilton Presbyterian Churches by the Rev. J. Brian A. Bell, B.A.; A History of Milltown Parish – The Birches – Northwest Armagh, by Rev. H. W. Coffey; First Portadown Centenary by W. M. Clow; Portadown Parish of St. Mark's 1826-1976; Shankill Parish, Lurgan, County Armagh; Church of The Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran 1922-1972; Parish of Ballymore, Tandragee, St. Mark's Church; St. Saviour's Church, Portadown 1858-1953; Eglish Parish Church; Parish of Acton & Drumbanagher; History of the parish of Creggan in Counties Armagh and Louth by Rev. Simon Nelson of Pettigo, 1611-1840; St. Mark's Church, Armagh; Armagh Presbyterian Registers, 1727-1729; First Presybterian Congregation of Armagh, Marriages and Baptisms for the years 1796-1809; Kilmore Parish census of 1821; Ulster Plantation Historical Account by Rev. George Hill, 1608-1620; and Yeomanry Lists of several District Corps in Ireland 1797-1825.

FHL Microfilm 1,279,330

Religious Census of 1766 listing families in the united parishes of Dungannon & Tulliniskin, Kildress, Derryloran, Agahalow & Caranteele, Artrea, Desertmartin, Magherafelt, Creggan, Aghoghill, and Kilbroney; Visitation book of the Diocese of Down, Connor, & Dromore for 1622; Parish extracts and notes from the parish records of Armagh, 1750-1901; same for the parishes of Creggan and Carnteel; Pedigrees and notes on the families of Armitage, Atkinson, Best, Brown, Coleland, Courtenay, De La Cheroy, Edward, Deacon, Dorbin, Gillespie, Gordon, Gosford, Greer, Hamilton, Jellett, Johnson, Ker, McBride, McCartney, Martin, Montgomery, Morrow, Mulholland, Oliver, Rogers, Reeves, Stewart, Turner, Varner, Sampson, Skivington, Richardson, Stuart, O'Hanlon, Munro, Greenaway, Jackson, Chapman, Galbraith, Bailey, Buchanan, Carter, Courtenay, Ellis, Hawkins, Kirk, McCormick, Marmision, Moore, O'Hanlon, Russell, Stanhead, Thomson, Thompson, Townley, Wallace, Ward, Whitchurch, Symonds, Seaver, and Powell; Francis Johnston diary, 1796; list of wills in the Registry of Deeds, Dublin, 1703-1785; Corporation of Armagh, abstracts of the commissioners reports, 1833; Armagh Pipewater agreements with the names of householders, 1796-1828; Middletown church notes, 1827; Armagh Presbyterians – Extracts from Rev. McAlisters lecture, 1867; Seat holders 1st Armagh Church, 1851-1857; 2nd Armagh Presbyterian Church deeds; Armagh printers, surnames Dickie, Reily, Walsh and Stevenson; Armagh Freeholders list, 1830; pedigree of Hugh Edwards, early 1600's; Houston family notes; Members of Parliament from Armagh, 1613-1801; Loughall Parish Hisotry; and extracts from the Banbridge Household Almanac.

FHL Microfilm 1,279,352

Abstracts from various documents in the Armagh Public Library (samples follow); Manuscript history of the town of Lurgan; Richill, the estate and the town – data from talks to the Quaker community including a muster roll of 1630, Hearth Money Rolls, 1664, names of early tenants 18th c., Poll Tax 1660 and 1753 and depositions of 1641; Notes on the Tew family of County Louth; Lists of leaseholders of the parish of Kildarton, Armagh; and abstracts from the history of Parkanour House which was built by James Johnston in 1820 – located west of Dungannon, Tyrone.

Some examples from the extracts made by T. G. F. Paterson from FHL microfilm 1,279,352 are as follows:

1630 Muster Roll:
Lawrence Barnell – no arms
Thomas Black - no arms
William Bonner – sword
John Boy – sword
James Boy – no arms
Roger Carr – no arms
Richard Carrington – sword

The Session List of 1707
Mr. Edmond Stone – Dead
Mr. James Reed – Dead
Mr. James Johnston, Knappagh
William Johnston – Dead
George Logan – Dead
Archibald Shields – Dead
William Brown – Dead
William Allen – Removed from ye parish.

Adding Method to Our Madness

by Jay Fonkert, CG

Mad about genealogy – as in a bit crazed? Too many ancestors and too little time?

I'm not sure the genealogy bug is curable, but a bit of method might make our madness a bit more orderly and productive. Method need not be complicated. It is having a plan, an orderly and logical approach to research. Methodology is the system of principles, practices and procedures applied to a specific branch of knowledge – in our case, genealogy. The most respected guide to genealogical research principles is the *BCG Genealogical Standards Manual.* The Board for Certification of Genealogists prepared the manual to help researchers prepare for certification, but it is useful reading for anyone who wants to do good quality genealogy.

The basics of good genealogical method are the same whether we are researching 20th century American ancestors, 19th century Irish ancestors, or 18th century Scandinavian ancestors. Three principles of sound genealogical method include

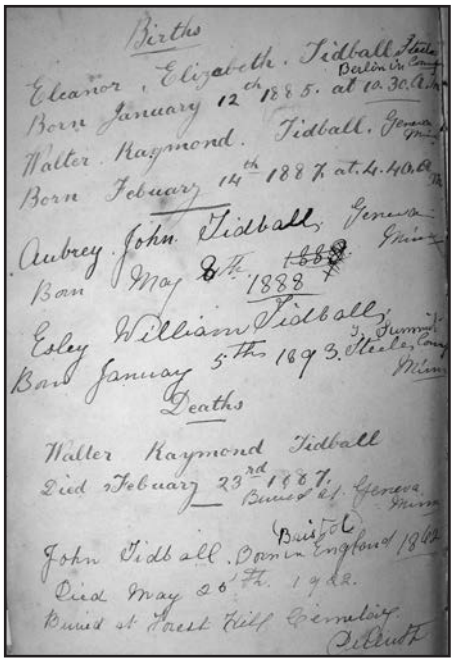
- Working back in time, one generation at a time,
- Correlating multiple sources and resolving conflicts, and
- Reading records in historical context – knowing why they were created and what was required.

I will deal with the first principle in this column. Reduced to the basics, genealogy is about connecting children to the correct parents. We do this by finding evidence that links children to their parents. If I put the wrong *parents in* my database, I will get the wrong grandparents and great-grandparents. Getting it right does matter. Going back ten generations is a bit like shooting a rocket to the moon on a trajectory that is just a fraction off. By the time the rocket travels 240,000 miles, it will miss the moon completely. If I make the wrong man my great-grandfather, every ancestor behind him will also be wrong.

Several kinds of genealogical sources help us connect children and parents.

Bible Records

Many families recorded births in family Bibles or other religious books. Can we trust this information? Probably most of the time, but there is room for error. We must be especially vigilant if the copyright date of the bible is many years after the births being recorded. In this case, we trust another's memory or


Births
Eleanor, Elizabeth. Tidball
Born January 12th 1885. at 10.30 A.M.
Walter Raymond. Tidball. Geneva
Born Febuary 14th 1887 at 4.40 A.M.
Aubrey John Tidball Geneva
Born May 8th 1888
Eoley William Tidball
Born January 5th 1893.
Deaths
Walter Raymond Tidball
Died Febuary 23rd 1887.
John Tidball. Born in England 1862
Died May 20th 1922.
Buried at Forest Hill Cemetery

Bible entry *courtesy of Jay Fonkert.*

Miscellaneous Parish Notes

- July 22, 1714. Given to Mr. Thompson to help him to transport his family to America £1.
- April 4, 1715. Ye rent of James Murphy's Kiln £3.

Much of the Paterson collection is typewritten making it easy to read. There appears to be some duplication of source materials with minor discrepancies which may have come from different sources and may have been extracts from different antiquarians with whom he shared materials.

End Notes

1 Kate Newmann, *Dictionary of Ulster Biography*, (Belfast: The Institute of Irish Studies, The Queen's University Belfast, 1993) pages 215-6.

2 Armagh County Museum website, http://www.rascal.ac.uk/collection/print/index.asp?CollectionID=404 website, accessed on 24 October 2009.

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copying skills, either of which can produce errors.

Vital Records

Many of us don't have the old family Bible, so we must look elsewhere for parent-child records. Vital records are properly called civil records, because they are created by civil government to keep track of citizens' identities (to protect us from imposters) by recording births, marriages and deaths.

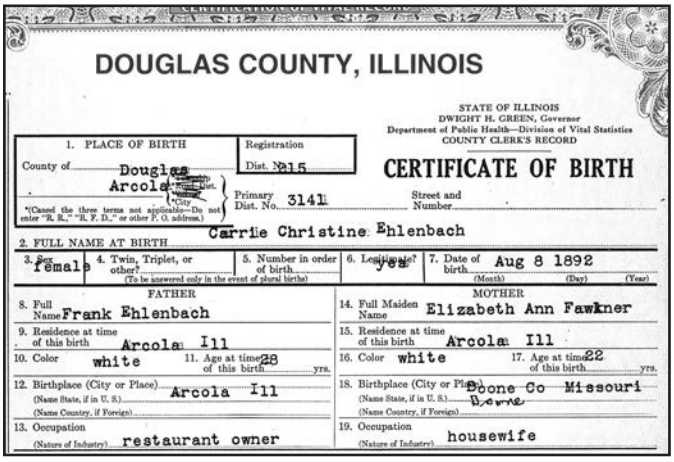
Birth records are the most useful because they usually record the names of the child, the mother and the father, as well as a date of birth. Birth certificates were less common before 1900, but we might find church baptismal records that provide most of the same information.

Marriage records sometimes name the parents of the bride and groom. In the early 19th century when marriage licenses were not common, we might find marriage consents or bonds. The person giving consent or posting the bond may be a parent or other close relative.

Death records often give the birth date and parents of the deceased, but are less trustworthy for our purposes, linking the deceased to parents, because the informant might have been misinformed about the facts. Someone other than the deceased provided the information. The informant may be a child, grandchild or other relative who only knows the facts from hearsay.

Obituaries

Full-blown obituaries were not common before the early 1900s. Even when they don't name the parents of the deceased, they may name siblings who can lead back to parents. Studying siblings also might lead us to other evidence for the parents of our ancestor.



DOUGLAS COUNTY, ILLINOIS

STATE OF ILLINOIS
DWIGHT H. GREEN, Governor
Department of Public Health—Division of Vital Statistics
COUNTY CLERK'S RECORD

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH

1. PLACE OF BIRTH — County of Douglas; Arcola (City); Registration Dist. No. 15; Primary Dist. No. 3141; Street and Number
*(Cancel the three terms not applicable—Do not enter "R. R.," "R. F. D.," or other P. O. address.)
2. FULL NAME AT BIRTH: Carrie Christine Ehlenbach
3. Sex: Female
4. Twin, Triplet, or other? (To be answered only in the event of plural births)
5. Number in order of birth
6. Legitimate? Yes
7. Date of birth: Aug 8 1892 (Month) (Day) (Year)

FATHER
8. Full Name: Frank Ehlenbach
9. Residence at time of this birth: Arcola Ill
10. Color: white
11. Age at time of this birth: 28 yrs.
12. Birthplace (City or Place): Arcola Ill (Name State, if in U. S.) (Name Country, if Foreign)
13. Occupation (Nature of Industry): restaurant owner

MOTHER
14. Full Maiden Name: Elizabeth Ann Fawkner
15. Residence at time of this birth: Arcola Ill
16. Color: white
17. Age at time of this birth: 22 yrs.
18. Birthplace (City or Place): Boone Co Missouri (Name State, if in U. S.) Boone (Name Country, if Foreign)
19. Occupation (Nature of Industry): housewife

Birth Certificate *courtesy of Jay Fonkert.*

Census Records

Beginning in 1880, the U.S. census recorded the relationship of each individual to the head of the household. Because it records our ancestors in family groups, the census gives valuable hints about family composition. Again, we don't know who gave the information to the census-taker, so we have a hard time judging its trustworthiness; the information may be in error.

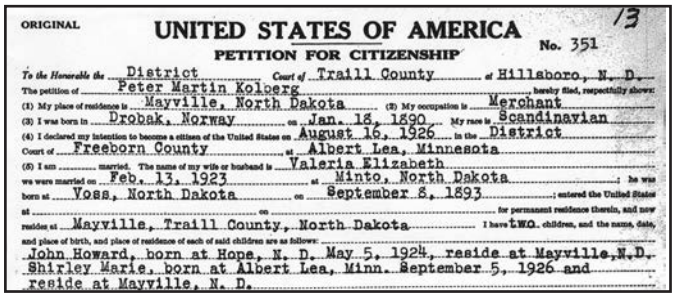
U.S. censuses in 1850, 1860 and 1870 recorded all individuals living together in a household. While we can surmise relationships, we can't be certain.

Ship Passenger Manifests

Passenger manifests are similar to the census in that they provide snapshots of family groups at the moment of immigration. They sometimes state relationships. We check passenger manifests with care because not all members of the family may have arrived at the same time, or people may have traveled in mixed family groups containing in-laws, nieces and nephews or stepchildren. Beginning in 1907, federal immigration forms asked the name of an immigrant's nearest relative in his or her home country. The nearest relative is often a parent, or an uncle/aunt, or a cousin, giving valuable leads to European records that might connect children to parents.

Naturalization Records

Early naturalization records do not give much biographical information. Only since 1927 have U.S. petitions for naturalization asked for names and birth dates of the petitioner's children.



ORIGINAL — UNITED STATES OF AMERICA — No. 351 — 13

PETITION FOR CITIZENSHIP

To the Honorable the District Court of Traill County of Hillsboro, N. D.
The petition of Peter Martin Kolberg hereby filed, respectfully shows:
(1) My place of residence is Mayville, North Dakota (2) My occupation is Merchant
(3) I was born in Drobak, Norway on Jan. 16, 1890 My race is Scandinavian
(4) I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on August 16, 1926 in the District Court of Freeborn County at Albert Lea, Minnesota
(5) I am married. The name of my wife or husband is Valeria Elizabeth we were married on Feb. 13, 1923 at Minto, North Dakota; he was born at Voss, North Dakota on September 8, 1893; entered the United States at on for permanent residence therein, and now resides at Mayville, Traill County, North Dakota I have TWO children, and the name, date, and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children are as follows:
John Howard, born at Hope, N. D. May 5, 1924, reside at Mayville, N.D.
Shirley Marie, born at Albert Lea, Minn. September 5, 1926 and reside at Mayville, N. D.

Naturalization record *courtesy of Jay Fonkert.*

Secrets and Silence

by Gabrielle Ní Mheachair

Wills and Probate Records

Wills and probates area about inheritance which usually means spouse, children, grandchildren, parents or siblings. If there is a probate file, always look there for evidence of heirs. A will may name at least some of them. But without a will, the court was bound by law to seek our and name all of them. Besides named heirs, a probate file can yield clues to other relationships.

Conclusions

In the best of all genealogical worlds, evidence from two or more sources provides agreement about relationships and birth dates. For example, the family Bible agrees with the birth record, and both are backed up by relationships stated in a will. If the evidence conflicts, we need to try to determine which we can trust. If several sources agree and one conflicts, we must still consider the possibility that the lone disagreeing source is the correct one. In the next issue of *The Septs*, I will show some examples of how to use information from multiple sources to strengthen genealogical conclusions.

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.

Foreword

Many people return from their genealogical searches in Ireland quite elated with their reception. They find the Irish friendly, cooperative, helpful and informative. These people immediately plan their return trip excited to reconnect with that elated feeling and their accommodating relatives. Unfortunately, just as many people return from Ireland quite distressed and upset. Theirs is a totally different experience. They feel like they achieved nothing. Doors were shut, windows shuttered, lips tightened, books and photos hidden. These people feel like the Irish did not cooperate fully with them. Their most common questions are as follows...

- *Why did we get such a cool reception?*
- *Why did no one know anything?*
  Why did we meet brick wall after brick wall?
- *Why did we get the feeling we were being run in circles?*

While I cannot provide answers for individual predicaments, I can provide some insight using my own experiences and knowledge.

Land Ownership

In Ireland long ago, the measure of a man's wealth was the number of cattle he herded. However, after the enactment of the penal laws of the 1700s, the measure of a man's wealth became his acreage not his herd. Land was survival, currency, collateral, and status. As a result, people were in cahoots to keep land in the family at all costs, and to add to it wherever, whenever, and however possible.

Jim and Lucy

Lucy had an elderly uncle who died. His land automatically passed to her and no one paid any mind. In fact people were happy for Lucy. She had been orphaned young, her older brother died shortly thereafter, and the mantle of the land fell upon her. Then her husband died, leaving her a young widow with two children and an elderly uncle to care for. When the uncle died Lucy took the farm and got on with it. Many years later, the uncle's wife's people came looking for their relative and their share of his property. They arrived on Lucy's doorstep. She denied the Uncle had ever been married and insisted that they had the wrong Ryans. She sent them to her first cousin, Jim. "He knows everything about the Ryans," she assured them.

Jim knew well what Lucy was at and denied that he had any idea of whom they were enquiring about. "Sure there are more Ryans around this place than cattle," he told them and sent them to another set of relatives. These cousins were a crude bunch living like cave men from prehistoric times. They could neither read nor write and were so terrifying that the family went back to their home county and never took up their claim. Jim couldn't afford to betray his cousin, Lucy, with the two of them going down together in the one grave. Sure, they'd be trapped side-by-side scowling at each other for eternity!

Genealogical research can thread on the deeply sensitive issue of land ownership.

Displacement

Many people left for America with an in-depth family history in their heads. They fastidiously taught this history to their children so that they would always remember where they came from. When subsequent generations finally

made the long and expensive journey back to Ireland, they knew exactly where to go and who to look for. However, they found nothing. The family and the name had been displaced in the time that had passed; no one knew their story except for them. Their pristine history was one or two generations old.

William Maher

William Maher emigrated to New York in the mid 1800s. He passed on the great Maher traditions and history to his children who diligently continued the instruction into the second American generation. William Maher's grandson – another William, now a priest – went back to the homeland to find his roots. He knew the exact town and place to find his people. He was looking for his grandfather's family, the Mahers of Drom. The town's people sent him to the Drom Mahers but no one there could help him. He didn't connect to any of them. Confused and failing to find his relatives, William returned to America.

Weeks later, Patrick Maher of Ivy Hall was at the barber, another Maher by name. The barber told Patrick the story of the unfortunate American who had spent a week around the place looking to find his roots, only to return to America disappointed. Patrick immediately realized that William was the grandson of his great uncle William who had emigrated to America. The poor man had been raised on stories of his ancestors in Killea and Drom, but these Mahers had been evicted and displaced so many times that they were now known as the Mahers of Ivy Hall and Shanakil. William was looking for the right Mahers in the wrong place. Patrick tried desperately to find William but failed. The family still laments the tragedy of the event. William's family was never found.

When researching families, follow every lead and every name. Displacement was common in Ireland. Keep following the trail. It will eventually lead somewhere.

Work Disappointment

Many young girls and men went to foreign lands hoping to gain meaningful employment so that they could send money home to feed, educate and help others emigrate. There was no gold on the streets in the new land. Often times there were no jobs. Sometimes the Irish were discriminated against because they were Irish, or because they spoke no English, or because they were uneducated and unskilled having worked as farm laborers or servant girls in their homeland. These emigrants knew that their families expected them to prosper and make them proud. Unfortunately, life was hard in the cities and they found themselves doing menial work. Some women took to the streets to earn a living. These emigrants suffered embarrassment at their lack of success and couldn't face home. Some lost all contact with their families; they went missing and were never heard of again.

Siobhán

Siobhán worked as a servant girl from the time she was thirteen years old. Her mother, also a servant, got her a job in one of the local big houses. Siobhán hated being a servant girl and decided to emigrate to England. Unfortunately, England proved a huge disappointment to her. She took to the streets as had others before her. Word trickled home through other locals who had emigrated that Siobhán was earning her living on the street. Her mother, Lilly, begged her to come home, but Siobhán knew she never could. Her reputation was gone. Eventually, she stopped writing home and just disappeared. No one knew where she had gone. Her mother was traumatized and lamented the loss of her beautiful Siobhán all the days of her life.

Lilly spent her life working as a servant and continued to clean houses into her eighties. One day she arrived for work all excited. She had houseguests from England. Two young men had shown up at her door. They were Siobhán's children. Siobhán had left London to build a new life for herself in small town England. She died a young woman. Her adult sons came to find their grandmother. One of the sons was contemplating the priesthood. Lilly was so happy and so proud. However, she never ceased to lament the loss of her beautiful daughter, Siobhán.

Dinnie and the Drink

Dinnie was accused of a social crime that he did not commit. His family refused to believe in his innocence. Loneliness and isolation drove him to the drink. Soon he became a nuisance in the local area. When his friends emigrated to England, Dinnie went with them. They tried to shape him up, but he was too far-gone in the drink. The friends became successful construction workers. Some married and had families. Others remained single and sent money home to their siblings. However, they always kept an eye on Dinnie. He used to hang out in the Irish pubs and slump in the alleyways after closing. One day, Dinnie just disappeared.

His friends contacted Irish groups and clubs throughout England hoping to find him, but they failed. To this day, his fate remains a mystery and his family refuses to talk about him. Many such Irish men left families behind them in Ireland and in England; a code of silence surrounds them.

Genealogical research for such families is a painful experience, especially where memories are still fresh.

The Primogenitor Tradition

In the late 19th century, large estates and farms were carved up and divided amongst the tenants. Landlords were allowed to keep a certain amount of land for themselves but were mandated to sell the tenants' plots to the tenants. At this time, some landlords who owned larger estates in England just packed their bags and sold their Irish estates to the tenants or to the Government, allowing the latter to divide their land as they so wished. However, many landlords only owned estates in Ireland. When forced to sell their plots of land back to the tenants, their acreage was significantly reduced and so too was their income. In fact, these single estate landlords were then forced to earn a living by working their farms instead of living off the land farmed by their Irish tenants. Many had nothing for their second sons who were forced to join the military, the church, or to emigrate. They left with a negative attitude towards the one who inherited. Family feuds, bitterness, and alienation ensued.

George

George was the descendant of one such landholder. His uncles emigrated to America. When they left they cut off all contact with their brother in Ireland, the heir to the estate. They indoctrinated their children and grandchildren with stories of the injustices that had befallen them. When George went to America to reconnect with his long lost cousins they rejected him. As George recounted to me, "They had it good, even if they did start from scratch. My father had it rough, you know! He had to sell everything in the house to pay the rates and taxes due on the property. I'm still a slave to the property trying to keep it a viable working farm. The expenses on the manor house are crippling."

Those who left often held a grudge against those who remained at home. In genealogical research, remember that there are two sides to every story.

Facts Or Fiction

Sometimes genealogical researchers return to the land of their ancestor's birth with wild ideas and notions about their origins. Many like to believe they came from the local castle or manor hall. Their cameras snap hungrily at these grand homes, and they lose sight of the true historical fact that the average person is more likely to be descended from the struggling Irish tenant than the affluent landlord.

Such researchers don't care too much for the facts. They are high on romance and fiction. In these cases, the researcher gets exactly what he wants. The Irish are known for their quick wit, love of a laugh, and are notorious for sending the fool further.

Kit

An English man arrived on my mother's doorstep some years ago and insisted that his ancestors were born and reared in Ivy Hall. Without sitting down to tease out his facts or even investigate the truths of his oral history, he asked permission to photograph, 'the old family home'. Mother was well aware that the family genealogy was thoroughly documented back to 1600 and that this man and his family were not in it. She was curious to find out exactly who he was and where his roots lay.

Ivy Hall is a substantial old home that dates back about three centuries. Each generation added to the original peasant cottage making it the grand hall it is today. Mother took him on a tour of the property where he took pictures left and right. He was thrilled with himself. When he was done they had the tea and tart. He told her some incidentals learned from his grandfather years ago. Mother began putting the puzzle together and realized that the man did indeed come from the townland of Ivy Hall. In fact, she placed him as the descendant of the old man who had lived in the hut under the oak tree. Her guest was a descendant of Ned Maher not our Mahers.

The English man didn't understand that the townland of Ivy Hall and the house were not one and the same thing. Centuries ago, up to thirty families, including my own, populated the townland of Ivy Hall – with all living on one to ten acre plots of land. When the famine came, many of these families either died out or emigrated. My ancestors bought up all the leases so they now own most of the entire townland called Ivy Hall. The house is called Ivy Hall, after the townland.

I asked Mother, "Did you set the poor man straight and take him over to Ned Maher's field and show him where the old cottage used to be under the oak tree?"

"Not at all," she replied. "I let him off back to England thinking he was one of ourselves. That's what he wanted to believe."

The English man came from England determined to be from Ivy Hall house and my mother didn't have the heart to tell him that his people came from a one-room cottage under the oak tree by the stream.

When doing genealogical research in Ireland, be sure to have your facts straight and your romanticism in check.

Settlement Claims

Some people emigrated from their family farms because they were second or third sons or unsettled daughters. When they later learned about inheritance laws, they realized that they were legally entitled to a share of the property upon their parent's death or even before. If they had married in Ireland, they would have gotten dowries to go with them. Small though these dowries may have been, they were better than nothing at all.

Emigrant adults who thought there was something in it for them often wrote home laying claims upon the property. In some cases, the family had no problem giving its sons and daughters a lift in life. In other cases, the family resented this claim upon the property or simply could not afford to give payouts to one let alone several family members. In most cases, such claims were a huge burden on those left at home. Times may have been hard in foreign lands, but they were equally harsh in Ireland. Where claims were resented and property sold to make payments, deep rifts ensued. Letters stopped and contact was lost.

Paddy

Such a situation arose in the Long family. The U.S. Longs wrote home for their share of the family farm. The father was dead and Jim, the oldest son, was now the proprietor. He had no money to meet the claims of his four emigrant brothers. Yet, he refused to sell any land. He called a family meeting and a solution was found. Paddy, a brother in Dublin, would give his life savings to Jim, quit his job in Dublin and come home to work the farm with Jim in an effort to make the money back. Jim would send Paddy's money to the U.S. It was also agreed that Jim would not marry until Paddy was settled first.

They banked their savings and when Paddy was ready he married a local widow. He took the money into the marriage as his marriage settlement. Jim was flat broke once more. He then set about working the farm to save enough to get married himself. Jim was now middle aged and by the time he wed he was an old man. These two men put their lives on hold to set their brothers up in New York. There was no ill will in this family and the New York cousins were always welcome.

A similar situation, in a Gleeson family, the Americans send home for their share of the property. The farm was sold and the money split among the four sons. The widow and her youngest son were left homeless and landless. She used her young son's settlement to rent a hovel on the edge of a bog. When that money ran out, they were evicted. Her only daughter brought her mother and brother into her cottage where thirteen children already ran wild. Needless to say, the sister, the only Irish link, did not look favorably upon her brothers or their offspring. Three generations later, the American cousins came back to Ireland and redeemed themselves by putting a large headstone over the widow's grave. However, they knew nothing of the land settlement tension of their ancestors.

The Irish hold grudges and they have very long memories. Some span generations.

A New Life

Many individuals reinvented themselves upon arrival in the new land creating new names, new identities, and even new family histories. They quickly and carefully disposed of their old identities and lives. The new land was a chance to be reborn, a new book to write, a new life to live. When such things happened, a genealogist is truly challenged. The facts are all wrong from the start and it is frightfully difficult to unravel a false history.

The Nun

When I was researching a family in New York, I had my facts in place and knew that they were right. I called this nun to verify and add to the family tree. She agreed that she was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Healy. She agreed that her brothers and sisters matched what

I had. The dates and names of everyone concurred with my research. Yet, she insisted that both her parents were from different towns in County Limerick. Limerick was the bond that connected them when they met in America. There was no way on the planet she would consider any other fact. On my part, I had held the register of birth, deaths, and marriages in my own two hands. I saw the original signatures of her ancestors in the book right there in front of me. There was no question that her parents were from a small town in Tipperary. I had the entire family traced from primary sources, complete with photographs. It fit together like a jigsaw puzzle and was authenticated by the current generations on all sides. Yet, this nun held firm to her story: both her parents were from Limerick and that was that.

Stacy

Stacy and Jack were first cousins who lived in different parishes but whose families made a point of getting together several times a year. This was a big ordeal because they drove six miles each way in a pony and trap. Jack and Stacy became fast friends and in their adult years they fell in love. Both society and the church frowned upon a marriage between first cousins, so the couple eloped to America and built a new life. While the local Irish communities were fully aware of the predicament, it seems that the American relatives were never told the truth.

Numerous similar situations occurred when a young bride and groom rushed off to America to prevent the locals from month counting. Socially heeled families preferred out of wedlock births to happen abroad; such situations caused scandal in small Irish communities. Victims of such scandals often felt they had shamed their families and could never return home. In America, they invented new histories guilt free.

Vocations

It was considered the highest honor and blessing of a Catholic family to have a nun or priest in the family. Mothers all but demanded that one of the girls become a nun and one of the boys become a priest or a Christian Brother. Either would do, but one of each was better! Mothers who had neither a nun nor a priest bemoaned their failure as parents lamenting, "I can't for the life of me figure out where I went wrong".

If a man or a woman left the religious orders and returned home to the family, it was a scandal, a failure of the worst kind. It could ruin a family's standing in the community. Those who left the religious orders had no choice but to emigrate. They knew only too well the trauma they would cause their families. "Out of sight, out of mind," was a familiar motto. They were better off gone, and once gone, they were often forgotten.

Genealogists may encounter silence, or a brick wall, when they ask questions about certain people. There is probably a reason why.

Wanted

Many Irish men and women accused of involvement in anti-British activities (great and small), petty local crimes, or non-payment of rent were smuggled, deported, or exported out of Ireland. When they arrived in their new lands they concealed their past. Being a criminal or being accused of a crime was nothing to brag about. These men and women carried the burden of their sentences silently. Today, their descendants are proud of their revolutionary, brave ancestors and thrilled to learn about their colorful pasts. In Ireland, however, memories are long and the embarrassment remains through many generations.

Also note that Ireland has two major political parties with poignantly painful origins. Enmity between both these parties is still very strong today.

"Never talk money, politics or religion in the pub." One would do well to remember that the same holds true when doing genealogical research.

Intimidation

The generation with the greatest wealth of genealogical information is currently over sixty years old. Many of them live on the home plots from which their ancestors emigrated. Some of these people, farms, and homes have progressed little during the past century. A researcher may find that the Irish connection may resent the intrusion of the second and third generation returnees "with their big talk, big cars, big wallets and big ideas". This generation may refuse to cooperate if they feel intimidated or looked down upon.

Albert

"I heard you had visitors from South Africa," said the neighbor to Albert one day.

"I did. I gave them the run," replied Albert.

"Weren't they your father's people?"

"I was having none of them. They came in here like they owned the place, with their fancy clothes and fancy cars and cameras jangling. Oh, I gave them the run all right."

"What did you say to them?" urged the neighbor.

"Nothing! I set Shep on them. Lord, you should have seen them make for the gate! T'was a sight to behold."

Albert lived in the old family cottage from which his uncles had emigrated to South Africa. Nothing had changed in the hundred years since they had left. Albert's cottage had no running water, no electricity, and no modern conveniences. He was utterly intimidated by the fancy relatives. He couldn't let them in.

A genealogist would do well to come bearing gifts (whiskey and biscuits), a humble bow, and a timid mentality.

Landlords And Ladies

No one discusses this issue publicly; and it is with great reserve that I do. The landlords in the big houses often took advantage of the young, pretty, innocent servant girls. When the girls complained, made demands, or found themselves pregnant it was not unusual for the landlord to ship them off to the city, to America or to England. There was no question of these girls ever being allowed to return. There was shame at the big house and shame in the cottage.

Frances

Frances worked as a chambermaid for the local landlord. She found herself pregnant and demanded that he support the child. His wife objected to the sight of Frances and insisted that she be sent away. The landlord offered a lump sum and her fare to America. Frances accepted the offer. She was to sail on the *Titanic*, but miscarried and was too ill to go. She kept the money and was married a local farmer who had been in love with her for years. Frances was fortunate; many in her predicament were not. They left Ireland and could never return. They were among those who invented new histories for themselves.

A genealogist rarely finds the details of such scenarios. If there is a big house and a servant girl in the story, thread cautiously.

There are many reasons why research breaks down on either side. There is guilt that those who stayed behind lived; land contention; 'criminal' backgrounds; claims for one's share; scandal or embarrassment; secrets never to be told. People left for many reasons and both sides suffered great pain. Some dealt with it nobly, others did not. As genealogists, we must respect this and not intrude where we are not wanted. It may be difficult to understand and accept, but sometimes there are places we simply cannot go.

Postscript

Researching in Ireland has been one of the most enriching experiences of my life. I learned so much about my family, others, and myself. I discovered that we are all the same. No family escapes secrets, problems, scandals, tragedies, guilt, honor and chivalry. Every family has it all, but differently: in different quantities, in different ways, and in different times. Learning this first hand is a life changing experience. I look at people through different eyes and try to see them in the light of their time. Our life choices are based on the constraints of the times in which we live. We should not judge others. We never know the extent of the circumstances or forces behind an individual's actions. History has to be understood in the context of its time.

Note: Names are changed to protect the identity of families and individuals.

Gabrielle Ni Meachair Woeltje is a native of Ivy Hall, Templemore, County Tipperary, Ireland. She currently resides with her husband, Keith Woeltje, and three children in St Louis, Missouri. Gabrielle is both a gifted storyteller who volunteers her talent at local schools and a renowned historian and genealogist who lectures throughout the USA. She was honored with a writing award from Tipperary at the Tipp FM Awards in 2009. She is currently working on, a history of the O'Meachair Clan titled, Meachair, the Story of a Clan. *In the next few years Gabrielle hopes to coordinate a Ryan and Maher clan rally with John Bradshaw of the Clans Office Tipperary Town, Ireland.*

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

Starting with this issue of *The Septs*, we will include articles not only from 100 years ago, but also some earlier items from perhaps 125, 150, 175 or even 200 years ago in this column. We hope that you will enjoy this change of view.

100 Years Ago

Deaths And Funerals

The death occurred at the General hospital yesterday morning of Thomas Sinclair, aged 28 years. Deceased was a native of Collin-Dun-Murry, Co. Antrim, Ireland. He leaves a wife and two children residing on Trent Avenue, Kildonan. Also a father and mother, 2 sisters and a brother in Ireland. Deceased was a member of St. John's Masonic Lodge of Lisburn, Ireland, also of the Orange Order of Ireland. The funeral will take place this afternoon at 2:30 from Gardiner's undertaking rooms to Elmwood cemetery, and Rev. Mr. Armstrong will officiate.

Winnepeg Free Press
Winnipeg, Manitoba 5 Sep 1910

Defining Recuperate

The teacher was explaining the meaning of "recuperate".

"Now, Willie," she said. "If your father worked hard all day he would be tired and all worn out, wouldn't he?"

"Yes'm."

"Then when night comes and his work is over for the day, what does he do?"

"That's what ma wants to know."

The Irish Standard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 26 Feb 1910

125 Years Ago

Royal Descendents In St. Louis

St. Louis has 50 persons who claim to be descended from English, Scotch, Irish and Welsh Kings, and who make a patent to the nobility by giving a list of their names to the newspapers.

Reno Evening Gazette
Reno, Nevada 23 Mar 1885

Death Of A Clerical Favorite Of New Orleans
End of an Eventful Life and Close of a Worthy Career – The Beloved Pastor Dies in San Francisco

... Dr. Scott was of mingled Scotch and Irish descent, his grandparents having removed from Pertshire, Scotland, to Londonderry, Ireland, to Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Tennessee, where, after many wanderings, they finally settled in Shelby County, near Raleigh. ...

Galveston Daily News
Galveston, Texas 26 Jan 1885

150 Years Ago

John G. Baker Disinherits

The will of the late John G. Baker, of New York, has been offered for probate in the Supreme Court. It contains a codicil disinheriting his daughter "Mary Ann," who married her father's Irish coachman.

Racine Daily Journal
Racine, Wisconsin 19 Mar 1860

Ireland And The Irish

Rev. Dr. Murray, the well-known author of the "Kirwan" letters, delivered a lecture last evening upon Ireland and the Irish, to a large audience, in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Twenty-second-street. The lecture was in great part historical, and traced the progress of the Irish nation from the time of the Druids to the present. The Irish people of the present day represented three distinct classes – the descendants of the Milesians, of the English who came over with CROMWELL, and of the Scotch – the latter being called even to this day Scotch Irish. ... The emigrants of this class can be readily distinguished on their arrival on our wharves by their elongated faces, high cheek bones, and manly bearing. ...

The New York Times
New York, New York 1 Mar 1860

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.

Irish Immigrants in New Brunswick

by William Romanski

Not only are there few primary sources for the genealogical investigation of Irish immigration to New Brunswick, there are few academic studies as well. Luckily, there is the work of Dr. Peter Toner, a professor of history at the University of New Brunswick since 1970. Dr. Toner's interest in the settlement of New Brunswick by Irish immigrants has resulted in a couple of books that I have turned to time and again.

New Ireland Remembered: Historical Essays on the Irish in New Brunswick

Peter M. Toner, editor
New Ireland Press; Fredrictown, NB
1988, Out of print

This collection of essays edited by Dr. Toner reflects on the settlement of the Irish in New Brunswick. (New Ireland was, of course, one proposed name for the colony that became New Brunswick.) The several contributing writers enlighten us on subjects such as: "Reception of the Irish in New Brunswick", "The Irish in Miramichi", and "Squelching the Disloyal, Fenian-Sympathizing Brood." Several essays touch on the pattern of immigration, the immigrants' origins, ports or arrival, and the changes in Ireland and Europe which prompted them to leave for Canada. It matters not when your New Brunswick Irish immigrant came to the province nor where he settled, you'll find something pertaining to them in this book.

See page 16 for bio of William Romanski.

An Index to Irish Immigrants in the New Brunswick Census of 1851

Peter M. Toner, editor
Provincial Archives of New Brunswick; Fredericton, NB
1991

This is an unparalleled resource for a region the size of New Brunswick. It began as a sampling of Irish communities in New Brunswick for the purpose of comparing them demographically to other ethnic groups. The *Index* has become the most comprehensive Canadian Irish source for the mid-1800s. Dr. Toner collected data from censuses, obituaries, church records, etc. for the Irish who appeared in the census taken in New Brunswick in 1851. The result is a listing of everyone in New Brunswick who was born in Ireland; it includes their age in 1851, the year of their arrival in the colony, and the parish in which they were living at the time of the enumeration. Religion is given in most cases. Most importantly, the Irish county of origin is given for about 30% of the immigrants. Even if your ancestor was not counted in this census, you might be able to glean some information from others with the same surname.

There is a responsibility that comes with success, and it's the one that says, you've made it this far, now what can you do to help?

Merlin Olsen

Mark Your Calendars for IGSI Events

Classes, Programs, and Meetings Open to All Members

2010 IGSI Class Schedule

Many of you responded to our on-line Education Survey and we are working hard to respond to your suggestions. Below is our preliminary Education Calendar for the start of 2010. Please note that the variety of topics that we offer are directly linked to the survey responses. In addition, we are working on creating online classes on our most highly requested educational topics: Irish Basics and Griffith's Valuation. We hope to have at least one of these classes up and running by summer. Wish us luck as we branch into a new era of outreach in education!
Thank you.
Sheila Northrop
Education Committee Chair

Classes in 2010:
All classes will be held at the MGS Library in South St. Paul. Fee for classes are $10.

January 9 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Research Websites with Sheila Northrop

February 13 (1-2:30 PM) – Irish Basics How-To with Tom Rice

March 13 (10-11:30 AM) – Griffith's Valuation with Beth Mullinax

April 10 (1-2:30 PM) – Sources/Research Centers Abroad – Instructor TBD

May 8 (1-2:30 PM) – Irish Migration Patterns with Sheila Northrop

June 12 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Records in Canada/US – Instructor TBD

July 10 (1-2:30 PM) – Subject and Instructor TBD

August 14 IGSI offers 2 classes to coincide with the Irish Fair
(10-11:30 AM)– Irish Basics How-To with Tom Rice
(1-2:30 PM) Writing Family Stories with Linda Miller

September 11 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Research Websites with Sheila Northrop

IGSI Board of Directors Meetings

Monthly Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. All Board meetings are open to all members.

January 13, 2010	February 10, 2010	March 10, 2010
April 17, 2010	May 12, 2010	June 9, 2010

IGSI Quarterly Meeting & Program

February 20, 2010; Meeting at 9 AM - Program at 10 AM

Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
(Registration opens at 8:30)
Program at 10:00 a.m.

Charge: $10 members
$15 non-members

Topic: Life and Times of Archbishop John Ireland

Speaker: Professor Ann Klejment
Department of History
University of St. Thomas,
St. Paul, Minnesota

Irish Saturdays

Irish research volunteers are available from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with using the library and Irish resources. The following six months are listed above.

Second Saturday of the Month
JANUARY 9, 2010
FEBRUARY 13, 2010
MARCH 13, 2010
APRIL 10, 2010
MAY 8, 2010
JUNE 12, 20010

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

Recent Library Acquisitions

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases

H650 - *History of the Royal Irish Constabulary*, by Robert Curtis. [Originally published 1871] Published by Archive CD Books Ireland, Dublin, Ireland, 2009.

H651 - *World War I Irish Soldiers: Their Final Testament*. An Index to the Wills of Irish Soldiers who Died 1914-1918, by Kiara Gregory. Published Eneclann Ltd, Dublin, Ireland, 2008, [CD].

H652 - *Scotland During the Plantation of Ulster: The People of Lanarkshire 1600-1699*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD 2009, 159 p., ill., alphabetical.

H653 - *Scotland During the Plantation of Ulster: The People of Renfrewshire 1600-1699*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2009, 154 p., illus., alphabetical.

H654 - *Coffin Ship: The Wreck of the Brig St. John*, by William Henry. Published by Mercier Press, Cork, Ireland, 2009, 223 p., illus.

H655 - *Green, Blue and Grey: The Irish in the American Civil War*, by Cal McCarthy. Published by Collins Press, Wilton, Cork, 2009, 326 p., illus., index.

K131 - *Register of the Cathedral of St Fin Barre, Cork, 1753-1804*, by Alicia St. Leger. Published by the Representative Church Body Library, Dublin, Ireland, 2008, 438 p., illus., indexed.

K132 - *The Vestry Records of the Parishes of St. Catherine and St. James, Dublin, 1657-1692*, by Raymond Gillespie. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland in Association with The Representative Church Body Library, 2004, 240 p., illus., indexed.

K133 - *The Vestry Records of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Dublin, 1595-1658*, by Raymond Gillespie. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland in association with The Representative Church body Library, 2002, 240 p., indexed.

K134 - *Register of the Cathedral of St Patrick, Dublin 1677-1869*, edited by J. H. Bernard and Raymond Refausse. Published by the Representative Church Body Library, Dublin, 2007, 246 p., indexed. [Church of Ireland records.]

K135 - *The Diocese of Killaloe: From the Reformation to the Close of the 18th Century*, by Rev. Canon Philip Dwyer. [Clare, Limerick and Tipperary Counties. CD of book originally published in 1878 in Dublin.] CD published by Archive CD Books Ireland, Dublin, Ireland.

L102 - *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1751-1858, Volume III*, by Terrence M. Punch, FRSAI. Published by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2009, 192 p., illus, indexed.

L104 - *South Monaghan: The Garden of Eden*, by Jean Murray Cole. [Township of Monaghan in Peterborough County, Ontario, Canada] Published by the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, Ontario, 1998, 278 p., illus, indexed.

L105 - *Township of North Monaghan: A History of North Monaghan Township, 1817-1989* [Peterborough County, Ontario, Canada], by The North Monaghan Historical Research Committee, North Monaghan, Canada. Published by the Committee, 1989, 325 p., maps, indexes.

P052 - *Scots-Irish Links, 1825-1900*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2009, 110 p., alphabetical.

Donations

Donated by Mary Corcoran

A391 - County Roscommon Land Valuation Townland Maps, with plot numbers. O. S. #29, #37, #40, #42, townlands of Corn mart (Killinvoy Parish), Clooncah (Cloonvinlough Parish) , Coggalbeg, (Kilbride Parish), Knockerogery Killinvoy Parish), Moher (Cloonfinlough Parish), & Tonlegee (Kilteevan Parish). 8 maps.

A 392 - County Roscommon, Land Valuation Books, selected pages, Killinvoy Parish, Knockcrogery Townland, 11 pages.

A393 - County Roscommon, Land Valuation Books, selected pages, Killinvoy Parish, Cornamart Townland, 25 pages.

A394 - County Roscommon, Land Valuation Books, selected pages, Cloonfinlough Parish, Clooncah Townland, 11 pages.

A395 - County Roscommon, Land Valuation Books, selected pages, Cloonfinlough Parish, Moher Townland, 13 pages.

A396 - County Roscommon, Land Valuation Books, selected pages, Kilteevan Parish, Tonlegee Townland, 4 pages.

A397 - County Roscommon, Land Valuation Books, selected pages, Kilbride Parish, Coggalbeg Townland, 12 pages.

A399 - Map of Ireland, circa 1875, two sheets North & South.

A400 - Map of Ireland, circa 1820, two sheets, North & South.

A401 -1901 Vintage Irish County Maps, County Roscommon, one map.

A402 - Historic Map Reprint of: Ireland/Britain - 1844, 1797.

FH - *The Murray-Lohan Family: Their Irish Roots and American Homes*, by Mary Corcoran. Published by BackstairsDown Press, Minneapolis, MN, 2009, 183 p., illus.

Donated by Ron Eustice

C130 - *Manor Kilbride Graveyard: A Survey of the Old Section, A history of the graveyard, A look at some of the stones, Inscription s from all the Headstones, Index of Burials, Index of Burials with No Name on a Headstone 1937-1982*, by Blessington History Society, Blessington, County Wicklow. Published by the Blessington History Society, 2009, 138 p., illus, indexed.

G116 - *Crown Surveys of Lands 1540-41 with the Kildare Rental begun in 1518*. Edited by Gearoid MacNiocaill. Published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission, Dublin, Ireland, 1992, 443 p., index of persons & places.

Donated by Mary Frances Judge

A398 - County Sligo, Old Sligo Town Map, 10 ½ "X 12". [Map Drawer.]

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.

Evening Library Hours

Effective January 1, 2010, the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library's evening hours will change. The library will be open from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday each week.

The library is closed on Mondays and during severe weather.

The library will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The library's phone number is 651-455-9057.

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 2010, is February 1, 2010. Submission date for the July 2010 issue is May 1, 2010.

The theme for the April 2010 issue is "Methodology for Family Historians". 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:

July 2010	Scots Irish
Oct 2010	20th Century Emigration
January 2011	Newspapers
April 2011	Women in Irish Genealogy & Culture
July 2011	Irish Resources on the Internet - Revisited

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.

All Half-Inch Survey Maps are $8.00

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---	NO. 20 – No longer available
HMAP21	NO. 21 – Kerry-Cork
HMAP22	NO. 22 – East Cork-Waterford
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Irish Estate Records Index

IGSI

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IGSI holds the Index to manuscripts held at the National Library and Archives in Dublin for the following counties.

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E023	Clare	$20.00	
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E003	Fermanagh	$7.00	
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IGSI

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C007 ***St. John's Cemetery Transcription: Dakota County MN***
Catholic Cemetery in Burnsville, Dakota County, MN (23 pp)

C006 ***St. Mary's Cemetery Transcription: Scott County, MN***
Catholic Cemetery in Credit RiverTownship, Scott County, MN (22 pp)

C009 ***St. Patrick's Cemetery Transcription: Scott County MN***
Catholic Cemetery in Cedar Lake Township, Scott County MN (8 pp)

C012 ***St. Peter's Cemetery Transcription: Credit River***
September 1984. This cemetery index includes a History and Map of the Cemetery, Grave Listings by Location, Listing of Unmarked Graves, and an index of Names. (38 pp)

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Who Were My Ancestors? Bere Island - Full index

IGSI

Complete surname index of O'Dwyer's Bere Island book (Bera Peninsula, Cork) that lists marriages and intertwining family relationships of the area. This index makes researching the often duplicate names infinitely easier. (92 pp) Order G052.1 $20.00.

Jessenland, Sibley County, Minnesota Records

IGSI

Jessenland is the site of the oldest Irish settlement in Minnesota. IGSI transcribed birth, death, marriage and cemetary transcriptions of genealogical importance.

IM20.BD ***Jessenland: Civil Records Births/Deaths, Jessenland Township, Sibley County, MN***
Deaths: 1871-1908; Faxon Township Deaths:1871-1914 and Births: 1871-1914. $12.00

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Marriage Records of St. Thomas Church, Jessenland, Henderson, Minnesota, 29 December 1861 – 18 July 1887 Indexed by Bride, Groom, Witnesses. $6.50

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Ruins and Beehives and Castles, Oh My

The 2010 IGSI Trip to Ireland

by Diane Lovrencevic

IGSI's trip to Ireland in 2010 offers something for everyone. Join us and visit the most important sites in Ireland: monastic ruins, beautiful sandy beaches and rugged edges of Irish coastline, heritage towns we have read about in Irish history, pre-Christian sites, castles, seat of the Kings, and so much more.

We start in Dublin with four days to enjoy the area on our own or with friends from the trip. For some, this means doing research at the National Archives; for others, it is sightseeing in and around the city, and others who do a little bit of both. The final evening in Dublin finds the group enjoying a show at the Ploughboy pub in the Dublin Mountains.

Trip dates: September 19, 2010 through September 30, 2010

The trip is 12 days: two days traveling to and from Ireland and 10 days in Ireland itself. We will travel around Ireland in a deluxe touring coach accompanied by an experienced driver and guide. Our accommodations in three star hotels will include a full Irish breakfast each morning. Seven dinners and entrance tickets to seven sights will also be included. To see the complete itinerary go to our website at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org/trip.asp.

Originally, our plans included two days in Dublin and two days in Belfast. Just days after announcing the trip, we learned that PRONI (Public Record Office of Northern Ireland) would be closed during our scheduled trip. We considered various options and decided that another trip, in 2012, would feature PRONI and Northern Ireland.

The 2010 trip is based on a core number of people traveling, with two to a room. There will be a few single rooms available based on the number of double occupancies we fill. The cost below is for the "Land Package" only; individuals must make their own flight arrangements based on where they live.

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. Registrations prior to that date must be accompanied by a registration form and a deposit. **The deposit is non-refundable.** Final payment for the trip is due June 15, 2010. Anyone signing up after May 15 should send the complete price of the trip with their registration form. Cancellations will be accepted until August 10, but deposits and a cancellation fee will be deducted. See Trip Cancellation Policy on our website.

The IGSI Ireland Research and Tour will accept only a limited number of participants. Members who want to ensure a place on the trip and save a few dollars should consider our **'Early Bird Special'** found at http://www.irishgenealogical.org/EarlyBird.asp.

We have already received reservations and we expect to have a full trip. We hope that you can join us. Contact us with any of your questions or concerns at Trip@IrishGenealogical.org. For more information, check our website at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org/trip.asp.

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.

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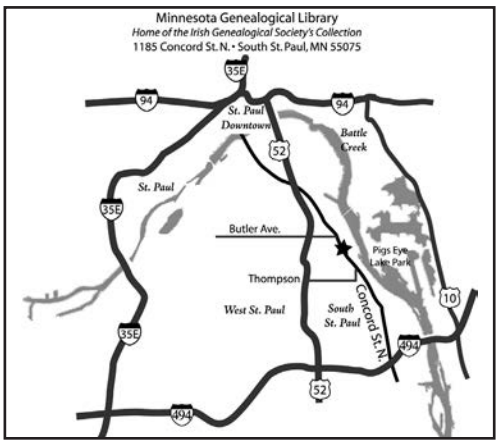

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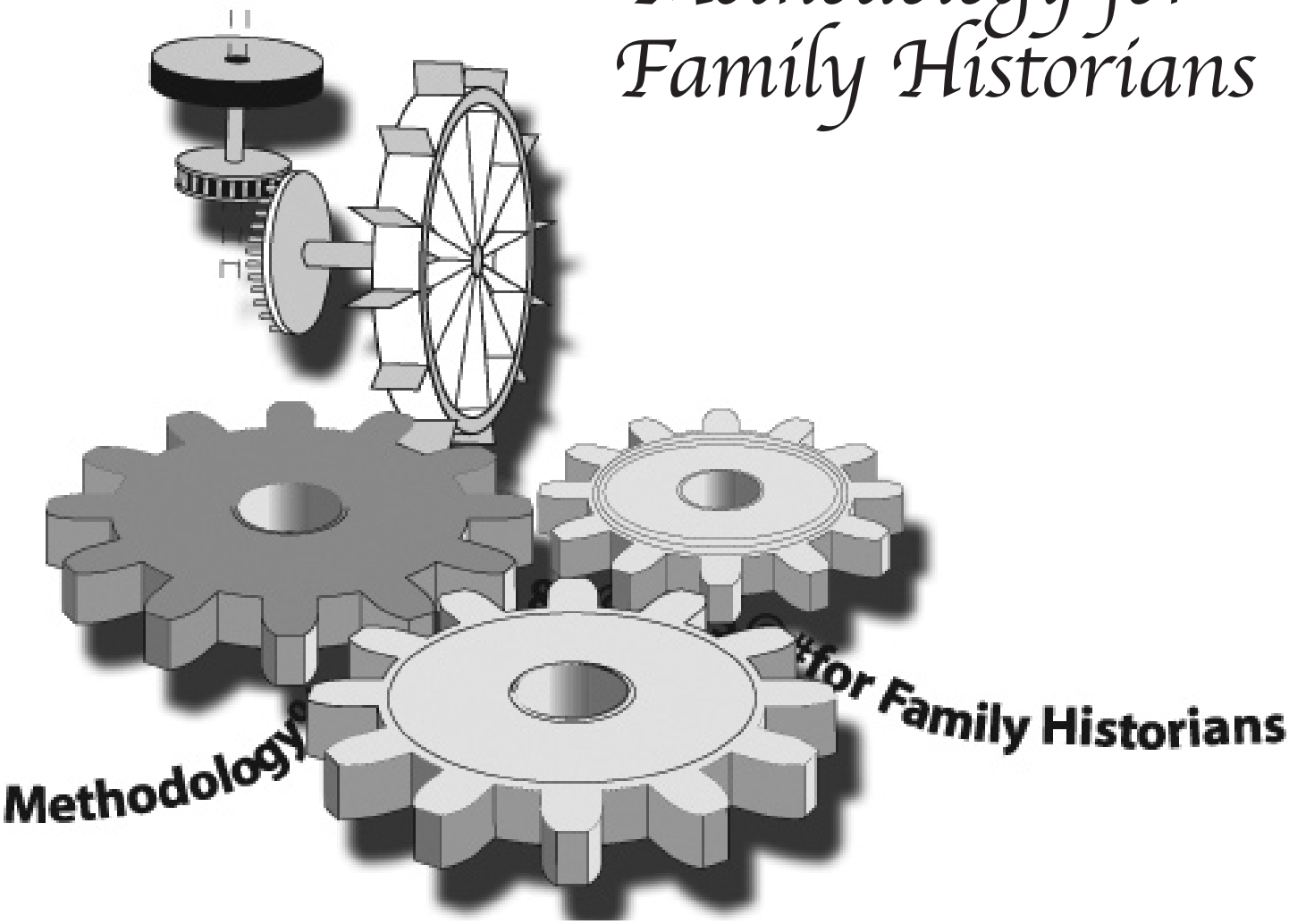
During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

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.

The Septs

Volumne 31, Number 2 An t-Alòredn (April) **2010**

Methodology for Family Historians



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2010 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month
- 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
- OCTOBER 9, 2010
- NOVEMBER 13, 2010
- DECEMBER 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 are 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
Web site address: http://www.IrishGenealogical.org
ISSN 1049-1783 • Indexed by PERSI

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2009-2010

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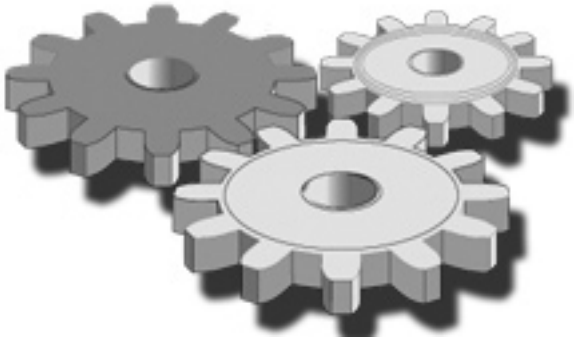

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President's Letter

You Make a Difference

by Linda Miller

In January, the IGSI Board sought your approval to restructure IGSI by becoming an independent, non-profit organization. Your response to our request exceeded our expectations. We received 433 votes on the question and 429 of the votes were in favor of IGSI becoming an independent, non-profit organization. As I mentioned in my message to you about the need for this move, any changes will probably go unnoticed by members because the anticipated changes are administrative and won't change what members receive and expect from us. On behalf of the entire Board of IGSI, I want to thank you for your interest in the organization, for taking the time to vote and for your confidence in the Board's leadership in this matter. The process of making the necessary legal changes has been set in motion and we hope to have it completed in six months. This year will be an exciting time for IGSI. We hope you will continue your interest in the society and that you will be involved by sharing your ideas, concerns and wishes with us for the future of IGSI.

The Board is committed to growing IGSI membership in 2010. As I have written before, genealogical societies and similar membership organizations are experiencing a slow, steady decline in membership. The IGSI Board will try to reverse that trend in our organization and we need your help. If you have ideas for enhancing member benefits or for enticing others to join IGSI, please share them with me.

- How you would change IGSI if it were up to you?
- What do you wish we would do for members?
- What more could we do that would help you?
- What expertise do you have that could benefit IGSI?

Brainstorm with us and send us your thoughts and ideas, even if you think they are not practical or doable!

New
is the operative word this year

Even if you don't have ideas to share, you probably know others of Irish ancestry. Please talk to them about our organization. Tell them how belonging to IGSI benefits you and helps you with your research. Invite them to join! Show them our journal and give them our website address. Build a mini "outpost"of IGSI members in your region. And, if you know of a place where IGSI membership forms can be displayed, let me know. We are happy to mail membership forms to anyone who requests them.

Family history and genealogical research has never been of more interest to people. Unfortunately, "joining" organizations of any kind has never been less popular, at least in the United States. Ask the Rotary, the Elks, the Optimists, Lions, Kiwanis, or the veterans organizations, the VFWs and American Legions. The reasons are complicated but the majority opinion seems to be that, whether people are searching for their ancestors, for new friends or for other ways to participate in community programs, they feel that technology and the Internet offer everything they need to accomplish their goals.

I am the first to admit the Internet is a dream come true, especially for family history researchers. Most of us find the resources offered on the Internet amazing and compelling. I don't ever want to be without it. At the same time, I don't want to be without genealogical societies. That is where I can find others who know and understand Irish genealogy research, others who carry Ireland in their hearts, who know it like the back of their hands, who understand my weird obsession with the lives of my ancestors, who know more than I do about a certain little townland, parish, barony or county across the sea and who are willing to share their knowledge. That is why I renew my membership, year after year, and it is probably the reason you do too.

Please Come….

If you hurry, you can still be part of our trip to Ireland this coming September. We would love to have you join us! Tour members will have four uninterrupted, wonderful days in Dublin's marvelous research facilities to track down the documents that will provide proof of their ancestors' long ago Irish lives. In the remaining days, Terry Flynn's experienced local guides will show us the beauty of Ireland on a tour we will never forget. Look for details on page 78 in this issue of *The Septs* and on our website at http://www.irishgenealogical.org/trip.asp.

You Make a Difference continued on page 68

Going for the Gold

by Ann Eccles

I have been watching the Olympics as I prepared to write this item and thought about the comparison of dedication among the athletes in Canada and that of family historians. While there are professional athletes, many who performed in Vancouver were focused amateurs seeking a goal. Some won a prized medallion; others set their "personal best" in performance. We family historians seek the prize of the ancestral townland and Irish cousins, though sometimes we achieve only a part of the goal.

Just as athletes train for many years to perfect the techniques of their sport, we family historians need to increase the use of traditional genealogical research methods to improve our results. We who are not certified or professional genealogists may be well-organized, detail-oriented, etc. but we may not have a full set of skills to get the most out of our research. Some of us are generally curious about our heritage or want to solve a family mystery. We may not plan to make genealogy our life's work. Sometimes it just happens that way once we get started.

Why do we investigate our family history? Each of us has a unique answer to that question and each of us has progressed in our research according to our skills and determination. I'm sure that very few of us sat down prior to delving into the family's history to study specific genealogical research methods and techniques. Most of us probably took our life experiences with research and applied those simple techniques and principles to search for heritage information. From that point on, we have become students of genealogy. At other times, we learn methods and techniques "on the fly," picking them up as we need them or as we can. How much we apply to our personal quests remains to be seen.

I am not a professional genealogist – nor do I think that is my future. As I learn new or better ways to continue my research, I take what I can and put it into practice. Admittedly, some of it I do ignore for a time until I need it. But for all of us, there is no shortage of information within this issue. We can take the advice of experienced (and amateur) genealogists to help us stretch ourselves and grow in our expertise. Each of us should find some new hint, tip or research method to help us on our family history search.

Tom Rice provides a general summary of genealogical research methods to use for successful research then provides information for applying it to Irish family research. His article is something to refer back to again at a later time as we check our growth in research methods. Jay Fonkert explains in depth the importance of one method, correlating the information found in multiple records. In another article, Tom Rice directs us to the excellent training videos for Irish genealogical research to be found on the *FamilySearch* website.

We welcome Dwight Radford, a professional genealogist and author, who will be writing for us regularly on Irish resources. He is the coauthor of *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors*, one of the foundation books for every Irish genealogist's library. In this issue he explains how to link information from the Tithe Applotments to Griffith's Valuation to find another generation of family in Ireland. Two members contribute to this issue. William Romanski provides a short example of defining and finding place names in Ireland. Michelle Roy shares with us her journey of research and discovery across three continents for Mehigan family ancestors. She explains her methods, results, and conclusions. Putting the lessons of methodology into action is not that difficult.

David Rencher provides a look at another genealogical collection. He gives history and shares source information on the Sir William Betham collection, specifically about the probate records in the Prerogative Court of Armagh that have been microfilmed by Family History Library.

There are articles on the news of the Society: changes to the website, Ireland trip update, new items in the Library. The President's letter covers the results of the restructuring ballot, a call for officers, and more. Kathleen Strickland continues to share the information found in the Research section of the IGSI website.

So get into training mode and set your sights on a new genealogical goal, mastering new methods of research. I wish each of you success in your family history research!

Author biography and photo on page 73

Methods in Genealogy For Speed, Success and Satisfaction

by Tom Rice, CG

What is this method thing, and why should I bother? Method is a way of doing things, but even deeper it is a way of thinking. It grows from experience and knowledge gained over a long period of study and self-observant practice. In most instances, a novice at any endeavor does not have a method. They just go from doing one thing to another in order to achieve some end. They might not even know what that end should be.

The more experienced and skilled worker, whether it be at a craft or intellectual enterprise, is focused on a well defined goal. This worker moves with purpose and according to a proven plan that encompasses not only what actions he or she takes but also the order in which he or she takes these actions. That is, they have a method for reaching their goal. By following this path they get to their end result faster; they are more likely to succeed in what they are doing; and they have more satisfaction as they work, because they know they are doing it correctly, and that, in itself, is a source of enjoyment. Having and following a method results in speed, success and satisfaction.

In reflecting on what method means to our efforts, consider the skilled craftsman. He knows the characteristics of his materials. He knows his tools and their capabilities. He has a clear idea of the form of the final product. He knows what must be done first, what to do next and so on. He draws from his own experience and that of others. He successfully executes his job with speed and satisfaction. He continues to learn about new materials, tools and ways of doing things.

So, finally, to method in genealogy! Why bother? Well, we all want to be successful in defining the next relationship, in learning more about who and what sort of people our ancestors and relatives were. We want to get to those answers sooner rather than later, and we want to enjoy the trip. We want success, speed and satisfaction. Having good methods for how we plan, how we research, how we record our results and how we share what we have learned is the surest way to achieve those goals.

So where do these methods come from? As with any endeavor there are two main sources for the methods used by the most proficient practitioners. One source of good methodology is the wisdom of others and the past. For every field there are certain core ways of doing things that always work and never should be abandoned. You can do things differently, but you can not do them better. You violate these maxims at your peril. If you do not know them, learn them. If you do know them, follow them.

The other way to develop a method of action is to work in a field, study how you do things and the sort of results you get. If you work attentively, with time you will discover what works for you and what does not. You will develop your own method of solving certain types of problems, of doing certain specific tasks. For some aspects of genealogy, like any other endeavor, there are alternative ways of getting to the same end, or even various acceptable ends. There are different ways to enter information into a database, there are different ways to write up a life or family history. Having a tested method to reach these ends will make the journey speedier, more likely to succeed and more satisfactory.

Foundation Methods of Good Genealogy

What are some of those principles of good genealogy that everyone should follow? They include but are not limited to the following:

1. Start at home with yourself and your parents
2. Go from the known here-and-now back to the unknown. Do not jump generations.
3. Follow the Genealogical Proof Standard
   - Reasonably exhaustive search
   - Complete and accurate citation of sources
   - Analysis and correlation of the collected information
   - Resolution of conflicting evidence
   - Soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion
4. Start with the core genealogical sources
   - Home resources / relatives
   - Look at what others have done
   - Census
   - Civil vital records
   - Church records
5. Find all of the records around an event or of a type.
   - Check for inconsistencies
   - Get all of the information available. Each record asks different questions, gathers different information. Examples:
     - Census. Find all years of both state and federal

censuses as information recorded varies.
- Death
  - Death record
  - Church record of death
  - Obituary
  - Memorial cards
  - Family bible listing of death
  - Corner's report
  - Mortuary record
  - Cemetery
  - Tombstone and plot record
  - Will and probate
  - Write-up in local history
  - Listing in a society newsletter or necrology

6 Study family, neighbors and associates when studying the target person fails to give you the information needed

7 Study the history and geography of the times and places of your ancestors' lives.

8 Do the paper work
- Use chart and standard forms such as pedigree charts and family group sheets
- Use a research log or journal
  - To plan
  - To record what has been done

9 Use all repositories
- Home
- Relatives
- Internet
- Libraries
- Archives
- Courthouses
- Cemeteries
- Churches

These methods provide the big picture. It is just as important for fast, accurate, enjoyable work to develop ways of doing the little things: good habits for note taking, entering data into your database, filing and storing your materials, and communicating with others.

Applications to Irish Genealogy

Because most people interested in Irish genealogy are descendants of the Irish Diaspora, often the toughest and most critical job is locating the place in Ireland where our immigrant ancestors came from. Let us consider some of the best practices that might be employed to find where that person came from in Ireland and then to learn more about him and his birth family.

Go from the known to the unknown. This means learning as much about the immigrant as we can from the records created relating to him in his new homeland. This is where we know we have the correct person. This is where we can find the most information to define the person: name(s), age (i.e. birth year), names of other family members, whether married in Ireland or not, religion, social status, occupation, possible co-immigrants, time of leaving Ireland and – possibly the most important bit of information – where he came from in Ireland.

Look for what others have done.
- Contact relatives to see what they may done on your lines already.
- Look for family trees posted online. If these are without documentation, take them as a clue but not as proven fact. You should look for quality sources to verify undocumented postings.
- Look for published books about the family using *WorldCat* (http://www.worldcat.org/), *Google Books* (http://books.google.com/) and the Family History Library (http://www.familysearch.org/eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp).
- Look for manuscript collections using NUCMC (http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/oclcsearch.html) and catalogs of local archives.

Note: I found a little 70 page family history relating to my great-great-grandmother's line pointing to her Parish of origin in County Down and two generations preceding her using a search for "Haughey family" in *WorldCat*. Searching message boards, I found a descendant of the authors of that little book who lent me 200+ pages of notes used by the authors in writing the book that contained much additional information. While the book was undocumented, these notes showed where much of the information came from and thus added much needed credence to many of the statements in the book.

On another note: this family history taught me to search under name variations besides Haughey such as Hoy and Hawkins. I have found proven family members under all of these names in addition to Hay.

Make a reasonably exhaustive search. Because the most essential bit of information aside from fully defining the immigrant is learning where (s)he came from in Ireland. We may have to look far and wide to find that all-

essential fact. In this case, "reasonably exhaustive" means looking at every record you can find until you find that location.

Note: I found the surname of my great-great-grandmother only because I looked at both county and city death records. One had that name, the other did not. If I had stopped at just the one record, I would still be searching for that line.

Use a surname distribution search, especially when we have not found the Parish of origin in any other way. This works best if the surname is not very common. Look at MacLysaght's *The Surnames of Ireland* for some idea of the general area of a surname's origin. Use the *Irishtimes'* "Irish Ancestors" surname search facility to locate parishes where the name is most common. If a couple was married in Ireland, our chance of finding the homeland improves; searching where the two surnames are most likely to coincide narrows the possibilities. This does not work well for very common names such as Ryan and Murphy.

Study the family, associates and neighbors. This is, in a way, an extension of the above. If we can not find mention of the immigrant's place of origin in sources that pertain directly to him, then we need to widen the net and look at records relating to his family: siblings, spouse, children and cousins. If that fails, we cast the net again and look at neighbors, especially those who may have moved from one place to another with the ancestor, who may work with him or attend the same church. Are there names of people traveling with him that we also found as neighbors or associates? Then we need to look at their life in records in their new home to see if these might point to our immigrant's place of origin.

Get to know the records, geography and history of Ireland, especially as relating to the time and place of our immigrant ancestor. Check Mitchell's *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland* for maps and the *IreAtlas* website for lists of geographic divisions of Ireland.

- Did he come between 1715 and 1775? Then there is a high probability he was Scots-Irish and Presbyterian.
- Was he born after 1864? Then his birth may well be in the civil registration records.
- Did he or his parents marry after 1864? Then their marriage may be listed in the civil registration records. If he had children in Ireland after that date, their birth would have been recorded, and if a Protestant, a marriage after 1846 would have been recorded by the civil authorities.
- Did he immigrate between 1848 and 1864, and from where? Look at Betit and Radford's *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors*, p. 268, to see when Griffith's Primary Valuation was conducted in that County and search accordingly at http://www.askaboutireland.ir.
- Look at the Householders Index to see if the family might have also been listed in the Tithe Applotment records, which were gathered between 1823 and 1837. The Tithe Defaulters list was recorded in 1831. (Copies are at the Family History Library.)
- Did you find his ship record? If he left from England, then there may be English records relating to him.
- If you learned his place of origin, look for civil records relating to this family if the time period works. Look for church records. First look in Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* to see what church records exist for that place and time. Look at Ryan's *Irish Records, Sources for Family and Local History* and Grenham for mention of other records for that time period. These may also tell us where to find these records.

Use all necessary repositories. We should contact the appropriate Irish repositories for the different records we need or engage a local researcher to gather these for us. Do not forget to search the Family History Library catalog for records of the Irish civil and church parish and county of origin. Visit ancestral graveyards. Visit the courthouses for the counties where the ancestors may have lived. Search the catalogs and visit, if necessary, the county and state genealogical and historical societies where your ancestors lived. Look for records online and visit surname and locale message boards and archives of mail lists.

Bottom line. The fundamental methodology of good genealogy is there because it has been proven as the best way to get to your answers in a speedy, successful and satisfactory way. Ignore the principles at your peril. Follow them to get the job done correctly and

in a way that give you the satisfaction of a job well done.

Recommended Resources

Grenham, John. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, 3rd edition. Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. 2006.

MacLysaght, Edward. *The Surnames of Ireland*, 6th edition. Dublin: Irish Academic Press, 1999.

Mitchell, Brian. *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*, 2nd edition. Baltimore: Maryland, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 2002.

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

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

Irishtimes.com. "Irish Ancestors". http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/surname/

Broderick, John, aka. SeanRuad. *The IreAtlas Townland Database*. http://www.seanruad.com/

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Help Other Irish Researchers
Write for *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

Themes and article submission deadlines for coming issues

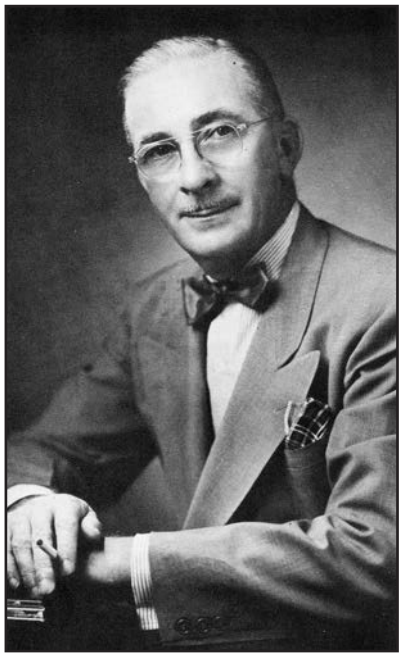
Issue Date	Submission Deadline	Theme
July 2010	May 1, 2010	Scots Irish
October 2010	August 1, 2010	20th Century Irish Emigration
January 2011	November 1, 2010	Newspapers
April 2011	February 1, 2011	Women in Irish Genealogy & Culture
July 2011	May 1, 2011	Irish Resources on the Internet – Revisited

The Mehigan Family: Collecting Evidence Across Three Continents

by Michelle M. Roy

Although immensely satisfied with the continuing explosion of online technologies, I often find it is necessary to get "back to basics" in genealogy and back up my research with primary or original sources. Finding a town clerk or a local historical society for an area thousands of miles away, locating a contemporary map to look in neighboring towns, searching digitized indexes for clues, or simply collaborating on message boards are all just a few clicks away. But, it is then time to go old-school and write letters to specific organizations, or pick up the phone and make a call. Using my Mehigan family research, I will attempt to show how combining today's technologies with finding a variety of original sources pieced together a cohesive family history.

My father's cousin, Bridget (McGivern) Staley, had uploaded our family tree onto the Internet in the cold winter of 2009. The patriarch of the Mehigan family was John "Jack" Thomas Mehigan, my great-grandfather. The only information known of him was that he had settled in St. Paul, Minnesota, died on April 12, 1972, was English-born of full blooded Irish heritage, and boasted of his immigration to America by sailing to San Francisco, California, and then "jumping ship." In recent years, an old letter surfaced dated Sept. 27, 1927, from a younger brother, Albert Mehigan, congratulating him on the birth of his third daughter. Oddly enough, the letter was found in the abandoned papers of his ex-wife, Pauline (Ohrt) (Schroedel) (Mehigan) Nyvold, now deceased, in a box hidden in the attic of a home that hadn't been owned by the family for decades. The present owners of the house had discovered the box and kindly offered it to the descendents of the Mehigan/Ohrt-Schroedel family.



John Thomas Mehigan
Photo Courtesy of Michelle M. Roy

Beginning the Quest

While surprised at how little the family knew of this patriarch, I was inspired to try and add missing ancestors to the online file. Through a free search on *Rootsweb* (http://www.rootsweb.com), I found John Thomas Mehigan on the "Social Security Death Index", with a link to request a "SS-5 Letter." With one click, the online program plugged in all the pertinent information to request his U.S. Social Security Number Application. I printed the form and mailed it with the applicable fee. Anxiously waiting for the response in the mail was the hardest part. When it arrived it was nice to see, in John Thomas Mehigan's own handwriting, that he was born January 19, 1893, in Little Hampton, Sussex, England, to James Mehigan and Any O'Rilley. (The Minnesota Historical Society's *Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002* at http://www.mnhs.org listed the maiden name of his mother as O'Reilly.)

Having learned the names of his parents, my next natural step was to find him in a census record. Through a full-access membership at *Ancestry* (http://www.ancestry.com) I found a record that had an eight-year-old John T. Mehigan, born in 1893 at Littlehampton, Sussex, England, as the son of James Mehigan with his wife, Ann Mehigan, who lived at the time of the 1901 census at Southsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire, England. Ten years earlier, the 1891 census shows a James and Ann Mehigan living in the Coast Guard Cottages at East Preston, Littlehampton, Sussex, England, with a slightly different set of children. Analyzing the information, I determined that the 1891 James Mehigan household and the 1901 James Mehigan household were the same family unit based on the following evidence:

- The parents of these two families have identical information in each census: James Mehigan was born about 1854 in Ireland and worked with the Navy, and Ann Mehigan was born about 1864 in Ireland;
- Both census records included the same three children: James J. Mehigan, born about 1885; Mary T. Mehigan, born about 1890; and Catherine Mehigan, born about 1891.

This family in the 1891 and 1901 England census records consisted of: Head of Household, James Mehigan, his wife, Ann Mehigan, and nine children: Daniel T. Mehigan; James J. Mehigan; Margaret M. Mehigan; Mary T. Mehigan; Catherine I. Mehigan; Jeremiah W. Mehigan; John T. Mehigan; Gertrude Mehigan; and Henry Mehigan. I also noted that each of these two locations on the census records were by British Naval seaports.

I conducted a thorough search of the name Mehigan (including a soundex search and the common variation of Mehegan) in both the 1891 and 1901 England census records to make sure there wasn't another Mehigan family to which John Thomas could have belonged. I determined that there were only four distinctive Mehigan families in those two censuses and was convinced that the only parents for John Thomas Mehigan were James and Ann of the above family. And I was thrilled to have new names to research.

Dissecting an Old Letter

Curiously, Albert Mehigan, the confirmed brother of John T. Mehigan (as known from the letter dated Sept. 27, 1927), was not listed anywhere on the available census records. At first glance, this letter did not reveal any substantial information. So I transcribed the letter for an easier view hoping it may render new clues. After doing this, it was pretty impressive just how much information was actually there. Various facts derived from the letter's contents led to a "conclusion."

27th, Sept. [19]27

My Dear Jack,

They say it's better late, than never. So here I am writing to you from Australia at the age of 25 years, when it was something like 18 years or more ago when I was quite a kid, that I said good-bye to you when you started off to America.

Well Jack old sport I have been to America also by now and have met some folk who have known you in by gone days.

I came out to Sydney last January, worked for 3 weeks here then joined Dan's boat the "Sonoma" and made a trip to San Francisco. I had only wished I could have seen you and Pauline and baby, but of course it was out of the question for now anyway. By the way Jack I must congratulate you on presenting us – or should I say Pauline - (that is the wife's name is it not?) with another Miss Mehigan. I don't know how long it is going to be before I meet my nieces and sister-in-law, but surely we are bound to meet one day.

I made two trips to the States and Dan wanted me to settle there, but I had my own planes [sic], for you see I had a Girl in England and she wanted to come out as soon as she could, so as we could be married, now as it happens she is on her way.

She will be in Sydney next month and so then I shall be married, that will only leave Harry out of seven of us, not married.

Well you see Jack I made up my mind to settle in Sydney so as to get the girl out, so that's why I'm here now.

I don't know if I shall stay very long in Sydney at this work because, I may as well be on the same job in England, any how I have enjoyed the change and I feel quite at home here.

Now perhaps you could find time to write and I would like some snaps of you all. I will write again and let you have some later [?] I am enclosing an old snap it will give you some idea how Harry and myself look these days. I will get Harry to write you later, he is in Cape Town, South Africa at present.

Best of Wishes to you all.

Remain
Your fond brother, Albert

The conclusion from this letter? There were at least seven siblings total in the Mehigan family. From this letter, three can be identified:

- John Thomas Mehigan (aka Jack), who had left England in about 1909;
- Albert Mehigan, who was 25 (birth year about 1902) and planning to marry his English girlfriend in about Nov. 1927 in Australia; and
- Harry Mehigan, who was unmarried and in South Africa.

- Perhaps there is a fourth brother named Dan (Mehigan) who worked on a boat named "Sonoma".

The letter fit beautifully with the census records. It revealed that Albert Mehigan was not born until about 1902 and, therefore, would not have been recorded in the 1901 England Census. A common nickname for Henry is "Harry" so the letter was referring to Henry "Harry" Mehigan.

Backing it up with Reliable Sources

It was now time to delve into backing up the 1927 letter and the census records with more reliable sources, wherever they might be.

I started with the firstborn child, Daniel T. Mehigan. The 1927 letter stated that Albert sailed on a boat named the "Sonoma" with Dan. On *Ancestry*, the "California Passenger and Crew Lists, 1893-1957" revealed a Daniel T. Mehigan sailing consistently, between the years 1907 to 1926, as a crewmember aboard the *SS Sonoma*, a passenger liner that sailed primarily between Sydney, Australia, and San Francisco, California, U.S. The crew list revealed an additional surprise, a J.T. Mehigan (a name variation that I hadn't searched); my great-grandfather was working as a waiter aboard the *SS Sonoma* on Nov. 16, 1912, at age 19. This must be when he conveniently "jumped ship" in San Francisco. The World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 showed his registration in San Francisco for the World War I draft call on July 28, 1917. I was aware that alien residents could apply for U.S. citizenship if they served honorably during military hostilities. On *Footnote* (http://www.footnote.com) in the "Index to Naturalizations of World War I Soldiers, 1918", I found the information of John Thomas Mehigan's naturalization in the U.S. at Camp Dodge, a military camp near Des Moines, Iowa, on Nov. 11, 1918, coincidentally, or not, Armistice Day. Each of the above databases gave the option to view and print a copy of the original record.

Then I hit a glitch. The same search that led to the discovery of the three brothers who traveled at various times aboard the *SS Sonoma* to San Francisco brought up a record on the California Death Index, 1940-1997 showing a Daniel Timothy Mehigan, born Feb. 5, 1883, listing his mother's maiden name as "Sullivan." I was confident that it was still the correct family, but this dilemma needed to be resolved. Was it possible that Ann O'Reilly was not the natural mother of all of James Mehigan's children? Another U.S. Social Security Number Application (SS-5) was ordered, this time for Daniel Mehigan. While this request was pending, I decided try some research in England.

Looking in England

It was pretty easy getting familiar with the vital record process in England. I learned that there are two sets of vital records. As of 1837, families were required to register births, marriages and deaths within 42 days of the event or risk a fine. First, I searched the vital record index, a free search at *Free BMD Index*, (http://www.freebmd.org.uk). The index listed the registration district (a sub-division of a county) where the event occurred. Then I had the option to either contact the General Register Office (http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content), which is a central location to house these records, or the local district register office that holds a second set of the records.

My BMD Index search confirmed that the children in the James Mehigan household on the England census records and the four brothers in the 1927 letter were of the same Mehigan family. It also named a couple of children who, sadly, didn't live very long. For Daniel Mehigan, the index gave his birth district as Isle of Wight in England. Deciding that the local registrar could lead to more resources (e.g. local newspapers, cemeteries, family histories, etc.), I contacted the Isle of Wight Registrar via email at Record.Office@iow.gov.uk. They referred me to the *Isle of Wight Historical Society* (http://www.isle-of-wight-fhs.co.uk). Their searchable database showed four children born to James Mehigan: three whose mother's maiden name was Sullivan (between 1883 and 1886), and one child whose mother's maiden name was OReilly (in 1888). It also listed a marriage record in 1882 for James Mehigan and Elizabeth Sullivan as well as a death record for Elizabeth Sullivan at age 25, in 1886. There is an option to purchase a "full certificate" for approximately $12 or a "current certificate" for about $6. The full certificate contains all the information recorded in the original birth register, including parents; the current certificate has only minimal information. Trying to use my genealogy funds wisely, I ordered only three items: the birth certificate for James Mehigan's first child (Daniel Timothy), the marriage certificate for James Mehigan and Elizabeth Sullivan, and the birth certificate for the child of James Mehigan and the mother whose maiden name was O'Reilly. To place the

order with a credit card, an easy way to exchange between the dollar and foreign currencies, the Society required a phone call to the office during business hours. With a little pre-planning for the time difference, I made the phone call and received the certificates within a week.

I was thrilled to find James Mehigan's father's name, Timothy Mehigan, who was a Mariner, as well as Elizabeth's father, Daniel Sullivan, who also was a Mariner. James' fourth child born on the Isle of Wight was Margaret Ann Mehigan, born Aug. 20, 1888; her mother's name was Ann O'Reilly. From that birth record I presumed that Ann O'Reilly was the mother of the rest of James Mehigan's children. Incidentally, other records for Ann O'Reilly would sometimes list her name as Reilly. It was not uncommon for the Irish to drop the "O" in records, perhaps to anglicize their surname or if it was out of fashion for various reasons.

Based on James Mehigan's occupation, listed on census records as a Coast Guard in 1891 and a Naval Pensioner in 1901, I perused the databases of *The National Archives for the United Kingdom* at http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. And there it was: my great-great-grandfather, James Mehigan's original Royal Navy Military Record, with his birthdate noted as May 24, 1853, at Ringaskiddy, County Cork, Ireland. The website included the opportunity to electronically download a copy of the scanned original record for approximately $5.

Going Back to Ireland

Armed with the knowledge that James Mehigan was the son of Timothy Mehigan, and that at one time they lived in the old sea harbour of Ringaskiddy, Cork, Ireland, I reached out to anyone on the Internet who might know further information on this family. A family tree online had one of James Mehigan's sons, James Joseph Mehigan, married to a Cecilia Downes. I contacted the individual who had posted the data to request any known sources. In addition to a flurry of wonderful information to add to the James and Cecilia (Downes) Mehigan family in Colchester, England, I was referred to a gentleman who had researched baptisms and marriages in the area that included Ringaskiddy, Ireland. His detailed notes indicated that James Mehigan was born in Ireland to Timothy Mehigan and Margaret O'Brien on May 24, 1853, and baptized May 26, 1853, at Passage West Parish, Ringaskiddy, County Cork. This confirmed the statement on James Mehigan's marriage record to his first wife that his father's name was Timothy Mehigan and it confirmed his birthdate from his naval record. But, as this information was from a compiled report, I wanted to get "closer to the source" at the Passage West Parish. Luckily, the Passage West Parish still exists and a quick search on *Google* (http://www.google.com) provided their phone number. In a strong Irish brogue, the Reverend there confirmed the marriage of Timothy Mehigan and Margaret O'Brien, as well as their son's baptism on May 26, 1853.

Sailing Down Under - Australia

It seems that the Mehigan men loved to sail and it led them around the globe. I placed a transcription of Albert Mehigan's letter on *GenForum* (http:// www.genforum.com) in the Michigan, the England and the Australia message boards. Several people offered to assist me in finding various records in Australia.

Sydney is located in New South Wales (NSW), Australia's most populous state. New South Wales has a searchable index of their vital records for births (1788 to 1909), marriages (1788 to 1959) and deaths (1788 to 1979) at http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au under the "Family History" subheading. Albert E. Mehigan's marriage record revealed that he indeed married Laura S. Ward, his girlfriend from England, in 1927. I then started a search to find any possible descendants of their union. I contacted anyone in Australia with the surname Mehigan who had a *Facebook* account (http://www.facebook.com) and found some descendants of Albert Edward Mehigan. It was a pleasure to correspond by mail with Thomas "Tom" Michael Mehigan, one of Albert's two sons. In 2009, he was 77 years old and had yearned for further information on our Mehigan family – even on occasion visiting County Cork, Ireland, to find direct family. It was a wonderful family connection! He recalled that he had met his grandfather, James Mehigan, as well as James' two spinster daughters when they had immigrated to Australia during James' declining years.

I confirmed this information at the *National Archives of Australia* (http://www.naa.gov.au). A search on the "Passenger Index" produced a record of James Mehigan traveling with his two daughters to settle in Australia in 1936 on the *Hobsons Bay*. An individual cemetery search at *Australian Cemeteries* (http://www.australiancemeteries.com) revealed that a James Mehigan was buried at Botany cemetery at age 85 years. This

matched my great-great-grandfather's birthdate. At the *Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the NSW Government* (http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au) I found his death record, with the option to order the full death certificate online for approximately $26. When it arrived in the mail, it gave a plethora of information on James Mehigan. It confirmed the evidence of two wives, the names and ages of his surviving children, and James' mother's maiden name of Margaret O'Brien. It also gave a clue that James and Ann O'Reilly were married in Queenstown (now Cobh), Ireland, which was why I could not locate a marriage record in England.

Tying up Loose Ends

Although James Mehigan died in Sydney, Australia, it was possible that Ann (O'Reilly) Mehigan had died in England. The previously mentioned FreeBMD website listed her death in 1924 in Portsea, [Portsmouth], England. I ordered a copy of the original certificate from the Portsmouth Register Office (http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/4000.html). As the death certificate did not list where she had been buried, I sent an email to the Portsmouth City Council (http://www.portsmouthcc.gov.uk) for guidance. The Cemeteries Assistant not only found that Ann (O'Reilly) Mehigan was buried at the Highland Road Cemetery, but also found that her daughter, Catherine (Mehigan) Pilkington, and her son, Henry Mehigan, were buried next to her, and provided their residences at the time of their deaths.

Conclusion

It took a great amount of discipline to halt my fact-finding process and to gather all the records accumulated to thoroughly document my findings. A summarized conclusion of the evidence found to date is as follows:

1. John Thomas "Jack" Mehigan was born January 19, 1893, at East Preston, Littlehampton, Sussex, England to James Mehigan and Ann O'Reilly. About 1921, he married Pauline K. Schroedel. They had three children: Shirley Patricia Mehigan; Sheila Marie Mehigan; and Mary Jackqueline Mehigan. In about 1940, Pauline and Jack divorced; he married Lola Mae (--?--), in about 1971. He died April 12, 1972, at Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota.

2. James Mehigan was born May 24, 1853, at Ringaskiddy, Cork, Ireland, to Timothy Mehigan and Margaret O'Brien. He married Elizabeth Sullivan and they had three sons: Daniel Timothy; James Joseph; and George Stanitslaw. After the death of Elizabeth, James married Ann O'Reilly about 1888 in Queenstown (now Cobh), Cork, Ireland. They had eleven children: Margaret Ann; Mary Theresa; Catherine Isabella; Jeremiah William; John Thomas; Francis Patrick; Gertrude N.; Annie; Henry; Albert Edward; Sidney Lawrence.

3. Timothy Mehigan, a mariner, married Margaret O'Brien probably on Jan. 27, 1852, in the Roman Catholic Parish at Passage West, Cork Harbour, Ireland. At the time of this writing, I have discovered no further information of this couple either before their marriage (witnessed by John Harris and Bridget Brien) or after the christening of their first son, James Mehigan, May 26, 1853, in Ringaskiddy, Cork, Ireland, at that same parish (witnessed by Richard Flynn and Mary County).

Satisfied with the amount of evidence collected, I revel at my adventure of crossing the globe electronically with my previously forgotten Mehigan forbears. Supporting my conclusions with convincing evidence made this project much more valuable. I pass this information along to keep the memories of this Mehigan branch alive.

Michelle M. Roy is an avid genealogist working towards certification. Recently transplanted from Los Angeles to the Northeast, she has diligently traveled to archives between Boston and Washington, DC, concentrating on improving her research skills. Michelle is the mother of three school-age children, devoted wife of Gavin M. Roy, co-owner of 800 Pound Gorilla, LLC, and resides in beautiful Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. She can be contacted at michelle@gavinroy.com.

Linking Property in Griffith's with the Tithes

by Dwight A. Radford

Most Irish family researchers use Griffith's Primary Valuation (1847-64) and the Tithe Applotment Composition Books (1823-37) in their research. Those who regularly search in these two primary sources are aware of their uses and limitations. They are not always straightforward. As researchers, we do our best to glean the most out of them. When they are straightforward, they are easy to use. When they are not, it can be frustrating.

This article will focus on a common, but major problem: what to do when we find a family in Griffith's and not in the Tithe, or at least it's not straightforward. A generation, and sometimes two, can separate who we find in Griffith's from whom we find in the Tithe. The key to understanding and linking generations between these two sources is a working knowledge of English Acres and Irish Acres. They are not the same thing. So when the acreage in Griffith's does not match that found in the Tithe, that is the reason.

In approaching this important research strategy, there are a few basics to keep in mind. Then, as we explore the records, we can adjust our approach depending on what we find. The strategies I constantly use as a professional genealogist are as follows:

1. Griffith's Primary Valuation was always taken in English Acres. This is the same measurement still in use in the United States. This measurement does not vary for the period 1847 to 1864.
2. In Griffith's, the name of the townland, spelling, and amount of acres, roods and perches (often seen as A-R-P) were set by the mid-1830s. These were government designations, not necessarily how the locals thought about their addresses. Differences are often reflected in church records, or in the records left behind by immigrants worldwide. For this reason, don't always expect an immigrant record to correspond with Griffith's.
3. The Tithe was taken in the middle of the time when the Ordnance Survey was standardizing the names and boundaries of Irish townlands. For this reason, always check the area of a townland in both the Tithe and Griffith's to see if they match. If they do not, then the Tithe was taken in Irish Acres. I personally use the year 1830 as a guide. After 1830, I assume the townland could have been in English Acres. Before 1830, I almost always assume it was in Irish Acres.
4. In the 1830s, the Ordnance Survey divided and even discontinued townlands so I don't assume I will find our Griffith's townland in the Tithe. In such a case, compare the surnames from Griffith's to see where they were found in the Tithe. In the Tithe, I may find them in what became a neighboring townland by Griffith's Primary Valuation.
5. The Tithe was not as complete as Griffith's in listing heads of households. The Tithe was mostly rural, although villages and small towns were enumerated.

The key to utilizing the above information is to remember the conversion between Irish Acres and English Acres. **1 Irish Acre = 1.62 English Acres.** In short, an old Irish Acre is just over one and a half times bigger than an English acre. So, take the number of acres found in Griffith's and multiply it by 1.62. Personally, I simplify it to 1.6, and I don't worry about roods and perches. Our calculations don't have to be exact as we try to establish patterns and possibilities.

Example: Knockfadda, Newcastle Upper Parish, County Wicklow

When exploring the townland of a family in Griffith's we may find the acreage does not change much from that in the Tithe. If it has changed too much, then my strategy will not work. When it does work, it works excellently.

An example where this strategy worked in ways I did not expect was with the Doyle family of Knockfadda, Newcastle Upper Parish, County Wicklow. I had concluded that John Doyle was the father of the Catherine Doyle whom I was researching. She married John Byrne from neighboring Knockatemple, Calary Parish. In this case, the two townlands bordered each other on the civil parish lines. I reasoned that John Doyle was probably her father because all evidence pointed to it and it just looked right. I had my mind made up. However, as with all research, the next step is to actually prove or disprove what *I think* with what really is!

I had made the assumption that John was Catherine's father because, according to the Griffith's revision books, Catherine's brother Matthew

Doyle took over John's land in 1867. I looked at the tax maps and the land Matthew took over was actually a neighboring property to where Catherine's husband John Byrne lived. It all seemed to fit together. Little did I realize that it did not fit as well as I thought it had.

I looked at John Doyle's land and realized that if I could trace it back from Griffith's (1854) to the Tithe Applotment (1836), perhaps I could add another generation to the pedigree. This was Lot #14 in Knockfadda in Griffith's.[1] In this case, there were three Tithe Books bound together, with the last two being duplicates.[2] One observation from the first Tithe book was that it was taken in English Acres just as Griffith's was; whereas the second Tithe book was taken in Irish Acres. I used the first book, in English Acres, for comparison purposes with Griffith's Primary Valuation. This made correlating the two tax lists much easier. I created a chart using categories (see below); if I had been converting from Irish Acres to English Acres in the Tithe, I would have added columns IA and EA.

Then I listed everybody in Knockfadda in the Tithe and their acres. In this case, I could use English Acres from the Tithe Applotment because it was dated 1836. If it had been totally in Irish Acres, I would have used the formula 1 Irish Acre = 1.6 English Acres and continued my comparison. In this case, Lot #14 consisted of 24 acres, 1 rood, 13 perches which I easily rounded off to 24 English Acres.

Comparing the properties from the 1836 Tithe to Griffith's, the most logical placement of John's property was the 24 acres, 3 roods, 13 perches occupied by James and Patrick Doyle. This was an almost perfect match. Then came the logical question: How were these men related to John Doyle?

I had already surmised that if John had a child born at least by 1809 (Matthew Doyle was born in 1809) it would place his own birth year about 1779. This assumed that he was age 30 when Matthew was born. He would have been old enough to have had a house and property of his own during the 1836 Tithe. He would have been about 57 years old, and about 88 years old when he died in about 1867. This, of course, placed extreme doubt on the John Doyle from Griffith's being the next generation back from Catherine and Matthew. It essentially eliminated John Doyle as their father altogether. To bring some closure to the John Doyle, I could only assume he was a son of James or Patrick whose land he took over. It is unknown who he was. So Matthew did not take over the land of his father.

The initial connection linking John Doyle as the next generation back was based on the fact that Matthew took over John's land in 1867. If John was not the father, then I had to go back to square one and start comparing the Tithe lands and the Griffith's land with fresh eyes. Remember, at this point of the research, I already have a list of everybody in both the Tithe and Griffith's. I can continue my search since I've already aligned the most likely farm matches between the two records on my chart.

In the 1854 Griffith's Primary Valuation, Catherine's brother Matthew Doyle had his own farm prior to taking over John's land on Lot #14. Matthew's land in Knockfadda was Lot #15 which consisted of 36 acres, 3 roods, 30 perches. In the 1836 Tithe, this land more or less matched with the land of a Martin Doyle. In the Tithe, Martin's land was comprised of 35 acres, 2 roods. If Matthew was the son of Martin Doyle and simply took over his land at some point, then this meant that Martin died between 1836 and 1854. It still meant that Martin was born about 1779, based upon the 1809 birth of Matthew. Actually, the more I thought about it, the more I realized that this was a logical match. I already knew Catherine had named a son Martin.

For more evidence, I looked at the House Books which were created between the Tithe and Griffith's. The House Books recorded the measurements of each house in the

1836 Tithe	A-R-P	Quality	1854 Griffith's	#	A-R-P

townland and then valued them according to the statistics gathered. They do not exist for all of Ireland, but they did for Knockfadda and the record was taken on 7 October 1842. The house and outbuildings (offices) of Martin Doyle are shown below.[3]

#	Name	Description	Length	Breadth	Height
2	Martin Doyle	house	50.6	16.6	05.6
		office/barn	23.6	15.0	05.6
		office/cow house	25.0	16.0	05.6
		office/car house, stable	21.0	13.8	05.6
		house outshed at rear	14.6	16.0	05.6
		office/turf house	21.0	12.6	05.6
		office/pig house	19.0	11.6	05.6
		office/pig house	12.0	10.6	05.0

House Book information for Martin Doyle

This indicates that Martin Doyle lived at least until 1842; that he most likely died in Knockfadda before Griffith's was published in 1854; and he had quite a working farm. The 1836 Tithe showed that he had some 35 acres, while this 1842 inventory showed that he raised cows and pigs.

Conclusion

In this case study I had access to the Tithe in English Acres so a conversion from Irish Acres was not necessary. However, with the conversion formula of 1 Irish Acre = 1.62 English Acres, the translation would not have been a problem for all of Knockfadda. Once I correlated the acres between the Tithe and Griffith's I located the farm of John Doyle only to discover that he was too young to be Catherine and Matthew's father. John should have been in the Tithe, but his land was in the hands of James and Patrick Doyle. Only then did I realize that I needed to trace the land of Matthew from Griffith's back to the Tithe since he didn't acquire the right to John's land until 1867. When I discovered the land was in the hands of Martin Doyle, it all made perfect sense as Catherine had a son named Martin. Through the House Books I learned more about Martin Doyle. Since he was alive in 1842 when the House Books were taken, but Matthew had his land at the 1854 printing of Griffith's Primary (remember Griffith's was created one to four years earlier than it was printed), it was logical to assume Martin had died 1842-54 in Knockfadda. All this was more than I knew prior to comparing the Tithe and Griffith's.

End Notes

1 Griffith's Primary Valuation - 1854: Ireland, County Wicklow, Rathdrum Union, Upper Newcastle parish, Knockfadda: 41-42; Internet database, http://www.irishorigins.com.

2 Tithe Applotment Book - 1836: Ireland, County Wicklow, Newcastle parish, Knockfadda; microfilm #256672, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

3 House Book - 7 October 1842: Ireland, County Wicklow, Newcastle Barony, Newcastle Parish, Knockfadda (NAI vol. 2327): manuscript page 4-6, film pages 647-649; microfilm #2355523 item 22, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former co-editor of The Irish At Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He also volunteers at the Utah State Prison teaching genealogy. He has placed his first book of prison experiences on his website www.radfordnoone.com under "Dwight's Prison Tales."*

More About the Tithe and Griffith's

by Dwight A. Radford

I referenced both the Tithe Applotment books and Griffith's Valuation in my article. The following information will help the Irish family researcher find the information needed for their family search in these resources.

Tithe Applotment Books

The Tithe Applotment Books are the recorded results of a land survey taken in rural Ireland from 1823 to 1837. The year taken varies by civil parish. This record was generated by the local Church of Ireland diocese. It's a religious record as well as a civil record because the Church of Ireland was the state religion. In many parts of Ireland almost everybody in a townland is listed: their acres, roods, perches of land, and the amount of tithe paid. In other parts of Ireland only the main tenants or just the landlord is listed. The reason for this was that either the main tenants or the landlord collected for everybody else in the townland.

At this writing, the Tithe books are not online nor are they indexed for all of Ireland. An index for the Tithe books for the counties of what is today Northern Ireland is available on Ancestry or on a CD. The Householder's Index provides an index by surname, barony, and parish. First names are not given in this index. Some heritage centers have indexed the Tithe for their counties.

The Tithe Books can be found on microfilm at the Family History Library and can be ordered at their family history centers worldwide. Some genealogists have published the Tithe information for particular counties. These printed works can be found at repositories with Irish collections. Also check these libraries to see who has purchased microfilm of the original Tithe Books.

Griffith's Primary Valuation

Griffith's Primary Valuation is a land survey taken between 1847 through 1864 that valued each household and land parcel in Ireland (rural and urban). This civil record lists land owners, renters, lessors, and even squatters. It's an amazing source. The years in which the survey was taken and published vary by poor law union. The information was taken one to four years earlier than it was published. The lot numbers on the page for the house and land direct one to Griffith's maps and the exact location of the land within the townland.

Griffith's is a primary source in Irish research since the first complete census is in 1901. While it does act as a "substitute census" for Ireland, it lists only the heads of households. Also, when there were two families living in a house, only the head who was responsible for the tax payment was listed. Certain people such as miners and those living and working on the large estate grounds were exempt from payment and they are not listed.

Griffith's is widely available on microfilm, microfiche and on the Internet. The record images and the indexes are free at http://www.askaboutireland.com. This site has good maps that correlate with Griffith's. An excellent for pay site is http://www.irishorigins.com. This site includes the maps and the Griffith's images. It is often free at genealogy libraries which have a subscription.

Recommended Reading

Grenham, John. "Property and Valuation Records" in *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*. Same author. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. Baltimore, Maryland: 2006. IGSI Library call number Frgn.IR.J047.Rev.

Radford, Dwight A. and Kyke J. Betit. "Taxation Records" in *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors*. Same authors. Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, 2001. IGSI Library call number, Frgn.IR.J050.

Reilly, James, R. *Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland*. Baltimore, Maryland: Clearfiled Company, Inc., 2001. IGSI Library call number Frgn.IR.G035.

"Ireland Taxation" in *Familysearch – Research Wiki*. http://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Ireland_Taxation.

"We leave traces of ourselves wherever we go on whatever we touch."

Lewis Thomas

Uncover the Facts from Multiple Sources

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

Family stories are fun, but genealogy is non-fiction. Genealogical facts are right or they're wrong.

Harsh as that sounds, it is the truth. *The American Heritage Dictionary* offers several definitions of "fiction," including: "something accepted as fact without any real justification, merely for the sake of convenience." Fiction is not the goal of good research.

"But, it's just a hobby," you say. Nothing is wrong with that, but consider this: when your great-grandchildren read your family history book, will they know what is accurate, as opposed to half-true or worse? If you do good research, they will.

In the last issue of *The Septs*, I gave you three principles of sound genealogical method:

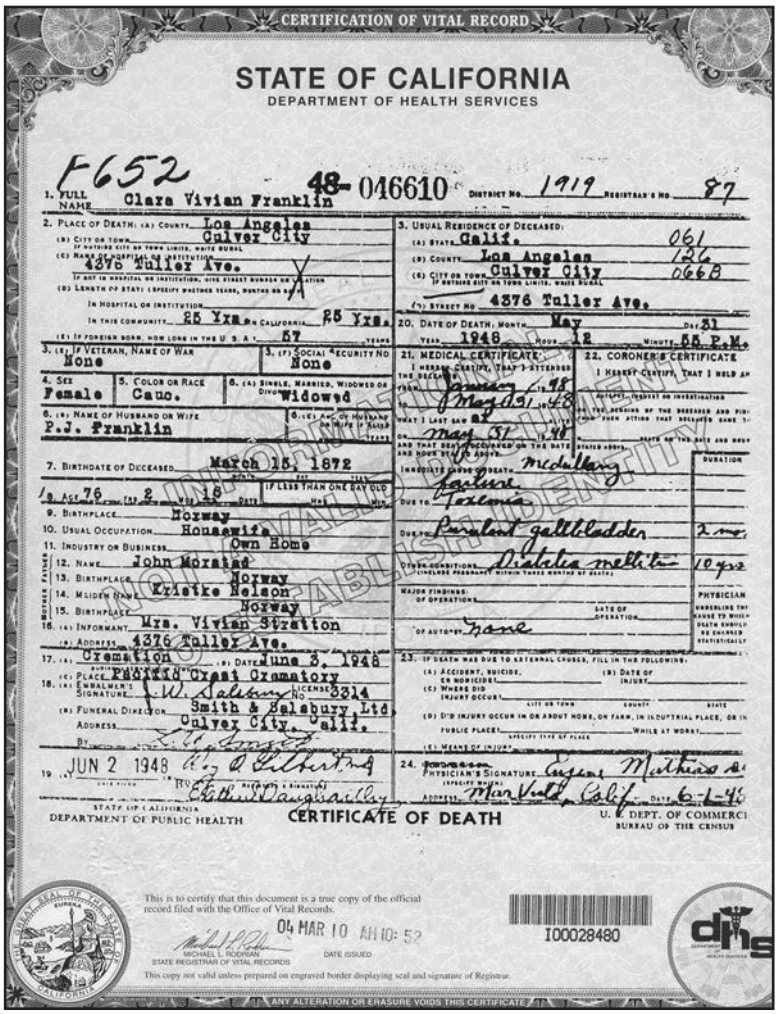
- Work back in time, one generation at a time,
- Correlate information from multiple sources, and
- Read records in historical context – knowing why they were created and what was required.

This article explains the importance of correlating information from multiple sources. The core challenge of genealogical research is to prove parent-child relationships, connecting generations back in time. How do genealogists discover the reality about their ancestors? They do two things:

- search for information from multiple sources to corroborate a birth date, death date or other fact, and
- correlate information from multiple sources to build a case for a conclusion, when no direct evidence leaps off the page.

Proving a parent-child relationship would seem easy enough: find a family Bible, a birth certificate or an obituary stating the obvious. But, any one of these or other sources naming parents and child could be in error. In the words of one of America's most respected genealogists, novice researchers often look for plainly stated "facts" to copy into family records. More skilled genealogists are alert to the possibility that any one source may bend the truth or be outright wrong.[1]

For example, the 1975 California death certificate for Vivian Carolyn Stratton stated that she was born to Ole Peterson and Clara (maiden name not reported) 2 February 1893 in Minnesota.[2] Searches for a birth record in the Duluth, Minnesota, area (St. Louis and Carlton Counties), where the family had been known to have lived in the early 1900s produced nothing. However, the Social Security Death Index led to a social security application for Carolyn Vivian Stratton, born 2 February 1893 in Superior, Wisconsin, just across the border from Duluth. Her parents were Ole Peterson and Carrie


CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

F652 48- 046610 District No. 1919 Registrar's No. 87

1. Full Name: Clara Vivian Franklin
2. Place of Death: (a) County: Los Angeles; (b) City or Town: Culver City; (c) Name of Hospital or Institution: 4376 Tuller Ave.; (d) Length of Stay: In Hospital or Institution; In this community: 25 Yrs. In California: 25 Yrs.; (e) If foreign born, how long in the U. S. A.: 57 years
3. (a) If Veteran, Name of War: None; (b) Social Security No.: None
4. Sex: Female
5. Color or Race: Caucasian
6. (a) Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced: Widowed
6. (b) Name of Husband or Wife: P.J. Franklin
7. Birthdate of Deceased: March 15, 1872
8. Age: 76 Years 2 Months 18 Days; If less than one day old: Hrs. Min.
9. Birthplace: Norway
10. Usual Occupation: Housewife
11. Industry or Business: Own Home
12. Name of Father: John Morstad
13. Birthplace of Father: Norway
14. Maiden Name of Mother: Kristke Nelson
15. Birthplace of Mother: Norway
16. (a) Informant: Mrs. Vivian Stratton; (b) Address: 4376 Tuller Ave.
17. (a) Burial, Cremation, Removal: Cremation; (b) Date: June 3, 1948
18. (a) Place of Burial, Cremation, Removal: Pacific Coast Crematory; (b) Embalmer's Signature: L.W. Salsbury; License No. 3314; (c) Funeral Director: Smith & Salsbury Ltd.; Address: Culver City, Calif.; By: L.W. Smith
19. Date Filed: JUN 2 1948; Registrar's Signature: Ethel Daugherty
3. Usual Residence of Deceased: (a) State: Calif. 061; (b) County: Los Angeles 126; (c) City or Town: Culver City 0668; (d) Street No.: 4376 Tuller Ave.
20. Date of Death: Month: May; Day: 31; Year: 1946; Hour: 12; Minute: 55 P.M.
21. Medical Certificate: I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from January 6, 1948 to May 31, 1948; that I last saw at May 31, 1948; and that death occurred on the date stated above. Immediate cause of death: Coma; Due to: Failure; Due to: Uremia; Due to: Purulent gallbladder 2 mo.; Other conditions: Diabetes mellitus 10 yrs; Major findings of operation: None; Date of operation: None; Date of autopsy: None
22. Coroner's Certificate: I hereby certify that I held an inquest. Verdict or investigation: Results of the inquest and finding of the deceased and finding upon such action that deceased came to his death on the date and hour stated above. Duration
23. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following: (a) Accident, Suicide, or Homicide; (b) Date of Injury; (c) Where did injury occur: City or Town, County, State; (d) Did injury occur in or about home, on farm, in industrial place, or in public place: While at work; (e) Means of injury
24. Physician's Signature: Eugene Matthews M.D.; Address: Marysville, Calif.; Date: 6-1-48

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

This is to certify that this document is a true copy of the official record filed with the Office of Vital Records.
04 MAR 10 AM 10: 52
MICHAEL L. RODRIGAN
STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS
DATE ISSUED
This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying seal and signature of Registrar.
100028480
ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

The 1975 California death certificate for Vivian Carolyn Stratton

Courtesy of J. Fonkert

Nelson.[3] The birth date matched, but two problems remained:

- One record gave Minnesota, and the other Wisconsin, as the place of birth, and
- The first and middle names were turned around.

We have two official, seemingly reliable records giving conflicting information. Can we believe either?

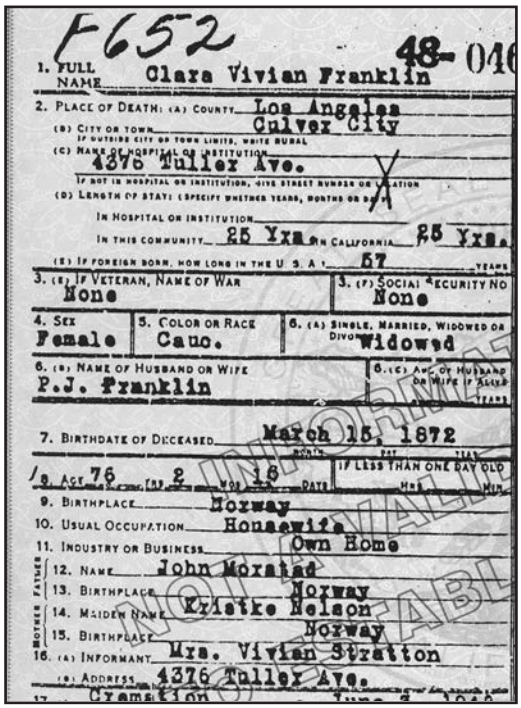
We need more evidence. Douglas County (WI) birth registrations document the birth of Sigrid Caroline Peterson, born in Superior 2 February 1893 to Ole Petersen and Carrie Nelson. The birth date matches across all three documents, but could Sigrid Caroline possibly be Vivian Carolyn?

Yes. Let's look more closely at both the death certificate and the Social Security application. The death certificate stated that Vivian Carolyn was the daughter of Ole Peterson and Clara (maiden name not reported). The Social Security application required Carolyn to state her birth name. Carolyn wrote: "Sigrid Carolyn Peterson."

One problem remains: who was the mother of Sigrid/Carolyn/Vivian? Were Clara and Carrie the same person?

Yes, but the explanation depends on several more pieces of information.

- Vivian Stratton was the informant for the 1948 death certificate for Clara Vivian Franklin.
- An obituary for Clara Vivian Franklin stated that she had a daughter, Mrs. Vivian Stratton.[5]
- Clara Vivian Franklin's death certificate stated she was born in Norway 15 March 1872 to John Morstad and Kritske Nelson.[6]
- Church records from Gran, Norway, document that Karen Johannesdatter was born 15 March 1872 to Johannes Nilsson and Kirsti Christensdatter.[7]
- When Carrie Nelson married Ole Peterson 7 July 1892 in Superior, Wisconsin, she said her parents were John Nelson and Kriste Christianson.[8]

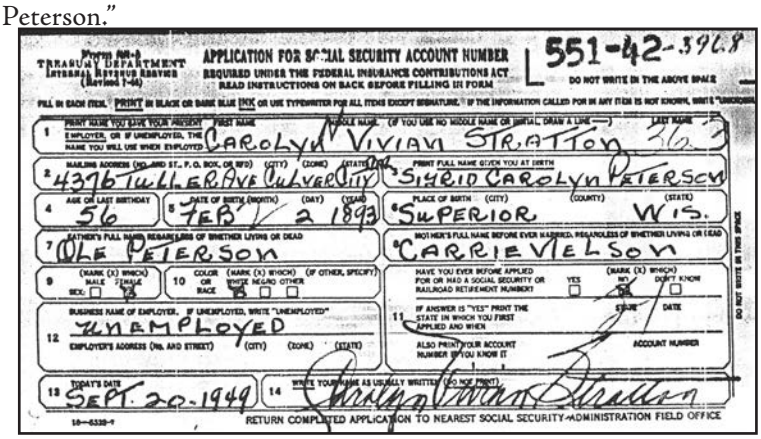

F652 48-046

1. Full Name: Clara Vivian Franklin
2. Place of Death: (a) County: Los Angeles (b) City or town: Culver City (c) Name of hospital or institution: 4376 Tuller Ave.
(d) Length of stay: In hospital or institution: X; In this community: 25 Yrs; In California: 25 Yrs.
(e) If foreign born, how long in the U. S. A.: 57 years
3. (a) If veteran, name of war: None; 3. (f) Social Security No: None
4. Sex: Female; 5. Color or race: Caus.; 6. (a) Single, married, widowed or divorced: Widowed
6. (b) Name of husband or wife: P.J. Franklin; 6. (c) Age of husband or wife if alive
7. Birthdate of deceased: March 15, 1872
8. Age: 76 Yrs. 2 Mos. 16 Days; If less than one day old: Hrs. Min.
9. Birthplace: Norway
10. Usual occupation: Housewife
11. Industry or business: Own Home
Father: 12. Name: John Morstad; 13. Birthplace: Norway
Mother: 14. Maiden name: Kristke Nelson; 15. Birthplace: Norway
16. (a) Informant: Mrs. Vivian Stratton
(b) Address: 4376 Tuller Ave.
17. Cremation

Clara Vivian Franklin's death certificate.

Courtesy of J. Fonkert

Names were shifting all over the place, but careful correlation of information from multiple sources allows us to conclude not only that Vivian Stratton was born in Wisconsin, not Minnesota, but also that her mother was the Karen, aka Carrie, aka Clara, who was born in Norway in 1872. The informant for Clara Franklin (she had apparently remarried to a Mr. Franklin, but nothing is known of him or the ceremony) knew that several of Clara's siblings had taken Morstad (a farm name) as a surname after emigrating, and incorrectly identified her parents. To complicate matters, both mother and daughter allowed their names to shift over time.


Form SS-5 Treasury Department Internal Revenue Service (Revised 1-46)

APPLICATION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER
REQUIRED UNDER THE FEDERAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS ACT
READ INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK BEFORE FILLING IN FORM

551-42-3968

DO NOT WRITE IN THE ABOVE SPACE

FILL IN EACH ITEM. PRINT IN BLACK OR DARK BLUE INK OR USE TYPEWRITER FOR ALL ITEMS EXCEPT SIGNATURE. IF THE INFORMATION CALLED FOR IN ANY ITEM IS NOT KNOWN, WRITE "UNKNOWN"

1 Print name you gave your present employer, or if unemployed, the name you will use when employed: First name: CAROLYN; Middle name: VIVIAN; Last name: STRATTON
2 Mailing address (No. and St., P. O. Box, or RFD): 4376 TULLER AVE; (City): CULVER CITY; (Zone); (State): Cal.
3 Print full name given you at birth: SIGRID CAROLYN PETERSON
4 Age on last birthday: 56
5 Date of birth (Month): FEB; (Day): 2; (Year): 1893
6 Place of birth (City): SUPERIOR; (County); (State): WIS.
7 Father's full name, regardless of whether living or dead: OLE PETERSON
8 Mother's full name before ever married, regardless of whether living or dead: CARRIE NELSON
9 Sex: (Mark (X) which) Male ☐ Female ☒
10 Color or race: (Mark (X) which) White ☐ Negro ☐ Other ☐
11 Have you ever before applied for or had a social security or railroad retirement number? Yes ☐ No ☒ Don't know ☐
If answer is "Yes" print the state in which you first applied and when: State; Date
Also print your account number if you know it: Account number
12 Business name of employer. If unemployed, write "Unemployed": UNEMPLOYED
Employer's address (No. and street); (City); (Zone); (State)
13 Today's date: SEPT. 20-1949
14 Write your name as usually written (do not print): Carolyn Vivian Stratton

Do not write in this space

10—5320-1 RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO NEAREST SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION FIELD OFFICE

Carolyn Stratton's Social Security Application

Courtesy of J. Fonkert

Apart from the need to be wary of names, three lessons come out of this exploration:

1) Just because a document is official doesn't mean it is accurate.
2) Pay attention to all the information in every document; little details add up to a big picture.
3) Correlate, correlate, correlate: put information from multiple sources side by side and use logic to account for discrepancies and distill the truth.

The recipe for good genealogy is the same whether you are working with American, Norwegian or Irish ancestors. It is easy to lift "facts" from a few records and enter them into your family group sheet or genealogy software program. But every piece of information, from every source, deserves scrutiny. It is good to be skeptical. Think about how and when the record was created, and how the nature of the record affects its reliability.

In this case, the informant for Vivian Stratton's death certificate probably knew that his mother had lived in Minnesota, but didn't know the circumstances of her birth. Why didn't he know? Perhaps, because his mother wasn't certain. Her parents, Ole Peterson and Carrie Nelson, were divorced in 1903,[9] and Ole remarried in 1905[10] and drank himself to death in 1908.[11]

A death certificate's information about birth circumstances is usually suspect because the information is commonly provided by a person who, many decades after the event, might not be clear about the facts.

In the next issue, I will explore the importance of being familiar with the historical context within which records were created. I will make the case that the when and why of records are as important as what is in them.

Endnotes

1 Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Working with Historical Evidence: Genealogical Principles and Standards," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 87:3 (September 1999), 165.

2 California Department of Health Services, Los Angeles Co. Deaths, State file no. 75-103222, Vivian Carolyn Stratton (1975), Department of Health Services, Sacramento.

3 Carolyn Vivian Stratton, SSN 551-42-3968, 20 September 1949, Application for Account Number (Form SS-5), Social Security Administration, Baltimore, Md.

4 Douglas County Register of Deeds (births) 31:531, delayed birth certificate issued 5 November 1932, Sigrid Carolyn Peterson.

5 "Mrs. Clara Franklin claimed by death," 1 June 1948, *Evening Star*, Culver City, Calif., p. A, 1.

6 California Department of Health Services, Los Angeles Co. Deaths, State file no. 48-046610, Clara Vivian Franklin (1948), Department of Health Services, Sacramento.

7 Gran, Norway, Ministerialbok [church book], 1856-1974, p. 490, no. 68, Karen Johannesdatter birth; Statsarkivet [State Archive], Hamar, Norway; microfilm 307,301, Family History Library.

8 Douglas Co., Wisc., Register of Deeds (marriages), 7 July 1892, Peterson-Nelson, Superior, Wisc.

9 Carlton Co., Minn., District Court, Eleventh Judicial District, Peterson v. Peterson, (27 February 1903): Office of the Clerk of the District Court, Carlton, Minn.

10 Douglas Co., Wisc., Marriage Records, vol. 3, p. 131, no. 761, 12 April 1905, Peterson-Bellcraft, Superior, Wisc.

11 Douglas Co., Wisc., Register of Deeds (deaths), 31 May 1907, Ole Peterson.

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.

Sir William Betham Collection

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

This issue's article on Irish genealogical collections will begin a multi-part series on the massive collections of Sir William Betham. Most widely known for his holdings of Prerogative Court wills and administrations, the series will begin there, but it quickly will be seen that Betham's lifetime work extended much beyond his valuable extracts of probate materials.

Commissioners were appointed in Ireland by Act of 28 Hen. VIII (1536) with power to issue probates, faculties, and dispensations. These powers had previously been vested in the Church of Rome; but after cessation with the Church of Rome, these could be granted by the Archbishop of Canterbury in England. Since the Prerogative Court of Armagh was subordinate to the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, testators with property elsewhere in the British Isles and in Ireland would likely have their will proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury or have a registered copy there.

"In 1579 (25 May, 21 Eliz.), a commission was granted to Adam, Archbishop of Dublin, and Robert Garvey, M.A., empowering them 'to prove, approve and insinuate the testaments, codicils and last wills and to grant letters of administration, etc., of all and singular persons of the realm of Ireland . . . which have goods and chattels . . . in divers provinces, jurisdictions or dioceses . . . according to the course and order of the Prerogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the realm of England.' The Prerogative Court for Ireland apparently was created by Letters Patent of 1 Mar., 23 Eliz."[1] and exercised authority from that date (1581) until the Probate Act of 1857 established the Principal and District probate registries. However, wills and administrations for the Prerogative Court of Armagh date from the appointment of the commissioners in 1536 to 1857.

The minimum criteria to have a will proved or an estate administered in the Prerogative Court of Armagh was to possess property valued at more than £5 in more than one of the approximately twenty five ecclesiastical dioceses. Wills of the upper classes are often to be found in the records of the Prerogative Court since they were more likely to have property in more than one diocese.

Probate records in the Prerogative Court of Armagh consisted of many documents. Those of particular interest to the Irish genealogist are the wills, administrations, grant books, day books and inventories.

WILLS were the most informative of the probate documents since they were likely to name heirs, give relationships, occupations, places of residence, ownership of property and various details relating to the disposition of a personal estate. There were several types of wills, holograph, nuncupative etc., a good description of these is found in *Wills and Their Whereabouts* by Anthony J. Camp, 1974 (out of print). The Prerogative wills were transcribed into bound Will Books after they were deposited in the Public Record Office.

ADMINISTRATIONS were records of probate filed when the deceased left no will. These often mentioned only the names of persons administering the estate; some reference to the approximate date of death may be derived. While these persons were often related, the relationship is not always easy to recognize.

GRANT BOOKS were the records of grants of probate and included administrations, marriage licenses, faculty of notary public, letters of tutelage and acquittance, commissions and some decrees. The Grant Books for Ireland dated from 1593-1858, but were mostly destroyed by the fire in the Public Record Office in 1922. The surviving Grant Books are for the years 1684-88, 1748-51 and 1839.[2]

DAY BOOKS were the daily registers of fees received for the documents issued, and allocated between offices of the judge, registrar, and marshal plus a record of the stamp duties collected. Approximate death dates and other important event dates often may be derived from the Day Books. Prior to their destruction, the Day Books dated from 1775-1858. The surviving Day Books are for the years 1784-88.

INVENTORIES were the records of detailed listings of the property of the estate of the deceased. The

inventories provided a listing of all of the belongings and personal items. Sometimes, records of sale or auction were included. The inventories were extant for the years 1688-1858 and a separate list of the inventories existed for the time period 1590-1619.

Betham's abstracts, as they have become widely known, were microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah in 1969. With the destruction of many of the prerogative and diocesan probate records in 1922, Betham's extracts have taken on a particularly significant role in augmenting the surviving collection of abstracts and copies of materials that were in the Public Record Office.

The microfilm numbers for the collection are as follows:

Surnames with letter	Time Period	Volume	FHL Microfilm No.
A	1536-1592		missing
	1593-1677	1	595939
	1678-1700		missing
	1701-1735	70	596139
	1736-1786	2	595939
	1786-1808	3	595939
	1800-1809	76	596139
B	1536-1572		missing
	1573-1700	9	595940
	1581-1766	10	595940
	1671-1700	1	595939
	1700-1717	3	595939
	1715-1740	4	595939
	1740-1757	5	595939
	1758-1774	6	595939
	1774-1790	7	595939
	1789-1799	8	595939
C	1536-1538		missing
	1538-1681	9	595940
	1681-1699	16	595940
	1700-1737	11	595940
	1738-1760	12	595940
	1760-1777	13	595940
	1778-1791	14	595940
	1792-1799	15	595940
D	1536-1538		missing
	1539-1549		missing
	1550-1694	16	595940
	1635-1699	21	595941
D	1700-1745	17	595940
	1741-1772	18	595940
	1772-1794	19	595941
	1795-1799	20	595941
E	1536-1563		missing
	1564-1699	21	595941
	1700-1701		missing
	1702-1799	22	595941
F	1536-1544		missing
	1544-1699	21	595941
	1700-1754	23	595941
	1754-1777	24	595941
	1777-1795	25	595941
	1795-1799	26	595941
G	1536-1552		missing
	1553-1681	21	595941
	1562-1699	31	595941
	1700-1765	27	595941
	1713-1742	26	595941
	1765-1779	28	595941
	1781-1795	29	595942
	1795-1799	30	595942
H	1536-1580		missing
	1581-1699	31	595942
	1700-1718	30	595942
	1719-1739	32	595942
	1739-1753	33	595942
	1753-1763	34	595942

Surnames with letter	Time Period	Volume	FHL Microfilm No.
H	1763-1780	35	595942
	1780-1794	36	595942
	1795-1799	37	595942
I J	1536-1567		missing
	1568-1699	31	595942
	1700-1766	37	595942
	1767-1799	38	595943
K	1536-1552		missing
	1553-1629	31	595942
	1630-1699	41	595943
	1700-1723	38	595943
	1724-1774	39	595943
	1774-1799	40	595943
L	1536-1699	41	595943
	1700-1705	40	595943
	1706-1755	42	595943
	1756-1784	43	595943
	1785-1799	44	595943
M	1536-1672	41	595943
	1622-1699	51	595944
	1700-1713	43	595943
	1710-1739	45	595943
	1739-1756	46	595943
	1756-1770	47	595943
	1770-1781	48	595944
	1781-1791	49	595944
	1791-1799	50	595944
N	1536-1584		missing
	1585-1698	51	595944
	1699		missing
	1700-1727	50	595944
	1728-1790	52	595944
	1790-1799	53	595944
O	1536-1594		missing
	1594-1699	51	595944
O	1700-1780	53	595944
	1780-1799	54	595944
P	1536-1552		missing
	1553-1675	51	595944
	1675-1699	58	595945
	1700-1731	54	595944
	1731-1765	55	595944
	1765-1789	56	595944
	1789-1799	57	595944
Q	1536-1609		missing
	1610-1694	58	595945
	1695-1713		missing
	1714-1799	57	595944
R	1536-1580		missing
	1581-1699	58	595945
	1700-1728	57	595944
	1729-1763	59	595945
	1763-1788	60	595945
	1788-1799	61	595945
S	1536-1546		missing
	1547-1673	58	595945
	1583-1699	67	595945
	1700-1721	61	595945
	1721-1747	62	595945
	1747-1767	63	595945
	1767-1782	64	595945
	1783-1796	65	595945
	1796-1799	66	595945
T	1536-1581		missing
	1582-1699	67	595945
	1700-1748	66	595945
	1748-1786	68	596139
	1787-1799	69	596139
U-V	1536-1581		missing
	1582-1699	67	595945
	1701-1796	69	596139

Surnames with letter	Time Period	Volume	FHL Microfilm No.
U-V	1796-1799	71	596139
W	1536-1550		missing
	1551-1632	67	595945
	1587-1673	70	596139
	1674-1699		missing
	1700-1739	71	596139
	1739-1764	72	596139
	1764-1779	73	596139
	1779-1787	74	596139
	1787-1795	75	596139
	1796-1799	76	596139
X	1536-1736		missing
	1737-1738	76	596139
	1739-1799		missing
Y	1536-1611		missing
	1612-1699	70	596139
	1700-1703		missing
	1703-1799	76	596139
Z	1536-1723		missing
	1724	76	596139
	1725-1745		missing
	1745-1747	76	596139
	1748-1799		missing

The handwriting of the abstracts is not for the faint of heart. When making transcripts for personal use, a researcher sometimes used a "fast hand." Betham did the same. The researcher should take some time to become familiar with the abstracts by reading a number of them throughout the microfilm, learning Betham's style and the format of his letters.

The easiest way to determine if there is a possible abstract for a particular person is to refer to Sir Arthur Vicar's *Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland, 1536-1810.* This valuable work was reprinted in 1967 by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore. While Sir Arthur Vicar's index covers the years 1536-1810, Betham's abstracts generally end about 1800, so there may be names listed in the index that are not in the abstracts. The accompanying table of FHL microfilm numbers illustrates that for certain letters of the alphabet and certain time periods there are no abstracts in his collection.

Frank S. Marsh produced a typescript volume of corrections and additions to Vicar's index entitled *Additions to, and Corrections in, Vicar's Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland, 1536-1810.* A manuscript copy of this unpublished work was deposited in the British Museum, London. A copy of the British Museum manuscript is also at the Family History Library (FHL British 941.5 S2v supp. or microfilm FHL 994,076 item 3).

The original indexes to the Prerogative Wills and Administrations are found on the following FHL microfilms.

Date	Surname Span	Microfilm #
1536-1810	A-M	100,893
	N-Z	100,894
1811-1858	A-J	100,895
	K-W	100,896

Indexes to the Administrations in the Prerogative Court also survived destruction in 1922. The index for the Administrations is found with the Index to Grants of Administrations, Probates of Wills, Marriage Licenses, Notary Public, and Faculties. These are compiled similar to the will index, in two parts. One index covers the time period 1595-1810 and the second index covers the remaining years 1811-1858. Microfilmed by the Family History Library, they are available on the following reels of FHL microfilm.

Date	Surname Span	Microfilm #
1595-1810	A-E	100,904
	F-N	100,905
	O-Z	100,906
1811-1820	A-Z	100,907
1821-1830	A-Z	100,908
1831-1840	A-Z	100,909
1841-1858	A-Z	100,910

In addition, a separate index covers the time period

1692-1697	A-Z	100,906

To be continued in next issue…

Endnotes

1 Herbert Wood, *A Guide to the Records Deposited in the Public Record Office of Ireland*. (Dublin: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1919), 222.

2 Donel Begley, editor, *Irish Genealogy, A Record Finder* (Dublin: Heraldic Artists Ltd., 1981), 163.

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.

You Make a Difference continued from page 44

Help Wanted!

The IGSI annual meeting is held each year in May. New is the operative word this year when it comes to officers because *all* of the current officers have reached their term limits serving in the elected position they now hold. We need leaders, of course, but we also need the ideas, direction and guidance that new leaders will bring. Please consider stepping up to become a candidate or to nominate another. We need committed candidates – not expert genealogists. No matter where you live or what you do, you can help IGSI by becoming part of our leadership team. This is the time and place where technology makes most things possible! If you would like more information on serving on the IGSI Board, please feel free to contact me at President@IrishGenealogical.org.

Join the Fun of St. Patrick's Day

There is more than one little village in Minnesota with Irish roots but Le Center, Minnesota, works the hardest at never forgetting its origins. The town has fewer than 2500 people, but St. Patrick's Day in Le Center lasts a week! Good thing they devote that much time because it takes time to participate in the Irish Brunch, the Miss Shamrock competition, the parade, the Mass and the Rally. Last year and this year again, I participated in their activities because they have made Irish family history a focus of the Miss Shamrock competition. My heart swelled as I listened to LeCenter high school students explain how they researched their Irish heritage to learn the names of their great-grandparents, the places they came from in Ireland, and why they came to America.

Wherever you live, I hope you took part in the fun of local St. Patrick's Day celebrations. Whether a big city parade or or lunch in a small town, I know you found that joining the Irish and their friends kick up their heels on March 17 was good for your Irish soul. Maybe you even met a cousin you never knew you had!

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 n the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Dromglass Found?

by William Romanski

According to family history, Michael Doona was born in 1848 in the parish of Killorglin in County Kerry. When his parents departed for America, they left him with his uncle, Jack Griffin, who lived in the neighboring parish of Glenbeigh. After the death of his childless uncle, Michael took over the farm located in the townland of Coolroe Lower. However, Michael's marriage record indicated that he lived at a place called Dromglass. Dromglass has proved difficult to pinpoint.

When the valuation was taken in Kerry in April 1832 for payment of tithes to the Church of Ireland, there were no Griffins in Coolroe Lower. In 1852, at the time of Griffith's Valuation, Cornelius Griffin occupied Lot 3a and John Griffin was at 3b. This was probably uncle Jack. In 1901, Michael Doona and his family were enumerated in the census at Coolroe Lower. Civil records of the births of Michael's children show they were born at Coolroe, the place of Michael's residence. The continuity of Michael living in Coolroe Lower was broken by his marriage record. Where is Dromglass and what was Michael doing there?

Dromglass is not the name of any townland in Glenbeigh, Killorglin or other nearby parishes. *The General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes, and Baronies of Ireland* lists no Dromglass. Google searches turned up no results for a Dromglass in Kerry. In Glenbeigh there are a few townlands with similar names. Across the parish there are Drombrane and Drom East. Not far from Coolroe are the townlands of Drom and Drom West. I wasn't satisfied with the idea that Dromglass was the same as one of these other townlands.

I have corresponded with two Kerry natives from Killorglin. When I asked if they knew of Dromglass in Glenbeigh, one responded that it was "between Glenbeigh and Rossbeigh," and the other agreed. Coolroe Lower, Drom and Drom West all fit this imprecise description. So I thought that I would delve into the word itself.

Dromglass seems to be made up of two parts: *drom* and *glass*. A little time with an Irish dictionary and a book of Irish placenames found on *Google Books* reveals that *drom* or *druim* refers to a ridge or hill. In English we have the geological term "drumlin" which is related. *Glass* is the color green. So Dromglass is a placename describing a green ridge. The townland Drom is situated on a prominent hill north of Coolroe Lower. If I admit that Drom and Dromglass are the same place I have to figure out why Michael Doona was there. Still skeptical of this equivalence, I continue digging. The next untapped record set is the Roman Catholic record for that parish.

The Glenbeigh Roman Catholic records are in poor condition and are missing many years. Nevertheless, I located baptismal records for Michael's first four children. Each record indicated that the family lived at Dromglass! So, the civil records for the children's birth said they were born at Coolroe while the church records said Dromglass. It is clear that Dromglass is located in the townland Coolroe Lower. But are the names interchangeable?

I needed to find other people who lived at Dromglass so I could describe the area in more detail. I knew that there were several mentions of the place in the parish records; I searched for other names. I soon discovered three Griffin families from Dromglass who also had baptized their children. Again, civil records indicated that they were from Coolroe. Further research revealed that all three Griffin fathers were the sons of Cornelius Griffin, presumably the same Cornelius Griffin residing at Lot 3a in Griffith's Valuation. So by my estimation, Dromglass is the area described by Lot 3 in the Ordnance Survey.

Now I returned to the name *Dromglass*. "Green ridge" doesn't seem to describe the area of Coolroe Lower. In fact, the north edge of the townland is the River Behy, for which the parish of Glenbeigh is named, and the western edge is a stream which runs into the river. It seems that Dromglass is a low point as opposed to a high point.

Returning to *Google Books* I find that *glass* or *glas* is also a variation of *glaise*, which means a streamlet or rivulet. Now the location and name make sense! Dromglass is that western edge of Coolroe Lower where the stream that runs off the ridge to the south meets the River Behy.

Resources

General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes, and Baronies of Ireland. Baltimore, {MD]: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984.

Google Books (http://books.google.com) The two publications that I found there that were most helpful in this study were:

> Joyce, Patrick Weston. *The Origin and History of Irish Names of Places*. Dublin:McGlashan & Gill, 1875.
>
> O'Reilly, Edward. *An Irish-English Dictionary*. Dublin: Miverva Printing Office, 1821.

The Tithe Applotment Books are indexed as "Applotment Books, abt 1824-1840" in the LDS catalog. The records themselves are organized by parish.

The original data as well as accompanying maps for the Primary (Griffith's) Valuation are available free at www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation

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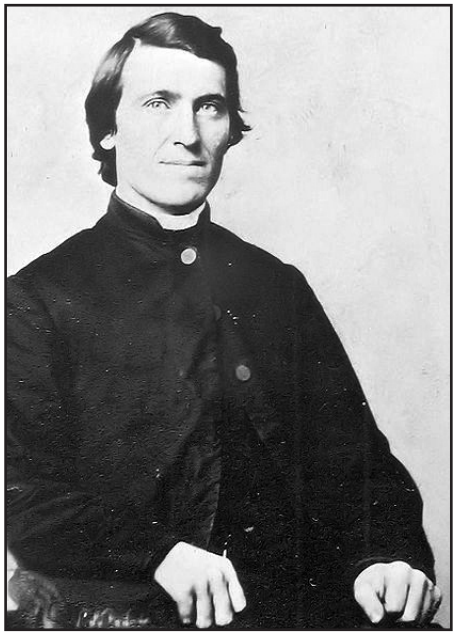
William Romanski was born in Rhode Island and has been studying family history and genealogy since about 1989. There are numerous place names that do not appear on modern maps or in official lists of Townlands for the county. He has successfully applied the technique described in the article to deduce their locations. He may be contacted at wdromanski@hotmail.com.

February Meeting Program

The Life and Times of John Ireland

Dr. Anne Klejment, of the Department of History at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, offered us an insight into the life of John Ireland, the first archbishop of St. Paul and a driving force of the Catholic Church in the U. S. in the latter half of the 19th century. She started with the warning that she would apply no labels to him (i.e. liberal or conservative; Republican or Democrat) because she was a man of his time, not ours, and should be understood in terms of his time. Her talk was taken mainly from Fr. Marvin R. O'Connell's 1988 biography, *John Ireland and the American Catholic Church*.



Bishop Ireland approximately 1884

John Ireland was born in Burnchurch, County Kilkenny, Ireland and baptized on September 11, 1838. He was the son of Richard Ireland and his second wife, Judith Naughton. His father was a strict disciplinarian, his mother a more joyful and playful person. Young John was tutored by the village priest in Latin, serving Mass at age seven. He probably received some other village schooling. The family remained in Ireland through the time of the Potato Famine but left shortly after. Richard Ireland was a carpenter and may have been able to survive financially with income from his work.

Oral History vs. Online Research

Fr. O'Connell's biography of John Ireland notes the family story that Richard Ireland traveled to Montreal, Canada, with his sister and nephew in 1848, and from there into Burlington, Vermont. The family lore further states the rest of the family joined him in 1849 and traveled from Montreal to Vermont. Yet Castle Garden, New York, port of entry documents show the entire family came through New York City in 1849.

Fr. O'Connell further records that the Ireland family moved to Chicago in late 1851 and then moved on to St. Paul, Minnesota, arriving on May 19, 1852. However, census data for 1850 places the Ireland family in Chicago, Illinois, a year earlier. To further complicate matters, both the 1857 Minnesota Territorial census and the 1860 U.S. census list John Ireland as residing with his family in St. Paul – yet he had been living in

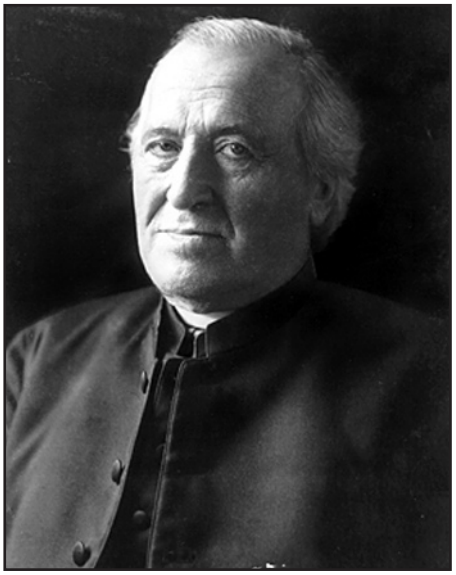
France during those years, attending seminary. His seminary education was paid for by Bishop Cretin, a Frenchman, who sent John and his boyhood friend, John Connor, to his alma matter in France.

(These discrepancies between family lore and more trustworthy records should serve as a good example of why genealogical researchers should always check several sources around every life event. However, even an official record such as a census can be incorrect. Lesson: check everything.)

Legacy

John returned to the U.S. in 1861 as a deacon and was ordained shortly thereafter. One of his first assignments was as a chaplain for all of the Minnesota regiments for eight months during the Civil War, an early ecumenical experience as he ministered to all soldiers not just Catholics. In 1863, he was appointed to the Cathedral parish and became its pastor in 1867. In 1869, he was associated with the Total Abstinence cause – yet refused to sign a petition calling for an ordinance against liquor on Sundays. His adamant support of total abstinence would prove to be a point of contention between him and the German Catholics who liked their Sunday beer gardens.

He became a very active participant in the Catholic Colonization Bureau whose mission was to relocate Catholics living in the larger cities of the Eastern U. S. to smaller Western rural communities. Ireland's idea was that of the virtuous Jeffersonian ideal of the citizen farmer. Some of this relocation work was done in partnership with the St. Paul railroad magnate, James J. Hill, who enlisted Ireland's help in distributing some of the railroad lands. For the most part this program was a success. One notable exception was a settlement of Irish moved directly



Archbishop Ireland approximately 1909

from the hardscrabble Connemara region of Ireland to Graceville in western Minnesota. Circumstances and mistakes led to many of these settlers abandoning their plots and moving to St. Paul.

John Ireland was appointed bishop in 1884 and elevated to archbishop in 1888. During his time, he achieved many good things, but also found himself embroiled in controversies as well. He established the St. Paul Seminary out of which the College of St. Thomas sprang. The seminary emphasized the idea of "learned and humble priests." He commissioned construction of the Cathedral of St. Paul, as well as the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis. He established the first Negro parish in the U.S., St. Peter Claver parish, and ordained the first Black U.S. educated parish priest. He was active with the liturgical renewal movement seeking to involve people more in worship.

Controversies

Yet controversy was also his lot. He was anti-Jesuit and against having married priests of the Eastern Catholic Church living in the diocese. On a national level, he was a strong advocate of the Americanist movement within the U.S. Catholic Church. This faction held that separation of church and state was a good thing, and that all U.S. Catholics should be under a single hierarchy and all services should be in English. The German faction of the Church felt they should have their own liturgy and bishops. Some of Ireland's ideas as to how Catholic and public schools should be intertwined caused alarm amongst the Know Nothings and their ilk, inflaming fears that the entire U.S. would turn Catholic.

Throughout his life, John Ireland was active in local and national ecclesiastical and civic issues. He died in Minnesota in 1918.

Instructional Videos at FamilySearch.org: a Review

by Tom Rice, CG

There is a new genealogical educational resource available free to all, and it is excellent. The FamilySearch website has posted a large and growing series of online videos covering various aspects of basic genealogy and introductions to select ethnic genealogical research methods and tools. Irish genealogy is one of these, and in my mind, the best of the lot.

You can find these by going to http://www.familysearch.org. Then click on the tab marked "Library," scroll down on that tab and click on "Education." At the "Education" page, click on the upper most link marked "Research Series Classes Online." This abbreviated link will also bring you directly to this page – http://tinyurl.com/debr9s.

The "Research Series Classes Online" page has links to the videos and handouts for quite a number of topics. These include

- England Beginning Research
- Germany Research
- Ireland Research
- Italy Research
- Basic Principles for Genealogical Research in Latin America (Mexico)
- Research Principles and Tools – which includes videos on Descendancy Research, the Family History Library Catalog Overview, and Research Logs
- Russian Research, and
- U.S. Research.

These videos are in one of two formats. Some are Adobe Flash, MP4 videos. The others use Microsoft's Silverlite plug-in to be viewed. The latter is by far the better format. It presents the viewer with a video of the presenter on the left with an easily readable view of the slides on the right. The Silverlite viewer allows one to scroll through the slides separate from watching the video. This can be very handy. The Silverlite browser plug-in can be downloaded from http://silverlite.net.

The Adobe Flash videos are of uneven quality. I had trouble with the English ones: I had to download the video and play it from my machine rather than watch it online. The Flash videos also use a screen that I found to be a bit too small to see the slides comfortably. The Flash videos alternate between a shot of the presenter and of the slides rather than showing both side by side as with the Silverlite videos. However, in every case, there are excellent handouts to download and print out so one can follow along. All the handouts are in Adobe Acrobat PDF format which one can read using the Adobe Reader. The latest version of the reader can be downloaded at http://get.adobe.com/reader/.

The topics of the Irish series (five videos) include Church Records, Civil Registration, and three videos on immigration: one on Strategies, another on Famine/Post-famine Sources, and the last on Ulster/Scots Irish Sources. The presenter for this series is Evva Benson, who is an Accredited Genealogist with specializations in England and Ireland. She does an excellent job. Her presentation is very clearly delivered, well paced, and supported by just the right amount of slide material. In these presentations she covers such basic topics as Irish name variations and Irish political jurisdictions. She presents well-thought-out and rock-solid methods for using these records and addressing the problem of finding an immigrant's place of origin. The handout materials are excellent resources in their own right with many references to other online resources and books. These include lecture notes, articles and a county map of Ireland. The lecture notes also refer the reader to relevant articles on these topics at the FamilySearch Wiki (http://wiki.familysearch.org). After viewing these videos, I concluded that we no longer need to present basic Irish lectures as we will be hard pressed to do better than these videos. However, we may still do so, because people learn in different ways.

In summary, these videos are a wonderful genealogical educational resource that should appeal to a wide audience. The content and presentations are excellent. The ones in the Silverlite format are a joy to watch. Some of those in the Flash format are a bit small and may be a bit jerky. My wish is that all of the videos would be available in the Silverlite format. I further hope that many more educational videos be posted. Every genealogist can benefit from them and societies may want to consider presenting some of the videos at their meetings.

Take a Look at . . .

by Ann Eccles

A number of new free websites have come to our attention. You may want to check them out.

UK Burial Records

http://www.deceasedonline.com

Deceased Online describes itself as "the first central database of statutory burial and cremation registers for the UK and Republic of Ireland." In the nearly two years since its launch it has digitized more than one million burial and cremation records. It continues to add data, so if you don't find what you are looking for, check it again every so often.

Searching this database is free and you do see the results of your search: date of burial and cremation and location. You can register with the site to purchase additional information, i.e. a scan of the burial or cremation register, location of the burial site, photo of the gravestone – as indicated in the return.

Kerry Church Records

http://www.irishgenealogy.ie

This website, sponsored by Ireland's Department of Art, Sports and Tourism, provides a free database of the church records of much of Dublin and Kerry Dioceses. The first phase of the project, currently online, contains church records for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Kerry available as a subset of the Church of Ireland parishes in Kerry.

According to information from the site, "The remainder of the extant Church of Ireland records for Kerry will be made available in due course. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Kerry includes parishes in western and north-western areas of County Cork."

You can search by surname and then limit by selecting from the list of diocesan areas or time periods listed on the left side of the screen.

An additional feature of the site is a Central Signposting Index which will point you to the local county-based Irish Family History Foundation genealogy centre that may hold the records you seek. There are more than three million records in this database from Armagh, Cavan, Derry, Donegal, Fermanagh, Leitrim, Limerick, Mayo, Sligo, Tyrone and Wexford. Types of record include Birth, Baptism, Marriage, Griffith's Valuation, Tithe Applotment and 1901 Census returns.

1911 Census of Ireland

http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie

Investigating and viewing the entire 1911 census of Ireland is wonderfully available courtesy of the National Archives of Ireland. The National Archives reports that, annually, only a couple hundred people inspected the Irish census onsite in Dublin. Yet, in one month alone, about 200,000 online visitors checked the census' website. All 32 counties are online; the various forms are pdf downloads.

For those hoping to see the 1901 census – well, you'll just have to wait. There are plans to put that online also, but it's not yet available.

Irish Genealogy Blog

http://irishfamilyresearch.blogspot.com/2010/02/irish-genealogy-project-igp-bookmark-it.html

You should check out a new blog by Deborah Large Fox, a genealogy instructor in the South Jersey/Philadelphia area, if for no other reason than its title – *Help! The Faerie Folk Hid My Ancestors!* Her weekly posts provide information related to researching Irish family history.

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.

The Research Tab: Links to Research Methods

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

It's usually the case that you don't have to learn and retain all there is to know about research methodologies—you just have to know where to go to find the answer or to learn about the method. We often can reach our destination more quickly by following the virtual maps available to us on websites.

In this series of articles about the IGSI website, we've been discussing the help available under the RESEARCH tab on the IGSI homepage. In the LINKS drop-down menu of this tab, under the heading of ***Research Methods***, pathways to sources of help for finding your Irish ancestry abound. Rather than just a collection of links to information, the ***Research Method*** links take the searcher to websites that explain how to find information and what to do with it once found.

The ***Research Methods*** selection is divided into two parts: *Key Irish Research Materials* and a *Miscellaneous* category. We'll tackle the *Key* option first, which is divided further into categories: Reference Materials, Research Methods and Tips, and Family Search Pilot Site.

Reference Materials

This choice offers the largest collection of research help. It is broken down into **General** and **Census & Other People-counting Records**.

General links to Dr. Stephen Morse's page. Stephen Morse has contributed easy-to-use finding aids to a great number of popular databases, including the Ellis Island and Castle Garden passenger lists. While not specifically Irish-based, these databases likely include an ancestor or two who came over from Ireland. The various types of records available to search are listed on the top left of the page. Be sure to read the "Overview" that comes with each type of database in order to make the best use of Dr. Morse's finding aids.

Census and Other People-counting Records includes "Irish Tithe Defaulters List of 1831", "Orphan's Home Website", "Irish Church Records", and "Books for Sale: County Longford Residents Prior to the Famine".

- "Irish Tithe Defaulters List of 1831" describes a collection of names of 29,000 people who did not pay tithes in 1831; actual names from the lists (divided by county) are available by purchase of the records on microfiche.
- "Orphans' Home Website" is a searchable database of the names of orphans taken from U.S. and Canadian censuses as well as lists of inmates from orphanages themselves. Be sure to read "About this site" to understand where these names originate as well as the conditions—legal and otherwise—by which children came to live in the orphanages.

Research Methods

Research Methods is divided into **IGSI Links** and **Offsite Links**.

IGSI Links consists of "Matheson's 100 Most Common Irish Surnames" and "Matheson's Surnames". These are from the same book of records compiled from 1890 Irish birth records, but they are ordered differently.

- "Most Common" lists names in alphabetical order. The first three listings, for instance, are Ahern of Co. Limerick, then Anglin and Barry of County Cork.
- "Matheson's Surnames" lists the names by frequency in all of Ireland, the three most common names being Murphy, Kelly and O'Sullivan. This webpage describes Matheson's work and the book he compiled, which contains 2,500 surnames found in Ireland in 1890.

Offsite Links includes "Fianna's Irish Guide", "RootsWeb Guide", "Irish Ancestor (Irish Times)", "Where to Start (Paul Gorry, Ireland)", and "Basic Genealogical Issues".

- "Fianna's Irish Guide" offers many resources to help you conduct your Irish research. You can learn how to dig into almost any problem more deeply—for example, the section on Counties alone consists of 200 pages. Follow leads on history and geography, find where to send queries for vital records, get advice on taking a trip to Ireland.
- "RootsWeb Guide" is a homepage where you can click on "Irish" from the listing of countries and ethnic groups. The first result is the "Fianna Irish Guide"! Then you'll find an overview of general concepts to understand about Irish research followed by a list of reference publications, including John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* and James G. Ryan's *Irish Records*.
- "Irish Ancestor (*Irish Times*)" is the online version of the *Irish Times* newspaper. The section for researching Irish ancestry is created and maintained by Irish author and genealogist John Grenham,

who says that it "aims to be the first online stopping-off point for anyone interested in researching their Irish Ancestors." Check out the Research Wizard for pointers on directions to carry forward your research. A report on the Wizard's results is available for a fee, as well.
- "Where to Start (Paul Gorry, Ireland)" suggests starting points for research beginners.

Family Search: Pilot Site

Presented by the LDS Family History Library, the Pilot Site is a new and growing collection of records that have been extracted from original sources by thousands of volunteers. Among the completed projects you will find the Ireland Civil Registrations.

In a future issue we will consider the final "Miscellaneous" section which includes extensive help in working with surnames and with finding professional genealogists specializing in Irish research.

Editors note: Due to work on the website, some of the links mentioned in this article are not fully-functional. These will be functioning as work is completed.

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.

Research@IrishGenealogical.org

IGSI Benefit

Every so often, every researcher needs a little help, a pair of fresh eyes, or a push in climbing a brick wall. The Irish Genealogical Society International offers members that help as a benefit of membership.

At the relatively inexpensive price of $10 per hour, our research staff is available to help. We check both online and print resources available in the IGSI Library. Members who wish to request research assistance may do so by letter or email to Research@IrishGenealogical.org with the following information:

- Your contact information – name, address, email or phone
- Your member number
- The specific query you have. Do you want to find the townland of your ancestor, a birth or marriage date, the maiden name a spouse? Please identify the individuals and background to start the search.
- Include a list of sources you have already checked. Many sources, including Griffith's and passenger lists, are now available online. If you have already checked them, we can move on to other resources without repeating your search.

Please do not send payment with your request. When we know the cost – including time and copies, we will notify you. If you wish to specify a limit of cost, do so in your request.

What do we check? The Library has a subscription to *Ancestry* and *IrishOrigins*, two online subscription databases with many Irish resources. Examples: *Ancestry* contains the Emigrant Savings Bank records for 1850-1883 (which we also own in print form) and an index to the Tithe Applotment Books for the counties comprising contemporary Northern Ireland. *Irish Origins* contains Griffith's Valuation, indexes to the Irish Strays of the 1841 and 1871 censuses of England, and an index to Tithe Defaulters.

The Library owns all 16 volumes of the Casey Collection (East Kerry & West Cork), Irish passenger list information in print and on CDs, the eight-volume *Search for Missing Friends* (advertisements placed in the *Boston Pilot* newspaper between 1851 and 1905 for Irish immigrants), and many books of Irish and county histories.

We can provide a study of a surname in one county of Ireland and map it on a parish map of the county. If a couple married in Ireland, we can map both surnames on the same map. However, if a surname is too numerous to provide a meaningful result, we will inform you of that fact.

We check for information in periodicals and books you have found in the IGSI library catalog or seen mentioned in our "New to the Library" feature. If your Irish ancestor was local to Minnesota, we may check the microfilmed parish records of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis for information.

This is only a sampling of the resources we use to answer your query on an Irish ancestor. Your goal is to discover your Irish ancestry; our goal is to help you do so.

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

100 Years Ago

ONE MAN'S REASONS FOR LIKING THE IRISH

The following clever tribute to the Irishman, at a recent banquet of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in New York, was offered by Job E. Hedges and is taken from *Leslie's Weekly*:

I know of no line of mental or other activity in which an Irishman has not mixed up. An Irishman does not participate; he mixes up. You can make certain that where he has been something has happened. And if it has not happened to him, it has happened to some one else. Indifference and an Irishman are not twin brothers. For the purpose of my argument let us admit, as a major promise, then, that Ireland is great and the Irish greater. I know of no place where they have not been, and I know of no place, where they arrived, that others did not take notice of them. And as a rule, they took the place over and ruled it.

We haven't adopted sons of Ireland; we have "adopting" sons of Ireland. There is no realm of energy they have not invaded – professions and the arts and sciences, moral, and physical courage, and all those things they have given us great examples of. They have been the equals of most everybody; but I notice this – that I have never heard of an Irishman that apologized for his national paternity. I have often wondered why the Irish brogue survived three or four generations before it disappeared, and the psychological reason is that an Irishman refuses to trade his personality for anything temporal. …

Indianapolis Star, Indianapolis, Indiana
Tuesday, June 7, 1910

POLITICAL SITUATION

Campaign Against the House of Lords.

CRISIS IN THE FIGHT. The Deliberations Likely to Be Protracted.

ATTITUDE OF THE IRISH.

O'Brien on Redmond:

The attitude of the insurgent Irish toward the conference is summed up in a slashing interview William O'brien gave *The Sun* correspondent. He said: "The conference marks the collapse of Redmond's last excuse for the recent action of his party. His only defence for inflicting £3,500,000 additional taxation annually on Ireland by the votes of his own representatives, the veto of the House of Lords abolished within a few months and an Irish parliament sitting in Dublin.

The Gleaner, Kingston, Kingston,
Wednesday, June 29, 1910

150 Years Ago

IRISH PAUPERS

Mr. Disraeli regretted to find no hopes held out of any immediate amendment of the law affecting the removal of Irish paupers. Much cruelty was practiced towards those unfortunate persons, especially by the authorities of the metropolis.

The **HOME SECRETARY** promised to institute some inquiries respecting the treatment which it was alleged that an Irish pauper, named Parker, had received from the metropolitan magistrates. …

London Nonconformist, London, Middlesex
Wednesday, June 20, 1860

THE NEW IRISH EXODUS

The English papers, says the *New York Herald*, are puzzled to account for the fresh impulse which Irish emigration to this country has received. *The London Times* says that if the exodus continues at the present rate, Ireland will soon be left entirely to the English. – This is a consummation which the English ought to feel no surprise at, seeing how they have worked to accomplish it by proscriptive laws, and the maintenance of a State Church, and the wholesale eviction of the Catholic tenantry.

Chilton Times, Chilton, Wisconsin
Saturday, May 26, 1860

METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

From our correspondent in Buffalo

Fourth Day's Proceedings

… Rev. Robinson Scott said that, as the delegate of the Irish Methodists, it was his duty to do two things: first, he desired to convey the fraternal and affectionate salutations of the Irish Conference. They regarded their American brethren with the warmest sympathy. They had been specially pleased with the deputation sent to Ireland by the last General Conference, and believed that if Bishop Simpson and Dr Mcclintock were specimens of their brethren here, they were entirely worthy of their love. In the second place he had to set forth the difficulties of the work in Ireland. They grew out of the fact that it was a Popish country – an old country, and a country from which there was a large emigration. Within ten years two-thirds of the Methodist population had emigrated. But in the darkest hour aid had come to them. He rendered thanks for the assistance sent them from the

United States. The prayers of the two hemispheres had not gone up in vain. God had given the Irish Methodists a great work, and what they had thus far done was the precursor of the entire evangelization of the land. ...
The New York Times, New York, New York
Monday, May 7, 1860

200 Years Ago

ENGLAND DURING THE ROMAN, SAXON, DANISH, AND NORMAN CONQUESTS.
By The Rev. Mark Noble, F.a.s. Of L. And E.
*Ireland, like England, has a mixed blood. "The present motley generation of the Irish is composed of parts not less heterogeneous than the inhabitants of Great Britain, being a mass of aboriginals, Irish, Spaniards, or Milesians, Danes, Saxons, Normans, English, Scots, Hugonots [sic] and Palatines. In such a miscellaneous variety one might be led to imagine that all national characteristic must be lost, yet no people in Europe seems more distinctly marked, or to bear a stronger original impression: whether nature frames and models the disposition of the inhabitants to the soil and climate of the country, or whether the form of government gives a complexion to their manners, it is curious to observe how quickly the various dissimilar parts coalesce, and amalgamate into one body." Lord McCartney....
Monthly Mirror, London, Middlesex
Friday, June 1, 1810

250 Years Ago

IRELAND
The custom in Ireland for friends to kiss each other on horse-back, by which absurd practice many lost their teeth, and got broken mouths and noses, hath been luckily laid aside for some time past. *Dublin Journal.*

One Kelly, who piloted Com. Elliott to Belfast, [in] quest of M. Thulot, has been set upon by the populace of Rush (a little fishing town) and was most barbarously cut and abused. One of the offenders has been apprehended, and the disgrace of public justice, was admitted to bail; but the Protestants of Ireland zealously with their brethren, the Grand Jury of the county of Dublin, may bring the delinquents to condign punishment.
London Chronicle, London, Middlesex
Saturday, June 14, 1760

300 Years Ago

BY THE Lord-lieutenant And Council Of Ireland, A PROCLOMATION
T. Wharton

Whereas above Ten Thousand Papists are Riotously Assembled at a Place commonly called St. John's-Well in the County of Meath, who under pretense of Religious Worship, may carry on dangerous Designs to the great Terror of Her Majesty's Protestant Subjects, and the Endangering the Publick Peace of this Kingdom, insomuch that the Commons in Parliament Assembled have Humbly Applied to the Lord-Lieutenant of this Kingdom, immediately to give Such necessary Directions as may effectually Suppress at this Juncture, so Tumultuous, Dangerous, and Unlawful [an] Assembly.
The Dublin Gazette, Dublin, Dublin
Friday, June 27, 1710

From Saturday, April 1st, to Tuesday, April 4th, 1710
London, March 28. On Sunday Night last, Sir Henry Gould, one of the Judges of the Queens Bench, died. Yesterday, at a quarter of an Hour after 1, was burnt before the Royal Exchange, the Two Sermons of Dr. Sacheiverell, and the Decree made at Oxford, in Convocation July 21, 1683, in Relation to Passive-Obedience and Non-Resistance, in the preference of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. A Popish Priest who assumes the Title of Bishop of Armagh, and is lately come over from Ireland, is seized and committed. ...
Dublin Gazette, Dublin, Dublin
Tuesday, April 1, 1710

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.

Trip to Ireland, Just About Perfect

by Diane Lovrencevic

Making a trip to do research in Ireland is a goal of many Irish family historians. Vacationing in Ireland and getting the sense of its history, culture, and geography can be the trip of a lifetime. Combining the two is just about perfect. The only thing better is to go with people who have the same interest as you.

IGSI announced its trip to Ireland last fall and the openings available are filling. Don't miss your opportunity to join us. Space is limited. Reservations will be accepted on a first come basis.

The trip includes

- Transfer from Airport to hotel in Dublin.
- 10 nights in excellent 4-3 star standard hotels
- Full Irish breakfast each morning (except day of arrival)
- 7 evening dinners (dinners in Dublin will be up to travelers)
- Time in Dublin is free time for research or sightseeing
- Entry to scheduled sights on trip
- Porterage of luggage, one per person
- Deluxe touring coach to suit size of group
- Professional driver/guide for duration of tour
- IGSI tour guide to make your trip run smoothly

Date of trip
September 19-30, 2010

Some of the scheduled sights

- Glendalough
- John F. Kennedy Park
- Queenstown Story at Cobh
- Garnish Island and Boat trip
- Beehive Huts on Dingle
- Rock-of-Cashel
- National Stud, Kildare
- More will be added

Accommodations

The accommodations for the trip can be seen on our website at http: www.IrishGenealogical.org/trip.asp. Great hotels, wonderful locations and excellent service.

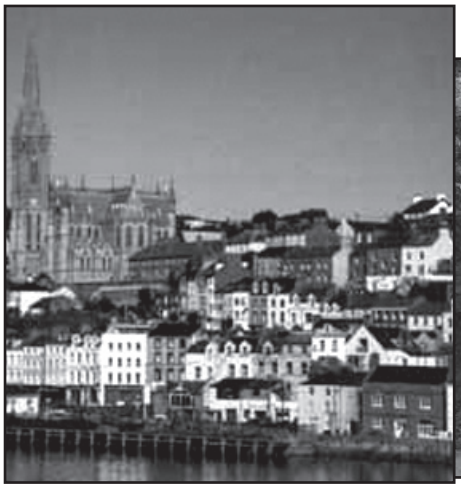
Registration is required to book your trip.

- Date of trip September 19 - 30, 2010
- Cost of double occupancy: $1975 per person, sharing.
- Cost of single occupancy: $2425 – Limited singles available
- Deposit for double occupancy is $200 per person, sharing. Non-refundable
- Deposit for single occupancy is $300 Limited spaces are available for singles. Non-refundable
- Transportation to Dublin, Ireland is arranged and paid by participant.
- Registration/Final Payment due by June 15, 2010

Participation in this trip is open to everyone.

For more information including itinerary, cancellation policy, hotels and registration form, go to the IGSI website at http://www.IrishGenealogical.org/trip.asp.

This is the year to make your trip to Ireland!



Education

by Sheila Northrop

Irish Day at the Minnesota Genealogical Library in South St. Paul has been a busy place this fall and winter. We had good response to our recent classes and are happy to provide more opportunities, based on the Education survey, this spring and summer. We also discovered a great resource for on-line education through the LDS church website at *Familysearch.org*. We are investigating other educational resources for our members, but highly recommend the LDS video classes as exceptionally good alternatives to anyone who does not have the opportunity to visit our home in South St. Paul personally.

Thank you,
Sheila Northrop
IGSI Education

IGSI CLASS SCHEDULE

2010 IGSI Education Calendar:

All classes will be held at the MGS Library in South St. Paul.

April 10, 2010 (1-2:30 PM) – Research in Ireland with Diane Lorencevic

May 8, 2010 (1-2:30 PM) – Irish Migration Patterns with Sheila Northrop

June 12, 2010 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Records in Ireland (tentative), Instructor TBD

July 10, 2010 (1-2:30 PM) – Irish Records in Canada with John Schade

August 14, 2010 – Irish Fair weekend
(10-11:30 AM)– Irish Basics How-To with Tom Rice
(1-2:30 PM) Writing Family Stories with Linda Miller

September 11, 2010 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Research Websites with Sheila Northrop

October 9, 2010 (10-11:30 AM) – Tracing Irish Catholic Records with Mary Wickersham

November 13, 2010 (1-2:30 PM) – Irish Holiday Traditions, Instructor TBD

Hidden in Plain Sight

With so much information available on the Internet, we sometimes forget about other valuable resources in other formats. IGSI has a wide variety of Irish reference CDs available on the library's computers – not accessible from home. Those members who visit the library can look and use them. Other members should be aware of them to ask for research help in checking them for information.

There are collections of journal publications relating to Irish genealogy.

- *The American Irish History Journal*, volumes 1-16 (1898-1917)
- *Irish Genealogist*, the official organ of the Irish Genealogical Research Society (1937-1993)
- *Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society*, Volumes 1-55 (1900-2003)

Other CDs contain documents, records, and lists of collections not easily accessed elsewhere.

- *Ireland's Memorial Records, World War I (1914-1918)* contains the names of more than 49,000 Irishmen who lost their lives in World War I.
- Brian Cantwell's *Memorials of the Dead* is the work of one of Ireland's most eminent researchers of gravestone inscriptions. It includes information from sites in Wexford, Wicklow, parts of South County Dublin and West Clare, as well as of Cork, Kildare, Galway and Sligo.
- *Counties in Time* is a sample of the records held in the National Archives of Ireland. Documents range from proclamations against Catholics holding arms during the penal days to family returns for the 1901 and 1911 censuses, from 17th century land redistribution records to 1930s police reports on IRA activity, and much more.
- A selection of materials from the Trinity College Dublin Library Collection – whose materials generally are not available to the casual visitor.
- *1798 Rebellion: Claimants and Surrenders*
- *Returning Home*. Incoming passenger lists for all the major ports of Britain and Ireland between 1858 and 1870, of passengers arriving from America, were submitted to Dublin Castle for scrutiny. Many details on all passengers.
- Passenger Lists of Irish immigrants arriving in the U.S., including *Scotch-Irish Immigration, 1500-1800*
- Lists, by county, of the Royal Garrison Artillery
- *Ireland Census Index, 1831 and 1841*
- *Index of Irish Wills, 1484-1858*
- *A Stroll through Dublin* provides historic maps of the streets, photos and details of 500 historic buildings, info on famous Dubliners and more.
- *The William Smith O'Brien Petitions*
- *The Fitzwilliam Tenants*

This article lists most but not all of the items on the computers and CDs in the library. For further information or to have an IGSI researcher check them for you, contact Research@IrishGenealogical.org.

The IGSI Library collection is housed in the Minnesota Genealogy Society Library. IGSI members have free access to the library.

The Library is open Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 - 9 p.m. Closed on Sunday, Monday and Friday.

Out of town members should call ahead to ensure that Irish research help is available to them when they visit.

Genealogy Merit Badge Day

by Sheila Northrop

On January 23rd, 57 Boy Scouts, accompanied by family and scout leaders, attended a merit badge event at the genealogical library in South St. Paul. They learned about researching their families and on-site counselors awarded Genealogy Merit Badge certification. It was a fun event co-sponsored by the Irish Genealogical Society International, the Minnesota Genealogical Society and the Northern Star Boy Scout Council.

Thank you to all our volunteers for providing a rewarding and exciting day. By day's end we had made many new friends and signed up new Society members.

Manage Your Member Information

On the 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 the eNewsletter, meeting reminders and other communications by email. If your email is wrong (an old email or another problem), you are missing our messages. Related to that, please add our email address (IrishGenealogical.org) to your approved recipient list.

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.

Thanks for helping by managing your Member Information!

Donations

We wish to thank the following members for their contributions to the Irish Genealogical Society International. Such donations help further the work of the organization. Thank you for your generosity!

Sharon Shea Bossard	Lake Zurich, Illinois
Robert Crall	Bucyrus, Ohio
Mary Loretta Dowling	St. Louis, Missouri
Michael Driscoll	South St. Paul, Minnesota
Christine Johansen	Luck, Wisconsin
Sharon Martin	Simi Valley, California
Susan McAninch	Minneapolis, Minnesota
John McCue	Long Beach, California
Richard T. McMurray	Annandale, Virginia
Florence Baskfield Myslajek	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mary Skewis	Ishpeming, Michigan
Eileen Spaeth	Red Bank, New Jersey
Fern Wilcox	Shoreview, Minnesota

As We Grow, So Do the Changes

by Diane Lovrencevic

We've all seen how technology has changed genealogy. IGSI's website has changed and improved in the last ten years and we expect more changes to take place soon. The growth of our website is forcing some changes on us sooner than we expected and will affect some newly promoted and completed member projects.

Recently, we recognized that our site needed to move to a faster and larger server. Frankly, we ran out of room. Our databases were growing larger in size and number than we anticipated when we changed Internet services a couple of years ago.

Issues and Solutions. During this newly-proposed move, a database became corrupted and we needed to reload all our data. As a result of this problem, we decided to change database programs to protect our information and to offer members a smoother and speedier search result. Technology changes and new programs offer us a solution which we didn't have when the original database was selected. The new program will make us current with the new formats the Internet is using. This change takes time to complete but, eventually, it will make our site better. During the transition of these databases we will be sure that IGSI information remains protected and secure.

With such a major move, we looked again at our website. As a result of this further analysis, we wanted to make our site easier to edit and find a way to make it easier for our volunteers and committee members to add data and keep our site current.

Some members may have noticed problems relating to PayPal when renewing or ordering online from our site. To correct this, we are adding a new commerce package with a few options for renewals and sales that we do not have at this time. At the printing of this journal, a few members are learning the package to ensure a smooth transfer.

All this behind-the-scenes work will provide a better website with more options in the future but it postpones some projects slated for 2010, e.g. the posting of recent indexing projects and the implementation of the pedigree chart database. We hoped to release this database in January. Now, we must pause and fix what we already have on the website. We will put the pedigree charts and indexes online towards the end of our transition timeline. By fall, all of this should be a memory. In the meantime, please continue to send us GED files of your family trees. For further information on the pedigree chart project, go to our website at http://www.irishgenealogical.org/pedigree.asp.

What does this mean to you as a member? Since much of this work is to the framework of the site, we hope you have very little inconvenience during the time we make the changes and a whole lot of happiness after they are completed. The first thing you may notice will be a somewhat different look to the website. We will retain the same colors and photos and the same web address, but you will see changes in the menus at the top and left side of the screen. Some menu buttons will change and we may move some of our pages. You will still need to log in; but after logging in, the members-only information will be added to the existing menus under the banner. Should you choose not to log-in, that information will not appear.

Some menu buttons will have different names while others may be in a different location. The submenus, under the main menu buttons, will be moved to make them easier to locate. But everything that is there today will be there when the transition is finished, plus more.

The process has begun. In a short time, you will see the first evidence of our work. In the months ahead, we will work very hard to make this transition a successful one and to complete it by fall. Our plans are to make the IGSI website even larger and better, so be sure to visit it regularly to check out the changes.

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, plans the trips for IGSI and has recently started the IGSI eNewsletter. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Step Up and Volunteer

by Diane Lovrencevic

The building blocks of many organizations come from volunteers. We are fortunate to have many volunteers on our roster for they keep IGSI running. Their efforts are as unique as they are themselves. From the volunteers who lead committees to those who give just a couple of hours each year, all are needed.

Yet we need to ask more. We need to ask our members to consider their expertise/talents/creativity and to step forward and give us what time you can spare to volunteer. A few specific areas need that specific volunteer.

E-Newsletter Editor

In December 2008, we introduced the electronic newsletter. The leadership identified the need for a small publication that could offer articles as well as bits and pieces to our membership on months that *The Septs* was not published. An electronic newsletter format met this purpose. So far, under the leadership of Diane Lovrencevic, it has included a series of reviews, articles from members, information on Internet sites, and other information of interest. It is now time to pass this publication to a new volunteer for writing and editing. This volunteer can live anywhere and coordinate the project by email. Layout of publication can be done by the new editor or submitted to the web editor. ***If someone does not come forward to take on this responsibility, the eNewsletter will cease publication by year's end.*** For more information on what this position entails or to volunteer to be the eNewsletter editor, email Questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

Marketing Experience

The leadership of IGSI recognizes the need to promote or market our organization. We need individuals with marketing experience and a desire to be creative to work on this project. ***This committee will meet online making it open to anyone, anywhere.*** Committee meetings will be no harder to come to than using email. We ask this committee to develop and guide IGSI's marketing effort. For more information or to be part of this committee, email Questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

Small Projects

If you don't have time to commit to a large job to help IGSI, there are smaller and less time consuming jobs to be done as well. We want to expand our calendar on the website to include class and conference information from the areas where our members live. Are you willing to **relay information** from your home area concerning events such as clan reunions, workshops, classes and conferences? Volunteers would email the web editor with class name, time, location and web link for further information. This will then be added to the website calendar for all members to see. We believe this is a service that our membership will appreciate. Or, are you willing to **take IGSI membership brochures to local libraries** for their brochure racks? This will increase our visibility of the organization and bring new members to IGSI. For more information on either of these jobs, email Questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

As a volunteer, you can give as much or as little time available in your busy life. We agree with President Obama when he talked about the need for everyone to step up and volunteer. He said, "I'm not going to tell you what your role should be. That's for you to discover. But I'm asking you to stand up and play your part." IGSI asks the same thing. Step up and help out – in a big or small role with your favorite genealogy society.

Appreciation

The IGSI Board of Directors offers a HUGE thank you to our current volunteers who have helped us in so many ways! Your dedication and enthusiasm supported the projects and activities of the organization this past year.

And an Invitation

Please consider taking a step forward and becoming part of our Leadership team. You know some of our leaders already; perhaps you are ready for a new challenge. Two projects mentioned in this article, e-newsletter editor and marketing guru, are essential to our growth.

To those who have <u>not</u> volunteered with IGSI: Please consider helping in an area of interest to you. Not every volunteer has to be the leader of the team. If you are willing to write, or monitor the Message Board on the website, or help at IGSI meetings or the library (if you live in the area) – let us know. Or, you may be willing to share other talents not mentioned here.

To ask questions, to learn about opportunities, or to volunteer, contact Jeanne Bakken, the IGSI Volunteer Coordinator, at Volunteers@IrishGenealogical.org.

New to the Library

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases

H469 - *The History of Kilmacow. A South Kilkenny Parish*, 2nd Edition, by Kathleen Laffan. Published by GK Print, Grannagh, Kilmacow, 2005, 552 p., illus.

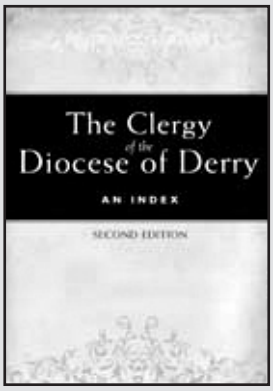
H656 - *Belfast Merchant Families in the Seventeenth Century*, by Jean Agnew. Published by Four Courts Press, Co. Dublin, Ireland, 1996, 273 p., indexed.

H657 - *Heir Island. Its History and People [County Cork]*, by Eugene Daly. Published by Heron's Way Press, Curraheen, Leap, County Cork, Ireland, 2004, 324 p., illus.

H658 - *Church and Society in County Kildare, c. 1470 - 1547*, by Mary Ann Lyons. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2000, 208 p., index.

The Clergy of the Diocese of Derry: an Index. second edition. Daly, Edward & Kieran Devlin, editors.

This is a revised, expanded and updated edition of the book first published in 1997. It includes comprehensive entries on saints associated with the see; bishops and abbots; priests from the earliest period to the 16th century. The later listings, which are virtually complete, cover the period 1800-2008.



H659 - *Defenders of the Plantation of Ulster 1641-1691*, by Brian Mitchell. Published by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2010, 64 p. [Alphabetical listings of Muster Roll of the Garrison of Londonderry during the rebellion of 1642-1643 and of defenders of Ireland during the Williamite War of 1689-1691.]

H660 - *Lakyle School. The Old & the New. A Centenary Celebration*, by Alfie O'Brien. Published by Lakyle National School, Lakyle, County Clare, 2009, 216 p., index, illus. [Lakyle is in Clonrush Parish in Clare. Includes lists of students in classes 1842-1908, plus many class pictures.]

I043 - *Scotch-Irish Merchants in Colonial America*, by Richard K. MacMaster. Published by the Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2009, 324 p., indexed.

K131 - *Register of the Cathedral of St Fin Barre's, Cork, 1753-1804*. Edited by Alicia St. Leger. Published by Representative Church Body Library, Dublin, Ireland, 2008, 438 p., illus., indexed.

K136 - *The Clergy of the Diocese of Derry. An Index*. Second Edition, by Edward Daly and Kieran Devlin. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2009, 244 p., indexed by year, not alphabetical.

K137 - *A History of St. Peter's Parish, Antrim Road, Belfast [Antrim]*, by Brian Barton. [Church of Ireland] Published by Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2009, 173 p., illus., indexed.

L106 - *Steamboat Connections. Montreal to Upper Canada 1816-1843*, by Frank Mackey. Published by McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal & Kingston, Canada, 2000, 383 p., illus., indexed.

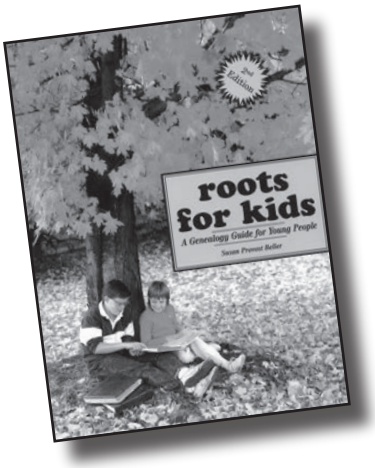
Q017 - *Bound For Australia. The Loss of the Emigrant Ship Tayleur at Lambay on the Coast of Ireland*, by Edward J. Bourke. Published by Author, Rushbrook, Dublin, 2003, 236 p., illus., lists of passengers.

Donations

P060, V.02 - *Ships from Ireland to Early America 1623-1850, Volume II*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Inc, Baltimore, MD, 2004, 145 p. Donated to MGS by Elbert Siaquist.

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.



Roots for Kids

A Genealogy Guide for Young People

by Suan Provost Beller

This book will help children learn 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. A great help for Scouts working on their Genealogy merit badge! (104 pp) **$19.95**

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South St. Paul, MN 55075

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Payment must be made in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. Bank.

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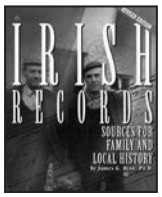
New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland - 2nd edition

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**

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**

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 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**

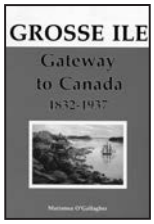
General Alphabetical Index of Townlands, Towns, Parishes and Baronies 1851

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**

Grosse Ile: Gateway to Canada 1832-1937

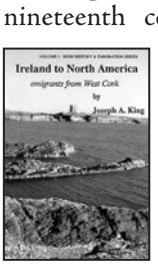
Marianna O'Gallagher



This book looks at Grosse Ile's years as a quarantine station of European immigrants. During the running of the St.Lawrence Quarantine Station most of the immigrants were from Ireland since it coincided with the Famine Migration. The genealogist will find a list of 600 orphans, names of ships boarded and photos. *Order Book #L010* **$16.95**

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* **$13.95**

Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, 3rd 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**

Irish Genealogical Society International offers the

May Quarterly Meeting & Program

Featuring Mike Casey with a

Tribute
The Life and Music of Tommy Makem

Tommy Makem was an Irish singer extraordinaire for more then half a century. Born in County Armagh, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1955. From his early days singing with the Clancy Brothers until his death in 2007, he graced stages all over the world delighting audiences with his songs, stories, and sense of humor. He was also a poet, historian, and author. He left a legacy of over 400 songs that, with any luck, will live with us forever.

Mike Casey is honored to have known Tommy Makem in his later years and has been singing his songs for decades. Between 2000 and 2002, Mike participated in The Tommy Makem International Festival of Song in South Armagh, which celebrates the rich history, mythology, music and culture of Tommy's home county.

Locally, Mike has served on the board of directors for Irish Fair of Minnesota, is a supporter of the Friends of St. Patrick, and is involved in the Irish Music and Dance Association.

Come learn about a great Irish folk artist and his music. Share in the culture of Ireland.

Saturday, May 16, 2009

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

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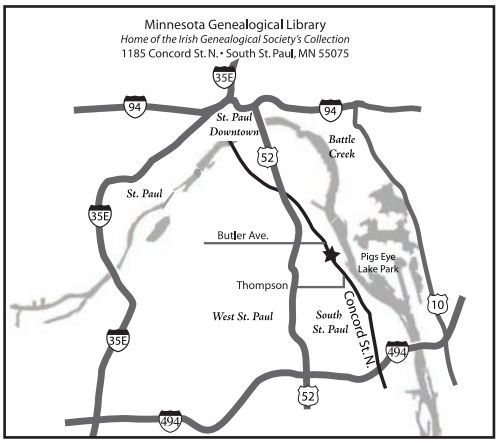
IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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.

The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

Volumne 31, Number 3 — lúil (July) 2010

$7.00

2010 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month
- 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
- OCTOBER 9, 2010
- NOVEMBER 13, 2010
- DECEMBER 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 are 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 - A 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

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Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2009-2010

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President's Letter

Summer Plans

by Linda Miller

Summer getaways are something I look forward to every year, and I am always thinking of ways to incorporate a little genealogical research into my trips. If you want to combine your travel with genealogy research, I have some tips for you. Whether your destination includes the locale where your ancestors lived, a visit to national historical sites, a family reunion or a genealogical conference, combining a vacation with research can make for a great travel experience.

As with any trip, the key to having it be a rewarding experience lies in the pre-planning you do. Using the Internet to plan is an easy way to learn what you need to know before you leave home. You will find information there about every destination you want to visit. If you are going to your ancestral home location, you can check online for the locations and hours of the local courthouse, the historical society, genealogy society, the library, museums, churches, cemeteries and the newspaper office. You will also want to know about their holdings or if you need to request material in advance or make an appointment. Believe me; I know how disappointing it is to arrive at a museum or a library to discover they are closed. It happened to me in Kilkenny, Ireland. We drove up to the heritage center and were shocked to read the sign on the door that said, "Closed for Remodeling." Knowing that it might be years before I returned, I was one sad traveler.

Be sure to review all your genealogical information about the people you want to research before you leave home. Make a "to-do" list of all the items you want to locate in your research so that nothing is overlooked. And don't forget to take all the information needed for your research in three ring binders or on your laptop computer. One tip I picked up from a fellow traveler on last year's IGSI Salt Lake City trip was to pack an "office in a box". I filled a small zipper case with Scotch tape, a couple of extra batteries, a small scissors, a glue stick, stamps, a mini stapler, some extra pens, pencils, and an eraser. I also take a large manila envelope along to mail papers back home. It is amazing how heavy paper can be and how much room it can take up in a suitcase. In other words, take all those things you wished you had taken on previous trips. My "office in a box" was so useful on that Salt Lake City trip that I now take it whenever I travel; when I'm not traveling, I keep it in my car. As you prepare for the trip, make sure to check that your camera, laptop, recorder and any other equipment are in proper working order. I once bought the world's most expensive camera batteries in Moscow.

If you are attending a family reunion, you may have opportunities to interview family members or family friends. You need to prepare for that, too, because there is more to interviewing than you might think. If you need tips on conducting a successful interview, there are wonderful resources online. One helpful article is on the *About.com* site at http://genealogy.about.com/cs/oralhistory/ht/interview.htm.

Every summer, opportunities abound to attend genealogical conferences in the U.S., Canada and Ireland. Some conferences attract a thousand or more attendees while others are sponsored by smaller societies and attract as few as a hundred. Don't make the mistake of thinking conferences are only for experienced researchers. Most are designed to accommodate beginners, experts and everyone in between. Conferences are a wonderful place to learn, network and get inspired. Check the Internet for genealogical conferences that interest you. *Cyndi's List* (http://cyndislist.com) is one place to start looking.

Finally, I'd like to suggest a great destination for you to consider. Come to Minnesota and do research at the IGSI Library in South St. Paul. We love to help Irish researchers and we can provide you with expert help if you contact us in advance for an appointment. We have a wonderful Irish collection with books and records from all of Ireland. If you happen to come on the second Saturday of any month, you will be able to attend one of our popular classes.

Have a wonderful summer and enjoy your travels.

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.

What's in a Name

by Ann Eccles

What do Davy Crockett, Mark Twain, Neil Armstrong, Dolly Parton and Reba McIntire have in common? All of them have Scots-Irish ancestors. As do author Steven King, Thomas Edison, Edgar Allen Poe, John Steinbeck and many more famous Americans.

In a recent publication, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that about 10% (34.5 million) Americans claimed Irish ancestry while about 1.5% of the American population claimed Scots-Irish ancestry. It also noted that 4.6 million Irish had legally entered the U.S. since 1820. Yet those called Scots-Irish were here long before that date. An estimated 250,000 Presbyterians and Protestant dissenters from the Ulster region immigrated to America during the colonial period. Another 150,000 arrived in the 1800s. The identification as "Irish" may have something to do with assimilation and/or regional preferences.

And what's with the terminology? Sometimes it's "Scotch-Irish" or "Scots-Irish." Others call them "Ulster Scots" or "Northern Irish" or "Irish Presbyterians." From the bits of research I've done prior to this issue, I've seen them all. "Scotch-Irish" is a term used historically in America and by scholars; others note that this was a term resented by the members of that group. Some say it was used to differentiate between the "Irish Catholics" in America and the Irish not of that faith. "Scots-Irish" is more contemporary, used since the late 20th century. It may have derived from the sentiment that "Scots" are a people and "Scotch" is a drink. Both of these originated in the U.S. and are considered Americanisms. Other countries refer to the "Ulster Scots" or "Irish Presbyterians" when describing this group.

There are many different ways to name and classify our ancestors who left Scotland in the 1600s for Ireland only to leave that country in the 1700s or 1800s for America. There is much to learn about this ancestral line and their influences on the society and culture of America. I leave that to you to investigate further. What we offer you in this issue is a sampling of information that could start your research or lead you to new sources you hadn't considered.

IGSI member Sue Kratch offers some background on the use of the term "Scotch Irish." Dr. Harold Hinds introduces readers to a half-dozen of the best history books on the subject – sure to provide helpful information for genealogists.

David Rencher's article on the Scots-Irish provides a historical timeline and information on the Irish Presbyterian ministers who emigrated to the U.S. In a second article, he continues his study of the Sir William Betham collections with notations on the collections from the Genealogical Office in Dublin that were microfilmed by FHL. He has provided IGSI with a chart that he and Dean Hunter compiled for posting on our website. It shows Irish Presbyterian ministers, their original congregations and their ultimate U. S. destinations.

Dwight Radford describes one of his favorite resources, the Griffith's Revision Books. He also gave us permission to reprint an article on Scots-Irish that first appeared in *The Irish at Home and Abroad* in 1998. Tom Rice provides a review of Brian Mitchell's new book on surnames of northwest Ireland. Jay Fonkert emphasizes the value of learning and understanding the historical realities of the records we use in genealogy. Kathleen Strickland continues to explore the links on the IGSI website.

We welcome Judith Eccles Wight, a nationally-known author and lecturer, to *The Septs*. She has agreed to write an article on a county in Ireland emphasizing local resources to use in researching your ancestors in Ireland for this and future issues. In this issue, she features the public library resources of County Clare.

So, if you consider that you don't have any Irish Presbyterians among your ancestors, there are still articles that may appeal to you or increase your knowledge of research and resources. Take a few minutes and glance through the journal. You just may find something interesting.

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.

Who Counts as Scotch-Irish

by Sue A. Kratsch

We learned in school who the Scotch-Irish are: the descendants of Presbyterian Scots who crossed into Northern Ireland, beginning in the early 1600s with the Plantation of Ulster. After some generations in Ireland, their Scottish identity (although not their religion) faded, and they, with other Protestants, thought of themselves as "Irish and a bit more."[1]

For the first 200 years of North American colonial history, up to 1815 and the end of the Napoleonic wars, most immigration from Ireland was Protestant. It's estimated that 400,000 emigrants left Ireland during this period, settling in what became the United States and the Canadian Maritime Provinces. The two largest religious groups represented were Presbyterians and Anglicans (Church of Ireland), then followed by Catholics and lesser numbers of Baptists, Methodists, and Quakers.[2]

"Scotch-Irish" is an American term which originated before the Revolution. But times change, and the term has fallen into disfavor among academics. One of these is Donald Akenson, who, in *The Irish Diaspora*, argues that beginning in the mid-1800s "Scotch-Irish" became a catch-all applied to a much larger group than the Presbyterians. Factors in both the U.S. and Ireland brought about this shift.

Akenson contends that *"the bulk of the Irish ethnic group in the United States is at present, and probably always has been, Protestant."* By "Irish ethnic group" he means the immigrants and all their descendants who identify themselves as Irish. He maintains that the Protestant segment of this population has been ignored as a subject of study: "the historical literature of the last fifty years deals almost entirely with Roman Catholics and, in many cases, states that the Irish in the United States were, and are, almost entirely Catholic."[3]

Many more individual Catholics than Protestants have emigrated to the U.S., the bulk of them coming during the Famine years. But because Protestant immigration began so much earlier, their numbers have been exponentially multiplied and include members of many denominations, especially in the South. Additionally, some early Catholic arrivals converted to Protestantism, often due to a shortage of priests and the difficulties of frontier travel (though conversions went both ways.)[4]

In 1840s Ireland, Daniel O'Connell was striving to repeal the union of Ireland with Britain. He appealed to the mass of his countrymen by uniting "in one crucible, Irish nationalism, Irish cultural identity, and Roman Catholicism." The term "Irish" became a kind of code-word for "Catholic." Protestants in Ireland felt the need to distinguish themselves from the "Irish," and so did those in the U.S., who were soon overwhelmed by predominantly Catholic famine immigrants. "Scotch-Irish" became in effect a code-word for Protestant and could be adopted regardless of ethnic or denominational background.[5]

As the term was expanded, "Scotch-Irish" had less real meaning. Akenson proposed replacing the term with "Ulster-Scots," with "Anglo-Irish" (many of whom came from Ulster) reserved for Anglicans. More recently, "Scots-Irish" was proposed for those with Scottish background.[6] Perhaps Akenson's message to those families who claim Scotch-Irish roots would be to broaden their search; those roots may be in Ulster, or anywhere else in Ireland.

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1 Donald H. Akenson, *The Irish Diaspora: A Primer* (Belfast: Queen's University of Belfast, 1996), p. 222.

2. Kerby A. Miller, et al, *Irish Immigrants in the Land of Canaan* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), p. 4.

3. Akenson, *The Irish Diaspora*, p. 218-9 (italics in original).

4. Akenson, *The Irish Diaspora*, p. 223-4, 245.

5. Akenson, *The Irish Diaspora*, p. 221-2.

6. Miller, et al, *Irish Immigrants in the Land of Canaan*, p. viii.

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.

Early Scots-Irish Research in South Carolina (1670-1840)

by Dwight A. Radford

The editors of The Septs *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. 5, No. 1, 1998.*

Prior to 1840, the last year in which Revolutionary War pensions were granted, the Scots-Irish and their descendants made up a large portion of South Carolina's population. In the eighteenth century, many immigrants arrived at Charleston and from there moved into the interior. Other Scots-Irish migrants came from North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. In the seventeenth century, many South Carolina families had earlier roots in the Caribbean island of Barbados. South Carolina was a frontier colony of England, and Protestant settlement was encouraged by the Crown not only to keep the colony viable but to provide a buffer against any possible Spanish attacks from Florida.

Special Difficulties

There are aspects of South Carolina research, and southern genealogical research in general, which are problematic, including widespread illiteracy, complex geographical divisions, centralization of records in Charleston prior to 1785, the undefined boundary between North and South Carolina, and the appearance of bi-racial and tri-racial families (known as "persons of free color") throughout the state.

Parish, District and County Boundaries

Determining the political boundaries in South Carolina can be one of the most difficult aspects of genealogical research. One Internet site which can help is the *SCGenWeb* site at http://sciway3.net/scgenweb. The site has maps of boundaries in 1701 and 1801 as well as a listing of what areas were covered by the various districts.

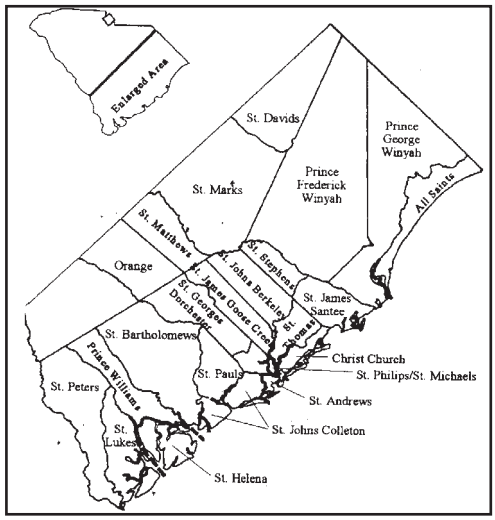

Figure 1: South Carolina parishes, c. 1778. Map created by E. Wade Hone.

South Carolina was divided into parishes based on the Church of England (Anglican Church) parish system from 1706 to 1778. (See Figure 1 above) The parish boundaries along the coastal areas were well-defined, but in the northern and western parts of South Carolina they consisted of large and often undefined areas. In the colonial time period, South Carolina had four counties which stretched from the sea to the mountains: Berkeley, Colleton, Craven, and Granville. South Carolina was divided into seven circuit court districts in 1769: Beaufort, Camden, Charleston, Cheraw, Georgetown, Orangeburg, and Ninety-Six.

The counties within these districts were established from 1785 to 1799 (See Figure 2 on page 96). However, the county was not the highest level of local government and the counties did not keep records. The counties and districts were abolished in 1800 (See Figure 3 on page 96). New districts and counties emerged and they were abolished in 1868. At that time, the districts of 1800-1868 were renamed counties; these are the counties of the present day. For further discussion, see *South Carolina: Atlas of Historical County Boundaries* by DenBoer and Thorne.

Research Strategies Using Associations

Research of families with a common surname is a problem with the Scots-Irish in early South Carolina. Identifying neighbors and friends of ancestors can help to sort through individuals and families with common names. This may be accomplished by using land, tax and church records.

From the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries, families and friends often arrived from Ireland or Barbados together. Identifying people with whom the ancestors associated may assist in identifying a group's prior origins. Many Scots-Irish immigrants resided in settlements that were composed largely of Scots-Irish or Presbyterian settlers. Scots-Irish families living in the same settlement may have common origins. For a list of Presbyterian settlements in South Carolina prior to 1800, see Charles A. Hanna's *The Scotch-Irish*.

Research Guides and Background Material

Two journals are particularly noteworthy. *The South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research* (*SCMAR*) extracts diverse and obscure record types and indexes them.

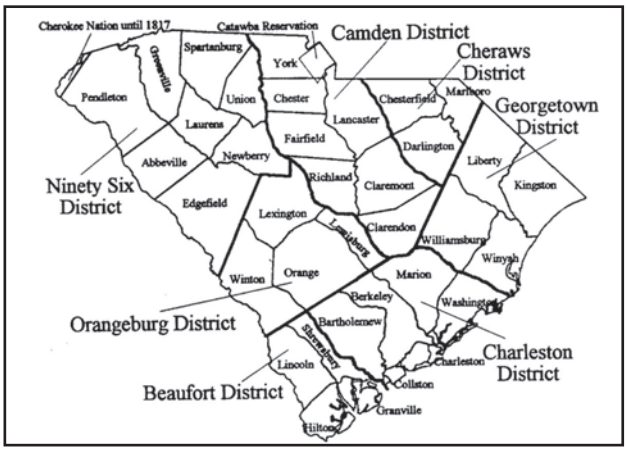

Figure 2. South Carolina, 1785. Map created by E. Wade Hone.

Historical and reference articles, as well as some record extractions, can be found in *South Carolina Historical Magazine* (*SCHM*), the journal of the South Carolina Historical Society.

Reference books include:

Cote, Richard N. *Local and Family History in South Carolina: A Bibliography.* Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1981.

A Guide to Local Government Records in the South Carolina Archives. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1988.

Holcomb, Brent H. *A Guide to South Carolina Genealogical Research and Records.* Columbia, SC: by the author, 1991.

Jones, Lewis P. *Books and Articles on South Carolina History.* Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1991.

Schweitzer, George K. *South Carolina Genealogical Research.* Knoxville, TN: by the author, 1985.

Cemetery Records

Two major collections of South Carolina tombstone inscriptions are the NSDAR Collection in Washington, D.C. (index, FHL #6052835 fiche 1-102) and the WPA Tombstone Inscriptions at the South Caroliniana Library (index, FHL# 6016817 fiche 1-67). Other cemetery transcripts have been transcribed in the *SCMAR* and the *SCHM*. The ongoing South Carolina GenWeb Project includes some cemetery information arranged by county and can be accessed on the Internet at: http://www.usgwtombstones.org/southcarolina/scarolina.html.

Census Records

The 1790-1840 US Censuses are widely available on microfilm through the National Archives, the Family History Library (FHL), and on the Internet at *Ancestry.com*, and through *HeritageQuest* in many libraries. Census substitute material for South Carolina includes:

1716-1717: David McCord Wright's article, "Petitioners to the Crown Against the Proprietors, 1716-1717," in *SCHM* extracts records at the Public Record Office, Kew, England (CO 5/382, no. 19).

1756: "Greenville Co. Muster Roll- 1756" was at one time available through *SC GenWeb* site.

1762-1764: St. John's Berkeley Road commissioners' minutes (1760-1836) at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) provides a virtual census of males between 16 and 60. This listing has been transcribed as "Lists of Inhabitants of St. John's Berkeley Parish, 1762-1764," *SCMAR* XVI (3) (Summer 1988): 122-125.

1770: The 1770 Census of Tryon County, North Carolina, enumerated people who resided in what was to become South Carolina because the border was in dispute. The index to these residents is part of a searchable database in the web site of the *SC GenWeb*, "1770 Census Tryon Co. NC" at http://files.

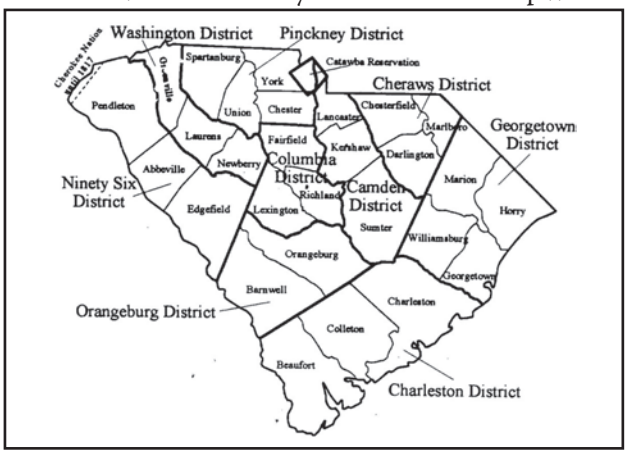

Figure 3. South Carolina, 1808. Map created by E. Wade Hone.

usgwarchives.net/sc/colonial/census/grnv1756.txt .

1779: A searchable database of residents in the old Ninety-Six District, "1779 Census 96th District," is available on the web site of the *SC GenWeb* at http://files.usgwarchives.org/sc/districts/census/1779_96d.txt.

1812: During the War of 1812, British subjects in America were required to register their residence. Records have been transcribed in Kenneth Scott's *British Aliens in the United States During the War of 1812*.

1829: Census of Fairfield and Laurens districts are at the SCDAH. The enumeration for Laurens District has been indexed as "1829 Census of Laurens District." *SCMAR* IV (2) (Spring 1976): 103-113; IV (3) (Summer 1976): 139-151.

1839: Census of Kershaw and Chesterfield districts are at the SCDAH; and of Lexington district, at the South Caroliniana Library. The 1839 Lexington District Census has been transcribed in the article, "The 1839 State Census of Lexington District," *SCMAR* XXV (3) (Summer 1997): 137-143.

Church Records

South Carolina has been home to a strong dissenter tradition which rivaled the Church of England. In the search for the Scots-Irish, church records of several denominations will need to be considered. Until the 1720s, Irish Presbyterians are found worshiping alongside Scottish and Welsh Presbyterians, Congregationalists from England and New England, and French Huguenots. For example, the Independent Congregation Church in Charleston, known as the Circular Church (FHL# 23353-23355), served families of several dissenting traditions until separate denominations were formed.

The Presbyterian Church

Historically, there were several branches of Presbyterianism in South Carolina including Reformed, Seceders, Associate, and Covenanter. During the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, congregations of the Reformed, French Protestant and Congregational church traditions were also associated with Presbyterianism in South Carolina often making it difficult to define an early Presbyterian congregation. See Joseph B. Martin's articles, "A Guide to Presbyterian Ecclesiastical Names and Places in South Carolina, 1685-1985" and "More Presbyterian Ecclesiastical Names and Places" in *SCHM*.

The Department of History, Presbyterian Church, USA library in Montreat, North Carolina, is the official archive of the Presbyterian Church, USA and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The South Caroliniana Library, South Carolina, Historical Society, and FHL have some registers. For additional information, see Richard N. Cote's article "South Carolina Presbyterian Records" in *SCHM* 85 (April 1984) 145-52.

Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion and has its roots in the Church of England which was the Established Church in South Carolina prior to the American Revolution. For background about colonial aspects of the denomination, see Charles S. Bolton's *Southern Anglicanism: The Church of England in Colonial South Carolina*.

The South Carolina Historical Society serves as the repository for most original Episcopal registers. The South Caroliniana Library and the FHL hold microfilm copies for some parishes. Records of three of the oldest parishes have been transcribed in *SCHM*: Christ Church Parish (1694-1777; vols. 18-21); St. Andrew's Parish Berkeley County (1719-1774; vols. 12-15); St. James' Parish, Santee (1758-1784; vols. 15-17). For background material, see Childs and LeLand's article, "South Carolina Episcopal Church Records," in *SCHM*.

Baptist Church

Historically, the old Regular (or Particular) Baptists increased membership more than other Baptist branches because of Scots-Irish converts. The Regular Baptists were of the mainstream Calvinistic English Baptist tradition. Baptist records may be found at the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in Nashville, at the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection at Furman University and at the South Caroliniana Library, with some microfilm at the FHL. For an overview of records, see J. Glen Clayton's article,"South Carolina Baptist Records," in *SCHM* 85 (October 1984) 319-327.

Methodist Church

The South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church has an archive at the Sandor Teszler Library of Wofford College, Spartanburg. Other Methodist records are on microfilm at the South Carolina Historical Society and at the FHL. A local United Methodist Church may hold its records. For background information, see Richard N. Cote's article, "South Carolina Methodist Records," in *SCHM* 85 (January 1984) 51-57.

Emigration Records

Many poor Protestants from Northern Europe indentured themselves as servants in return for passage. The practice of indentured servitude continued until the American Revolution. For background on the concept of European indentured servants, see Warren B. Smith's *White Servitude* in Colonial South Carolina.
From the 1720s, funds known as "the Township Fund" were set aside to pay for supplies and the fees for land granted to free Protestant settlers. Poor Protestants were required to bring a certificate of good character signed by a minister or court official.

Under the Act of 1761, South Carolina paid for the passage of immigrants who came to settle in the colony. The records of reimbursements for those who could not afford their passage were recorded in the Governor and Council minutes (called the Council Journal). Those immigrants who had already paid their passage appear in the Treasurer's Township Fund Journal entries. All immigrants applied to the Governor and Council for a warrant of survey for land. Compilations of persons arriving early in South Carolina include:

1614-1775: Peter Wilson Coldham's work, *The Complete Book of Emigrants in Bondage, 1614-1775,* is a listing of convicts leaving England, some of whom were bound for South Carolina. Some of those named in Coldham's work are also named in the Records of the Secretary of the Province and published as "Convicts to South Carolina 1728" in *SCMAR* XX (2) (Spring 1992): 82.

1654-1686: Peter Wilson Coldham's work, *The Bristol Registers of Servants Sent to Foreign Plantations, 1654-1686,* includes servants embarking from the port of Bristol, England, taken from the records of the corporation of the City of Bristol. The registers were intended to help document willing servants (including children).

1670-1700: Agnes Leland Baldwin's *First Settlers of South Carolina 1670-1700* (FHL #2055168 item 11) draws together diverse sources including seventeenth century public records at the Public Record Office in England and a number of published sources.

1753-1754: Irish Protestants are listed on petitions in the Council Journal. These petitions have been transcribed in the article, "Some Irish Protestant Immigrants to South Carolina 1753 and 1754," *SCMAR* XVII (1) (Winter 1989): 25-29.

1760-1773: Jones and Warren's work, *South Carolina Immigrants 1760-1770,* transcribes and indexes the Governor and Council Journal, the Records of the Public Treasurers of South Carolina, and ship arrivals in Charleston as recorded in *The South Carolina Gazette*. Janie Revill's *A Compilation of the Original Lists of Protestant Immigrants to South Carolina 1763-1773* (FHL #22819) indexes the Council Journal.

1768: Mary Bondurant Warren's *Citizens and Immigrants - South Carolina 1768* is a compilation of records of the Public Record Office in England about South Carolina in the Council Journals, the Public Treasurer's records, Quit Rent records, Memorial Books of the Auditor General, and information from *The South Carolina Gazette*.

1772: The migration of five ships of Scots-Irish immigrants to South Carolina under the leadership of Reformed Presbyterian minister Rev. William Martin has been documented in Jean Stephenson's *Scotch-Irish Migration to South Carolina, 1772*.

1774: Lists of passengers arriving at the port of Charleston in 1774, at one time part of the *SCGenWeb* site, may be found through an online search.

1803-1806: From March 1803 to March 1806, ship masters were required by law to register emigrants leaving Ireland. The lists are recorded in "The Hardwick Papers" housed at the British Library, London, and have been extracted in Brian Mitchell's *Irish Passenger Lists, 1803-1806*. In this listing are three ships leaving Belfast for Charleston.

1820-1829: Passenger arrival lists for the port of Charleston are on microfdm at the National Archives

and the FHL (#830232). They are indexed in the National Archives composite "Index to Atlantic and Gulf Coast Ports (1820-1873)" and have been transcribed and indexed in Brent H. Holcomb's *Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Charleston, 1820-1829*. This list has been serialized in *SCMAR*.

Genealogies and Collections

Donald M. Hehir's *Carolina Families: A Bibliography of Books about North and South Carolina Families* is an extensive listing of printed family histories that are deposited at libraries nationwide. The South Carolina Historical Society has one of the largest collections of published and manuscript family histories in the state. The society maintains a web site at http://www.southcarolinahistoricalsociety.org/. The South Caroliniana Library also has a large collection of genealogies.

Major collections that can be used in South Carolina Scots-Irish research are the Bessie Lee Garvin Genealogical Collection, Leonardo Andrea Collection, and Louise K. Crowder Collection at the South Caroliniana Library, the NSDAR Collection in Washington, DC (index, FHL# 6052835 fiche 1-102), and the Motte Alston Read Collection at the South Carolina Historical Society.

Land and Property

Land records are among the most important genealogical sources for South Carolina research. It is within land records that relatives and friends of an ancestor may be identified. Lands were dispersed in South Carolina by grants first through the British Crown and later by the South Carolina government. Lands obtained by grants could be bought and sold by individuals.

Land Grants

Prior to 1755, land in South Carolina was granted on a "headright" system by which land was given to every individual brought to the colony. Many land grants and plats are indexed and available at the FHL; many of the land records are on microfilm at the FHL (1690457 -1690475).

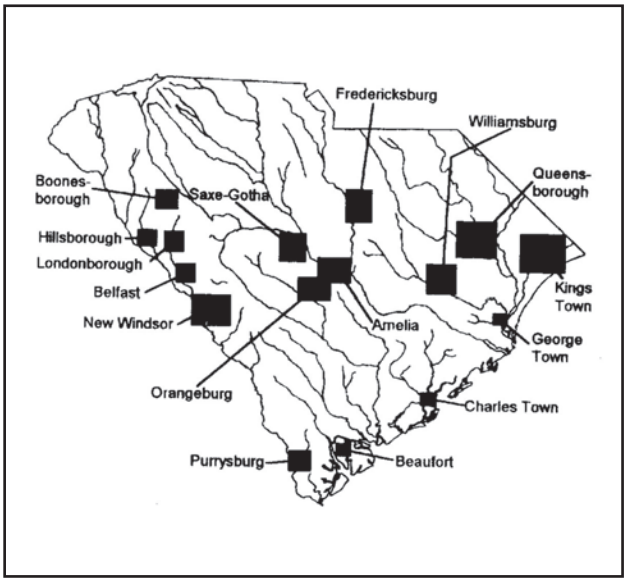

Figure 4. *Townships in South Carolina, 1731-1765. Map created by E. Wade Hone.*

Land Warrants (1672-1711): The early Lord Proprietors of Carolina began granting land in 1669. Warrants may give the number of people in the family, date of arrival in South Carolina, occupations, nationalities and family relationships. The warrants have been published in A.S. Salley's *Warrants for Lands in South Carolina 1672-1711*. The original records are at the SCDAH.

Colonial Grants and Plats (1695-1775): These records document land acquisitions by settlers during the pre-Revolutionary period. They are at the SCDAH and have been indexed as part of the Archives Computer Output Microfilm (COM) Index. The records are at the SCDAH with microfilm copies at the FHL. An index to these is FHL film #22581.

Council Journal Entries (pre-1755): Before 1755, persons coming into South Carolina could apply for land under a "headright." The settlers were given tracts of land in designated townships which were in existence from 1731-1763 (See Figure 4). These records have been extracted in Brent H. Holcomb's *Petitions for Land from the South Carolina Council Journals*. The original records are at the Public Record Office, Kew.

North Carolina Land Grants (pre-1772): Prior to 1772, North Carolina issued grants in the area which was thought to have been Anson, Bladen, Mecklenburg and Tryon counties. After 1772, these grants fell within South Carolina. The grants have been transcribed and indexed in Brent H. Holcomb's *North Carolina Land Grants in South Carolina*. Records of these grants are at the North Carolina State Archives with microfilm copies at the FHL.

Plat and Grants (post-1784): The SCDAH has a seven volume index to State Plats, 1784-c.1870, and also includes the information on its online index (http://archivesindex.sc.gov). The grants and plats are available at the SCDAH and on microfilm at the FHL. The early years have been indexed in Jackson, Teeples and Schaefermeyer's *Index to South Carolina Land Grants, 1784-1800.*

South Carolina Internet Resources

South Carolina Genealogy
http://www.southcarolinagenealogy.org/

"South Carolina GenWeb Project" – History and Genealogy Resources
http://www.sciway.net/hist/

South Carolina History and Genealogy
http://southcarolinagenealogy.com/

The South Carolina Genealogical Society - http://scgen.org/

My South Carolina Genealogy
http://www.mysouthcarolinagenealogy.com/index.html

Genealogy Resources
http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/newgenealre.htm

Books Available from Brent H. Holcomb and SCMAR
http://www.scmar.com/

Revolutionary War Bounty Grants (1784-1801): The original records are at the SCDAH and have been indexed in Tony Draine and John Skinner's *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants in South Carolina.*

District and County Deeds

Deeds were generated by the local government when grant lands were sold by the individual or given to relatives. Deeds sometimes include wills as well as transactions of buying and selling of slaves and other personal property. Prior to 1785 and the creation of the county courts, all deed transactions were recorded in Charleston. The earliest deeds were published in Clara Langley's four-volume *South Carolina Deed Abstracts* (1719-1772) and 1785 Brent Holcomb's three-volume *South Carolina Deed Abstracts* (1776 -1788). Deed records are at the SCDAH with microfilm copies at the FHL.

Military Records

Revolutionary War (1776-1785)

Families in South Carolina fought on the American side and on the British side (called Tories or Loyalists). Soldiers fighting for the American cause in the War can be documented in Bobby Gilmer Moss's *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution.* Janie Revill's *Original Index Book Showing the Revolutionary Claims Filed in South Carolina Between August 20, 1783 and August 31, 1786* names about 11,000 Revolutionary War claimants in South Carolina.

The US Government and the state of South Carolina both gave pensions to veterans of the Revolutionary War. The federal pension files often list birth places in Ireland. The pension files are at the National Archives and the FHL and have been abstracted in Virgil D. White's *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files.* Lists of annuitants who received pensions from the state of South Carolina from 1842-1846 have been published in the article, "State Pensions to Revolutionary Survivors," in *SCMAR* IV (1) (Winter 1976): 3-8.

War of 1812 (1812-1815)

Many South Carolina soldiers served in the second war with Great Britain. The US Government gave pensions to widows and orphans of the War of 1812 beginning in 1815. These early records are at the National Archives; the recipients' names have been extracted in Robert S. Davis' article, "Some South Carolina Widows and Orphans of the War of 1812," in *SCMAR*. An index to pensions and the pension files are available through the National Archives. The index is available on microfilm or in Virgil D. White's *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files.*

Naturalization Records

South Carolina began passing naturalization laws for aliens in 1784. Brent H. Holcomb's *South Carolina Naturalizations, 1783-1850* indexes the federal records and district records. This work is not, however, a complete index to all naturalizations recorded in the state. The records indexed are at the SCDAH and may tell where in Ireland a person was from.

Taxation Records

The earliest tax records of South Carolina are Quit Rent rolls. These taxes were placed upon land grants and

were paid annually to the lord proprietors or the Crown. The Quit Rents from 1733-1742 and 1760-1774 are at the SCDAH.

The *SCMAR* has published scattered tax lists deposited at the SCDAH. The main emphasis of these extractions is the years 1783 to 1786:

Year	Location	SCMAR Issue
1783	St. Bartholomew	II (4) (Fall 1974): 173-178
1783	St. Paul	II (4) (Fall 1974): 173-178
1783	district eastward of the Wateree	II (4) (Fall 1974): 173-178
1784	Christ Church	III (3) (Summer 1975): 178-182
1784	James Island	III (3) (Summer 1975): 178-182
1784	St. Bartholomew	III (3) (Summer 1975): 178-182
1784	Prince Frederick	III (4) (Fall 1975): 201-206
1784	district between Broad & Catawba	III (4) (Fall 1975): 201-206
1784	Kershaw (district between Broad & Catawba)	IV (3) (Summer 1976) 152-154
1785	Various Parishes	V (2) (Spring 1977): 89-93
1786	Christ church	VIII (1) (Winter 1980): 50-52
1786	Conbahee and Chyaw	X (1) (Winter 1982): 18-24
1786	Gerogetown	XI (1) (Winter 1983): 33-39
1786	Prince Frederick	XI (1) (Winter): 33-39
1786	St. Bartholomew	X (1) (Winter 1982): 18-24
1786	St. Bartholomew	X (3) (Summer 1982): 154-157
1786	St. Bartholomew	IX (2) (Summer 1982): 72-75
1786	St. Paul	IX (2) (Summer 1981): 72-75

Vital Records

South Carolina marriage licenses begin in 1911; marriage and death records in 1915. To reconstruct vital events various sources may be used:

1641-1799: A database compiled by Paul R. Sarrett, Jr. indexes marriages from a variety of sources. This searchable database is part of the *SC GenWeb* site at http://www.usgwarchives.com/sc/sca_marr.html.

1688-1820: Brent H. Holcomb compiled two volumes with a supplement, *South Carolina Marriages, 1688-1799,* and *South Carolina Marriages, 1800-1820,* and *Supplement to South Carolina Marriages, 1688-1820.* He draws information from parish registers, Quaker Meeting records, marriage settlements, court records, bonds and licenses.

1732-1801: Marriage notices from several early newspapers have been extracted in Alexander S. Salley, Jr.'s *Marriage Notices in The South Carolina Gazette and its Successors, 1732-1801.*

1760: M.B. Warren and Robert S. Lowery's *South Carolina Newspaper, 1760* extracts marriage and death notices from *The South Carolina Gazette.*

1766-1782: Alexander S. Salley, Jr.'s *Marriage Notices in the South Carolina and American General Gazette, 1766 to 1781* and *The Royal Gazette, 1781-1782* indexes marriages from those sources.

1800-1821: Brent H. Holcomb's *Marriages and Death Notices from The (Charleston) Times, 1800-1821* indexes

entries from the Charleston area and of individuals outside the city.

1803-1808: Alexander S. Salley published *Marriage Notices in Charleston Courier, 1803-1808.*

1821: Death records kept by the city of Charleston from 1821 to 1886 are on microfilm through the FHL (23361 – 23409).

Wills and Probates

Prior to 1782, wills were probated in Charleston regardless of where the deceased had resided. These wills have been inventoried in *Index to Wills of Charleston County, South Carolina*. Wills from 1766-1853 have been indexed in Martha L. Houston's *Indexes to the County Wills of South Carolina* (FHL #908509 item 3). This work indexes all counties except for Beaufort, Chesterfield, Colleton, Georgetown, Lancaster, Lexington and Orangeburg whose early wills were destroyed. Houston's work is derived from WPA transcripts. Another index is Mary Bondurant Warren's *South Carolina Wills, 1670-1853 or Later.*

Addresses

Family History Library
35 North West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
http://www.familysearch.org

National Archives: The Textual Reference Branch
Eighth and Pennsylvania Avenues
Washington, DC 20408
http://www.archives.gov

Presbyterian Historical Society
425 Lombard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
http://www.sbc.net/aboutus/sbhla.asp

The South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection
James B. Duke Library, Furman Univ.
3300 Poinsett Hwy.
Greenville, SC 29613
http://library.furman.edu/specialcollections/baptist_resources/baptist_resources.htm

South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223
http://scdah.sc.gov/

South Carolina Historical Society
100 Meeting Street
Charleston, SC 29401
http://www.southcarolinahistoricalsociety.org/

South Carolina Methodist Conference Archives
Sandor Teszler Library,
Wofford College
429 North Church Street
Spartanburg, SC 29301
http://www.wofford.edu/library/archives/methodist.aspx

South Caroliniana Library
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208
http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/

The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives of the Southern Baptist Convention
901 Commerce Street, Suite 400
Nashville, TN 37203-3630
http://www.sbc.net/aboutus/sbhla.asp

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Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Gordon L. Remington and E. Wade Hone, professional genealogists; Beth Bilderback, Assistant Manuscript Librarian, South Caroliniana Library; and Steve Tuttle, Supervisor of Reference Services, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, for their reviews of the article. Also thanks to Carrie Allen, South Carolina Historical Society; Carolyn Lancaster, Furman University Archives; Oakley H. Coburn and Roger Niles, Wofford College; and Edith Brawley, Erskine College & Theological Seminary.

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Ginealas eNewsletter
Two Issues Left

The final issue of IGSI's electronic newsletter will be the December 2010 issue – unless a member of the Society steps forward to serve as Editor of Ginealas.

While there is a volunteer staff in place to do layout and proof the quarterly newsletter, and even members who will write occasional articles, an editor is needed to bring cohesion to and oversee this publication.

It would be a shame to lose this newest Membership benefit. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

Finding Your Scots-Irish Ancestors

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

The Scots-Irish from Northern Ireland to the Americas are of special interest, particularly their social history, migration and background that surrounded their exodus from the Old World to the new one. Their contributions to the building of the frontier and their propensity for hard work, taming the harshness of a new land, and their fierce determination to enjoy the freedom promised in the New World set them apart from many of the other emigrants. The strategies used in this article, although spotlighting the migration of the Scots-Irish into the Carolinas, may be applied to tracing the Scots-Irish in all regions of the United States.

Historical Timeline

A number of events in the history of the migration of the Scots from the western shores of Scotland to Northern Ireland and subsequently to North America illuminate a background that gives added meaning and context to our genealogical research and inquiries. The following events are relevant:

Pre-1690
Twelve operating Presbyterian congregations are in the United States; Manokin, Rehoboth, Snow Hill, Wicomico and Patuxent in Maryland; Accomac and Elizabeth River in Virginia; Lewes and New Castle in Delaware; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Freehold, New Jersey; and Charleston, South Carolina.

1700
A large influx of Scots-Irish move with other Presbyterians into the Carolinas and form congregations at Cainhoy, John's Island, Edisto, Bethel and Wilton in South Carolina.

1706
The first presbytery of the Presbyterian Church is organized in the U.S.

1714-1730
A large number of Scots-Irish immigrate into the eastern shores of New England, New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

1736
A colony of Presbyterians is introduced into North Carolina from the Province of Ulster in Ireland. They settle in Bladen and Duplin counties. Their descendants move further into Sampson and New Hanover counties.

A group of Presbyterians composed of mostly Scottish Highlanders settle in the regions of Cumberland County, North Carolina.

Henry McCullock brings a colony from Ulster to settle his land grant of 64,000 acres in Duplin County. The congregations of Goshen and the Grove emerge.

1740
The Scots-Irish begin in earnest to settle the North Carolina Counties of Granville, Orange, Rowan, Mecklenburg, Guilford, Davidson and Cabarrus.

1745
The Cape Fear area of North Carolina has a large influx of Scots-Irish. Ship loads of emigrants begin arriving at Wilmington, North Carolina, and quickly migrate into the Fayetteville area of Cumberland County.

1749
Neil McNeill, a native of Scotland, settles in Cumberland County, North Carolina, and organizes a group of 300 emigrants to settle in Brunswick, Bladen, Cumberland and Harnett Counties in North Carolina.

1751
A large migration of the Scots-Irish move from Pennsylvania into the South Carolina counties (many bordering North Carolina) of Lancaster, York, Chester, Fairfield, Union, Newberry, Abbeville and Edgefield. A number more move into the Spartanburg area.

1755
A Presbyterian congregation from the Cowpasture River area of present-day Bath County, Virginia, establishes the Centre Congregation in Iredell County, North Carolina. Their minister is Alexander Craighead.

1758
A minister at Scotch Plains, New Jersey, named Benjamin Miller follows a colony of Scots-Irish from there into the Yadkin River area of North Carolina.

1765
Dr. Thomas Clark emigrates with 300 Presbyterians with the intent of settling in Salem Township, Washington, New York, but a number of this congregation move on to establish a congregation in the Abbeville District, South Carolina.

Pre-1774
Other known Scots-Irish settlements in South Carolina include Black Mingo and Indiantown in Williamsburg

District; Stoney Creek and Salem in Clarendon District; Waccamau in Horry District; Saltketcher in Colleton District; Beaufort in Beaufort District; and Aimwell in Marion District. The majority of those settling the back country of South Carolina came down the Great Valley from the Northern states. Those who settle the tidewater areas generally came directly from Northern Ireland.

Irish Presbyterian Ministers Who Emigrated to America

Presbyterians tended to emigrate as families, groups of families, or entire congregations. It is therefore prudent to determine the origin of the local Presbyterian minister and the associated families in the area to determine if they are from the same locality. For example, known Presbyterian ministers who came to the Carolinas include:

Congregation Town/County	Minister	Date	Carolinas	Comments
Ballyalbany 2nd Monaghan	Thomas Clark	1764	Long Cane, SC	Emigrated with 300 Members
Cahans Ballybay, Monaghan	Thomas Clark	1764	Long Cane, SC	see above
Dublin Abbey Dublin	William Knox	1765	Black Mingo, SC	Served 1768-1800
Dundalk Louth	Colin Lindsay	1785	South Carolina	
Ahoghill: Trinity Antrim	Peter McMullan	1789	South Carolina	
Glascar Ballinaskeagh Banbridge, Down	William Ronaldson	1773	Abbeville County, South Carolina	He was a Tory. Died 1783 in Charleston
Loughaghery Hillsborough, Down	William Ronaldson	1773	Long Cane, SC	see above

For a complete list of Presbyterian Ministers and the places to which they emigrated in the United States, see the Irish Genealogical Society International web site **Members Section**. A complete list is available there, based on the biographical information provided in *A History of Congregations in the Presbyterian Church in Ireland 1610-1982*, published by the Presbyterian Historical Society, 1982.

Challenges Tracing The Scots-irish

By the late 18th century, the bulk of the Scots-Irish immigration to North America was accomplished. Identifying the place of origin for these immigrants is complicated by several factors. First, registers of births, marriages and deaths for the Presbyterians in Ireland were rarely kept until the early 1830s. Thus, using a common methodology to link a person with their birth, baptism, or marriage entry in the church records of the place of origin is limited.

The almost non-existent lists of passengers during the 18th century complicates another common emigration strategy. When names can be identified, they often list only the head of household. One good source of information for Scots-Irish emigrants is the *Belfast Newsletter*. Grateful passengers would often write to thank the captain of their ship for safe and comfortable passage. The following example is a good illustration:

> Newcastle, 13 June, 1773
>
> We the undernamed Persons, who came Passengers in the ship *Peggy*, Charles McKenzie, Master, from Belfast to Philadelphia, think it our Duty to advise our Friends and the Publick, that we had a Passage of seven weeks and that in Honour to our said Commander, he behaved to us during the whole Voyage with the utmost Kindness, and contributed every Thing to make us happy that we had sufficient Room, and allowed us Provisions of the best Kind in Plenty, with a Liberty in every Part of his Ship, (not often tolerated by Seamen) and that his Humanity to the Sick can never be forgot. He also took the greatest Care of our Chests and Goods, that there was not any Part of them destroyed. We also return our sincere Thanks to Mr. Waddell Cunningham, the Owner of the Ship, for his good Provisions and Water. We strongly recommend all our Fiends to come in his Ships.
>
> You'll please give this a Place in your useful Paper, and you'll oblige your humble Servants.
>
> To Messrs. Henry and Robert Joy, Printers, Belfast.
>
> Wm. Mc. Cauley,
> Andrew Morrow,
> John Milling,
> Alex Frazer,
> Samuel Willson,
> John Morrison,
> John Service,
> James Hanna,
> Thomas Ferguson,
> Charles Montgomery,
> James Moore,
> Henry Boyd,
> John Smith,
> Samuel Brown,
> Wm. Mc Kee,
> John Stewart,
> Robert Murchland,
> George Sherar,
> Archibald Allison,
> John Mc Clean,
> John Matths,
> Robert Mitchell,
> Nath. Mc Clelland,
> Thomas Bailie,
> John Fawlds,
> James May,
> David Gordon,
> William King,
> John Till,
> Capt. Thos. Ash

To access the *Belfast Newsletter* online for the years 1737-1800, compiled by John C. Greene, go to http://www.ucs.louisiana.edu/bnl/ and search for either the name of the ship or the name of the person. You may also use a *Google* search on "Belfast Newsletter."

Given the commonness of many Ulster surnames, the confusion created by trying to unravel an often complicated maze leads many to become discouraged and give up. However, there are ways to sort through the available records in such a way as to gain the desired results. This approach requires using a combination of the available records in both the United States and Ireland. Typically, researchers are instructed to work from the "known to the unknown." This is a sound research strategy that has been practiced for many years. One may add to the known, however, by increasing the information on associates from identified areas in Ireland and looking for candidate individuals or families in those areas.

Ultimately, the land records in the United States and Ireland are the most likely to yield the desired results. Identifying the settlement patterns, neighbors and associations of the Scots-Irish should yield a web of interactions between families that were associated on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

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Education Calendar

by Sheila Northrop

2010/2011 IGSI Education Classes

July 10, 2010 (1-2:30 PM)
Irish Records in Canada
Instructor - John Schade

August 14, 2010
IGSI offers 2 classes to coincide with the Irish Fair
Irish Basics How-To (10-11:30 AM)
Instructor - Tom Rice

Writing Family Stories (1-2:30 PM)
Instructor - Linda Miller

September 11, 2010 (10-11:30 AM)
1901 and 1911 Irish Census Online!
Instructor - Beth Vought

October 9, 2010 (10-11:30 AM)
Tracing Irish Catholic Records
Instructor - Mary Wickersham

November 13, 2010 (1-2:30 PM)
Irish Holiday Traditions
Instructor TBD

January 8, 2011 (Time TBA)
Irish Land Divisions and Records
Instructor - Diane Lorencevic

All classes will be held at the MGS Library in South St. Paul. *Fee is $10 per class.*

The Scotch-Irish in History: Six Perspectives

by Dr. Harold E. Hinds, Jr.

The classic historical survey of the Scotch-Irish wasn't published until 1962. James G. Leyburn, professor of sociology at Washington and Lee University, undertook a study of the Scotch-Irish when one of his students "complained that he could find no general account of the [Scotch-Irish] people from the time they left Scotland" (p.v). Leyburn's *The Scotch-Irish: A Social History* (University of North Carolina Press) ably combined a synthesis of existing historical studies with shrewd speculation on Scotch-Irish life, character, and social institutions; and continued with descriptions of their transformation, on this side of the Atlantic, into Americans following the Revolution. The book is subdivided into three sections: The Scot in 1600, The Scots in Ireland, and The Scotch-Irish in America.

Part I sets the stage for the Lowland Scots migration to Ulster. It's a thoroughly depressing portrait. Life in Scotland was harsh, violent, and short. The one bright spot was religion, the establishment in 1560 of the Presbyterian Church with its emphasis on education and a form of democracy. But even this dramatic switch had its limitations. In one of his many brilliant insights, Leyburn states that "Scotland had its Reformation in the sixteenth century, but reversing the order of things in most European countries, it did not achieve its Renaissance until the eighteenth" (p.74).

Part II focuses on the migration to northern Ireland and the transformation of Scots into Scotch-Irish. England attempted to solve its Irish problem by forcing Lowland Scots farmers on the Irish in what became known as the Plantation of Ulster. Economic and religious needs combined to attract thousands to Ulster in 1610 and after. Perhaps most significantly, "A hoary institution of Scotland quietly disappeared… feudalism was not transported to northern Ireland… [but would] linger in Scotland itself for another century." (p.97). Thus the Scots became Scotch-Irish. By 1717, no feudalism meant "free labor, freedom of movement, the opportunity to achieve a new social status" (p. 141); the immigrants were loyal to Ulster, not to Scotland; and Ulster Presbyterianism, unlike the Church of Scotland, "remained almost uniformly puritan and conservative" (p. 143).

Part III chronicles and interprets the migration and fate of approximately a quarter million Ulster Scotch-Irish who came to America. Attracted primarily by economic opportunity between 1717 and the American Revolution, they largely settled in Pennsylvania's Cumberland Valley, the central Shenandoah Valley, and the Carolinas' piedmont. The chapters on migration and Scotch-Irish settlements are of considerable interest to genealogists, but Part III's most significant chapters analyze the experiences and transformations of these pioneer immigrants. Frontier life and a restlessness that led to frequent relocations resulted in a shift from ascribed status to status based on individual achievement. The Presbyterian Church failed to sufficiently transplant itself to the American backcountry. The Church educated far too few ministers, too few came to the frontier, and those who did come were not well adapted to the frontiersmen's attraction to "plain talk, direct evangelism, [and] adaptability to circumstance" (p. 284). Where the Presbyterian Church failed, the Baptists and the Methodists flourished. Indeed, my Scotch-Irish ancestor, Martha Craig, was attracted to the Baptist faith, due at least partly to the Presbyterian Church's failure. Perhaps most significantly, Leyburn demolishes the myth that the Scotch-Irish were primarily responsible for America's democratic tradition. Aside from the very significant Scotch-Irish manpower contribution to Washington's army, this idea is nearly wholly fallacious.

In spite of its age and its sweeping social history, Leyburn's book contains many insights and interpretations that continue to make his study a must-read.

New generations of historians, reflecting either current events, recently discovered sources, or new analytic perspectives, frequently reinterpret the past. For instance, when Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon in 1969 and earthrise perspectives of our planet became commonplace, world history soon became popular. An offshoot of world history is macro-perspectives, among them Atlantic history. Patrick Griffin's *The People with No Name: Ireland's Ulster Scots, America's Scots Irish, and the Creation of a British Atlantic World 1689-1764* (Princeton University Press, 2001), is an example of Atlantic history. Griffin also adopts the perspective of the new cultural history, which de-emphasizes social history. Thus. British imperial history is emphasized as is the difficulty that the Scotch-Irish had in defining themselves. Were they Scots or Irish, Irish Presbyterians, Protestant Irish, or Ulster Scots? The term Scotch-Irish did not become commonly used in the U.S. until the 1880s. Griffin argues that, unlike the Irish, English, and Welsh,

To Find a Copy...

If you want to read or find the books mentioned in this article, see below for publication information, availability at the IGSI library and elsewhere.

Chalkley, Lyman. *Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia, Extracted from the Original Court Records of Augusta County 1745-1800*, 3 vols. 1912; 1965, 1966, 1974, Reprint Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1980. (IGSI Library: Frgn.IR.IE06) Also available on Rootsweb through a USGenWeb project & on Google Books.

Dunaway, Wayland F. *The Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1944. (IGSI Library – 1992 edition Frgn. IR.IE12)

Griffin, Patrick. *The People with No Name: Ireland's Ulster Scots, America's Scots Irish, and the Creation of a British Atlantic World 1689-1764*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2001. (IGSI Library: Frgn. IR.H550)

Leyburn, James G. *The Scotch-Irish: A Social History*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1962. (IGSI Library: Frgn.IR.H215) Also available to read on Kindle.

his "people with no name" regularly reinvented themselves, until they finally emphasized neither their Scottish nor their Irish heritage, but rather their British identity.

The finer points of British history, and the discussion and analysis of identity history, is of considerable interest to historians. Chapters 4-6 will probably be of greatest interest to readers of this review essay. Griffin's analysis of the American Scotch-Irish experience is, however, narrowly confined to the Pennsylvanian township of Donegal, bordering the Susquehanna River (today the township is located in Lancaster County). In particular, Griffin mines many of the same sources that genealogists research not to reconstruct frontier families, but rather to reconstruct the socio-economic and cultural history of Donegal's Scotch-Irish. By carefully reading both Griffin's text and endnotes, readers will discover a roadmap to reconstructing the places and times which their Scotch-Irish ancestors inhabited.

The classic work on Pennsylvania's Scotch-Irish is Wayland F. Dunaway's *The Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania* (University of North Carolina Press, 1944). Much of the text is now dated and is clearly superseded by both Leyburn and Griffin. However, chapters 4-5, which provide a detailed history of Scotch-Irish settlement in Pennsylvania, will be of considerable interest to anyone with Pennsylvanian Scotch-Irish ancestors, 1717-1800. One particularly insightful key to Scotch-Irish settlement, and especially the density of that settlement, is the appearance of Presbyterian churches established in Washington County [in southwestern Pennsylvania] between 1774 and 1798, thirteen of which were organized prior to 1790. "Inasmuch as this was the largest proportion of Presbyterian churches to be found in any county west of the Alleghenies, and churches of other denominations were but few, the evidence is conclusive that the Scotch-Irish were overwhelmingly strong in Washington County in 1790 and that this was the most distinctive Scotch-Irish community in western Pennsylvania" (p.82).

These chapters have one major flaw: the text is not accompanied by any maps so one needs to have a good atlas of Pennsylvania handy. The DeLorme *Pennsylvania State Atlas & Gazetteer* will suffice.

The Scotch-Irish crossed the Alleghenies in 1769 and after into southwestern Pennsylvania. Dunaway does an excellent job covering this migration. In their westward movement, the Scotch-Irish traveled along the southern tier of Pennsylvania counties, and upon reaching the Alleghenies, some veered southward from the counties of Chester, Lancaster, York, Dauphine, and Cumberland. A few settled in western Maryland and the northern part of the Shenandoah Valley. But the upper Shenandoah Valley counties of Augusta, Rockbridge, and Botetourt were the primary destinations of the Scotch-Irish.

Those with Scotch-Irish ancestors in the upper Shenandoah Valley are very lucky! Robert D. Mitchell's *Commercialism and Frontier: Perspectives on the Early Shenandoah Valley* (University of Virginia Press, 1977) is a brilliant geographical and historical synthesis of published

and primary sources on the 18th century Shenandoah Valley. Whether one's interest is in the lower or upper valley, Mitchell is essential reading. Not only will Mitchell provide the historical context for an ancestor, but his footnotes are loaded with hints about finding sources likely to capture that ancestor.

Combine a close reading of Mitchell with Lyman Chalkley's monumental *Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia, Extracted from the Original Court Records of Augusta County 1745-1800*, 3 vols. (1912; 1965, 1966, 1974, 1980 reprints by the Genealogical Publishing Co. of Baltimore, MD.). The Augusta County court records, unlike those of most Virginia counties, have largely survived. Contemporary Virginia genealogical experts, such as Barbara Vines Little, believe that Chalkley may have abstracted only about half of what has survived. Be that as it may, carefully check Chalkley; his indexes are superb – and if you find references to your people, obtain the original records. If you have reason to believe Chalkley did not abstract pertinent records, visit Augusta County to search the records in person. Among the records abstracted by Chalkley are the following: Order Books, Court Judgments, Chancery Decrees, District Court Records, Will Books, Deeds, Circuit Court Records, Land Entry Books, Guardians' Bonds, Fee Books, Tithables Lists, and Military Records.

Dunaway, in his outline of Scotch-Irish migration in Pennsylvania, frequently noted that the migratory population was composed of Scotch-Irish who had previously settled in America and were now moving on *and* of recent immigrants from northern Ireland. Peter N. Moore in *The World of Toil and Strife: Community in Backcountry South Carolina, 1750-1805* (University of South Carolina Press, 2007), demonstrates that these two populations could be quite distinct.

If one has Scotch-Irish ancestors in the back country of South Carolina, Moore's splendid historical reconstruction of the Scotch-Irish experience is essential reading. Moore traces the Scotch-Irish through three broad periods of transformation in the lower Catawba River Valley in present-day Fairfield, Lancaster, York, and Chester counties: (1) the initial pioneers came from Augusta County, Virginia, and settled the rich bottom lands of the Catawba in largely self-sufficient kin-based farming communities; (2) a second migration of Scotch-Irish came directly from northern Ireland, settled the less desirable uplands, and were not well positioned to fully participate in the expanding market for wheat; (3) during the last period, the lower Catawba River Valley was transformed into a slave-dependent cotton plantation economy and culture. Moore's careful attention to the dissimilar experience of the two Scotch-Irish populations is of considerable interest to family historians, and a clear warning not to lump all of Scotch-Irish ancestry into one undifferentiated mass.

Do not overlook Moore's endnotes. They offer many examples of other books and articles of interest and many useful discussions of his sources. And do not skip his appendices which discuss how he estimated the area's population, show how he linked Augusta County, Virginia, families to the Catawba area, list married couples and their church affiliation, and discuss how he estimated church membership and adherence.

The Scotch-Irish experience in the United States is a fascinating and complex chapter in our history. Hopefully, the six perspectives covered in this review essay will whet your appetite to learn more about your Scotch-Irish ancestors' past.

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Getting the Most Out of Griffith's Revision Books

by Dwight A. Radford

One of my favorite genealogy sources is the Griffith's revision books. Anybody who has been working in Irish records is familiar with Griffith's Primary Valuation (1847-64). It's a standard in genealogical circles. However, many people are not familiar with the tax records that continue what Griffith's started. These are called the revision books or, sometimes, the "cancelled books." These continue to this day. The revision books mark changes that occurred within the townland for a particular time period. From these changes, it can be deduced who moved in, moved out, or died; changes in the landlord or acreage; and the time the change was marked in the book. These are manuscript books rather than the printed versions we are so used to seeing in Griffith's.

While one of my favorite sources, I must admit that they are an odd source. Even with their quirks, revision books are one of the few records that let me understand what was happening on the neighborhood level. In this case, the neighborhood is the townland where everybody, to some degree, knows everybody else, and their lives are interconnected. Townlands are "Mayberry" meets "Cheers" – and everybody knows your name! What happened in the townland as a whole is important.

If you need this source for your research, then you need to know how to find the records and how to squeeze them for all they are worth. Both are talents.

Accessing the Revision Books

The Griffith's revision books for counties now in the Republic of Ireland are on microfilm at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City. They are usually microfilmed through the 1930s and, in some cases, through the 1960s. You can order these through your local family history center. The Griffith's revision books for the counties in Northern Ireland can be found at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) in Belfast. I've used both collections extensively.

Regardless of the repository you use, there are certain steps to take to access the records. The revision books are far from straightforward. Originally, they were a series of small books filed by poor law union and then electoral division within the county. Each small book covered a certain time frame. When the book was filled with changes, it was "cancelled" and a new little book started where the last one left off. So here are the first steps in accessing this vast collection:

1. Look at the 1871 or 1901 *Townland Index* to determine the poor law union and electoral division for your townland. Then you are ready to access the records. Note: The 1851 *Townland Index* is the most readily available in print, but it does not have a column for the electoral division. The IGSI library owns the 1871 edition. The 1871 and 1901 editions can be ordered through a family history center (1871: FHL #476999 item 2 or #6020345-6020353; 1901: FHL #865092).

2. The FHL Catalog files the revision books under the name of the county, then Land and Property, then the poor law union and the electoral divisions within that union in one series of microfilm. Some counties, such as County Kilkenny, are a problem to find in the catalog. The only way to find them is to do a keyword search using the name of the electoral division or the poor law union. At this writing, they do not all appear under County Kilkenny/Land and Property. Keep in mind that the revision books for the Republic of Ireland counties are at the FHL; they may just be hiding in the FHL Catalog.

3. In the PRONI collection are the original small manuscript books. You must either search the books in person to have them searched by an agent. However, they are easily accessible and photocopies can be made. Be sure to tell the agent the span of years in which you are interested.

The FHL microfilmed collections from the Valuation Office in Dublin in the 1960s. Since the small books for each electoral division are bound into larger books under one cover, there may be six or seven smaller books in one volume, each with its own page numbers. Most (but not all) were bound with the most recent book first, then working back in time. Therefore, start at the end of the microfilm to find the oldest book from the 1850s or 1860s. In the original books, each year of changes was color coded. For example, 1860 may be in blue ink, 1864 may be in green ink, and 1867 may be in red ink. That is lost on the microfilm which presents in black and

white. However, for the most part, one can still determine what changes go with what year.

A change may be a line through a name and a new name put in that place. The year is noted on the right hand side of the page. If you determine the width of the pen on the change you can match it up with the width of the pen in the years. This may not sound professional, but it does work! Sometimes there are multiple changes in a short span of years for the same property. The color-coded editions for Northern Ireland at PRONI are much easier to read as are the originals for the Republic of Ireland found in Dublin at the Valuation Office.

Squeezing the Records for All They Are Worth

Now you are ready to study the records' content and make assumptions based upon what you see. I say assumptions, because that's exactly what you do with these records. They were not generated for genealogical research; they were tax records. So you must interpret what the tax valuator wrote for your own unique family history research. Does the crossing out of someone's name mean that they died, retired, or emigrated? The answers are different depending on your family research.

For example, a man's name is crossed off in 1877 and a woman with the same last name is inserted instead. Remember, his name has a line through it and her name is written above it. Did he die and his wife take over the responsibility for the taxes? That's always my first assumption. Even so, I keep in the back of my mind that the old man could simply have retired and the responsibility to pay the tax fell to a single daughter or to his wife. So he may not be deceased at all. Since my first assumption is that he died, I look at the civil registration index to deaths for the years near that date as I know that the tax lists are not updated automatically. It may have taken a few years for the change to be recorded. In the case of a woman taking over from a man, remember that these are civil records not church records. In the Irish Catholic tradition, the woman generally is listed by her maiden name in the church records. Civil records are the opposite; a woman is always listed by her married name. Don't assume otherwise unless there is a good reason to do so.

Another problem is when there isn't a change for decades yet somebody must be dead due to their age. In this case, it may be that there is a "Sr." and a "Jr." but the tax valuator simply saw no need to make an official change. In this case, the fact that Patrick Sullivan wasn't crossed off for 100 years is the first clue that there may be three or more men with the same name, Patrick Sullivan, who took over at different times. That can be frustrating. The ideal notation is when the tax valuator writes "dead" and the year of the update. This does happen; I've seen it many times. However, usually it's just a cross off and a year the change took place.

One question people ask me is: "How do I know what years are covered in the little books?" This is a very important question. From my experience, the first and sometimes the second small book do not have years attached to them. By the second and definitely by the third it's easy to figure out. The first two books will cover only a few years. By the third book, the time periods covered are longer stretches of years.

Since I always have my laptop with me at the microfilm reader, I start an outline of what I see in the little books bound into that one large book. If you don't have your laptop, a piece of paper will do. You don't have to be exact; if you are off by a few years, don't be alarmed. You are reading between the lines anyway. Here's what my chart looks like and why:

Book #1 (1858): I know the beginning year because the cover board of the FHL microfilm or the spine of the combined large book states what year the book starts. Generally, they are correct, though not always. If there's no way of telling when Book #1 ends or when Book #2 begins then I assume and split the difference. From experience, Book #1 probably ends about 1864, which I'll use as the beginning date for Book #2.

Book #2 (1868): I know the ending date because Book #3 starts in 1868. Whether I choose 1867 or 1868 as my ending date really doesn't matter.

Book #3 (1868-81): I know this from the years listed in this book. Plus, the cover of this small book may actually tell me!

Book #4 (1881-99): Again, either the cover of the small book tells me the dates or I study the oldest and most

recent year change. Judge all the other books in a similar way.

Using this outline you can enter the data from the record itself. You may need to closely study some of these entries as there can be multiple changes. Do your best and develop a system that helps you. That's the main point: what you understand, not what Dwight Radford understands. My system works for me and allows me to refer back to what I've done at a later date. I developed it through years of doing client work. I can explain this record so that it makes sense to someone who has never seen it before. The following example comes from the revision books for the townland of Kilday, Newcastle Upper Electoral Division, Rathdrum Union, County Wicklow. I looked at the records from 1858-1937 on microfilm at the FHL; then I had an agent in Dublin look at the manuscripts, 1938-77, at the Valuation Office. The chart includes the approximate years of the book, the page of the Kilday entry, and the amount of land in acres, roods, perches. My comments, based on my observations, are in italics:

Book #1 (1858-65): 20

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	Laurence Byrne	Henry Darley	house, office, land	158-3-36

Book #2 (1865-66): 57

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	Laurence Byrne	Henry Darley	house, office, land	158-3-36

Book #3 (1867-72): 54

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	Laurence Byrne	Henry Darley	house, office, land	158-3-36

Book #4 (1873-77): 53

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	Laurence Byrne	Henry Sandys	house, office, land	158-3-36

(Note: The immediate lessor's name changed from Henry Darley to Henry Sandys at an unspecified year.)

Book #5 (1878-84): 26

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	John Rourke	Henry Sandys	house, office, land	158-3-36

(Note: Laurence Byrne's name was crossed off in 1880 and John Rourke's name was inserted.)

Book #6 (1883-92): 28

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	John Rourke	Henry Sandys	house, office, land	159-0-32

(Note: In 1891, the surveyed acres was adjusted from 158-3-26 to 159-0-32.)

Book #7 (1893-1903): 29

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	William Fenelon	Henry Sandys	house, office, land	159-0-32

Book #8 (1903-18): 20

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	William Fenelon	in fee (LAP)	house, office, land	159-0-32

(Note: William Fenelon purchased his land and house under the Land's Purchase Act (LAP)

Book #9 (1919-37): 21

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1a	William Fenelon	in fee (LAP)	house, office, land	159-0-32

Book #10 (1938-58): 25

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1Aa2	Mrs. Frances Fenelon	in fee (LAP)	house, office, land	133-0-18

(Note: In 1956, the lot was combined with #2 and renumbered Lot #1Aa2. The acres were downsized at that point from 159-0-32 to 133-0-18. William Fenelon's name was crossed off in 1950 and Timothy Fenelon's name was inserted. In 1954, Timothy's name was crossed off and Mrs. Frances Fenelon's name was inserted.)

Book #11 (1959-77): 37

#	Occupier	Lessor	Tenement	A-R-P
1Aa	Timothy Fenelon	in fee (LAP)	house, office, land	70-2-35

(Note: The lot number was changed to 1Aa in 1972. Mrs. Frances Fenelon's name was crossed off in 1972 and Timothy Fenelon's name was inserted. The acreage was further downsized in 1972 from 133-0-33 to 70-2-35.)

In this case, I was tracing a client's ancestor, Laurence Byrne, to see what happened to him and the old home place. Laurence's name was crossed off in 1880 (he actually died 3 January 1880 in Kilday) and the old house was still standing in 1977. I placed this information in a book for my client to show the land location (see http://www.radfordnoone.com then click "Published History"). Between Griffith's Primary Valuation and the Griffith's revision books this case came alive and I could visualize what happened on the old family farm.

Conclusions

Griffith's revision books are an underutilized source. I find them one of the most fulfilling sources when trying to understand a community and determine what happened to the old ancestral home. As you pursue this source, do not think too literally. Read between the lines and try to prove or disprove what you think happened. Did someone die? Did someone emigrate? Was that the widow who took over the land? If the land went out of the family, then was it a son-in-law who took it over? All are valid questions and need to be answered adequately.

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former co-editor of The Irish At Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He also volunteers at the Utah State Prison teaching genealogy. He has placed his first book of prison experiences on his website www.radfordnoone.com under "Dwight's Prison Tales."*

Local Genealogical Resources for County Clare, Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

This article is the first in a series focusing on each county in Ireland and Northern Ireland. It will feature genealogical books available for each county and resources to be found in the county's public library collection. Because the County Clare library has been a vanguard in making available online genealogical resources, the first article of this series honors the contributions of this library. Thanks are given to Peter Beirne of the Clare County Library's Local Studies Centre for his help in preparing this article.

Books

There is no comprehensive published genealogical guide for County Clare. Two books that might be of interest are

- *County Clare, Ireland, Genealogy & Family History Notes with Coats of Arms* by Michael C. O'Laughlin. ([Kansas City, MO]: Irish Genealogical Foundation, 2008). This book gives a cursory overview of limited genealogical resources. Much of the material can be found in other sources including James Ryan's *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History*. For further details about the book check on *Amazon.com*. It is possible to view pages from the book on this web site.

- *Clare: History and Society*, Michael Lynch and Patrick Nugent, editors. (Templeoghue, Dublin: Geography Publications, 2008). The various chapters, which are written by different authors, include information relative to the history of County Clare from medieval times to the 20th century. For example, there are chapters about emigration from the workhouses, the estate of Colonel George Wyndham, and the interrelationship between population and settlement based on evidence from the 1659 census.

Library

The Clare County Library web site (http://www.clarelibrary.ie) has an amazing array of information that can be accessed online. The list of resources found in the **Genealogy** section is extensive and includes school records, directories, 1901 census databases, links to four 1911 census databases, abstracted information from the Tithe Applotment books and Griffiths Valuation, information gathered by the British Parliament during the potato famine, and much more. Information compiled by individuals and donated to the library is listed under **Donated Material**. The list of pre-1855 County Clare estate records found in the National Archives of Ireland and the National Library of Ireland link may help a researcher locate records of the estate upon which his ancestor lived. The "houses and their occupiers" lists give details about various houses and businesses in selective geographical areas of County Clare thus providing historical information about the buildings and sometimes limited genealogical information about the occupiers.

Be aware that there is additional information found in other sections not listed in the genealogy section. For example, the **History** section includes a list of County Clare parish priests published in 1704. The **People** section contains biographical sketches of famous Clare personalities.

The **Places and Placenames** section identifies the townlands, towns and villages, parishes, and baronies found in County Clare. The townlands list includes the civil parish, DED (district enumeration division), map number, registration district, and union of each townland. The list of the civil parishes is particularly useful for genealogical researchers. When one clicks on a given parish, a list appears of resources for that parish that can be accessed from the web site.

The **Photos** archive consists of a number of collections some of which include old postcards, photographs of some tombstone inscriptions, and pictures of people (e.g. National School students) and places. Most of the people are not identified by name. It is hoped that people who access the Photos collection might help to identify the people in the pictures. The link to the photographs is found on the Clare County Library

home page, but it can also be accessed under each category found in the County Clare box on the home page.

The **Clare Local Studies Project** section contains information from research that was done by staff and trainees from May 1995 to January 2006. As a result of the work, a number of books were published and several online publications were produced. Information about the books and publications can be found in this section. Of particular interest to me are the letters that were written in 1839 pertaining to the Ordnance Survey and information gleaned from government (British Parliament) inquiries into the state of poverty in County Clare in 1835. The list of people who attended the examination could be considered a partial census. Following is an example of information found in one examination.

> Parish **Kilmanaheen**. Barony **Corcomroe**.
>
> Examinations taken by P.F. Johnston, Esq. and E.B. Molloy, Esq.
>
> *Persons who attended the Examination.*
>
> AUSTIN CARRIG, one of the late enumerators under the Commission for the Public Instruction. THOMAS CURRAN, dyer and pawnbroker. JAMES DALY, apothecary and innkeeper. LAWRENCE DOHERTY, labourer. JOHN DONOGHUE, a cottier, holding five acres. Doctor FINUCANE, dispensary surgeon. JOHN HIGGINS, labourer. JAMES KEANE, farmer of 12 acres. THOMAS LYSAGHT, labourer. AUSTIN M'CARTHY, a cottier holding two acres. Rev. Mr. M'NALLY, P.P. PATRICK M'NAMARA, weaver. Mr. MALONE, farmer of nine acres, and tithe collector. JOHN MALONE, a cottier holding four acres. JOHN MORISSY, weaver. JAMES MULQUENY, farmer of five acres. JOHN O'REILLY, publican and farmer. PATRICK QUINN, baker. Widow ROURKE, widow of a carpenter, supporting four orphans. MATTHIAS THYNNE, shopkeeper. Rev. Archdean WHITTY, protestant rector, and justice of the peace. Mechanics, labourers and others, besides the above, were examined by the Assistant Commissioners.

The **Research Support** section, found under Genealogy, includes a number of topics. Some of the ones I particularly like are

- **Links to Genealogical Sources** provided on the library's web site is also extremely useful in genealogical research. It includes information about ordering Irish civil registration records of birth, marriage and death, links to various Irish archives, and web sites for County Clare families.

- **Books and other material on Clare genealogy held by Clare County Library** has an extensive list of books and articles in periodicals of a genealogical nature. It may be possible to access items in this list through interlibrary loan at your local library.

- **Clare Past Forum** contains genealogy tips and queries posted by individuals. Replies to the queries are also posted. One example is a question posed about "Evictions from Inishdea." People who responded cited various record sources where further information is found about the topic.

The link to the **Clare County Archives** is invaluable if one is planning a research trip to Ireland. Holdings of the Archives are listed. Arrangements can be made in advance to have material transferred to the Clare County Library's Local Studies Centre.

Through the link to the **Local Studies Centre** one will find the address, hours of operation, and details about the holdings of the Centre. The list of journals and newspapers is more extensive than that found in Ryan's *Irish Records*.

According to Mr. Beirne, the Centre has copies of the Catholic parish registers in the diocese of Killaloe and hopes to acquire other County Clare parish registers that are part of the dioceses of Galway and Limerick. The parish records for Kilkeedy or Tubber are or will be digitized. Other Catholic parish registers may be digitized in the future. Individuals have also contributed information extracted from parish registers. Click on the link to Births/ Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths under **Donated Material** in the genealogy section to access the Kilkeedy records.

The Centre also has the Church of Ireland parish registers for Drumcliff which covers Ennis. If other County Clare

Church of Ireland parish registers are ever microfilmed, the Centre hopes to acquire copies of these records as well.

One can access a number of historical **Maps** for County Clare, including the 1842 Ordnance Survey 6-inch maps, from the Clare County Library home page. To view the maps you need to have specific plugins installed on your computer. These programs can be accessed from the library's web site.

Although there are many ways to search the databases on the web site, it is possible to do a master search from the **Search This Website** internal search engine which uses *Google*. This application is accessed from the Library's home page. It appears under the four boxes listing resources for Library Services, County Clare, Cultural Services and Online Services. Searches can be made by personal name, place name, and subject. When I typed in "County Clare poor" ten pages of links popped up for resources found in the County Clare Library's web site.

This article highlights just some of the many resources available on the County Clare Library's web site. New material is constantly being added. If you have ancestors in County Clare, this web site will be invaluable in your research.

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Judith is well-known through articles in numerous genealogy periodicals and lectures at historical and genealogical conferences throughout the U.S., in Canada and England.

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

Manage Your Member Information

On the 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 the eNewsletter, meeting reminders and other communications by email. If your email is wrong (an old email or another problem), you are missing our messages. Related to that, please add our email address (IrishGenealogical.org) to your approved recipient list.

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.

Thanks for helping by managing your Member Information!

Sir William Betham Collection, Part II

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

William Betham was born William Simon Betham and christened on 28 May 1779 in the parish of Stradbroke, County Suffolk in England, the son of the Reverend William and Mary (neé Damant) Betham.[1] Although he was not Irish born, he considered Ireland his adopted land and worked tirelessly to preserve and organize its historical records and manuscripts. He was only twenty-six years old when he first visited Dublin and found the Irish records in a state of dismal disarray.

It was indeed good fortune for Irish genealogical researchers that he made the acquaintance of Theobald Richard O'Flaherty who was the registrar and official book-keeper for the Office of Arms. O'Flaherty employed Betham to work in the Office of Arms and from this point, Betham's interest in Irish records skyrocketed. Before long, with the help of O'Flaherty and Francis Townsend, a herald at the College of Arms in London, Betham was appointed Deputy Ulster in 1807 alongside Rear Admiral Sir Chichester Fortescue, Ulster King of Arms and Principal Herald of all the Kingdom of Ireland.[2]

William Betham was knighted shortly after his appointment in 1807 "in order to stress the importance of the Office of Arms in the eyes of the government in Dublin"[3] and served as Deputy Ulster for the years 1807-1820 and then as Ulster King of Arms from 1820 until his unexpected death in 1853.

After his death on "26 October 1853 at his home in Rockford, County Dublin... he was buried in the old graveyard at Monkstown, County Dublin."[4] His life's work of collecting, transcribing and organizing manuscripts went up for sale in two different auctions conducted by Sotheby's. It is from the detailed printed catalogues that we are able to glean so much rich detail about the collection. The first sale was held in 1854 to dispose of his library and a collection of miscellaneous manuscripts. The second, and more genealogically relevant auction, was held on 10 May 1860 when his genealogical and historical manuscripts were sold.

A bookseller in Dublin, William Boone, was commissioned by the Office of Arms to act as their agent at the auction. In both auctions, Sir Thomas Phillips bought many of the lots of available materials but was prevailed upon by Sir Bernard Burke to allow the genealogically relevant manuscripts to be purchased by the Office of Arms, which was established in 1552 and became the Genealogical Office on 1 April 1943.

This issue will focus on the Betham collections that were deposited in the Genealogical Office. Since many of the manuscripts in the Genealogical Office were microfilmed by the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, from 1949 to 1950, the FHL microfilm numbers will be included.

GENEALOGICAL OFFICE, DUBLIN

Indexes

While there is yet no overall comprehensive index to the materials in the Genealogical Office, a good place to start is with the five volume index produced by Virginia Wade McAnlis who worked from the microfilm collection of the Family History Library. Copies of the index may be purchased from her at 82 Gunn Road, Port Angeles, WA 98362-9108.

Manuscripts

MSS. 14 (FHL microfilm 100,223, item 4, pp. 219-39)
Essentially an essay written by Sir William Betham on the nature of the office and duties of his office as the Ulster King of Arms with some additional observations on the set of works described as 'Funeral Entries' circa 1820.

MSS. 28 (FHL microfilm 100,207, item 3)
Sir William Betham created a name index to Cling's Annals, a copy of a Treatise in Latin recapitulating the contents of ancient documents in England and Ireland before 1347.

MSS. 88-89 (FHL microfilm 100,200, items 4-5)
This manuscript contains copies and/or drafts of certificates for Coats of Arms and Memorials involving changes of name and the transference of the right to use the Coat of Arms. It includes illustrations for the arms and the associated papers supporting peerage cases (1844-1853). There is an

index by surname at the beginning of each volume. Portions of the evidence submitted for the claim include some extracts of probate as in the case of David Hamilton Boyd of Summerhill in the County of Down whose last will and testament was dated 24 September 1823. (Vol. 89, p. 17)

MSS. 100 (FHL microfilm 100,186, items 3-4)A list of Knights styled as Lords Lieutenant of Ireland for the years 1807-1854 along with some illustrations of their Coats of Arms containing a name index.

MSS. 145-148 (FHL microfilm 100,133 contains Mss. 145-147, Mss. 148 not microfilmed) A copy of Roger O'Ferrall's *Linea Antiqua*, volumes 1-3, with annotations made by William Betham. There is an index in Mss. 147 and Mss. 148.

MSS. 150 (FHL microfilm 100,189, item 2)A copy of the appointment of William Betham as Deputy Ulster King of Arms, 1807 and a copy of his oath taken in 1809. This series continues the transference of titles and includes a list of the Extinctions of Peers and the creation of new ones by name and date (p. 403). Note: There is a catalog entry that indicates that Mss. 150 is to be found on FHL microfilm 100,235, but this is an error by the camera operator at the time the descriptive data was drafted for microfilming and the manuscript refers to Exchequer Bills for the Green family.

MSS. 151 (FHL microfilm 100,189, item 3) A copy of the Letters Patent appointing Sir William Betham, Knight, to be the Ulster King of Arms and the principal Herald of all Ireland dated 18 April 1820 and subsequently 30 November 1837. Historically, for an Irish genealogist, this was a fascinating document to read. Here's an excerpt:

> George the Fourth by the Grace of God of the united Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and soforth, To all unto whom these presents shall come GREETING Whereas the office and place of Ulster King of Arms and principal Herald of all Ireland is void and in our disposal by the death of Sir Chichester Fortescue, Knight, Know ye therefore that we of our special grace certain knowledge and mere motion by and with the advice and consent of our right trusty and right well beloved Cousin and Counsellor Charles Chetwynd Earl Talbot our Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland Have made constituted ordained created invested and raised Sir William Betham, Knight to the said office of King of Arms and principal Herald of all that part of our united Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland... we do make ordain create invest and raise by these presents and to him the name of Ulster we do give and him really the Crown and the name of Ulster with the stile title dignity Liberty preeminence rights and commodities whatsoever...

MSS. 189-193 (FHL microfilms 100,209-100,210)

G.O. Mss. 189-192 (FHL microfilms 100,209-100,210, item 1) Historical and genealogical extracts from the Patent and Close Rolls which were originally held in Birmingham Tower in Dublin Castle. They cover the time period from Henry III – Edward VI; compiled by William Betham circa 1810.

G.O. Mss. 193 (FHL microfilm 100,210, item 2) Historical and genealogical extracts from the Patent and Close Rolls covering the time period from Edward I – Henry VI; compiled by William Betham circa 1810.

MSS. 198-199 (FHL microfilm 100,211) These were purchased in the 1860 sale, lot 35 and contain copies of *Ecclesiastical Visitations* for the Kingdom of Ireland (1607-1781). The set originally contained nineteen volumes transcribed by William Lynch who was a clerk in the Rolls Office, but the two volumes in the Genealogical Office are transcripts made by Rev. R. G. Greene. They are all indexed in G.O. Mss. 117 (FHL 100,188, items 1-3) and they are described as follows:

G.O. Mss. 198 Vol. 1 *Ecclesiastical Visitations*, 1607-1693 Visitations from the dioceses of Dublin, Ossory, Limerick, Killalow, Cashel, Clogher, Elphin, Ferns & Leighlin, Armagh, Tuam, Down & Connor, Dromore, Ardfert & Aghaloe, Clonfert, Kilmacdough, Cork & Ross, Kildare and Meath. The bulk pertains to the years 1615, 1622, and 1632.

G. O. Mss. 199 Vol. 2 *Ecclesiastical Visitations*, 1607-1781 Includes visitations from Ardagh, Kildare, Lismore, Down, Derry, Killaloe, Ferns, Leighlin, Meath, Tuam, and Waterford, primarily for the years 1615, 1633-4, and 1781.

MSS. 203-214 (most not microfilmed with the exception of Mss. 213 on FHL microfilm 100,113, item 3) Pedigrees compiled from Prerogative wills for the years 1536-1800 made from his genealogical abstracts. They are listed in alphabetical order by surname. Hayes Manuscript Sources indicates that they are for surnames A-By and Pac-Pen with some illustrations of the Coats of Arms for these families.

Finding Genealogical Abstracts of Prerogative Wills

Surnames	MSS	Microfilm
Wills Old Series		
Browne	223	100,103, item 2
Fitzgerald	223	100,103, item 2
Hamilton	223	100,103, item 2
Stewart	223	100,103, item 2
Walker	223	100,103, item 2
White	223	100,103, item 2
Wilson	223	100,103, item 2
A-D	224	100,103, item 3
D-O	225	100,103, item 4
O-Y	226	100,103, item 5
Wills New Series		
A-B	227	100,104, item 1
B	228	100,104, item 2
C	229	100,104, item 3
C-D	230	100,104, item 4

Surnames	MSS	Microfilm
D	231	100,105, item 1
D-F	232	100,105, item 2
F-G	233	100,105, item 3
G-H	234	100,106, item 1
H	235	100,106, item 2
H-J	236	100,106, item 3
K	237	100,107, item 1
L and S	238	100,107, item 2
Ma	239	100,108, item 1
Ma-Mo	240	100,108, item 2
Mo-No	241	100,108, item 3
N-P	242	100,109, item 1
P	243	100,109, item 2
Pr, Q, Rob	244	100,110, item 1
R and S	245	100,110, item 2
Sa-Sm	246	100,110, item 3

Surnames	MSS	Microfilm
Sm-St	247	100,111, item 1
St-Sw	248	100,111, item 2
Sw-Ti	249	100, 111, item 3
Ti-Ty	250	100, 111, item 4
V-W	251	100,112, item 1
Wa	252	100,112, item 2
We-Wl	253	100,112, item 3
W-Z	254	100,112, item 4

G.O. Mss. 213 (FHL microfilm 100,113, item 3) Includes pedigrees of Antrim families and a list of denizations (naturalizations) of Scottish immigrants to Ulster at the time of James I (1603-1625).

MSS. 215-219 (FHL microfilms 100,134-100,135) Pedigrees of Anglo-Irish families compiled by William Betham with later additions by George Dames Burtchaell. They are arranged in alphabetical order with indexes to the pedigrees and alliances, i.e. others named in the pedigree.

MSS. 220-222 (FHL microfilm 100,136) A manuscript containing pedigrees of Gaelic families compiled by William Betham circa 1820.

MSS. 223-254 (FHL microfilms 100,103[5], items 2-5, to 100,112) Genealogical abstracts of prerogative wills circa 1550-1800 with some sketches of arms from seals. The volume numbers are written on the top of the first page of each section, they are not listed on the camera operator target board that begins each separate item on the microfilm. For a guide to the listing of the will manuscripts, see the chart on page 121.

To locate a pedigree drafted from the wills in this series, start with Sir Arthur Vicars Index to Prerogative Wills 1536-1810. This volume was published in 1896 and is now available digitally through the Family History Library Catalog at http://www.FamilySearch.org. Go to "Library Catalog" and click on "Author" then type in "Vicars" in the surname field. There are three selections – currently the one in the middle has a statement highlighted in red "To view a digital version of this item click here." To locate others named in these wills, see Mss. 255-256 below. For an example from this index tied to this series of pedigrees see page 123.

MSS. 255-256 (FHL microfilm 100,113, items 1 [surnames A-L] and 2 [surnames M-Z]) Contains a consolidated index to alliances, i.e. others named in the will beyond the name of the testator, recorded in G.O. Mss. 223-254 and the Lodge Mss. Volumes 1-10 that are deposited in the Public Record Office, Dublin – thus, the Lodge Mss. are not to be found among the Genealogical Office collection even though the index is on this microfilm.

The importance of this index cannot be overstated, this identifies those with surnames other than that of the testator so that relationships through marriage may be easily identified.

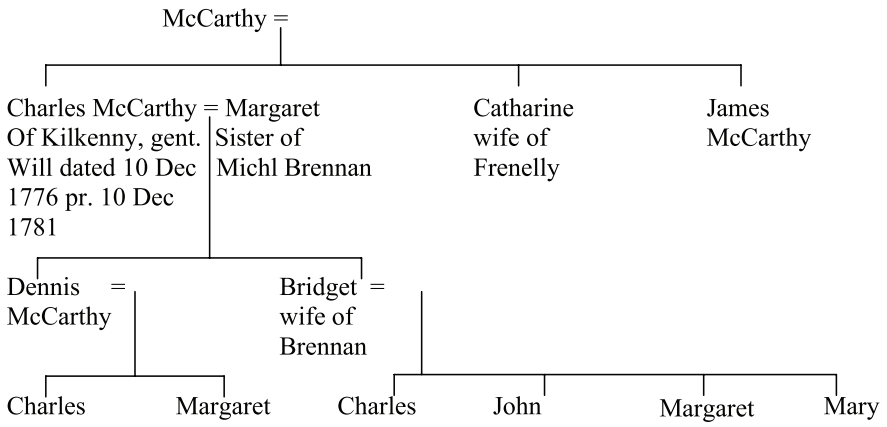
The index is arranged alphabetically with a column for each of the thirty-three volumes of abstracts followed by ten columns for the Lodge manuscripts. The page number is given in each reference, thus an example would be:

Surname: Arbuckle

Betham's Index	Lodge's Manuscripts
Vol. 1: 224	Vol. 4: 92
Vol. 13: 9	Vol. 6: 215
Vol. 31: 261	Vol. 9: 96
Vol. 32: 56	

Index Entry from Vicars (p. 299)
McCarthy
1781 Charles, Kilkenny City, Gent.

Pedigree Transcript



To be continued…

Endnotes

1 Stradbroke Parish (Suffolk, England). Parish Register Transcripts compiled by Capt. G. S. Cary (1941), 1538-1812, p. 132, baptism of William Simon Betham (1779); FHL microfilm 991,991, item 8.

2 The title of 'Ulster,' first conferred upon Bartholomew Butler in 1552, did not bear any territorial significance; he was created King of Arms *of all Ireland* under this title. The title of *Ulster* was chosen because there was already a titular Ireland King of Arms who functioned at the Heralds' College in London. In order to avoid confusion, the then king conferred upon his heraldic representative in Ireland the second royal title in Ireland, for the style and title of his majesty was then 'King of Ireland and Earl of Ulster.' P. B. Phair, "Sir William Betham's Manuscripts," *Analecta Hibernica* 27 (1972): 5.

3 Phair, "Sir William Betham's Manuscripts," 4.

4 Phair, "Sir William Betham's Manuscripts," 4.

5 FHL microfilm 100,103, item 1 which starts this series is extremely valuable in that item 1 is the listing to the entire collection in the Genealogical Office and notes which collections are indexed and the source of that index.

Bibliography

1. Anthony Adolph. *Tracing Your Irish Family History*. Buffalo, NY: Firefly Books Ltd., 2009.

2. Irish Manuscripts Commission. *Guide to the Genealogical Office Dublin*. Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1998.

3. P. B. Phair, "Sir William Betham's Manuscripts," *Analecta Hibernica* 27 (1972): 3-99.

4. Richard J. Hayes, ed. *Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation*. 11 volumes. Boston: G. K. Hall & Co., 1965, Persons Vol. 1 A-D: 213-216. (FHL microfilm 1,431,509, item 1)

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.

Links: the Key to Cross-Referencing

by Kathleen O'Mally Strickland

The Irish Genealogical Society International (IGSI) website is a treasure of information for Irish researchers—and it offers a map that makes it easy to keep on the path to discovering the trove of research leads and data. True to its "web" nature, the references to URLs bounce back and forth, cross-referencing each other. Many pop up repeatedly in two, three or more categories.

Working through the **Research** tab list, we've covered the categories of "IGSI Online," "Heritage Centers," "Maps," "Research Guidelines," "Index of IGSI Periodicals," and "Links." The "Links" tab is particularly rich with clues to help us reach our research destinations online.

Categories and URLs in the "Links" section of the **Research** tab drop-down menu reprise many of the Internet sites listed elsewhere throughout the IGSI website. Many data-rich websites important to Irish research appear in various contexts; major players are the websites of *Fianna*, *GenUKI* and *RootsWeb*, which turn up over and over again in the list of Links.

IGSI Links: Research Methods

In IGSI Links, we have covered Geographic Sites and part of Research Methods: the Key Irish Research Materials, which included reference materials and reference methods, and the Family Search pilot site. The remaining Miscellaneous category helps when working with surnames and finding professional genealogists.

IGSI Surname Links

In this category you will find listings of websites; surname mailing lists; and surname queries and interest leads.

- Worldwide Web pages are in a constant state of flux. Authors put them up and take them down; web service providers come and go. Given their changeable nature, always follow more than one lead if your chosen surname site seems to have disappeared. The "Links to Irish Names" at *Fianna* is an alphabetical list of surnames with a search feature at the bottom of the page.
- The Surname Mailing Lists topic can keep you busy for weeks, since it includes the magnificent *Cyndi's List* for finding genealogically oriented pages.
  - The *RootsWeb* list lets you search for surname postings from its 30,000 mail lists.
  - John's List is a privately created collection of URLs that leads to *RootsWeb* and many other genealogical websites. You can search by name and location as well as categories such as Adoption, Emigration, and Societies.
  - *Cyndi's List* is a categorized and cross-referenced index to genealogical sources on the Internet. As of this April, the list featured 3,079 links to Ireland and Northern Ireland websites. Clicking on "Ireland and Northern Ireland" takes you to a Category Index and Related Categories.

    From the Category Index, choose from headings such as The Irish Famine (to find a book list and illustrations of conditions in Ireland) or Military (to find the Irish War Memorials and connections to the Irish who served in the U.S. Civil War). Related Categories include nearby England, Scotland, the Isle of Man and more.
- Surname Queries and Interests is the place for researchers themselves to ask and answer questions. Included are surname lists from *GenUKI*, *Fianna*, *Ireland GenWeb/World Genealogy Web*, and *RootsWeb*.

Professional Genealogists

This is an extensive listing of genealogists who can help with Irish research. You'll find individual and company researchers whose expertise ranges from a narrow piece of Eire to broad-based family research.

- ProGenealogists, including Kyle Betit, offers a learning center for doing your own Irish research as well as providing professional Irish research services.
- Riobard O'Dwyer specializes in the Beara Peninsula in County Cork.
- NYC Cemetery Research and Photography's Jim Garrity will photograph cemeteries and memorials in the New York City area.
- What's What in Irish Genealogy is Paul Gorry's site featuring how-to ideas as well as research in Ireland. Gorry also sponsors the website for the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations.
- Grenham's Irish Recordfinder leads to the site of multi-talented

genealogist, author and consultant John Grenham, who provides a link to the Irish Times.

- Máire MacConghail is an Irish researcher based in Dublin.
- Eneclann Genealogy and Research Services is a Trinity College Company, a publishing and research organization.
- Ulster Ancestry specializes in that province, including counties Down, Derry, Antrim, Armagh, Fermanagh, Tyrone and Donegal.
- Morrigan Research Services conducts record searches, research, arranges genealogy tours around Dublin and more.
- Irish Origins offers help from professionals as well as a subscription to their website, which features the Irish Origins Collection of Griffith's Valuations, censuses, wills and more.
- Price and Associates specializes in English family history and genealogy. It lists helpful links, some free and some for a fee, that can be helpful to Irish researchers, such as military and emigration records.

Comprehensive Irish Genealogy Sites

The last items on the IGSI Links page are those for Comprehensive Genealogy Sites and Sites of General Irish Interest. Many of the websites here have been noted previously in other categories but following is a brief list of those that have not yet been mentioned.

Here again, you'll find *Fianna*, *GenUKI*, "Irish Ancestors" from the *Irish Times*, the *Ireland Genealogy Project*, *TIARA*, *IreAtlas* (townland database), *RootsWeb* sites and the *Ireland GenWeb Project*. There are also links to ProGenealogists' "Learning Pages." A few more sites to mention are

- Irish Genealogy, a site by Georgeann Malowney Knoles with information about her own family as well as links to other Irish websites.
- The genealogy site of the "Irish Abroad" social networking group.
- The Irish Family History Forum, based in New York.
- New Zealand Society of Genealogists Irish Interest Group.
- ExploreGenealogy (mostly United Kingdom). Check out their sitemap for a wealth of resources.

Sites of General Irish Interest

This is the everything-else page where you'll find information about Irish history, traveling in Ireland, and cultural facts.

- The History link is rich in choices. Learn about the Famine, Irish royalty, and the story of the Wild Geese.
- The Travel link tells about tours, hotels, and B&Bs in Ireland.
- The Cultural/Modern link brings you the opportunity to learn about the current goings-on of clan associations, life in today's Ireland—sports, festivals, flora and fauna, weather. Library Ireland website offers historical background to help flesh out your family history.

When working through websites, use each one to take you deeper into your research. The sites mentioned throughout the IGSI website connect to each other through a myriad of themes; each website visit may offer up a clue to another valuable Internet destination.

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.

Make an Appointment

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email: Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org
Phone: Beth Mullinax
763-574-1436

Get to Know the History of Genealogical Records

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

When someone asks me to help find their great-grandfather, one of my first questions is "When was he alive, and where do you think he might have lived?"

My question is an important one – first, because we need to know where our ancestors lived if we want to find their paper trails, and second, because the kinds of records we can expect to find depend on both where and when our ancestors lived.

We often don't think about it, but these changes in record-keeping practices reflected changes in laws, that in turn reflected changing ideas about what kinds of information government needed to perform its civil society functions. Understanding something about these evolving record-keeping practices will make you a more efficient family history researcher. I recommend three resources for learning about the history of records in different states and countries:

- *The Red Book* (Provo, Utah: Ancestry, 2004).
- Family History Library research guides (http://www.familysearch.org/eng/Search/rg/frameset_rhelps.asp?Page=./research/type/Research_Outline.asp), and
- National Genealogical Society's "Research in the State" series (http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/research_in_the_states)

The sources available for your research will change as you move back in time and as you cross the ocean. The early 20th century was a major watershed for genealogically useful records. About this time, many states established standardized state-wide vital records systems. The federal government standardized citizenship and immigration records and expanded the biographical details it collected. The 20th century was also the golden era for obituaries in newspapers.

Looking back into the 19th century, the availability of birth, marriage and death records decreases, and census records become the most accessible and useful source of family information. Other productive sources include tax records, military records, land records and probate records – especially before 1850, when census records listed only the names of heads of households. Moving back to Europe and into the early 1800s and before, church records are often the most useful records.[1]

Exceptions abound. Vital records are available earlier in New England and Mid-Atlantic states. For example, Vermont established civil registration in 1770 and Boston began in 1848. New Orleans required civil registration of births and deaths in 1790.

It is important to remember that, however useful they are to genealogists, the records were created by the government for various legal or informational purposes. A second lesson is this: no matter how official, any record can be wrong. Some people avoided the government. Some people lied. Some people simply made errors.

Let us consider three kinds of records familiar to most beginning researchers: family Bible records, vital records and censuses. One was created by private individuals and two were created by the government. Why were they created? How were they created? What quirks do we need to look for?

Family Records

Family Bibles or other religious books are family treasures in their own right. The family records found in them are one of the few kinds of records created with family history in mind. Because the family's history mattered, a parent, grandparent or other relative used the Bible as a place to write down important dates – births, baptisms, marriages or deaths.

While we can usually place considerable confidence in the author, two cautions are in order. First, compare the recorded dates with the publication date of the Bible. If the Bible was published after the recorded events, take pause. Faulty memories or errors in copying information from other sources may have come into play. Second, the person making the entry might have been selective, leaving out some family members or adopting others. For an interesting case study, see Harold Hind's recent article in the *NGS Magazine*.[2]

Government Records

In contrast, government documents were created for legal purposes. It is our good fortune that they often include basic biographical information. While many people are concerned that vital

records, social security death records and other government records may put their identity at risk, the opposite is often true. These records help us prove who we are and prevent criminals from claiming the identity of dead people.

Long before governments became concerned with documenting individual lives, churches kept records of events the church found important in people's lives: baptisms, marriages and burials. The church was concerned with souls and the sacraments and ceremonies associated with these events. In many respects and in many places, the church was the state.

As civil governments took more responsibility for citizens, they began keeping records. Governments were concerned with identity: were you who you said you were? Were you subject to the military draft? Did you have legal claim to your property? Were you really dead, making your estate both distributable and taxable? As governments instituted a military draft, formal citizenship process or social insurance, they needed to clearly establish the identities of individuals – not just for their own purpose, but also to protect citizens in legal disputes.

Genealogists benefit from these governmental programs and their established records. While it is likely that our ancestors would register events and tell the truth, we are still alert for mistakes and mistruths.

Vital records. U.S. vital records are a fairly recent innovation. Many beginning genealogists are disappointed when they discover that no birth or death records exist for their mid-1880s ancestors. America was a young country, with less than 100 years of self-government under its belt. Most states west of the Mississippi formed after 1850, a few even after 1900.

Most early birth, marriage and death records were created at the local level – townships, cities and counties. Because of their importance for property ownership and inheritance, marriage records usually pre-dated birth and death records. Early vital records usually consisted of line-by-line registrations in a large ledger book. Although local courts issued marriage licenses, local governments merely recorded births and deaths; they did not issue the certificates so familiar to us today.

Although some New England and Mid-Atlantic states kept vital records from the late 1700s, modern birth and death certificates typically date from the creation of state-supervised vital records in the last decades of the 1800s and the early 1900s.

Many European countries instituted national civil registration systems following the Napoleonic model in the early 1800s. Civil registration in England and Wales began in 1837. Irish civil registration of marriages for non-Catholics began in 1845; in 1864, the recording of birth, marriages and deaths for all was mandatory.

Divorce records, though usually not thought of as vital records, are also useful for genealogy. Civil marriages are a legal event, with state laws establishing the rights of spouses in life and death. Accordingly, divorce suits are found in court records. Legal divorces, while less common in the 19th century, did occur. In some states before the mid-1800s, state legislatures granted divorces, so the records may be found in legislative session laws rather than in local court records.

Census records. Early censuses were concerned primarily with counting and documenting the characteristics of the population. Modern-day genealogists were the farthest thing from the minds of the bureaucrats who created the census. Through 1840, the U.S. Census recorded the name of only the head of each household, along with a tabulation of free and slave household members by age groupings and gender. While still not intended for genealogists, the 1850 census aided researchers because it recorded the name and age of every household member and their state or country of birth.

The 1900-1930 U.S. censuses asked questions about immigration, citizenship status and unemployment, reflecting the government's growing concern about these aspects of the population.

Failure to answer the census-taker's questions was a misdemeanor, but enumerators were not authorized to ask for any proof or documentation of answers. Some people avoided the census-taker, while others provided less than completely truthful answers, but the odds of the government discovering lies or prosecuting evaders were slim.[3]

The Irish government took censuses beginning in 1813. A 1922 fire destroyed most of the census returns from 1821 through 1851; the government purposely destroyed the 1861 through 1891 censuses after compiling the summary statistics; the 1901 census remains the earliest complete Irish census available for research.

Finally, keep in mind that the nature of records changed as legal traditions changed. The American British colonies made departures from English practices. For example:

- Civil divorces were rare in England; most divorces were accomplished through Church of England annulments. The New England colonists, wary of church courts, considered marriage a contract, making divorce a civil legal matter.
- The United Kingdom had a national civil registration system, but the United States never adopted the British model.

Genealogy research is a historical endeavor. Knowing a bit about the history of commonly used records will enhance your chances of success.

End Notes

1 Johni Cerny, "Research in Birth, Death and Cemetery Records," in Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, eds., *The Source: A Guidebook in American Genealogy*, Revised Edition (Salt Lake City, Utah: Ancestry, 1998), p. 59.

2 Harold E. Hinds, Jr.., "What Is a Family? Lulu Mae (Dice) Wiltse Hinds's Bible Records," *NGS Magazine*, 35:4 (October-December 2009), pp. 62-63.

3 Loretto Dennis Szucs and Matthew Wright, *Finding Answers in U.S. Census Records* (Orem, Utah: Ancestry, 2002), pp. 8-9.

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.

IGSI Marketing Committee

IGSI seeks members with Marketing experience or simply an interest in helping the Society to grow. Join other volunteers from around the U.S. and the world on the IGSI Marketing Committee. "Meet" at your convenience using a web-based committee website. Emails will announce new postings and replies sent to all committee members.

This is a unique way for any IGSI member to volunteer for the organization. For further information, or to join this committee, email Questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

1901 Irish Census Goes Online

The earliest surviving complete Census of Ireland is now online, giving access to more than 4.5 million records from 1901 for historians, genealogists and anyone curious about their family history. The census, taken on the night of Sunday, March 31st, 1901, covers some 850,000 households on the entire island.

The 1901 Census provides information about a household in following categories: first name; surname; relation to head of family; religious profession; education; age; sex; occupation; marriage status; where born; if the individual spoke English, Irish or both and if the person had a disability.

Where to find it? It's free at the National Archives of Ireland website http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/.

New to the Library

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases

D054 - *The Post Office Dublin. Directory & Calendar for 1858, Alexander Thom & Co., 1858*. Published by Archive CD Books Ireland, Eneclann, Dublin, Ireland. CD

G124 - *The 1798 Rebellion: Claimants and Surrenders*, by Ian Cantwell. Published by Eneclann, Dublin, Ireland, 2005, CD.

H056 - *Seventy-Seven of Mine Said Ireland*, by Martin O'Dwyer. Published by Deshaoirse. Printed by Carraig Print Inc., Litho Press, County Cork, Ireland, 2006, 397 p., illus. [Records of the 77 men who were executed during the Civil War in Ireland.]

H663 - *My Clonmel Scrapbook, 1907*, by James White. Published by Archive CD Books Ireland, Enneclann Ltd., Dublin, Ireland. CD

P052.8 - *Scots-Irish Links 1575 - 1725*, Part Eight, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2010, 100 p., alphabetical.

P060.3 - *Ships from Ireland to Early America 1623-1850*, by David Dobson. Published by Clearfield Company, Baltimore, MD, 2010, 114 p., alpha

Donations

G122 - *County Monaghan, Death Notices & Obituaries* Recorded in the Northern Standard From 1839-1869; from People's Advocate 1876-1907; and Index to North Monaghan Inquisition Book April 1846 - December 1855. Held by William Charles Waddle, Coroner for County Monaghan. Donated by Monaghan County Library, Monaghan, Ireland.

H662 - *The Knights of Glin: Seven Centuries of Change*, edited by Tom Donovan. Published by the Glin Historical Society, Glin, County Limerick, Ireland, 2009, 462 p., Illus., indexed.

FH – *Odyssey: Personal Chronicle of WWII Military Service*, by Philip Adrian McDonnell, Atherton, CA. Published by Author, 2006. Donated by Author.

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.

Donations

We wish to thank the following members for their contributions to the Irish Genealogical Society International. Such donations help further the work of the organization. Thank you for your generosity!

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Patricia Wood	Fircrest, Washington

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

100 Years Ago

CROWD ENJOYS MUSICAL TREAT

Miss Lena Duthie Renders Some Grand Old Celtic Songs
AUDIENCE WELL PLEASED
She Brings to Her Interpretation a Keen Sense of Humor

It was a treat indeed that people who composed the audience last night to listen to Miss Lena Duthie in her Scotch and Irish songs enjoyed, for not only has she a well cultivated voice of great sweetness and range, but she brings to her aid in her little introductions and explanations, a keen sense of humor which should be proof positive of the falsity of the old joke about the Scot's lack of humor. Her interpretations of the grand old Celtic songs showed a sympathy that could not but affect even the most phlegmatic in the audience and the crowd all went away from the hall well pleased with their evening in Scotland and Ireland.
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks, Alaska
August 1, 1910 Page 4

[Scotland Day at State Fair Park]
On Saturday, August, 29, many local Scots are planning to attend the celebration of Scotland's Day, at State Fair park, Milwaukee. All descendants of the land of the "bonnie purple heather" are expected to attend and do homage to the home land with songs, speeches and dances. Among the features will be the Highland Fling, Irish reel, sailor's hornpipe, Irish jig, shean trews and Ghille Callum. All these are calculated to grip the heartstrings of Scots and pull them picnicward on this day.
Racine Daily Journal
Racine, Wisconsin
August 18, 1910 Page 5

[Book Review – excerpt]
THE SCOT IN CANADA
By Bernard K. Sandwell
Copyright by Publishers Press, 1910

There are more purely Scottish names in Canadian Who's Who or directory of distinguished persons in Canada than there are of any other racial division. The Scottish "Macs" and "Mcs" alone constitute eight per cent of the whole list, and they are but a fragment which happens to hang together in one part of the alphabet. A very low estimate of the number of Scottish names scattered through the entire volume published by the London Times the other day would put the total at twenty five per cent. If we include the number of persons of Scottish descent who came in with the United Empire Loyalists, the Catholicised and French speaking descendants of the Scotsmen who settled along the St. Lawrence during the French regime, and the Canadians born of a Scottish mother but bearing and English, Irish or French name, we shall easily reach the conclusion that over a third of the Canadians of prominence have Scots blood in their veins.
The Lethbridge Herald
Lethbridge, Alberta
September 17, 1910 Page 9

150 Years Ago

Michlet, the French Historian, on the Celtic Races

The following is from a writer whose works have received much attention in France....

In vain, less than two centuries, have 400,000 Irish forged in our armies. We must witness the sufferings of Ireland without uttering a word. In like manner have we long forgotten and neglected our ancient allies, the Scotch – and the Scotch mountaineer will soon have disappeared from the face of the earth. The Highlands are daily unpeopled. The conversions of small holdings into large farms, which ruined Rome, have destroyed Scot land. Estates may be found ninety-six square miles in extent, others twenty miles long and three broad; so that the Highlander will soon only exist in history and in Sir Walter Scott's novels. When the tartan, plaid and claymore are seen passing, the residents of Edinburgh [will stand] at the door to gaze at the unusual sight. – The Highlander expatriates himself and disappears, and the bagpipe awakens the mountains but with one air: "Cha till, cha till, mi tulidh." We return, we return, no more.
The Manitowoc Pilot
Manitowoc, Wisconsin
September 21, 1860 Page 1

[Letter to the Editor]
To the Editor of the News:
... Much as his fellow countrymen admire John Mitchell for his love of country, and the burning hatred he bears toward England; yet they are mistaken that think that Irish American citizens could be influenced by him to desert the Democratic party to the purpose of breaking up this glorious Union. No such thing? His course at the South has not met the approval of any section of Irish citizens, neither will his conduct on the present occasion. On the contrary, he will find it condemned wherever it comes under their observation.

As for myself, I have a great regard for John Mitchell, because I know he loves Ireland, and would lay down his life in her cause, yet I must draw a distinction between him as an Irishman and as an American citizen. In the latter capacity I have regarded him in this letter, and if I have said anything ungenerous, or that might be considered offensive, I will only say that such was not my intention.
"Celt"
Daily Milwaukee News
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 15, 1860 Page 1

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.

Book Review

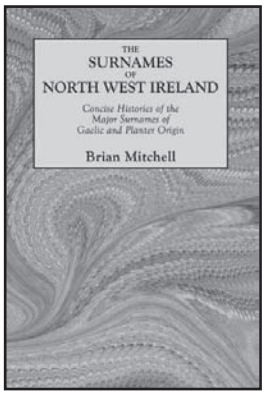
The Surnames of North West Ireland: Concise Histories of the Major Surnames of Gaelic and Planter Origin

by Brian Mitchell

Clearfield Company, Baltimore, 2010. 336 pp. Paperback, $39.95

Reviewed by Tom Rice, CG

Why do we need another Irish name book when there are so many already? Because this is a new approach that combines some of the best features and information found scattered in many of the existing name books. As the title says, this book focuses on the most prominent names found in North West Ireland. which includes Counties Derry, Donegal, and Tyrone. This is a history rich area: the last stronghold of some of the most powerful Gaelic tribes and an area later peopled by English and Scottish settlers. This is also an area where many of its inhabitants ultimately emigrated to North America during the 18th to the 20th centuries. The author estimates that the 323 surname histories included here cover 80% of the families with roots in this area. While the surnames covered are drawn from a relatively small area of Ireland, many of these names can be found throughout the island, especially in the rest of Ulster.



One of the major strengths of this book is that the surname histories are compiled from quite a number of the more respected surname and historical reference works. The author draws from the most authoritative of Irish surname experts, Edward MacLysaght, with additional information taken from Scottish and British surname books plus material from *The Annals of the Kingdom of Ireland by the Four Masters* and the *Fighters of Derry*. For information as to frequency and location of surnames, the author drew from early censuses and name lists such as Heath Money Rolls, Protestant Householders lists, and Griffith's Valuation.

Within each surname history the author provides information as the origin of the name. He gives a brief history of the family, clan or sept associated with a name's origin whether that be in Ireland, Scotland or England. He always describes the ancient location for the name's origin with mention of where it is most prominent in modern times. These histories often include mention of one or more famous progenitors bearing the surname, their exploits, and citations to mentions of the name in key historical accounts. Each surname history usually ends with a brief discussion of variations of the name. Another useful feature is a table of surnames with the more common variations listed. Use of a bold font helps the reader quickly identify those covered in this book. The author points the reader to the Derry Genealogy Centre's website where these surnames and linked names can be found in a database of church and civil records (http://derry.brsgenealogy.com).

Bottom line: this is a very useful and informative book if any of your lines share one of these surnames. This should also be of interest for those studying the history of northwest Ireland or of the surnames mentioned. The author ties together name origin, family history, mentions in key historical accounts, distribution, and name variants. This is a very useful approach that should be considered by future surname studies.

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 Cost: $29.95

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Compiled and Edited by Stephen McCormac

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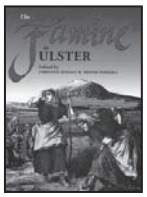
Pocket History of Ulster
Marianna O'Gallagher

Written by a history professor from Queen's University, Belfast, this book is a straight forward account of the complicated course of northern Irish history. (224 pp) Order Book #H240 Cost: $8.95

Famine in Ulster
Christine Kinealy & Trevor Parkhill, editors

Corrects the distortion that the famine didn't happen in Ulster. By addressing the effectiveness of government relief measures, response of local landlords and the role of the churches, this book looks at how the crisis affected everyone. (247 pp) Order Book #H277 Cost: $21.00



Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors
William J. Roulston

Subtitled "Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600-1800" This is a comprehensive guide for family historians searching for ancestors in seventeenth and eighteenth century in Ulster. The appendices and maps alone will be of great service to the family historians. (262 pp) Order Book #J161 Cost: $22.38

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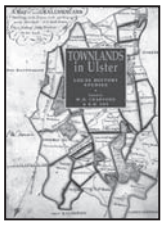
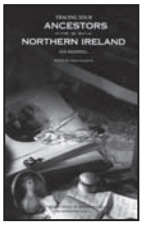
Townlands in Ulster Local History Studies
Edited by W.H. Crawford & R.H. Foy

This volume contains eight essays by experienced local historians who describe the development of their townland. A sense of pride and place is what all genealogist want when understanding their heritage. These essays bring this to reader. (112 pp) Order Book #A321 Cost: 29.95



Tracing Your Ancestors in Northern Ireland
Ian Maxwell

This book provides an authoritive survey of the material held in the Public Records Office in Northern Ireland and information on how to explore public and private records. (121 pp) Order Book #J108 Cost: $20.00

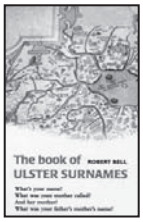


My Roots - Tracing Your Belfast Ancestors
William Roulston

This booklet is an introduction to the sources available for researching Belfast ancestors and where they can be found. (56 pp) Order Book #J173 Cost: $5.00

Book of Ulster Surnames
Robert Bell

List of more than 500 of the most common family names of Ulster province, with references to thousands more. It gives a history of each name, its original form, where it came from. (285 pp) Order Book #S015 Cost: $22.95

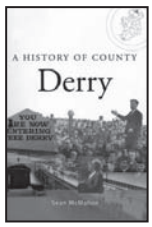


County Monaghan Sources
Peter Collins

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland produces this guide to sources in Monaghan. Order Book #J079 Cost: $40.00

History of County Derry
Sean McMahon

Topography starts off this history, showing an east-west division that marks a difference in religious populations. The book covers Plantations of Ulster, the Industrial Revolution, and social and educational traditions. (152 pp) Order# H536 Cost: $22.95



Help Other Irish Researchers
Write for *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

Themes and article submission deadlines for coming issues

Issue Date	Submission Deadline	Theme
October 2010	**July 24, 2010**	20th Century Irish Emigration
January 2011	November 1, 2010	Newspapers
April 2011	February 1, 2011	Women in Irish Genealogy & Culture
July 2011	May 1, 2011	Irish Resources on the Internet – Revisited

Author Request

An author who is writing a guide for doing Scots-Irish genealogy research in the United States is seeking case studies of Scots-Irish (Scotch-Irish) families for possible inclusion in his work.

If you have U. S. Scots-Irish ancestors and are willing to share a case history, please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs* for further information. Ideally you will be able to provide citations to the sources you used. Do not worry about perfect citation format; the author will take care of that.

IGSI Quarterly Program
August 21, 2010

IGSI Quarterly Program
August 21, 2010
10:00 a.m.
Program fee: $10 members
$15 non-members

Minnesotans in the Civil War
Brian Leehan, author or the book *Pale Horse at Plum Run: the First Minnesota at Gettysburg*, will talk about Minnesotans in the Civil War. In writing this history, the author used many primary sources and documents to establish the facts of the event. Brian Leehan is a staff writer at the Star Tribune newspaper.

Come join us and hear the story of the Minnesota regiment and learn about military records and sources helpful to historians and genealogists.

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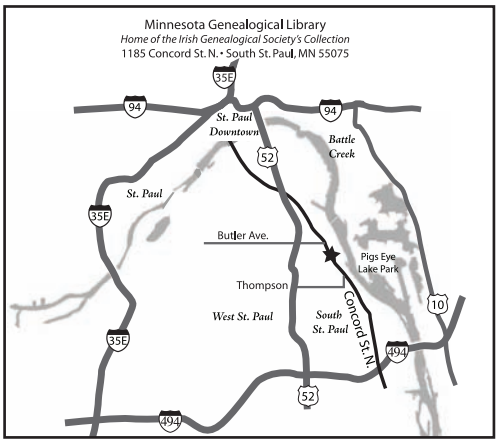

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During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

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.

Deireadh Fomhair (October) 2010

The Septs

Volumne 31, Number 4

Irish Genealogical Society International

20th Century Irish Emigration

$7.00

2010 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month
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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.

Classes are 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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2009-2010

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Catherine Keeley in 1930. Photo courtesy of Judy Rice.

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Cover photo courtesy of Ann Eccles.

President's Letter

Gifts for Yourself and Others

by Linda Miller

Every year, about 100,000 people walk through the gates of the Minnesota Irish Fair in mid-August to take in amazing Irish music, dancers, bagpipes, food and drink and the best shopping for all things Irish this side of Dublin. IGSI volunteers are there in force, helping visitors identify the probable location of their origins in Ireland and sparking their interest in family history research. If you haven't been to the Irish Fair on Harriet Island in St. Paul, put it on your summer travel agenda for next year. You could combine it with a visit to the IGSI library for some family history research. Every August, the Irish Fair coincides with Irish Saturday at the Minnesota Genealogy Library. If you visit us on an Irish Saturday, the second Saturday of every month, you will find Irish library researchers available to help you with your research. You also will have the opportunity to attend a class related to Irish genealogy. Check the schedule of classes on page182.

Family Medical History

My research took a different direction this past summer. After running across some intriguing family medical information, I realized what little importance most of us place on the illnesses and medical conditions of our ancestors. It took only a little reading on the subject to convince me that family medical history is crucial information for us all to have and a wonderful gift to share with family. Many medical conditions are associated with genetic risk.

The medical profession recommends that everyone compile a family medical history. Pulling together a health genealogy is not difficult for most genealogists. The information usually can be found by checking birth certificates, death certificates and obituaries and through interviewing parents, siblings and other relatives.

The most useful family medical histories have information covering at least three generations, starting with you and your siblings and progressing to your parents and their siblings and their children, both sets of your grandparents and their siblings and finally, if possible, to all four sets of your great grandparents. Your options for doing this vary from using a website such as My Family Heath Portrait <https://familyhistory.hhs.gov/fhh-web/home.action> to downloading forms to complete on each person. One very comprehensive form can be found at <www.free-family-medical-history-form.com/>.

Even if you don't complete a full medical history on every relative right away, you'll have a great start. Just keep adding information as you find it and share it with your family and your doctor.

Family Genealogy Gifts

Christmas is not far away. If you are thinking about gifts for family members, I have some suggestions for you. Take some of that family history research which you've been working on and turn it into one of the best gifts your family members have ever received. For the price you usually spend on Christmas cards, you can send loved ones a family story or a family pedigree chart. Make them special by copying them on beautiful paper. Perhaps include a color copy of a special family photograph, a copy of a census, a citizenship document, or a ship's passenger list where an ancestor's name appears. *Ancestry.com* offers high quality, enhanced copies of census and other documents that you can framed for yourself or give as a gift.

No one ever calls me from another state to thank me for a Christmas card but when I send these "genealogical greetings," I hear from relatives I haven't heard from in years. They are suddenly, absolutely fascinated, often for the first time, by family history!

Volunteer in 2011

Finally, volunteering is both a gift to yourself and a gift to the organization for which you volunteer. IGSI is looking for a few people to help on committees and to serve on our Board of Directors in 2011. If you might be interested in serving on our Board or if you want to recommend someone else, please email me at <lindamiller106@gmail.com> or call me at 952-831-8286.

I'd love to discuss the opportunities with you.

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.

A Different View

by Ann Eccles

August is quickly slipping into September. In just a couple of weeks I'll be on a flight to Dublin for two weeks in Ireland. As I finish this issue and a couple of other projects from late summer, my thoughts are also on the prospect of researching in Dublin. With limited time, I need to define my goals and plan my strategy. I plan to concentrate on my Eccles line – and, yes, Eccles is an Irish surname (as well as being found in Scotland and England). I have an approximate date of birth for my great-grandfather. Griffith's Valuation identifies that surname in four Northern Ireland counties.

Now I need to review all of my notes and data. It's amazing what one finds when rereading notes taken or records made a year or more ago. Once I find him – I'm being positive and not saying "if" I find him – I hope to find more Eccles relatives to trace their place of origin and migration. And if I don't find him? I'll join the other IGSI travelers and enjoy my time in Ireland.

Many of us started our research with grandparents and great-grandparents who were born in the 19th century. Now, a younger generation of family historians seeks Irish ancestors born in the 20th century. Is there a different emphasis or direction for their research?

In this century of improved transportation and job or family mobility, what records can they access? They may find more photographic evidence but also more data privacy issues. Family papers and stories may be a start, but these new researchers need facts and records. Records from ships' passenger lists and the 1901 and 1911 Irish censuses provide additional details on family. It may be the Irish censuses combined with civil registration that become the go-to sources for Irish ancestors born after 1900, just as Griffith's Valuation has been the primary resource for Irish ancestors in the mid-1800s.

Generally more information is included in the records collected in the 20th century. Naturalization records give more than just country of origin; obituaries generally cite more than a date of death; and city directories are more numerous.

But just as these are starting points for a 21st century genealogist, they are also sources that all family researchers can use to seek the descendants of non-emigrating members of our ancestors' families.

The articles in this issue provide sound information for the new 21st century researchers – as well as for all of us. We include many articles of ancestral immigration and Irish cousins found. And then there are the regular offerings of columnists that help us in our task.

We welcome Evva Housley, an Accredited Genealogist from Salt Lake City, who is a specialist in Irish research. She explains the online access to the 1901 and 1911 Irish censuses. Dwight Radford reveals the Irish treasures among the passenger lists found in the National Archives in London.

Jay Fonkert, in the Beginning Genealogist, gives an overview on historical and contemporary sources to use in starting your family search. Kathleen Strickland and Diane Lovrencevic provide information on the status and use of the IGSI website. Judith Eccles Wight explores the information available for research in County Tyrone, including the Centre for Migration database.

Maureen Reed shares the ancestral story of five brothers who came to the U.S. in the mid-1800s and settled in Iowa and Minnesota. Another IGSI member, Patrick Clark, describes the search he and his brother Kevin undertook to find the ancestral home in Ireland, and the cousins they found.

Gabrielle Ní Mheachair (Woeltje), a 20th century Irish emigrant, provides a glimpse into her own life. She shares her first impressions of and adventures in the United States. John Cunningham describes the life and adventures of Fr. John Eves, a unique 20th century priest emigrant. He also shares a couple of letters sent by Irish relatives to family in America.

Sit down and take a few minutes; this is a full issue of interesting and informative reading.

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.

Tracing 20th Century Immigrants Using Irish Sources

by Evva Housley, AG

If you are lucky enough to have a 20th century Irish immigrant ancestor, you are lucky for several reasons. Family members might know the place of origin in Ireland and other information that will help you find the immigrant; 20th century records in the U.S. and other countries the Irish immigrated to usually give good information; there are many 20th century and late 19th century records for Ireland. Four of these late 19th and 20th century Irish sources that will help you find your immigrant and his family in Ireland are the 1901 and 1911 censuses, Old Age Pension Census Search Forms, and civil registration.

The following instructions are for locating an immigrant ancestor in these records. Note, however, these records can be useful for finding not only the immigrant but also those who may have been left behind, such as parents or siblings.

The 1901 and 1911 Censuses

The 1901 census is the earliest census that survives for all of Ireland. The Irish government took its first every-name census in 1821—two decades before Great Britain—however this census and subsequent censuses were mostly destroyed because of either government acts or the 1922 fire in the Public Record Office, Dublin. An online listing of surviving census fragments can be found at <www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/browse/counties/index.htm>. Click on your county and then on the topic "census."

The wonderful news is that the National Archives of Ireland just finished their joint project with Library and Archives Canada to digitize and index the entire 1901 and 1911 censuses and post them online for free at <www.census.nationalarchives.ie>. This means that if you know a county of origin and a few family relationships, you may be able to find your immigrant in Ireland before he or she left by using the census. Before the release of these censuses online, it would have taken days or weeks to search through all the microfilms of the 1901 or 1911 census for a county. (There were a few independent projects to transcribe a particular county online.)

What information do you need to know to successfully search the 1901 or 1911 censuses? If you have a common surname such as "Kelly" or "Murphy" you will need to know enough information so that you can pick your Kelly out of the crowd of Kellys. On average, you will need to know the following from country-of-arrival sources:

- Name of the immigrant
- Approximate birth year
- Year of immigration (in other words, were they in Ireland when the census was taken?)
- County of origin (parish or townland is even better)
- Names of family members to put them into context, e.g. their parents, siblings, spouse, children

Each of these merits further discussion.

Name of the immigrant. Spelling variations are always a consideration in Irish research. Both given names and surnames can be problematic. For example, Biddy and Delia are both nicknames for Bridget; Darby and Dermot are both nicknames for Jeremiah; Julia and Judith are interchangeable. Go to a site like <fhr.kiwicelts.com/Research/Gen_Nicknames.html> to find nicknames and variants of given names.

Surnames are subject to a vast array of phonetically identical but very different spellings. These variants can range from the obvious, e.g. Cashin and Cashen, to the somewhat obvious, e.g. McLachlan and McLoughlin, to the more obscure, e.g. Maher and Meagher, yet each pair is pronounced the same way. For clues to major variations in the spelling of your surname, pop it into the "surname" box on <www.irishtimes.com/ancestor>. Also remember that the O' and Mc' prefixes could be added or dropped or even interchanged.

Approximate birth year. Many Irish people did not know how old they were, so it pays to be flexible when estimating a birth year. Even when you think you know the exact year, be flexible. On average, people thought they were younger than they really were.

Year of immigration. The year of immigration (or at least a guess) can be found on the 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930 U.S. censuses. Australian death certificates will often show the number of years the deceased lived in Australia. Again, this information should be treated with healthy skepticism as to its accuracy. Many of us might fail if we were asked a similar question like what year we moved to the town we currently live in! However, knowing the approximate year may help when

sorting through the many individuals with the same name that you find on immigration sites like <www.ellisisland.org>.

County of origin (parish or townland is even better). Unless your surname is very unique, it will be important to know at least the county of origin. There are many sources that might give you the county of origin—family information, old letters, interviews with older family members or other branches of the family, death certificates, church records, tombstone inscriptions, marriage records, naturalizations, obituaries, and state censuses to name just a few.

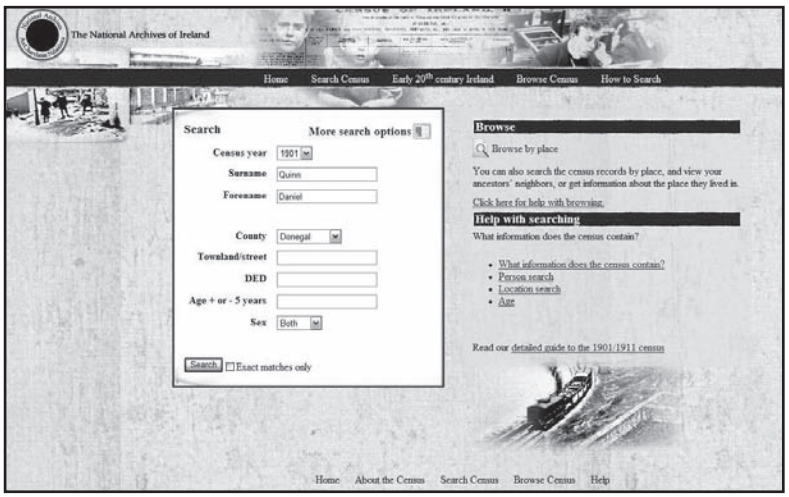
One word of caution: sometimes the town your ancestors say they are from is not really where they were from but rather the largest town near the town or townland where they lived. Often times the place they name turns out to be the name of the Catholic parish in the area. Other times, they say they were from one county when the townland was in the neighboring county but so close to the border that they didn't realize which county they lived in.

Names of family members to put them into context, e.g. parents, siblings, spouse, children. It is critical to know other family members in Ireland to find the correct person. Because the Irish tended to name the next generation using family names, you easily can have half a dozen people with the same name in the same parish and generation. How can you tell which is your ancestor? If you are armed with names and relationships from family information or country-of-arrival records, you will be prepared to recognize which "Patrick Murphy" is your Patrick Murphy.

Some sources that can give relationships are death certificates, marriage certificates, church records (witnesses and sponsors are often related), tombstone inscriptions (also pay attention to who is buried in the same plot), obituaries, funeral home records, neighbors with the same surname in the census, land deeds with people of the same name, fraternal organization records, and many, many more.

Using the Census

If you have the name of an immigrant, a birth year, a place, family members, etc., you are ready to start searching.



Graphic 1. Irish Census Search Form.

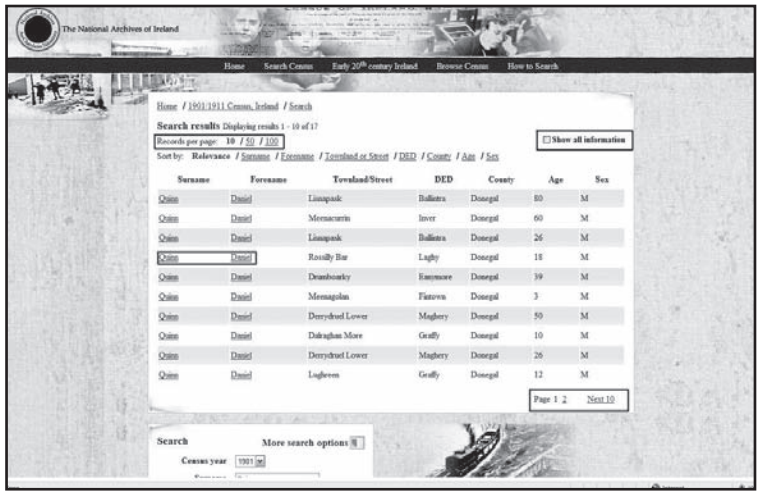
Go to <www.census.nationalarchives.ie> and click on "Search Census" either on the tab at the top of the page or in text further down the page. It always pays to read the search tips on a site; in this case, they are found under "Help with Searching."

Fill in the search form (Graphic 1) with the desired census year, the name of the immigrant and the county where they were living at the time of the census. If you know the townland enter that as well, but be careful—it must be spelled exactly as it was on the census or the search will return no results, even though the family really was there, so sometimes it is better to leave the townland blank.

The census also offers the option of entering the DED (District Electoral Division), a subdivision of the Poor Law. It is hard to know what DED your townland was in, so it is often easiest just to leave this field blank.

You don't have to "Search" a surname; alternatively, you can browse the census by county and district. This might help if a search failed to find results because of spelling problems, etc. but you knew where the family lived.

Clicking on "More search options" allows you to enter additional information; however, these fields are



Graphic 2. Search Results page

generally not as helpful as the "basic search" fields.

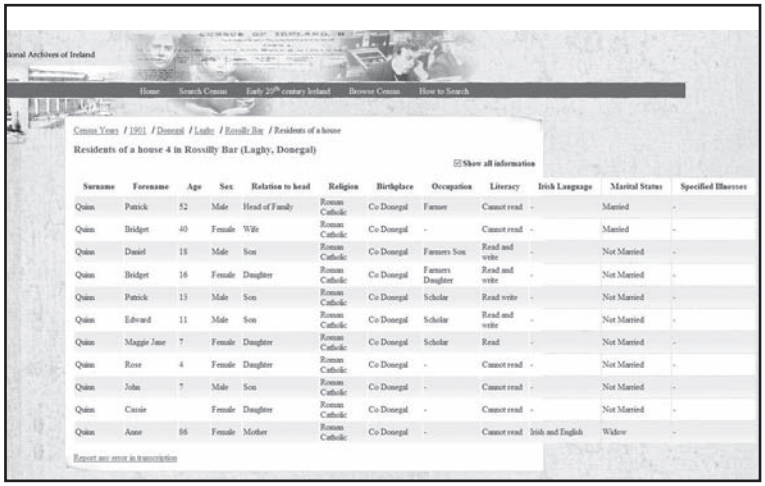
You will be returned search results of anything that matches the criteria you entered.

Search Results

In this example (Graphic 2) there are a total of 17 entries, only 10 of which displayed on the page. You must click on "Next 10" to see the remainder. Or you can choose to increase the "Records per page" to 50 or 100.

The search results show the person's name, townland (or, if they are living in a city or town, the street) of residence, the DED, County, Age and Sex. Clicking on "Show all information" will show additional data.

Click on the person's name to see all the people who lived in that household with their age, sex, relationship to the head of the household, and religion. By seeing who is in the household you can begin to tell apart individuals with the same name. Clicking "Show all information" from this screen provides a new screen (see Graphic 3) which shows the county of birth, occupation, literacy, Irish language, marital status, and specified illnesses. In the 1911 census it also shows years married, number of children born, and number of children living.



Graphic 3. Show All Information results page

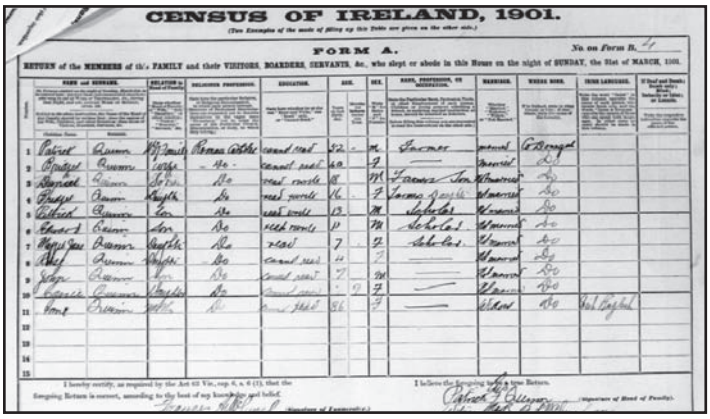
To see the original census pages, scroll down to "View census images" and click on "Household Return (Form A)". Be sure to click on the other three original census images as well. They contain important and interesting information such as in what parish the townland was located, what the house was made of, how many rooms and windows it had, what kind of outbuildings were on their property, and the name of the landholder (usually the same as the head of household, but not always).

An additional bonus is on the bottom of Form A. If the head of the household could write, he (or she) personally would have completed the form and signed it at the bottom. In this example, (see Graphic 4, next page) Patrick Quinn could not read and write; he just makes his mark at the bottom of the page. It is likely that the census enumerator filled in the return for him.

If you do not know the county the family was from, you might be able to find them if you know the names of some family members and if you have a lot of patience. If so, click on each of the people with the same name as your ancestor and look at the members of the household to see if they match known family relationships. Use this approach with caution however. If the name is common, there could be multiple families with the same given names and approximate ages of children.

Old Age Pension Census Search Forms

In 1907, Great Britain and Ireland passed a law providing a pension to citizens 70 years of age and over. For the Irish, proving age was no easy task


CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1901.

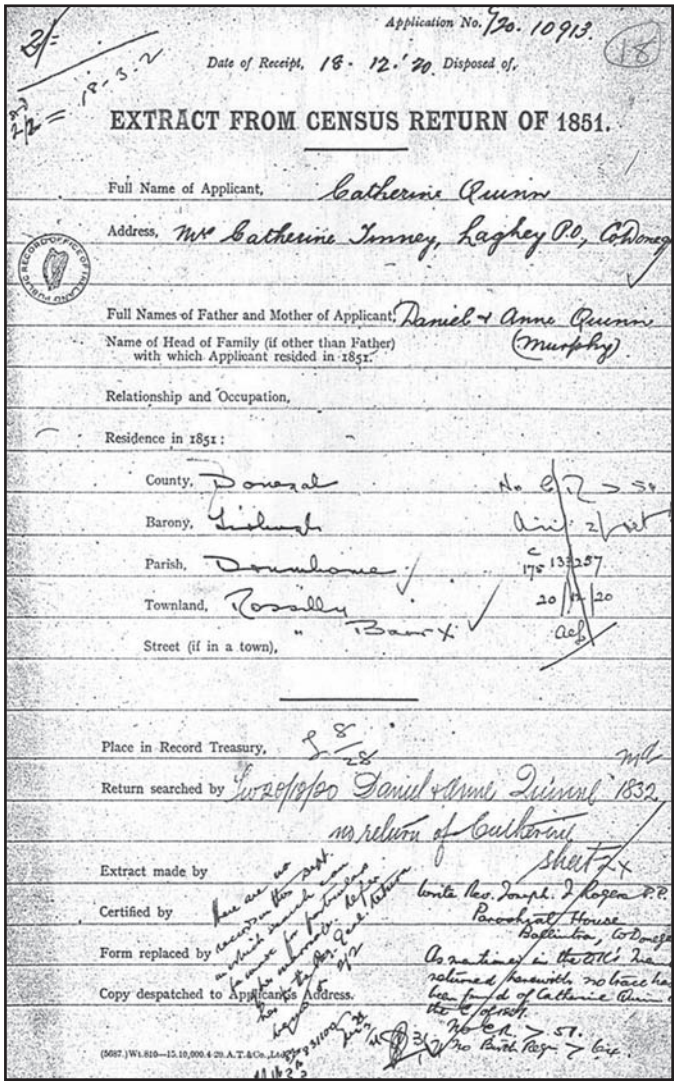
FORM A.

Graphic 4. Census 1901, 17/19, Co. Donegal, Form A 4 for the family of Patrick Quinn. Courtesy of The National Archives of Ireland and the Director of the National Archives of Ireland.

Civil registration of births did not begin until 1864 and many Catholic parishes did not start keeping records until the middle of the 19th century. For applicants with no birth or baptism certificate to prove their age, the Irish government provided an alternative way to prove age based on the census.

Would-be applicants for the Old Age Pension would request by letter that the 1841 or 1851 census be searched for them as a child. They had to provide the address (townland, parish, barony, county) at which they lived at the time of the census and the names of their parents. The Family History Library Catalog states, "The 'green forms' were used as an internal office record of the search made in the census. Applicants provided information by letter, and where there were sufficient details a search was carried out. When the family was found and the applicant identified as a child, a certified copy of the return was issued." This certified copy then served as their proof of age. Thousands of these search forms were submitted. Even when the census search was negative, the forms themselves have much genealogical information.

In this example (Graphic 5), Catherine Tinney (maiden surname Quinn) requested a search of the 1851 census. She provided the names of her parents, including her mother's maiden name—Daniel Quinn and Anne Murphy. She remembers the family lived in the townland of Rossilly Barr, Drumhome parish, Tirhugh Barony, County Donegal. The census searcher found Daniel and Anne, but Catherine was not in the household. Perhaps she was staying the night with a grandparent the night of the census, or perhaps she didn't remember how old she was. In any case, the census searcher recorded an invaluable piece of information, "Daniel and Anne Quinn, ma 1832." The 1851 census asked for the year of marriage of a couple. In a parish such as Drumhome where the


Application No. 70. 10913.

Date of Receipt, 18. 12. 70. Disposed of,

EXTRACT FROM CENSUS RETURN OF 1851.

Full Name of Applicant, Catherine Quinn

Address, Mrs Catherine Tinney, Laghey P.O., Co Donegal

Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, Daniel & Anne Quinn (Murphy)

Name of Head of Family (if other than Father) with which Applicant resided in 1851.

Relationship and Occupation,

Residence in 1851:

County, Donegal

Barony, Tirhugh

Parish, Drumhome

Townland, Rossilly

Street (if in a town),

Place in Record Treasury,

Return searched by

Extract made by

Certified by

Form replaced by

Copy despatched to Applicant's Address.

Graphic 5. Census Search Form, 7/1784 Co. Donegal, applicant Catherine Quinn. Courtesy of The National Archives of Ireland and the Director of the National Archives of Ireland.

Roman Catholic parish registers did not begin until 1866, this search form is probably the only place where the date of their marriage can be found.

This search form also helped identify an unknown aunt of a 20th century ancestor that I was tracing, Michael Quinn. I had traced Michael and his father, Edward. I knew that Edward's parents were Daniel Quinn and Anne Murphy and that he was from Rossilly Barr. When I saw the old age pension for Catherine who was in the same generation as Edward, I knew she was a sister.

These search forms were created between 1910 and 1922 so they may contain information on the parents of 20th century emigrants. (The 1841 and 1851 censuses were almost completely destroyed, along with other censuses and valuable records, in the 1922 fire at the Public Record Office, Dublin, during the Irish civil war.) There are not many of these forms as compared to the population of Ireland, but they are more plentiful in counties where the Catholic records tended to start later. They are worth checking when you know the parish of origin in Ireland and some family relationships. Perhaps you found the parish of origin from the 1901 or 1911 census; now you can try your luck in the Old Age Pension census search forms.

The Old Age Pension census search forms are available on microfilm through *FamilySearch* both at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City or through local branch family history centers. To find the appropriate film number in the FHL Catalog, do a "Keyword" search using the words *Old Age Pension Ireland*. You will see several results, most of which do not circulate outside of the FHL. Choose the title "Census search forms for the 1841-1851 censuses of Ireland" and click on it. The forms are arranged by county, then by barony and parish. There is an index to each county's forms that is likewise arranged. Find the correct film number for your county and search the index, looking for anyone with your surname in the parish of interest. This will give you a reference number to find the actual search form on a succeeding film. For example, Catherine Quinn's number is Cen S/7/1784, which would be found on FHL microfilm 2214447, Items 1 – 2.

Civil Registration

Civil registration of Irish births, marriages, and deaths is, arguably, the most important Irish source for tracing the nativity of Irish who emigrated in the 20th century. This government registration of births, deaths, and all marriages began on 1 January 1864. Registration of non-Catholic marriages began earlier, on 1 April 1845. The majority of 20th century Irish emigrants have either a birth or a marriage that was included in this time period. This source will help you the majority of the time when you know:

- the name of your ancestor
- an approximate birth date or marriage date
- a county
- parents' names or spouse's name

If your ancestor's surname is not too common and you also know the mother's maiden name, you may not even need to know the county. Look for an article about online civil registration indexes and how to get the most out of them in the next issue of *The Septs*.

FamilySearch offers free online classes on a variety of research topics, including Irish: three immigration classes, one Irish civil registration class, and one Irish church records class. You can view these on <www.familysearch.org> by clicking on "Free Online Classes." Unfortunately, these are already a little out of date since the author created them. New web sites come online with new Irish material quite rapidly.

Evva Housley graduated from Brigham Young University with bachelor's degrees in family history and economics. She has been employed at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City since 2000. She is an Accredited Genealogist researcher in Ireland and England.

Strategies for Finding Your Ancestor's Immigrant Origins

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

After finding great-grandmother's name, the next big question family researchers often ask is: where did she come from? If she is like most North Americans, Australians and others around the world, her family probably immigrated from somewhere else.

Most family historians want to know something more specific than just "Sweden" or "Ireland," but that is as specific as most censuses, obituaries and death certificates get. What they would really like to know is a local place name – be it a farm, village, parish or townland. With a local place name, a researcher can visit the ancestral home, whether by physically going there or by making a virtual visit via the Internet.

Although the going is tough in Irish research, finding that specific place is usually essential for pushing research back into pre-emigration generations. Some researchers have the good fortune of having a place name passed down through family lore, but even such information can cause confusion if the spelling or the name itself has shifted over time. Sometimes the story is flat-out wrong. More often, researchers must look for place name clues wherever they can find them. This article gives several tips for finding your immigrant ancestor's place of origin.

Home Sources

The best sources are sometimes right at home. Sometimes, we just "know" – everyone in the family knows that John Lee came from Cork. Better yet, they might have the name of a specific civil parish or town. But, how do they know? Several kinds of home sources may back up the family story.

Family Bible. If an old family Bible survives, it may contain a record of births, marriages or deaths, including where they occurred. While these are likely accurate, they are less trustworthy if the Bible entries are for events that took place several years or even generations before the Bible's publication date.

Letters, post cards, and postmarks. Old family letters and postcards might name farms or places, or a postmark might give a clue. I located my grandfather's obscure village from a postmark. How else would I pin down a "John Hanson" in Sweden? The picture on the postcard might be a clue. The writer of the postcard or letter might have mentioned local places – towns, farms, churches or even cemeteries.

Photos. Did Grandma write anything on the back of the old family photos? I have pinned down English families from place name clues in my wife's grandmother's photo album. A close look at photos sometimes reveals a recognizable building, a house number or even a street name. Try scanning the image and enlarging it on your computer.

Diaries. If you are very lucky, you might have a parent's or grandparent's diary describing a migration experience, including place names and means of transportation.

Gravestones. Cemetery research requires us to leave home, but visiting grave sites feels like an extension of home, so I include gravestones here. Most gravestones don't name

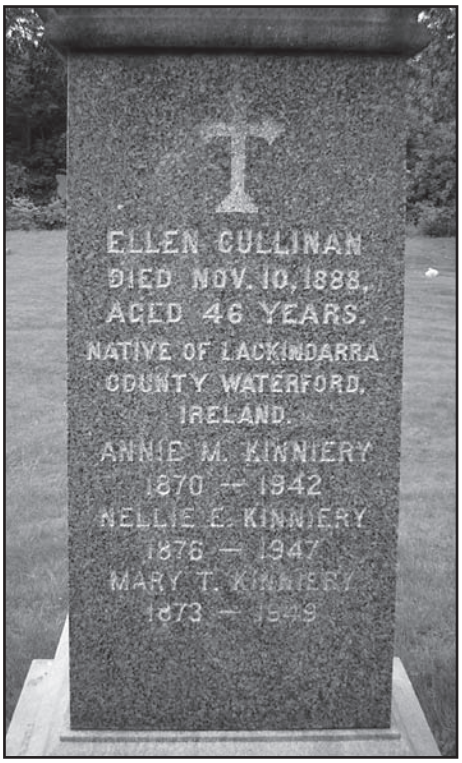


Photo courtesy of Ann Eccles.

birthplaces, but some do. If you are so lucky, revel in your good fortune, and then back up the facts with information from other sources.

Obituaries and Death Records

After a search of home and cemetery, a search of obituaries and death records is a good next step for finding clues to your ancestor's birthplace. Remember, the reliability of both depend on the knowledge of the person who provided the information.

Death certificates. Most modern death certificates (from around 1900 forward, depending on the state) asked for not only the birthplace of the deceased, but also the birthplaces of the decedent's parents. For recent immigrant families, a spouse or child often could name a specific place name – or at least a province or county – where the deceased had been born. But, as time passed, the accuracy of memories faded. From my experience, less than half of death certificates for immigrants who died in the 1900 to 1940 period name a specific locale. For example, Edward Moylan came to Minnesota in the 1880s; when he died in 1928, his daughter could not name her father's birthplace and did not know the names of his parents.

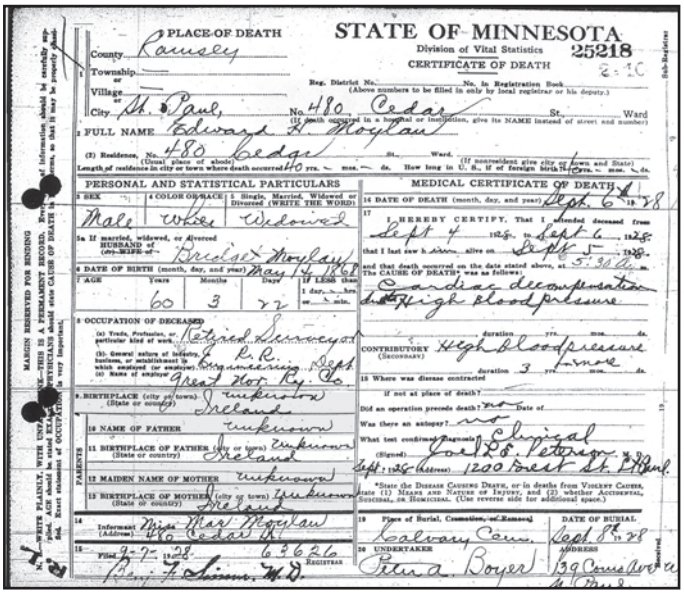

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Division of Vital Statistics
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
25218
PLACE OF DEATH
County Ramsey
Township
Village
City St. Paul, No. 480 Cedar St. Ward
FULL NAME Edward H. Moylan
(2) Residence, No. 480 Cedar St. Ward
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
Male White Widowed
Bridget Moylan
DATE OF BIRTH May 4 1868
AGE 60 3 22
OCCUPATION Retired Surveyor R.R. Engineering Dept Great Nor. Ry. Co.
BIRTHPLACE Unknown Ireland
NAME OF FATHER Unknown
BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Unknown Ireland
MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Unknown
BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Unknown Ireland
Informant Miss Mae Moylan 480 Cedar St.
Filed 9-7-28
DATE OF DEATH Sept. 6 1928
I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Sept 4 1928 to Sept 6 1928
that I last saw him alive on Sept 5 1928
and that death occurred on the date stated above, at 5:30 P.M.
The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:
Cardiac decompensation
High blood pressure
CONTRIBUTORY (SECONDARY) High blood pressure
duration 3 yrs. none mos. da.
Was there an autopsy? no
Clinical
Joel E. Peterson
1200 East St. Paul
Place of Burial Calvary Cem. DATE OF BURIAL Sept 8 1928
UNDERTAKER Peter A. Boyer
ADDRESS 139 Conn Ave St. Paul
Registrar

Image courtesy of Jay Fonkert.

Obituaries. The odds of finding a birthplace in an obituary are similar to those with a death certificate; the same person very possibly was the informant for both. However, some of the best leads in obituaries come from named family members who either survived or preceded the deceased in death. If the obituary or death certificate for your person of interest does not provide the birth information you seek, obituaries or death certificates for other family members might furnish it.

Census, Immigration and Citizenship Records

Censuses. Federal and state censuses usually name an individual's country of birth – not specific enough to help much – but information in the censuses helps lead to immigration and citizenship records that often do give specific birthplace information. From 1900 forward, censuses asked questions related to immigration and citizenship.

- 1900 – year of immigration, number of years in the United States, and citizenship status.
- 1910 – year of immigration and citizenship status.
- 1920 – year of immigration, citizenship status and year of naturalization.
- 1930 – year of immigration and citizenship status.

The 1940 U.S. Census, scheduled for release in 2012, asked about citizenship status and residence five years earlier in 1935 but did not ask the year of immigration. An approximate year of immigration or of obtaining citizenship will help narrow the search for passenger and citizenship records. The word "approximate" is key because people sometimes guessed or fudged their answers. Your ancestors may have given different answers to these questions in different censuses.

Passenger arrival manifests. Beginning in 1893, standardized federal passenger arrival forms asked for the place of an immigrant's past residence, their intended destination in the United States, and the name of a relative the immigrant planned to join. From 1906, the form asked for the immigrant's birthplace, and beginning in 1907 it asked for the name of the immigrant's nearest relative in the home country. The value of knowing a birthplace for finding an ancestor's origins is obvious, but names of relatives both at home and in America open up other avenues for tracking the family.

Citizenship papers. Since 1802, naturalization has generally been a two-step process: a declaration of intention to become a citizen, including a renunciation of allegiance to other nations, and a petition for citizenship that led to the issuance of "final papers." Before 1906, these records typically named a country of origin, and sometimes a date, port and ship of arrival; courts in different states and cities used different forms. Beginning in 1906, Congress created a Bureau

of Immigration that issued standard forms, requiring information about birthplace, last foreign residence, and port of departure, as well as birth dates and birthplaces for spouses and children.

Other Records

If family records, death records, censuses, immigration or citizenship records don't give enough clues, you can try some other sources.

Social Security applications. Immigrants who were alive in 1936 or later may have applied for a Social Security number. If so, their application may give a date and place of birth, as well as the names of their parents.

Church records. Church records are sometimes difficult to locate, but parish records and registers or membership rolls may indicate where an immigrant was baptized or married, and possibly also the church from which he transferred.

Military records. Draft registration records may name a foreign birthplace as well as citizenship status. World War II draft cards asked for the name of a person who would always know the registrant's whereabouts – possibly a parent. When available, enlistment or pension files may provide helpful biographical information.

Local history books. Local histories sometimes mention origins of early immigrants. Families often submitted biographical essays for inclusion in town or county histories or church or centennial books which might mention a family's foreign origins.

The Internet: IGI and *Google*

The Internet has made it possible to search more sources more quickly. Apart from both fee-based (e.g. *Ancestry.com*) and free (e.g. *FamilySearch* or *Ellis Island*) genealogy indexes, creative *Google* searches can produce leads to family origins. Try searching on a combination of terms such as: Reeves +Kilkenny +genealogy, especially if you have an uncommon family name and strongly suspect a country or locale of origin. The plus-signs instruct *Google* to return only hits that include all three search terms. The more specific your search terms, the better the chance of manageable and meaningful results.

Another strategy is to use the International Genealogical Index (IGI) at *FamilySearch* to identify locales where families with your surname lived in the 18th or 19th century. If the name appears mainly in two or three small areas, you now have a better idea where to search in the home country. You might be lucky and find the exact person that you seek. But to make sure this is a match to the family as found in North America or elsewhere, you need to do additional work.

Stepping Around Brick Walls

Brick walls need not be like the Great Wall of China, effectively blocking your way across the immigration frontier. What seems like a brick wall may only be a boulder or pile of debris to climb over or detour around. If you can't track your great-grandmother to the home country, try following her siblings. Search for death records of all her siblings and all her children in hopes of finding their parent's birthplace. If uncles, aunts or cousins don't yield results, turn to near-neighbors and associates who might have come from the same place in the home country. If you can find their townland, you may find your ancestors in the same place.

Relatives, neighbors and associates become more important as you move back in time. The earlier your ancestors came to America, the more difficult it can be to find records of their origins in other countries. Some ancestors refuse to be found, but it is worth a try. Go for it!

Recommended Reading

Loretto Dennis Szucs, *They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origin* ([Salt Lake City, Utah]: Ancestry, 1998).

John Colletta, *They Came in Ships*, Third Edition (Orem, Utah: Ancestry, 2002).

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Changes to Family Search

If you have been using the *FamilySearch* website recently, you may have noticed a few new and/or different look to things. There's a lot happening; here's a few items of particular interest:

Records from Record Search are being transferred to the Historical Records area of the FamilySearch Beta. The data transfer, containing 447 collections and 600 million names, should be completed soon. Historical records from the current *FamilySearch* website will be transferred after that. The filtering of Historical Records search results will be improved soon, along the lines of Record Search. All new collections will go directly to the FamilySearch Beta. The Family History Library Catalog search on FamilySearch Beta will be dramatically improved.

Ancestor discussions were recently added to the new FamilySearch Tree. The length of discussions will soon increase and disputes on an ancestor will be moved into a discussion called "Legacy Disputes" and deleted from details.

The new FamilySearch Asia rollout is set for a couple of months from now. <Beta.familysearch.org> will replace the current <www.familysearch.org> website by the end of this year. The new website brings together FamilySearch Beta, RecordSearch Pilot, the Wiki, FamilySearch Indexing, Forums, and the Family History Library Catalog. Specialized websites such as consultant.<familysearch.org> will continue to be separate.

You can prepare to access the new FamilySearch Tree by registering for an account on the FamilySearch Beta. When the Tree is ready, you will be given access using that account. Some time after this year the new FamilySearch Tree will become "Family Tree" on the new website.

Alien Files at Kansas City

More than 300,000 case files on alien residents of the United States, who were born in 1909 or earlier, are now open to the public at the National Archives at Kansas City. Missouri. These files, known as "Alien Files" (and commonly referred to as "A-Files") were transferred to the National Archives from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS). They are a small part of the millions of case files that will eventually be transferred and opened to the public.

The files include photographs, personal correspondence, birth certificates, health records, interview transcripts, visas, applications and other information on non-naturalized alien residents, both legal and illegal.

A-Files may be viewed in person by appointment at the National Archives at Kansas City or copies of files may be ordered for a fee. For additional information on requesting A-Files, visit their website <http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/aliens/a-files-kansas-city.html>. Researchers can request copies of the Alien Registration files by going to the USCIS Genealogy web page and making a request.

United Kingdom and Ireland Passenger Lists

by Dwight A. Radford

The passenger lists of ships leaving UK ports, including Ireland, for harbors worldwide are an important series of records for emigration/immigration studies. They are classified in the Board of Trade (BT) series at the National Archives, in Kew outside of London. Two series (BT27 and BT26) will be discussed in this article. Those classified as BT27 are for those ships leaving UK ports; the second, classified as BT26, includes ships arriving into UK ports from destinations outside of Europe and the Mediterranean. It is important to remember that prior to 1921 the ports in what is today the Republic of Ireland were part of the UK, so Irish records are part of these series.

The records for outbound ships (BT27) cover the years 1890-1960. The records for inbound ships (BT26) are incomplete between 1878 and 1890, but complete from 1890 to 1960. Because these records start so late, they are often ignored. However, for late 19th century and 20th century research, they are essential if used with appropriate research strategies. This article will detail these two series of records and provide suggested strategies to use in your emigration/immigration research.

While your ancestor may have arrived in America or Canada destitute and poor, he may not have remained so. Not all urban dwellers were trapped in tenement apartments and resigned to squalor. Many small farmers and city dwellers achieved financial success in North America, which allowed them to travel back to Ireland should they so desire. Thus an immigrant who arrived as a young man or woman in the 1840s and 1850s could by the 1890s be purchasing a ticket back to Ireland to visit relatives, to take care of an estate, or to simply vacation.

Due to the massive emigrations during the 1800s, entire sections of the Irish countryside lay empty by 1900. Through various land acts in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, tenants could purchase their homes and farms. Many added to their holdings as neighboring farms became vacant. This meant that an estate would need to be settled when the man or woman died. Often a single son or daughter inherited the old home place from the parents. When that single brother or sister died, the next of kin living overseas became the heir. This prompted many a trip back to Ireland.

Some immigrant Irish had business dealings that took them across the Atlantic to various UK ports. For others, their occupations required them to travel back and forth – for example, missionaries, merchants, civil servants or diplomats.

Leaving the UK, 1890-1960 (BT27)

This is a massive collection. Before the collection went online, it was most difficult, if not almost impossible, to use. That has all changed. BT27 includes some 24 million passenger names from 164,000 lists. The originals are housed at The National Archives in Kew, London. Now, however, they are scanned and indexed on *findmypast.co.uk*. This is nothing short of revolutionary. This has opened up the Outwards Passenger Lists to the point that anybody with a credit card has access to them. As a professional genealogist, I find that I constantly manipulate the index to see if I can solve difficult research problems.

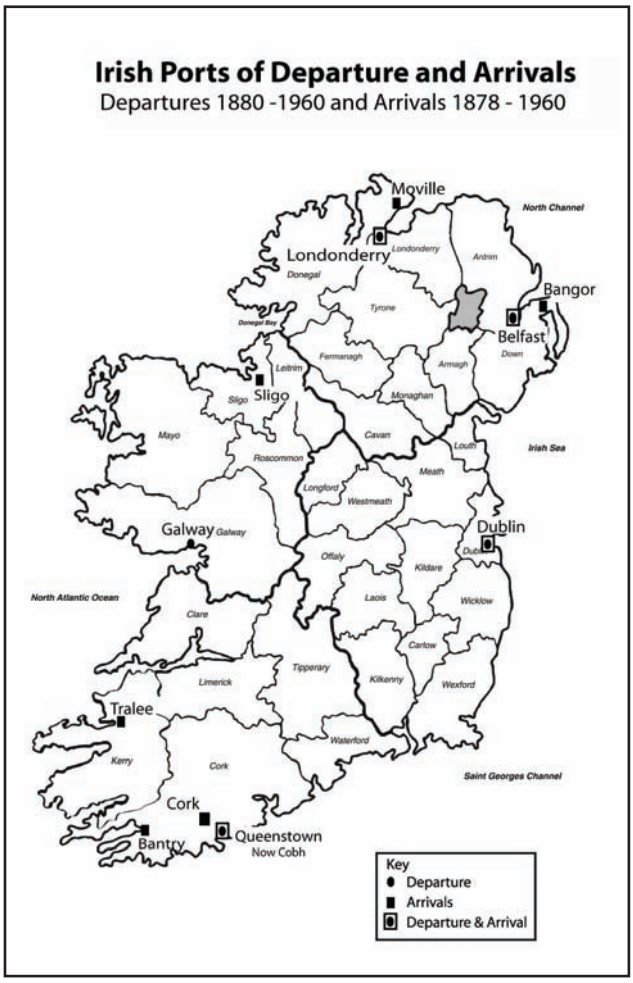
The early 20th century was a time of massive migration out of the UK. It is estimated that every year between 1890 and 1914 some 125,000 persons left for the United States, 50,000 for Canada and 25,000 for Australia. After WWI, emigration patterns changed as the UK Government began controlling emigration more; Australia became a more popular destination. Irish researchers should remember that BT27 includes all Irish ports before the 1921 partition of the island and only Northern Ireland ports after 1921. In the period after 1921, if a resident of the Irish Free State (now the Republic of Ireland) changed ships at a UK port such as Liverpool, then they would be listed as leaving from the UK.

Aside from listing passengers leaving ports within England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales for final destinations outside of Europe and the Mediterranean, BT27 also lists some vessels which dropped off and picked up passengers in European and Mediterranean ports en route to the UK ports.

Countries and areas featured as a regular destination in BT27 are India, New Zealand, South America, Asia, the Caribbean, and West Africa. For those whose Irish ancestors emigrated

to Argentina, BT27 is a prime source. The ports of departure from Ireland include

Belfast, County Antrim
Dublin, County Dublin
Galway, County Galway
Londonderry, County Londonderry
Queenstown/Cobh, County Cork



Typically, the passenger lists include name, age, occupation and, from 1922, a UK address for each passenger. While there is no indication as to how long the passenger intended to stay abroad, from the 1930s a "T" designated a tourist.

Arriving in the UK, 1878-1960 (BT26)

The records for passengers arriving in UK ports are part of BT26. These records include passenger lists for ships arriving from foreign ports outside of Europe and the Mediterranean. An exception is for ships which originated elsewhere but which picked up passengers at a European or Mediterranean port. The original records are housed at The National Archives in Kew, London. The records are scanned and indexed by *Ancestry.com*.

The regular routes of interest to Irish researchers that are found in BT26 are between Liverpool and Londonderry, Liverpool and Queenstown, Londonderry and Glasgow, Moville and Londonderry, Moville and Glasgow, Moville and Greenock, Moville and Liverpool, Queenstown and Liverpool. Ships from Irish ports to UK ports after 1921 are listed in this collection. For Ireland, the ports of arrival for inbound ships are as follows:

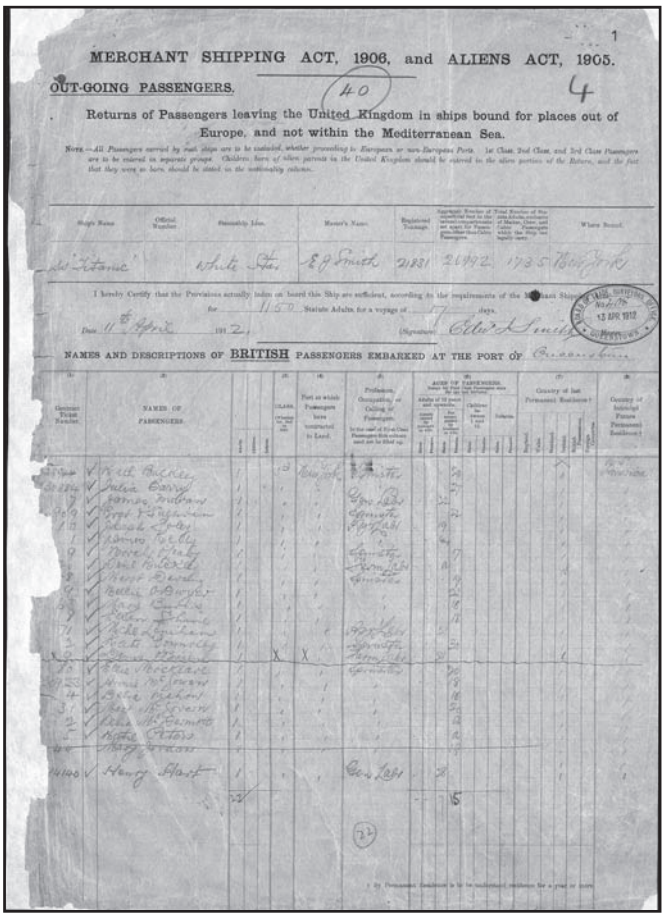
Bangor, County Down
Bantry, County Cork
Belfast, County Antrim
Cork, County Cork
Dublin, County Dublin
Londonderry, County Londonderry
Moville, County Donegal
Queenstown/Cobh, County Cork
Sligo, County Sligo
Tralee, County Kerry

The information on BT26 passenger lists usually includes name, age, occupation and, from 1922, the intended address in the United Kingdom of each passenger. Although there is no indication as to how long a passenger intended to stay, use of "T" to denote a tourist in entries made after 1930 can serve as a clue.

General Research Strategies

1. The lists of passengers and ships departing UK ports have been scanned and indexed on the commercial website *findmypast.co.uk*. Find my past, in conjunction with The National Archives, created a commercial database where you have access to both the index and the scanned images for a fee. *Ancestorsonboard* <www.ancestorsonboard.com>, a sister site, furnishes just the index. Once you find the entry in the index, you are then directed to the *findmypast.co.uk* website where you can view the transcript or original image – for a fee. The index is free on both websites.

2. The lists of passengers and ships arriving at UK ports are scanned and indexed on *Ancestry.com*. They are available on the www.*ancestry.co.uk* website or the Ancestry Library edition, found at most major libraries and free to library users. Otherwise, it is a subscription service.



MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1906, and ALIENS ACT, 1905.

OUT-GOING PASSENGERS.

Returns of Passengers leaving the United Kingdom in ships bound for places out of Europe, and not within the Mediterranean Sea.

NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BRITISH PASSENGERS EMBARKED AT THE PORT OF

List of the Irish passengers who boarded the Titanic at Queenstown. Image is Crown copyright BT27/780, reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, London.

3. These records can be used alongside the 1901 and 1911 censuses of Ireland very effectively. As people traveled to and from Irish ports, you may find them between the two censuses. Then, by correlating the census information with that in the BT27 and BT26 files, you can create a detailed timeline of your ancestor's life. With both the 1901 and 1911 censuses online at the National Archives of Ireland website <www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>, this task is made much easier.

4. These records can also be used in conjunction with the U.S. and Canadian passenger arrival lists. Since the North American passenger arrival lists and the Canadian-U.S. border crossings data are online at *Ancestry.com*, compiling a timeline of comings and goings is quite simple.

These are but a few of the ways that you can use these records although they are only complete from 1890. They are well worth your time to use even if your ancestors emigrated prior to 1890.

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Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former co-editor of The Irish At Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He also volunteers at the Utah State Prison teaching genealogy. He has placed his first book of prison experiences on his website www.radfordnoone.com under "Dwight's Prison Tales."*

From Carrick to New York and Back Again

by John B. Cunningham

In the earlier years of emigration from Ireland many rituals underlay the reality: that those to whom the community was saying goodbye were people they would never see again. The American Wake of music, drink and hilarity mixed with tears paralleled the real Irish Wake held over the deceased whom they would never see again. Both were bittersweet affairs. In the townland of Ballygee, near Belleek in County Fermanagh, grew a huge oak which local emigrants embraced before departure, making a heartfelt, if probably unattainable, wish that one day they would return. For the vast majority, emigration was a terminal event.

However, as traffic across the Atlantic improved towards the latter end of the 19th century, more and more people began to return, and go back, and return again. Some stayed and were generally catalogued in the local community under the term "Yankee" as in the Yankee Gallagher or Yankee Monaghan. By definition, most of these had made some money and could afford to invest in property. They bought a good farm or a pub and often raised a noble monument, far superior to anything else in the local graveyard, to their dead parents and dutifully inscribed, e.g. "Erected by James Monaghan of Pittsburgh, U.S.A." or similar in case the locals would forget that James had done well when abroad.

Brigid Kirley and her sister married two of my ancestral Cunninghams who lived in or around Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan. Brigid married Thomas Cunningham and Mary married James and they have left behind two revealing letters that tell of the changed perspective on emigration in their experience. (The spelling is per the original.)

> Margarets husband died and her and I came back home. Patt or Francy never married and mother lives yet. So my husband kame home in a year after we took a house in Carrick. There was no employment in it and he went to America again. I don't know where he is, he went a way in December 1886 to Montreal Canada where wee left. He sent me six pounds after he went there. The following summer he went out to Colerado then he came to Indianna so I don't now where he is. I'm here all a lone and I be very lonely many a time I'd wish to be there again. All the pleasure I have is when any of our folks comes in on Thursday to the market.

Margaret, also known as Mary, her sister in Corleck writes on December the 5th 1889 to her cousin Mr Bernard Kirley, Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois, America, U.S.

> Now Bernard I would like to now what part of Ireland is your wife from. I asked Hugh where was his wife from and he told me and I new the spot well. There are not many places in Ireland that I don't now. Have you any stock on that big farm or dose cattle pay well there. Now Bernard is that a big town or are there many Irish enhabitants in it. It is a wonder that you never tuck a notion to come back any time. There are people back and forward from here to New Yourk every week. The think nothing of going 8 or 9 days sailing. The trean runs into Carrick now from Dundalk. I'm going to send you a newse paper for your self and your young family to see the state of things in Ireland and wee are very proud for how well you got a long. You have few relations yet in Corleck that never forgot you and your wife and family. Now Bernard anything that you want to now concernoing Ireland I can tell you.

Obviously, the fear of the journey to America and the terminal nature of emigration had abated. You could now come and go relatively easily to America and a new pattern was emerging.

John B. Cunningham is a former headmaster who retired early to write and be a tour guide. He guides in England, Scotland and Wales as well as Ireland. He has written many books and articles – guide books and local history, mainly of county Fermanagh and surrounding areas. He is chairman of the local tour guides, local authors and Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism – and a genealogist. See <erneheritagetours.com>

One Immigrant's American Adventures

by Gabrielle Ní Mheachair

They look at me pityingly and feel sorry for me. Did I leave my homeland because of hunger, persecution, the northern troubles, unemployment, a miserable home life, or religious intolerance? I smile and say that I had a perfectly fine life in Ireland before I came, and that, in fact, I came for adventure and am still adventuring.

"She's only putting a nice spin on it," they convince themselves. "Everyone comes to America because of misery of some kind back home. America is the land of opportunity for the poor and oppressed."

It was the summer of 1984 when my bosom friend, Margaret, turned my whole world upside down forever. In the early eighties I was a single, trilingual, double-major college graduate, with a well-paying government job, and a life full of work, party, and travel. Margaret begged me relentlessly to spend the summer with her in America visiting her cousins in Boston and New York. She had an uncle in Boston and an uncle on Long Island; I had a sister in Dallas, Texas. Her plan was to split the time among our relatives.

America was the last place on the planet that I had any desire to visit. I was Irish first and European second. The Americas held no fascination for me. I firmly refused to go and rerouted her to other friends who might be partial to such a trip. Unfortunately, our college gang had booked a sun holiday in Greece and no one was interested in the U.S. Margaret returned distraught having been refused by all. I relented and agreed to suffer through a summer in America just for her.

"How long are we staying?"

"Two and a half months."

"We'll have to work then."

Early in June we arrived in Boston. Margaret's forty-year-old cousin picked us up at the airport. I felt truly sorry for her because she had the most awful speech defect. She couldn't pronounce her "R's". When we got to her house we discovered it was a family failing. Later we were to discover it was a Boston thing.

Margaret's aunt secured employment for us as chambermaids in a city hotel. The elderly chambermaids of Irish descent warmly welcomed the pair of us and volunteered to orientate us to the job. I was assigned Connie, and Margaret got Pam.

"Now, can you read?" Connie asked as she showed me a supply chart.

"Yea, I can read."

"But can you read English?"

"A little," I replied, trying to suppress a laugh.

"What about writing? Can you write in English?" she continued.

"Aye, I've a good hand, I'm told."

She was really happy with that and taught me how to record how many towels I took out of the room, and how many I replaced. At the end of the day she announced to the supervisor, "These Irish girls learn fast." Margaret got the same treatment her first day on the job. We laughed the whole way home about the reading and writing bit, and we both teachers.

Our first week on the job we clocked in on time and worked as quickly as we could so that we would be done early to see the sights of Boston. We noticed that the other workers took their time and never left before four in the afternoon. Connie explained that the longer you work the more money you make, but you had to be done by four. After that, we took our time and our salaries increased significantly.

During our employment at the Boston hotel we were asked numerous questions about life in Ireland. Here are some of my favorites:

- How did you get to the airport, was it by donkey and cart? Was it far for you to travel?
- Do you have any electricity in Ireland yet?
- It must be terrible to live in Ireland with all the violence; you know, the north and the south?
- Have you ever been shot at?
- I just love your brogue. Is that what they call Gaelic?
- Is there still famine in Ireland? All these Irish are still coming over.
- You poor thing, I suppose you have to send every cent home to bring the others over.
- The Irish love to drink.
- Is it true that there are no snakes or mosquitoes in Ireland?

- How far is it to drive to England?

At the end of the month we quit our jobs and toured the East Coast, all the way from Maine to Washington, DC, then across to Dallas, Texas, where my sister lived. Travelling as tourists was not nearly as entertaining socially as our experience working in Boston. However, we discovered that the United States was an immense and very diverse country. We only saw a fraction of it.

On the plane ride back to Ireland I asked Margaret, "Well, what did you think of our summer in America?"

"I hated it. I hated every minute of it."

I was stunned. I had no idea that Margaret was so miserable. On further probing, I discovered that there was absolutely nothing at all that she liked about the United States.

"Well, I had a ball," I said almost guiltily. "I'm coming back. I'm going to apply for a career break and come back for a year."

"You can do that if you like. I don't care if I never come back. I'm done."

A year later I returned to Dallas, where I had planned to stay with my sister until I got a place of my own. However, I didn't have a working visa.

"You're not working here illegally," she insisted. "My husband and I are not harboring an illegal immigrant. So get yourself a job and legal status or go home."

"Great," said I. "The only thing I'm qualified to do is teach, and I don't want to teach American kids."

"Kids are kids the world over," the mother of two retorted.

My experience of American kids was what I had seen on TV, and they all appeared to be undisciplined, spoiled rich kids. But, what was I to do? Under duress, I applied to all the Catholic schools in the city hoping that there would be no vacancies. Lo and behold, it seems that Ireland's patron saint had other plans for me. Saint Patrick's Catholic School called back. They wanted me and were willing to help with the immigration visa. Thus began my teaching career in the United States of America.

This outspoken Irish teacher had to be retrained, reeducated, and remade in the American image. I was not to speak my mind to either children or parents. There was a specific protocol and vocabulary for each. Ireland's second language (colorful vocabulary: cuss words in the U.S.) was socially frowned upon. Teachers did not dress European: hose-less, tight clothing, plunge necklines, dangly earrings, and colored hair were considered unprofessional. I had to clean it all up from the inside out.

After a year of teaching and of making every mistake in the book, I was stunned to be offered a contract for another year. I figured, why not? I was young, free, single and enjoying myself. In the second year, I met a handsome gentleman. After an American courtship, an Irish wedding, three children, four states, a master's degree, and twenty-five years, I am still on my grand American adventure.

Not everyone who comes to the U.S. is fleeing poverty or suffering. We should be mindful that there are as many reasons as there are people for coming to the United States of America.

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 writing children's literature and genealogical works. She is the author of An Chailleach agus a Cuid Gruaige, Liam agus an Leprechaun, The Killanigan Ryans, *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.*

Finding Our Clarkes and O'Clerys

by Patrick Clark

A few decades ago my brother Kevin and I began a search for our roots. It started in 1977 when Roscommon-born Father Kevin Flanagan, now a Monsignor and Pastor of St. Lawrence the Martyr Church in Chester, New Jersey, told me that I was actually an O'Clery.

Our family had lost touch with our Cavan relatives. We shook the family tree; a couple of good leads fell out. Kevin used information from Mary (Clarke) Sorensen, our Fairfax, Virginia, cousin and from antiquarian Thomas J. Barron of Bailieborough, County Cavan, to find the birthplaces of our paternal grandparents. Patrick Clarke was born in Ralaghan, Shercock, County Cavan, and Mary Ann McGonnell was born not too far away in Glasdrumman, Knockbride, County Cavan.

Kevin followed the leads. He went to Cavan. Even better, he befriended our "lost" Irish cousins in Nolagh, Killcrossduff, Lecks and Dublin. I read the history. I learned about the literary O'Clerys of Donegal, hereditary historians to the O'Donnells. I discovered the story of the four O'Clery brothers of Kilmacduagh who were expelled in 1260 by Anglo-Norman knights from their ancient territory around present day Gort. They settled separately in Mayo, Donegal, Kilkenny and Cavan. Thomas O'Clery, third oldest, became the ancestor of the Cavan O'Clerys.

These days, I continue my study of Gaelic Ireland. I find the brambles of its dynastic warlord society engrossing. Today, Kevin continues his efforts to become an Irish speaker, a *"gaeilgeoir,"* and earn a ring for fluency, a *"fáinne óir."* Along the way we both became Irish citizens, too.

Patrick Clark and Mary Ann McGonnell. Photos courtesy of Patrick Clark

Here, in brief, is what we have found:

Our grandfather, Patrick Clarke, was born on October 31, 1859, in Ralaghan, County Cavan. His homeplace was a small hilltop farm in Ralaghan, between Bailieborough and Shercock. His father, Andrew, was a tenant farmer. His family was religiously and culturally Roman Catholic. He told the 1910 U.S. Census that the language of his household was Irish. Across the ocean, his uncle, Peter Clarke, told the 1911 Irish Census that he spoke Irish and English.

Patrick emigrated at age twenty. To become an American citizen, he had to swear to support the Constitution and renounce all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign potentate. Our family understands he repudiated his fealty to Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with great pleasure. He probably dropped the "e" from his surname to appear Scottish or English and have a better chance of getting work, because when he came to the U.S. an anti-Irish, nativist sentiment still surged.

Mary Ann McGonnell Clarke was born on May 15, 1864, in Glasdrumman, County Cavan. Her homeplace was a cottage on the Glasdrumman side of Ralaghan Road in Knockbride parish. Her father, Francis, was a tailor. Her family was Roman Catholic, too, but we do not believe her family spoke Irish. Our grandmother emigrated as a teenager. Her parents and siblings

followed her. We have not yet found her immigration information.

Our grandparents met and married in Newark, New Jersey. They raised a family in its eastside Ironbound section. They never returned to Cavan.

Kevin first visited Ireland in 1978. Our grandparents' birth records were missing in the Public Records Office in Dublin. He recovered the birth record of Francis Clarke, our grandfather's younger brother, which listed his parents, Andrew Clarke, Relaghan, farmer, and Bridget Clarke, formerly Lynch. He also found the birth records of John, Margaret and Michael McGonnell, three of our grandmother's siblings, which listed their parents: Francis McGonnell, Glasdrumman, tailor, and Margaret McGonnell, formerly Masterson.

By good fortune, Kevin met Mr. Barron, a retired teacher and local history expert, who would help us identify and locate our Clarkes among the scores of Clarke families. Mr. Barron said that our Clarke ancestors had most likely been tenant farmers, illiterate Irish speakers. They probably descended from O'Clerys originally from County Galway. Our O'Clerys would have been kern (foot soldiers) obligated to fight for the O'Reilly Gaelic lords who ruled Cavan until the leaving of the Earls in 1607.

Our McGonnells likely are descended from County Antrim McDonnells. McGonnell is actually a local pronunciation of McDonnell. Our McGonnells had been tenant farmers on the Greville Estate in Glasdrumman townland in Knockbride parish. Their Masterson neighbors lived in adjacent Ralaghan townland in Drumgoon parish.

A branch of these Knockbride McDonnells had been employed as millers at a Corroneary Lough corn mill owned by the Mahood family. The Mahoods were, originally, McWhidds from County Antrim. We surmise the McWhidds brought the parents or grandparents of our great-grandfather, Francis McDonnell, from Antrim to Cavan in the late 1700s or early 1800s to work in their flax and linen enterprise.

Kevin received letters in 1979 from Mr. Barron and Mary (Clarke) Sorensen, our second cousin. She is the granddaughter of one of our grandfather's younger sisters, Bridget (Clarke) Clarke. Our great-aunt Bridget was a Ralaghan Clarke who married a Nolagh Clarke.

Mr. Barron pinpointed a location for our family on the Ordnance Survey map. It was a cluster of buildings next to "Ralaghan Fort." He wrote: "The one (dwelling) nearest you as you go up the lane is probably the one in which your grandfather was reared. It is now occupied by the widow of Paddy Clarke, son of Big Frank Clarke. Her name is Mrs. Anne Clarke."

Mary Sorensen confirmed Mr. Barron's educated guess. Our Clarkes' homeplace was, indeed, a hilltop Ralaghan farm. It had a nickname, too. It was called "the crock." This is local pronunciation of *"cnoc,"* Irish for hill.

Kevin returned to Ireland in 1980. He went to Nolagh and found Francis "Frank" Clarke, our father's cousin. Frank told Kevin about our Clarke cousins in Killcrossduff and about another cousin, Margaret Clarke (Peg) Davitt, and her son, Michael, living in Dublin.

Kevin went to Ralaghan. He found Annie Clarke, widow of Paddy Clarke, who was Michael Davitt's maternal uncle. Annie Clarke was living with her niece, Fiona. Her neighbor, John Bell, told him an anecdote about our grandfather which his father, Joseph, had told him. The day that Patrick Clarke left for America, Joseph Bell gave him, along with best wishes for a safe journey, a useful memento - his best shaving knife.

Kevin drove to Dublin and visited the Davitts. Peg Davitt, soft-spoken and regal, filled in some gaps. Our great-grandfather, Andrew, and her grandfather, Peter, were first cousins and farmers. They and their families lived in separate cottages at the *"cnoc"* and worked their fields nearby.

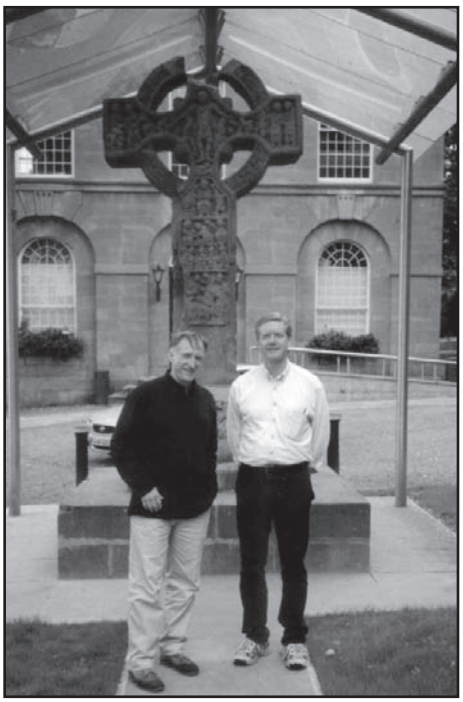
Michael Davitt took us both to visit the *"cnoc"* in 1988. On a shoulder of Dhuish Mountain, it hugs a side of Killann Hill topped by a *"rath"* six hundred thirty-five feet high. The farm was about seven acres. Its ground, too hilly for corn or wheat, had to be planted with oats and potatoes. Our granduncle Philip Clarke, the family moonshiner, was said to have used some of the potatoes to distill his potent *"poitín."* The one-and-a-half story, stucco, slate-roofed cottage in which our grandfather was

born and reared was still standing, now a storage shed.

Parishioners of St. Anne's Church, or Killann Chapel, called our Ralaghan Clarkes "cnoc" Clarkes to distinguish them from the Killcrossduff "canny" Clarkes and the Nolagh "buckie" Clarkes.

Now we brothers know our origin and stem. We descend from native Irish Clarkes who descended from Thomas O'Clery of the Kilmacduagh O'Clerys. The ancient O'Clerys were kings of Connacht. They descended from druidic pagan O'Clerys who were there when the Romans came. O'Clery means grandson of the scribe.

In 1986, historian Séamas P. Ó Mórdha wrote that Thomas O'Clery's descendants were still very numerous in Cavan – particularly in Bailieborough, Knockbride, Killenkere, Mullagh and Shercock – under the surname's anglicized form, Clarke. He said the name is comparatively rare or non-existent in other parts of Cavan.



Patrick and Kevin Clark at Kells, Ireland
Photo courtesy of Patrick Clark

There you are.

New Yorker Patrick Clark(e) is a retired communications director, a former newspaper reporter (New York Daily News) and a U.S. Marine veteran. A dual American and Irish citizen, his roots are in County Cavan's Killann and Knockbride parishes. His article, "The O'Clerys: Hereditary Historians and Poets," was published in History Ireland, *May/June 2010.*

Manage Your Member Information

On the 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 the eNewsletter, meeting reminders and other communications by email. If your email is wrong (an old email or another problem), you are missing our messages. Related to that, please add our email address (IrishGenealogical.org) to your approved recipient list.

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.

Thanks for helping by managing your Member Information!

Local Genealogical Resources for County Tyrone, Northern Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

This article is about genealogical resources available for County Tyrone because this issue of *The Septs* has the theme of Irish emigration/immigration in the 20th century. County Tyrone was chosen because of the emigration/immigration resources found at the Centre for Migration Studies (hereafter referred to as Centre). It is located on the grounds of the Ulster American Folk Park outside of Omagh.

The Senior Library Assistant at the Centre provided a list of both "genealogical" resources and emigration/immigration resources that are available at this repository. Her help in preparing this article is greatly appreciated. Staff at the Omagh library also gave assistance.

Books

There is no comprehensive how-to book for researching County Tyrone ancestors. Two books that might be of interest are

- O'Laughlin, Michael C. *Ireland County Tyrone Genealogy and Family History* (ISBN 0949134799). This book gives a cursory overview of limited genealogical resources. Much of the material can be found in other sources, including James Ryan's *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History.*

- Nolan, William and Henry A. Jefferies, editors. *Tyrone: History and Society* (ISBN 0906602718). This book is out of print. The various chapters, which are written by different authors, include information relative to the history of County Tyrone from medieval times to the 20th century. For example, there are chapters about the Ulster Plantation's impact on the settlement pattern of County Tyrone, the population of this county (1600-1991), Tyrone's migration history (1800-1845), and Catholicism and Protestantism in 19th century Tyrone.

Other genealogical type books that are useful include

- *Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland.* Volumes 5 (ISBN 0853893616) and 20 (ISBN 0853894590) include parishes in County Tyrone.

  Memoirs was compiled from surveys done in the northern half of Ireland prior to the Great Famine. Notes taken by the surveyors document the landscape, buildings, land-holdings, population, employment, and sometimes immigration. Occasionally names, which usually are not lineage linked, are listed.

- Roulston, William J. *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600-1800* (ISBN 1903688531). Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2005. County Tyrone is included in the province of Ulster.

- McGrew, William, compiler. *Hatches, Matches & Dispatches: Births, Marriages & Deaths in the Omagh Area 1815-1873.* North of Ireland Family History Society, 2007.

The list of resources at the Centre includes two publications of interest.

- *Family History in North-West Tyrone: A Handbook for the Local and Family Historian.* An Leabhar Staire for The Federation for Ulster Local Studies. 2007. It is believed that this book is out of print.

- Roulston, William J. *In Search of Sperrins Ancestors: A practical guide and sourcebook.* Belfast, Ulster Historical Foundation in conjunction with Sperrins Tourism Lds., 2004. This book, available online at <www.ancestryireland.com/fileadmin/uhf_pdfs/sperrinsBookleto8.pdf> contains generic information about various genealogical resources. It also mentions information specific to County Tyrone.

Libraries

Although there are many libraries throughout County Tyrone, the main library in Omagh is supposed to be the only one that has a local history/genealogy section. Other libraries in the county may have small local collections, mainly in book format, as well.

Unlike libraries in the Republic of Ireland which usually have individual online searchable catalogs to their holdings, those in Northern Ireland have a "master catalog" for all the libraries that can be searched at the web site <www.librariesni.org.uk>. The catalog contains references to books and periodicals that are housed in the various libraries throughout Northern Ireland including resources available at the Centre. It can be searched by author, title, phrase, class, series or ISBN.

A list of resources found in the Local Studies Collection at the Omagh library is found at the web site <http://irishgenealogy.net/cp/phpbb3/viewtopic.php?f=22&t=1791>. It is not known who compiled the list or when it was made. Staff at the library could not confirm the accuracy of the list. The Heritage Services manager, who was hired in June 2010, will be checking the collection over the next few months to see what is there.

Among the sources listed on the web site are

1. Valuation records covering 1920-1945 and 1957 for the unions of Omagh, Castlederg, Clogher, Cookstown, and Dungannon. The years of coverage vary from place to place.
2. School records for several schools. Most of these records are from the 20th century.
3. Clogher Board of Guardian Minute Books (1841-1901) on 27 rolls of microfilm.
4. 1970s-1980s electoral registers.
5. Alphabetically arranged local history files relating to places, people and subjects. These files may include press cuttings, journal extracts, obituaries and such. One of the files includes genealogical information for the families of Archdale, Cathers, Cornwall, Hamilton, Keyes, Lindsay, McClean, McGrew, and Robinson.
6. Copies of estate papers obtained from the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland for Abercorn, Belmore, Montgomery, and Castle Stewart; Crossle papers relating to the Verner estate.
7. Copies of solicitor's papers for Wilson and Sims, and Martin, King, French and Ingram.
8. Photograph collection in 30 files arranged alphabetically by places.

The Omagh library also has some published church or parish histories; some local publications of gravestone inscriptions; a few early 1900s directories for Omagh and County Tyrone; copies of genealogical or historical periodicals such as *The Bell* (Journal of the Stewartstown and District Local History Society), *History West Tyrone* (Journal of the West Tyrone Historical Society), and *Duiche Neill* (Journal of the O Neill Country Historical Society); County Tyrone newspapers and the 1901 and 1911 census on microfilm; and Griffith's Valuation in hard copy and on microfiche.

Centre for Migration Studies

The Centre for Migration Studies, located at the Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh, houses a specialist reference collection of approximately 16,000 volumes, with many important resources of use to family historians and genealogists. They include published local, church and parish histories, periodicals, Ordnance Survey maps, published tombstone inscriptions, Griffith's Valuation maps (first and second valuation), and 1845-1855 issues of *The Tyrone Constitution* on microfilm. Although the bulk of its collection pertains to people who emigrated prior to the 1900s, it does have some information for the 20th century such as published resources (books and periodical articles).

The Centre's goal is to collect information about the Irish world-wide and to make the information accessible to the public through the Irish Emigration Database. The Database, which contains copies of over 33,000 primary source documents that are free-text searchable, may be accessed at the Centre. Internet access is also available through all public libraries in Northern Ireland and in the Search Room of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI). To find out more about the Centre for Migration Studies, see the web site <www.qub.ac.uk/cms>.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

Judith is well-known through articles in numerous genealogy periodicals and lectures at historical and genealogical conferences throughout the U.S., in Canada and England.

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

Fr. John Eves, Emigrant Priest

by John B. Cunningham

My uncle John Augustine Eves, who became a Roman Catholic priest, was born on 1 January 1916 in New Street, Ederney, Co. Fermanagh, to Adam Eves and Jeannie McGrane. Adam was the son of John Eves and Catherine Gallagher, the youngest of a family of ten. Jane Agnes Mc Grane, was a milliner in Maguire's drapery shop on Ederney's Main Street. The daughter of William McGrane and Elizabeth Guider, she was born in Ennistymon, County Clare.

Adam Eves had started his business career selling drink on the fair day in various towns in Fermanagh. Drink was sold from a stall called "a standing dram." Adam progressed to owning or perhaps leasing a pub in Tempo, Co. Fermanagh. He sold this for £100 and bought a pub and adjoining house in New Street, Ederney, in November 1913. Now that he was a man of some substance, Adam set his sights on marrying Miss Jennie McGrane who worked in Maguire's. They were married the following August.

Sadly, it was not fated to be a long marriage. They had three children, John, Mae and James, but when the great 'flu pandemic of 1918 struck, Jennie passed away. Adam Eves almost died, too. He was so ill in an adjoining room that he had to be carried to see his wife on her deathbed and was unable to go to her funeral. She was buried in Bannagh Graveyard, which is on the road between Kesh and Pettigo. The three children were raised by their Aunt Rose Anne who came to live in her brother's house. Adam never re-married; he died in 1950 as a result of getting teeth pulled at Kesh fair day. The bleeding could not be stopped; eventually, he had a heart attack and died two days later.

"Ganna," as he was known to me, was a tall stout man – "Ganna" was the closest I could get to Granddad. He habitually wore a silver watch and chain across his waistcoat and generally walked with his hands behind his back. In deference

Photo courtesy of John B. Cunningham.

to this perceived norm, I, too, used to stroll behind him with my arms behind me much to the amusement of those who saw it. Aunt Rose Anne, who reared the children, was a devout Catholic. The idea of sending a son on for the priesthood or having a daughter become a nun was a cherished ideal of that time. Fr. Arthur Magee, who was a friend of Adam Eves, was probably an influence in the same direction. He died on September 1, 1928, and was buried on the 4th.

Young John first went to the Christian Brothers School in Omagh (1927-1928) and then to St. Macartan's in Monaghan (1928-1933). He left for St. Macartan's the day following Fr. Magee's funeral. John ran away from St. Macartan's at least once when it is recorded that he came home by train from Monaghan and arrived in Ederney before the taxi that had taken him to the college.

Eventually he settled down, passed through St. Macartan's College, and went to Maynooth College to become a priest in the years 1936-1941. However, he was dogged with serious illness there; more than once it was thought that he would not survive. He was given the last rights of the Church on several occasions, once in the Shiel Hospital, Ballyshannon. On another occasion he was believed to be only 15 minutes from death. He had most of his stomach removed. Such was the fragility of his condition that when he was ordained as a priest of Clogher Diocese on June 22, 1941, by Archbishop John Charles Mc Quaid he was given a very unusual privilege. He was given permission to serve anywhere in the world which was suitable to his health.

Fr. John's first curacy was in Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan, in 1941. Then he joined the Royal Navy and served as chaplain on the *Queen Mary*, then the largest and fastest passenger ship afloat. On her final peace time voyage, August 30, 1939, she carried 2,552 passengers, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hope; she also carried $44 million in gold bullion from the United States to Britain. In 1940 she sailed to Sydney, Australia, to be fitted out as a troop ship. On May 5, 1940 she made her first voyage as a troop transport and sailed in convoy with the *Aquitania*, *Mauretania (II)*, *Empress of Britain*, *Empress of Canada*, and *Empress of Japan*, from Sydney,

Australia, to Gourock, Scotland, with 5,500 troops. She carried a total of 765,429 military personnel between 1940 and 1946 and sailed a total of 569,429 miles (916,407 km). She carried wounded troops returning to the United States, transported Winston Churchill three times to conferences, and carried 12,886 G.I. brides and children back to the States.

In the end, America beckoned. With a group of priests he travelled to wartime London where they took a train to join a convoy of ships leaving from the Clyde in Scotland. While passing through the midlands of England, German bombs started falling on the city they were passing through. A man in the carriage, mentally cracking up under the strain of the falling bombs, suddenly produced a knife. The young priests subdued him. Being the biggest and heaviest, Fr. John sat on the man until all had left the carriage; the door was swiftly locked as Fr. John made his escape. The convoy to the United States was equally a nightmare; two ships were sunk under them before they finally made it to New York.

Fr. John recalled his first sick call in New York when a man came for him in the middle of the night in a thunderstorm. They had to cross the rail tracks on their way and, in the dark, he tripped over the body of a man. It was a salutary opening to his ministry in the Big Apple. One morning he saw a Parish Priest of German ancestry reading his letters from Ireland, probably hoping for some war news which he might pass on. A row ensued, in which Fr. John flattened his Parish Priest. He gathered his belongings and moved on – not the sort of thing most priests could do, but then he had a roving commission. He was a priest of Clogher Diocese in Ireland but he could go anywhere. With the scarcity of priests, he could easily find another parish. And this was not to be the only clergyman that Fr. John would "clock." Many a fellow curate was glad of the assistance of their big friend in negotiations with an intolerant and tyrannical parish priest. The late Fr. Havlin, Parish Priest of Ederney, testified to Fr. John's assistance. At Fr. John's funeral Mass he stepped forward at the end to say a few words about his friend but only got as far as saying, "He was a big man …" We were left to imagine the rest.

Fr. John gradually moved towards the warmer, drier climate of the west coast and California. After spells in St. Cecilia's Parish, Los Angeles (1942-1944), St. Vincent's, Santa Barbara (1944-1955), and St. Bartholomew's, Long Beach (1945-1950), he joined the U.S. Navy and served at China Lake, California, where the Navy developed many of its weapons, including the atomic and hydrogen bombs. He often flew from base to base and had many narrow escapes from death. On one occasion his Navy plane ditched in the sea and he spent a few hours adrift in the Pacific Ocean before being rescued. On another occasion, his plane crashed as it took off from Idlewild (now John F. Kennedy) Airport, New York. It crashed into the sea but, fortunately, the tide was out and most were able to wade through chest high water to the shore.

He was involved in a serious car crash near Chicago about 1955. As a youngster at Lettercran School, I remember that we prayed for him as he was critically ill for several months. In the days before heart transplants, any surgery involving the heart was considered extremely high risk. Fr. John's heart surgery at the Veterans Hospital, Long Beach, California, was so successful that the Veterans Hospital treated him for free for the rest of his life. It is rather amazing that this man who nearly died so often lived into his eighties, while hundreds who thought and prayed for him through his illnesses were deceased long before him.

Fr. John served with the Canadian Navy for ten years before returning to Ireland to serve in Maguiresbridge, Co. Fermanagh, from 1963 to 1965. He went back to Canada when his health again began to fail. He was Administrator in St. John's, Toronto, and then returned to St. Bartholomews, Long Beach, in 1971. While with the Royal Canadian Navy, Fr. John served on H.M.C.S. *New Glasgow*, *Stadacona* and *Naden*.

Fr. John was a great traveller; in addition to Gaelic, he could speak French and Spanish. He used his vacations to travel. On one occasion, he and two clerical friends were in Mexico at a time when the country was ruled by an anti-clerical Communist regime. They travelled incognito rather than as clergymen; but when they arrived in a rural part of the country their secret leaked out. They spent most of a day and night hearing confessions, saying Mass and performing wedding blessings.

Through all his travels, he maintained contact with Fermanagh and his native

Ederney. His sister Mae, my mother, sent him bundles of the *Fermanagh Herald* and the *Impartial Reporter* every few weeks. He absorbed every word of news from home but did not stop there. He was an amazing letter writer; he sent notes of condolence on the death of loved ones, congratulations on births and weddings to everyone back home. He often wrote ten or more letters at a sitting and kept in touch, by letter, with hundreds of friends all over the world, but especially in Ederney and Fermanagh. He provided a temporary haven for anyone who knew him who wanted to spend time in California.

Photo courtesy of John B. Cunningham.

Fr. John had as many Protestant friends as Catholic ones. On several occasions he returned to Ireland working in Clogher Diocese in Maguiresbridge, Aghabog and Trillick. In Maguiresbridge, he visited every house in the Parish regardless of creed, chatted and had a cup of tea. In the end, his health dictated that he return to a warmer, drier climate. When he was leaving, the local Protestant community made him a present of a wallet of notes as a token of their appreciation.

He was a fine figure of a man – over six feet tall – with white hair which he acquired through illness in his twenties. He always dressed immaculately, often in his Navy Chaplain's uniform, and, to be truthful, he was a bit vain about his appearance. He was never happier than posing for a photograph. Mount Rushmore with its four American Presidents carved on a mountainside was a mere detail compared to Fr. John in the foreground.

To us children and, I suppose, to many others in Ireland, his visits carried an aura of "far away places with strange sounding names." But here was a man who had been there and could talk about these places or show photographs of them. In some ways he brought the glamour of Hollywood into our lives. He was a bit like the America we saw in the black and white films, sitting on hard seats in the upper room in Ederney Courthouse. When my mother brought him to Carrickmacross to meet the Cunningham in-laws, we stopped to get petrol in Clones. He got out to make the purchase. My mother was accustomed, like most other people, to buy petrol in amounts like five shillings. As the attendant came forward, Fr. John uttered the immortal words, "Fill her up" and I'm sure the town of Clones and the World stood still. "Fill her up" – words nobody had ever heard outside of a cinema before. While most people bought fuel in shillings or just a single gallon, he had a total unconcern of the financial consequences of filling the car with petrol. This was John Wayne talk in real life in a little Irish town.

Fr. John had a host of friends in the United States and Canada – from Professor John Du Prey of the University of Quebec to Bob Hope and Bing Crosby, who appeared at his charity concerts in Los Angeles. He had a lifelong interest in U.S. politics; he visited every state in the Union and met every Governor of the time. He was particularly fond of Richard Nixon and did not like the Kennedy dynasty.

He had an extraordinary memory for names and faces and could meet, greet and name people he had met twenty or thirty years before. I think the secret was his technique on meeting a new acquaintance. He had a long handshake where he held a person's hand and repeated their name several times while looking into their face to imprint their name and features in his mind. Once, in Shannon Airport, he spotted an old U.S. Navy friend who had been the captain of a ship Fr. John had served on but was now an admiral. He was in "civvies" at Shannon and they had not met in twenty years but Fr. John called him by name and they had a pleasant chat.

Fr. John had a lifetime affection for the *Queen Mary*. By great coincidence, she ended up as a floating hotel and conference centre in Long Beach, California, where he spent most of the latter days of his life.

He called it a special gift to him from the people of Long Beach.

Fr. John died on October 20, 1999, in Long Beach, California, aged 83. His family and friends brought him back to Ederney to be buried beside the new chapel. He had crisscrossed the Atlantic many times by ocean liner and by plane. Now he was once more at home in Ederney – a place he had never really left between coming and going.

P.S.– I was christened John by my mother in the fullness of her belief that I would follow in my uncle's footsteps. At the age of fourteen I finally rebelled so there was no Fr. John Cunningham, possibly to the relief of the General Church.

John B. Cunningham is a former headmaster who retired early to write and be a tour guide. He guides in England, Scotland and Wales as well as Ireland. He has written many books and articles – guide books and local history, mainly of county Fermanagh and surrounding areas. He is chairman of the local tour guides, local authors and Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism – and a genealogist. See erneheritagetours.com

Share Events

Share events with IGSI and we will share them with our members and the public. Any Conferences or Reunions you want to share with others can be placed in the IGSI eNewsletter and on the IGSI website.

Send the event, its website and your name and email to Questions@IrishGenealogical.org. Send information as soon as possible for it to be in the eNewsletter and online. Questions on this benefit to our members can be sent to Questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but we also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

The theme of the January 2011 issue is Newspapers. Newspapers from all angles: newspapers as a genealogical resource, history of major Irish newspapers, depiction of Irish in the press, where to find newspapers - online and in repositories, breakthroughs using newspapers.

Share your research with other IGSI members by writing for *The Septs*. Start now and plan to submit something next year. Themes and article submission deadlines for future issues are

Issue Date	Submission Deadline	Theme
January 2011	November 1 2010	Newspapers
April 2011	February 1	Women in Irish Genealogy & Culture
July 2011	May 1	Irish Resources on the Internet – Revisited
October 2011	August 1	Irish in the American Midwest
January 2012	November 1	Irish in the Caribbean and South America
April 2012	February 1	History and Records of Various Ports of Entry

IGSI Membership: Your Online Benefits

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

While much of the reference material on the Irish Genealogical Society International website is open to all researchers, membership brings special perks. To discover the many online benefits of membership, we'll explore the "Members" tab at the top of the IGSI homepage.

After joining IGSI and establishing a user name and password, clicking on the "Members" tab offers a dropdown list:

- Member Home Page
- Member Profile
- IGSI News
- Research Help
- Research Sources and Databases
- Special Collections
- Surname Search
- *The Septs*

Member Home Page

As soon as you log in, you're on the IGSI member home page. This page changes according to current projects and news. In July, I found an invitation to submit a GEDCOM of my pedigree charts to a searchable database of IGSI member families. This database will contain these new pedigrees as well as information submitted by members for the past 30 years. On the home page I also found links to pages where I can purchase gifts—items from the bookstore and gift certificates.

Member Profile

This is the place to keep your personal information current:

- Login: Change your screen name or your password.
- Basic Member Info: Update your name, address, and other contact information.
- Surnames of Interest: Update the surnames you are researching.
- Volunteer Hours: Are you a volunteer? Keep track of your hours here.
- Renew Your Membership: Check on the expiration date of your current membership.

IGSI News

IGSI News features the Society's blog. Check here to learn about events and contests and to air your own opinions about what is going on in the world of Irish research.

Research Help

IGSI staff will perform several levels of research for members, returning results via post or e-mail.

Searches available at nominal cost include

- Copies of Townland maps.
- Research of specific sources ($10.00 per hour) such as the Emigrant Savings Bank, New York records and eight volumes of *The Search for Missing Friends*.
- Surname study of one surname in a single county in Ireland. Staff will search for the occurrence of a single name or for two names known to be joined by marriage in Ireland. For instance, I requested a search of County Donegal for the names of two of my ancestral families who intermarried in Ireland: O'Malley and Erskine. The results narrowed my efforts to Killybegs in Donegal, and I was able to visit there on a trip to Ireland. This put me light years ahead in my research.

Research Sources and Databases

NOTE: Not working week of July 18, 2010.

Special Collections

Special Collections houses the Appendices to the entire publication of *The Septs*. Currently Appendix 1 provides links to articles covering a lecture series given by David E. Rencher, AG, FUGA, at an IGSI Quarterly Program. They include

- "Out of the Ashes: Irish Genealogical Collections"
- "Irish Genealogical Collections by County"

These wide-ranging articles will be helpful to people searching for repositories and collections pertinent to doing research in almost any part of Ireland.

Surname Search

This page is the same site that anyone may use to find surnames that others in IGSI are researching. Only members, however, may access contact information for the surname researchers who have posted on the website.

As an example, searching on the non-member site for the surname "Haffey," I retrieved one result: Surname (Haffey); Irish Location (Armagh); and Destination (Canada, Ontario—Adjala, Simco) as well as the Soundex code for Haffey (H100).

Using the same request on the member site and searching for "Haffey," I retrieved eight results: The original response from the non-member site that now included the name, address, telephone number and e-mail of the current member doing the research; and seven more results (with contact information) from names submitted by past members.

The Septs

The Septs has been published four times a year since 1980. With membership in IGSI, you can download any past issue directly from the Members' area with Adobe Acrobat Reader™ (free software) at no charge. Non-members may order issues from the Bookstore for a fee.

There are several ways to find articles from past issues:

- Call up a particular issue you wish to view ("October 2000").
- Search through the Table of Contents.
  - On this page, you'll see a link to each publication year of *The Septs*. To see the Table of Contents, click on a year—you can check contents issue-by-issue.
  - In the April 1990 issues, for instance, you'll find an article "County Mayo Cemetery Transcriptions."
- Search issues by theme.
  - In an alphabetical list of themes, scroll down to "Mayo."
  - Two links are available: The January 1994 issue of *The Septs*

Continued on page 168

IGSI Website: Warts and All

by Diane Lovrencevic

Having your website reviewed is not for the faint of heart. In a series of articles Kathleen Strickland has taken an in-depth look at the IGSI website. Although I hate to see the warts, I appreciate seeing the website through her eyes.

At the beginning of the year, with the future in mind and after consulting with professionals, we evaluated our website. We determined that, due to the growth of the site, we had to update programs being used and do some major revamping. The Board decided to invest in the major undertaking of moving databases to a more stable format and updating the technology of the interaction sections of the site.

In the middle of this process, our hosting site advised us that they were moving our site to larger servers due to its growth in the last few years. This transfer of the site resulted in problems needing immediate attention. Attention from experts.

As with life, everything came in threes. We took care of the problems and returned to moving our databases to the more stable format when our host informed us that they planned a new interface between their site and their clients' websites. With this new change, parts of IGSI's website started to shut down. The problems began in one or two areas that were not visible to members. Unfortunately, the problems did not end.

Over the next months we discovered a new problem almost weekly. They existed in the code of the site, so fixing one problem could cause others. Again, we called the experts and learned the bad news. The cost was mounting. We decided to limp along on the old website, to continue with the updates and changes that we had started, and to move our site to a new host. Some of the major problems on the old site included the shutting down of pages, databases that would not search, and being locked out of changing or updating that site.

IGSI members and the hired experts, have done much work in preparation of the new site. We hope to bring the entire new site online soon. (More on this in a later issue of *The Septs*.)

Kathleen's reviews of the site and her emails to me have helped us make changes on the new site. As always, Kathleen has been a partner (even if she hasn't known it) in moving our site along.

To all of you who have continued to check the website through all of this, to all of you who have found problems and have not given up, and to all of you who have sent in your pedigrees, links, events for our calendar, indexing projects and everything else -- a huge thank you. Your faith will be rewarded.

Most of all, I would like to thank Kathleen for her on-going review of our site.

Thanks

was dedicated to County Mayo, as was the issue published in April 2003.

- Use an index to search by author's last name, geographic focus, and title or keyword.
  - Author's last name: Perhaps you read an interesting article by a writer named Ford. Type "Ford" into the Author box, and six items come back including:
    - "Write Those Letters."
    - "Locating Pat Ford from County Mayo."
    - You'll also bring up names including "ford," such as Radford.
  - Geographic focus: Searching for "Mayo" returns 27 articles covering the entire publishing history of the journal. Among your choices:
    - "The Heritage of Mayo" by Aine Ni Cheanainn, Volume 26, No. 3 (find this in the Table of Contents).
    - "Register of Births—Mayo [Extract of church records including townland, maiden name of mother], Volume 15, No. 1.
  - Title or key word: Let's say your interest is in the Riley family—type the surname into the keyword box and you bring up six results, including
    - "Attention Rileys."
    - "Rileys in the 1790 United States Census."
  - It is also possible to combine search categories. Looking for information about baptisms (keyword) in Cork (geographic location) returns one article, "Ballinamona & Grenagh Parish, County Cork, Baptisms."

Membership in IGSI offers not only all of these online benefits, but even more—a subscription to *The Septs* and to the e-newsletter *Ginealas*, free access to the IGSI library in Minnesota, discounts on IGSI programs—and most of all, a group of fellow researchers with an abiding interest in all things Irish.

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.

IGSI Donors

We wish to thank the following generous members who have made a contribution to the work and projects of the Irish Genealogical Society International.

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Mary Tonya Young	Albuquerque, NM

Irish Emigration/Immigration Websites

by Mary Wickersham

It's helpful to revisit websites just in case something unexpected crops up. Several years back, I searched *Ancestry.com* for the umpteenth time for my father's grandfather, Tobias Barry, and voila! There was his ship's record. I had searched the *Immigrant Ships Transcribers' Guild* <www.immigrantships.net/> site over the years, but Ancestry had recently brought the data online. A few hours later, my sister Sheila Northrop found that our mother's great-grandparents arrived in New York City three months later on the same ship. What are the chances of that? (Mom's family settled in Minneapolis and Dad's in central Illinois.)

This issue's list is somewhat eclectic, including an Italian genealogy website with New York City marriages and deaths – but it includes many Irish surnames.

Steve Morse's search engine. You can use the individual *Castle Garden* or *Ellis Island* databases to search for U.S. immigrants, but Stephen Morse's page offers more flexibility in executing a search. For example, you can use just a few bits of information about origin, and no names, and Steve's search engine will fill in required fields and repeatedly send the search requests on your behalf faster than you can hit the "enter" key. <http://stevemorse.org/>.

Irish Passengers to Argentina (1822-1929) is a published version of the Irish Passengers to Argentina Database, which was compiled from diverse sources. The list, on the website of the Society for Irish Latin American Studies, includes the names of 7,159 passengers with arrival date, port of departure and ship name. ("Irlandeses" is Spanish for "Irelanders" or "Irish") <www.irlandeses.org/passenger.htm>.

Information Wanted: From 1831 through October 1921, the *Boston Pilot* newspaper printed a "Missing Friends" column with advertisements from people looking for "lost" friends and relatives who had emigrated from Ireland to the United States. IGSI Library collection has the books, but Boston College's Irish Studies Program has made them searchable online at <infowanted.bc.edu/>.

Italian Genealogical Group: New York City Records include death and marriage records. Many Irish surnames are included. <www.italiangen.org/VRECLIST.stm>

The following websites provide information on immigrants, though for earlier periods of time:

HistoryPlace.com provides a narrative about the conditions of famine immigrants upon arrival in the U.S. The article is a good read for grade school level and up. (There are some advertising pop-ups on this site.) <http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/famine/america.htm>.

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. Many databases and records can be found at the U.S. National Archives website. This database provides over 600,000 names from ship arrival records during the years of the Famine. From the main archives access page at <aad.archives.gov/aad/index.jsp>, select "Passenger Lists."

Emigrant Savings Bank records are available at *Ancestry.com*. The New York Public Library prepared a helpful how-to guide to using the records in pdf format: <legacy.www.nypl.org/research/chss/spe/rbk/faids/emigrant.pdf>. While prepared as a guide to the use of the microfilm copies of the records at the library, the explanatory information on the records themselves is very helpful.

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 chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

An Immigration Story

Five Brothers Clarken

by Maureen Reed

In official British documents of the early to mid 19th Century, "Clerkin" was the most commonly used variant spelling of this surname in County Monaghan. Upon arrival in America and for several decades thereafter, each of the brothers tolerated variation in the spelling of his surname. "Clarken" was "Clarkin" was "Clarkins" was "Clarke" was "McClarkens" was "O'Clarkin" was "Clerkin" was "Clearkin." In those years there was no particular need for precision or consistency. By the turn of the century, however, consistent spelling became the norm. For reasons that no one now recalls, brothers John, Francis, Thomas, Henry and most of their descendants eventually used the spelling "Clarken." Brother William and his descendants as well as Thomas' son, Michael, chose the "Clarkin" version. There is no evidence of family controversy or contentiousness about this matter.

The Hills of Monaghan

If little is known about Owen Clarken, born around 1780 in Ireland, even less is known about his bride, Margaret Stokes.[1] It is likely that their marriage mixed two religions with the Stokes side being Church of Ireland and the Clarken branch being Roman Catholic.[2] During the years 1820 to 1837, the couple reared at least five sons. Those known to us today are John, William, Francis, Thomas, and Henry. At least two of them (John[3] and Francis[4]) were born in County Monaghan, causing us to conclude that Owen and Margaret lived out their married days in Monaghan's rolling countryside.[5] While their exact place of residence is unknown, it is likely that they lived in or near the west central civil parishes of Aghabog, Ematris and Kilmore.[6]

Life was hardly bucolic. Living conditions for the vast majority of the people were squalid, and their diet consisted primarily of potatoes and buttermilk, rarely supplemented by oatmeal. Still, in the mid 1830s, there was little emigration from the south-central parishes of County Monaghan, in part because the populace was too poor to afford travel and passage. Those that were able to leave emigrated to "the Canadas."[7]

When his youngest son Henry was still a small child, Owen died.[8] The date and location of Margaret (Stokes) Clarken's death is unknown. Some twelve years after their father's demise and at the close of the potato famine, five Clarken brothers, ranging in age from 15 to 32 years, made the decision to depart "the land of English Tyranny and British Lords and come to the land of the brave and the home of the free."[9]

At the time of their immigration, William Clarken was the only brother to have married.[10] He and wife, Mary Duffy, welcomed their first child in Ireland in 1852.[11] Shortly thereafter, they sailed for the States, accompanied by Mary's elderly mother.[12] While the other four Clarken boys may have immigrated at that same time, information regarding their exact immigration dates is conflicting.[13]

Workshop of the World

Despite some confusion regarding their arrival, we know with certainty that the brothers spent a couple of years in Pittsburgh, the "workshop of the world."[14] William and Francis labored there,[15] and William's second child, Margaret, was born there.[16] In April of 1854, William, Francis and Thomas marched together into Pittsburgh's Allegheny County Courthouse and signed their Declarations of Intent for U.S. citizenship. It is curious that John's record is not found with those of his brothers, but it is not surprising that young Henry's name is missing.[17] As a 16-year-old minor, Henry was not required to complete a Declaration of Intent.[18]

The Clarken boys may or may not have initially intended to stay in Pittsburgh. For some Irish immigrants, the manufacturing cities of the East were a destination. For others, cities simply represented an opportunity to make enough money to travel farther west. After a couple of years in Pittsburgh, the brothers set off on the last leg of their westward journey to the undisturbed prairie of Iowa. John and Henry arrived in 1854, and John commenced to purchase large tracks of prairie land in Jacksonville Township of Chickasaw County.[19] Thomas arrived on their heels in 1855.[20] By the mid-1850s, John, William, Francis, and Thomas purchased farms in the same township near the banks of Crane Creek,[21] thereby making this prairie their home.

Prairie Life

John

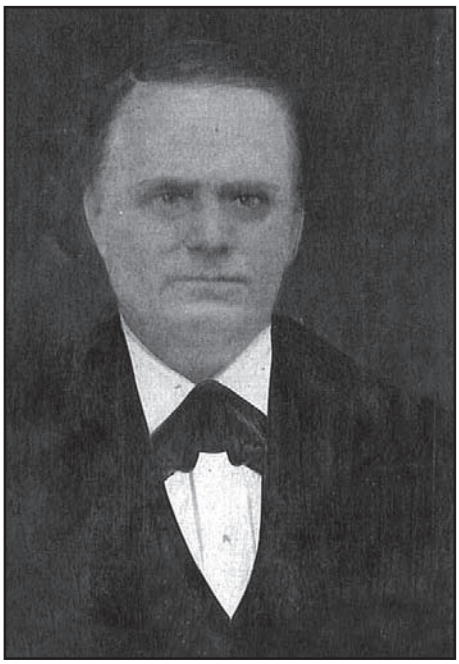
John Clarken, the eldest of those who immigrated, was a lifelong bachelor but by no means a loner. He lived with his brother William and family on Crane Creek for about twenty years, except for a short time in the early 1860s.[22] During

those few years, he purchased land in Dover Township, Fayette County, near a tract owned by his youngest brother, Henry. John held his purchase for a couple of years, then returned to Chickasaw County and resided next door to his brother Thomas for the next two decades.[23] Thomas' daughter Mary Clarken refers many times in her diary to her Uncle John, writing that she dropped by his house to visit, to watch him plant potatoes, to help him set up his new wood stove, or to contribute money to the orphan fund that he promoted.[24]

By the time of his death in 1900, farmer John Clarken was "one of (Jacksonville's) oldest and most highly respected citizens . . . a remarkable man in many respects. Once since January lat (sic) he walked from his farm to New Hampton and back[25] and thought nothing of it. He has been known to walk the entire distance to and from Jacksonville to Dubuque[26] in three days . . . Mr. Clarken was also a man of sunny and benevolent disposition. He was always cheerful and his presence brought smiles wherever he went. He was kind and charitable and was careful about the right hand knowing what the left hand did. He was honest, frugal, and temperate. He accumulated sufficient property to live in comfort in his declining years. He was also a man well informed as to what is going on in world affairs, and from his reading derived much comfort. He was a devout member of the Roman Catholic Church and died in the full enjoyment of her rites . . . He died universally loved and respected."[27]

John bore a special affection for his widowed sister-in-law Mary (Duffy) Clarken. He remembered her and her daughter Maggie in his will with a gift of several acres of land. John died at the home of his niece Julia (Clarken) Murphy, whose husband farmed John's land.[28] The pioneer homesteader was buried at St. Mary's Church in Lourdes with the epitaph "the Orphans Friend" inscribed on his gravestone.[29] We don't know whether it was the loss of his own parents or his witness to the plight of other children that triggered his commitment to orphaned children.

Francis



Francis Clarken. Photo courtesy of Maureen Reed.

St. Mary's Church in Lourdes, of which John was a member in his later years, was not the first Catholic parish in the Crane Creek area. St. Ignatius parish, at Reilly Ridge, had been established by Irish immigrants around 1856[30] and served the religious needs of several members of the Clarken family in their early days in Iowa. Brother Francis Clarken wed Catherine Sullivan of County Cork in the cabin of settler Thomas McCarten. Occurring before the construction of a permanent church, theirs was the first marriage in the fledgling St. Ignatius congregation.[31]

Although Francis initially farmed in Jacksonville Township, by the mid 1870s, he and Catherine moved to the nearby village of Lawler where he became a well-known and respected bookseller.[32] This increased distance between Francis and his farming brothers did not spell a distancing of their relationships, however. He gave a photograph as a gift to his young niece Maggie Clarkin and a book to his nephew-in-law Thomas F. Reed on the occasion of Thomas' wedding to Agnes Clarken.

Francis and Maria (O'Meara) Griffin Clarken. Photo courtesy of Maureen Reed.

After Francis' wife Catherine died, he married an Irish-born widow, Maria (O'Meara) Griffin of neighboring Allamakee County.[33] His niece Mary Clarken noted this marriage in her 1889 diary and referred to the "new aunt" that she visited in Lawler.[34]

Francis' book business suffered a major setback in the 1877 Lawler fire that destroyed many of the town's commercial establishments. In part through an insurance settlement, Francis apparently rebounded from this financial loss. He had no children with either Catherine or Maria. After being widowed a second time, Francis relocated to Vincent, Iowa, where he re-established his bookstore and lived out his final years.

William

From the time of their arrival in Iowa, William and Mary were members of St. Ignatius Church at Reilly Ridge.[35] At least three of their younger children were baptized there, and brother Francis Clarken served as the godfather to one of them.[36] Mary (Duffy) Clarkin buried her mother at Reilly Ridge, the cemetery's first burial.[37] Family lore has it that Mrs. Duffy was an English lady, not accustomed to the rigors of prairie life, who got caught in a rainstorm, suffered a sudden headache, and died.[38]

Mary Duffy Clarken. Photo courtesy of Maureen Reed.

The next family loss must have been an extremely difficult one. William and Mary's eldest son, John, died of appendicitis and was buried at Reilly Ridge.[39] Within a year of this untimely death, the family moved a few miles northwest to a farm outside the town of Elma[40] and claimed a homestead exemption on that farm.[41] The reasons for this move are no longer known but, in retrospect, it appears to have been unfortunate. After 25 years of apparently successful farming, the wheels came off the Clarkin cart.

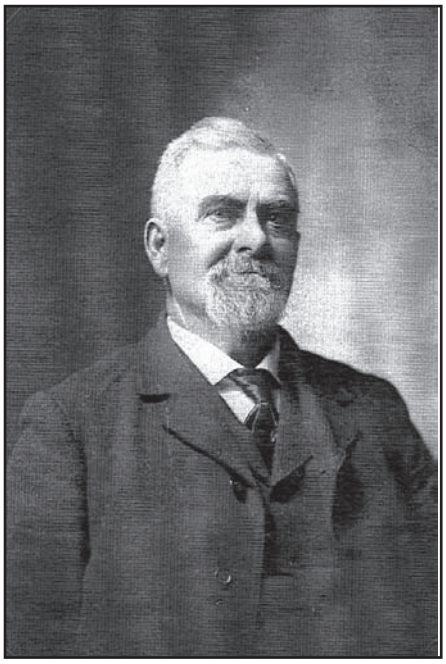
In 1879, a second son, Francis, died of an abdominal condition; family history has it that he, too, was buried at Reilly Ridge.[42] Perhaps the deaths of their two eldest boys made it difficult to till the land and pay the mortgage. In 1881, the family lost the Elma farm to the sheriff. Subsequently, they became working tenants on a farm owned by I.A. Libby just east of Cresco in Winneshiek County.[43] But their days of moving were not at an end.

William died "in 1889 about 10 miles north of Cresco."[44] Was he residing there or just visiting when he passed away? We do not know with certainty, but we have strong suspicions that he resided there. In 1890, William's son James purchased a farm owned by Lawrence and Katie Breen. This farm, known by the Clarkin family as "the Breen Place," was situated nine miles north of Cresco on the Howard-Winneshiek County line. It is likely that at the time of William's death, the Clarkin family was already living on this land, perhaps renting it from the Breens, who resided in the town of Cresco.[45]

"The Breen Place" was located within a stone's throw of St. Kieran's Catholic Church, a lively congregation in Fremont Township of Winneshiek County. But William apparently was not buried there. His remains likely were brought to Lourdes Church Cemetery for burial. Although there is no "William Clarkin" stone at Lourdes, there is a footstone engraved "Our Brother" on the plot owned by John Clarken. Custodian's records confirm that an un-named "Our Brother" was buried in this same plot.[46] Because William is the only Clarken brother whose grave is unaccounted for, this almost certainly is William's resting place.[47]

Henry

While young Henry accompanied his older brothers from Pittsburgh to Iowa, he did not spend the majority of his adult life in immediate proximity to them. A newspaper article[48] from Chickasaw County noted that "Henry Clarken . . . was a resident of this county as early as '54 and was awarded a teacher's certificate at the first institute ever held in the county." Henry had the unusual good fortune of attending three years of "college," the equivalent of today's high school.[49] Where he received his education is a mystery. Henry may have



Henry Clarken. Photo courtesy of Maureen Reed.

been educated in Ireland, in Pittsburgh, or in the private schools of Dubuque, Iowa. In the 1850s, Dubuque was the nearest opportunity for such high-powered education.

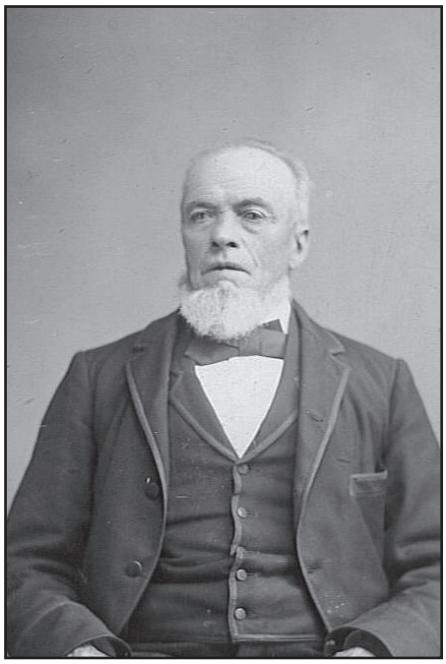
By the early 1860s, the young man purchased land in neighboring Fayette County with his older brother John[50]. Within a few years, Henry pulled up stakes and moved fifty miles west to farm and to teach school near Vincent, Iowa. These were not his only pursuits. Harriet Sells, the daughter of a successful farmer from Illinois, was another. J.D. Sells reportedly was not happy about his daughter's marriage to a Catholic, and an Irish one at that.[51] Henry's marriage to a woman of Methodist faith might have sent reciprocal reverberations through the Clarken family had he not grown up in a mixed-faith family in Ireland.

Although living many miles away, Henry did not sever contact with his brothers. When Francis was widowed for the second time, Henry made the Vincent locale a welcoming residence for his elder brother. An apparent extrovert with an interest in politics, Henry involved himself with the local Republican Party, served as justice of the peace, and earned the moniker "squire" from the local press. After half a century of successfully cultivating the fertile Iowa soil and raising eleven children with his wife Harriet, Henry died on his farm in 1916.

Clarken Sisters

Were there any sisters in this family of Clarken boys? In the genealogical information that Ellen Svejda collected, there is a notation that the Clarken brothers may have had two sisters, Agnes and Marie, who were nuns. This is unconfirmed. Thomas Clarken did have a daughter Agnes Marie, who attended a nun's school in Dubuque; this may or may not be the source of confusion. Investigation of the several convents in Dubuque and Pittsburgh from 1854-1880 reveal no nuns with the surname Clarken/Clarkin. Likewise, census records and death records in Dubuque list no Clarkens.[52] There is a mention of a "sister Hattie Clarken" in Frank's obituary. However, this represents a typographical newspaper error, as Hattie (Sells) Clarken was Frank's sister-in-law.

Another family story relates that a Catherine Clarkin, the oldest child of Owen and Margaret, brought all of the brothers over to America.[53] No documents have yet surfaced to verify this story, and no documentation of such a sister has been found in any type of written record. The question of Clarken sisters remains just that: a question with no factual support thus far.



Thomas Clarken. Photo courtesy of Maureen Reed.

Thomas' Farm and Family

The only Clarken sibling we have not yet covered is Thomas, who is variously described as residing in Howard County (Paris Township) or in Chickasaw County (Jacksonville Township). This is understandable given that he owned land in the Crane Creek region on either side of the county line.[54] As early as 1856, Thomas purchased Chickasaw County farmland from his brother John. Because the young village of New Hampton was not yet the county seat of Chickasaw County, the brothers' business transactions took them to West Union, the county seat of the more

established county of Fayette. In those years, West Union was the nearest town where settlers could purchase equipment and significant provisions. In May 1858, brothers Thomas and John witnessed each other's final naturalization at the court house in West Union.[55]

Later in the summer of that same year, Thomas Clarken married Maria Griffin.[56] Maria was a school teacher[57] and the younger sister of Thomas and Patrick Griffin. The groom knew both Griffin brothers well as the two families farmed contiguous lands and engaged in various land transactions dating to the early years of their mutual arrival on the virgin prairie.

As Thomas and Maria (Griffin) Clarken settled down to till the Iowa soil, they began their family. Nine months after their marriage, they welcomed their first child, Michael Joseph. His arrival was followed by the births of five daughters: Mary T. ("Mamie") in 1862, Margaret in 1864, Elizabeth in 1867, Julia Rose in 1872 and Agnes Marie in 1876.[58] But life on the fertile prairie was not always kind. Sixteen-year-old Margaret Clarken died in 1880 from typhoid fever.[59] Agnes was only four years old at the time her older sister died.

The Clarkens and the Griffins showed a keen interest in reading and education. Henry Clarken was highly educated and among the first trained teachers of the county, Francis Clarken was the "prince of book sellers," John Clarken was a devoted reader, and Patrick Griffin was a teacher.[60] Given that Maria (Griffin) Clarken also taught school before she married,[61] it is no surprise that all of Thomas and Maria Clarken's children became teachers in their adult lives. According to the 1885 census, daughters Mary and Lizzie worked as schoolteachers in Chickasaw County. In her 1889 diaries, Mary frequently commented on her various teaching experiences. Completing reports, hosting visits by the superintendent, and securing a supply of coal or wood for the stoves was among the tasks expected of a 19th century Iowa schoolteacher.[62] Lizzie was fortunate to have an eighth grade education;[63] perhaps this was also true of her older siblings, Mike and Mary. But the two youngest Clarken girls had an added advantage. They each attended the Sisters of Visitation school in Dubuque for one year, Julia in 1891 and Agnes in 1892.[64] The family must have valued education to go to the trouble, upheaval and expense of sending adolescent girls to a boarding school more than a hundred miles away when their mother was in failing health. Maria (Griffin) Clarken died on her farm in late 1891,[65] the cause of her death unknown.

Agnes learned more than her ABCs while away at school. According to her daughter, Kathleen (Reed) McGarry, Agnes also learned to play the organ. Upon completing her education, she worked as a housekeeper for a Dubuque banker,[66] but eventually she returned to Chickasaw County to teach school.

At age twenty-three, Agnes married a man she had known all her life. The groom, Thomas F. Reed, was eleven years her senior and had grown up on a farm within a mile of the Clarken land.[67] St. Mary's Church in Lourdes was the site of their 1897 wedding.[68] The newlyweds did not immediately set up a household. Instead, after the wedding, Thomas returned alone to his newly purchased farmland in southwestern Minnesota where he completed preparations on the farm and cabin. Sometime later, Agnes traveled by rail to Redwood County. Tom met his bride at the train station in Walnut Grove, and they bumped their way to their Westline Township farm in an ox-drawn wagon.[69]

The 1890s were eventful years in the lives of the Howard County Clarkens. Not only did Agnes tie the knot but Michael married Ida Jenks in 1895[70] after selling his Paris Township land to his sister Lizzie.[71] Michael's new wife then purchased a farm in northern Howard County on which their daughter Marie was born the following year. The couple relocated to Minnesota, farmed for a time in Crow Wing County, and celebrated the arrival of their second child, Earl.

The Next Generation: Thomas' Children

At least once, at the close of the century, the widowed Thomas Clarken traveled to Minnesota to visit his married daughter Agnes and his unmarried daughter Lizzie, who temporarily resided in a cabin on Agnes' farm. In 1900, the 68-year-old Thomas Clarken died at Lizzie's Howard County home; he was buried next to his wife in the Lourdes cemetery.[72]

Between 1896 and 1903, all of Agnes' sisters were married: Mamie to local farmer George Hughes (who may have resided on the Clarken farm in

1880[73]), Julia to farmer Frank Murphy of Elma, and Lizzie to farmer Frank Maroney, whom she met while teaching in Minnesota.[74]

In time, all of Thomas Clarken's daughters moved to farms in southwestern Minnesota. Mamie's relocation to Minnesota was temporary while Agnes, Lizzie, and Julia relocated there permanently. These three sisters reared their children and lived out their years within socializing distance of one another.

By 1905, Michael and his wife, Ida, had trekked via Wyoming to San Diego in search of health for Ida, who suffered from consumption.[75] She succumbed to tuberculosis in 1908, three years after the birth of her third child. Despite half a continent's distance, Michael stayed in touch with his four sisters. Two of them (Julia and Lizzie) traveled together cross-country to visit their brother in his later years;[76] Agnes also made a trip to San Diego shortly before Michael died.[77]

Mamie (Clarken) Hughes was the only family member to remain on the land that her parents had hewn from the prairie. In Mamie's final days, Agnes traveled to Iowa to care for her terminally ill older sister.[78] After Mamie's death and that of her husband, the Clarken farmland passed to the next generation of Hughes children.

Endnotes

1 There is contradictory information regarding the name of Owen Clarken's wife. The 1889 Chickasaw County marriage record of son Francis Clarken (b. 1827) and the 1916 Webster County death certificate of son Henry Clarken (b. 1837) both list their mother as "Margaret Stokes." However, Kathleen Reed's 1934 "Family History," lists Thomas Clarken's mother as "Mary Hughes." This is incorrect. If Francis' and Henry's mother was Margaret Stokes, it is inconceivable that the mother of middle child Thomas (b. ~1832) was anyone other than Margaret Stokes.

The source of this error is the Old Reed Family Bible, which originally belonged to Isabelle (Vogan) Reed. It later came into the possession of Isabelle's son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Agnes (Clarken) Reed. This Bible was last seen around 1937. On the Bible's front page was written the unfolding family tree of the Hughes-Vogan-Reed family and, later, the Clarken family. It is likely that the Clarken branch was added into the Family Bible in such a way as to be mistaken for a branch of the Hughes-Vogan-Reed tree. There was indeed a Mary Hughes on the Reed side of the family. Regardless of how the Bible entry was written, eighteen-year-old Kathleen Reed (later McGarry) penned a several page "Family History" as part of her 1934 high school literature project. Kathleen wrote that she obtained all her information from the Old Reed Family Bible, which had belonged to her paternal grandmother, Isabelle (Vogan) Reed.

The confusion of Margaret Stokes with Mary Hughes was subsequently compounded. In the 1950s, Kathleen sent her "Family History" to her first cousin Marie (Clarkin) Beck. Marie copied the document verbatim into her own journal and returned the original to Kathleen, who kept it in a safe deposit box until the day she died in 2008. Kathleen's literature project was the source for Marie's journal entry; it was also the source used by James and Dorothy (Reed) Roberson to create their family tree in the 1960s. Because of the error in the original Bible source, all subsequent creations incorrectly state that Thomas' mother was Mary Hughes.

2 All of the Stokes surname entries in the late 19th and early 20th century County Monaghan church and census records thus far examined designate the Stokes family religion as Church of Ireland. Almost all of the records for Clarkens of this same period are Roman Catholic.

3 Obituary of John Clarken, *New Hampton Tribune*, 1900

4 Obituary of Francis Clarken, *Ft. Dodge Messenger*, 1903

5 Besides the Margaret Stokes/ Mary Hughes error, there is a second mistake in the Old Reed Family Bible. This error also was propagated into Kathleen's 1934 school project, the Beck journal, and the Roberson story, all of which designate County Armagh as Owen's birthplace. However,

there are reasons to doubt this. First, while Clarken is an exceptionally common surname in west central County Monaghan in the 1820s, it is distinctly uncommon in County Armagh and in the Armagh-Monaghan border region. Second, at least two of the Clarken boys (John and Francis) are known to have been born in County Monaghan. Unless Owen lived on the Armagh-Monaghan border, it is unlikely that he had two sons born in Monaghan and another son born in Armagh.

6 Stokes is an exceptionally uncommon surname in the 1820s throughout all of Ireland. The Stokes surname appears in the Tithe Applotment Books in only one northern county, west central County Monaghan.

The Tithe Applotment Books list four locations in County Monaghan where the surnames of Stokes and Clerkin coincide. (1) On the eastern border of Aghabog Parish, an Owen Clerkin leased four acres in Corravilla townland; in the contiguous townland of Drumlinney, a William Stoaks occupied a five-acre plot. (2) A James Stoaks had a three-acre farm in Corduff townland of Aghabog Parish; living immediately to the east in Corrinewey townland of Ematris Parish was an Owen Clerken with ten acres and to the south was a William Clerken in Kilmore East townland with two acres. (3) In Ematris Parish there was a Henry Stokes in Dernamoyle (30 acres), an Ann Stokes in Drumgarkin (9 acres), and a John Clerkin in adjacent Kilcrowe townland (5 acres). (4) A Eugia (or Egia) Stoakes rented 12 acres of land in Drumaclan townland of Kilmore Parish, while a Francis Clerkin rented a very small holding in nearby Tullykenny townland of Drumsnat Parish.

There are no Stokes families listed for Aghabog, Ematris, Kilmore, or Drumsnat Parishes in the Griffith's Valuation,

7 Ordnance Survey, County Monaghan, 1838

8 Jim and Dorothy (Reed) Roberson designate Armagh as Owen's place of death in 1840. For the same reasons listed in the footnotes above, this represents a misreading or an error in the original source.

9 Obituary of Francis Clarken

10 Extant church records of County Monaghan reveal only one marriage entry that may or may not be that of William Clarken and Mary Duffy. In Kilmore/Drumsnat RC parish, on September 20, 1851, a Mary or Mary Ann Duffy of Kilmore married a Wm Clerkin of Aghabog.

11 1860 and 1870 Federal Iowa census, and gravestone

12 An undated photo exists of Mary Duffy (later Clarken) as a young woman, taken at the preeminent Alex Ayton Studio in Londonderry. To have such a photo taken was extremely expensive, within the reach of only the wealthiest of families. Its existence implies that either the Duffy family or the Clarken family was well off. As no other evidence or stories of family wealth exist, the circumstances of the photo are not easily explained.

13 The 1900 census lists 1852 as Henry's immigration date, 1853 as Francis' date, and 1854 as Mary's (and, presumably, William's) date. 1854 is too late, however, because of the April 1854 naturalization application. John's and Thomas' dates are unknown. The Old Reed Family Bible indicated that Thomas arrived in New York around 1845 and traveled to Iowa in 1847. However, this information is incorrect and represents confusion of Thomas Clarken with Thomas Griffin, the latter of whom immigrated to New York about 1845. There is no evidence that Thomas Clarken was in the U.S. or in Iowa as early as 1847.

14 Obituary of Francis Clarken, [unknown newspaper], 1903

15 Obituary of Francis Clarken, [unknown newspaper], 1903

16 Death certificate of Margaret (Clarkin) Kelly

17 The microfilmed immigration records from the Prothonotary of Allegheny County, 1854, are microfilms of small slips of paper, one per applicant. Given this system of record-keeping, John's record may have been lost or he may have applied in another county.

18 Naturalization records, Chickasaw County, 1860

19 Deed records, Chickasaw County

20 *New Hampton Courier*, 1889

21 1860 Federal census

22 1856 Iowa State and 1870 Federal censuses. John is not listed with his brother William in the 1860 census. There is a John Clarkin residing as a farm laborer to E.H.

Williams in Grand Meadow Township, Clayton County. Given the rarity of the surname Clarkin/en, this is probably our man.

23 1885 and 1895 Iowa state censuses
24 Jan-May 1889, diary of Mary (Clarken) Hughes
25 About twenty miles roundtrip
26 About 260 miles roundtrip
27 Obituary of John Clarken, *New Hampton Tribune*, 1900
28 Obituary of John Clarken, *New Hampton Tribune*, 1900
29 Gravestone, Our Lady of Lourdes Church cemetery
30 *History of Jerico and Jacksonville Township*, by H.W. Breuchel
31 *History of Jerico and Jacksonville Township*, by H.W. Breuchel
32 Obituary of Francis Clarken, [unknown newspaper], 1903
33 Marriage records, Chickasaw County, 1889
34 Jan-May 1889, diary of Mary (Clarken) Hughes
35 *History of Jerico and Jacksonville Township*, by H.W. Breuchel
36 Church records, St. Ignatius Church, Reilly Ridge, 1867
37 *History of Jerico and Jacksonville Township*, by H.W. Breuchel
38 Ed Kelly's family story
39 1877 gravestone, Reilly Ridge Cemetery
40 1880 Federal Iowa census
41 Howard County Homestead Exemption book
42 Ed Kelly's father told him that Francis and John P died about the same time and were buried in Reilly Ridge Cemetery
43 1885 Iowa State census
44 Probate records of John Clarken, 1900
45 Howard County deed records show that this land was later reclaimed by the Breens in a legal settlement.
46 As of 2005, these records are held by Francis Nibaur, the current custodian of Lourdes Church Cemetery.
47 It is likely that William's widow, Mary (Duffy) Clarkin, was buried beside her husband at Lourdes cemetery in an unnamed, unregistered burial in this four-grave lot. Mary is the only immediate family member whose burial site is unknown. Therefore, it is logical, but unproven, that this unmarked grave is hers.
48 Unknown Chickasaw County newspaper, April 1900
49 1915 Iowa Census
50 Deed Records, Fayette County, 1861
51 Notes of Ellen L. Svejda
52 Dubuque County death records
53 Verna (Clarken) Nowell as told to Ellen L. Svejda, May 2004
54 Deed records, Chickasaw and Howard Counties
55 Fayette County naturalization records
56 Notes of Jim and Dorothy (Reed) Roberson
57 Kathleen (Reed) McGarry's 1934 "Family History"
58 1880 Federal Iowa census
59 Death registry, Howard County
60 *History of Jerico and Jacksonville Township*, by H.W. Breuchel
61 Kathleen (Reed) McGarry's 1934 "Family History"
62 Jan-May 1889 diary of Mary (Clarken) Hughes
63 Family history from Ed Maroney, Lizzie's son
64 *Annual Catalog of the Sisters of the Visitation School*
65 Obituary of Maria (Griffin) Clarken, *Howard County Times*, November 26, 1891
66 Family history
67 Deed records, Chickasaw County
68 Marriage records, Howard County
69 Family history from Kathleen (Reed) McGarry
70 Marriage records, Howard County
71 Deed records, Howard County
72 *New Hampton Gazette*, April 12, 1900
73 1880 Federal Iowa census
74 Family history from Ed Maroney, Lizzie's son
75 Family history from Ed Maroney, Lizzie's son
76 Family history from Ed Maroney, Lizzie's son
77 Letter from Lucy Clarken
78 *Elma New Era*, July 2, 1925

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 to her childhood. She continues to pursue the goal of identifying the townlands of origin of her eight Irish great-grandparents.

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

100 Years Ago

The Fightingest Irishman of the Them All – O'Donovan Rossa, at 80, Tells Stirring Story of His Turbulent, Battling Career

New York, December 19th – The eyes of Jeremiah O'Donovan "Rossa" close in a mass of wrinkles and hide themselves under white shaggy brows when he smiles. And he smiles whenever you use the word "Fenian".

"How did you first discover that our folks didn't get their share?"

"It was the funeral of Jillen Andy."… "The people of Ireland were so poor then that they had to bury their dead with their own hands. Thead came over to my house and asked my mother if I couldn't help him dig a grave for his mother, who was known as Jillen Andy. My mother told me to help Thead and we went out into the cemetery. We dug for an hour maybe, and then Thead said, when the grave was about two feet deep 'This is deep enough, I don't want her too far away from me.'

"Then five neighbor men came carrying Jillen Andy on a board. There wasn't money enough in the village to buy a coffin, though the English landlords were exporting wheat we had raised on our rented farms."

"To this day I can see how softly the man handled the shovel, how quietly he laid the earth down at her feet, how the heap kept rolling and creeping up until it covered her head, and how the big men pulled their hats over their eyes."

"I was only a boy, but I do[sic] this wasn't right. Jillen Andy's funeral is what made me mad, and I've been mad all my life."…

"I've stood for poor folk all my life. I've always thought that the only [way] poor folk can get their rights is to fight for them. And I've made all the trouble I could."…
Muskegee Times Democrat,
Muskegee, Oklahoma
December 19, 1910

IRISH KEEP COMING

In spite of all the efforts of British statesmen, and many of them have been wise and helpful, the emigration from Ireland to America continues. There is not near the poverty and distress in Ireland there was some years ago, the evil of absentee landlordism is greatly abated, but the sons of Erin continue their going to the land across the sea where so many of their countrymen have proceeded them….
Hutchinson News,
Hutchinson, Kansas
September 23, 1910

"Here's to You, Irishmen!"
From the *Chicago Post*

Of all the herbs in the great melting pot of America wherein we are concocting the man of the future, the one we could least spare is the vivid, sweet, and wholesome green that is the product of the Emerald Isle!...
The Washington Post,
Washington, District of Columbia
October 24, 1910

150 Years

PENNSYLVANIA

Dr. Cahill write home to astonish his Irish fellow-countrymen with the excellence of America; but we fear the doctor has been dreaming of Utopia. He says:

"Every man, woman and child believes in the justices and the equity of the Constitution: he reveres the acting President: he respects the current cabinet: he belongs himself to the army: and walks, and stands, and speaks like a free human being. Cheap government, just laws, national liberty, are the "American mottoes."

Or, perhaps, the doctor didn't read the partisan papers.
The World,
New York, New York
October 1, 1860

200 Years

CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION

County of Mayo Meeting, Held at Castlebar, on Monday, Sept 17, 1810

Speech of Counselor McDonnell, at the Above Meeting

... Before I proceed to the consideration of this most important subject, I cannot help advertising to the air of discontent, and, I might add, of ridicule, which uniformly accompanies the animadversions of the Right Hon. Gentleman (Denis Browne) on the misapplication of the term Emancipation in the present instance. … he would feel himself reduced to a state of the most abject bondage, … if he was told that it was part of a system

New to the Library

by Beth Mullinax

that he should be denied the rites of his church if he should appear in defence of his King and Country: yes, Gentlemen, if, when pouring forth his final gasping breath in prayers for his country's cause, he should be told by his commanding officer – "True, you have fought for your King, and bled in his defence: but it is part of our system to deny you the humble consolation of communicating, at your dying moments, with a clergyman of your own persuasion!" Yes, Gentlemen, this is the language held out to the Irish Catholic soldier – "Fight for your country, my hero: bleed for that country, die for that country, but die like a dog!"…
British Press,
London, Middlesex
October 18, 1810

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.

Purchases

C131 - *The Hidden Graveyard: Memorials in Graveyard No. 1*, Church of the Holy Evangelists, Parish of Carnmoney, Church Road, Newtownabbey [Antrim], by Members of Newtownabbey Branch of the North of Ireland Family History Society, Belfast, NI, published by the Society, undated, 144 p., illus., alpha.

G127 - *Hatches, Matches & Dispatches: Births, Marriages & Deaths in the Omagh Area 1815-1873*. Compiled from Local Newspapers, by William McGrew. [County Tyrone]. Published by the Omagh Branch of the North of Ireland Family History Society, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, NI, 135 p., alpha.

H664 - *Inisvickillane: A Unique Portrait of the Blasket Islands*, by Micheal O Dubhshlaine. [County Kerry] Published by Brandon, Dingle, Co. Kerry, Ireland, 2009, 284 p., illus.

H665 - *Handloom Weavers in Ulster's Linen Industry, 1815-1914*, by Kevin J. James. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2007, 173 p., illus.

H666 - *Travellers' Accounts As Source-Material For Irish Historians*, by C. J. Woods. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2009, 248 p.

J177 - *Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors: A Practical Guide For The Family And Local Historian*, by William MaCafee. Published by William Macafee, 2010, 1 CD.

L107 - *Leinster To Lanark*, by Carol Bennett McCuaig. Published by Juniper Books, Renfrew, Ontario, Canada, 2010, 284 p., indexed.

N009 - *The Coleraine Chronicle*. Births, Marriages and Deaths 1844-1869. *The Ballymoney Northern Herald*, Births, Marriages and Deaths 1860-1863. Published by the Coleraine Branch of the North of Ireland Family History Society, Coleraine, Co. Derry, NI. CD

N010 - *The Londonderry Sentinel*. Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1829-1869. Published by the Coleraine Branch of the North of Ireland Family History Society, Coleraine, Co. Derry, NI. CD

Donations

S087 - *The Surnames of North West Ireland. Concise Histories of the Major Surnames of Gaelic and Planter Origin*, by Brian Mitchell. Published and donated by Clearfield Company, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2010, 326 p. , index.

Family History - *William Flynn, Born Killaloe [Clare County] Ireland, died Preston, MN*. Donated by Joe Reid, St. Paul, MN

Family History - *The Byrne Family of County Wicklow, Ireland*, by Carol Byrne & Dwight A. Radford. Published by Carol Byrne, Oakland, CA, 2010, 57 p., illus.

Erin's Son's: Arrivals in Atlantic Canada

Terrance M. Punch

Order Book # L102
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Volumes I and II cover the years 1761-1853.

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From the time of the earliest European colonies, there were Irish settlers in the four provinces of Atlantic Canada: Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. Yet the early records of these Irish immigrants in Atlantic Canada are fewer and less informative than those of New England and New York from the same period. *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada* goes a long way toward rectifying this problem. Terrence M. Punch has combed through a wide-ranging and disparate group of sources, including newspaper articles and advertisements, local government documents and census records, church records, burial records, land records, military records, passenger lists, and more, to identify as many of these pioneers as possible and disclose where they came from in the Old Country. These sources often contain details.

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Returning Home, Migration from 1858-1870

Eneclann CD

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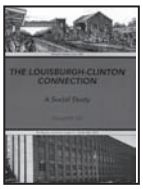
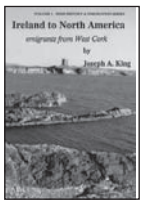
Edward M. Gill



The book recounts the suffering and harassment emigrants from Louisburgh, Mayo endured on their way to America. This book includes the names of emigrants who left Mayo. Order Book #IE44 Cost: $27.66

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 ninetieth century. Follows them to Canada and their descendants westward following rivers and railroads to Maine, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Pacific NW. (124 pp) Order Book #I018 Cost: $13.95

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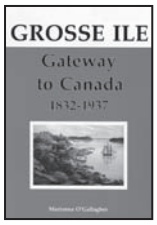
Grosse Ile Gateway to Canada 1832-1937

Marianna O'Gallagher



Running of the St. Lawrence Quarantine Station coincided with the Famine Migration so most inhabitants were from Ireland. The heartbreaking story of those fleeing the famine only to find danger aboard ship. A list of orphans and ships. (185 pp) Order Book #L010 Cost: $16.95

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Jim Rees

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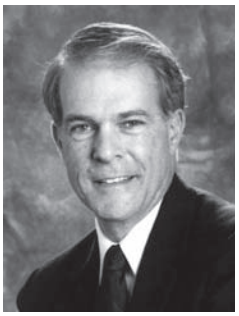
November Quarterly Program

Finding an Immigrant's Place of Origin



Finding an Immigrant's Place of Origin
Tom Rice, speaker

Date: November 20th, 2010
Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 noon
Location: Brooklyn Park Library
8600 Zane Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN
Cost: Free

This program will address some of the best strategies and sources to uncover the most important key for extending a lineage back to the birthplace in the mother country.

Tom Rice is a popular writer and speaker, a board-certified genealogist, and a professional genealogy researcher. He is a director of the IGSI, managing editor of *The Septs*, past director of the Minnesota Genealogy Society, and a genealogy help desk volunteer at the Minnesota History Center library. He attended educational workshops at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy.

2010-11 IGSI Education Calendar:

All classes will be held at the MGS Library in South St. Paul on Irish Saturdays. Cost is $10 for members, $15 for non-members.

October 9, 2010 (10-11:30 AM) – Tracing Irish Catholic Records with Mary Wickersham

(1-2:30 PM) - Irish Records in Canada with John Schade

November 13, 2010 (1-2:30 PM) – Irish Holiday Traditions Workshop

January 8, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) - Land Records with Diane Lovrencevic

February 12, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) - Civil Registration with Beth Vought

March 12, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) - Irish Research Websites with Sheila Northrop

April 9, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) – Preparing for a Research Trip to Ireland, Mary Wickersham

May 14, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Migration Patterns with Sheila Northrop

June 11, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) – Using Griffith's Valuation, Instructor TBD

July 9, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) – Locating Irish Church Records with Sheila Northrop

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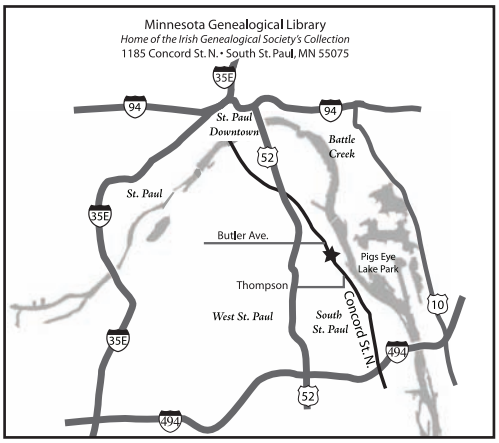

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Volume 32, Number 1

The Septs

Canàir (January) 2011

Boston Pilot
Ulster Gazette & Armagh Standard
Offaly Independent
The Irish News
Down Democrat
The Liberty
The Gael
Anglo Celt
Carrick Times
New Ross Echo
IRISH POST
NEWSPAPERS
The Irish Times
Donegal News
THE GALWAY INDEPENDENT
Telegraph
PRESBYTERIAN
SLIGO POST
GOREY ECHO
Tuam Herald
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THE MAYO NEWS
Hannibal Courier-Post
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THE IRISH INDEPENDENT
Tyrone Times & Dungannon Gazet

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2010 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

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- FEBRUARY 12 2011
- MARCH 12, 2011
- APRIL 9 2011
- MAY 14, 2011
- JUNE 11, 20011
- JULY 9, 2011
- AUGUST 13, 2011
- SEPTEMBER 10, 2011
- OCTOBER 8, 2011
- NOVEMBER 12, 2011
- DECEMBER 10, 2011

(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 are 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Behind the Scenes at IGSI

The start of a new year brought changes to the IGSI Board. In December, we bade farewell to five Board members: Linda Miller, who served well as chair/president for a number of years; Diane Lovrencevic, the vice-chair of the Board; Kevina Munnich, secretary for the past few years; Elizabeth Beckers, and Beth Mullinax. We particularly thank Linda, Diane, and Kevina for their multi-year service as officers and their dedication to the work of the Society. While staying on the Board, Bob Zimmerman stepped down from the office of Treasurer, a position he held for a number of terms.

We will not lose the expertise of these wonderful people. While Linda steps down from the Board, she will continue to run the Bookstore. Diane will continue as chair of the Website committee, graphics editor of *The Septs* and the organizer of research trips, in addition to working on other projects. Beth Mullinax will continue as the Librarian for IGSI. Kevina Munnich and Elizabeth Beckers, who have been instrumental to outreach efforts in the past years, will continue their support of IGSI.

Three Board members will continue to serve on the Board: Ann Eccles is the new chair/president; Bob Zimmerman and Tom Rice will be directors on the board. New to the Board are Michael Flynn, the new IGSI Treasurer, Kay Swanson, who also serves as Membership chair, and Mary Wickersham, who works with special projects, also will join the Board. See photos of the new Board on page 57.

While not on the Board, Gregory Winters is a new volunteer in a major role. He will serve as editor of *Ginealas*, the e-newsletter.

What direction and action will the Board take in the coming year?

IGIS Collaboration and Promotion Projects begun in 2010 have led us in the direction of cooperative activities and promotions of IGSI. It is hoped that by following this path we may attract new members and renew the interest of former members.

- We are co-sponsoring an event, British Isles Day, in late April 2011 with the Minnesota Genealogical Society. See page 62 for more information.
- We have activated the Genealogy Blog we had spoken about much of 2010. To see what's been written, check the link on the IGSI website or find the blog directly at <http://irishfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/>.
- We are now on Facebook.
- We have become an associate member of the Council of Irish Genealogical Organizations (CIGO).
- Beth Mullinax has been asked to speak on Irish genealogy at the Northern Waters Genealogical Society in Wisconsin.

There are other opportunities for collaborations and cooperative projects. If you are aware of something – and are willing to work on the project – please talk with me or send me an email at president@IrishGenealogical.org.

Dues Increase Coming

An item that all members should attend to is the news that we will increase our dues on April 1 – not an April Fool's joke. The details of this decision can be found in an article on page 58. It's not a decision the Board made lightly. But to keep the level of quality in our publications and website in the midst of falling membership and rising postal rates, the decision was made. Members who wish to keep their membership price at the current rate can switch to Electronic membership and forego a printed copy of *The Septs* for a downloaded copy.

Monthly Classes and Quarterly Events

Sheila Northrop's success in creating, recruiting and providing monthly classes on Irish Saturdays in 2010 has been phenomenal! The opportunities have allowed members to learn more about Irish genealogy resources and tools, plan for research trips, and even to learn about Irish holiday traditions. And she has a new schedule of classes planned for 2011. Check out the information for the first few classes on page 62.

In the past, we scheduled four quarterly meetings and programs each year. In 2010, the Board reviewed quarterly meeting and program activities over the past three years. During that time, the attendance at the February Quarterly has been extremely low, equal to that of an average class attendance. So, in this year of change, we offer the opportunity for those 10-15 dedicated souls to stay warm at home. **There will be NO Quarterly Meeting in February.**

We will continue to have meetings and programs for the greater element of the Minnesota IGSI membership. We just won't do it in February this year.

Signposts for Research

by Ann Eccles

We talk about the signposts along the road of life as well as the signposts that point us in the correct direction when we travel. I can visualize the Irish signposts with arrows pointing in four or five different directions, each to a different town or point of interest. Family history research can be a bit like that Irish signpost. It may point in one direction to find vital records for an ancestor but in another direction to research church records. It may indicate another path to collect death-related records and reports. Sometimes the path is simply to a website; other times it is to a personal visit to a repository or a church. It may be a path to records on microfilm or card indexes. With luck, the road taken leads to the desired destination.

Newspapers are one of those directional signs, a road to be taken when looking for more information on family and ancestors. Newspapers may seem a meandering lane to a piece of information, but they are no more time-consuming than reading through a roll of microfilmed church records looking for one family name. Turning the corner, so to speak, and happening on the sought after information is so satisfying.

Through newspaper articles

- I've learned the color of the dress (yellow) that my grandmother wore on her wedding day;
- I've learned all of the parishes in which great-uncle Fr. Michael worked;
- I've learned the details of two different accidents which caused the deaths of two ancestors; and
- Through a list of siblings, I've linked one ancestor to the family.

There's an old riddle, "What's black and white and red all over?" The answer, of course, is a newspaper. Or perhaps this time, it's *The Septs'* January 2011 issue.

The information in this issue is amazing! Four wonderful theme-related articles provide information on historical and contemporary newspapers in Ireland, the U.S., and Canada. They discuss the history of newspapers in Ireland and identify the changing contents of newspapers in different time periods. There are lists of finding guides for newspapers and of indexes and abstracts to newspapers. IGSI members share their experiences in using newspapers in their research. While some sources of newspapers may be mentioned in more than one article, there are many sources unique to each article. Don't skip any of them.

We welcome four genealogists who are writing for *The Septs* for the first time. Gary Toms, a genealogy assistant at the Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, Missouri, provides an overview of using newspapers for family research. Brian Hutchison, the chairman and president of GEN-FIND Research Associates in Canada, offers an overview and history of newspapers in Ireland, with many suggestions of resources. Dr. Perry McIntyre, from Australia, has updated an article on Irish newspapers previously published in *The Irish at Home and Abroad* a dozen years ago. Much of what was written then continues to be relevant today. Alison Emery, an IGSI member from a family of journalism historians; shares her love of small town papers with us.

Laura Hanowski also provides an updated article on historical Canadian newspapers that appeared in *The Irish at Home and Abroad*. While the emphasis is on Canadian sources, some of the strategies for research are applicable to any newspaper. IGSI members Kathy Lund and Kathleen Strickland reveal successful newspaper research techniques in their articles.

Judith Eccles Wight describes various resources to use when searching for ancestors in County Derry. Jay Fonkert illustrates the issues of conflicting ages in official records. Dwight Radford explains the basics of census substitutes and how to create one for our own use. Mary Wickersham shares some of her favorite newspaper websites. She and her sister Sheila Northrop are regular contributors to *The Septs* as they cull items from historical newspaper 100 years and older. We also have a piece wherein IGSI members who researched in Ireland share some of their experiences.

Enjoy and explore.

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Newspaper Research: Finding the Sources, Finding the Facts

by Gary R. Toms

Newspapers have long been considered a passing medium of information, a throwaway item. Although generally viewed as only having current use or value, readers often saved a few specific issues or clipped items either because of perceived historical significance or personal interest. Complete runs preserved by libraries and archives can be invaluable in our research. The information they contain is of such value that it outweighs the challenges of finding the appropriate repository or online site and searching out the relevant article(s).

What can you expect to find in newspapers?

The content of interest to researchers runs the gamut from the reporting of significant or notable life events to local coverage, which can help place an ancestor or family in context historically. There is much to be found that in reading the same newspaper issues which informed and entertained your ancestors and their families. Among the items to be found are

- Birth, death and funeral notices
- Obituaries
- Announcements of other life events (graduations, engagements, etc.)
- Social news
- Old Settlers articles/lists
- Activities of clubs and organizations
- Legal notices, such as those from court cases
- Lists (unclaimed letters, delinquent taxes, county fair premiums, etc.)
- Advertisements and business notices
- Major local events, such as fires and floods, or a new courthouse
- The weather, crop prices, etc.

How does this help you?

The value and use of birth, marriage and death notices is obvious, since these are facts we search for as framework for the family history. Some items reported before mandatory vital records reporting could be the only surviving record of such an event. Obituaries, a closely related item, may contain all three of these facts for a specific individual, but are subject to errors. Such articles can also provide some details of a person's life which may not have been found through other research, such as the year or circumstances of immigration, specifics of occupation or business, religious affiliation, or membership in a particular fraternal or civic organization.

Old settlers' lists or articles about reunions can provide important clues to points of origin or arrival dates in the local area. These were especially prevalent in the late 19th century and continue as late as the 1930s in some localities. Many such articles were saved in scrapbooks. The old settlers' articles are often selected for reprint in genealogical quarterlies. Articles about family reunions have value since they often include a brief history of the family, or names and places of residence of family members.

Information about the weather, local crop and livestock prices, and the like improve your understanding of the local environmental and economic conditions experienced by an ancestor. Local news items can provide details about their lives, relationships and residences of various family members — valuable clues for further research, particularly for members of a family who have moved away. Consider some examples:

> A. S. Van Valkenberg of Kansas City, Mo., formerly of Pecatonia, returned to Kansas City, taking his invalid father who for several months has been with his sister, Mrs. John Merrill.
> From *The Pecatonia News* (Illinois), 19 June 1886

> Mrs. Jane Rice has returned from Des Moines, Iowa, where she was for six weeks with her son, Mr. Joe Murray, who was dangerously hurt at the brick plant where he had worked for the past fifteen years. Mr. Murray died August 31.
> From "Ash Grove Notes and News," *The Western Messenger* (Kansas City, MO), 20 Sept. 1918

Birth and death notices, obituaries, and local news items may account for a child who was born and died between census enumerations. Other than school records or a family Bible entry, this may be the only time the child is ever mentioned or recorded. County weekly newspapers are particularly good sources for each of these types of items.

Much useful information is buried in advertisements and legal notices. There you may find details of a business owned or operated by a family member, such as the announcement of a new business or a move, or the dissolution of

a partnership, and other matters which may illuminate family situations.

> RANAWAY
> From the subscriber, on the first of September last, Cornelius Young, Jr., without my knowledge or consent. This is to forbid all persons from harboring or trusting him on my account, as I shall pay no debts of his contracting, whoever will return him to the subscriber shall be liberally rewarded, and all necessary charges paid.
> Cornelius Young
> Allen [Michigan], July 14, 1846
> From *Hillsdale Whig Standard* (MI), 21 July 1846

Notices regarding debts, estates, and lawsuits filed make up the legal notice section, usually found alongside the classified advertising. These items are helpful as indicators of other records to seek in courthouse research, which may have been overlooked previously. In the absence of the original records, such as in a burned county, such notices take on increased value for the details contained. Consider Wayne County, Illinois. The U.S. Newspaper Project lists 29 newspapers available for Wayne County. Of those, fully twenty have issues available which predate a disastrous courthouse fire in November 1886. That fire destroyed all records for the county from its creation in 1819 through the date of the fire. Information contained in legal notices and other departments in those surviving newspapers may be the only record of many events for families residing in that area up to 1886.

How can you find this material?

There are basically three media in which to access newspaper content: microfilm, published extracts/articles, or digital copies and databases online. You may be able to access original newspapers in archival collections if those have not yet been microfilmed or digitized. Historical societies and archives collect newspapers as a resource for local historical research. Repositories have microfilmed many for preservation and often make the films available through interlibrary loan. Extracts or transcriptions of much of this data can be found published in books and articles. A surge in such publishing in recent decades has yielded a generous amount of resource material. In recent years, digitized copies of content, databases, and online indices are among the benefits that the Internet brings to research in newspapers.

The best way to locate published extracts is through library catalog searches focused on the locality of interest. Conduct a subject search for the locality and scan the results for books of newspaper extracts or obituaries. In the Family History Library catalog, search by place and look for newspapers as a subject category. Bear in mind that books of extracts may be classified in the category which best describes the majority of the content, i.e., vital records for books of birth, death, and marriage notices.

If catalog searches of your local library or genealogical library of choice are unsuccessful, try the catalog of the state library or state historical society for the state where the family lived. Better yet, explore WorldCat <www.worldcat.org>. This massive database provides a single, consolidated search of over 1.5 billion items in the catalogs of over 10,000 libraries. Here, too, search by subject, using the locality as your subject. Refine or filter the results as needed with keywords, as suggested above.

If the subject search approach overwhelms you with too many results, try a keyword search. Try combinations such as "Oakland County Michigan newspaper," then change it to plural; do the same two steps with "obituary" substituted for "newspaper," if that is the primary objective of your search.

Some published extracts may be more difficult to locate, but are worth seeking in the catalogs. This is true of those which are focused by group or some factor other than locality. Such items as *The Search For Missing Friends: Irish Immigrant Advertisements Placed in the Boston Pilot* and *Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of Pennsylvania and Adjacent Territory: From Advertisements in German Newspapers Published in Philadelphia and Germantown, 1743–1800* are examples of those which have been compiled regarding specific groups. A subject focus produces titles such as *Newspaper Accounts of the Civil War on the Western Frontier: Extracted from the New Era of Fort Smith, Arkansas* by Fran Alverson Warren. Others consist of content gathered from denominational newspapers which were regional or national in circulation: *Southern Baptist Messenger, 1852–1862 (a Georgia Primitive Baptist newspaper): Marriages and Obituaries* and *Marriage and Death Notices from the South Western Baptist*

Newspaper. More general keyword searches for "newspaper extracts," "obituaries published," or "death notices from," may disclose these if you do not know a specific title. Published or online bibliographies can help identify a title to focus your search.

Continue one step further beyond the catalogs and books. Some material from newspapers serves as the basis for articles in genealogical and historical periodicals. To locate such articles, use PERSI, the Periodical Source Index. Print editions and CDRom versions of some earlier versions are available in many libraries. An older version is included in Ancestry.com (the home/personal edition), but is not part of Ancestry Library Edition. The most up-to-date version of this powerful database tool is accessible online as part of the Heritage Quest site. Heritage Quest can be accessed through many public library sites; check your local library. PERSI as part of Heritage Quest can also be found on computers at the Family History Library and some Family History Centers.

In PERSI, choose "Place" search, enter the desired locality, and then choose "Other Items (misc.)" as the record type; this is the category in which most newspaper-based articles are indexed in PERSI. Conduct the same search again with other item types which may be based on newspaper content, such as "Obituaries" and "Vital Records." I have found newspaper-related content in all three. A recent search for Ogle County, Illinois, material with this approach yielded 23 articles. You may also search by leaving the item type blank and inserting "newspaper" or "obituary" in the keyword field, but this is more restrictive and less likely to yield results.

Once you locate an article citation in PERSI, check for the publication in the holdings of your local library and the Family History Library. If it is not available from either, you can request copies from the Allen County-Ft. Wayne Public Library, as explained on the site, or from the publisher or another library which holds the desired title.

Accessing the material

Although published extracts in book form or periodical articles are convenient and easy to use, bear in mind that they are usually extracts, not the complete article. Keep in mind, also, that each time an item is copied/transcribed/indexed, the opportunity arises for the introduction of error. You may still want to view the original article on microfilm for details which may not have been included in the extract or to be certain there are no copying errors.

If nothing is found in book form or articles for the locality or time period you seek, you will want to check the online resources. Here, as in so many other areas, the Internet has had great impact. The Internet makes it easier to find

- Home pages of current newspapers
- Scanned copies of actual newspapers or articles
- Indexing of some content
- Obituary archives
- Bibliographic listings of collections
- Library hours and locations

Numerous resources are available, including tutorials, bibliographies, indices, and databases or web pages with newspaper content. These usually include full, digitized copies of lengthy runs of newspapers, with extensive indexing. There are sites for individual titles, but there are also sites which contain digitized images from many newspapers. Underscoring the value of newspapers as a resource is the fact that most of the major, fee-based genealogical database sites include a newspaper component. As one example, Access Newspaper Archive, "contains tens of millions of searchable pages from over 400 cities and towns from hundreds of newspapers dating back as far as the 1700s. The collection includes coverage from the U.S., Canada, and the U.K."

The links cited in this article illustrate what is available, but which change and increase constantly with improvements, expansion of existing databases, and the creation of new websites. ICON, the International Coalition on Newspapers, maintains a website which has a rich selection of links <http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm>. This page highlights and links to past, present, and prospective digitization projects of historic newspapers. Four international collections are listed, and the site provides direct links to the archival collections from many nations. In the United States section, many links are provided to state newspaper projects, as well as direct links to various digital newspaper files and projects.

For Irish newspapers, the Irish Newspaper Archive <http://www.irishnewsarchive.com/> stands out as the world's largest online database of

Irish Newspapers. It is free to search, but charges a fee to view results. The Irish Times Digital Archive contains articles from 1859 to present; it is also free to search with a fee to view the articles. NewspaperArchive.com (fee) offers the *Public Register or Freemans Journal* (select dates only). In WorldVitalRecords.com (fee), researchers can access the *Irish Canadian* (Toronto, Ontario), the *Irish Times* and the *Dublin Journal* (Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland).

The increasing amount of pages being digitized each week, both historical and current, makes it much easier to find and access a great deal of material pertinent to newspaper research. Two major, national newspaper projects which are now online can be of major assistance in your research. The older of the two, The United States Newspaper Program, started in 1982. With Federal funding, program participants set out to locate, catalog and preserve on microfilm newspapers published in the United States from the 18th century to the present. Effort also focused on identifying existing finding aids, such as card indices compiled at libraries and historical societies.

The project structure provides for a single, coordinating agency in each state; this is usually the repository with the largest newspaper collection in the state. At the website for the United States Newspaper Program <www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html>, you will find links for many state projects and nine national collections, most with websites. Generally, you will find catalogs or bibliographic listings of newspapers published in the state, and information as to where holdings of those titles are to be found. Other sites and links offer bibliographies or other finding aids. Use the United States Newspaper Program site and its links to identify microfilmed newspapers and determine where those may be available for interlibrary loan.

The successor to the United States Newspaper Program is the National Digital Newspaper Program < http://www.neh.gov/projects/ndnp.html> possibly the largest single public resource for digital newspaper resources. It began as a federally-funded program in 2004. Working to create an online digital archive of historically significant U.S. newspapers, it also makes available bibliographic records and holdings information. The program currently provides access to more than one million newspaper pages from 23 states and the District of Columbia, published from 1860 to 1922, selected by libraries to represent their state's history in the national collection. Chronicling America <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> provides free, centralized access many of the resulting digital files.

Check the website of the state library, archives, or historical society for the locality of interest in your research, if you have not already been routed to their site by one of the programs listed above. Such sites can provide useful information about what is available, and its status. The Maryland State Archives website, for example, reports that over 300 newspaper titles totaling over two million pages of newspapers in their collection have been microfilmed. As an example of a state-level site which you can find via the U.S. Newspaper Program site, consider the State Historical Society of Missouri <http://shs.umsystem.edu/newspaper/>.

At this site you can find much helpful information, including:

- Missouri Newspaper Index Database
- Link to St. Louis obituary index
- Complete listing of every newspaper on microfilm at the state historical society, over 41 million pages
- Online catalog, an alternative to the above, which includes those not yet microfilmed or digitized
- Information on interlibrary loan
- General guide to "Using Newspapers for Genealogical and Biographical Research," as well as seven additional guides for specific types of newspapers
- Newspaper research request form
- Link to the newspaper section of the Missouri Digital Heritage site <http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/browse.asp?id=22> featuring thirteen newspapers from various parts of the state, with issues as early as 1835 and as recent as 1975.

Individual, locality-based sites can also be found. One example, <http://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>, offers "Over 13,501,000 Old New York State Historical Newspaper Pages." Cyndi's List <www.cyndislist.com> provides a generous selection of links, which may be the best way to locate some of the more scattered or obscure sites. As of this writing, the newspapers category on Cyndi's List has 841 links, with another 595 available in the obituaries category.

Do not overlook the USGenWeb.org site for the county or state. Such sites often contain information on current newspapers in a locality, and may offer extracts, indices, or a bibliography of known newspapers for the county, with dates of publication. The Bay County, Michigan, site provides a detailed list of newspapers published in that county from 1857 to the present, with dates of coverage and other notes. The Hillsdale County, Michigan, and Alexander County, Illinois, sites contain extensive extracts from early newspapers in their respective areas. The Alexander site also has a detailed history of newspaper publishing in the county up to 1881 and an obituary index for one newspaper compiled by Darrel Dexter, which covers 1858 through 1939. These examples show the range of newspaper-related material available on USGenWeb sites.

In the private sector, more riches await. Powered by researchers' interests and the need to fill gaps in certain content areas, a number of commercial newspaper database products have developed. NewsBank, Inc. maintains the largest digital archive of early American newspapers and other printed materials. It has its origins in a clipping service but now focuses primarily on converting other formats to digital files. With some content dating as far back as the 1600s, the service adds approximately 1.2 million articles each month. Another similar database is Access Newspaper Archive, which is available through WorldVitalRecords.com and as a separate database at many libraries. Among the current offering of over 5,500 newspaper titles are 49 from Ireland with dates ranging from 1710 to 1920. A personal favorite of the author, 19th Century U.S. Newspapers, is a smaller database. It offers 1.7 million newspaper pages from 500 newspapers representing a cross-section of the nation's newspapers. Other fee-based databases available include Black Newspapers (part of ProQuest Newspaper Premier), and ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

Ancestry.com, both in the form for home use and in Ancestry Library Edition, includes newspaper content and a major obituary collection. Don't overlook this content in your search results. Be aware that the newspaper content differs between the home edition and Ancestry Library Edition. Other large, genealogical database sites include newspapers as a component. Footnote.com includes the SmallTownPapers Archive in its content, and WorldVitalRecords.com incorporates a search of Access Newspaper Archive, as described above. Paper of Record, with over 21 million pages, is accessible through both WorldVitalRecords.com and Google News Archive search. Google News Archive search offers millions of newspaper articles from 1880 to the present, drawing upon both free and fee-based resources to provide the widest range of results possible.

In each newspaper database, whether freestanding or as part of another database, you will need to explore and experiment to learn how to construct your search for best results. Some will take the searcher directly to a close-up of the article matching the criteria; others will go only to the page and a second search must be entered to determine the location of the information on the page. Some searches allow use of Boolean searching to refine the results, but most do not. Read any guidelines or tips offered, for best results.

Obituary Searches

Obituaries rank near the top of the list of the uses of newspapers by genealogists. If the individual you seek is not in one of the larger online databases mentioned previously, then you must take another approach to find the obituary.

(1) First, determine the date and place for the event. Use cemetery transcriptions, local histories, lodge accounts, etc.

(2) For problems with a place name, check atlases, gazetteers, postal directories or maps. Online sources can help with this step; the USGS Place Name Server is a good site. <http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnispublic/f?p=127:1:2183000997456766>

(3) Finally, identify the newspaper needed and the repository which has a copy. The United States Newspaper Project site, previously mentioned, is a major resource for this. Other helpful links may be found through Cyndi's List <www.cyndislist.com/newspapr.htm>. Published bibliographies can be consulted at many libraries. Once you pinpoint the newspaper and its whereabouts, if it is on microfilm, discuss access via interlibrary loan with your local librarian. If the item cannot be borrowed or has not been preserved on microfilm and no online version is available, then the remaining options are to write to the

repository with a specific research request, travel there to search it yourself, or hire a local researcher to search it on your behalf.

Growing collections of resources for obituary sources are online. Obituary files and obituary indices are readily available at both free and fee-based sites. Obituary indices or extracts are available on some county sites through USGenWeb, as previously discussed. A number of free, online obituary indices with a special focus are available, such as Ireland Old News <www.irelandoldnews.com/obits/>, which lists obituaries of individuals born in Ireland from almost 55,000 obituaries and death notices gleaned from newspapers across the United States, Canada and Ireland. Similar specialty indices exist for Germans from Russia, Quakers, Mennonites, and others.

Among the fee-based sites, Obituary Registry and America's Obituaries and Death Notices (part of America's Genealogy Bank) are particularly good. The United States Obituary Collection, found in the Birth, Marriage and Death category of both Ancestry.com and Ancestry Library Edition, is also quite extensive. ObitsArchive.com (part of NewsBank) is another of notable size among the fee-based sites. Legacy.com is something of a hybrid, being a site where searches are free and the results include a mix of free and fee-based results. Check to determine whether your local library provides access to any of these sites.

There are many free obituary sites, as well. Obituary Daily Times, hosted on RootsWeb, is a volunteer project of long standing, providing a detailed index of obituaries. Obituary Depot, the obituary collections at GenealogyBuff.com, and other sites provide either indexing or full text obituaries, or compiled links to other sites with such content. Gateway sites such as Obituarieshelp.org and the Obituaries section of Cyndi's List can lead researchers to a variety of sites as well as provide useful articles on search techniques.

Broaden Your Search

No luck with newspaper searches focused on the immediate vicinity? Broaden your search to the next level for material has been compiled on a regional or a state-wide basis. For example, *Southwest Missouri Newspaper Abstracts* by Ruth E. Browning and *Genealogical Data from Southwest Missouri Newspapers, 1860–1870* by the late Marsha Hoffman Rising provide valuable content from that locality, selected from newspapers from various towns and counties, transcribed and indexed. In the case of religious denomination newspapers, some compilations are regional and others are national in scope. Also be alert to newspapers published for/by certain nationalities or ethnic groups, if it applies in your research. Geographic coverage in these often takes in a wider area than just the city or county in which the title is published. Search for these with keyword searches.

Special Challenge in Using Microfilmed Newspapers

When you find a newspaper you want to consult for research, what is missing? There is no index, a major lack since this is the feature researchers rely upon heavily when using printed resources. Without the guidance of a previously located, published extract or the search capability of an online database, the researcher is often stymied. If you are seeking coverage of a specific event and have a date, that at least narrows the search. Some large newspapers have a simple contents list, a form of index to tell the page number(s) for regular features and departments. This directs the reader to a certain page or pages for particular types of material. For the rest of the content, and for newspapers lacking this feature (most), use of an orderly method to read the newspaper in research mode can partially make up for this lack.

How to Read a Newspaper for Genealogy

Consider how to read newspaper for genealogy.

- Look first for contents lists, usually found on the front page
- Learn the layout
- Observe the position of regular features; editors take shortcuts and often place regular items in roughly the same order or on the same page in each issue
- Learn the frequency and titling of regular items, so you know when to expect them and how the item looks.

Scan several issues with these items in mind to familiarize yourself with how well this method works for the particular newspaper you are searching.

Once you have practiced this method, scan each issue, paying special attention to where you expect certain things to be. Also, read with a fresh viewpoint

to glean every kernel of information of value to your research. Keep in mind the objective of your search. Consider what each item of interest tells you in light of that objective. Glean all pertinent facts from local news columns, obituaries, etc.

Adventure Awaits

You have found a newspaper of interest in digital files online, or ordered a microfilm, or are preparing to travel to a repository to search original, paper copies. Bear in mind that these may or may not be indexed. Either way, an adventure awaits you. Remember how to read a newspaper for genealogy. Search thoroughly; glean every bit of pertinent information. You will gain a feel for the circumstances surrounding your ancestor's daily life in that locale, and will have an enjoyable time doing so. Be persistent, be thorough, and be hopeful. Good material is out there, and you are likely to find something of use in your genealogy. Keep your eyes open, and read the news. You may not find exactly what you are looking for, but you could happen onto something far better.

Useful links

Chronicling America
http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

Cyndi's List
http://www.cyndislist.com

Family History Library catalog
http://www.familysearch.org/eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp

ICON, the International Coalition on Newspapers
http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm

Irish Newspaper Archives
http://www.irishnewsarchive.com/

National Digital Newspaper Program
http://www.neh.gov/projects/ndnp.html

PERSI (Periodical Source Index) on Heritage Quest: http://www.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/index or via your public library site
PERSI (an older version) is available through Ancestry.com

Information articles and guides about using PERSI:
http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/periodicals/persi/about.aspx
http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/articles/persi.shtml
http://genealogy.about.com/cs/publications/p/persi.htm

Rootsweb
http://www.rootsweb.org

U.S. GenWeb
http://www.usgenweb.org

USGS (United States Geologic Survey) Geographic Names Information System http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnispublic/f?p=127:1:2183000997456766

U.S. Newspaper Program
http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html

WorldCat
http://www.worldcat.org/

Some Obituary Sites

Genealogybuff.com
http://www.genealogybuff.com/obituary_collections.htm

Ireland Old News
http://www. irelandoldnews.com/obits/

Legacy.com
http://www.legacy.com/NS/

Obituarieshelp.org
http://www.obituarieshelp.org/

Obituary Daily Times
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~obituary/

The Obituary Depot
http://www.daddezio.com/obituary/

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Researching Irish Newspapers for Answers

by Brian W. Hutchison

Often, huge amounts of our genealogical research, particularly research into Irish ancestry, lead us to sources which simply indicate that our ancestor came "*from Ireland,*" with no specific county or parish or townland. Irish researchers know how frustrating such results can be, frustrating because Irish research is very short on a contiguous line of any record source over several centuries. Short of wills and estate records, most other genealogical records have survived only in part or not at all; those that have survived often are not fully inclusive of the contemporary population; and they are often difficult to access or examine.

Value and Challenges of Newspapers

With few comprehensive Irish parish registers and only a small proportion of recorded wills for the population, newspapers are old and long-standing Irish genealogical sources and hold an important link to ancestry for genealogists. It is important to remember that newspapers change their names or their base of publication or even stop printing for extended periods. Newspapers do not archive well; newsprint ages and paper quality, always poor, decays quickly. Further, the collections are all over the place making their access difficult. However, there are resources to assist you in locating the details you seek. Yet due to the endemic imprecision of genealogical information it is almost always necessary to search a wide range of dates in these source records, making their use extremely time-consuming at best.

Ireland was slow in developing its newspaper industry. The earliest known Irish newspaper was published in 1649 though its production was only on occasion during the 17th century. Newspapers became more widespread and informative in the mid-1700s but included very little local news or other news of genealogical value, certainly in terms of births-marriages-deaths. Extensive collections of newspapers cover much of Ireland, primarily from the 1750s. Their availability is often difficult to trace, however, and many newspaper issues no longer exist at all, particularly from the 18th century.

Despite the impressive array of information to be found in these source collections, it is important to realize that these records represent only a modest subset of the total Irish population, which is sadly characteristic of most of the surviving Irish record collections. Social strata within Ireland were often treated differently; some were seldom accounted for at all.

Therefore, the vast majority of citizens documented in these printed sources had reasons to make public statements about their lives; generally, these were Irish men and women who owned property or who had social position. Simply stated, they were Irish subjects of the middle and upper classes: the nobility; the merchant, clergy, and professional classes; and the agricultural gentry. Unless in accounts of crime or great distinction, seldom does one find information concerning anyone at or below the middle-class agricultural farmer level, which accounted for the vast majority of the population. Newspapers are particularly useful for locating the Catholic middle classes as they came into evidence after the relaxation of the Penal Laws[1] in the 1770s; they are one of the best sources extant for tracing the many craftsmen of Ireland by way of vital statistical entries and advertisements.

Newspapers provide historical and social context for your ancestors' lives, an important element to understanding your predecessors and writing their stories. How did a community respond to a local, provincial or national event? The society news often reported who visited, who travelled, and who was sick and often published news that occurred in towns forty or more miles away, across local, county and state/provincial lines.

Brief History of Irish Newspaper Publishing

The emergence of Irish newspapers and periodicals, as with those of their British counterparts, in general, resulted from two needs, both of which induced the ongoing commercial interests for profits:

1) *The need for news of current or recent affairs* by

    a) gentlemen in the country areas, such as Members of Parliament back in their constituencies who wanted to know what the government (both Church and Crown) was doing in Dublin that might affect the way of life for their families, servants and tenants;

b) merchants and other traders who wanted to know market prices for corn, potatoes and other commodities possibly affected by weather, internal traveling conditions and actions of foreign markets;

c) merchants, with the growth of overseas trade from the mid-16th century, who wanted details on ports and sailing vessels and assurance on the political stability of potential trading partners in Continental Europe and elsewhere.

2) *A growing need for literary entertainment* brought about by the decline in traveling troupes of performers and the growth of the theatrical houses, accelerated by the endowment of many schools (by merchants and gentlemen from the late 15th century), and developing literacy and education.

The earliest known Irish newspaper, the *Irish Monthly Mercury*, was published in Cork City in 1649 though it only lasted until the following year. Following that came the *News-Letter* out of Dublin, in 1685, which lasted seven months; the *Dublin Intelligence*, in 1690, which lasted until 1693; and the *Dublin Flying Post* which began in 1699 and lasted until 1722.

In the mid-18th century the number of major city and provincial newspaper titles and readerships increased greatly; during this period, they began to carry information of genealogical value. Unfortunately, the custom of publishing family notices of one sort or another fell into disuse in the first decades of the 19th century and did not resume until into the 1820s. In contrast, during this same period, advertisements became less genealogically useful as family-owned businesses started to decline and complex corporate business structures took root. The rise in publication of town newspapers came in the early 1800s.

Early on, newspaper publishers were quick to ridicule and complain about the ineptness of government actions. So, various royal and government proclamations curbed the press for much of the late 15th and early 16th centuries with constant reminders of the laws concerning seditious libel. By 1695 in England and by 1719 in Ireland with their *Dublin Evening Post*, restrictions were being lifted from the reporting of news events. Thus, newspapers sprang up like mushrooms to report the daily social, political, technological, cultural, and economic events (with particular emphasis on the latest gossip of the late 18th century), appearing weekly, twice and even thrice weekly.

These newspapers generally sold for 1d (1 penny/pence) and, as there were no reporters as we know them of today, carried mostly foreign or national news. These newspapers openly copied each other's texts, a process which was a double-edged sword: on one hand, the news remained consistent from locality to locality; on the other hand, there was no real questioning of the news, much of which the government of the day provided indirectly or circuitously.

Because of the rising popularity of newspapers and periodicals, proprietors of these publishing establishments realized that their publishing costs could be recovered and thus could provide even greater profits, not only from direct sales, but by also carrying paid advertisements within the publications. Initially, the advertisements were of coach and carriers' timetables, for missing persons, on emigrating persons, or regarding details on arriving and sailing ships. This swelled to include more business-related advertisements and accountings of vital statistical events. In the early days, most advertisements were mild and factual; outlandish and sensational claims about products and events came much later, with the public loving more and more of the latter, which sold even more papers.

In the 18th century, due to the restrictions of printing technology and low circulation in the early days, the production of newspapers was very limited, primarily to a few hundred copies. The government was sensitive to printed criticism. Thus, it was extremely common for publishers to be fined or even imprisoned for the slightest of seditious commentary. The criticism grew, however, and by the last decades of the 18th century, the press became venomously critical of the Irish administration (which, of course, was also the English administration) and its multitude of seemingly corrupt and inept practices. The government retaliated with the *Press Acts* of 1784, 1785, and 1798, which made the printers, publishers

and owners of newspapers more liable for even greater prosecution.

The costs of prosecutions and defense by the printers and publishers, along with the consequences of the Acts, which included an increase in the stamp duty payable on newspapers and an increased tax on advertisements in the papers, had the effect of increasing the cost of newspaper production, thus making the sale of newspapers more expensive. The government knew that publishers were dependent upon the revenue generated from advertising and that increased costs would deter advertisers proving opposition newspapers to be financially non-viable. In spite of this tactic by the government, the popularity of newspapers grew. Several newspapers, such as the *Volunteer Journal* and the *Dublin Evening Post,* continued to publish critical accounts of government and members' activity regardless of the fines.

During this period, the Irish government administration countered by bribing owners and publishers or by paying for the publication of official notices in newspapers under their indirect control. Two of the newspapers in this category were *The Public Register* or *Freeman's Journal* under Francis Higgins and *The Dublin Journal* under John Giffard.

Newspaper readers of the day were almost exclusively the Protestant gentry and the literate class; they held ownership and influence in Ireland. As readership rose, newspapers came to be published on regular days with circulation spreading beyond the larger cities. As mentioned earlier, most of the news in Irish newspapers was copied among the publications and most of it was government and church-related, copied from London newspapers.

By the late 18th century, newspapers carried a lot of local news and ample gossip, particularly during times of political agitation. In general, the main items of interest were the vital events (births, marriage notices, and deaths), details on commodity prices, and advertisements – all of which were public paid announcements. The vital events and the advertisements provided important genealogical information for researchers. Aside from the historical accounts of the day, other useful information included individual/group specific declarations by the Lord Lieutenant and notices of individual crimes and punishments. The usefulness of newspapers for genealogists changed over time to include more news and more genealogically relevant information.

With the close of the 18th century, the Irish Rebellion of 1798[2] and the economic effects of the Napoleonic Wars[3] had a dampening effect on newspaper publishing, particularly in Ireland. After the 1840s, circulation figures began to increase due to a variety of reasons:

(a) Paper making processes and printing technology changed, which reduced the price of paper and increased the production capacity; the reduced costs made newspapers cheaper;

(b) The abolition of the stamp duty and taxes on advertisements in the 1850s reduced the price of newspaper production and sale;

(c) The *Education Acts* in the latter part of the century spread the use of the English language, improved literacy levels and widened newspaper readership; and

(d) The type of news coverage changed. As the profession of journalism developed and the modes of transport and communication improved, there became more locally-relevant Irish news content and less copy from the London newspapers of English news.

With diverse religious opinion and nationalism spreading in Ireland in the mid 19th century, the number of political and radical newspapers expressing the opinions of particular organizations increased. *The Nation*, published by the Young Irelanders[4] in 1842, was the first nationalist newspaper to advocate the repeal of the Act of Union. At this time there was not a nationalist press, although many newspapers were sympathetic to some level of Catholic emancipation, and many papers gave extensive coverage to Daniel O'Connell and his emancipation movement. O'Connell published his own radical newspaper, *The Pilot*, which overtly and directly brought nationalist issues to the forefront of Irish life. The Irish administration, with the same rigor as in the past, reacted by suppressing the radical publications and imprisoning those involved with their publication.

Despite this early foray, the nationalist press did not really develop until the late-1870s. The growth of the Nationalist Party in Westminster increased awareness of the national

culture at a time when literacy was spreading among the masses; in turn, the newspaper became an important tool for both unionists and nationalists to spread their messages. In a few Irish towns and counties, newspapers were funded by the Nationalist Party to provide a balance to an existing newspaper, which was usually unionist in its outlook. Charles Stewart Parnell, leader of the Nationalist Party, owned *The United Ireland* which he used to express the views of his party. *The Freeman's Journal* and a large section of the provincial press, which was growing, were supportive to the Nationalist Party cause.

As the 20th century began, newspapers continued to be divided over support for Home Rule versus Independence. Later newspapers divided over support for the Anglo-Irish Treaty. Newspapers were often suppressed and the offices attacked or burned, leaving unique back files destroyed. Of importance to the genealogist in this discussion is that the newspapers often carried names of those who committed crimes or were benefactors of government incarceration –criminal, nationalist, or otherwise.

The changing values of Ireland were reflected in the attitude of "out with the old and in with the new." The first decades of the 20th century saw the demise of one of the oldest Irish newspapers, *The Freeman's Journal*. *The Irish Times* and *The Irish Independent* became the major daily papers. The *Irish Press* newspaper, a popular and important national daily, ceased publication in May 1995, after 64 years of printing. With the changing times, the Irish people and government were refocusing their views.

Contents of Irish Newspapers

Newspapers portrayed the political, economic, social, technological, religious, ecclesiastical, and social news of the day, usually seasoned by the beliefs and viewpoints of the owners and the editors. Useful genealogical information found in Irish newspapers were of two principal forms: biographical announcements and advertisements.

From the mid 1750s, with increasing frequency up to the 1850s, the former consisted largely of announcements of marriage (or intentions of marriage) and obituary/death notices. Birth/baptism announcements for this period tended to be very sparse, often related only to the wealthy classes, and provided little genealogical information. Many items were culled from provincial newspapers; the provincial announcements in the Dublin papers were slightly abridged from their original form. Consequently, if the local paper exists, it is better to seek the notice there. The notices generally appeared in the Dublin newspapers about ten days (or ten issues for non-dailies) after their appearance in the provincial newspaper.

Newspapers inserted advertisements on a regular basis. Of those advertisements holding genealogical value, some indicated changes in business ownership (e.g., from father to son or brother to brother) or the location of the business (which might be the same as the family's residence), the whereabouts of account books (which may still exist), or how these businesses interacted with your ancestor(s).

Paid advertisements reflected stories of eloping husbands and wives, abusive or abandoning husbands, bad debts, land sale notices, bankruptcies, dissolution of businesses, and probates of estates. Newspaper entries existed for most classes of people within Ireland except for the poorest farmers and landless tenants, though the vast majority of entries were for the gentry and nobility classes.

You may find mention of ship and passenger arrivals; emigrants (in the early newspapers before the large Irish diasporas); naturalizations; names of persons who have arrived in town as hotel guests; lists of unclaimed mail; taxation lists; lists of individual moves and relocations; group accounts of those on orphan sailings/trains (e.g., to Canada, America or Australia); names of criminals, crimes and their origins; and much more. Further, people seeking missing friends and relatives often wrote letters to the newspapers or purchased classified advertisements for this purpose. Historical newspaper columns featured an event from a generation or more earlier, (e.g., "Forty-Five Years Ago This Week" which might include a photo of your grandmother who did something special or someone who died on that date).

Apart from community news of the day, newspapers and various pamphlets/periodicals contained a wealth of other information: details on legal and court cases; military and Government appointments to public office; social news of the more or less important families; and reported accidents or unusual events. Many newspapers and periodical magazines ran series of

genealogical articles regarding county families and individual biographies. From time to time, newspapers in seaport cities provided details on people who emigrated by ship to America, Canada, Australia, and other countries.

Remember, a well-placed advertisement in today's Irish newspapers, as in historical times, may help you locate descendants or relatives who can assist you with your search of your ancestor.

Newspapers can help determine the dates of old photos if you locate an advertisement or announcement of the event in the picture.

Within the collection of newspapers at the National Library of Ireland is an interesting assemblage of four-thousand volumes from Ireland's Chief Secretary's Office. Received in 1922, it contains significant runs of Irish provincial papers which had been used to gather information about subversive and political activity around the country in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. All of which may help you trace possible criminal ancestor(s).

Bibliographies & Indexes to Irish Newspaper Collections

Before consulting the hosts of bibliographies and indexes to Irish newspaper collections, be aware that a subscription-based database, *The Irish Newspaper Archives*, is being developed to digitize Ireland's entire newspaper heritage. The information is being stored in the exact format of the original newspaper and is every word/picture searchable. The archive ranges from the 1700s to the present. Information on this archive can be viewed at <www.irishnewsarchive.com>. Further, both the British Library catalogue and the National Library of Ireland's NEWSPLAN[5] catalogue have complete lists of all Irish newspapers and their periods of coverage. For more contemporary online newspaper collections, consult <www.onlinenewspapers.com/ireland.htm>.

There are many indexes to the biographical material in Irish newspapers, which helps to reduce the time-consuming nature of researching a source collection. However, like any index, these are open to error and missing entries. Few comprehensive indexes to Irish newspaper collections currently exist online or in digitized format. The following list of bibliographies and indexes, and their locations, should be helpful in your quest:

- Green, John, compiler. *The Index to biographical material in the Belfast News Letter* (1737-1800),[6] at the National Library of Ireland (NLI) and the Linen Hall Library (LHL).

- Crane, R. S. and F. B. Kaye, *A Census of British Newspapers and Periodicals, 1620-1800*, 2nd ed., (London: Holland Press, 1966). This book lists the Irish newspaper holdings of major American libraries.

- Farrar, Henry, *Irish Marriages Being an Index to the Marriages in Walker's Hibernian Magazine, 1771 to 1812*, 2 vols., (London: Phillimore and Co., 1897),[7] at NLI and LDS Library (LDS), also available on CD.

- ffolliott, Rosemary, *Card Index to Biographical Notices in Cork Newspapers (1754-1827)*, at the Library of University College at Cork and NLI. This index largely replaces the *Hibernian Chronicle* and *Cork Mercantile Chronicle* indexes noted below and created earlier by the Irish Genealogical Research Society.

- Index to *The Freeman's Journal* (1763 to 1771), at NLI. This contains not only a name index but a subject and date index as well. Copies of the original newspaper on microfilm exist within collections of the NLI and LDS from 1776 to 1793. Supplemental to this is an online compilation of births/marriages/deaths extracted from *Freeman's Journal* (which ran from 1763 to 1924) covering the period July 1817 to September 1823, titled *Irish Index* at <www.irishindex.ca>.

- Card indexes to the biographical notices in the *Hibernian Chronicle* (1771-1802) and the *Cork Mercantile Chronicle* (1803-1818), from the Irish Genealogical Research Society (18 Stratford Avenue, Rainham, Kent ME8 0EP, England) or online at <http://www.igrsoc.org/>.

- Manuscript Index to Births, Marriages and Deaths in a File of the *Hibernian Chronicle, 1769-1775*, at NLI and LDS.

- *Ireland News Extracts of Irish Newspapers*, an ongoing project covering newspapers dating as early as the late 18th century, is available online at <http://

www.newspaperabstracts.com/Ireland/index.html>. While not extensive, this source is an important extraction.

- *Index to the Irish Independent Newspaper Obituaries* (May 2001 - June 2002) is available online at Ancestry <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=6097>.

- Biographical notices, including index, from the *Kerry Evening Post* (1828 to 1864) are reprinted in Volume 6 of Albert Casey's *O'Kief, Coshe Mang*, etc.

- McCoy, Jack, *Index to the County Down Spectator*, 1904-1964 (Ballynahinch, Co. Down, Ireland: South Education and Library Board, 1983), at NLI.

- Moran, Maladry, "Miscellaneous Record Extracts with Index to Irish Records." The handwritten extracts are from such newspaper collections as *Faulkner's Dublin Journal*, 1729-1830, the *Freeman's Journal*, 1765-1835, and the *Dublin Gazette* for 1712, at the Genealogical Office of Ireland and LDS.

- *Newspapers in Microform: Foreign Countries*, (Washington, DC: Library of Congress, Catalogue Publication Division, 1984), at LDS. This source lists all reports from the foreign countries' portion of Newspapers in Microfilm from 1948 to 1982 as well as reports received through 1983. The source is arranged by country and city and indexed by title.

- Nichol, John, *Index to the Gentleman's Magazine* (1731 to 1818) at the British Museum and LHL.

- North, John S., *The Waterloo Directory of Irish Newspapers and Periodicals, 1800-1900*, at NLI and LDS. This source lists and describes Irish newspapers and periodicals from all fields and repositories in Ireland & Britain and sometimes identifies the holding repositories. The main entries of the book are arranged alphabetically by the name of the publication however, the "Place of Publication Index" lists the names of newspapers published in each town. The entries indicate if notices of birth, marriage and death were published, and the political or religious leanings of the publication are also indicated in many cases.

- Index to marriages and deaths in *Pue's Occurences* and the *Dublin Gazette* (1730-1740), at NLI (ms. 3197).

- Robinson, Kenneth, *An Index to the Newtownards Chronicle (1873-1900) and the Newtownards Independent (1871-1873)*, at NLI.

- Sadleir, Thomas Ulick, *Marriages in Dublin Newspapers, 1731-1740* (Salt Lake City, UT: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1949), originally in handwritten extract form, at the Genealogical Office of Ireland and LDS.

- Schelegel, Donald M., *Irish Genealogical Abstracts From the Londonderry Journal (1772-1784)*, at NLI. It includes an every name index.

- Southern Education and Library Board of Northern Ireland (1 Markethill Road, Armagh, Co. Armagh BT60 1NR) holds a chronological list of article references, indexed by person, subject and place. The newspapers covered in this index are *County Down Spectator* (1904-1964), *Downpatrick Recorder* (1836-1886), *Mourne Observer* (1949-1980), *Newtownards Chronicle* (1873-1900), *The Newtownards Independent* (1871-1873), *The Northern Herald* (1833-1836), and *The Northern Star* (1792-1797).

- Vicars, Sir Arthur, *Index to the Births, Marriages & Deaths in the periodical, Anthologia Hibernica* (1793-1794),[8] at NLI.

Excellent guides to miscellaneous extracts from particular Irish newspaper collections are to be found in Donal F. Begley's *Irish Genealogy: A Record Finder;*[9] in James G. Ryan's *Irish Records - Sources for Family and Local History;*[10] and in Margaret Dickson Falley's *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research - A Guide to the Genealogical Records, Methods and Sources in Ireland*.[11] Also worth consulting is Joseph Wearing's article on using newspapers to fill in the genealogical gaps[12] and Marie-Louise Legg's *Newspapers and Nationalism*.[13]

Almost all indexes to Irish newspapers are the product of a number of individuals, most notably Rosemary ffolliott and Henry Morris. Between them, they have covered the Province of Munster for the late 18th century. The most useful are two outstanding

publications by the late Irish genealogist Rosemary ffolliott. In 1969, she transcribed and alphabetically-ordered all of the biographical notices recorded in early newspapers for counties Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Monaghan, Kings (now Offaly) and Waterford. These are found in her publications titled *Index to Biographical Notices Collected from Newspapers, Principally Relating to Cork and Kerry, 1756-1827* with a few references to 1749-1755[14], and *Index to Biographical Notices in the Newspapers of Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel and Waterford, 1758-1821.*[15]

Covered, as well, are notices relating to other Munster counties and to Counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Leitrim, Longford and King's (Offaly). The work done by Ms. ffolliott was phenomenal. Between the two works, most of the surviving 18th century notices for the southern half of the country have been extracted, along with a large proportion of notices up to and including 1821-1827 and most of the entries relating to Connaught,[16] south Leinster and Munster which were picked up and reprinted by the Dublin newspapers.

Unfortunately, neither of the Rosemary ffolliott works is widely available. The National Library of Ireland (NLI mss #19172-19175) and the Cork City Library hold manuscript copies of the Cork and Kerry index as does the LDS Library. The Limerick Archives (The Granary, Michael Street, Limerick), has a copy of the more extensive Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel & Waterford index. Copies can also be found in the library of the Society of Australian Genealogists <http://www.sag.org.au/>.

In addition, a host of publications document the Irish in newspapers outside of Ireland. The "Lost and Found" columns of some newspapers of the U.S.A.[17] and elsewhere are a particularly good substitute for passenger and immigration lists. An article by Rosemary ffolliott in *The Irish Ancestor,* volume II, number 1, (1970) elaborates on this.

The publication of notices for missing or lost Irish from the Boston *Pilot* began in *The Irish Genealogist* in volume III, number 2. Due to pressure of space, only a few were printed there. Some further notices from the Famine years were published in *The Irish Ancestor* in 1978. However, a six volume work, *The Search for Missing Friends: Irish Immigrant Advertisements Placed in the Boston Pilot,* superseded all these articles. The first volume covers 1831-1850, the second 185-1853, the third 1854-1856; the fourth covers the period 1857-1860; the fifth volume 1861-1865; and the sixth volume 1866-1870. This was further superseded by a more comprehensive free online search version to the Irish passengers from the Boston *Pilot* which covers primarily the period 1831 to 1866 with sparse collections to 1893 and are maintained by Boston College <http://infowanted.bc.edu/>. A more fully comprehensive membership-based online version is available from the New England Historic Genealogical Society website for the period 1831 to 1920 <www.americanancestors.org/Databaselist.aspx>. For information on the full collection of *The Search for Missing Friends: Irish Immigrant Advertisements Placed in the Boston Pilot,* vols. I-VI, 1831-1870 (Boston, MA: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2001) by Ruth-Ann Harris, Donald M. Jacobs, and B. Emery O'Keefe, ed., visit the publisher, the New England Historic Genealogical Society website <www.americanancestors.org/home.html>. Copies may also be purchased of volumes III to VI, and the CD of the same name covering the period 1831 to 1920, from Picton Press (PO Box #1347, Rockland, ME 04841).

Charles Addington produced a similar volume for Canada, *Missing Persons from Ireland: Notices from Newspapers of Saint John,* New Brunswick (1828-1906) in 1987, which is available at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick (Fredericton, NB) and the Library and Archives of Canada (Ottawa, ON). No doubt, similar volumes have been produced by genealogical and historical societies in North America and Australasia. Researchers should check the availability and locations with those organizations.

Summary

Irish newspapers and newspapers in general hold a wealth of information for researchers. Despite the thought that there is too much material with too few indexes to examine, think again! There is much information in these collections for Ireland that have been extracted and compiled in various fashions and for various periods. Do not hesitate to use newspaper collections to push your genealogical findings further.

While newspapers are often overlooked due to the difficulty in access and the lack of indexes, they remain a major research source for genealogists and

historians. They provide historical context for the political, economic, religious, social, technological, sporting and cultural life of the nation at any one time. They provide contemporary commentary of the major events and daily aspects of our ancestors' times, and are a major source of information on personal everyday life – most of which was none too different than that of our own today!

Endnotes

1 "In Ireland, the Penal Laws is the name given to the code of laws passed by the Protestant Parliament of Ireland which regulated the status of Roman Catholics through most of the eighteenth century. These laws are key to understanding the history of the period as well as the sectarian conflicts that still plague Northern Ireland. The declared purpose of the Irish Penal Laws, like that of the apartheid laws of recent South African history, was to disenfranchise the native majority from all power, both political and economic. Unlike apartheid, the disabilities created by the Penal Laws were aimed not at a particular race or ethnic group, but at the adherents of a particular religion. The ideal was to entice the colonised Irish into wholesale conversion to Protestantism. A Catholic could avoid the oppressive effects of these laws by conversion, although the statutes went to great lengths to ferret out insincere conversions and backsliders. By deliberately defining the haves and the have-nots, the politically powerful and the oppressed, on the basis of religion, these statutes had a profound effect, not only on the eighteenth century, but on the subsequent history of Ireland to the present day." Informational quote was supplied by *Laws in Ireland for the Suppression of Popery, Commonly Known as the Penal Laws* by Professor Patricia Schaffer, Columbia University Law School, extracted on 1st August 2010 - website: <http://library.law.umn.edu/irishlaw/intro.html>.

2 "Also known as the United Irishmen Rebellion, [this] was an uprising in 1798, lasting several months, against British rule in the Kingdom of Ireland. The United Irishmen, a republican revolutionary group influenced by the ideas of the American and French revolutions, were the main organising force behind the rebellion." Informational quote was supplied by *Wikipedia - The Free Encyclopedia* on 1st August 2010 - website: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_Rebellion_of_1798>.

3 "The *Napoleonic Wars* were a series of conflicts declared against Napoleon's French Empire and changing sets of European allies by opposing coalitions that ran from 1803 to 1815. As a continuation of the wars sparked by the French Revolution of 1789, they revolutionised European armies and played out on an unprecedented scale, mainly due to the application of modern mass conscription." French power rose but fell nearly as quickly resulting in the breakup of the Empire, and as a direct result the British Empire became the foremost world power. Informational quote was supplied by *Wikipedia - The Free Encyclopedia* on 1st August 2010 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napoleonic_Wars>.

4 "The Young Ireland was a political, cultural and social movement of the mid-19th century. It led changes in Irish nationalism, including an abortive rebellion known as the Young Irelander Rebellion of 1848. Many of the latter's leaders were tried for sedition and sentenced to penal transportation to Van Diemen's Land. From its beginnings in the late 1830s, Young Ireland grew in influence and inspired following generations of Irish Nationalists." Informational quote supplied by *Wikipedia - The Free Encyclopedia* on 1st August 2010 - website: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Young_Ireland>. Also refer to Ballard, Suzanne, *The Young Irelanders*, extracted on 1st August 2010 - website: <http://www.theballards.net/Harshaw/Martin/YoungIrelanders.html>.

5 The NEWSPLAN project originated in the mid-1980s as a cooperative preservation project for newspapers in Ireland and the United Kingdom. Of the ten regions involved in NEWSPLAN, one region comprises Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The aim of the NEWSPLAN project is to preserve newspapers through a microfilming programme that protects hardcopy holdings while making the content readily available to the public.

6 The index to the *Belfast News Letter* for the same period though not complete, as a number of periods during this collection have not survived, is available online at <http://www.ucs.louisiana.edu/bnl/>. About one-quarter of the newspapers for the years from 1737 to 1750 have survived, although the run of newspapers is nearly complete from 1750 through 1800. The index is available at the O'Shaughnessey-Frey Library at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota (USA), and at the Linen Hall Library in Belfast, Ireland. The Linen Hall Library also has a card index (1800-1860) of birth, marriage, and death notices from the *Belfast News Letter*.

7 An Internet version (partial extraction) of Henry Farrar's *Index to Marriages in Walkers' Hibernian Magazine for 1771 to 1812* is available at <http://www.celticcousins.net/ireland/irish_marriages.htm>.

8 An Internet version of Arthur Vicar's "Index to the Births, Marriages & Deaths" in *Anthologica Hibernica* (1793-1794) is also available online at the following website: <http://www.celticcousins.net/ireland/anthologia_hibernica.htm>.

9 ffolliott, Rosemary, "Newspapers as a Genealogical Source" in Begley's, Donal F., ed., *Irish Genealogy: A Record Finder,* (Dublin, Ireland: Heraldic Artists Ltd., 1987), pp. 117-138.

10 Ryan, James G., *Irish Records - Sources for Family and Local History,* (Dublin, Ireland: Flyleaf Press, 1997), pp. 47-607.

11 Falley, Margaret Dickson, FASG, *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research - A Guide to the Genealogical Records, Methods and Sources in Ireland,* (Boston: Genealogical Publishing Co, Inc., 1962, 4th reprint 1998), vol. I, pp. 675-686; and vol. II, pp. 247-248. This original publication is dated 1962 and thus the details are very dated.

12 Wearing, Joseph, "Using Newspapers to Fill the Gaps in Irish Genealogy" in *Families* (Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society), XLIII, 2 (May 2004), pp. 113-116.

13 Legg, Marie-Louise, *Newspapers and Nationalism: The Irish Provincial Press 1850-1892*, (Dublin: Four Courts, 1999).

14 The "Index to Biographical Notices Collected from Newspapers, Principally Relating to Cork and Kerry, 1756-1827", with a few references for the period 1749 to 1755, includes biographical notices relating to Cork and Kerry from the surviving issues of the following Cork papers: *Cork Advertiser, Cork Chronicle, Cork Evening Post, Cork Gazette, Corke Journal, Cork Mercantile Chronicle, Cork Morning Intelligence, Southern Reporter, The Constitution, Hibernian Chronicle,* and *Volunteer Journal*. As well as these, it also records biographical notices relating to Co.'s Cork and Kerry in: *Finn's Leinster Journal, Dublin Gazette, Dublin Hibernian Journal, Faulkner's Dublin Journal, Freeman's Journal, Limerick Chronicle,* and *Waterford Mirror.*

15 The" Index to Biographical Notices in the Newspapers of Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel, Waterford, 1758-1821" extracts and indexes the biographical notices from: *Clonmel Herald, Clonmel Gazette, Clonmel Advertiser, Ennis Chronicle, Clare Journal, Limerick Evening Post, Limerick Gazette, Limerick Chronicle, Munster Journal, Waterford Chronicle,* and *Waterford Mirror.* In addition, a number of 18th century Dublin newspapers are included: *Freeman's Journal, Faulkner's Dublin Journal, Dublin Hibernian Journal,* and *Hibernian Chronicle.*

16 A digitized online version of birth, marriage and death entries from the *Connaught Journal* can be found for January to October 1823 and March/April 1840 at: <http://www.celticcousins.net/ireland>.

17 A digitized online version of partial extracts from *The Shamrock* of New York City, dated December 1810 to January 1811, provides an example of such notices and their importance for tracing Irish outside of Ireland at <http://www.celticcousins.net/ireland/18101811shamrock.htm>.

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Irish Records and Irish Newspapers

by Dr. Perry McIntyre

On 24 July 1840, Eliza Mealin or Mealue arrived into Sydney as a convict on board the transport *Isabella.* The details on the convict indent of the Isabella show that she was aged 33, could neither read nor write, and was Catholic and a native of County Longford. Her occupation was that of a country servant and she had been tried in Longford town on 24 October 1839. Since Irish Court records are incomplete, they being one series of records that were particularly affected by the fire in the Four Courts in 1922, a search of the local newspaper was another way to find details of Eliza's crime.

The Longford Journal of 26 October 1839 reported that Elizabeth Mealue and Anne Flynn, two women of bad character and notorious pests in the town, had each been sentenced to seven years transportation. Further details from the convict records show that Eliza had a previous conviction of three months in prison and that she was only three-quarters of an inch above five feet tall, had a ruddy complexion, brown hair mixed with grey, and light blue eyes. She had a small scar on her left eyebrow and another over her right as well as two small scars on the back of her lower right arm. Perhaps these old wounds attested to the difficulties she had previously encountered in Longford town?

Similarly, the convict records in Australia and *The Longford Journal* provide the information that John Egan transported by the *Nautilus*, arriving in Sydney on 9 February 1840, was Catholic, aged 24, could read and was a labourer who was a native of County Longford. He had no former convictions when he was tried in Longford town on 10 July 1839 and sentenced to 15 years transportation. His crime of arson, shown on the convict records, is further illuminated by *The Longford Journal* of 13 July 1839 which shows that John Egan, in the company of Thomas Quinn, James Reynolds and John Casey, was arranged under the whiteboy act for burning the house of Michael Murray of Ballinamore on 26 October 1838. By 31 August 1839, *The Longford Journal* reported that of the convicts tried at the Longford assizes in the previous month, "18 were forwarded to Mullingar on carts en route to Dublin under escort … commanded by Robert Westropp commander of the country police." Without the newspaper report the details of John Egan's conviction and transportation would have been much less detailed.

Newspapers in Ireland and Genealogists

The earliest known newspaper in Ireland, *The Dublin Gazette*, dates from the late 1680s but very few copies survive until the 1720s. With civil registration of births, deaths and marriages for Catholics in Ireland starting as late as 1864 and with parish registers being relatively sparse in many areas of Ireland, the newspapers are an invaluable source for details of this sort for many families. The added problem with wills and some other important series of documents, such at those relating to trials in Ireland, being burnt in Dublin Castle in 1922, the newspapers are sometimes the only remaining resource for clues to these events.

Local newspapers are a wonderful source of information for activities going on all over the country and not just in the particular place in which the newspaper was published. Just a few issues of *The Longford Journal*, as well as the examples regarding disturbance of the peace previously quoted, illustrate the diversity of the information available in just one local newspaper. On 16 March 1839, *The Longford Journal* reported on several county assizes or local courts. For example,

> COUNTY LEITRIM ASSIZES
> On Tuesday last, at the hour of 9 o'clock, the Crown Court was opened, and immediately after Mr. R. Moore, Q.C. (acting judge) took his seat on the Bench.
>
> Peter Creegan was indicted for having, at Mohill, on the 27th of July last, killed and murdered Peter Shanly, by giving him a blow of a hatchet on the back of the head. There was a second count in the indictment charging him, with others, with having, on the 27th of July, aided and assisted in murdering the said Peter Shanly.
>
> The prisoner pleaded Not Guilty.
>
> Anne Shanly, Peter Keenan, Dr. Duke, and two or three other witnesses were examined for the prosecution, and also a confession voluntarily made by the prisoner, read, when Mr Blakeney, the counsel for the prisoner, having no defence, address the Jury in a most powerful manner, on the discrepancy of some of the witnesses, after which the learned Judge, in his charge recapitulated the entire evidence. The jury

retired, and in a few minutes returned a verdict of Guilty.

The following are the convictions had at these Assizes:

- Peter Creegan, charged with the murder of Peter Shanly - guilty, to be executed on the 12th June next.

- Patrick Reynolds and John Clyne, charged with the same offence - to remain in gaol till next Assizes. Four other persons charged with being accomplices in the above crime - admitted to bail.

- Michael McDermott, passing forged notes - to be transported fourteen years.

- Michael Clarke, cow-stealing - to be confined 12 months, and kept at hard labour.

- Peter Rynne, charged with having sold a stolen heifer - to be confined one month.

- Patrick Croal, stealing bank notes - to be confined one month.

- Thomas Creed, charged with having in his possession two stolen sheep - to be confined 12 months, and kept at hard labour.

- Michael Stewart, Rockiteism, Guilty of riot and affray - to be confined 18 months, and kept at hard labour.

- Timothy Beirne, assault, to be confined one week.

- James Shanly, charged with having been instrumental in the death of his infant child - Guilty, to be confined twelve months.

- George Smith, or Sullivan, charged with having stolen four head of cattle - Pleaded guilty, to be confined twelve months.

- Michael Runian and Bryan Hard, assault, with an attempt to commit a rape - fined 6d. each.

Not only were the County Leitrim Assizes fully reported but the following item was reported from the *Dublin Gazette*.

> COUNTY TIPPERARY
> Judge Crampton, in his speech, at the opening of the Clonmel Assizes, on Friday the 8th instant stated, that by an order in Council, which appeared in the *Dublin Gazette*, of the 8th of November, and which order was made in accordance with the 6th and 7th of Geo. IV., and had the same effect as an Act of Parliament, the county of Tipperary was divided into two parts or ridings, the northern and southern. The Assizes town for the south is to be Clonmel; for the North, Nenagh, in which place a gaol is about to be build for that division of the county. There are 104 prisoners for trial, of whom 44 are charge with murder.

The copying of articles from major city newspapers, not only in Ireland but in England and Europe, was very common in this period. Although the name of a paper like *The Longford Journal* may, at first glance, appear to be restricted to a small area it did, in fact, cover world news. More important for the genealogist and local historian working in the 21st century, it covered aspects of many activities throughout Ireland. This is apparent in articles which detail the obvious signs of agrarian unrest in Ireland including items such as a report, also in March 1839, of 'Outrage' when a large party of men turned up pasture on the lands of Newcastle, near that city. Official reports of the state of Ireland at the time, the details of local skirmishes, including the names of people involved in them, frequently appear in the newspapers.

Activities of the military and their presence in the smaller towns and communities throughout Ireland are very apparent in the middle decades of the nineteenth century. Reporting on the 'North Cork' regiment in Maynooth, from 'Confessions of Harry Lorrequer' in *The Dublin University Magazine* for April, *The Longford Journal* of 13 March 1939, copied the following wonderful insight into the military and the towns of Maynooth and Fermoy:

> It was towards the end of the year '98 - the year of the troubles - that the North Cork was ordered, 'for their sins', I believe, to march from their snug quarters at Fermoy, and take up a position in the town of Maynooth - a very considerable reverse of fortune to a set of gentlemen extremely addicted to dining out, and living at large upon a very large neighbourhood. Fermoy abounded in gentry; Maynooth at that time had few, if

> any, excepting his Grace of Leinster, and he lived very privately, and saw no company. Maynooth was stupid and dull - there were neither belles nor bells, Fermoy (to use the Doctor's well-remembered words) had 'great feeling' and 'very genteel young ladies, that carried their handkerchiefs in bags, and danced with the officers'.
>
> They had not been many weeks in their new quarters, when they began to pine over their fortunes, and it was with a sense of delight that a few months before would have been incomprehensible to them, they discovered that one of their officers had a brother, a young Priest in the College; he introduced them to some of his confreres, and the natural result followed. A visiting acquaintance began between the regiment and such of the members of the college as had liberty to leave the precincts who, as time ripened the acquaintance into intimacy, very naturally preferred the cuisine of the North Cork to the meagre fare of 'the refectory'. At last seldom a day went by without one of two ...

Also on 13 March 1839, *The Longford Journal* reported briefly on the "Imperial Parliament" and the House of Commons of Monday, March 11:

> Mr. Vigors presented a petition from Thomas Gisborne, jun., Esq., against the return of Mr. Bruen for the borough of Carlow.
>
> Mr Plumtre presented a petition from the same place (the name of which we could not hear) against the Irish municipal reform; against the dissolution of the Irish municipal corporations; and praying the house to take measures absolutely, utterly, entirely and unreservedly to exclude Papists from the municipal corporations of Ireland.
>
> Mr Praed presented a petition, praying the house to institute an inquiry into the system of education pursued at Maynooth.
>
> Sir R. Peel presented petitions from Tamworth, and several parts of Staffordshire, against any alteration in the corn laws. The right hon. Baronet also presented petitions from different parts of Staffordshire, praying the house not to sanction any exclusive plan for the introduction of railways in Ireland.

The Longford Journal of 13 April 1839 reported, under the heading of "Convicts":

> Thirty men and two women, convicted at our late Assizes, were escorted from this town, on route for Clonmel jail on Monday morning by a strong guard of the 34th regiment and some horse police. James Blake, sentenced for the murder of his wife, was not removed, as it has not been decided by the Crown whether he shall be hanged in Nenagh (where there is yet no gallows erected) or in Clonmel. Murphy, convicted of setting fire to a house of Caleb Going, Esq., J.P., and who escaped from the escort on his transmission from Clonmel for trial here, but fortunately re-captured, was heavily manacled, so as to avoid the possibility of his escaping again. The convicts were followed out of town by a large mob of persons, and when the party arrived at Toomavara, they were met by a concourse of people amounting to several thousands, and, but for the strong military force that accompanied the criminals, the wretched creatures might have perhaps attempted a rescue - *Nenagh Guardian*.

This April 1839 edition of *The Longford Journal* also reports on a complimentary address "got up by the Sligo Radical, headed by the Roman Catholic High Sheriff, Daniel Farrell, of Beechworth in the county of Roscommon". It also comments on the newest edition of Mrs. S.C. Hall's stories of Ireland, one of the contemporary commentators on nineteenth century Irish life.

Finally, the 13 April 1839 edition of *The Longford Journal* supplies details of marriages and deaths which may not be available elsewhere.

> MARRIED
> April 8, at Malahide Church, Henry, only son of Arthur Baker, of Ballyheary House, county Dublin, Esq., to Mary, daughter of the late Robert Gilbert, of Carnew, in the county of Wicklow, Esq.
>
> April 9, Coolock Church, by the Rev. Hamilton Verschoyle, Benjamin G. Darley, Esq., to Louisa, fourth daughter of the

late Dowdell Browne, of Rahine, county Mayo, Esq.,

April 2, at St. Ann Shandon, Nicholas Dunscombe of Mount Desert, Esq., to Jane, fourth daughter of Robert Carr, Esq., Cork.

DIED
On Monday morning last, in New Row, Dublin, Frances wife of Mr. Thomas Heoy. She had been in a delicate state of health for more than twelve months, but she enjoyed all the consolations that the dependence on the merits of her Redeemer could furnish in affliction, and resigned her last breath without a murmur.

March 20, at Athlone, in the 64th year of his age, John Kerr Dowd, Esq., Clerk of the Ordnance. This highly respected and pious gentleman enjoyed for more than 20 years, during which he filled this very important situation, the highest esteem of his superiors, and carried with him to the grave the sincere regret of all who knew him.

How to Find Irish Newspapers

Modern researchers are fortunate to have the publication, *Newsplan*, which was compiled, in part, to conserve 'Irish heritage at risk.' This publication supplies names and date ranges of all known Irish newspapers. While many newspapers are available at a local level in Ireland and also at the National Library of Ireland in Dublin, the best place to access Irish newspapers is the Newspaper Library, which is part of The British Library at Colindale, London NW9 5HE. They also sell newspapers on microfilm. Both the Linen Hall Library and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) in Belfast have collections of Ulster newspapers.

The website of the National Library of Ireland, Dublin, <www.nli.ie/en/newspapers-newsplan-project.aspx> gives details and a listing of Irish newspapers, the titles of which are searchable by town or county. Most local county libraries also have holdings of local newspapers. See, for example, websites for Clare <http://www.irelandoldnews.com/Clare/index.html> and Tipperary <www.tipperarylibraries.ie/local_studies/newspapers.shtml> libraries for further information.

Another guide for locating Irish newspapers is John S. North's *The Waterlook Directory of Irish Newspapers and Periodicals, 1800-1900.* This book combines information from surveys of Irish newspapers held in repositories across Ireland and Britain with detailed information about the contents and publishing dates of each. The main entries of the book are arranged alphabetically by the name of the publication. However, the 'Place of Publication Index' lists the names of the newspapers published in each town. The entries indicate if notices of birth, marriage and death were published and the political or religious leanings of the publication are also indicated in many cases.

There are libraries throughout Australia, Canada and the United States which hold small runs of various Irish newspapers. It is advisable to contact your local library to see if they are able to access a particular newspaper. Most libraries participate in a system called 'Interlibrary Loan' whereby a library can borrow a specific book or microfilm from another library for your use. This option is worth investigating before planning a trip to Ireland or London or into the counties. With the power of the Internet, do check online before venturing from home!

The Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland has a large collection of Irish newspapers on microfilm particularly for counties Carlow, Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford and Dublin City. Most capital city, local libraries, historical and genealogical societies now have online catalogues, so check your local area before purchasing an airline ticket.

Some Indexes, Abstracts and Guides

Abstracts from Irish newspapers have been published in various periodicals, including *The Irish Genealogist* and *The Irish Ancestor.* A number of important newspaper indexes and abstracts have been published. For example, Henry Farrar's *Irish Marriages Being an Index to the Marriages in Walker's Hibernian Magazine 1771 to 1812* includes references throughout Ireland which particularly relate to the Protestant gentry. Some County Libraries and Heritage Centres in Ireland, such as the Leitrim Genealogical Centre, have indexed newspapers.

Several guides and indexes to Irish newspapers which have been available for many years are still very useful to researchers. *The Belfast Newsletter*

began in 1737 and continues today, making good its claim to be the oldest continually-published English-language newspaper. The Linen Hall Library, Belfast, has a very useful card index of *The Belfast Newsletter* covering births, deaths and marriage notices, 1800-1860. John Greene produced *Belfast Newsletter Index, 1737-1800,* available at The Linen Hall and at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. It is always accessible online <http://www.ucs.louisiana.edu/bnl/>. Greene's index is the first index to an Irish newspaper. It covers local and international events incorporating 20,000 surviving pages of *The Belfast Newsletter* which was indexed, but not all issues are still available as only about one-quarter for the years from 1737 to 1750 have survived. However, the run of the paper is nearly complete from 1750 to 1800.

Betit, Kyle, J. "Memorial University of Newfoundlan", *The Irish at Home and Abroad*, Vol. 2, 1995-96, pp.78-81.

The British Library Catalogue of the Newspaper Library Colindale, 8 Vols. British Museum Publications, London, 1975.

Casey, Albert, *O'Kief, Coshe Mang etc*. Vol. 6 reprint of biographical notices from the *Kerry Evening Post*, 1828-1864, included in the general index at the back of Vol. 6.

ffoliott, Rosemary, B*iographical Notices Collected from Newspapers 1756-1827, 1749-1755* (primarily Cork & Kerry), 1969. The scope of this is enormous and includes material from the surviving issues of the following Cork papers: *Cork Advertiser, Cork Chronicle, Cork Evening Post, Cork Gazette, Cork Journal, Cork Mercantile Chronicle, Cork Morning Intelligence, Southern Reporter, The Constitution, Hibernian Chronicle, Volunteer Journal*. As well as these, it also records all notices relating to Cork and Kerry in Finn's *Leinster Journal, Dublin Gazette, Dublin Hibernian Journal, Faulkner's Dublin Journal, Freeman's Journal, Magazine of Magazines, Limerick Chronicle*, and *Waterford Mirror*.

ffoliott, Rosemary, *Index to Biographical Notices in the Newspapers of Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel and Waterford, 1758-1821*, 1985. This index includes extracts and indexes from *Clonmel Herald, Clonmel Gazette, Clonmel Advertiser, Ennis Chronicle, Clare Journal, Limerick Evening Post, Limerick Gazette, Limerick Chronicle, Munster Journal, Waterford Chronicle*, and *Waterford Mirror*. In addition, the following 18th century Dublin newspapers are included: *Freeman's Journal, Faulkner's Dublin Journal, Dublin Hibernian Journal* and *Hibernian Chronicle*. All notices for the areas covered by the above publications are extracted, as are notices relating to other Munster counties, and to Counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Leitrim, Longford and King's (Offaly).

These two works have extracted most of the surviving 18th century notices for the southern half of the country, a large proportion of notices up to 1821-1827, and most of the entries relating to Connacht, south Leinster and Munster which were picked up and reprinted by the Dublin papers. The two works constitute a magnificent work of scholarship. Unfortunately, it is not as widely available as it should be. The National Library and Cork City Library hold manuscript copies of the Cork and Kerry index (National Library Mss 19172-5). Limerick Archives has a copy of the more extensive Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel and Waterford index. Microfiche copies are also in the library of the Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney.

ffoliott, Rosemary, "Newspapers as a Genealogical Source", *Irish Genealogy: A Record Finder*, Donal F. Begley (ed.), Heraldic Artists Ltd., Dublin, 1987, pp. 117-138.

Greene, John (comp.), *Belfast Newsletter Index, 1737-1800*, UMI, Ann Arbor, MI, 1993.

Hammond, Joseph W., "*The Dublin Gazette, 1705-1922*", *Dublin Historical Record*, Vol. 3, Nos 3 & 4, 1953, pp. 108-117.

Hayes, Joseph C., "Guide to Tipperary Newspapers (1770-1989)", *Tipperary Historical Journal*, 1989, pp. 1-16. This is an update of Hayes' thesis "History of Tipperary Newspapers", supplemented by the Editor in the 1990 *Tipperary Historical Journal*. It is a brief history of the newspapers of the county since 1770, describing their origins and policies and listing locations for surviving issues.

Hammond, Joseph W., "*The Dublin Gazette, 1705-1922*", *Dublin Historical Record*, Vol. XIII, Nos. 3 & 4, 1953, pp. 108-117.

Hochwald, Elsa, "Miscellaneous Irish Sources at Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland", *The Newfoundland Ancestor*, Vol. 9, May 1993, pp. 44-45.

Irish marriages, being an index to the marriages in Walker's Hibernian magazine, 1771 to 1812. With an appendix, from the notes of Sir Arthur Vicars ... Ulster King of Arms, of the births, marriages, and deaths in the *Anthologia Hibernica*, 1793 & 1794, 1889.

Irish Periodicals First Published Before 1901: A Union List of Northern Ireland Library Holdings, Library of Local Studies Panel, Omagh, 1995.

Mac Conghail, Maire & Gorry, Paul, *Tracing Irish Ancestors*, Harper Collins, Glasgow, 1997, pp. 220-225. Has a very good summary of some indexes to newspapers.

McCoy, Jack, *An Index to the 'Downpatrick Recorder', 1836-1886*, 1987.

North, John S., *The Waterloo Directory of Irish Newspapers and Periodicals, 1800-1900*, North Waterloo Academic Press, Waterloo, Ontario, 1986.

Northern Ireland Newspapers 1737-1987: A Checklist with Locations, Library Association and Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast, 1987.

O'Toole, James & Smyth, Sara, *Newsplan: Report of the Newsplan Project in Ireland*, The British Library, London & The National Library of Ireland, Dublin, revised ed. 1998.

Radford, Dwight A., "The British Library Newspaper Library", *The Irish at Home and Abroad*, Vol. 2, 1995-96, pp.149-150.

Robinson, Kenneth, *An Index to the 'Newtownards Chronicle' 1873-1900 and the 'Newtownards Independent' 1871-1873*, 1990.

Donald M. Schelegel, *Irish Genealogical Abstracts from the Londonderry Journal, 1772-1784* includes births, deaths and marriages, estate settlements, emigrants to North America; particularly useful to those interested in 18th century Scotch-Irish; available on Google books and Ancestry.com.

A few other useful indexes which are difficult to place in the above list

Card indexes to the biographical notices in the *Hibernian Chronicle* (1771-1802), and the *Cork Mercantile Chronicle* (1803-1818), held by the Irish Genealogical Research Society <http://www.igrsoc.org/> in London.

National Library index to marriages and deaths in *Pue's Occurences* and the *Dublin Gazette* 1730-1740: National Library Manuscript 3197.

The Southern Education & Library Board (Northern Ireland) contains a chronological list of article references, indexed by person, subject and place. Newspapers covered are: *County Down Spectator* 1904-1964, *Downpatrick Recorder* 1936-1886, *Mourne Observer* 1949-1980, *Newtownards Chronicle* 1871-1873, *The Northern Herald* 1833-1836, *and The Northern Star* 1792-1797. Copies are available for sale. <http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/browse/addresses/libraryn.htm>.

Don't forget to look for these indexes and guides in local libraries and to check the Internet to see if they may be available to search online or the newspapers are available in digitised form. Every day there are more research tools available. For Australians, many of our newspapers are being digitised and available online through the National Library of Australia in Canberra <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/>. Sometimes these papers provide insights into happenings in Canada, America and Ireland.

Ms. McIntyre updated this article which was previously published in The Irish At Home and Abroad, *1998, issue 3. We thank and acknowledge the author and the editors of the journal.*

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Using Canadian Newspapers To Find Genealogical Information

by Laura M. Hanowski

The first newspaper published in what is now Canada was *The Gazette*, published in March of 1752 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Since that time, newspapers throughout Canada have reported what was happening in local communities, in the country and throughout the world. Researchers have an opportunity to learn much about Canadian ancestors from these newspapers if they take the time to look beyond the birth, marriage and death notices that may have been published.

Availability

Library and Archives Canada has developed a *Union List of Canadian Newspapers Held by Canadian Libraries*. This list includes general interest, community, ethnic and pre-1900 religious newspapers which acted as the major local source of general news to the communities they served. The list is arranged alphabetically by name/title as well as geographically by province and location within the province. Each entry provides the name(s) of the newspaper and dates of publication. The holding data includes years of surviving issues, locations where the newspapers are currently available, whether microfilm copies have been made and if they are available for interlibrary loan.

Library and Archives Canada has some newspapers on microfilm. Their catalogue can be accessed online at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/index_html>. Enter the term "Union List of Newspapers" and select "Library."

Other sources to consult for newspapers in particular provinces include

- *Alberta Newspapers, 1880-1982: a historical directory* by Gloria M. Strathern.
- *Union Catalogue of British Columbia Newspapers,* Hana Komorous.
- *Historical Directory of Saskatchewan Newspapers, 1878-1983,* by Christine McDonald.
- *Manitoba Newspaper Checklist with Library Holdings 1859-1986,* by the Manitoba Library Association.
- *The Inventory of Ontario Newspapers, 1793-1986,* by J. Brian Gilchrist.
- *Les journaux de Quebec de 1764 a 1964,* by Andre Beaulieu and Jean Hamilin.
- *New Brunswick Newspaper Directory 1783-1996,* by the Council of Head Librarians of New Brunswick.
- *Historical Directory of Newfoundland and Labrador Newspapers 1807-1987,* by Suzanne Ellison.
- *A Survey and Listing of Nova Scotia Newspapers, 1752-1957,* by Gertrude E.N. Tratt.
- *Checklist of Yukon Newspapers 1898-1985,* by Amanda Wearmouth.

Some information about and inventories of Canadian newspapers on the Internet:

- British Columbia Newspapers on Microfilm (BC Archives) http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/library/newspapr/newspapr.htm
- Images of some historic newspapers of Alberta http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/library/newspapr/newspapr.htm
- Historical Directory of Newfoundland and Labrador Newspapers, 1806-1996 http://www.library.mun.ca/
- Ontario newspapers that have been indexed http://www.geneofun.on.ca/ongenweb/
- Indexes to Canadian newspapers http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/newspapers-at-lac/035005-2000-e.html
- For a listing of current newspapers published in Canada http://www.world-newspapers.com/saskatchewan.html
- Check the Canadian GenWeb to find more information about provincial newspapers. http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/

Content of Newspapers

Beginning family historians first check newspapers for birth, marriage and death records. Newspapers can provide much more than these facts if researchers

will check the local columns, church and court information, advertisements and editorials. Many newspapers have year end summaries of the major events that took place in the community and around the world. There may also be weekly "This Week in History" columns that remind the reader about historical events. Anniversary editions of the newspaper devote the entire issue to the history of the people and institutions in the community.

During times of crisis a newspaper may also publish lists of people who were injured, died or survived. For example, lists of patients being treated in or who died in the Quebec Emigrant Hospital in Quebec City were published between December 1825 and February 1831 in the *Quebec Gazette* and *Quebec Mercury* newspapers and republished in Eileen Campbell's article, "Quebec Emigrant Hospital Returns" in *Irish Family History* (the journal of the Irish Family History Society). These lists give the specific county of origin of many Irish immigrants who died or were treated in this hospital. The Ottawa Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society *News* (vol. 15, no. 4, 1982) also published the hospital lists of names from the *Quebec Mercury*, July 1829 to November 1830.

Coal mine disasters are another example where the researcher may find lists of names. During the Influenza Epidemic of 1918 most newspapers carried lists of people who died in their communities. During and after wars there will be found the names of those who enlisted, those who were injured or killed and those who returned.

The Quebec Mercury and the *Quebec Gazette* also published names from the Quebec Harbour Master's Arrivals Books. Extracts of some of these lists were published in the periodical *Lost in Canada?*

Year	Issue of *Lost in Canada?*
1805	vol 12, no 3 (Aug 1986): 130-131
1814	vol 12, no 2 (Aug 1986): 131-136
1815	vol 15, no 2 (May 1989): 74-82
1815	vol 12, no 2 (May 1986): 85-90
1824	vol 14, no 2 (May 1988): 66-72
1838	vol 15, no 4 (Fall 1990): 183-186.
1839	vol 14, no 1 (Feb 1988): 38

Two lists, the first of 3,879 emigrants, employees and seamen who died and were buried at Grosse Ile quarantine station in 1847, and the second of 4,429 emigrants who died on board ships either at sea or in quarantine at Grosse Ile, were published in Charbonneau and Dube's *A Register of Deceased Persons at Sea and on Grosse Ile in 1847*. The information in these lists was taken from reports published in the *Quebec Morning Chronicle* newspaper and other sources.

Many small coastal community newspapers in Newfoundland also published lists of vessels arriving and departing along with lists of the passengers. Gertrude Crosbie has compiled a series of books extracting passenger lists and vital records from Newfoundland newspapers.

Newspapers in the 1800s often listed those who stayed in the local hotels and those for whom there was uncollected mail. Personal columns listed people who were searching for family members. For example, numerous entries regarding the Irish in Canada may be found in the five volume set *The Search for Missing Friends: Irish Immigrant Advertisements Placed in the Boston Pilot* (1831-1865), edited by Harris and O'Keeffe. Although this paper was published in Boston in the United States it included entries for immigrants across North America.

Religious, Fraternal, and Ethnic Newspaper Sources

Religious denominations, fraternal societies, and particular ethnic groups published their own newspapers. In addition, religious, fraternal, and ethnic parades and celebrations were noted in local newspapers.

For example, in the early 1840s many Irish immigrants belonged to repeal societies dedicated to repealing the Union of Great Britain and Ireland. Membership lists of the repeal societies published in local newspapers often give specific origins of Irish immigrants who belonged to the societies. For further detail regarding repeal society lists, see Kyle J. Betit's article "Irish Repeal Societies in North America," in *The Irish At Home and Abroad*.

Canadian religious denominations published newspapers such as *The Church* (Anglican), *Christian Guardian* (Wesleyan Methodist), *Presbyterian Record, Catholic Record, Catholic Register* and *Christian Messenger* (Baptist). The Wesleyan Methodist Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church each had its own weekly newspaper; other Methodist branches published papers as well.

The Christian Guardian, established in 1829, served the Wesleyan Methodist Church. *The Canada Christian Advocate*, established in 1845 and discontinued in 1884, served the Methodist Episcopal Church. A series of abstracts from Methodist papers have been published. They include many marriage and death notices for Methodists who came from Ireland to Canada, and in some cases indicate origins in Ireland.

Christian Guardian

William D. Reid. *Death Notices of Ontario.* Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1980. (Includes notices from the *Christian Guardian* dating 1829-1835, Jan.-Apr. 1843).

Donald A. McKenzie. *Death Notices from the Christian Guardian, 1836-1850.* Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1982.

Donald A. McKenzie. *Death Notices from the Christian Guardian, 1851-1860.* Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1984.

Donald A. McKenzie. *Obituaries from Ontario's Christian Guardian, 1861-1870.* Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1988.

Donald A. McKenzie. *Obituaries from Ontario's Christian Guardian, 1873-1880.* Self-published, 1995. 2nd edition. Toronto: Global Heritage Press, 2007.

Donald A. McKenzie. *Obituaries from Ontario's Christian Guardian, 1884-1890.* Toronto: Global Heritage Press, 2005, 2007.

Donald A. McKenzie. *More Notices from Ontario's Methodist Papers,* 1858-1872. Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1993. (Includes notices from papers of the *Primitive Methodists* and *Bible Christians*, as well as death data, 1871-1872, from *The Christian Guardian*).

Donald A. McKenzie. *More Notices from Ontario's Methodist Papers,* 1873-1884. Self-published c 1997. 2nd edition. Toronto: Global Heritage Press, 2007.

Canada Christian Advocate

Donald A. McKenzie. *More Notices from Methodist Papers,* 1830-1857. Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1986. (Includes birth notices, 1830-1857, from 5 different papers; marriage notices from 4 Methodist papers, primarily from the *Canada Christian Advocate*; and death notices, primarily from the *Canada Christian Advocate*.)

Donald A. McKenzie. *Death Notices from the Canada Christian Advocate, 1858-1872.* Lambertville, NJ: Hunterdon House, 1992.

Donald A. McKenzie. *Obituaries from Christian Guardian Advocate, 1873-1884.* Self-published, c1999. 2nd edition. Toronto: Global Heritage Press, 2007.

Obituaries and Notices of Death

A detailed obituary may provide the ancestor's age, date and place of birth, name(s) of spouses along with dates and places of marriage, a list of their children with spouses and children along with their present residences. Names of brothers and sisters and their spouses along with their residences give further clues for tracing the family.

Well prepared obituaries also list church affiliation, names of clubs and organizations to which the deceased belonged, the cause of death and place of burial. If there is not a formal obituary check the "Local News" or "Provincial Deaths."

"Notice to Creditors" advertisements alert one to the records of deceased persons that will be found in the Surrogate Court. Many people who may not have had formal obituaries may be remembered on the first anniversary of death under the "Memoriams" column. "Memorials" were testimonials written by people other than family members and by organizations. Listings in this column may continue for many years.

Strategies

Create a time line for each ancestor. Then develop a newspaper search plan to see just how much can be learned about these ancestors. It is often helpful to begin by looking for the ancestor's obituary since this provides many details useful in searching for other newspaper records.

Piece together the life of each ancestor. Start with a birth announcement. This could be in the classified section where a fee was paid to say "the wife of ____had a son on Tuesday" or it could be a more detailed account in

the "Local Column." Watch for a list of baptisms in the "Church News." Once the child starts school there could be yearly lists of those who wrote exams and what grades they received. Read the write-ups about concerts, sports days and graduations. Watch the "Local News" for those who went away to further their education or get jobs. Keep watching for graduation and job promotions. Next may come engagement announcements, reports and possibly pictures about the wedding, followed by a "Card of Thanks." Note new addresses.

Future items to watch for include birth announcements of children, write-ups about major wedding anniversaries such as the tenth, twenty-fifth, fortieth, fiftieth and more. Pay particular attention to the names of children and grandchildren and where they are living. If divorce was part of the family history mention may be made on the front page of the newspaper.

If the family stayed in the community there will likely be ongoing information about their life in the community. Note what organizations they belonged to, role they played in civil affairs, and whether they were members of the military. If ancestors lived on farms check the accounts of the annual fairs and exhibitions. If the family was in business look for copies of the advertisements to see when the business was established and how it changed over the years. Prominent people may also be written about in the editorial columns.

Sometimes a notation will be found at the end of a news item or death notice stating, for example, "Peterborough and Arthur newspapers please copy." This suggests people living in those localities, such as relatives or old neighbours, would be interested in the news item about the family.

Not all ancestors died peacefully in their sleep of old age. Those who were killed or committed suicide likely were front page news items. These accounts would give details about their lives and the lives of their families. The religious press would likely have graphic details if alcohol was involved. Watch for the accounts of the inquest. Other ancestors may have been involved in criminal activities. The crimes were likely front page news while the subsequent court cases would be reported in "Court News." Further comments may be found in the "Editorial" and "Letters to the Editor" sections.

Newspaper Indexes

Indexes to newspaper articles and to birth, marriage and death records in newspapers make searching for genealogical data much easier. Library and Archives Canada published *Checklist of Indexes to Canadian Newspapers*, compiled by Sandra Burrows and Franceen Gaudet. Since that time many individuals, genealogical societies and archives have produced more indexes. Contact a genealogical society or public library close to the ancestral home to see if there are indexes for newspapers in their area. Elizabeth Barclay-Lapointe's *Sourcing Canada: Genealogy Addresses -Edition 1997* lists addresses, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web site addresses for genealogical societies, public and church archives, libraries, historical societies and museums.

Many newspaper indexes and articles about indexes appear in the periodicals of family history societies. The Periodical Source Index (PERSI), compiled by the Allen County (Indiana) Public Library, indexes family history periodicals and is available on CD-ROM.

Some indexes of particular value cover many newspapers in the Atlantic provinces of Canada for an extended period of time:

- Gertrude Crosbie's series of three books for Newfoundland (1831-1872).
- Terrence M. Punch's two-volume *Nova Scotia Vital Statistics From Newspapers* (1769-1812, 1813-1822).
- Jean M. Holder's series of seven books for Nova Scotia (1823-1854).
- New Brunswick Genealogical Society's 5-volume *New Brunswick Vital Statistics From Newspapers 1735-1834*.
- Daniel F. Johnson's 65-volume series *Vital Statistics From New Brunswick Newspapers* (1835-1888).

Addresses

Library and Archives Canada: 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4, Canada; Tel: (613) 995-9481; Fax: (613) 943-1112.

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Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Brian O'Regan, founding president of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, for reviewing this article prior to publication. Thanks to the co-editors of *The Irish At Home and Abroad* for information supplied about repeal society lists and Methodist newspapers.

Ms. Hanowski has updated this article was previously published in The Irish At Home and Abroad, *1998, issue 1. We thank and acknowledge the author and the editors of the journal.*

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Finding Leads in Small Town Papers

by Alison Clare Emery

When most genealogists think of newspapers they think of searching for obituaries or for looking for an article about an unusual death. Newspapers also provide background information about the community where your ancestors lived, economic conditions, weather conditions and, if you are fortunate, daily events in the lives of the people in the community. Small town newspapers also have items about the travels of people who live there and the people who came to visit.

My grandfather Thomas J. (Mac) McNevin, the youngest of eight children, was born in Ohio in 1879. He moved with his family to homestead near Morris, Minnesota, in 1885. He moved to Saint Paul, Minnesota, in 1902, where he became interested in advertising. By 1909, he was living in Wild Horse, Colorado, engaged in a real estate business that he and his brother-in-law Daniel J. Campbell, had in Kansas, Colorado and Minnesota. Mac started the *Wild Horse Times* in 1909 and sold it when he moved away in 1917. He started the newspaper to promote the area around Wild Horse as a good place to do dry irrigation farming. He worked hard to promote the area even as the newspaper reported on the people who sold out and moved away.

Like many newspapers of the period, there was a column called "Local and Personal Happenings" subtitled "Items of General Interest Gathered In and Around Wild Horse." As a genealogist, I have found these columns to be very useful. Mac wrote about the Woodsmen dances, the literary society, dinner parties, whist games, oyster dinners and other social events. He recorded the visits of travelling preachers and priests, dentists and photographers. From these records I was able to date my mother's baptism and her first photograph with my grandmother Freda Alm McNevin. Mac also recorded that he was the first postmaster in the area who had to take the Civil Service test. He replaced his father-in-law, August Alm, as postmaster in 1914.

In seeking to research the reasons why my McNevin grandparents moved, I focused on the economic and weather reports Mac published in the paper. Wild Horse is located in Eastern Colorado, a very dry area. Over time, Mac reported on the lack of snow which led to the lack of water for crops and people. The dry irrigation methods he had learned about through the promotions of James J. and Louis Hill depended on moisture in the soil. There was only one snow storm during the winter of 1915-1916, a blizzard on March 31st. As the area became dryer the farmers moved away and the cattle ranches became larger. It was very interesting to read about who sold out and who bought their land.

In researching the McNevin family of Morris, Minnesota, I had very little information in the beginning. I had names for all the children and most of their spouses. Morris had two newspapers, the *Morris Tribune* and the *Morris Sun*. In these two newspapers I found the wedding notices of four of the children; the last wedding notice was for my grandparents. In October 1913, Mac sent the article from the *Wild Horse Times* and the *Morris Tribune* reprinted it, adding a few comments of their own.

An 1894 wedding notice revealed that Mac's oldest sister Elizabeth had been married before as her name was Elizabeth O'Leary. A check of the 1893 Saint Paul City Directory showed her as the widow of John O'Leary living with her sister Margaret and brother-in-law James Carey. With this newspaper and directory information, I was able to research the census records to find them.

The Morris newspapers recorded the life story of Mac's sister Alice who had married Edward See in Morris in 1889. They had three children. Edward See passed away in November 1897; their son passed away a month later. The January 18, 1900, issue of the *Morris Sun* reported that Alice See and Frank Collins would marry in Seattle, Washington, that week. The January 14, 1905, *Morris Tribune* reported the death of Mrs. Frank Collins in Seattle, Washington. With this information and an old family letter about her grave site I was able to locate the records in Washington state about her.

Later, I had to prove to a fellow genealogist that his John McNevin was the same John McNevin on my family tree. He wanted proof that John had siblings. John lived in Saint Paul and died in January 1920 in an

accident in the Great Northern Rail Way shops. His obituary in the *Saint Paul Dispatch* listed only his wife and children. However, the *Morris Tribune* had a small piece on how Elizabeth was called to Saint Paul by the tragic death of her brother John McNevin in an accident in the Great Northern Rail Way shops. Other records connected Elizabeth to the rest of the siblings.

In researching family in Washington County, Minnesota, I wanted to know why my great grandfather's brother Ole Alm had left his Forest Lake farm and gone west to work around 1900. Family lore said that he died in Washington state. We had never discovered more information about him. Forest Lake did not have a newspaper at that time so I read the *Stillwater Gazette* looking for articles about a drought or low farm prices. In the 1899 newspapers I saw a small piece about his estate being probated. Through the historical society, which had all the probate records for Washington County, I accessed his probate records and the records for the rest of the family. I then went back through the *Stillwater Gazette* looking for the monthly news from Forest Lake. I found a piece about him going west, about letters being sent home from the railroad camp along the Snake River, and a little piece that news had come from Portland, Oregon, about his death. I plan to search more in the *Stillwater Gazette* to find anything about my McNevin grandparents' honeymoon trip to Forest Lake so that Mac could meet her family.

It took a long time to comb through old newspapers. The small articles were not always separated from each other very well. It took time to figure out the pattern used by daily papers to report news from nearby towns. It in the end, it was worth it. I learned details about their individual lives which led me to other records for further research. I also had the social and historical background I needed to make my family history book interesting.

Alison Clare Emery has a degree in American History with an emphasis in American Immigrant History from the University of Minnesota. Her interest in old newspapers comes from her father and brother, journalism historians Edwin and Michael Emery. She loves finding newspaper articles, probate records and census records that support the oral histories passed along in her family.

THE COUNTRY EDITOR

He might have been a millionaire
And won financial fame,
Or sat in a director's chair
Had money been his aim;
He chose instead to spend his years
In service poorly paid,
And with the paste pot and the shears
A humble living made.

He chronicled the town's events
The local goings-on,
His fellow townsmen's hopes and bents
Inspired his lexicon;
He felt the public pulse that beat
Around him, and he tried
To make his little country sheet
A thing of local pride.

Unselfishly, with all his heart
He strove but to upbuild
His town, of which he was a part,
With great ambition filled.
He spoke well of his fellow men
He praised when praise was due:
He wielded but a kindly pen
And no reward he drew.

From the front page of the Wild Horse Times, *October 21, 1915. My grandpa Thomas Joseph McNevin was the founder, editor and publisher of* The Wild Horse Times. *He wrote poetry and we believe that he wrote this poem. In Wild Horse, his nickname was "Mayor Mac" because he worked so hard to promote the area.*

Michael, We Hardly Knew Ye

by Kathy Lund

Michael James Walsh, my paternal grandmother's brother, had died three years before I was born. No one ever mentioned him. My grandmother had died in 1909 when my father was five years old. I did know two of their sisters: my great-aunts Minnie and Ag, who lived on Pershing Road, formerly 39th Street, in the Brighton Park neighborhood of Chicago.

The burial plot card from Mount Olivet Cemetery showed most of the Walsh family members: parents James and Mary, my grandmother Maud O'Hearn and an unnamed baby, Mary (Minnie), Elizabeth, Martin, Agnes, and a mysterious Mary Walsh, who was buried on 9 December 1935.[1] Could she have been a wife or a cousin? A check of the Cook County death index did not show a Mary Walsh's death at the appropriate date.

The 1900 census revealed that Michael, a bartender, had been married for four years although he was enumerated with his parents and siblings – no wife. Perhaps the mysterious Mary was his wife. The 1910 census listed Michael, a switchman, as a single man; his elder sister Minnie was head of the household. In the 1920 census, Michael was a widowed switchman heading his siblings' household. By 1930, there were only three siblings in the home: Michael and the two great-aunts whom I knew in the 1940s and 1950s.[2] When had Michael died and where was he buried?

Locating information on a Michael or a Mary Walsh in the city of Chicago is a gargantuan task! I thought that a search of death notices and obituaries around the date of the mysterious burial would help. An obituary for Michael Walsh appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* on Saturday, 7 December 1935.[3] He was the mysterious "Mary!" The ink was smeared and shadowed on the edges, but "beloved husband of the late J…" was clear. Later I was able to access the text on Ancestry.com: Michael's wife was Julia. With this information I looked for his death record.[4] It stated that Michael was the widower of Julia Walsh.

Chicago has a huge population but fortunately it also has indexes. The Illinois Secretary of State has an online marriage index through 1900. There I found Michael's marriage license in 1894, two years earlier than expected.[5] Father M. P. Dowling of Holy Family Church had married Michael Walsh, aged 23 years, and Julia Murphy, aged 31 years, on 11 April 1894. Great! Murphy and Walsh in Chicago! At least "Julia" would be distinctive. Note the disparity in the ages of the groom and bride.

While Catholic Church records usually give the parents' names, the only additional clues on the Holy Family record were the names of the witnesses: James Regan and Maggie Byrnes, both connected to the Walsh family.[6]

Who was Julia Murphy Walsh and what had become of her? If Michael and Julia had been married for four years by 1900, had she died in the 1898-1900 period? A search of the death index for Cook County showed only one possible candidate, a 44-year-old who had died on 31 October 1897. She had been buried at Calvary Cemetery in Evanston, Illinois, a Chicago Archdiocesan location. The burial record there showed a Michael Welch as the plot owner but the only other burial was a Maurice Welsh buried in 1916, no relation as far as was known. A tedious search of the death records for the time period turned up no other candidate although many of the "Ws" were missing. I made further searches in city directories in Chicago for the years just prior to the marriage, in baptismal records of Holy Family, and in census records for several Julia Murphy possibilities. Nothing jelled.

Plugging the name into an Ancestry.com news search brought up an obituary from 1904. Elements there fit.

> Walsh – Julia, wife of Michael, 3736 Albany av. Funeral Dec. 3, at St. Agnes church, thence to Mt. Olivet. Member of St. Fidelis court No. 195. W.C.O.F and Chicago council of White Cross No. 11.[7]

Saint Agnes was the neighborhood church, Albany Avenue was around the corner from 39th Street, and Mt. Olivet was the south-side cemetery. Unfortunately the cemetery had no record of this burial anywhere near this date. A Cook County death record was found.[8] Prior to 1916 these were rudimentary undertakers' reports. Her birthplace was Ireland and her death date was 30 November 1904. The report said she had lived in Illinois 30 years, was 40 years old, died of pneumonia, and was retired. No informant was listed. One salient fact: she was divorced! The typed word was crossed out but then handwritten above it. This Julia is a likely candidate.

Taking a chance, I paid for a search of the Cook County Circuit Court Index of Divorces and hit gold! Julia Walsh had filed for divorce from Michael Walsh in July1899![9] The case file was extremely informative. Julia A. Murphy had been widowed and had a daughter Mamie Turner. Apparently, the deceased Mr. Turner had owned a tavern which Julia inherited. After marrying Michael, she had employed him. According to her sworn complaint, he had embezzled money intended for vendors and used it for his own purposes, including additions to his father's home and a piano for his sisters. He had been drunk and physically abusive to Julia, punching her in the face, pushing her down, and even throwing a pool ball at her. Several witnesses, including daughter Mamie, testified to these actions. Originally, Julia did not ask for alimony, but upon hearing Michael was working for the Sherwin and Williams Paint Company for sixty dollars a month, she applied in 1901 but was denied. She took out an injunction against Michael when he apparently came to her establishment and threatened to "shoot the top of her head off and set fire to her home and business." It was granted in July 1901.

Conclusions and further discovery

It is difficult reconcile this behavior with that of the surviving family members that I knew, but Aunts Minnie and Ag did have a player piano in their living room! The survivors did not choose to acknowledge that Michael had been divorced.

Where is Julia buried?

Who was her first husband?

Can she be found prior to her first marriage?

Endnotes

1 Cemetery Plot Card for Block 22, Lot 145: Mount Olivet Cemetery, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois; in possession of the author, 1993.

2 Federal Censuses 1900- 1930: National Archives; digitized on Ancestry.com.
- 1900: T623, IL, Cook, Chicago: Enumeration District 858, page 8421, sheet 8A.
- 1910: T624, IL. Cook Chicago: Enumeration District 294, page (obscured), sheet 9A.
- 1920: T625_308; Page: 11A; Enumeration District: 260; Image: 274.
- 1930: Roll 435; Page: 12A; Enumeration District: 480; Image: 856.

3 Arlington Heights Library, Arlington Heights, Cook County, Illinois: Microfilm of the Chicago Tribune newspaper, 7 December 1935, p. 22, col. 8; seen 2 July 2001.

4 Chicago Illinois Death Certificates 1916-1945: Illinois Board of Public Health Archives; filmed by the Family History Library; microfilm # 1926799: certificates # 32,501-35,000 in 1935; #32710.

5 Marriage license of Michael J. Walsh and Julia A. Murphy: Illinois Regional Archives Depository, Chicago, Illinois; license no. 216198.

6 Marriage Records of Holy Family Church, Chicago, Illinois: microfilmed by the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah; microfilm # 1704694, items 3 -4 , 11 April 1894.

7 *Chicago Tribune* death notice 2 December 1904: Ancestry.com Newspaper Collection; archived at ?htx=View&r=an&dbid=50000&iid=405364751&fn=Julia&ln=Walsh&st=d&ssrc=&pid=1325335>. The Illinois Statewide Death Index online mistakenly lists Julia Walsh's death date as 1904-12-30. This is an obvious error as her obituary ran on 2 December 1904 and her death record clearly states date of death as 30 November 1904.

8 Undertaker's report of death for Mrs. Julia Walsh: Record of the Illinois State Board of Health, #24001.

9 Packet G-198194, D-17 H-16, Walsh vs. Walsh: Records of Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois; dated July 1899 - July 1901.

Kathy Lund has almost 100% Irish ancestry. She has been a member of IGSI since 1993 and served terms as its Treasurer, 2nd Vice-president, and President. She was a Director on the Minnesota Genealogical Society Board for eight years. Currently she is responsible for staffing the library and volunteers there on Irish Day. Her research may never be finished!

Finding Your Family in the "Papers"

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

"With the newspaper strike on, I wouldn't consider dying."
~Bette Davis

Searching the web for newspaper archives stored online is like going to the woods to search for mushrooms, lost buttons, and buried treasure. We're not looking in the same places, some things are almost impossible to find, and some pop up where least expected.

Searching Newspaper Archives

Quite simply, newspapers contemporary to the lives of our ancestors tell us what was important in their lives at a particular place and time—in national events of wars and elections, in local events of lost cows and a circus coming to town, and in individual events of marriages and deaths—and so much more.

Often obituaries are the first things we look for. These can be found in collections such as Interment.net on the Internet, in libraries with archives of local death notices, and in items cut out of the newspaper by family members and saved through the years. Looking only at an obituary, however, separates a person from the daily circumstances of his or her life.

Sometimes the only way to learn what was going on locally, according to the newspapers, is to find a paper on microfilm and go through it reel by reel, searching for mention of our ancestors. If we're lucky, the paper is near where we live or is available through interlibrary loan. Sometimes it's necessary to travel to a repository. However, we are seeing more newspapers digitized and made available online.

Finding Newspaper Archives Online

As we might expect, fee-based newspaper archives are easiest to use. Sophisticated search engines let us search for surnames, occupations, towns and combinations of all of them. Some of the most popular fee-based services are Ancestry.com, NewspaperArchive.com, Paper of Record and World Newspaper Archive.

Free sources of newspapers online are all over the map—literally. Sometimes a town library has archived images of every local paper since the first one was established in the area, or a larger city library or college may offer collections covering a broader geographic area; they may house a specific collection of newspapers concerning a business important to the region or a famous local personality.

In addition to specific collections, such as obituaries, that are available separately from the paper of origin, we find collections of newspapers that apply to an historical event, the Illinois Civil War Newspapers <http://dig.lib.niu.edu/cwnewspapers/index.html>, for example. A particular event or timeline may be highlighted from the varying regional perspectives of different newspapers.

Several sources offer finding aids to discover where online newspaper archives are stored. A good place to start is by checking *Cyndi's List* <http://www.cyndislist.com/newspapr.htm> to see if there is a paper directly related to the area you are researching.

When using the free archives on the 'Net, tailor the search to extract every possible bit of information from each likely source. This works when researching people, historical events, and time-specific descriptions of things such as occupations, the cost of living, and local happenings—county fairs and elections, for instance.

Using Historical Newspapers Online

Below are three listings of free online newspapers:

- Historical Newspapers Online http://gethelp.library.upenn.edu/guides/hist/onlinenewspapers.html
- ICON: International Coalition on Newspapers http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm
- Free Newspaper Archives in the U.S. http://freenewspaperarchives.us/

To illustrate the differences, I'll check for Iowa newspapers that may mention my Irish ancestor Charles M. Patterson. Patterson is a very common name in Iowa, so finding a newspaper where he lived could help me separate him out from so many other Iowa Pattersons.

Charles Patterson was born in Canada to parents who emigrated from Ireland. This is about all I know about him, except that he worked as a mason and had some connection to the village of Sumner, Iowa. I checked each archive in the list to see if I could find anything helpful.

Comparing Collections

Historical Newspapers Online has a list of 13 Iowa newspaper collections, with links:

Adams County Free Press	1876-2000
Altoona Public Library Newspaper Archives	1890-2000
Buffalo Center Tribune Archives	1894-2006
Carroll County Library Archives	1884-2009
Cedar Rapids Library Archives	1857-1998
Clinton Evening News	1880-1899
Clinton Morning Age	1894-1904
Glenwood Public Library Newspaper Archives	1864-1987
Mills County Newspaper Archives	1864-2004
The Moravia Union	1911-2006
Polk County (Altoona) Newspapers	1890-2000
Sioux County Newspaper Archives	1872-2007
Sumner Library (Bremer County) Newspaper Archives	1881-2008

(Bingo! Sumner is exactly what I need.)

ICON lists three free-access collections of archived Iowa papers, but not the Sumner Library archives:

Adams County Newspaper Archives	
Cedar Rapids Public Library Newspaper Archives	1857-present
Charles City Daily Press	1930, 1931, 2007

Free Newspaper Archives in the U.S., in their subheading "Midwest," offers nine newspapers from Iowa, but again, not the Sumner collection:

Adams County Newspaper Archives	1876-2000
Cedar Rapids Library Newspaper Archives	1857-1998
Charles City Daily Press, Floyd County	1930-1931
Sioux County Newspaper Archives	1872-2000
Des Moines Newspaper Archives	1970-2007
Malvern and Mills County Archives	1864-2002
Carroll Newspaper Archives	1884-2007
Buffalo Center Tribune	1894-2003

It's important to check as many collections as we can to find available newspaper archives. Looking through the lists above, none is comprehensive for Iowa, although each offers listings of archived newspapers from throughout the state.

Working with OCR Results

"I think I understand what military fame is: to be killed on the field of battle and have your name misspelled in the newspapers."
~*Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman*

According to *Wikipedia*, OCR—Optical Character Recognition—is "the mechanical or electronic translation of scanned images of handwritten, typewritten or printed text into machine-encoded text." When searching through online newspapers that have been digitized to the Internet, mistakes in the OCR search function are legion. For instance, calling up "Patterson" in the Sumner, Iowa, newspaper search function returns a bewildering set of snippets such as, "Patterson know that if he foil he would bo instantly torn…" While garbled in the search result, the actual linked newspaper image appears and reveals that Patterson was attacked by a panther and "knew if he fell he would be instantly torn…"

OCR foibles make it worthwhile to search for various spellings of surnames of interest and finding a story-in-the-making leads to long stretches of newspaper reading.

My Charles Patterson, the brick mason, opened up a brickyard in Sumner, and his progress in establishing it and then firing it up to make brick was closely followed in the local paper. I read the local news sections over the course of a year and learned how kilns were built and what kind of workers were hired to maintain a brickyard, how much the brickyard owner earned in a year, and where Charles lived before he came to Sumner. The paper also reported that he and his family moved to Fayette, Iowa, after leaving Sumner.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Derry, Northern Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

My article for this quarter was going to cover a county in the Republic of Ireland. However, after obtaining a copy of the CD resource Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors, I changed the focus to County Derry.

The terms Londonderry and Derry are used for both the city and county. In this article the name Derry will be used.

Library staff at both the Central Library in the city of Derry and the Coleraine Library provided information about their local history collections. Their help in preparing this article and reviewing it is most appreciated.

Books and CDs

There is no comprehensive how-to book for researching County Derry ancestors. As with the other counties in Ireland, Michael C. O'Laughlin has compiled a small publication concerning aspects of genealogy relative to County Derry.

- O'Laughlin, Michael C. *County Derry (Londonderry) Ireland, Genealogy & Family History, special extracts from the IGF archives,* Kansas City, MO: IrishGenealogical Foundation, 2001. This 50 page book gives a cursory overview of limited genealogical resources for County Derry. See the editorial review for this book at <www.amazon.com>.

- Mitchell, Brian. *County Londonderry: Sources for Family History*. Derry, Northern Ireland: Genealogy Centre, 1992. This 28 page book is now out of print. Mitchell does an excellent job of listing sources pertaining to County Derry. He includes historical background, a list of graveyards, details about school records, and several maps including ones showing civil parish boundaries, Catholic parish boundaries, and Presbyterian congregations. This book is available in many libraries, including the IGSI collection, or through interlibrary loan.

Other published resources include:

- Hill, George (1810-1900). Rev. Hill wrote a four volume work entitled *The Conquest of Ireland, an historical and genealogical account of the plantation in Ulster,* Kansas City, MO: Irish Genealogical Foundation, 2004. The third volume of this set is Londonderry Ireland Lands and Families. According to information in the editorial review at <www.amazon.com>, it is important to historical and genealogical researchers. This work is part of the IGSI research collection.

- Curl, James Stevens. *The Londonderry Plantation, 1609-1914,* Chichester, West Sussex, England: Phillimore & Co Ltd, 1986. This book is out of print but is part of the IGSI collection.

- O'Brien, Gerard and William Nolan, editors. *Derry and Londonderry History and Society,* Dublin: Geography Publications, 1999. The various chapters, which are written by different authors, include information relative to the history of County Derry from medieval times to the 20th century. Two chapters of note are "Emigration from Derry: A study

Checking out the "papers" uncovers all sorts of genealogical buried treasures. The local news items help us understand our ancestors' daily lives, adding detail and color to their stories. Their appearance in the paper can provide just the right nuggets of information to trace their journeys and the memorable moments in their lives.

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.

Happy New Year

Athbhliain faoi mhaise duit

in source-materials" and "Aspects of Poor Law and Workhouse administration in Derry, 1838-1948." Available in the IGSI collection.

- *Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland*. More than a dozen of the 40 volumes of this set discuss different parishes and towns for County Londonderry. The *Memoirs* were compiled from surveys done in the northern half of Ireland prior to the Great Famine. Notes taken by the surveyors document the landscape, buildings, land-holdings, population, employment, and sometimes immigration. Occasionally names, which usually are not lineage linked, are listed. The entire series is available in the IGSI collection.

- Roulston, William J. *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600-1800*, Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2005. County Derry is included in the province of Ulster. Available in the IGSI collection and online.

- Macafee, William. *Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors* (CD), [Ireland]: William Macafee, 2010.

  Macafee, a retired lecturer at the University of Ulster, became interested in family history through his academic studies. In 2006, he launched a family history website that focuses on North Antrim <www.billmacafee.com>. His new CD, *Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors*, expands the work he started with North Antrim. Read more about the CD at <www.billmacafee.com/derryancestors/derryancestorscd.htm>. For details about this CD and how to order, see <www.booksireland.org.uk>.

  I am impressed with the work done by Bill Macafee and contributors Terry Eakin, Robert Forrest, and Brian Mitchell. Not only has he published information about various genealogical resources of interest to people who have County Derry ancestors, but he has also included source databases and published case studies showing how various resources were used to trace specific families. This CD is a must for County Derry genealogical research. It is hoped that others will produce similar CD resources for the rest of the counties in Ireland.

Library Resources

Both the Central Library in the city of Derry and the Coleraine Library have local history collections of interest to genealogists.

The Derry Central Library has a collection of local history books, many of which are found in other libraries in the U.S. and abroad. Of particular interest are the *Derry Almanac and Street Directories* for various years from 1871 to 1953. These directories were published by the *Londonderry Sentinel* and list the streets of Derry in alphabetical order and include the names of the householders. LibrariesNI has plans to digitize the almanacs. Another unique book in the Central Library is *A Particular of the Houses and Families in Londonderry 1628*, which is the earliest known list of householders for this city.

Other resources found in the Derry Central Library include the local newspaper collection (*Derry Journal, Londonderry Sentinel, Derry Standard* and *Belfast Newsletter*); a collection of maps dating from the Derry Plantation; Bennett Street, Greerstown, Craig Memorial and Christchurch school records; and a vast photographic archive. Birth, marriage and death entries from the *Londonderry Sentinel* (1829-1869) were abstracted and published on a CD-ROM.

Among the records held by the **Coleraine Library**, which are not listed in the online Libraries Northern Ireland catalog <www.librariesni.org.uk>, are the following:

- Newspapers (*Coleraine Herald*, 1897-1902; *Ballymoney Free Press*, 1870-1934; *Ballymoney Times*, 1991-2007; *Coleraine Chronicle*, 1844-present; *Coleraine Constitution*, 1877-present; and *Coleraine Times*, 1991-present)

- Newspaper scrapbooks of "The Diamond Diary," a column written by Rev. T.H. Mullin that includes family and local history information

- Ordnance Survey maps of County Derry and selected maps for County Antrim

- Protestant and Catholic church records for the Borough Council areas of Ballycastle, Ballymena, Ballymoney, City of Derry, Coleraine, Limavady, and

Magherafelt. The collection does not include all churches in these areas.

There are three County Derry genealogical/historical periodicals that are published, namely, *Derriana* (Derry Diocesan Historical Society), *South Derry Historical Society Journal*, and *Benbradagh* or *The Winding Roe* (Dungiven parish magazine). The last mentioned is available online at <www.benbradagh.com>.

Museums

Some museums in Ireland contain genealogical records. This is true of Derry City. Part of the original building that housed the Derry workhouse, which opened in 1840, is home to the Workhouse Museum (on two floors) and the Waterside branch of the city library. Artifacts and archives that are on display throughout the building relate to workhouse life, 19th century poverty, and the potato famine. The museum hosts temporary and traveling exhibitions as well as the Heritage and Museum Service's reminiscence (living history) project.

The Heritage and Museum Service, headquartered in the Harbour Museum, is responsible for preserving the civic records of the Derry City Council and its predecessor, the Londonderry Corporation. Records generated by these groups include minute books, correspondence, and legal documents. Service also acquires and preserves local private collections such as business records.

The Harbour Museum also hosts the Derry-Londonderry Genealogy Service, which covers County Londonderry and the Inishowen peninsula of County Donegal. An index to the pre-1922 civil registration records of birth and marriage, early baptism and marriage records from 38 Catholic parishes, 24 Church of Ireland parishes, and 35 Presbyterian congregations, tombstone inscriptions for 118 graveyards, and census returns and substitute from 1663-1901 is found on the web site <www.rootsireland.ie>. If you have ancestors in County Derry and are planning a trip there, you can book a free 15 minute consultation with the genealogist at the Harbour Museum by e-mail <genealogy@derrycity.gov.uk>.

For further information about the Derry City museums, see their website <http://www.derrycity.gov.uk/Museums/Heritage-and-Museum-Service>.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

PRONI to Reopen in New Facilities

The new Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) will open to the public on 30 March 2011 in the Titanic Quarter of Belfast.

The new PRONI headquarters was due to open in May or June 2011 but through dedication and hard work PRONI is opening well ahead of schedule. The new record office will provide larger and better facilities for the access of PRONI's records.

Culture Minister Nelson McCausland and co-worker schedule opening. Photo courtesy of PRONI.

Creating a Census Alternative

by Dwight Radford

In our Irish research, we have become accustomed to the idea of the "census substitute" or "census alternative." We use any number of sources from the 17th to the 19th centuries to fill the gaps left by destroyed records. The list of sources is practically endless; any source with names, from any year, when arranged in a logical manner, can act to fill in these gaps. Griffith's Primary Valuation (1847-1864) and the Tithe Applotment Books (1823-1837) are certainly the most widely known of the substitute censuses. However, they are not the only ones. Tax lists, voter records, church memberships, religious censuses, land records and estate rental books – all can all be valuable.

Often, we are so busy looking for our ancestors in the obvious sources that we forget about the not so obvious sources. This article focuses on an often overlooked strategy we can use to glean several census substitutes at one time: published historical books.

Over the decades, authors have researched and compiled histories of a town, parish or county, consulting the same records that we as genealogists do. Authors of books written prior to the 1922 Four Courts Fire used extant records. So it is possible to find an early source in a published book when the original no longer exists. On the other hand, these same authors, as well as modern authors, utilize sources that we genealogists continue to study. Only a few authors have indexed the published sources we all use. The index creates the perfect alternative to plowing through page after page of manuscript and typescript materials from many hodge-podge collections. The value of published historical books is that the authors usually extracted important sources to complete and complement their study, giving us access to many records under one cover. Indeed, the one source is actually many sources.

Inventorying Your Findings

When researching a particular geographic area and using an historical book, I start an inventory of what is extracted in the book. This will allow me quick access into the book, as I continue to study it over the weeks, months or years. By the time I finished my study, I have a partial, yet viable, census substitute list for that area, all from a single book.

To demonstrate this principle, I have chosen E. J. M'Crum *The History and Antiquities of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus* (Belfast: Mullan & Son, 1909). If my area of study was Carickfergus town or parish, then I would certainly be interested in this book because it was published in 1909, prior to the 1922 Four Courts Fire. At first glance, there is little way of knowing if the author extracted now destroyed sources. However, upon compiling an inventory of the extractions in the book, I can make a more informed assessment. In the case of Carrickfergus, I was careful to determine if a source being cited was for the town or the parish or both. My inventory would look as follows though there are other ways to organize such a list.

Census Substitutes for Carrickfergus, Carrickfergus Parish, County Antrim

Source: E. J. M'Crum *The History and Antiquities of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus* (Belfast: Mullan & Son, 1909): 297 (FHL #990022 item 1).

1523-1842: Mayors and Sheriffs of Carrickfergus (pp. 409-430). Note: This is an extensive list.

1559-1837: Members of Parliament (pp. 432-435). Note: There are some duplicates in this list.

1595: List of individuals who were admitted into the Corporation of Carrickfergus and allotted land (p. 296-297). Note: 43 names.

1599-1603: Corps and Commanders in Carrickfergus (p. 166). Note: 18 names.

1601: List of individuals who were admitted into the Corporation of Carrickfergus and allotted land (p. 297). Note: 26 names.

1601: List of individuals who signed to establish the boundaries of Carrickfergus (p. 436). Note: 24 names.

1603: List of individuals who were admitted into the Corporation of Carrickfergus and allotted land (pp. 297-298). Note: 62 names.

1606: Lists of individuals who were admitted into the Corporation of Carrickfergus and allotted land lying west of Woodburn River and below the Knockogh (pp. 298-299). Note: 75 names.

1674: Tenants of the Corporation of Carrickfergus in 1674 (pp. 438-439). Note: 76 names.

1709: Carrickfergus Rent Roll (pp. 462-463). Note: This is an extensive list.

1715-1832: A list of aged inhabitants of the Carrickfergus (pp. 335-336). Note: The dates 1715-1832 reflect death dates. All of the 40 names were 90 years old or older.

1731: Tenants of the Corporation of Carrickfergus in 1731 (pp. 439-440). Note: 80 names.

1748: Aldermen and burgesses of Carrickfergus (p. 492). Note: 43 names, including two listed as "son of."

1754: Mayor, Sheriffs and Grand Jurors of Carrickfergus (p. 494). Note: 20 names.

1754: Masters and Wardens of the Incorporated Societies of the Ancient and Loyal Corporation of Carrickfergus (p. 494). Note: This list includes 17 names from the Weavers, Taylors, Butchers, Cordwainers and Hammermen.

1760: List of the inhabitants of Carrickfergus who suffered losses by the French landing and plundering the town (p. 518). Note: A list of 6 men and the amounts lost.

1761-1832: List of Candidates and the number of votes for each at contested elections (p. 489). Note: 34 names, some duplicates.

1784: Grand Jury of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus (p. 499). Note: This list includes 17 names originally published in *The Belfast News-Letter* and *The Dublin Evening Post*.

1820: Tenants of the Corporation of Carrickfergus in 1820 (p. 441). Note: 62 names.

1822: Names of the Aldermen and Burgesses with their residence (pp. 405-406). Note: This list of 38 names also includes the dates the person was made an Alderman or Burgess. Not all were residents of Carrickfergus.

1833: Aldermen and Burgesses with their addresses (pp. 492-493). Note: There are 41 names, many with no land in Carrickfergus. Others were not residents. Ten were listed as residents of Carrickfergus.

1834: Schools in 1834 (p. 330). Note: The master or mistress of the school, religion of the teachers, where the school was held, and the number of students by religion are given. There are 15 masters and mistresses listed.

1839-99: High Sheriffs and Their Deputies (pp. 501-502). Note: There are 60 sheriffs listed, with some being duplicates. There were 21 deputies, with some being duplicates.

1891: Members of the Bangor Corinthian Sailing Club (p. 511). Note: This is a list of 8 men, many of whom were also members of the Carrickfergus Sailing Club.

With this list I have access to a segment of the important data in the book. From this one book, I inventoried 24 distinct lists of names. I put notations after each item to remind me what is in the source cited. There were more names in the book, but they were not in lists.

This exercise is a simple method of learning what is available for a particular locality. After compiling an inventory from the initial source, I can expand my list as I discover other sources.

Compiling an inventory for a place of interest is no small accomplishment in Irish research. It is essential to know what is available and where it can be found. If a 1909 book about Carrickfergus solves my research problem, then the effort taken to thoroughly study and inventory the sources was well worth my time.

As a professional genealogist, I am more likely to concentrate on some lists more than others. If my goal is to document more than just the gentry and moneyed people of Carrickfergus, then I would choose the early lists of people admitted into the Corporation and allotted land. This would include the lists for the years 1595 (43 names), 1601 (26 names), 1603 (62 names) and 1606 (75 names). That is a total of 206 very early residents coming into Carrickfergus from 1595-1606. I would also be interested in the tenant lists for the years 1674, 1709, 1731 and 1820. Would I find any of these valuable lists anywhere else? I don't know. What I do know is that, as a researcher, I would recognize their value immediately to help me in my Carrickfergus research.

Conclusion

Always look for lists of names in the history books to supplement and complement the census substitute lists found in standard Irish genealogical how-to books. By thinking in terms of the proverbial census substitute we can revolutionize our research and open up many new sources.

Official, But Wrong: The Faulkner Sisters' Passports

by J.H. Fonkert, CG

The 1920 U.S. Census found Mary Faulkner, 35, and her sister Catherine, 33, living with their older brother Thomas in San Francisco[1]. Two years later, when they applied for passports, Mary said she was 44 and Catherine said she was 42. How old were they, really?

Genealogists often trust official government documents because people fear the consequences of being caught in a lie. Mary and Catherine may have had no qualms about understating their ages to the census-taker, who had little reason to seek out the facts, but they may have thought twice about altering their ages on passport applications and trying to re-enter the country with a less than truthful passport.

A look back at census records reveals that Mary and Catherine made only a half-hearted effort to tell the truth on their passport applications. Their story is a reminder that even official government documents can be wrong.

Evaluating Records of Past Events

When you embark on family history research, you take on the job of a historian. The fundamental challenge to historians is to uncover and accurately describe events of the past after all the eye witnesses are gone. Think about it: do you know when and where you were born? You were there, but you are not a credible eye witness because your faculties of observation and memory were undeveloped. Your mother may be a reliable witness if she is still alive, but even her memory might be clouded or biased.

The most widely accepted documentation of your birth is your birth certificate. It was created close to the time of your birth and it records information that was provided by responsible persons – your parents and medical officials – who had good reason to know the facts. Assuming that they had no motivation to provide false information, and assuming the person entering the information made no recording errors, a birth certificate is a reliable source of information about your birth.

In addition, a birth certificate is an official record, required by law. Because the government is involved, and parents and medical officials can be subject to legal penalty for providing false information, we expect that outright lies should be uncommon. But, as the rest of this article illustrates, the "official" status of a source does not guarantee its accuracy.

First, distinguish between sources and the information they carry. Books, census manuscripts, family Bibles, vital records, photographs and gravestones are all sources. They are physical papers and artifacts that carry information. A single source such as a death certificate can carry several kinds of information from multiple informants. Each piece of information must be evaluated separately. A medical official probably provided information about time and cause of death. A family member probably contributed information about the decedent's birth place, birth date, and parents. A funeral director may have provided information about burial or cremation.

References and Reading

Kane, Timothy. "Other Roads Home: Census Substitutes in Irish Genealogical Research" in *The Septs* 27, #1 (January 2006): 13-15.

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Rice, Tom, "Census Substitutes? In Search of the Perfect Census" in *The Septs* 27, #1 (January 2006): 10-12.

Webster, David W. "Irish Censuses and Census Substitutes," in *British Connections* 5, #4 (2004): 49, 52-54.

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former co-editor of The Irish At Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He also volunteers at the Utah State Prison teaching genealogy. He has placed his first book of prison experiences on his website www.radfordnoone.com under "Dwight's Prison Tales."*

You trust the information about time and cause of death because it was supplied soon after the event by someone with primary knowledge of the facts. The information about the decedent's birth and parents is less reliable because the informant may have had only secondary knowledge of the facts.

Official records are records created by presumably neutral third-party officials with legal responsibility to create an accurate record of an event. Two kinds of errors can occur with official records. First, a clerk may have made an unintentional clerical error in the original record. A name may have been misspelled and never corrected or a date incorrectly recorded. In addition, many contemporary official records are derivatives created from an earlier record. Modern certified birth or death certificates, printed on parchment paper and embossed with an official seal, are created from information originally written down in a birth or death register. The courthouse clerk who created the certificate may have made an error.

When I asked a clerk at the Douglas County Courthouse in Arcola, Illinois, for a copy of the marriage certificate for George Ehlenbach, she went to a back room, consulted the original marriage register book, and typed-up a certificate signed by the County Clerk. The certificate states that George married "Christina Hauser." Hauser is a plausible-sounding Germanic name, but there were no Hausers in Douglas County in the 1860s. Christina's correct name was "Hansen."

A Tale of the Ages

What about a truly original official record like a passport application? Mary's and Catherine Faulkner's passport applications remind us that people sometimes tell convenient lies.

Although from an apparent working class background, Catherine and Mary Faulkner travelled to Europe at least four times during the 1920s[2]. Except for a short period during the Civil War and before the 1921 World War I peace treaty, the United States did not require passports until 1941; nonetheless, Mary and Catherine applied for passports in July 1922. Their applications provide the following information:[3]

- Mary A. Faulkner, 44, was born 9 February 1878 in San Francisco.

- Catherine Faulkner, 42, was born 22 May 1880 in San Francisco.

Perhaps the Faulkner sisters didn't think they could pass for women of 37 and 35, as they would have been in 1922, based on their 1920 census ages. So, they bumped their ages up. It was an admirable move in the direction of truth, but, a look at earlier censuses shows that they still were taking liberties with the facts.

The 1880 U.S. Census found Mary, Catherine and Thomas at home with their Irish-born parents:

Faulkner, Thomas, 45, porter, b. Ireland
Mary, 35, wife, b. Ireland
Edward, 11, son, b. California
Mary, 9, daughter, b. California
Catherine, 7, daughter, b. California
Thomas, 4, son, b. California
John, 2, son, b. California

Mary and Catherine were already 9 and 7 years old, respectively. Their supposedly older brother Thomas was only 4.[4] At census time twenty years later, the young ladies stuck close to the truth: Mary was 28 and Catherine was 25. Their brother Thomas was 24. [5]

Over the next 20 years, however, Mary and Catherine seem to have found the Fountain of Youth. From 1900 to 1910, Catherine sliced eight years off her age; Mary shaved off five years.[6] Over the next decade, Catherine trimmed off another five and Mary another eight.[7] They each understated their 1920 age by about 13 years. Mary confessed to aging seven years over two decades; Catherine chose to age only eight years. Their brother Thomas obviously knew his sisters were older, but apparently did not mind his sisters now claiming to be younger than him.

Now, Mary and Catherine wanted passports, which required a photo. Perhaps, they thought their photos would give them away, so they moved their ages about half-way toward the truth. Although it is difficult to judge ages from their photos, the women in the passport photos can easily be taken to be over 40.[8]

Upon return from their European trips, their passenger arrival records all show ages and birth dates consistent with their passports – exactly what would be expected. But, when the census-taker came around again in 1930, the sisters again favored youth. Mary said she was 50 and Catherine said she was 48[9] – each had aged only six years from their 1922 passport ages. To their credit, they

were now only taking about nine years off their true ages, compared to the 14 years they trimmed in 1920.

In 1930, even Thomas joined the game: he was 40 in 1920, but only 45 in 1930.[10] He should have been about 54, but at least he claimed to be younger than his sisters, as he surely was.

Although the State Department required evidence of citizenship and photo identification for a passport in 1922, the department may have been less demanding then than in today's high security-conscious world. California did not issue birth certificates before 1905, and local San Francisco records for the Faulkner sisters may have been lost in the fire following the 1906 earthquake. In place of birth records, the sisters submitted sworn affidavits on each other's behalf. Mary signed an affidavit stating that Catherine was born 22 May 1880. Catherine returned the favor, stating that Mary was born 9 February 1878.

In their applications, both Mary and Catherine stated that their Irish-born father (no name given) emigrated from a port in England in 1854, was naturalized in the New York Court of Common Pleas in October 1856, and died in San Francisco in 1912. This information reasonably matches census information. The 1900 census says Irish-born Thomas Faulkner came to the U. S. in 1851; the 1910 census says he immigrated in 1861. Son Thomas and daughters Mary and Catherine lived at 1320 Sixth Ave. at the time of the 1920 census, the same address given by Mary and Catherine on their passport applications. Both Mary and Catherine were "dressmakers" in an "establishment" in 1920. In the passport applications, Mary said she was a dressmaker and Catherine said she was a housekeeper. In 1930, Catherine was a dressmaker in a department store and Mary a sewer in a shop.

Evidence for Faulkner Sisters' Ages

Italics = imputed information

	Mary A. Faulkner		Catherine Faulkner	
	Birth	Age	Birth	Age
1880 Census	*Abt 1871*	9	*Abt 1873*	7
1900 Census	Feb 1872	28	May 1875	25
1910 Census	*Abt 1877*	33	*Abt 1882*	28
1920 Census	*Abt 1885*	35	*Abt 1887*	33
1922 Passport application	9 Feb 1878	44	22 May 1880	42
1930 Census	Abt 1880	50	Abt 1882	48
Death Certificate			22 May 1877	

The Faulkner sisters' story is a reminder to compare information across sources and resolve any conflicts. Catherine A. Faulkner's 1952 death certificate states her birth date as 22 May 1877,[11] exactly three years earlier than the date she gave in her passport application, but still understating her true age. Mary's death record has not been found.

The lesson is this: never put total trust in any one genealogical source, no matter how official. Genealogists place high confidence in sworn government documents like passports. In this case, the confidence is misplaced. The sisters purposely altered their birth dates to appear younger than they really were.

Endnotes

1 1920 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, Precinct 34, Assembly District 27, Enumeration District 343, Sheet 6B, dwelling 92, family 96, Thomas J. Faulkner household, T625, roll 142.

2 Port of New York passenger manifests: SS *Olympic*, 29 August 1922, no. 19 (stamped 31), lines 8-9; SS *Southampton*, 28 August 1923, no. 3 (stamped 32), lines 16-17; SS *Berengaria*, 29 August 1924, no 3, stamped 28, lines 5-6; SS *Berengaria*, 27 August 1926, no. 20 (stamped 23), lines 13-14.

Passport Applications in Genealogical Research

3 Mary A. Faulkner U.S. passport application, stamped 483561, 2 June 1922; Catherine Faulkner U.S. passport application, stamped 183562, 2 June 1922; *Passport Applications, January 2, 1906–March 31, 1925*, National Archives and Records Administration microfilm publication 1,490, digital images viewed 18 October 2010.

4 1880 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, Enumeration District 104, p. 5, stamped 504, dwelling 44, family 45, Thomas Faulkner household, FHL film 1,254,075.

5 1900 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, Enumeration District2 27, Sheet 7B, dwelling 88, family 135, Thomas Faulkner household, T623, roll 100.

6 1910 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, 39th Assembly District, 25th precinct, Enumeration District 233, Sheet 2A, dwelling 24, family 29, Thomas Faulkner household, NARA microfilm T624, roll 100.

7 1920 U.S. Census, Thomas J. Faulkner household.

8 The passport photos can be viewed on Ancestry.com; see note 3.

9 1930 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, Enumeration District 183, Sheet 17A (stamped 199), dwelling 321, family 382, Mary Faulkner household, NARA microfilm T626, roll 201.

10 1920 U.S. Census, Thomas Faulkner household; 1930 U.S. Census, Thomas Faulkner household.

11 Catherine A. Faulkner entry, Ancestry.com. *California Death Index, 1940-1997* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000. Author has not viewed the death registration or certificate.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is past 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.

The United States first issued passports in 1789. The government required American travelers to have passports for a short time during the Civil War and again before the World War I peace conference, but otherwise did not require them until 1941.

Passports applications are useful for genealogical research because they typically required name, birth date and place, address, occupation, and physical description (including photos, beginning in 1914) An application may also reveal information parents and place and date of naturalization.

Ancestry.com offers a digital index of passport applications from 1795 to 1925. Researchers may apply to the Department of State for copies of later applications from individuals born more than 100 years ago. Requests must include information about birth and death dates, and a passport number, if possible. Some 20th century passenger arrival records include the passenger's passport number. For complete information about ordering copies of passport applications, visit the U.S. Department of State website <http://travel.state.gov/passport/services/copies/copies_872.html>.

Passport records are published in several National Archives microfilm series:

- M1371, Registers and Indexes for Passport Applications, 1810-1906.
- M1848, Index to Passport Applications, various years, 1850-1923.
- M1372, Passport Applications, 1795-1905.
- M1490, Passport Applications, 1906-1925.

Newspapers on the Web

by Mary Wickersham

Searching newspapers within the region where your family lived can be fruitful for birth, death and marriage announcements and other newsworthy events. This is especially true if crime or scandal touched your family.

Newspapers from Ireland

Online Newspapers is a comprehensive list of newspaper websites. <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/ireland.htm>

The Irish Times, "epaper," has several contemporary years of "Family Notices", paid notices for deaths, marriages, anniversaries, memorials, etc. as well as an historical archive from 1859. Search for free but pay to view. <http://www.irishtimes.com/>

Belfast Telegraph includes classified online "Family Notices", which contain births, deaths and In Memoriam for recent years. <http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/>

Finding Aids for Irish Newspapers

Historical Irish Newspapers, part of the online library guide to Irish News and Newspapers from the Boston College University Libraries, lists sources of historical Irish newspapers. Click on the other tab to see a listing of current Irish and Irish-American newspapers. <http://libguides.bc.edu/content.php?pid=1171&sid=4806>

Information Wanted, hosted by Boston College, contains a searchable database of more than 36,000 records. The information was gathered from the "Missing Friends" columns of the *Boston Pilot*, 1831-1921, advertisements from people looking for "lost" relatives and friends who emigrated to the U.S. from Ireland. <http://infowanted.bc.edu/>

Ireland Old News includes reader-submitted transcriptions from various Irish newspapers and years at <http://www.irelandoldnews.com/>. The Ireland Death Notice Index, with over 54,000 indexed entries and covering years from the 1800s to current years, is part of this site. Approximately half of the obituary notices are from the *Cork Examiner*; many are for Irish immigrants to America. <http://www.irelandoldnews.com/obits/>

RIP, while not a newspaper, this Death Notices Archive includes the full text of funeral director-submitted death notices from 2006 to current day. You can search by surname, county and town, or leave the some of those fields empty. <http://www.rip.ie/>

American Newspapers

The *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* Online, produced by the Brooklyn NY Public Library, covers 1841-1902. <http://eagle.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/Default/Skins/BEagle/Client.asp?Skin=BEagle>

Chronicling America, from the Library of Congress. You can search and view newspaper pages from 22 states for years between 1860 and 1922. Included are Minnesota papers, like *The Saint Paul Globe*, 1896-1905, and the *Minneapolis Journal* 1888-1939 (searchable through 1922), and *The Scranton Tribune*, 1891-1910, of Pennsylvania. Search results can be displayed in list form or with images of the individual pages, which are large enough to allow you to determine where in the newspaper an article appeared. You can also search a directory of newspapers published from 1690 to identify which newspapers were printed in your city, the years of publication, and where to access various issues of the newspapers. <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Fulton History includes more than 13 million pages from old New York State historical newspapers. This includes later years of the *Brooklyn* (NY) *Daily Eagle* (through 1955). <http://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html >

Winona Newspaper Project is an online archive of three late 19th century and early 20th century Winona, Minnesota, newspapers. This was a local project led by the Winona State University Darrell W. Krueger Library. <http://www.winona.edu/library/databases/winonanewspaperproject.htm>

Thee are references to more online newspapers, finding aids and sources in the other articles in this issue.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is a current IGSI board member and past IGSI Officer. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop and Mary Wickersham

300 Years Ago

Anno Neno? ANNÆ REGINÆ

An Act to Repeal the Act of the 3d and 4th Year of Her Majesty's Reign, Intituled, An Act for Prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with France, so far as it relates to the Prohibiting and Importation of *French* Wines. *Whereas it hath been by Experience found, that the Prohibition of French Wines to be Imported into this Kingdom, or* Ireland, *is Injurious to Your Majesty's Revenues, and many ways Prejudicial to Your Subjects, … and the same is hereby Repealed and made Void…..Provided nevertheless, That the said Wine may be Imported, as aforesaid, directly and immediately from* France *into* Ireland, *and from thence into any Part of* Great Britain.
Dublin Intelligence
Dublin Ireland, 31 Mar 1711

250 Years Ago

***This Day is Published,* Price 1s. 6d.**

An Historical Account of the ancient and modern State of Ireland, from the earliest Accounts to the present Time. By an IRISH FARMER. To which is added, The Case of the Roman Catholicks of Ireland, occasioned by some Reflexions in the celebrated Farmer's Letters. In a Letter from a Candid Member of the Protestant Church.

By HENRY BROOKE, Esq.
Public Advertiser
London Middlesex England, 23 Jan 1761

200 Years Ago

Obituary; with Anecdotes of remarkable Persons.

John Fitzgerald, esq. of Dysart, co. Clare. He was the first Roman Catholic in that county who had been appointed to the commission of the peace, after the law which permitted that distinction to be extended to persons of his persuasion in Ireland.
Gentlemans Magazine and Historical Chronicle
London, Middlesex, England, 1 Feb 1811

150 Years Ago

Ireland Englished.

It is not more than fifty years since Col. Vallamey urged on English officials the expediency of studying the Old Irish language, since there were, as he estimated, above two millions of persons who spoke no other tongue. Since that time it has become well-nigh dead, while even the "rich brogue" which flavors Hibernian English, is vanishing before the influence of schools and of intercourse with England. The constant stream of emigration to America and Australia, drawn, in a great measure, from the Catholic element, which is synonymous with the more purely Irish portion of the inhabitants of the Emerald Isle, was the first great measure of national diminution and of change. …
The New York Times
New York, New York, 7 Feb 1861

P. T. Barnum Sold at Last.

IT MUST BE NEEDLESS TO SAY THAT THE OFFENDER IS AN IRISHMAN.

A public joke at P. T. BARNUM'S expense is not an every-day luxury, P. T. B. for many years having had the laugh on the other side. But at length the Prince of Showmen has been shown a trick that he did not know before, and the hero of the occasion has been, as is very usual on such occasions, a son of the Emerald Isle. It seems that BARNUM, a few days ago, was in a great hurry to be shaved, and entered his ordinary place of tonsorial resort under the Park Hotel; but all the operatives were engaged, and one other customer – a great brawny Irishman, just landed, and with a beard and head requiring very extensive attention – stood between the exhibitor of the "What-is-it?" and his turn as "next." "I am in a hurry, my good man!" PHINEAS T., addressing Pat; "and if you give me your turn I will pay for what you want done here." "All right," responded the delighted Irishman; and the showman was soon shaved and on his way to keep his engagement, merely saying as he left the door to the proprietor of the saloon, "Do what this man wants," pointing to the exile of Erin, "and charge it to me." No sooner was he gone than PATRICK took off his "trusty," and a thick cotton neck-tie, at the same time asking the barber, "Now tell me all you do?" "Why Sir," responded the tonsorial operative, "we shave, cut and curl hair, shampoo and bathe." "All right then," said PAT; "Do all them things to me. Sorra wan of me knows what they mane, but as he said he'd pay for them, just do them all,

an' God bless you!" The barber saw the joke and did as requested, putting the big Irishman through all the processes, and bringing him out so pleasantly altered that he scarcely knew himself. We leave our readers to imagine BARNUM'S face next morning, when the proprietor of the saloon handed him a bill – "For shaving Irishman 10 cents, cutting his hair 25 cents, curling it 25 cents, shampooing it 25 cents, and bathing Irishman 25 cents – total for Irishman $1 10." BARNUM at once acknowledged the corn – gave a receipt for the maize; but he is after the Irish exile, and swears, if he catches him, that he will place him cheek-by-jowl between the "What is it?" and the Aztec children.
The New York Times
New York, New York, 25 Jan 1861

100 Years Ago
Knew No Irish King
From the *New York World*

Hibernian patriotism triumphed in the case of one applicant for naturalization before Judge Scott, in Paterson, N.J.
"Who is the King of Ireland?" asked the judge of a bright-looking young Irishman.
"Ireland hasn't any king," was the sturdy reply.
"Yes, it has," said Judge Scott. "Who is King of England?"
"George."
"Well, isn't he King of Great Britain and Ireland?"
"He's no king of mine." was the smiling retort.
The Irishman was admitted.
The Washington Post
Washington, District of Columbia, 1 Jan 1911

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 on the IGSI Board and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

IGSI Donors

We wish to thank the following generous members who have made a contribution to the work and projects of the Irish Genealogical Society International.

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IGSI Family Researchers in Ireland

Almost everyone on the IGSI trip to Ireland in September did a little bit of research for ancestors or family while in Dublin. Visits to the National Library, National Archives, and the General Record Office were popular with the dedicated few. Some had more success than others.

Patti Riley

My 3rd great-grandmother Catherine (Breen) McGuire's gravestone states she was a native of County Fermanagh. She married John McGuire in Ireland before 1832. Their first two children, Thomas and Bernard (my 2nd great-grandfather), were born in Ireland in the early 1830s. John and Catherine came to New Brunswick, Maine, between 1835 and 1845. The records are inconsistent documenting this but I have found published stories about John McGuire being a settler in New Brunswick in the mid-1830s.

On our first full day in Dublin I followed several of our group to the National Library. Beth Mullinax helped me locate areas where the surnames Breen and McGuire are seen together. I did not record all of the references we used, oops. I believed we used Griffith's Valuations for Enniskillen and another reference book for Catholic Parishes in Enniskillen. Through this we found a microfilm containing both of these surnames. The microfilm was titled "Diocese: Clogher, Parish Enniskillen (Inis Cavin Locha Eione) Baptisms 1838- Sept 27, 1868 Marriages: Feb 10, 1818-Aug 9, 1868."

I searched this microfilm for what seemed like an hour and was ready to give up when I found the marriage of Jacobus Maguire and Catherine McBreen [or McBrien] Feb 10, 1829. Throughout this microfilm I had noticed that the first names had been Latinized. There were no listings for names such as John or James. I asked a librarian what would "Jacobus" have been in English. "James or John", he replied.

I have seen the name Breen also listed as McBreen, M'Breen, O'Breen and Brien. A distant cousin I have been unable to contact but who posts our McGuire's genealogy on-line lists a "Hugh Brien" as brother to Catherine. He also lists John McGuire as being from Tempo but no references are given. Tempo is very near Clogher. I believe these are my 3rd great-grandparents. These are the first ancestors that I have been able to locate in Ireland. It made this trip well worth it, and now I have some point of reference for further research.

Greg Immel

Greg Immel reported that he made three discoveries at the Government Records Office:

1. the confirmation and documentation of his great-grandparents' marriage (John and Mary Collins);
2. the documentation of six previously unknown siblings of his maternal grandmother, Ellie Collins; and
3. the 1901 census record of his maternal grandmother, Ellie Collins.

Greg declared, "A very satisfying group of discoveries!"

Ann Eccles

I was looking for a Thomas Eccles born about 1850 to parents whose names most likely were John and Mary (using the Irish naming pattern, which I think Thomas did with his children).

Griffith's Valuation listed a number of Eccles in County Tyrone so I spent two days looking through three microfilm rolls of Catholic Church records at the National Library. I found many marriages and baptisms on one particular reel and made many notes to try to trace the relationships. The result? Nothing conclusive – but there's more microfilm from other parts of County Tyrone that I can order from LDS to continue my search.

At the National Archives in Dublin I found many Church of Ireland entries for Eccles. And among their manuscripts was a handwritten pedigree for an Eccles family. Again, nothing conclusive, just more pieces to fit together in this genealogical puzzle.

Lynne Klemens

Lynne Klemens said that she had done a lot of research before going to Ireland. "I have four great-grandparents from four different parts of Ireland. It has taken me 15 years to find clues on all of them (my family was good at keeping secrets). I brought a summary of my research to the genealogists at the National Library to see if they would give me suggestions for further research."

She had not really planned to do much research – there were so many other things to see and do in Dublin – but she did spend some time going through the microfilmed Inistioge Catholic parish records, looking for a Patrick Brennan. "In Griffith Valuation I had found a Patrick Brennan in Inistioge as well as a Patrick Brennan in Pleberstown. I thought at least one was my great great-grandfather but wondered if they were one and the same person." Lynne also searched the passenger lists databases in the library to no avail.

In spite of her lack of success in the repositories, she said, "I'm still enjoying the glow I got from the trip. I've told everyone I know about it. I just thought it was wonderful!"

The adventures for ancestral connections did not end in Dublin but continued throughout the time spent by these travelers in Ireland.

Mary Skewis

Mary Skewis had been to Ireland before and had great hopes of connecting with family on this trip.

Seven of my eight great-grandparents came from Ireland. My maternal grandmother was born in Ireland, and I had previously received information from County Clare, not only of her baptism but of her mother's as well. My father's family came from County Cork in the 1830s, and I had done extensive research on their life in Northern New York State. This trip would be my chance to learn more about them.

I knew they came from County Cork, Townland of Glenville, Watergrasshill Parish. Thanks to the Internet, I found information on the Roman Catholic Parishes of Glenville and Watergrasshill and I made contact with Father Cashman, the Parish Priest of both churches.

I took a day off from our tour and went touring in County Cork. My driver, Martin, and I visited three families whose names were right, but probably not related. I wandered through three cemeteries, walked the streets where my great-grandparents

walked (although now they are paved), and met with a town historian who provided a clue to a person who might be a real true relative but, unfortunately, was not at home. Martin promised that he would go back and try to make contact with her, maybe getting an address or phone number.

Even though I didn't find any living relatives, I feel like I have made a trip home, just being there. Now that I think of it, maybe I didn't put enough emphasis on the Murphy side. Hmmm, maybe next time.

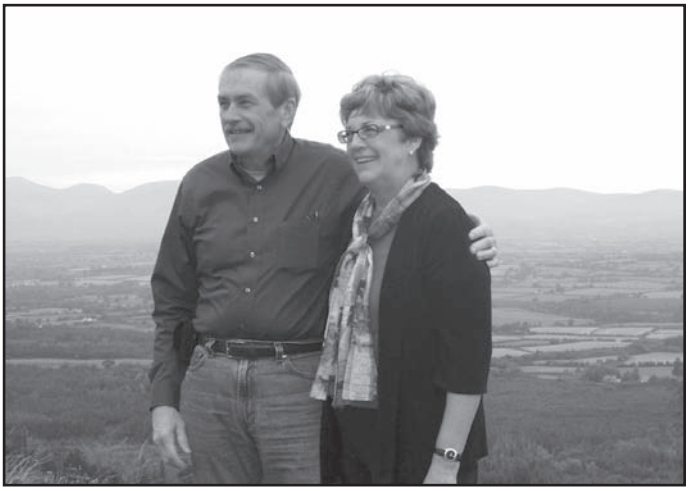
Gigi and Bill Hickey

Gigi and Bill Hickey didn't stop their research after leaving Dublin and had one of those serendipitous connections that genealogists sometimes make.

This was our first trip to Ireland – and our first time with an organized tour. We had a wonderful time!! Ireland is a beautiful country, and we thoroughly enjoyed viewing it through the big windows of a motor-coach while letting our capable bus-driver, Steve, maneuver the narrow roads. Terry Flynn's knowledgeable commentary and administrative skills added greatly to the experience!

Absolutely the only downside to the trip was losing our camera and the first week's worth of photos, but we purchased a new camera and were quickly "back in business." However, the lost camera turned out to be a blessing in disguise…

After the IGSI tour, we spent another week traveling on our own in a rental car. We called the police department in Kenmare, where we'd lost our camera, and found someone had turned it in! With some flexibility in our travel schedule, we decided to drive down and pick it up.



Camera retrieved, we had a day with no specific plans before we were to fly out of Shannon. Bill suggested driving back through Tipperary Town. We knew his Hickey ancestors originated in County Tipperary but, despite much research, I hadn't located the parish or townland. When we arrived in Tipperary Town, we happened upon the Tipperary Family History Center. "Might as well give it a try," I said to Bill. Ten minutes and some Euros later, they'd found the 1810 marriage record of his great-great-grandparents, James Hickey and Margaret O'Dwyer, as well as the baptisms of four of his great-grandfather's siblings in Cappawhite parish, Cahernahalla townland. This was the genealogical high point of our trip, and it never would have happened if the camera hadn't fallen off Bill's belt in Kenmare.

We can't wait for another adventure on an IGSI tour!

These are the stories of a few of the IGSI members on the trip; there are other stories not told in this article. There will be other trips and other adventures for IGSI researchers.

Family Reunion 2011

Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn

The biannual reunion of the Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn Families will be held at The DoubleTree Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia, from 01-06 July 2011.

These families descend from John and Margaret (Acres) Rathbone, one of the 16 original settlers of Block Island, Rhode Island, in the late 1600s.

The theme of the reunion is "Our Family Salutes Our Nation." Activities include a Welcome Reception; Bus Tour of Washington Under the Lights; Fourth of July celebration; Ford's Theater and Major Rathbone, Lincoln's aide that fateful night; the National Archives and the Charters of Freedom; Washington museums, and Arlington Cemetery. During the week, there will be the traditional Family Genealogy and Memorabilia Room open.

For further information and a registration form, contact John D. Bowen, 613 Chichester Lane, Silver Spring MD 20904-3331, johndbowen@earthlink.net, tel. 301-384-6533. Registration deadline is 1 June 2011. Hotel deadline 15 May 2011.

Research@IrishGenealogical.org

IGSI Benefit

Every so often, every researcher needs a little help, a pair of fresh eyes, or a push in climbing a brick wall. The Irish Genealogical Society International offers members that help as a benefit of membership.

At the relatively inexpensive price of $10 per hour, our research staff is available to help. We check both online and print resources available in the IGSI Library. Members who wish to request research assistance may do so by letter or email to Research@IrishGenealogical.org with the following information:

- Your contact information – name, address, email or phone
- Your member number
- The specific query you have. Do you want to find the townland of your ancestor, a birth or marriage date, the maiden name a spouse? Please identify the individuals and background to start the search.
- Include a list of sources you have already checked. Many sources, including Griffith's and passenger lists, are now available online. If you have already checked them, we can move on to other resources without repeating your search.

Please do not send payment with your request. When we know the cost – including time and copies, we will notify you. If you wish to specify a limit of cost, do so in your request.

What do we check? The Library has a subscription to *Ancestry* and *IrishOrigins*, two online subscription databases with many Irish resources. Examples: *Ancestry* contains the Emigrant Savings Bank records for 1850-1883 (which we also own in print form) and an index to the Tithe Applotment Books for the counties comprising contemporary Northern Ireland. *Irish Origins* contains Griffith's Valuation, indexes to the Irish Strays of the 1841 and 1871 censuses of England, and an index to Tithe Defaulters.

The Library owns all 16 volumes of the Casey Collection (East Kerry & West Cork), Irish passenger list information in print and on CDs, the eight-volume *The Search for Missing Friends: Irish Immigration Advertisements Placed in the Boston Pilot*, and many books of Irish and county histories.

We can provide a study of a surname in one county of Ireland and map it on a parish map of the county. If a couple married in Ireland, we can map both surnames on the same map. However, if a surname is too numerous to provide a meaningful result, we will inform you of that fact.

We check for information in periodicals and books you have found in the IGSI library catalog or seen mentioned in our "New to the Library" feature. If your Irish ancestor was local to Minnesota, we may check the microfilmed parish records of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis for information.

This is only a sampling of the resources we use to answer your query on an Irish ancestor. Your goal is to discover your Irish ancestry; our goal is to help you do so.

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but we also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

The theme of the April issue is Women in Irish Genealogy and Culture. Share something about the Irish women important to your family. Delve into the culture of Irish women and women immigrants. Discuss resources where you successfully found information on Irish female ancestors in your line.

Deadline for submission of articles for the April issue is February 1, 2011. Start now and plan to submit something for a coming issue. Themes and article submission deadlines for future issues are

Issue Date	Submission Deadline	Theme
July 2011	May 1	Irish Resources on the Internet – Revisited
October 2011	August 1	Irish in the American Midwest
January 2012	November 1	Irish in the Caribbean and South America
April 2012	February 1	History and Records of Various Ports of Entry

After 30 Years IGSI Updates Quarterly Programs

Over thirty years IGSI has offered a Quarterly Program. It is time for IGSI to take a look and revitalize these wonderful events.

So as the board takes a look at the coming year for enhancements to the Quarterly Programs the first will be a new name. It will now be called the IGSI Event. Our Quarterly Program for February will be cancelled this year and our normal May Quarterly (from now on called the IGSI Event) will be British Isles Day held April 29-30. This is one way IGSI continually updates our benefits.

IGSI Trips, Your Benefit

The last couple of years IGSI has offered research trips to its members. Last year's trip was a wonderful combination of research and sightseeing.

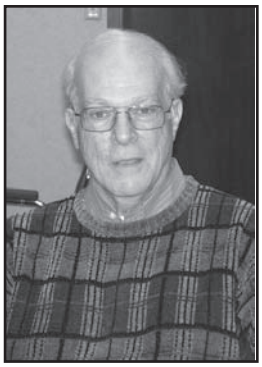
This benefit allows a group to meet at a destination and mingle with others who love to do what they do.

Details of the 2011 trip will be announced in mid-January and will provide IGSI members another wonderful experience to research, see the sights of the area and socialize with other family historians.

Announcing the 2011 IGSI Board of Directors

Ann Eccles
Chair/President

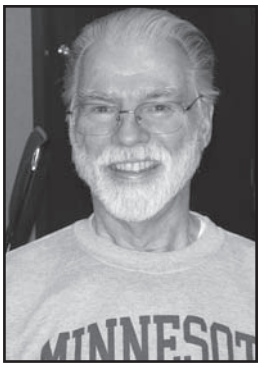
Mike Flynn
Treasurer



Tom K. Rice

Kay Swanson

Mary Wickersham



Bob Zimmerman

Come Join the New Team

It's the start of a new year and a great time to resolve to become more active and involved in IGSI. (But make this one resolution that doesn't end on January 10.)

There are many opportunities, both on-going and one-time-only. Work on a database project; help welcome visitors to the library on Irish Saturdays; help with the British Isles Day event. These are ways you can get started if you feel you don't have any expertise to offer. Working with other IGSI volunteers introduces you to active Irish researchers and provides an opening to learn or share helpful information for Irish research. If you do have expertise, we invite you to share your talents – in teaching, technology, writing, art, even business. Send an email today using the contact information for IGSI opportunities on page 2.

IGSI's New Blog

IGSI has started a blog. Blogs serve as an online journal allowing the author to put information online and link to additional information about the subject. You will now be able to link to the IGSI blog to get genealogy information relating to Ireland, writing family histories, genealogy documents available, IGSI society information and more.

Linda Miller, past president of IGSI, will maintain our blog with regular entries. The public visiting the site will be able to make comments on the articles and other items through the blog. Be sure to check out the blog regularly at http://irishfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/.

Membership Dues Increase

On April 1, 2011, the cost of membership for the Irish Genealogical Society International will increase by $5 (about 42 cents per month). This slight increase will help us to add more valuable benefits to IGSI, to continue our world class journal, to increase the information on our website, to provide programs throughout the year and to pay the increased cost of mailing and printing.

The good news is IGSI will continue to offer Electronic membership at the current price of $25.

The new membership costs are as follows:

Electronic Membership – $25
This paperless membership provides all member benefits – except a print copy of *The Septs*. The member receives notice to access an electronic version of *The Septs* (downloadable as a .pdf file) and has access to the members-only section of the IGSI website. Other benefits: the member receives a discount for IGSI events, email contact for IGSI information, research assistance at a low cost, free entry into the Minnesota Genealogical Library, and more.

General Membership – $30
This membership provides the same member benefits **and** includes a print copy of *The Septs* mailed quarterly. The member has access to the members-only section of the IGSI website and receives a discount for IGSI events, email contact for IGSI information, research assistance at a low cost, free entry into the Minnesota Genealogical Library, and more.

International Membership - $40
This membership provides the same member benefits as General membership. The additional cost helps cover the cost of international mailing. The member has access to the members-only section of the IGSI website and receives a discount for IGSI events, email contact for IGSI information, research assistance at a low cost, and free entry into the Minnesota Genealogical Library, and more.

To help current members with this increase, **All** members -- no matter of renewal date -- can take advantage of the 'old' price of $25 for General and Electronic membership or $35 for International members by renewing before March 30, 2011. The year renewal time will be added to their current membership expiration dates.

Data Entry Volunteers Needed

IGSI Pedigree Volunteers

IGSI has a couple of volunteers who have agreed to enter some family pedigree charts into a family tree program and then save them as GED files for IGSI's Pedigree program. We are looking for more members to help us. This is a project to do at home and what better time to volunteer than during the winter. If you have a computer you can volunteer. Contact us at questions@IrishGenealogical.org for more information or to volunteer. Thanks.

Manage Your Member Information

It is important for the members to update their membership information when it changes. This can be done online at the IGSI website in the 'Members menu' under the 'Members Profile' link, you can send your updated information by email or mail the changes needed to be changed to our office at IGSI, 1185 Concord Street N., Suite 218, South St. Paul, MN 55075.

Of particular importance to keep current are email and home addresses. We use these to keep you informed.

Emails. From the Society's perspective, it helps when all of your information is up to date. We send the eNewsletter, meeting reminders and other communications by email. If your email is wrong (an old email or another problem), you are missing our messages. Related to that, please add our email address (IrishGenealogical.org) to your approved recipient list.

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.

If you are not receiving announcement of the eNewsletter or your copy of *The Septs*, please let us know so we can check on any problems.

New to the Library

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases

A403 - Map of Connemara, County Galway from the book *Connemara*, by Tim Robinson. 1 Map. Map drawer.

C132 - *Burial Records Saint Patrick's Church, Patrick Street, Waterford City, 1723-1855, Except Feb. 10th 1727 to Jan 11th 1732 and Mar 21st 1732 to Jan 1st 1733*, by Michael O'Sullivan. Published by Waterford Municipal Library, Waterford City, Ireland, 1999, 44 p., map of cemetery.

C133 - *St. Patrick's Parish Church Graveyard Ballmoney* [County Antrim], by Dorothy Arthur. Published by Impact Printing, Ballycastle, 2010, 149 p., illus., indexed.

C134 - *Ballymoney Old Church Graveyard* [County Antrim], by Dorothy Arthur. Published by Impact Printing, Ballycastle, 2008, 482 p., indexed.

H667 - *The Story of the 7th: A concise history of the 7th Battalion, Cork No. 1 Brigade, Irish Republican Army from 1915 to 1921*, by Charlie Browne. Published by Schull Books, Ballydehob, Co. Cork, 2007, 104 p., illus., indexed by Division.

H668 - *The Wicklow War Dead: A History of the Casualties of the World Wars*, by Tom & Seamus Burnell. Published by Nonsuch Publishing, Dublin, Ireland, 2009, 313 p., illus., alphabetical.

K138 - *Baptisms, Millstreet, Roman Catholic Church, Drishane Parish, Barony of Muskerry West & Cullen Parish, Barony of Duhallow*, 1853-59. No index. Pages 218 thru 311.

K140 - *Churches of the Church of Ireland Dedicated to St. George*, by Duncan Scarlett. Published by Duncan Scarlett, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2010, 74 p., illus.

L108 - *The Story of Renfrew [Canada]. From the Coming of the First Settlers About 1820 to 1928*, by William Small field & Rev. Robert Campbell. Published by Global Heritage Press, Milton, Ontario, Canada, 2000 (reprint), 91p. + Index. (Two Volumes in One)

L109 - *The Irish Palatines in Ontario: Religion, Ethnicity, and Rural Migration*, by Carolyn A. Heald. Published by Global Heritage Press, Milton Ontario, Canada, 2009, Second Edition, 241 p., index, illus. (50)

L102.Vol.IV - *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada to 1863*, by Terrence M. Punch. Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 2010, 180 p., illus., indexed.

Donations

Family History - *The Poorest of the Poor: The Family of Patrick and Mary Sullivan* [Waterville, Co. Kerry], by Tom Lake, Sacramento, CA. Donated by the author.

H078 - *In Their Own Words: The Famine in North Connacht 1845-1849*, by Liam Swords. Published by Columba, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland, 1999, 508 p., Indexed. Donated by Patricia Payton, St. Louis, MO.

H669 - *A History of Irish Farming 1750-1950*, by Jonathan Bell and Mervyn Watson. Published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, Ireland, 2009, 344 p., illus. Donated by Ron Eustice, Savage, MN.

H670 - *Extents of Irish Monastic Possessions, 1540-1541: From Manuscripts in the Public Record Office, London*. Edited by Newport B. White. Published by the Government Publications Sale Office, Dublin, Ireland, 1943, 453 p., indexed. Donated by Ron Eustice, Savage, MN.

K139- *A Hidden Church: The Diocese of Achonry 1689-1818*, by Liam Swords. [Diocese covers parts of South Sligo, Northwest Roscommon, and East Mayo] Published by Columba Press, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, 1998, 464 p., illus., indexed. Donated by Patricia E. Payton, St. Louis, MO.

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.

IGSI Bookstore Back Online

IGSI offers you books and other items for researching your family history.

Visit our fully stocked Irish genealogical online bookstore where we offer:

- Books
- Journals
- Maps
- CDs
- Gift Certificates

The Bookstore is back online and ready to go. Old favorites and new books are available and listed on the site. You can get answers to book or order questions by emailing us at Booksales@IrishGenealogical.org.

http://www.irishgenealogical.org/irish_genealogical_book_catalog.asp

bookstore Order Form

Book #	*Title*	*Author*	*Quantity*	*Each Price*	*Total Price*

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Tax: 7.125% for MN Residents _____

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.

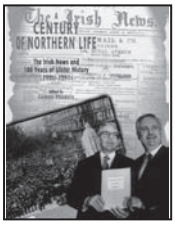
Visa Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

MasterCard # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Century of Northern Life

Eamon Phoenix



The Irish News and 100 Years of Ulster History 1890-1900 Graphic illustrations, photos, newspaper clippings and the contributions from specialist of the times. (232 pp) *Order book* #H286 Cost: $22.95

Index of Irish Periodicals

Periodicals located in the
Irish Genealogical Society International library collection

Now you can find the gold in our Irish periodical collection. This CD indexes the collection's genealogically significant articles and short entries, sorts them by location, and makes them searchable by any word. The index contains over 12,000 lines of data from 83 journals with issues spanning 30 years plus information about the Irish in 62 countries. The database is in both .pdf and MS Excel 97 forms.
Order CD #PER2 Cost: $12.00

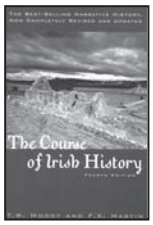
Counties in Time

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 of the documents and transcripts for those which are difficult to read. The CD is easy to navigate and user-friendly.
Order CD #J156 Cost: $29.95

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* Cost: $18.95

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.

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
J040	Killarney, County Kerry
J154	Rathkeale/Newcastle, County Limerick
J158	Ballina, 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
J174	Tipperary Town, County Tipperary

All Books in Exploring Family
Orgins Series are $25.00

April 29-30, 2011

British Isles Day

Mark your calendars and save April 29-30, 2011, for a special genealogy event in Minnesota. The Irish Genealogical Society International is collaborating with the Minnesota Genealogical Society to sponsor a British Isles Day. David Rencher, Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch and a regular contributor to *The Septs*, will be the featured speaker.

On Friday evening, there will be a coffee and dessert reception to accompany David Rencher's talk. Return Saturday for 12 breakout sessions Irish, British, Scottish and Welsh genealogy with David Rencher and other familiar Minnesota genealogists plus an area of vendors displaying genealogy and society information.

Events will take place at the Hennepin Technical College, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, 20 minutes from Minneapolis/St. Paul airport.

Early Bird prices for the event (good between February 1 and March 15) are: $15 for Friday evening (only) – lecture and dessert reception; $50 for Saturday only; or a combination price of $55 for both days.

After March 15, the cost is: $20 for Friday evening only; $60 for Saturday only; and $70 for both days.

Watch the IGSI website at <www.IrishGenealogical.org> for more details after February 1st.

IGSI Education Calendar

All classes will be held at the MGS Library in South St. Paul on Irish Saturdays. Cost is $10 for members, $15 for non-members.

January 8, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) - **Land Divisions and Their Records with Diane Lovrencevic**
This class is designed for beginners to Irish research or for anyone interested in how the records in Ireland are organized. Researchers who know how the land is organized will have a better chance to find their ancestral records. Why do *you* need to know what Barony or Parish your ancestors lived, come and fine out.

February 12, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) - **Civil Registration with Beth Vought**
Civil Registration in Ireland is a major genealogical source for the last half of the 19th century and into the 20th century. In 1845, civil registration began for all non-Roman Catholic marriages in all 32 counties. Starting in 1864, civil registration was added for Roman Catholic marriages as well as the registration of all births and deaths in the country regardless of religion. You will learn how a little about the history of Civil Registration, how to search the index, how to order copies of the registration, and what information you will find.

March 12, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) - **Occupational Trails with Sheila Northrop**
Some of our Irish ancestors immigrated to an area where they could pursue a career that they had pursued in Ireland and were trained to do. Many more took whatever entry level job was open to them in their new country and continued to follow that line of work as opportunities opened in other areas. In this class we will look at some typical Irish immigrant occupational trails and discuss the availability and location of records that might help you discover more about your ancestor.

Irish Genealogical Society International
Membership

❑ New

❑ Renewal Mem # _____

IGSI Member who Suggested Membership _____

Renew before the April 1st increase.

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)	$	_____
1 Year International Membership ($35 US)	$	_____
1 Year Electronic Membership ($25 US)	$	_____
Donation - US tax deductible (Thank You)	$	_____
TOTAL	$	_____

❑ Check (Payable to IGSI) Preferred
❑ Credit Card ❑ MC ❑ Visa

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

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South St. Paul, MN 55075

http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

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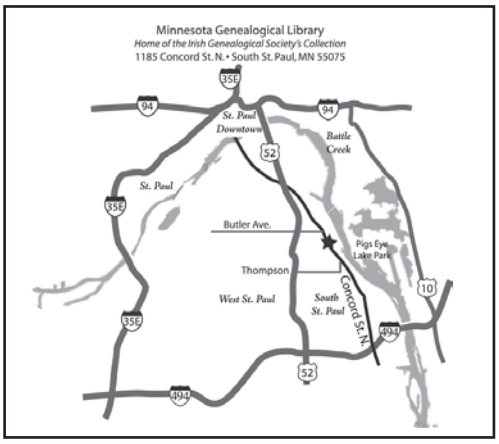
IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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.

Volume 32, Number 2

The Septs

An t-Alòredn (April) 2011

$10.00

Women in Irish Genealogy

2010 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

APRIL 9 2011
MAY 14, 2011
JUNE 11, 20011
JULY 9, 2011
AUGUST 13, 2011
SEPTEMBER 10, 2011
OCTOBER 8, 2011
NOVEMBER 12, 2011
DECEMBER 10, 2011
JANUARY 14, 2012
FEBRUARY 11 2012
MARCH 10, 2012

(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 are 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 - A 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

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

The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2011

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Cover photo courtesy of Beth Vought. Commencement photo of Sue Bacon and women of her graduating class, c. 1890.

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Farm girl on the way to church, 1938. Photo courtesy of Diane Lovrencevic.

Keep Moving Forward

by Ann Eccles

There are many opportunities to increase your skills and knowledge of genealogy by attending conferences throughout the country and around the world. Each state society offers classes and conferences; there are regional conferences and national conferences. Yes, there is a cost involved and it may mean traveling out of state, but these are opportunities not to be dismissed totally. These are unique occasions to meet other family researchers, to learn about new services and products, and to learn more about genealogy.

Let's start with an opportunity in Minnesota!

British Isles Family History Days - April 29 and 30. This is an event not to be missed! There is a bus tour of Minneapolis' historic Lakewood Cemetery on Friday afternoon, a lecture and dessert reception with David Rencher on Friday evening, and a full-day of genealogy workshops on Saturday. All this and exhibitors, too, here in the metro area at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie, cosponsored by IGSI and the Minnesota Genealogical Society.

There's an article with more information on page 103. Full information on classes and registration is available on the MGS website <http://www.mngs.org>. Register before April 22 and save a few dollars. I hope to see you there!

FGS Conference – September 7-10. The Federation of Genealogical Societies is holding is annual conference in the Midwest, in Springfield, Illinois, in early September. Check the article on page 77 and the FGS website <http://www.fgs.org/2011 conference> for more information. There will be a chartered bus, organized by MGS, from Minnesota to the conference. Join us in getting a group of IGSI members to attend.

IGSI Research Trip to DC. If large conferences are not your thing, consider doing your own research in the nation's capital, visiting such legendary research facilities as the National Archives, the DAR library, and the Library of Congress. Diane Lovrencevic has organized another trip for IGSI researchers. See the article on page 85 for further information.

Other societies also schedule research trips. TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association) of Boston has scheduled three research tours for their members in 2011: two to Ireland and one to Salt Lake City. Check their website <http://tiara.ie> for additional information.

New Look to the IGSI Website. By mid-April we will launch our new website. Diane Lovrencevic and Bob Zimmerman have spent many hours in preparing for the new website's look and functions. Without their dedication and hard work this project would not be possible. Be sure to check out the website and see all the new items. Join me in saying "Thank You!" to Diane and Bob. You both have done wonderful jobs!

Dues Increased April 1. Just in case you missed our earlier notices – the cost of General Membership increased on April 1 (no fooling). The new cost of General Membership (U.S.) is $30 and $40 for International members. There is still a bargain at $25 per year for Electronic members – individuals who have all of the benefits of membership yet opt to receive *The Septs* in an electronic format.

Member Number & Expiration Date. Members often contact the IGSI office to ask their member number or the expiration date of their membership. This information is printed on the mailing labels of each issue of *The Septs*. At the top of the mailing label is a four-digit number that is your membership number. The date on the top of the mailing label is the date when your membership with IGSI ends. After that date you no longer will receive *The Septs* nor have access to the Member section of the IGSI website. It is best to renew your membership before that date to ensure that all of your member benefits continue without interruption.

New Board Members

IGSI is proud to have two volunteers increase their time and commitment to our organization by joining the Board of Directors.

We extend a big welcome to Fern Wilcox and Gigi Hickey.

Fern Wilcox resides in Shoreview, Minnesota. She volunteers as Assistant to the Librarian.

Gigi Hickey resides in Wayzata, Minnesota. Her past volunteer experience is with the Data Entry Group.

Women Who Dared to Dream

by Ann Eccles

Bernadette Devlin, a 20th century Irish politician, stated in 1969, "Yesterday I dared to struggle. Today I dare to win." These words symbolize the efforts of Irish women throughout the ages – their struggles to win the battle and to provide better lives for themselves and their families.

This is a story that we as family historians have seen repeatedly in our research. The ancestors who left Ireland to improve their lot in life – and to help the family members left behind in Ireland. The new immigrants who worked in mills or farmed land to provide the necessities of life. But it was the women who found ways to do a bit more with whatever was at hand: they sold the extra eggs and garden vegetables; they took in laundry, did hand-sewing or dress-making. Their vision was of a better life and a better home for the family, a better education for their children.

My great-grandmother, Mary Wheeler, was born in the U.S. of Irish parents in 1864. I believe that she worked to improve the lives of her children as my grandmother Jennie excelled in the traditional women's skills. She was her own seamstress and created many fine outfits for me and my young cousins, once even producing a crocheted jacket. She excelled in all areas of needlework – knitting, crocheting and tatting. I still have the bedspread she made and used throughout her marriage.

Jennie strongly believed in bettering oneself through education and more. She supported Catholic school educations for all of her grandchildren. Family lore says that she supported the suffragette cause at the turn of the century to improve the status of women – though I have no photos or other evidence of such. And another story says that it was she who taught my father to drive on the steep hills of New Bedford, Mass., though she did not have a car or driver's license twenty years later.

Jennie died more than fifty years ago. While I remember a sweet and loving grandmother, what I am learning about her indicates more complexity to her life and character – a core of strong values, faith and determination that she worked to pass along to the next generations.

Some of the articles in this issue will illuminate the character of Irish women. Colleen McClain's article illustrates the strength of mind, body, and soul of Irish women historically. The Irish Catholic nuns who taught faith to young men and women or the housemaids who cleaned the homes of the American wealthy: the goals of both were an improvement of life for Irish Americans. Maureen Reed describes the lives of two sisters who left Ireland and arrived in the American Midwest in the mid-1800s. She shares the details of her research, tracing the women from St. Louis, Missouri, back to Ireland and forward to the farmlands of Minnesota.

Two authors share widely different views of Irish women in the 18th century. Harold Hinds examines the marriage options of aristocratic Irish men and upper-class Irish women in his commentary on *In Pursuit of the Heiress*. Linda Miller shares a bit of the history related to Irish convicts (women as well as men) who were transported to Australia as punishment for their crimes. She lists a few websites for further research. Mary Wickersham looks at Irish cultural sites for some fun and informational surfing.

But just how do you find information on female ancestors? Tom Rice's article provides a series of questions and genealogical strategies to get you started in researching the lost or forgotten women in your lineage. Jay Fonkert offers interesting examples of finding women's maiden names through census records, for the women generally keep the connections with other family.

Judith Eccles Wight discusses the local resources on County Tipperary. David Rencher returns with the third installment on the Betham collection, covering the material deposited in the Genealogical Office in Dublin. Dwight Radford looks at the Plymouth Brethren records. Members of the Christian Brethren, a non-denominational movement that started in the 1800s, are particularly difficult to identify in genealogy records. He compiled a large inventory of Brethren assemblies – too large to accompany the article in *The Septs* – that has been placed on the IGSI website.

Every so often the editors step back to look at the journal – the layout, contents, etc. – and to consider changes. With this issue a few elements of the journal changed. You may have noticed a new look to some of the pages in this issue of *The Septs*. Let us know your reactions: are there other improvements to consider, do you miss something. Just send an email to Septseditor@IrishGenealogical.org.

Enjoy this issue. Happy Reading!

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Tracing Your Female Ancestors

by Tom Rice, CG

Every lineage has at least one woman who seems untraceable. On some trees there may be many such branches that come to an abrupt end at a seemingly untraceable female ancestor. We often just shrug and move on with the male branch of the family tree.

There are two fundamental truths about these end-of-the-line women ancestors. Many are traceable, albeit with much effort, and all are important. The difficulty comes from the way women were treated by the law, by society, and by religions, and thus how they were treated by the records kept concerning them and their families. Thus, the key to discovering a female ancestor lies in these very same areas. What were the laws, the customs, and what was recorded in the various records of the time and place where the elusive female ancestor lived?

Female ancestors are just as important, if not more so, than their male counterparts. It is a good bet that much of what we are comes to us from our female lineage. In all likelihood a disproportionate amount of both nature and nurture came down through the generations from the mothers on the family tree. While the genetic throw of the dice is equal for the male and female lineage, it is the mother's nurturing from womb to adulthood and beyond that in many families does more to shape the person than does the father's wage earning and going to war.

The first difficulty faced by many genealogists in tracing a female ancestor is the loss of her maiden surname upon marriage. This, of course, depends upon the culture. In certain societies, women retained their maiden surnames throughout their lives. This makes tracing women in those ethnic groups much easier. Where the name is lost upon marriage, attention must shift to any and all records where that elusive surname may be found. For many women, the last records to show her maiden name would have been her marriage record and perhaps her death record. If these two sources fail to reveal it, it may be found on the birth, marriage or death records of her children depending upon the data recording requirements of the time. If these records fail in this regard, you may have more luck by going further afield and looking for the newspaper accounts of these events regarding her and her children. Often, newspaper accounts can be more informative than official records. This is particularly true of rural newspapers in the latter half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

You cannot fully understand why a woman may not be recorded in some records and how she will be noted in others without understanding the law of her place and time. This is the point in your research where it is more important to stop and do background research than it is to go running after one more record. Take time to learn about aspects of the law as they affect women in such matters as marriage, divorce, inheritance, citizenship, voting, taxes, and property ownership. Learn about a woman's place in her church and in her society – again at the time and place when and where your ancestor lived.

Here are some questions you should look to answer:

Marriage

- At what age could a woman marry?
- If she was underage, who could give permission?

Divorce

- What were the grounds for divorce?
- Where was a divorce case settled – in what court, or was it by the Colonial or state legislature?

Property

- Could a woman own property?
- What were the restrictions on her use of that property?
- What happened to her property ownership rights upon marriage and upon widowhood?

Inheritance

- What could a woman inherit?
- Who controlled her inheritance?
- What could she bequeath in her will?

Citizenship

- How did a woman become a citizen?
- How might she lose her citizenship?
- What effect did marriage have upon her citizenship?

Voting

- When could a woman vote?

Taxes

- How might a woman be taxed?
- How much and for what?

Church

- How did her religion treat her, and what were her rights and obligations under her religion?
- What role could she have in her church?

Military

- What records of her husband, son or other relative would have a mention of a woman?
- What were a woman's rights under military pension laws?
- When and how could a woman serve in the military?

Business

- What sort of business activities could a woman engage in – as a single woman or when married?

Miscellaneous

- How were women listed in City Directories of the time?

Record Practices

- In what records would a woman definitely be found mentioned?
- Under what name – maiden or married surname – would she be mentioned?
- In what records of others would a woman be mentioned – e.g. birth,

marriage and death records of children?

Here are other places to look for mention of a female ancestor:

- Local and church histories,
- Newspapers, obituaries and social notices,
- Biographical sketches – of her or of her family members.

Here are some research strategies to consider:

- Look at cemetery plots for suggested relationships.
- Look at witnesses to her marriage and to the baptisms and marriages of her children for names of possible relatives.
- Look at ship lists and neighbors from the same place of origin for possible relatives.
- Look at her husband's business and social alliances for possible relatives on her side of the family.
- Consider the middle names of her children and grandchildren as clues.
- Look at census records that show people of a different surname within her household for clues as to her birth family. Someone listed in the household as an in-law of the husband may be the path to her surname.
- Look at records where she is a witness to a marriage or christening – these might be relatives.

Tracing women as part of a lineage project often requires special skill and knowledge. The books listed below by Carmack and Schaefer are especially helpful in terms of information and methodology. Carmack does a good job presenting various ways to attack the problem. She takes female genealogy beyond methods of how to discover identities to how to learn more about the lives of female ancestors. Schaefer's is more of a reference book. She describes key legal issues affecting women in the U. S. on a year-by-year basis for every state and the federal government under headings such as marriage and divorce, where to find marriage and divorce records, property and inheritance, suffrage, citizenship, census information, and both a general and selected women's bibliography. If you have "untraceable" women on your lineage in the U. S., I suggest spending time with these two books.

All of this looking is hard work; but remember, genealogy is a research-based activity. The "untraceable" ancestors can often become "traceable" once enough energy and smarts are applied to the quest. The hunt for female ancestors is a task worth pursuing.

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IGSI Donors

We wish to thank the following generous members who have made a contribution to the work and projects of the Irish Genealogical Society International.

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Brian McNerney	Austin, TX
Carolyn C. Onufrak	Springfield VA
Joe Shea	Duxbury, MA
Fern Wilcox	Shoreview, MN

In Pursuit of "Lace Curtain" Status in America

by Colleen McClain

Grandmother's stories came tumbling out, unplanned, blurted more than told. A daughter grumbling about the never ending housework would hear them. "So, you think this is too much, do you? When I was a girl ..." And the litany of housekeeping chores remembered from her childhood would begin, always ending with the finale: "My mother even ironed the cleaning rags!"

And so it was that our family lore included the woman whose house had been so immaculate, so perfect, that even the cleaning rags had been kept neatly pressed. We would shake our heads wondering what kind of woman she must have been? What would possess anyone to be that fastidious? Why had she felt compelled to keep her home completely spotless and precisely ordered?

Her name was Jane, the daughter of Mary Timmins and James Anderson of County Carlow. Only six years old when her family immigrated to Indiana in 1851, she had known nothing of Ireland except the years of famine and the jeers and taunts of "dirty Irish" when her family arrived in America. But, as a woman of Ireland, somewhere in the back of her mind, she surely would have been aware of the centuries-long tradition of strong women who had made themselves a force to be reckoned with, and she would be no exception.

Like all Irish women she could claim the valor of Mauve, Queen of Connaght, and the wisdom of Bridget, founder of the famous monastic community in Kildare. She had been bequeathed a legacy of women's rights from women well-versed in Irish Law who had helped shape the ancient Brehon Laws governing Ireland. Women had the rights of ownership over their own dowries and objects they brought with them to marriage; they were able to initiate divorce; and they could keep their own name rather than their husband's family name. Unlike most other contemporary cultures, Irish women were accustomed to being regarded as persons of influence and power. [1]

Even after Ireland came under English rule, Irish women still managed to exercise considerable independence within their own sphere of influence. Most participated in the rural farm life, managing the household as well as working alongside men in agricultural production. Traditionally, women did the milking, butter-making, egg gathering, as well as the spinning of flax and wool – all commodities that could be sold. With their butter and egg money, and the income from their spinning, women could eke out a meager living, not for themselves, but to support their families.[2]

Most of the more genteel Anglo-Irish families were loathe to have their women receive an income from their work lest it infer that the men were unable to provide for them, thereby endangering the status of their families. Irish Catholic women seemed to have no such restrictions placed upon them. Considering the difficulties imposed by the Penal Laws against the Catholic population of Ireland, basic economic survival was far more essential than an elusive and largely unattainable social status. Not being "above" earning a living served women well.

Jane Anderson Enright, born in County Carlow in 1845, immigrated to the U.S. in 1851. Photo courtesy of Colleen McClain.

There were many enterprising women who must have influenced Jane's notions of what it meant to be an Irish woman. As a child in Carlow the young Jane would have known of the work of Frances Warde, who had assisted Catherine McCauley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy, in Dublin in the 1820s. In 1800, there had been only eleven convents for about 120 Roman Catholic nuns in Ireland, all of whom were sheltered and kept from interacting with the common people. As lay women, Catherine and Frances could pursue a far more active ministry. They and a handful of women set up their work in a house at the corner of Baggot Street and Herbert Street in the heart of Dublin, where they provided medical, educational, and spiritual resources for the poor. As lay women, they were free to come and go as they pleased and to engage very successfully in fund-raising for their enterprise. A nervous Roman Catholic hierarchy insisted they come under the control of the church. Apprehensive, Catherine agreed to become a nun, but only if she and her sisters remained free to come and go as much as they needed in order to effectively reach the poor. It was so agreed, and the order of the Sisters of Mercy was launched. By 1837, Frances Warde had become Sister Mary Francis Xavier and had founded the first Sisters of Mercy convent outside of Dublin in the town of Carlow. In 1843, with the Carlow convent thriving, Frances left Ireland for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she began the work of the Sisters of Mercy in America.[3]

In America, the Sisters of Mercy were among several religious orders who found huge

numbers of women from Ireland in need of their services. Unlike most other ethnic groups, at least as many women as men emigrated from Ireland after the famine. In a country where the Know Nothing political party was afoot promoting anti-Catholic, anti-Irish sentiment, where Irish immigrants were often treated with disdain at best, the nuns were regarded as a blessing of the first order. They accomplished a great deal for many of them "...were formidable personalities who brooked no nonsense from God or man" providing the Irish with physical assistance, education to equip them for employment, and "...a sense of their own dignity and their own rights."[4] The Sisters of Mercy brought education and training to young women, not to prepare them for marriage and life as homemakers particularly, but rather to help them survive economically. They reasoned that "...unless women could support themselves and live in dignity, their souls were in danger." [5]

In rural Indiana, Jane's family had no Irish nuns to remind them of their value, dignity and worth. They were fortunate if a priest came to visit once a month. But nonetheless, they clung to the Roman Catholic church like a lifeline. Irish-born men and women traveled for miles to meet in each other's homes until proper churches could be built. For women, the church community was the place where they could find a social center, a place where they could feel safe and truly welcomed. In the 1860s, Jane met her future husband at just such a church gathering. Robert Enright, the son of Matthew Enright and Ann James, had also emigrated with his family from Ireland in 1851. Weavers from north Kerry, they had fled the famine to Indiana and had found jobs on the "public works," the network of canals that served as transportation highways until overtaken by the railroads in the 1860s.

As canal workers, Jane's husband Robert and his family had joined the thousands of Irish men and women who lived and worked along the canal routes. Low pay

Author's grandmother, Mary Alice Enright McClain (1871-1950), Jane's eldest daughter, in her "lace curtain" finery, 1896. Photo courtesy of Colleen McClain.

and brutally hard work did not deter the Irish from doing whatever it took to gain a foothold in their new home. Women took in laundry and lodgers and provided home-cooked meals to the exhausted canal crews. Robert's mother, Ann James, and his sister, Ellen Enright, must have told Jane stories of their experiences in that difficult life. Canal workers were infamous for their feisty, some would say rowdy behavior. Both women and men stood up for their rights as canal bosses pitted rival groups against each other in the competition for jobs. Not only men, but the women too, defended their right to work on the canal and fought anyone who threatened to deprive them of the only jobs available to most of them.[6]

An eyewitness account from a private letter written in 1851 by a passenger traveling on the Wabash-Erie Canal in Indiana illustrates how surprised most Americans were to encounter such aggressive defense of their rights, especially by the Irish women:

> Last night just after I had retired we reached a village, and pretty soon after the boat had stopped I heard loud talking and swearing. More and more voices joined in, a good many of them unmistakably Hibernian. Then there were cries and shouts, a gun or a pistol shot off, then a pandemonium. A terrible fight was going on at the wharf. There were twenty or thirty drunken men, laborers on some public work, and they were fighting, the Irish against the Americans. I never was so terribly frightened. You may be sure I was glad when the boat began to move along. What seemed terrible to me was that there were women all mixed up in the row, and they swore horribly! [7]

While the Irish women who entered the fray, brawling and swearing when their family's livelihood was threatened, may have helped gain a toehold in the economic fabric of America, they did little to inspire acceptance by most Americans. But Irish women continued to pour into the ports of America after the famine, many of them young single women, some as young as 14, looking for work as domestic servants. These women were "independent, feisty survivors" who continued the traditions of their mothers and grandmothers by using their income to help their families survive. By the 1880s when famine again threatened Ireland, the wages of women working as domestic servants in America helped sustain their families back home.[8]

As live-in maids, these women quickly learned what it took to gain some sort of grudging acceptance from Americans. Like their relatives in post-famine Ireland, they shied away from early marriage or any kind of premarital sexual dalliance practicing what some have called a "grim puritanism." As part of a society intent on post-famine survival, Irish women could be counted on to practice celibacy and exercise the discipline

Jane Anderson and Robert Enright pose with their children at their lace-curtained home near Shirley, Indiana, c.1888. Photo courtesy of Colleen McClain.

to subordinate their own material pleasures to the well-being of their families.[9]

Working incredibly long hours, they lived in a modest, spartanly furnished room in their employer's home, doing work that was "beneath" most American women. Irish maids, reared in the rustic lifestyle of rural Ireland, mastered the skills of the urban, Victorian-era American homemaker. They learned where to put the silverware on a properly set table, how to make a bed with no rumples or wrinkles, and how to keep linens not only clean, but carefully pressed. They learned how to out-proper the most proper American. When they had families of their own, they brought not only a feisty independence, but also the know-how to launch their children toward upward mobility.[10]

Their success was not lost on Jane in rural Indiana. Determined that her children would never be as vulnerable economically as she and all of those in the Irish famine had been, she and Robert felled trees on their few acres, sawed and planed and fashioned the hand-hewn lumber into an elegant two story home complete with lace curtains in every window – a home that Jane was determined would be as proper as she could make it, even if that meant ironing the cleaning rags!

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Colleen McClain, M.Div., M.S., is a former IGSI Board member. She has made two family history research trips to Ireland and is currently planning a trip to north County Kerry. She currently resides in Portland, Oregon.

Irish Ancestral Marriage and a 1701 Dillon Divorce

by Harold E. Hinds, Jr.

In *The Pursuit of the Heiress: Aristocratic Marriage in Ireland 1740-1840*, 2nd edition (Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2006), author A.P.W. Malcomson concludes that earlier historical studies had been in error when they stated that aristocratic Irish men often sought to marry an heiress, that is, "a bride who brought with her assets which far outweighed any return that her husband's family was obliged to make" (p. 242). On the contrary, the evidence supports the conclusion that suitors correctly discerned that "marriage held out small hope of dynastic aggrandizement, [and thus] a 'marriage of affection' was a more sensible aim" (p. 246). Rather than engaging in speculation and building castles in the air, they made the sensible choice of marrying "the averagely portioned daughters of other Irish aristocratic families" (p. 244). Their choices of marriage partners "were, after all, an obvious choice – their cousins, their childhood sweethearts, the daughters of their parents' friends, and the girls whom they met at 'routs' and 'assemblies' during the Dublin season" (p. 244).

The author reaches these conclusions via a series of densely argued chapters, with numerous examples and extensive documentation. Chapter one, "Law, Terminology and the Nature of the Evidence" introduces the key term and principle piece of evidence: the "marriage settlement." The settlement was a legal document drawn up by attorneys who represented the prospective bride and groom respectively, which explicitly stated the assets each brought to the marriage and the obligations each assumed. For example, under this contract a bride-to-be's family supplied a "portion," a non-returnable sum paid to the groom; and if the bride became a widow, she would receive a "jointure," or widow's annuity.

However, a marriage settlement did not guarantee that a wealthy bride-to-be would actually become an heiress. Her predecessor in title might squander the estate. Also, "in the eyes of the law, nobody was an heiress until everyone who stood between the inheritance and her was dead, and dead childless" (p. 5). So, in order to more fully reconstruct the genealogical and financial history of aristocratic families, the author supplements marriage settlements with correspondence, wills and testamentary papers, legal cases, rentals, accounts, family histories, and heraldry records.

In chapter two, Malcomson argues that in order to reach a satisfactory marriage settlement, a variety of considerations, both financial and non-financial, had to be considered. Driving a hard bargain might undermine the desired goal of a union, or poison marital and familial relations from the outset, and therefore in most cases was avoided. Other constraints the author stressed included the following: the portion "had already been determined by prior considerations: the provision made in the marriage settlement of her parents, their rank, the number and sex of her siblings, and so on" (p. 27); social custom mitigated against marriages of high-ranking males and low-status, but wealthy, females; and, customarily, all marriageable daughters were provided with the same portions. No amount of prior planning could guarantee whether or not a settlement would work or would impose hardship, since that depended on "the number and, to a lesser extent, the sex of the younger children" (p. 31).

Yet another mitigating factor, the subject of chapter three, was "the superior bargaining power of the heiress." If in fact the prospective bride brought with her assets which far outweighed any return the future husband was obliged to make, then there existed numerous legal means to protect the bride's assets. Her money and almost always her land were legally put beyond the husband's control.

Her land, in particular (as chapter four, "Collateral Damage: The Lure of the Younger Son," points out), could subvert a husband's hope that her assets would raise his status. The mystique attached to land, together with a landed heiress's desire to continue her surname and line, could motivate her to practice what was called cadet inheritance, particularly if the marriage produced several sons. That is, a younger son – the husband's family estate presumably being inherited by the eldest son – would inherit her lands, if he agreed to assume his mother's maiden name. In short, the heiress ceased to be an acquisition, since her land, and often her money as well, passed to one of her younger sons, and thus out of the husband's family line.

Did the period 1740-1840 witness an increase in affective or companionate marriage, as some eminent historians have argued? If so, then there would be scant basis for the securing of wealth and status via a strategic marriage. Malcomson, after a protracted discussion of marriage of affection in chapter five, concludes that the evidence for the rise of affective marriage is mixed at best. He acknowledges that "there can be no doubt that the purpose of the strict settlement was to pre-empt sentiment" (p. 123). Nevertheless, most Irish aristocratic marriages struck "a nice balance between calculation and affectiveness, love and lucre" (p. 127). And so the author concludes that the evidence is inconclusive.

Chapter six tackles the sensational element in aristocratic marriage. Malcomson surveys marriages based on elopement and abduction; "mésalliances," or marriages where "one partner greatly outranked the other in wealth and status" (p. 166); and marriages where the partners were otherwise mismatched or "ill-circumstanced" (p. 174)

for each other. The author concludes that arranged marriages of those ill-suited to one another, despite a strict settlement, could have "more injurious consequences than any of the *mésalliances* and the elopements and clandestine marriages" (p. 185) that he examined.

Malcomson devotes a chapter to demonstrating that attempting to obtain an improved inheritance "through an heiress was always compromised by being to some extent unplanned and unplannable" (p. 216). The element of chance was simply too great. Marriage to an heiress was no guarantee. Brides proved barren, or only had female children. Fortunes were squandered. Children died. Wives outlived their spouses by many years and the widow's annuity depleted family assets. And ironically, some women became heiresses only by accident, as when a less-than-affluent heiress came by a quite unexpected windfall.

Finally, in chapter eight, Malcomson reveals that "even the most fortunate of marriages did not, on its own, assure dynastic success" (p. 217). Rather, in general, prudence and good management determined the success of great Irish families. Anything which reduced household expenditure or increased rents increased economic success. Indeed those who benefitted from these prudent policies, "rather than those married to or descended from heiresses (though numerous landowners would have been in both categories) were the new rich among the old aristocracy" (p. 240).

So Malcomson, unlike many previous historians, concludes that aristocratic marriage was sensibly based on marrying within one's class and on affection; that marrying an heiress or probable heiress was not a sure road to wealth and dynastic longevity; and that the surest route to wealth was sensible management of one's landed estates.

Perhaps you've concluded that all of this doesn't matter, since your Irish ancestors were not aristocrats. You'd be wrong. Your Irish ancestors likely worked for or rented land from these folks. And Malcomson's Notes and Bibliography contain important information on the location of family and estate papers, which just might provide the key to locating an ancestral family and placing them in an Irish context.

Divorce was not common. Between 1700 and 1749 "there were only thirteen successful petitions for divorce to the British House of Lords" (p. 143). Aristocratic couples didn't want the bad publicity. It was relatively easy to separate and to live quite independent lives. And it was nearly impossible for a woman to obtain a divorce. Men, however, could successfully pursue a divorce, if the ground for a divorce was adultery. Even then, a cuckolded male might not pursue divorce unless the adultery became public and acutely embarrassing.

While researching a possible connection of a Dillon family of Lismullen, County Meath, Ireland, to my Irish immigrant ancestor John Dillon Hinds, I discovered that another member of this Dillon family had successfully petitioned the House of Lords for a divorce in 1701. The facts of the case, and its resolution given below, are based on *The Manuscripts of the House of Lords 1699-1702*, vol. 4, New Series (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1965), 304-306; and on the original manuscript file of this case maintained by the House of Lords Record Office, London. It was necessary to obtain both the published account and the original manuscript case file to acquire all the pertinent biographical detail of interest to a personal family historian.

Mary Boyle, daughter of Viscount Blessington, and Sir John Dillon of Lismullen, County Meath, Ireland, entered into a deed of settlement on 12 December 1684 and subsequently married. Under the settlement, Mary's portion was 2,500 pounds, her jointure should she survive Sir John was 500 pounds annually, and Sir John agreed to set aside 3,000 pounds for any children born to the union. Subsequently, two daughters, Mary Dillon and Lettice Dillon, were born, the youngest of whom was eleven years old in April 1701. The real estate owned by Sir John Dillon was partially enumerated in the various court records: he owned land in Lismullen and Odder in the Barony of Skreene, County Meath; several houses in the City of Limerick; and other lands, not specified.

However, Lady Mary Boyle Dillon "eloped" to London, England, 24 October 1695, where she "lived in lewd and open adultery, and in August 1699 was delivered of a child, since dead, [and] may have had others."

Sir John Dillon waited over four years before petitioning the House of Lords for a divorce. Why he waited is nowhere stated. But Sir John demanded that she "leave off her lewd conversation" and feared that he could become liable for supporting her illegitimate children. He stated that he believed he was "in danger of having a spurious issue imposed upon him."

Even though Lady Dillon did not dispute her adultery, given the terms of the deed of settlement, she clearly was in a good position to negotiate a somewhat satisfactory resettlement. Sir John agreed to pay her court costs and debts, to provide 100 pounds annually for her maintenance, and should he precede her in death, his estate would provide a jointure of 200 pounds annually. She was to be paid at Middle Temple Hall, London.

While Malcomson did not discuss this case, presumably since it fell before 1740, the details preserved in the published record and in the manuscript case file are in general agreement with his other descriptions of divorces. Should you ever have occasion to visit the House of Lords Record Office in London, in pursuit of an ancestor's interaction with the House of Lords, you will find the records easily available and the archival staff most helpful.

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FGS Meeting in Springfield, Illinois

IGSI members interested in attending a national conference on genealogy can take in the FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies) conference in Springfield, IL, September 7-10, 2011. It is four days of genealogical talks by national speakers. Many sessions concentrate on Midwest research, with the Wednesday sessions dedicated to aspects on managing a successful society.

The Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) has organized a bus charter to travel from the Twin Cities to Springfield, leaving September 6 and returning September 11. Minnesota IGSI members are invited to travel along; the estimated cost is about $125 roundtrip.

MGS has also arranged for a block of rooms at the Mansion View Inn & Suites, 529 S. 4th St., Springfield, IL. Call the inn directly (217-544-7411) before August 30 for the MGS special deal.

Attending a national conference is a great experience for any family historian. It provides exposure to a variety of knowledgeable speakers and exhibits of genealogy-related products and services. Consider attending this conference. Full conference information at <http://www.fgs.org/ 2011 conference/>.

Women in Irish Genealogy and Culture: Websites

By Mary Wickersham

Bella Online

http://www.bellaonline.com/Site/irishculture

This online network for women has an Irish Culture section, Irish Culture Site, edited by Mary Ellen Sweeney, which includes feature articles on such topics as Irish Myths and Irish History, Genealogy, and Irish Traditional Music. It also includes discussion forums (sign-up is required to post to the forums, but you can read the postings without registering).

The Ulster Covenant

http://www.proni.gov.uk/index/search_the_archives/ulster_covenant.htm

The Ulster Covenant was written in response to the Third Home Rule Bill in 1912 by the Ulster Unionist Council. The records, held by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), contain the original signatures and addresses of the 236,046 women who signed the parallel Declaration to the Ulster Covenant. Records for both the Covenant (men) and Declaration (women) are available on this site, with links the document images, complete with signatures.

Irish Women Writers

http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/_generate/IRELAND.html

This is an extensive list of Irish women writers, complete with links to many off-site biographies and, occasionally, the text of their writings in page images or text transcriptions. It is a part of the Celebration of Women Writers project.

Irish Culture and Customs

http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/

This website provides more than 700 pages of information, running the gamut from jokes to history. Sections include Irish wedding traditions, Irish blessings, recipes, pronouncing basic Irish, and serious history. This site contains a significant number of advertisements for books (on Amazon.com) and Irish-style gifts (off-site), so if you're in the mood to shop online for Irish cookbooks, aprons, or similar items, this may be a good starting point.

Every Culture: Countries and Their Cultures

http://www.everyculture.com/multi/Ha-La/Irish-Americans.html

This page about Irish Americans contains an overview of Irish history by Brandan A. Rapple. A rather lengthy article, it contains sections on traditional costumes, cuisine, and immigration experience, and includes sections on marriage, wakes, and the role of women in Irish American society. Also of interest is an extensive list of Irish American media and societies, and his bibliography, which you can find under "Sources for Additional Study".

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is a current IGSI board member and past IGSI Officer. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

Finding Maiden Names: Clues in Censuses

By J. H. Fonkert, CG

While marriage records and death certificates are the usual route to maiden names, census records can provide important leads. When a family history researcher finds a multi-generational family or a household with nephews, nieces, or in-laws in a census enumeration, it's a bit of genealogical heaven. Such households produce valuable clues about family relationships and can point toward the maiden names of married women.

Mary Reeves

A beginning researcher often finds a grandfather or great-grandfather in a census with relative ease – after all, the researcher already knew grandpa's name. Right there next to him on the census page is his wife, sharing his last name. What seems like a maternal dead end need not be. A good example is Mary Reeves, a young married Irish woman living in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1920. Mary was the wife of Thomas P. Reeves, a young Irishman working as a spring-maker at the railroad shops. According to the census, both had immigrated in 1909 and they had only one child: 6-month-old Julia.

This information suggests they had married fairly recently in St. Paul. Indeed, Thomas Reeves married Mary McCarthy on 19 August 1918. Mary's death certificate is another place to look for her maiden name. It states that Mary's father was Morgan McCarthy; the informant did not know the name of Mary's mother. Use death certificates with care; the informant (usually a relative, but sometimes just a friend or neighbor), may not know the names of the deceased person's parents – or worse yet, thinks he knows but is wrong.

Marriage records are an obvious place to look for maiden names, but they can be hard to find if the location of the marriage is not known. In this case, the search must be broadened to other kinds of records, including newspaper marriage announcements, obituaries, wills and probate records, and citizenship records.

Clues from in-laws. Let's take a closer look at the Reeves family in the 1920 Census. Even before looking at Mary's marriage or death certificates, the Census offered a strong clue to her maiden name. Living with Thomas and Mary was Patrick McCarthy, who was identified as Thomas Reeves' brother-in-law, making him a candidate for Mary's brother (Patrick could have been the husband of a sister of Thomas). Census-takers commonly found extended families living together in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and the enumerations of them often give hints to the birth families of married women.

Enumerations of families with three generations living together are especially fortuitous for genealogists. If your ancestors lived between the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers in 1925, it's not really heaven, but Iowa. The 1925 Iowa census can be a genealogist's "Field of Dreams" because it asked not only for the birthplace of each household member, but also the name and birthplace of the parents of each member of the household.

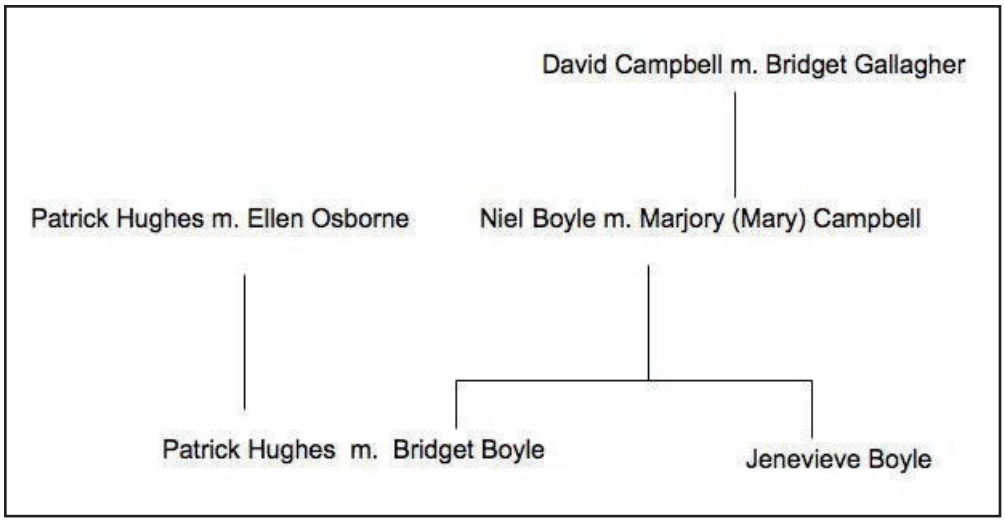
The Hughes Family

The Patrick Hughes household of Mason City, Cerro Gordo County, is a good example of the gold to be found in the 1925 Iowa Census.

Household Member	Age and Birthplace	Relation to Head	Father	Mother
Patrick Hughes	52 Born Iowa	Head	Patrick Hughes Born Ireland	Ellen Osborne Born Ireland
Bridget Hughes	44 Born Iowa	Wife	Niel Boyle Born Ireland	Mary Campbell Born Ireland
Marjory Boyle	Born Iowa	Mother-in-law	David Campbell Born Ireland	Bridget Gallagher Born Ireland
Jenevieve Boyle	Born Iowa	Sister-in-law	Niel Boyle Born Ireland	Mary Campbell Born Ireland

From this one census, we learn Bridget Hughes' maiden name (Boyle), her mother's maiden name (Campbell), and as an added bonus, Patrick's mother's maiden name (Osborne).

The 1925 Iowa Census information for the Hughes family is genealogically rich, but can other federal and state censuses be as profitable?



Julia Kemp Fawkner

Sometimes we wonder where an ancestor's daughter went. James C. Fawkner of Coles County, Illinois, had a daughter Julia Kemp Fawkner, who was born about 1867 in Missouri. She was single and living at home in Coles County in 1880, but the family had vanished from Coles County by 1900. Julia had a brother named Cyrus, born about 1870 in Missouri. A search of the Ancestry.com 1900 census index led to a 31-year-old, Missouri-born Cyrus Falkner living in Duluth, Minnesota. The census-taker identified him as the brother-in-law of the head of the household: George Watson. George's wife was Julia K., born in Missouri in 1867. Case solved: Julia Kemp Fawkner married George Watson and moved to Minnesota.

Reversing direction. In researching the ancestry of Mrs. Julia Watson, we can work the problem back in time. Julia died sometime after February 1952, possibly in Milwaukee, but we don't have an obituary or death certificate. The presence of brother-in-law Cyrus Falkner in Julia's home in 1900 implies that Julia was a Falkner. Now we can use census indexes to try to locate either George and/or Julia in earlier censuses in hopes of finding a likely marriage location. The 1900 Census helps because it states that George and Julia had been married 10 years. The oldest of three children was born in Colorado – but that is probably a red herring; the marriage more likely occurred in or near Douglas County, Illinois, where both George and Julia lived as teenagers.

No death certificate? No marriage certificate? No problem: follow the children. The Watsons had a son, George Cecil Watson, whose 1964 death certificate states that his mother's maiden name was Julia K. Faulkner. George was buried in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, again pointing to the Milwaukee area as a possible place to find Julia's death information.

Elizabeth Faulkner

Before 1880, U.S. censuses did not identify family relationships. The 1870 Putnam County, Indiana, census enumeration finds Thomas, 15, born in Indiana, along with his sisters Margaret and Clarinda, all living in the household of James Darraugh, 51, and his wife Evaline, 48. The Faulconer children are clearly not from an earlier marriage of Evaline because Margaret and Thomas are older than two of the Darraugh children. Although we can not assume they were related to the Darraughs, the Faulconer children may be nephews and nieces of either James or Evaline, or possibly even grandchildren.

Moultrie County, Illinois 1850 U.S. Census	Putnam County, Indiana 1860 U.S. Census
Mumphred Fortiner, 40, b. Va.	
Elizabeth, 42, b. Ky	
John C., 14, b. Ind.	
Henry, 12, b. Ind.	
James, 10, b. Ind.	
	Jas. Darraugh, 51, b. Kentucky
	Evaline Darraugh, 48, b. Kentucky
	Jeptha Darraugh, 26, b. Kentucky
	Whitfield Darraugh, 20, b. Kentucky
	Nancy Darraugh, 16, b. Kentucky
	Lewis Darraugh, 14, b. Kentucky
	Peggy Darraugh, 88, b. Kentucky
Margrett, 7, b. Ind.	Margret J. Faulkner, 17, b. Indiana
Thos F., 5, b. Ind.	Thomas J. Faulkner, 15, b. Indiana
Clarinda, 2, b. Ind.	Clarinda A. Faulkner, 12, b. Indiana

Note: 1860 enumerator used ditto marks (") to indicate surnames of wives and children.

Taking advantage of the uncommon name Clarinda, we search the Ancestry.com index for the 1850 U.S. Census and find a 2-year-old Clarinda Fortiner living in Moultrie County, Illinois. Because we know that Fortner is a variant of the name Faulkner, her family is worth a closer look. There, with Clarinda, are her brother Thomas and sister Margret; they are apparently children of Mumphred, 40, and Elizabeth Fortiner, 42. But who is Elizabeth? Marriage records from Harrison County, Kentucky, document the 1828 marriage of Mumford Faulconer (another Faulkner name variant) to Elizabeth Darraugh. She likely was the mother of the Faulconer children living with the Darraughs in 1860. Their relationship to James Darraugh is not obvious, but Elizabeth was about the right age to be a sister of James, which would make him an uncle of Margret, Thomas and Clarinda.

Don't despair; we can find our female ancestors. We may need to dig into land records, wills and other legal records, but with a little census sleuthing, we may find blended or multigenerational households. By working forward and backward in censuses we can collect clues to women's identities. From my work on these families, I learned three things about tracking women in a census:

- Pay attention to the in-laws – after all, they are relations by marriage.
- Follow the children – both forward and backward in time.
- Take advantage of unusual names – look for the Clarinda or the Mumford.

And, if we're really lucky, our Irish ancestors lived in a multigenerational household in Iowa in 1925!

Endnotes

1 1920 U.S. Census, Ramsey County, Minnesota, Enumeration District 107, St. Paul Ward 9, p. 2A, dwelling 1, family 3, Thomas P. Reeves.

2 Thomas Reeves and Mary McCarthy marriage certificate, recorded 19 August 1918, Ramsey County, St. Paul, Minnesota.

3 Minnesota Department of Health, Section of Vital Statistics, Mary A. Reeves Certificate of Death, Ramsey County, St. Paul, Minnesota, filed 11 June 1973.

4 1925 Iowa Census, Cerro Gordo County, Mason City Ward 1, [unpaginated], lines 141-149, Patrick Hughes household; Iowa State Census microfilm 925, roll 1647, digital image viewed at <http://www.ancestry.com>, 14 January 2011.

5 1880 U.S. Census, Coles County, Illinois, Enumeration District 57, p. 24, family no. 208, James Falkner; Family History Library film (FHL) 1,254,183, digital image viewed at <http://www.ancestry.com>, 15 January 2011.

6 1900 U.S. Census, St. Louis County, Minnesota, Duluth Ward 3, Enumeration District 267, Sheet 10B, dwelling 155, family 216, George Watson; National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) microfilm 623, roll 789, digital image viewed at <http://www.ancestry.com>, 15 January 2011.

7 "Mrs. Elizabeth Ehlenbach," obituary in Duluth News Tribune, 3 February 1953; the obituary names a surviving sister Mrs. Julia Watson of Milwaukee.

8 George Watson lived in Arcola, Douglas County, in 1870, but has not been found in the 1880 U.S. Census. Julia Falkner lived a few miles outside Arcola in Coles County in 1880. 1870 U.S. Census, Douglas County, Illinois, Arcola Township, p. 34 ("106" lined out), dwelling 276 ("798" lined out), family 264 ("786"lined out), NARA microfilm 593, roll 216, digital image viewed at <http://www.ancestry.com>, 29 January 2011; 1880 U.S. Census, James Falkner. George Watson was not enumerated with his family in Arcola in 1880; 1880 U.S. Census, Douglas County, Illinois, Enumeration District 82, Arcola, p. 19 (stamped 10), dwelling 209, family 216, James Watson, FHL film 1254203, digital image viewed at <http://www.ancestry.com>, 29 January 2011.

9 Minnesota Department of Health, George Cecil Watson Certificate of Death, 6 August 1964, Carlton County, Minnesota, state file no. 19946.

10 1860 U.S. Census, Putnam County, Indiana, Warren Township, p. 42, dwelling 290, family 291, Jas. Darraugh, NARA microfilm M653, roll 291, digital image viewed at <http://www.ancestry.com>, 29 January 2011.

11 1850 U.S. Census, Moultrie County, Illinois, p. 381 (stamped), dwelling 237, family 237, Mumphred Forliner, NARA microfilm M432, roll 122, digital image viewed at <www.ancestry.com>, 29 January 2011. The name is indexed "Forlines," but can be read as Fortiner with an uncrossed "t" and an "r" instead of an "s."

12 Janet Pease, Abstracted Court Records: Grant, Harrison and Pendleton Counties, Kentucky, transcriptions at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kyharris/Marriages.htm>.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is past 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.

New Benefit: Searchable Pedigree Charts

With the launch of the new website a new benefit will be revealed. A 'members only' searachable pedigree charts section. This benefit allows members to search a surname through all the pedigree charts in the program.

Pedigree charts are not proof but clues for the researcher. A place to start your search with a few details that could help. Individuals submit their charts and through the years changes are made. The researcher should investigate the information on any pedigree chart regardless of where they find that chart.

At this time most of our charts come from members who have sent a chart on paper to IGSI. A few volunteer members are transferring that information into GED files so we can enter it onto the website. We have a large grouping of pedigree charts and could use more help. If you have time please contact us at questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

We hope you will submit your own chart. Send a copy of your chart as a GED file to IGSI. For more information on how to do this or any questions contact us at questions@IrishGenealogical.org.

Elusive Women, Inspiring Stories

By Maureen K. Reed

Editor's note: The value of this article is enhanced through the reading of the explanatory footnotes to be found at the end of this article. The combination of article and references provides a learning experience for family researchers.

Why bother searching for the history of our women? It is vexing, expensive, and time consuming. Whatever resources are required to uncover the stories of our men, those required to uncover the stories of women are many times greater. Dozens of historical factors conspire to make their stories obscure. They changed their names. They weren't naturalized. They usually didn't own land or businesses. They didn't warrant lengthy obituaries. And add to these factors a long held notion: their lives were ordinary and mundane, not worthy of study and not of much value to us today.

Really? The lives of the women who were our ancestors are timeless tales of courage, dedication and selflessness. Children dying of whooping cough. Who rocked them in the night? Husbands maimed in wagon accidents. Who changed and washed the bloody dressings? Farms in foreclosure. Who planted the garden and marketed the butter and eggs? Bitter winds and snow. Who knit the stockings and patched the woolen pants? A missed period at age 47. Who worried about surviving a seventh (or a tenth) pregnancy? To know the full stories of our female ancestors is to take a giant gulp from an inexhaustible fountain of inspiration.

The thirst for inspiration is but one reason to pursue women's stories. Another is the thirst for accuracy. A few facts are better than none at all, but facts without context don't lead to understanding. Without knowledge of our female ancestors it is difficult to place the circumstances of our male ancestors into proper context. The more complete the data collection, the more accurate is our knowledge of the past.

Finally, for those invigorated by the challenge of a difficult search and energized by connecting seemingly unrelated small facts, researching the women in an ancestral line is a challenge too tempting to ignore.

In 2000, our family only knew three meager facts about our great-grandmother before she married: her maiden name was Sheehan, she was born in Ireland, and she came up the river from St. Louis to Caledonia, Minnesota. All that follows has been discovered since.

The Home Place: Ballynestragh

The farmland of Ballynestragh townland in northern County Wexford was the home place of the extended Sheehan family for centuries.[2] Instead of paying their rent in cash, the Sheehans paid the Esmonde family by their labor on the nearby Esmonde estate.[3] In the shadow of the manor house in the winter of 1836, Mary Sheehan was born to James and Mary (Nolan) Sheehan. Then, in the arms of godparents Ann Nolan and Brian Connor, Mary was baptized at nearby Killinierin Catholic Church.[4]

Some thirty years later[5] and under circumstances that have since been forgotten, Mary Sheehan packed her belongings and immigrated to St. Louis, Missouri. There is no information to suggest that Mary's parents accompanied her to St. Louis. The elder Sheehans may have lived out their days at Ballynestragh, or they may have immigrated to America but died before arriving in Missouri.

In all probability, however, Mary did not sail to America alone. Her younger sister Sarah materialized in St. Louis about this same time,[6] suggesting but not proving that they traveled together. Their port of entry

remains unknown, but because their names are not among the arrivals at U.S. ports, they may have come through Canada. Whether the young Sheehan women lingered in the East or came directly to St. Louis is likewise unknown. Except for Mary and Sarah, there are no brothers, no other sisters, and no other direct Sheehan relatives who have thus far come to light.[7]

But if there were no close Sheehan relatives in St. Louis, why did Mary and Sarah choose that city as their destination? Like thousands of other post-Famine immigrants, they probably were sponsored by relatives already established in North America. Indeed, there were large numbers of Nolans in St. Louis with whom Mary and Sarah associated. One such person was Aunt Ann Nolan.[8] Ann was likely their mother's sister or sister-in-law and very possibly the same Anne Nolan who served as Mary's godmother.

The earliest hard evidence of Nolan relatives in St. Louis dates to the late summer of 1860 when Aunt Ann Nolan purchased a cemetery plot in the St. Louis Calvary Cemetery for the deceased 53- year-old Patrick Nolan, son of Jerry and Sarah Nolan.[9] This Patrick was probably Ann's husband or brother—therefore an uncle to Mary and Sarah and a brother to their mother Mary (Nolan) Sheehan. While Patrick's broken gravestone indicates that he was born in County Wexford, his parish of origin is illegible.[10] But the Irish parish he called "home" was likely near the home parish of his purported sister Mary (Nolan) Sheehan and her two daughters Mary and Sarah Sheehan.

The Gateway to the West: St. Louis

As St. Louis sweltered in the summer heat of 1868, Mary Sheehan strode down the aisle of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church as maid of honor to her younger sister Sarah.[11] Sarah married a blacksmith, Bryan Rudd, who was from Newry, County, Wicklow,[12] some 15 miles west of Ballynestragh. At the time of their wedding, Bryan worked for

Mary (Sheehan) Kennedy c. 1910-1915. Photo courtesy of Maureen Reed.

the People's City Railway[13] and lived in the southwestern part of St. Louis.

Although there is no information about how Mary made her living in the city, she most likely was a domestic servant. In 1870, a 26-year-old Mary Sheehan worked in the home of James Young, a commission merchant[14] who resided near Bryan and Sarah's home. That same year, a 27-year-old Mary Sheehan worked in the home of Dr. Ed Feehan[15], an Irish-born doctor who practiced in the general neighborhood of St. Francis Xavier Church. Whether either of these women is the Mary Sheehan of interest is an open question.

In the early 1870s Mary began stepping out with Patrick Kennedy, a young Irish farmer who had not settled in St. Louis by accident. Some of his extended Kennedy relatives were laborers in St. Louis, and Patrick himself was employed at the St. Louis Gas Works, situated a couple of blocks from the rolling, roiling Mississippi River.

How Mary and Patrick came to be acquainted is pure speculation. Because Patrick had grown up in Ballyregan townland[16] a few miles southwest of Mary's home place of Ballynestragh, the young people may have known each other in Ireland. Alternatively, they may have been introduced in America by relatives or mutual friends. In St. Louis, as in other American cities, immigrants clustered with folks from their home parishes.

Whatever the circumstances of their courtship, in the autumn of 1873 Mary followed her sister's footsteps into St. Francis Xavier Church and married Patrick Kennedy[17]. The groom enlisted a co-worker at the Gas Works to be his best man, and Mary chose Maria Sheehan as her maid of honor.[18]

With practicality in mind, newlyweds Mary and Patrick Kennedy made their home in the vicinity of the St. Louis Gas Works. When their first child was born the following autumn, they asked Sarah and Bryan Rudd to become his godparents.[19] It is possible that baby John did not have a healthy start, because he was christened the day after his birth at St. Vincent de Paul Church. This German-Irish church stood in Patrick and Mary's neighborhood, and it was the home church for some of Patrick's Kennedy relatives.

Like many laborer families, Patrick and Mary moved several times in the ensuing few years,[20] always living within walking distance of the factory. By the mid part of the decade, however, Patrick apparently had had enough of city life and dangerous employment as a fireman at the Gas Works. There was an alternative, but that alternative lay 500 miles away on the northern reaches of the Mississippi River.

The Pull of the Land: Caledonia

Patrick's three older brothers had farmed for more than a decade near Caledonia in the southeastern tip of Minnesota. In the summer of 1876, his older brother James Kennedy purchased farmland in Patrick's name near the other Kennedy farms.[21]

Yet Mary and Patrick did not immediately pack their trunk for Minnesota. If there was argument or ambivalence about the move, that has been lost to history. But with Mary pregnant a second time, the family continued to reside in St. Louis.[22] This pregnancy did not end happily. In 1876, Patrick and Mary buried their stillborn infant Mary at Calvary Cemetery in the plot owned by Aunt Ann Nolan.[23] Some months later, with tickets clutched in their hands, they boarded a steamboat and journeyed up the river to relocate on their new farm.

Whether Mary ever saw Aunt Ann Nolan or her sister Sarah (Sheehan) Rudd again is doubtful. The Rudds remained in St. Louis, where Bryan established his own blacksmith and horseshoe business on Walnut St. in the central city.[24] The family lived next to their business and attended the old St. Louis Cathedral a number of blocks away.[25] Of their six children, two died in infancy and were buried in Aunt Ann's plot along-side their infant cousin, Mary Kennedy. As Sarah and Bryan reared their other four children, Aunt Ann remained a central figure. She resided with them and most certainly helped with the children and the household tasks.[26] When endocarditis claimed Sarah at the early age of 39[27], her younger children still needed the guidance of a mother.

Perhaps substantial financial or health problems eventually overcame Aunt Ann or perhaps she simply out-lived the close relatives who were likely to care for her in her last years. When she passed away in 1895 from senile debility,[28] she resided with the Little Sisters of the Poor on Hebert St.

Bryan Rudd died the following year at Mullanphy Hospital from stomach cancer.[29] The very fact that he died in hospital indicates that the widower had significant financial resources. At the time of his death his four children were well into their twenties. All of them subsequently married and resided in the city of St. Louis.

At least one of Sarah's daughters maintained the family connection with Minnesota. Lizzie Rudd was quite the traveler and seemingly possessed significant disposable income. Just after the turn of the century, she paid an extended autumn visit to her Aunt Mary and Uncle Patrick Kennedy in rural Minnesota, where her visit caught the attention of the local newspaper.[30] Sometime later, Lizzie sailed for Ireland to visit her parents' home places. Perhaps it was on the return journey in 1904 that Lizzie discovered romance on the high seas. Her Irish cousin Daniel J. Murphy[31] accompanied her back to America and, within a couple of years, they tied the knot.[32]

Around 1906 something prompted Mary (Sheehan) Kennedy to journey once again to the city of her early immigrant days.[33] Maybe it was the occasion of niece Lizzie Rudd's wedding. Or maybe it was the opportunity to hear Lizzie's tales of the loved ones in Ballynestragh. Or maybe, for the first time in three decades, the timing was finally right. Although advanced in years, Mary remained in good health; she had raised four sons and she and her husband, Patrick, were financially secure on their Minnesota farm. As a girl growing up in County Wexford, she could hardly have predicted this.

The Challenge and the Reward

On the surface, the task of finding the townland of origin of great-grandmother Mary Kennedy did not appear particularly difficult. Her husband's roots in Ballyregan townland near Gorey in northern County Wexford were discovered with relative ease.

Yet this search proved vexing, expensive, and time-consuming. The journey to Mary (Sheehan) Kennedy's baptism record where the word "Ballinstra" was written demanded the careful review of the records of some 20 Irish churches, 30 U.S. churches, 50 civil parish Tithe Applotment Books, 200 obituaries, 400 death certificates, and 50 years of city directories. Fortunately, small discoveries along the path occurred with enough frequency to provide encouragement and to serve as necessary trail markers.

Had the search been straightforward, our family would not have had the opportunity to learn about St. Louis and the surges of immigrants flowing through the city. We would not have learned about other families of Nolans, Sheehans, and Kennedys or peeked into their lives and origins. And we would not have discovered living relatives on both sides of the Atlantic who have enriched our lives. These are among the marvelous rewards of a difficult search.

Having a conclusion to this story is possible only because of Peter O'Connor, Fr. Patrick O'Brien, Ed Steed, Annette Sheehan, Dan Kennedy, Rose Reed, Pat Sheehan, Debbie Grimsley, Terry Tobinson, and many others. Our debt to them is enormous.

Endnotes

1 This information came from a conversation with Mary (Sheehan) Kennedy's only living grandchild, Rose K. Reed, who was a small child when her grandmother died. Mary's gravestone inscription at Calvary Cemetery in St. Paul, Minnesota, was simple: Mary Kennedy 1844-1918. Her Ramsey County, Minnesota, death certificate listed her birth date as 26 Jan.1844 and her father as James Schien.

2 Statement of John Sheehan of Ballynestragh, 1951. Because Sheehan is not a common Wexford surname, I theorized that the Sheehans who clustered around Ballynestragh in the Griffith's Valuations and Tithe Applotment Books were my relatives. The online Irish telephone directory listed a few Sheehans still living in that area. In 2006, I wrote to the Patrick Sheehan family, which kindly sent a copy of their family tree and history. Though quite extensive, it did not connect with Mary (Sheehan) Kennedy.

3 Griffith's Valuation house book, 1844. County Wexford is one of the few counties for which house books and field books exist. These books, kept at the Land Valuation Office and copied at the National Archives in Dublin, contain information not found in the Griffith's Valuations that were published later. For this search, the house book information was valuable in establishing the relationships between various Sheehan and Nolan ancestors.

4 Killinierin Catholic Church baptism record of Mary Sheehan, 26 Jan. 1836.. The year of birth is eight years earlier than noted on her gravestone and death certificate, but the day of birth on all records is identical. The microfilmed records of this parish date from 1852 and are kept at the National Library of Ireland. However, Peter O'Connor, a Sheehan descendant living near Ballynestragh, knew that much earlier records were in the safe keeping of the parish priest. He contacted Fr. Patrick O'Brien and photocopied the actual baptism record of Mary Sheehan. This was the linchpin.

5 1910 US census (Minnesota)

6 St. Francis Xavier Church (St. Louis, Missouri) marriage record of Sarah Sheehan, 16 July 1868

7 Nineteen Catholic churches existed in St. Louis in the geographic area of interest. I searched the microfilm of these churches, as well as the civil death, birth, and marriage records for all Sheehans and all Nolans in St. Louis.

8 1880 US census (Missouri)

9 St. Louis Cathedral (St. Louis, Missouri) burial records, 16 Aug. 1860. Jerry (or Jeremiah) was a distinctly uncommon Irish given name in northern County Wexford. It was the pursuit of this unusual name in the Tithe Applotment Books and Griffith's Valuations that pointed the right direction.

10 St. Louis Calvary Cemetery gravestone. The inscription on this badly eroded stone is the first information that placed Mary Sheehan's (purported) relatives in County Wexford. The inscription indicates that Patrick was from a parish whose first letter is C, G, O or Q and whose second letter is short and rounded. The word is likely five (or possibly four) letters in length. The only Catholic parish in County Wexford which matches these characteristics is Gorey in northern County Wexford. According to Fr. Patrick O'Brien, Gorey parish was carved from Killinierin parish around 1845.

11 St. Francis Xavier Church (St. Louis, Missouri) marriage record of Sarah Sheehan, 16 July 1868. This document verified her father's name (James Sheahan) and is the only U.S. document that listed her mother's name (Mary Nolan).

12 Death certificate of Bryan's father, Daniel Rudd, Shillelagh Registration District, 4 Dec 1877. An online FamilySearch.org search revealed this death entry, and a photocopy of the record from the Civil Registration Office in Roscommon provided additional information that eventually pinpointed Bryan Rudd's birthplace. Because Irish immigrants commonly married people from their Irish home places, this provided additional evidence that Sarah Sheehan might have been from northern County Wexford or southwestern County Wicklow.

13 St. Louis City Directory, 1868

14 1870 US Census (Missouri)

15 1870 US Census (Missouri)

16 Patrick Kennedy was born in Ballyregan, County Wexford, in 1843 to John and Margaret (Byrne) Kennedy. Descendants still reside in that locale.

17 St. Francis Xavier Church marriage record of Mary Sheehan, 23 Oct. 1873. This information verified Mary Sheehan's connection to St. Louis. I initially found her St. Louis marriage date online through FamilySearch.org. This led to the civil marriage record which listed the clergyman. At the St. Louis County Library, a cross-match of Catholic priests with the parishes they served directed the search to microfilmed marriage records of St. Francis Xavier Church.

18 St. Francis Xavier Church marriage record of Mary Sheehan, 23 Oct. 1873. Maria is a mystery woman. Although Sheehan was a fairly common surname in St. Louis during this period, Maria was a very uncommon Irish given name. The only unmarried Maria Sheehan of appropriate age who has thus far come to light was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hennesy) Sheehan. This Maria and her family resided in central St. Louis near St. John Apostle and Evangelist Church. It is probable that Mary Sheehan would have chosen a close relative to be the attendant at her wedding in 1873. And according to custom, she would have chosen a single woman. So if Mary had a female Sheehan relative in St. Louis (other than her married sister Sarah), Maria Sheehan is the most likely candidate. However, the evidence for a blood relationship between Mary Sheehan and Maria Sheehan is only circumstantial.

19 St. Vincent de Paul Church (St. Louis, Missouri) baptism record, 23 Sept. 1874. This data firmly cemented the relationship between Sarah and Mary.

20 St. Louis city directories, 1873-1876. Microfilmed city directories from 1860-1900 noted the changing residency and migration of Sheehan, Nolan, and Kennedy surnames which I marked on an 1878 St. Louis city map. The resulting plat focused the light on a subset of St. Louis churches located near the families of interest.

21 Deed records Houston County, Minnesota

22 St. Louis city directory, 1876

23 Calvary Cemetery records, 1876. These records are online at <http//: search.stlcathcem.org> and allow the researcher to determine the location of plots in relation to one another.

24 1870 US Census (Missouri)

25 In the intervening years between the Rudd's marriage and their return to the central part of the city, St. Francis Xavier church had relocated to western St. Louis, continuing its association with St. Louis University.

26 1880 US Census (Missouri)

27 Death certificate of Sarah (Sheehan) Rudd, 5 May 1886

28 Death certificate of Ann Nolan, 22 March 1895

29 Death certificate of Bryan Rudd, 7 Aug. 1896

30 *Caledonia Journal*, Sept 1901

31 *Umbria* passenger list, 16 Oct. 1906

32 Their marriage certificate is yet to be found. If Daniel Murphy and Elizabeth Rudd were indeed first cousins as Irish baptism records seem to indicate, they likely would have required a dispensation from the Catholic Church. It does not appear that they married in St. Louis. They may have married at sea or in the East.

33 Personal letter of Lillie Giles, 30 Sept. 1906

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 to her childhood. She continues to pursue the goal of identifying the townlands of origin of her eight Irish great-grandparents.

Research and Travel in Washington, DC
September 18-23, 2011

IGSI is at it again. We're taking a trip to Washington DC where there is something for everyone. The best repositories in the US, sightseeing second to none and genealogists to share it with why wouldn't everyone want to go.

Package Includes

- Hotel accommodations
- Welcome Reception
- Twilight Tour
- Closing Dinner
- Travel Gift

The trip is based on a set number of participants. Washington, DC is a busy city and there are a limited number of rooms available. We will be staying in Arlington, Virginia, at the Holiday Inn, 3.3 miles from the National Archives. If demand requires, we will try to get more rooms but it might not be possible. The cost is for a "Land Package" only; individuals will need to make their own travel arrangements.

Cost

Double Occupancy: $1024 - Per person sharing
Single Occupancy: $1639.

Early Bird Pricing: due by April 15, 2011.
Double Occupancy: $994 - Per person sharing
Single Occupancy: $1609.

Deposit

Double Occupancy: $150
Single Occupancy: $200

Registration for the trip is due by June 15, 2011, and must be accompanied by a registration form and deposit. Fifty dollars of the deposit is non-refundable. Anyone signing up after June 1 will need to send the complete price of the trip.

The IGSI Washington DC trip has limited space. Save a few dollars and a place on the trip by considering the 'Early Bird Special.'

Join IGSI in September 2011 for a research trip that won't be forgotten. For more details on the trip, including the itinerary or a registration form, go to our website at <http://www.IrishGenealogical.org/trip> or email Diane Lovrencevic at Trip@IrishGenealogical.org.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Tipperary, Ireland

By Judith Eccles Wight, AG

County Tipperary was chosen as the focus of this article because of the groundbreaking reference *Finding Tipperary: A Guide to the Resources of the Tipperary Studies Department, Tipperary County Library, Thurles, County Tipperary.* This guide, compiled by Denis G. Marnane and Mary Guinan-Darmody, was published by the County Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee in 2007.

The authors are well versed in the subject matter they cover. Marnane is a local historian who has written extensively about various aspects of County Tipperary. Guinan-Darmody is a librarian in the Local Studies Department at the Tipperary County Library.

Listings for this book in WorldCat <http://www.worldcat.org> show that the Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, has a copy as well as some libraries in Ireland, and the British Library in England. It is also in the IGSI Library collection. At the time this article was written, it is not yet in the Irish book collection at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

It is doubtful that many readers of *The Septs* are fully aware of this resource. Unlike other Irish county genealogical how-to books, of which there are few that give in-depth information, *Finding Tipperary* is a finely-honed treatise on the resources available at the Tipperary County Library. The book has six parts.

- Secondary Sources
- Periodicals
- Unpublished Sources
- Newspapers
- Maps
- Photographs.

The Secondary Sources section includes multiple resources. Specific resources of genealogical value provide information about the county, towns, villages and countryside; genealogy; remarkable individuals; institutions; antiquarian sources; heritage; women's studies; early and medieval Irish history; early modern Irish history (land, the famine, law and order, politics, and religion and education); legal sources; and reference material. More than 700 footnotes cite books or other records in the Tipperary County Library.

Well-chosen and well-placed illustrations pertinent to the subjects covered add interest to the text. These include partial copies of documents such as a 1901 census enumeration, a National School register, an architecture plan of a cottage and offices for a farm, and a poor law minute book entry.

The section on Periodicals contains an alphabetical listing of 54 periodicals that include information for County Tipperary. Details that follow the name of each periodical relate to the issues that are available at the County Library. The list also includes an assortment of parish magazines.

Part three, the chapter on Unpublished Sources, documents the Library's holding of estate records, Grand Jury Presentments, emigration records (assisted passage to Australia and transportation registers), poor law minute and rate books, financial records, school folklore collections, census and census substitutes, and other resources. Two boxes of Crown and Peace material contain extracts from the *Dublin Gazette* relating to crime in County Tipperary. There are some hidden gems among the unpublished sources that are listed. It is likely that new acquisitions will be made to the unpublished sources listed in this book, so if you visit the Tipperary County Library, be sure to ask about materials acquired after the book was published.

The Tipperary Studies Department has made a concerted effort to collect newspaper holdings relating to this county. Twenty-three newspapers are listed with coverage starting in 1775 (the *Clonmel Gazette*) through the present day. Some of the newspapers are a full run while others are only for selected years.

The section on Maps includes 25 different resources. Of special interest to genealogists are the 1st edition Ordnance Survey Maps for County Tipperary, townland index maps showing boundaries but not topographical features, and the Tenement (Griffith's) Valuation maps on CD Rom. There are also some estate maps.

If you are interested in buying a copy of *Finding Tipperary*, check the website BookFinder.com for current information about book sellers that carry it. It can also be ordered directly from Tipperary Studies. Direct enquires to Mary Guinan-Darmody, Tipperary Studies, The Source, Cathedral Street, Thurles, County Tipperary, Ireland or e-mail studies@tipperarylibraries.ie for pricing information including postage.

Tipperary Libraries website

The Tipperary Libraries website <http://www.tipperarylibraries.ie> includes a tab for "Local Studies." When one clicks on this tab, the reader finds an overview of various resources at the Tipperary County Library in Thurles. On the left hand side is a list of topics. The last one, "Genealogical & Historical Resources," contains limited databases. Several of the databases contain names of people (a census substitute) for various time periods. It appears that more resources will eventually be added to this section.

IrelandGenWeb Project: County Tipperary

The previous articles in this series have not included information about websites of genealogical interest that is not linked to an archive or library. An exception is made for this one. The County Tipperary

IrelandGenWebsite <http://www.irelandgenweb.com/~irltip/records.htm> has a wonderful array of subjects relating to genealogy as well as links to other resources not found on the website.

Volunteers have transcribed many records. Information that can be accessed from the website include censuses and census substitutes, taxation sources, church records, monumental inscriptions, directories, and court records. One of the more obscure records is the Cormack Petition which lists the names and townlands of residence for people who signed a petition to set up an inquiry into the conviction of brothers William and Daniel Cormack. These men were executed in 1858 for murdering a land agent. Over 2,300 people signed the petition making this a remarkable census substitute. Although this information is also accessible at the Tipperary Libraries website, it does not mention the place of residence. Like most genealogical websites, this one continues to be a work in progress thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers.

Google Books: County Tipperary Petty Jurors

Another genealogical resource that is not found in the Tipperary County Library or in the Tipperary GenWeb Project is the list of County Tipperary Petty [Session] Jurors for the spring and summer Assizes of 1845 and the spring Assizes of 1846. I came across this source several years ago while exploring the British Parliamentary Papers/House of Common Papers. The list of close to 4,000 individuals is arranged by baronies in the first group and by ridings in the second. The names of jurors that are arranged by baronies are listed in alphabetical order. Also recorded is the place of residence, the occupation or calling (e.g. esquire), and the qualification of each juror (freeholder, leaseholder, merchant, freeman or householder). The riding list includes the residence and occupation or calling of each juror.

This resource is found in Volume 42 (XLII) of the 22 January – 28 August 1846 session. To find this volume online, do a keyword search from the Google home page for **Co. Tipperary petty jurors**. It is found in the Google Books website. Once the volume has been accessed, use the view ruler bar on the right hand side of the page to scroll down approximately two thirds of the page length. The page number system does not make sense since there are multiple resources in this session. However, the section covering the County Tipperary Petty Jurors consistently shows the number 393 on the bottom left hand side of every other page.

If you have County Tipperary ancestry, it is hoped that the resources listed in this article will prove helpful in your research.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

Launch of IGSI's New Website

Mid-April is the launch of our new website. Technology changed from the time we created our old site that prompted us to update our databases and programing language. We believe this change will prevent the errors the old site had.

The new site looks slightly different but holds the information from the old one. Hopefully you will find a few surprises as well. We added a new benefit called the ***Searchable Pedigree Charts***. This section will allow members to search pedigree charts to find clues to their ancestors. You will find this new section under the 'projects menu'.

Another new section to the site is the ***Donation Projects*** you will find under the 'projects menu' as well. This will allow members to donate to items needed by IGSI.

The ***Calendar*** located under the 'activities menu' will allow our members to send in their reunions and local Irish activities for others to find on our site. Be sure to let us know what is going on in your area.

The ***Education*** menu offers items for old and new researchers. Besides the upcoming classes offered at the Minnesota Genealogical Library it offers how start your research and where to find special collections of information.

In the last year or so we have had problems with our old website that led us to starting a new site. This should help with future problems. If you haven't been to our new website be sure to check it out. We are always adding and updating the site. so there is more to come.

New site, old address. Go to <http://www.IrishGenealogical.org>.

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrup and Mary Wickersham

300 Years Ago

From my own Apartment in Channel-Row, April 27

…In my Walk the other Day I met with so odd an Adventure, that I can't help being particular in the Relation of it; …there step'd up gently to me an ancientish Woman, in a little black Hood…"Pray, what may your Name be?" Ah! Mr. Bickerstaff, she replied, Is it possible you should have forgot me? But indeed the Troubles I have gone thro' since you and I danced together…Why truly, Sir, as I was saying… What could you expect of a giddy-headed young Thing as I was in those Days? For you must know, Sir, that Mr. MacCarrot, that you saw at our House, had engaged my affections before I came from the Boarding-School; but I am sure have learned to repent it every Vein of my Heart that I ever cros'd the Seas with him. In short, Sir, we were no sooner married, but he carried me over with him to the County of Kerry, where he had Relations who were well enough to pass, and what with their Affluence, and that little we had of our own, we made a pretty good Shift for some Years, 'till the War breaking out in Ireland, my Husband was too zealous for the Popish Interest and entered into the Service…But as I had foretold it, so it happened, he was killed at the Siege of Limerick, and our House plundered; I may safely say they did not leave me the Value of this Rag to wind about my Finger….

London Tatler

London, Middlesex, England, Sunday, 26 Apr 1711

250 Years Ago

[No Title]

Yesterday arrived the mail due from Ireland; that due on Monday is said to be taken by a French privateer of two guns.

Extract of a letter from Cork, dated May 24 – 'This morning arrived here from his longboat, Captain Archibald Williams, Commander of the brigantine Diana, of and from Glasgow, bound to Cork; which was taken last Friday off of Waterford, about three leagues from the land, by a privateer of fix guns, of which only two were mounted. This privateer has also taken a large brigantine of Halifax, bound for Bristol, laden with furs and other goods."…

London Chronicle

London, Middlesex, England , Tuesday, 2 Jun 1761

200 Years Ago

A Lost Husband!!

More than 6 months ago, without any known cause my Husband left me in New Holland village, Earl township, Lancaster county; and I have never been able to obtain any intelligence of him since. His name is JOHN ROBESON; he teaches school, and is from Ireland; between 30 and 40 years old, but appears older than he really is; uses spectacles, and is bald-headed; about 5 feet 6 inches high, stout made, of a fair complexion; his hair brown, his whiskers reddish, and his eyes gray. It is supposed he went in or near Baltimore in October last.

The Centinel

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, 26 Jun 1811

150 Years Ago

A Woman Rescues a Man from a Watery Grave.

This morning about half-past eight o'clock an accident occurred to a man walking on the Pittsburg track near the depot, that would doubtless have proved fatal to him had it not been for timely assistance received from a woman who witnessed it and came to his aid. He got aboard the mail train this morning, and was considerably intoxicated. … The track is built on piles driven near the beach and the water beneath is not very deep. The glimpses he got of the water surging beneath caused a surge in his head, followed by a corresponding surge in his legs, and, as a consequence, the Girard man went surging between the planks into the water. In falling, his head struck on the edge of a plank which stunned him, and he was in imminent danger of drowning.

An Irish woman, who lives in one of the shanties near the track, saw him fall in, and without waiting to call for masculine help, true to humane instincts of the Irish heart, she hurried to the rescue….wading in up to her waist she clutched the drowning man by his neck cloth and drew him ashore, amid the applauding shouts of some men, who were hurrying to the spot and who witnessed the feat. … The heroic woman should be christened the Irish Grace Darling. [Cleveland Plain-dealer, 15th]

Dawsons Fort Wayne Daily Times

Fort Wayne, Indiana, Tuesday, 25 Jun 1861

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 on the IGSI Board and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

The Irish Plymouth Brethren

Dwight A. Radford

What is popularly termed the "Plymouth Brethren" is a movement that began in Ireland in the 1820s. It moved to Plymouth, England, among other United Kingdom cities, and then worldwide. The Brethren are a conservative evangelical Christian body that provided the beginning of a recognizable fundamentalist wing of evangelical Christianity. In its various expressions, the Brethren Movement has influenced evangelical Protestantism. This article will focus on the Brethren Movement as expressed by the Plymouth Brethren, with some reference to the Gospel Hall movement, which started about 1859. This article will not include the interrelated Churches of God (Needed Truth Brethren) since they date from 1892.

In some areas, the movement appealed to and grew among the lower middle-class segment of British and Irish society. In other areas, it appealed to the more skilled working class. However, the leaders of the initial movement were drawn almost exclusively from the upper ranks of that same society: Anglican clergy, Oxford dons, lawyers, doctors, the sons of country families or wealthy merchants. They were all young men in their twenties or early thirties, nearly all of them well-educated, and several of them classical or biblical scholars. The early Brethren were strongly anti-Catholic. While they sought to heal the divisions within Protestantism under the banner of a restored apostolic Christianity, it was not through an ecumenical approach.

Technically, "Plymouth Brethren" is a colloquial term and not the name of any religious body. Yet, for historical purposes, the term is used extensively. Today, the movement is often referred to as Christian Brethren. The several branches of the movement are usually classified as "Open Brethren" and "Exclusive Brethren." These terms and the history behind the division are important to Brethren history and the records generated. In recent years, the term Exclusive Brethren has been replaced by some with "non-open Brethren." This is to separate themselves from branches of the Exclusive Brethren, which have taken a militant and separatist relationship to the larger world of Brethren.

Today there are more than one million Plymouth Brethren worldwide in the various branches. It is not uncommon to find an ancestor of Protestant background associating with the Brethren in Ireland. However, very little has been written from a genealogical perspective to help identify and document a Brethren family.

Brethren History

In the early 1800s, many Protestants felt uncomfortable with all the different denominations to the point they became hostile towards the very concept of denominationalism. Many were anti-clerical and anti-creedal, feeling as though their churches were compromising biblical truth for human-created doctrines. These Christians read their Bibles apart from the established clergy, beginning at the New Testament; they sought to restore the ancient Christianity described in the texts, which they reasoned was true, pure and undenominational.

The Brethren movement began in Dublin about 1827 and spread to Plymouth, England, in 1831. The earliest Brethren came from many denominations to meet together to move beyond sectarianism. Because the Dublin group referred to each other as "brother" to avoid titles, they were nicknamed Brethren. The movement became so well-known in Plymouth that the Christians were nicknamed Plymouth Brethren.

In 1827, John Nelson Darby (1800-82), a Church of Ireland minister from County Wicklow, joined the movement. In historical works, he is often referred to as J.N. Darby or simply JND and is considered by many to be the very founder of fundamentalist evangelical thought. He made a name for himself as curate of Delgany Parish in County Wicklow by preaching and converting hundreds of Roman Catholic peasants until the Archbishop of Dublin ruled converts were obliged to swear allegiance to George IV as the rightful king of Ireland. JND resigned in protest. He left the Church of Ireland around 1831.

Between 1827 and 1833, JND's theology was formed, although he refined it throughout his life. He saw the Church of Ireland, as the state religion, taking advantage of governmental sanction; that clergymen limited the concept of a priesthood of all believers. He believed the church was the body of Christ, comprised of a heavenly people. As such, it was not to court earthly favors. During this time his theological views on dispensationalism became widely accepted among the emerging Brethren movement. By 1831, he joined others in Plymouth, England, who opposed denominationalism, one-man ministry and church formalism. By 1845, the Plymouth Assembly alone had more than 1,000 people in their fellowship.

In 1845, a schism occurred within the Brethren movement over B. W. Newton's differing views over the "Secret Rapture," Christology, and clericalism. The unity of the Brethren was compromised again in 1848, from which time the movement divided into Open and Exclusive Brethren.

JND remained the dominant voice among the Exclusive Brethren for another 30 years. JND made five missionary journeys to North America between 1862 and 1877, working mostly in New England, Ontario and the Great Lakes Region. He died in 1882 in Bournemouth, Dorset, England. From the 1848 division, both Open and non-open

Brethren were involved in missions at the same time, yet differently. The Gospel Hall Brethren, greatly influenced by the teachings of the Plymouth Brethren, came out of the 1859 Revival that swept through Ulster and Scotland. While the differences between the Gospel Hall Movement and the Brethren are less distinctive in Ireland and Northern Ireland today, that is not necessarily the case everywhere.

The majority of Brethren today are Open. There are no headquarters and little way to determine their exact number. However, the figure of one million Brethren worldwide is an accepted number. There are still many active Brethren meetings in both Ireland and Northern Ireland, with the largest concentration in Northern Ireland.

Christian Brethren Records

Many well-documented academic studies provide proof of the profound influence that the Brethren had on evangelical Christianity. On the other hand, even now, in the early 21st century, the study of Brethren records is in its infancy. As a whole, records are not centralized or microfilmed. No one, not even the Brethren, knows what is available. The Christian Brethren Archive <http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/specialcollections/collections/brethren/>, housed at the John Rylands University Library in Manchester, England, has a large collection of Brethren related history, newspapers and documents. Their book and manuscript collection concentrates on the movement in the British Isles, including Ireland. However, their holdings for Ireland are limited.

How can researchers document where assemblies met and identify a potential member? While the Internet has a wealth of information on the Christian Brethren history, the records for individual assemblies are usually not part of this flowering of Brethren Studies. A central website that can help with additional links, reference books and deposited archival material is "The Brethren Archivist and Historians Network" (BAHN) at <www.brethrenhistory.org>. Individual assemblies may have websites where one can contact them with email inquiries. At that point, researchers should contact the appropriate assembly to see if records are available.

The fact that members of the Brethren see themselves as being simply Christians, not part of a Christian denomination, obscures their true identities in the records. The religious statistics that accompanied the 1901 and 1911 censuses of Ireland demonstrates this point. They are listed as Christian, Christian Brethren, Brethren, Plymouth Brethren, undenominational Christian Protestant, Exclusive Brethren, Open Brethren, or by some other term. Also, remember that if a family is listed as "no religious denomination" in the census, it does not necessarily mean they did not go to church. It is important for researchers to remember that the Brethren were hostile toward denominationalism.

Genealogists in Ireland have estimated that by 1901 there were some 5,000 Brethren throughout Ireland, even though their exact numbers have not been determined. The identification of who is a Brethren and who is not may not be as straightforward as with other evangelicals. The 1901 and 1911 censuses online can be searched using the "other" in the religion category and then looking for families by locality.

When researching Brethren records, it may be helpful to be aware of some distinctives that may affect your research. Among these are the following:

- The buildings of Open Brethren are usually referred to as Gospel Chapels, Bible Chapels, Christian Assemblies; and, in Ulster, the term Gospel Hall is very common. The buildings of the Exclusive Brethren are usually labeled as Meeting Rooms, Gospel Halls or assemblies. This is important: a Christian Brethren assembly may be labeled only by these designations. This is how to know a Brethren assembly from non-related independent churches that you may encounter in your research.

- In the 19th century it was common for Brethren to not vote. They did not get involved in governments and sought to remain a separate people. While they obeyed earthly governments, they did not participate in them. Further, many 19th century Brethren held to a non-resistance position based upon Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and a Christian's separation from the world. Brethren missionaries would preach at the Army barracks in Ireland; upon converting, many officers in the British Army and Royal Navy resigned their commissions. However by the end of the century, many new officer-converts retained their commissions.

- For Brethren, water baptism plays no role in salvation from sin. It is rather an outward expression of an inward cleaning. Whether there is a record of a believer's baptism will depend on the assembly.

- The Brethren do not have clergy. However, the Elders of the assembly function as spiritual leaders. Each assembly will have one or more elders. The term Elder is used among the Open Brethren. The non-open Brethren use the term "leading brothers." Deacons serve under the elders.

One method of researching a Brethren family when their self-identity is undenominational is by locality. To know the meeting places of various Brethren assemblies is always helpful. At that point, you can know if a Christian Brethren family may have resided in the geographical area. The table below lists directories for both the Open and Exclusive Brethren produced to inform travelers of the locations of the assemblies. While the Open directory provides more geographical descriptions, the Exclusive directory, adds the names of contacts. The

contact names provide a method to access the 1901 and 1911 Irish Census online. Sometimes there are several contacts, their addresses, and sometimes their occupations. In effect, this makes the Exclusive directory more than a list of assemblies.

The author has created a larger chart listing the meeting places in Ireland for both the Open and the Exclusive Brethren that is too extensive to include in this article. It can be found on the IGSI website as "The Radford Genealogical Inventory of Early Brethren Assemblies." <http://www.IrishGenealogical.org/ /radford-genealogical-inventory-early-brethren-assemblies> This inventory is based on the 1897 Open and the 1873 Exclusive Brethren directories and arranged in alphabetical order by county, civil parish, and locality. As most family historians use the civil parish as the guide into Irish records and geography, this chart on the IGSI website helps to define the geographic area where Brethren were living.

Directories can be used to trace the existence and movements of various assemblies. Once you know where an assembly was meeting, then you have an idea of the general locality where your ancestors lived. These directories can be used in conjunction with the 1901 and 1911 censuses which are online at the National Archives of Ireland website. The Christian Brethren Archive has a large collection of directories that can help in tracing the locations and existence of assemblies from all Brethren branches. Directories date as follows:

Branch	Years
Open Brethren	
General	1897, 1904, 1922, 1927, 1933, 1951, 1959, 1968, 1971, 1975, 1983, 1990, 1991, 1997, 2002
Exclusive Brethren	
Darby Meetings	1873, 1877
Stoney Meetings	1882, 1884, 1885
Kelly Meetings	1892, 1925 (Glaston), 1930
London/Taylor Meetings	1903, 1906, 1911, 1917, 1927, 1929, 1938, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1949, 1951, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962
Croyden/Frost Meetings	1974/80 (cover page missing on directory)
Lowe Meetings	1901
Kelly-Lowe-Continental-Tunbridge Wells-Mory Meetings	1959
Kelly-Lowe-Continental-Tunbridge Wells-Grant-Stuart-Glanton (reunited Brethren) Meetings	1975, 1982, c1987, 1992

Directories included in the Christian Brethren Archive.

Participation among both Open and Exclusive Brethren is more in terms of fellowship than membership. Traditionally, the assemblies do not have the concept of a person joining a local gathering of believers, which affects what would be called membership records in other churches Some assemblies kept records, others did not. For practical matters, lists were compiled for internal use or to produce directories. The term member generally is rejected among Open Brethren, although outside writers may use that term. Among Exclusive Brethren, the concept of official membership is somewhat blurred. Brethren visiting another assembly have to have a letter of commendation from their home assembly have to have a letter of commendation from their home assembly assuring that they are in good standing and not under discipline.

Any lists of members will be with the local assembly. Most of the primary records will still be with the local assembly. As private records, they are subject to the policies of the local assembly.

Key Reference Works

Many historical and theological works can be found in academic journals. Many old works can be found online on websites such as <http://www.mybrethren.org>. Older and current works can be found through publishers such as "Believers Bookshelf" <http://www.bbusa.org>, "Bible Truth Publishers"<http://biblecounsel.homestead.com/btp.html>, and Stem Publishing <http://www.stempublishing.com>.

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Special Thanks

To Dr. Graham Johnson, Assistant Archivist at the Christian Brethren Archives, at John Rylands University Library in Manchester, England, for his consultation on the records.

To Roger Daniel, author with Believers Bookshelf USA, for his review of this article and consultation on Brethren history, belief and sources.

To Tim Grass, on the Advisory Group of the Christian Brethren Archives, for his insight into the Irish Brethren, review of this article, and sharing of his personal research.

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Share Your Research in *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but we also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

Deadline for submission of articles for the July issue is May 1, 2011. The theme of the July issue is Irish Resources on the Internet – Revisited. Start now and plan to submit something for a coming issue. Themes and article submission deadlines for future issues are:

Issue Date	Submission Deadline	Theme
October 2011	August 1	Irish in the United States
January 2012	November 1	English Records of the Irish
April 2012	February 1	Census Fragments & Census Substitutes
July 2012	May 1	History and Records of Ports of Entry: U.S.-Canada - Australia
October 2012	August 1	Irish South of the Equator

Sir William Betham Collection, Part III

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

This concluding installment on the Betham Collection addresses the material deposited in the Genealogical Office, Dublin. A number of his Genealogical Office manuscripts are in the microfilm collection of the Family History Library but a few of the collections described here have not been microfilmed. They may, however, prove useful to researchers to examine in person or through the services of a record searcher in Ireland.

MSS. 261-276 (FHL microfilms 100,116-100,121)
This is the First Series of Red Books compiled by William Betham containing extracts from plea and close rolls, pedigrees, genealogical notes, armorial notes and drafts of armorial instruments. These are the landed families of Ireland and there are sketch pedigrees following many of the extracts. The pedigrees often cite the dates of wills written and probated as an adjunct source of information for the formation of the pedigree.

This collection was indexed by staff at the Family History Library in the 1950s as part of an overall project to index the principal names of the pedigrees contained in the Genealogical Office. The Second Series of Red Books listed later in this article is also indexed in this three-volume set by the FHL. The following example gives you an indication of the type of information you may expect to find in the index:

Name	Residence	Reference no.	FHL microfilm
Moore	Clonmel, Co. Tipperary	92 XIII 1	100,120
Moore	Co. Tyrone	74, 75, 302 IX 1	100,119
Moore	Drumleer, Co. Louth	134 IX 1	100,119
Moore	Barneath, Co. Louth	133 XIV 1	100,121
Moore	Dublin	296 IX 1	100,119
Moore	Dublin	124 I 1	100,116
Moore	Rosecarberry, Co. Cork	304 IX 1	100,119
Moore	Byres, Co. Mayo	123 I 1	100,116
Moore	Cloghan, Westmeath	123 I 1	100,116
Moore	Cloghan, Westmeath	133 XIV 1	100,121
Moore	Ballina	122 I 1	100,116

There is an issue with the microfilmed copy of the three volume index set. It was microfilmed before the FHL started numbering every microfilm consecutively. Originally, the FHL would assign one number to a particular grouping of microfilms and then a "part number" within that series. In this instance, the number was 14448 and then a part number, for example 6. When the index was created, the FHL was still using the single microfilm number and part number system. Staff at the FHL later annotated the reference copy of the index with the updated microfilm numbers, but not before the three volume index had been microfilmed on FHL 255,494. You may still use this microfilm to see if there are pedigrees of interest for your surname and/or area of research. Each volume is alphabetically arranged, A-Z, so be sure to examine all three.

The collection may also be used by researching each of the pedigrees for a specific locality. A number of collateral names mentioned in the pedigrees are not indexed in the three volume set. Given that many of the Church of Ireland registers were destroyed, the birth, marriage, and death evidence found in these pedigrees may be the only record left of that event.

The staff at the FHL is currently determining how they can make the updated information on the microfilms available to distance users of the collection. Information on how this issue has been addressed will be posted in the FamilySearch Wiki at <www.familysearch.org>.

MSS. 277 (FHL microfilm 100,194, item 1)
Genealogical notes on the decent of Irish peerages compiled by William Betham. This collection is representative of many of the collections with linear pedigrees and coats of arms where they had been awarded to the gentry.

MSS. 278 (FHL microfilm 100,137, item 1)
Pedigrees compiled by William Betham, with additions by George Dames Burtchaell; includes some sketches of Coats of Arms and abstracts of inquisitions mainly relating to County Kerry.

MSS. 279 (FHL microfilm 100,137, item 2)
Index to Dublin Diocesan wills circa 1570-1775 which was subsequently printed in the Appendix to the Deputy Keeper Report No. 26. Also contains pedigrees of Anglo-Irish families compiled by Sir William Betham and copies of pedigrees of Wexford families compiled by J. H. Glascott circa 1870, indexed.

MSS. 292-298 (FHL microfilms 100,129-100,131) This is the Second Series of Red Books compiled by William Betham similar in content to the First Series noted above. The series begins with a narrative history of Richard Wesley, Baron of Mornington, County Meath and continues with some fine examples of extracts from tombstone memorials and family papers. While the

First Series of William Betham's Red Books are primarily draft pedigrees, the Second Series is predominantly in narrative form.

G.O. Mss. 292-294 (FHL microfilm 100,129) Among other pedigrees and narratives, manuscript 294 contains a copy on velum of a "List of the Mayors, Bailiffs, & Sheriffs of the City of Limerick of the name and Family of Harrold since the year of our Lord 1418." The list ends in 1689 and was made in 1765.

G. O. Mss. 295-298 (FHL microfilm 100,130-1) It is always refreshing to find complete copies of wills and this set of manuscripts has a number of them. For example: John Allen of Allenscorte, Knighte late Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

Mss. 295 has three fine examples of depositions swearing testimony concerning a Read pedigree that was later deemed a fraud by the office of the Ulster King of Arms. However, the depositions, all taken in 1810, identify three elderly residents to wit:

1) James Lee of Leeville, County Galway, Gent., aged 96 years
2) John Maley of Killaloe, County Clare, Farmer, aged 98 years
3) Patk. Mullony of Scariff, County Clare, Gent., aged 97 years

Mss. 296 contains a fine example of the Letters Patent dated the thirteenth day in the sixth year of the Reign of King James the first…granted to William Brounker, Esqr… in the Counties of Monaghan, Fermanagh and Cavan. Research on the Brounker (Brunker) family has shown that this is the origin of that name in Ireland.

MSS. 352 (not microfilmed) Address book of contacts of Sir William Betham compiled circa 1825.

MSS.353;357-360 (not microfilmed) Diary of business done in the Ulster's Office for the years 1777-1799 with a cash account kept by William Betham for the years 1807-1809, and 1809-1853. This opens an intriguing window into the workings of the Ulster King of Arms office and the expenses/income generated by service.

MSS. 361-378 (not microfilmed) Sir William Betham's copy letter books, volumes 1-19 of outgoing correspondence from the Ulster's Office for the years 1789-1794; 1803-1814; and 1816-1853, most of which was crafted by Betham and/or his associates. This set corresponds to Mss. 580-604A below which was the incoming correspondence. The arrangement of this collection did not make it ideal for microfilming when the other collections were imaged in 1949.

MSS. 482 (not microfilmed) Letters to Sir William Betham and James Rock (Betham's expert assistant) is concerning the Athenry Peerage Claim for the time period 1821-1825.

MSS. 580-604A (FHL microfilms 257,794-257,805) This is a massive collection of over 12,000 pieces of correspondence received by Sir William Betham for the years 1810-1830 containing over 35,000 surnames. They are arranged in alphabetical order with an index to each volume. The last of these manuscripts, Mss. 604A, contains a calendar to the collection.

The printed description at the beginning states:

Important Collection of Mss.
An enormous body of original correspondence addressed to him by eminent men of the day (chiefly Irish notabilities) on Genealogical and Antiquarian subjects, upwards of 4,000 original autograph letters, arranged in alphabetical order and bound in 25 volumes.

"Includes letters from members of the following families: Alen, Alexander, Ambrose, Archer, Lord Athenry, Bermingham, Bonar, Betham, Browne, Chambers, Cherwood, Cockburn, Crompton, Croker, Carbery, Cathrine, Crampton, Cullen, Davis, Dillon, Dollier, Domville, Dyer, Dyneley, Disney, Fitzgerald, Goold, Grace, Gregory, Hill, Hull, Hamilton, Heron, Hussey, Jephson, Kavanagh, Kiltarton, Lambert, Lawson, Lillie, Lindsay, Longford, Lyster, Maguire, Mahon, Mason, Micnchin, Morris, Murphy, Molyneux, Moore, Morley, Mosgrave, Montmorency, Nagle, O'Conor, O'Ferrall, O'Reilley, Ormont, Patrickson, Percy, Phillimore, Playfair, Reynolds, Rochfort, Rowan, Scott, Shawe, Skeffington, St. George, Talbot, Townsend, Tunnicliffe, Turner, Walker, Warner, Young, etc."

257,794 Surnames A
257,795 Surnames B-C
257,796 Surnames D-G
257,797 Surnames H-L
257,798 Surnames M-N
257,799 Surnames O-P
257,800 Surnames Morris-Montgomery, the microfilm title board incorrectly indicates N-O
257,801 Surnames C-O-P-Q
257,802 Surnames O-R
257,803 Surnames C-K-M and O-R
257,804 Surnames V-W
257,805 Surnames S-Y

MSS. 632 (FHL microfilm 100,155, item 2) This contains a typescript pedigree of the early family of O'Reilly and was transcribed by Sir William Betham. The pedigree appears to be a compilation of several efforts to document the family from the early period to the eighteenth century. There are also pedigrees of the family of O'Malley, Lords of Borrishoole, County Mayo.

MSS. 638 (FHL microfilm 100,155, item 5) A brief set of pedigrees collected by William Betham of various Irish families. This manuscript appears to have come from the purchase by Betham of the Phillips sale in June 1938, part of Lot 297. The pedigrees are nicely drawn and contain copies of the coats of arms where appropriate.

MSS. 640 (FHL microfilm 100,155, item 6) This manuscript contains a wonderful copy of the Letters Patent appointing Sir William Betham as the Ulster King of

Arms and Principal Herald of Ireland dated 18 April 1820 followed by various pedigrees and correspondence from the Genealogical Office.

Conclusion

The Sir William Betham collection stands as one of the greatest genealogical collections assembled in the nineteenth century. There are so many valuable extracts and transcripts of documents that were subsequently destroyed in the Public Record Office in 1922 that a researcher can learn a wealth of Irish history, life and culture from the collection even if precise details to extend a specific pedigree are not found. Enjoy the experience and the beautiful examples in this collection.

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Transported Beyond the Seas

By Linda Miller

The judge his sentence then to me addressed
Which filled with agony my aching breast
"To Botany Bay you must be conveyed
For seven long years to be a Convict Maid."[1]

The fact that Australia was founded by convicts is something that holds a certain fascination for many of us. For the eighty years between1788 and 1850, Britain punished more than 162,000 Irish, Scottish and English convicts by transporting them to serve their sentences halfway around the world in New South Wales and Tasmania (Damien's Land). About a third of that group was Irish and fifteen per cent were women.[2] Not all records on transportation have survived, but estimates on the number of Irish women transported are in the several thousands. After the policy of transportation ended, the government destroyed many of the Australian convict records but, fortunately, many remain.[3] For more than a century, Australians tried to forget about their convict past, but recently, there has been a resurgence of interest in the history of the penal colonies and a newly found pride in the people who founded and built their country.

The British had a long-standing practice of transporting convicts. During the 17th and most of the 18th century, they banished convicts and other "undesirables" by transporting them to the West Indies and the American colonies, to be sold into servitude. By 1776, approximately 50,000 Irish, Scottish and English convicts had been left on America's shores and about 13,000 of them were Irish. When the American colonies won their independence from England, the British had to find another location for penal colonies.

Britain did not have a prison system, as such, because they didn't really need prisons. Over 200 crimes were punishable by death and those who weren't hung were simply transported. They found it an efficient system and often a permanent solution for eliminating undesirables from Britain. The English jails generally held those waiting to be hung and people serving very short sentences for very minor crimes.

Complicating the lack of a place to banish convicts, public sentiment was changing about the death penalty. People began to realize that hanging was too severe a punishment for petty crimes. They demanded change and the government responded by replacing most hanging offenses with sentences of transportation. The result was an increase in the number of convicts to be transported and nowhere to send them. Only those convicted of the most serious offenses, which included rape, murder, treason, robbery, theft of items worth more than a shilling, impersonating an Egyptian and other serious crimes, were hung. Impersonating an Egyptian[5] had to do with gypsies. In eighteenth century Britain, gypsies were thought to have originated in Egypt. Anyone who dressed like a gypsy or engaged in certain forms of deception associated with gypsies, such as palm reading, was "impersonating an Egyptian." The rest – petty thieves and pickpockets, Irish and Scottish rebels, disorderly persons, those who had tried to start a union, who were absent from their job without permission, who were drunks, who suggested that politicians get paid, or who stole fish from a river or pond – were transported "beyond the sea".[6]

The 18th century was a time of enormous social change. The Industrial Revolution brought prosperity to Britain but it also brought increasing crime. The cities were flooded with people from the country who came to work long hours for low pay in the new factories. Even children, beginning at age six, worked in the factories. It was a time

Death by Hanging

For about 200 crimes, the penalty in late 18th-century Britain was death by hanging. Many convicted of these crimes had their sentence commuted to transportation to Botany Bay.

Some of the crimes were:

- inciting rioters to pull down a dwelling house
- returning from transportation or being at large in England before the expiration of the term of transportation
- stealing horses (geldings or mares)
- concealing the birth of a bastard, by drowning or secretly burying thereof
- forging any lottery ticket, or uttering, selling or disposing of any such false ticket
- cutting down or destroying any trees planted in an avenue or growing in any garden, orchard or plantation
- abducting an heiress
- visiting France or any country occupied by France during the course of any war with France
- opposing the reading of the riot act at any meeting of 12 or more people
- being a bankrupt and attempting to conceal the fact
- impersonating an Egyptian
- committing piracy on the high seas
- setting fire to one's own house
- theft of goods valued at 40 shillings or more
- being a ship's master and concealing that one's ship has come from an infected place or has infection on board.

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"Prisons Without Walls," National Museum of Australia Canberra, <http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/horizons/prisons_without_walls/>

when desperate people struggled to feed their families; children became orphans or were left to fend for themselves. Crime surged and the issue of where to transport convicts became an urgent problem for Britain.

Captain Cook came to the rescue. In the early 1600s, the Dutch had explored the area around what became Australia but, because it was far from civilization and viewed as not hospitable to agriculture, no one seemed interested in settling it. In 1770, Captain Cook took a closer look. Some of what he saw reminded him of Wales so he named it New South Wales and established claims to it for Britain. The British government established a convict colony there not only as a crime deterrent but also as a more severe punishment, since the land was undeveloped and far from the British Isles. The average convict had never been more than thirty miles from home; the prospect of transportation to an undeveloped country, halfway around the world, would surely instill great fear and be a powerful deterrent to crime.

The first British fleet of eleven ships, carrying about 700 convicts, their children, 252 marines and their families, arrived in New South Wales in January 1788 after eight months at sea. Among the convicts in that first fleet was a 9 year-old boy who had stolen clothing and a pistol and an 82 year old woman who had been convicted of lying under oath.[7] Male convicts were usually repeat offenders but women were more likely to be transported for a first offense.[8] Unfortunately, there is not a complete list of the convicts from the first fleet. Women made up 25% of the early convicts transported to New South Wales.[9] Many of them were married; often, their children accompanied them so that they did not have to be sent to orphanages back home. There was no documentation in the official records of the children who traveled on the convict ships as having been on board or having arrived in New South Wales. Needless to say, these journeys were dangerous and some didn't survive. The first fleet lost only 23 people on the voyage but in future years the death toll rose from disease or shipwreck. In 1835, for example, a convict ship (*The Neva*), carrying 240 Irish women and children from County Cork, went down near King Island. No one survived.

The first fleet to arrive in New South Wales found a completely undeveloped island where no preparations had been made for the arriving prisoners and crew-members. There were no settlements of any sort. The 300,000 inhabitants of the country were nomadic aboriginals. Those first arrivals nearly starved to death in the two years before the next ships arrived. On June 3, 1790, the first ship of the Second Fleet, the *Lady Juliana,* arrived with 225 female convicts. The *Lady Juliana* was followed on June 20 by the *Justinian,* which brought the much needed provisions.

By 1804, women convicts began living at "female factories," the equivalent of a prison workhouse. The first one was a rough log building, at Parramatta. All female convicts went to the Factory upon arrival in New South Wales except those already assigned as servants. Women who had children kept them at the factory until the orphanages were established. Then, children over the age of four were taken from their mothers.[10] Most of the female convicts were eventually assigned as household servants, a more preferable circumstance to staying at the female factory.

Convict Women

The women were viewed as 'beyond redemption' belonging to a 'criminal class' yet this is not reflected in the crimes for which they were transported with 91.2% charged and sentenced for theft. Nor can a case be made in identifying them as a criminal class with 65.3% having no prior convictions. Their major crime was poverty which was considered a reflection of their immoral character. The women were obliged to remain

until assigned, pardoned, granted a Ticket of Leave, or a Certificate of Freedom.[11]

Fire destroyed the Parramatta Female Factory twice; it was rebuilt both times. In 1821, a new building, designed for 300 women, replaced the former overcrowded and inadequate log building. By 1842, it housed more than 1200 women in the worst of conditions. All the convicts suffered harsh conditions and brutal treatment. The women were used and abused by male jailers, convicts, military and settlers. James Mitchell, a free settler and ex-missionary turned trader, wrote in1815, "Surely no common mortal could demand treatment so brutal. Heaven give their weary footsteps, their aching hearts to a better place of rest, for here there is none. During governorship of Major Foveaux, convicts both male and female, were held as slaves. Poor female convicts were treated shamefully. Governor King being mainly responsible."[12]

The convicts commonly received a "Ticket of Leave" before their sentence was completed. It allowed them to live and work outside the factory but confined them to a specified area nearby. They supported themselves, thus relieving the government of the cost of their care. They could neither return to Ireland nor travel anywhere else until their sentences were completed.

Another way out of the factories for the women was to marry. When women married, they gained immediate freedom from their sentences. Many married convicts or settlers. Some of the "arrangements" were forced while some occurred by simply lining the women up for display for the men who wanted wives. Officially, marriage was encouraged: authorities believed that married convicts would contribute to a more stable society and it relieved pressure on the female factory budgets. Even those who had married in their home country could legally marry in New South Wales if they had been separated from their spouse for seven years or more. Divorce was not an option for most people until the late 1800s. Church of England clergy performed all convict marriages, no matter the religion of the bride and groom.

In the early 1800s, the population consisted of convicts and military personal. Australia wanted and needed free settlers and single women to balance the overwhelmingly male population. Although the first free settlers arrived in 1793, free immigration continued at a slow pace in spite of the British government offering land grants. A major impediment facing immigration was the expense of travel from Europe to Australia, which was more than those of modest means could afford. In 1831, the British government began incentives in the form of assisted immigration to encourage women and poor people in the British Isles to come to Australia. Assisted immigration continued throughout most of the nineteenth century.[13] When transportation ended in 1868, about 40 percent of Australia's English-speaking population was comprised of convicts.[14] Few convicts ever returned to Britain. They married, raised families, founded towns and helped build Australia. They provided the labor to build the infrastructure of the new country. They built roads, bridges, courthouses and hospitals and also worked for free settlers and small land holders.

While you may not have an ancestor who was transported to New South Wales, remember that the average convict had five siblings. One of the siblings may be your ancestor. Finding a sibling who was a convict may provide the information on the family that you've been missing. There is a wealth of information on the Internet for family history researchers about transportation to Australia.

Endnotes

1 "Convict Maid" from Australian Folk Songs, <http://folkstream.com/026.html>. The tune is based on "The

Resources for Researchers

- Claim A Convict <http://www.claimaconvict.net>.
- Contemporary Post Colonial and Post Imperial Literature in English http://www.postcolonialweb.org/australia/austwomen4.html
- Convict Creations <http://www.convictcreations.com/culture/facts.htm>
- Convict Central. <http://www.convictcentral.com>.
- "The First Fleet," Project Gutenberg Australia. <http://gutenberg.net.au/first-fleet.html>.
- National Museum of Australia Canberra <http://www.nma.gov.au/index.html>.
- New South Wales State Archives <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/resources-for/historians/convicts/convicts#letters-about-convicts>.
- Parramatta Female Factory <http://www.parragirls.org.au/female-factory.php>.

Croppy Boy," an Irish song from the 1788 rebellion, lyric author unknown.

2 "Convicts," *New South Wales Government*. <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/resources-for/historians/convicts>

3 Shergold, Christine."New South Wales Convict Records – 'Lost and Saved'" *New South Wales Government*. <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/resources-for/historians/convicts/new-south-wales-convict-records-lost-and-saved>.

4 James F. Cavanaugh. "In Memory of the Irish Victims of Slavery," *Gift of Ireland*. <http://www.giftofireland.com/IrishSlaves.htm>.

5 "Prisons Without Walls," *National Museum of Australia Canberra*, <http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/horizons/prisons_without_walls/> and R. Alergant,"Questions Answered," *The Times & The Sunday Times*, 2004, <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/article1009858.ece>.

6 "Unusual Australian Facts," *Convict Creations.com*. <http://www.convictcreations.com/culture/facts.htm>

7 "Botony Bay". *Triskelle*. <http://www.triskelle.eu/history/transportation.php?index=060.090.040.020>

8 "Convicts and the British Colonies in Australia," Culture and Recreation, *Australian Government*. <http://www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/convicts/>

9 "Families of Convicts," State Records. Convict Records, *New South Wales Government*. <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/resources-for/historians/convicts>

10 "Convicts and the British Colonies in Australia," Culture, *Australian Government*. <http://www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/convicts/>

11 "Parramatta Female Factory," <http://www.parragirls.org.au/female-factory.php>

12 Bass, Randall. "Convict Women and Sexual Subjugation in Nineteenth-Century Australia," *Contemporary Post Colonial and Post Imperial Literature in English* <http://www.postcolonialweb.org/australia/austwomen4.html>

13 Webb, Brad. "Irish Transportation to Australia," *Independent Australia*, October 26, 2010. <http://www.independentaustralia.net/2010/australian-history/irish-convict-transportation-to-australia/ >

14 *Convict Creations.com*. <http://www.convictcreations.com/culture/facts.htm>

Linda Miller is the past-president of IGSI. She volunteers as the bookstore manager, writes the IGSI blog 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.

PRONI Reopens at Titanic Quarter

On Wednesday, 30 March 2011, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) staff welcomed customers old and new to its new building at Titanic Quarter, Belfast.

It is a larger and state of the art building. Of interest to family historians with roots in Northern Ireland, the Public Search Room has doubled in size, with 52 computer desks, eight large format desks, and 22 microfilm readers - two of which are microfilm printers. The Reading Room provides for 78 seats (compared to 44 in the old building),

Check the PRONI website <www.proni.gov.uk/> for hours of service and the latest information.

Advanced Search Available on IFHF

The Irish Family History Foundation (IFHF) has added an advanced search feature to its All-Ireland searches, with the exception of counties Sligo and Limerick. This feature adds new fields to the search criteria for Birth/Baptism and Marriage records and changes the way to pay to view the full details of these records.

The additional fields in the Birth/Baptism search are the mother's first and/or surname. For Marriage records, the additional fields include the names of spouse and parents of the individual.

Be sure to read the information on payment as you must pay to view the entire set of results. To read more about this, check the website, <http://www.rootsireland.ie/>.

New to The Library

by Beth Mullinax

The following books have been added to the IGSI Library collection:

C135 Henchion, Richard. *Donoughmore and All Around. Donoughmore Graveyard Inscriptions. An Account of Mid-Cork Families over a period of 300 years.* County Cork, Ireland: Donoughmore Historical Society, 2010.

IE19 Vol. III Rich, Kevin J. *Irish Immigrants of the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank, Test Book Number One - Volume III, Accounts 7501-12482*. New York, NY: Kevin J. Rich, 2010.

H672 V.I McTernan, John C. *Sligo: The Light of Bygone Days. Vol. I Houses of Sligo & Associated Families*. Sligo, [Ireland]: Avena Publications, 2009. indexed.

H672 V.II McTernan, John C. *Sligo: The Light of Bygone Days, Vol. II. Sligo Families. Chronicles of Sixty Families Past & Present*. Sligo, [Ireland]: Avena Publications, 2009.

H673 O'Brien, Helen. *The Famine Clearance in Toomevra, County Tipperary*. Dublin, Ireland: Four Courts Press, 2010.

H676 – McGettigan, Darren. *The Donegal Plantation and the Tir Chonaill Irish, 1610-1710*. Dublin, Ireland: Four Courts Press, 2010.

H677 Cronin, Maura. *The Death of Fr. John Walsh at Kilgraney. Community tensions in pre-Famine Carlow*. Dublin, Ireland: Four Courts Press, 2010.

H678 Blake, *Tarquin. Abandoned Mansions of Ireland. Wilton, Cork, Ireland:* The Collins Press, 2010. [List of houses by county].

K141 V.1 Culkin, Harry M., ed. P*riests and Parishes of the Diocese of Brooklyn, 1820 to 1990*, Volume I. Brooklyn, NY: William Charles Printing Company, 1991.

K141 V. 2 Culkin, Harry M., ed. *Priests and Parishes of the Diocese of Brooklyn, 1820 to 1990*, Volume II. Brooklyn, NY: William Charles Printing Company, 1991.

K142 *Diocese of Brooklyn. Diocese of Immigrants: The Brooklyn Catholic Experience, 1853-2003*. Strasbourg, France: Editions du Signe, 2004.

Donations to the Library

by Beth Mullinax

We would like to thank the following members who provided donations to further the goals of IGSI. These members have donated materials to the library for other's use.

Gloria Brown, Bellevue, WA. *How to Trace Your Family Tree in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales*, by Kathy Chater.

Ronald Eustis, Savage, MN. *Cooper's Ireland: Drawings and Notes from an Eighteenth-Century Gentleman*, by Peter Harbison and
Modern Ireland 1600-1972, by R. F. Foster.

Ann Lamb, Issaquah, WA. "Kenmare Estates, Barony of Dunkerron, Co. Kerry, Ireland." Photocopies of various documents from these records beginning in the 17th century obtained in the search for the surnames Carney (Kearney) with Leahy, Magrath, Nagle, Murphy, Mahoney & Hore by Daniel Carney, Mercer Island, WA.

Thomas & Harriet Foley, Franklin, OH. *The Foleys from County Clare, Ireland*, by Thomas R. & Harriet E. Foley.

Donald F. McGavisk, Mendota Heights, MN. T*he Irish Brigade in the Civil War: The 69th NY and Other Irish Regiments of the Army of the Potomac*, by Joseph G. Bilby.

Thomas J. Moriarty, Evergreen Park, IL. *The Moriarty Family from James Moriarty* (1860 - 1939) and *Ellen [Fitzgerald] Moriarty (1865-1962)*, by Thomas J. Moriarty. *The Moriarty Clan Newsletter*, issues 49-75, along with a summary of issues 1-75.

Pat E. Payton, St. Louis, MO. *Killasser, a History*, edited by Bernard O'Hara.

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.

New Books at the IGSI Bookstore

Finding Your Irish Ancestors: Unique Aspects of Irish Genealogy

Brian Mitchell

This book is intended as a companion volume to the venerable *Pocket Guide*. Making use of the case study technique employed in the Pocket Guide, this new book expounds on topics that are not found in his earlier book and expands on others that are. (81 pp) Cost: $22.10

Genealogy at a Glance: Irish Genealogy Research

Brian Mitchell

This work is the inaugural publication in a new "how-to" series. Designed to cover the basic elements of genealogical research in just four pages, the "Genealogy at a Glance" series gives you as much useful information in the space allotted as you'll probably ever need. Compiled by respected authorities, each "Genealogy at a Glance" piece is a four-page distillation of the key ingredients in a given area of genealogical research. Each can be read at a glance and used with total confidence. (4 pp) Cost: $7.95

Find complete inventory of book store at www.irishgenealogical.org/irish_genealogical_book_catalog.asp

Price Alert

Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, Second Edition

John Grenham

This 2nd edition (replaced by the 3rd edition) of the important Irish genealogical research aid that combines informative text and reference source materials. (374 pp) Cost: $19.95 NOW $13.95

This is a deal you can not pass up. Limited quantities.

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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.**

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All items will be sent Priority Mail	

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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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❑ General ($30) ❑ International ($40) ❑ Electronic ($25)

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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.

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http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

April - June 2011
Irish Saturday Classes

April 9 (1-2:30 PM)
Preparing for a Research Trip to Ireland with Mary Wickersham
A guide to organizing and prioritizing your individual research needs. Get an overview of important repositories in Ireland with key information on accessing their information. Additional hints to maximizing your genealogical research opportunities.

May 14 (10-11:30 AM)
Irish Migration Patterns with Sheila Northrop
This study of events in Irish history puts into perspective the impetus felt by Irish citizens in various parts of the country that may have led to immigration to North America. We will explore each historic era and chart which social groups in which counties were most likely to immigrate to America during that time and the areas in which they most likely settled. This is an attempt to simplify a complex subject so that we can use the information to direct our family history research.

June 11 (1-2:30 PM)
Why is Griffith's Valuation Important and What Can it Tell Me? with Beth Vought
Is Griffith's Valuation still a mystery to you? Do you still wonder how it can be important to you in your ancestor search within Ireland? This class may give you some insight. We'll start with the basic concept of what Griffith's is, then go on to when it may be beneficial for you to use it, and what information you may get from it. We'll end with some hands-on use of the CD and also on the Internet.

2011 IGSI Education Calendar

All classes will be held at the MGS Library in South St. Paul.

- April 9, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) – Preparing for a Research Trip to Ireland with Mary Wickersham
- May 14, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) – Irish Migration Patterns with Sheila Northrop
- June 11, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) – Using Griffith's Valuation with Beth Vought
- July 9, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) – Locating Irish Church Records with Sheila Northrop
- August 13, 2011 – No Class - Join us at the Irish Fair!
- September 10, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) – DNA Testing to Prove Family Lineage with Dianne Plunkett
- October 15, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) – Halloween Special: Leprechauns, Banshees & Fairies – Date and Subject Tentative – Instructor and Location TBD
- November 12, 2011 (1-2:30 PM) – TBD
- December 10, 2011 - No Class – Happy Holidays!

British Isles Family History Days
April 29-30, 2011

The season's special event is nearly here! On April 29-30, the British Isles Family History Days, sponsored by the Irish Genealogical Society International and the Minnesota Genealogical Society, provide a unique opportunity for Irish family historians. Join researchers of English, Scottish and Welsh ancestry at Hennepin Technical College, 13100 College View Drive, Eden Prairie, to learn more about genealogical research techniques and sources.

British Isles Family History Days consist of three events: a bus tour of Minneapolis' historic Lakewood Cemetery (afternoon of Friday, April 29), a reception and lecture featuring David E. Rencher, of FamilySearch, (evening of Friday, April 29), and an all-day conference on Saturday, April 30. Saturday's conference also includes an exhibit hall.

Speakers and Topics

David E. Rencher, Chief Genealogical Officer for the largest genealogy organization in the world, is arguably North America's leading expert in the genealogy of the British Isles. He has traced his family's roots from the United States back to Ireland and Scotland. Rencher says that genealogy and family history give people a "sense of identity, who they are and where they came from."

Join us for a dessert reception on Friday evening with David Rencher. His topic will be "The Sun Never Sets on the Data Empire." At plenary sessions on Saturday Rencher addresses "Framing the Problem for Overseas Research" and "Interpreting and Evaluating Name Lists."

The Saturday breakout sessions include talks by Minnesota genealogists and researchers, including some of our favorite Irish class instructors. Tom Rice will provide three lectures on Scottish genealogical resources; Beth Mullinax will offer basic Irish research while Mary Wickersham and Sheila Northrop will share favorite Irish genealogy websites. Lois Mackin and Jay Fonkert will offer sessions on researching English ancestors; Alice Eichholz will provide a session on migration patterns from New England; John Schade will speak on researching Canadian fur traders; and Kay Gavin will speak on Welsh ancestry. This is your chance to get some background on ancestors who may be of Irish, English, Scottish or Welsh ancestry.

So much information available in one place on one weekend! And there's a bonus opportunity to join a bus tour of Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis on Friday afternoon. Join with others to celebrate and learn more about researching your ancestors at the British Isles Family History Days events.

Advance registration for British Isles Family History Days activities is available at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's website <http://www.mngs.org>.

Registration fees through April 22

- Bus tour: $26
- Friday evening (D. Rencher talk & dessert reception): $20
- Saturday conference (alone): $60
- Combined Friday evening/Saturday event: $70 (without lunch)
- Lunch on Saturday: $10

Charges from April 23 to the day of the event will be

- Bus tour: $30 (if space available)
- Friday evening (D. Rencher talk & dessert reception): $25
- Saturday conference (alone): $65
- Combined Friday evening/Saturday event: $80 (without lunch)
- Lunch on Saturday: $10

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.
1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

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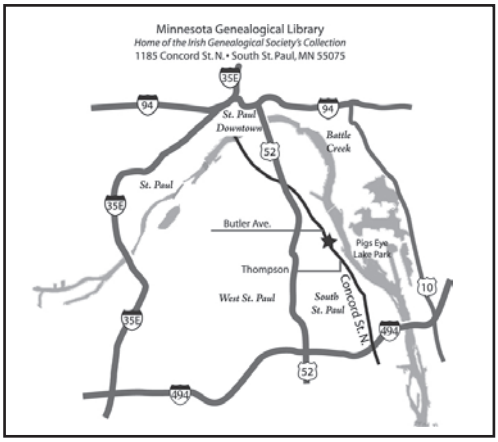
IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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.

Volume 32, Number 3

The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

Iúil (July) 2011

$10.00

Irish Resources on the Internet – Revisited

2010 - 2011 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JULY 9, 2011
AUGUST 13, 2011
SEPTEMBER 10, 2011
OCTOBER 8, 2011
NOVEMBER 12, 2011
DECEMBER 10, 2011
JANUARY 14, 2012
FEBRUARY 11 2012
MARCH 10, 2012
APRIL 14 2012
MAY 12, 2012
JUNE 9, 2012

(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 are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Printed in the USA

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2011

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An Active Society

by Ann Eccles

When I stop and take a look at what IGSI has done recently or has in the planning stages, I am amazed at how vibrant an organization this is. We've won an award for our journal; we've co-hosted a successful conference and are working with others on local Minnesota events. We are planning a trip and an upgraded to our website; we are coming into our own as an independent organization.

NGS Award

If you read the e-newsletter *Ginealas*, you know that IGSI received the National Genealogical Society's award for best major genealogical newsletter for *The Septs*. We are duly proud of this honor; it's the second time that we have received it. The credit goes to the team of editors who put this wonderful publication together and to the authors who contribute such excellent articles to the journal. Thank you to all who have been a part of this publication's success!

Minnesota Events

At the end of April, IGSI co-hosted the British Isles Family History Days with the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS). More than 100 people attended the activities and lectures on April 29-30 at which David Rencher was the keynote speaker. It was a successful first collaboration.

Another joint venture – an all-group booksale on Saturday, August 20 – will gather library discards and duplicates, donations of materials not needed in the library, history and travel books as well as other non-fiction from MGS, IGSI and other branches and affiliates at 1185 Concord. All for sale at bargain-basement prices. Minnesota members should stop by and check it out. You may find a book you have wanted but never located. Watch your emails for specific time and details in early August.

August is also Irish Fair time in St. Paul. This year's event will be held on Harriet Island on August 13-14. IGSI always has a booth there and we'll need a few extra hands to set up and staff the booth during the weekend. Again, watch for the email asking for helpers and times.

The Yankee Branch of MGS has invited our members to attend their quarterly meeting on Saturday, August 6, at 1:00 P.M. when Frances Stachour, DAR Minnesota State Regent, 2009-2011, will speak on DAR records.

Travels with IGSI

If it seems that a lot of events occur in Minnesota, it may be because of our location. But we do try to get out and about. In early June, Beth Mullinax spoke at a conference in northern Wisconsin and IGSI will be represented at the October meeting of the Brookings Area Genealogical Society of South Dakota.

No More a Branch

Thirty years or so ago, a group of Minnesota Genealogical Society members created an Irish branch of its members. As membership expanded beyond the state borders, the organization adopted the name of Irish Genealogical Society International. Currently, about one-third of our membership resides in Minnesota. The other two-thirds live across the country and across the globe. About 6% are from Canada, Australia, Ireland, and other countries. But in spite of the "international" in our name, we remained a branch of MGS – until June 1, 2011.

We began the process of changing our status from MGS "branch" to "affiliate" last year. We surveyed the IGSI membership and received over-whelming support for the change. We then applied for Minnesota State incorporation as a non-profit organization, Federal IRS approval under 501(c) (3), etc. The IGSI Board of Directors voted in April to separate from MGS effective May 31, 2011. The MGS Board approved this action at its May meeting.

How do these changes affect you as members? Not at all. As an affiliate of MGS, we continue our working relationship with them:

- The IGSI Library, Bookstore and office remain at 1185 Concord St. N. in South St. Paul.
- IGSI members continue to have free access to the MGS library and its resources – the large Irish collection, microfilm, CDs and all other materials in the library.
- Irish Saturdays continue on the second Saturday of the month with IGSI volunteers to help researchers.
- Donations to IGSI are still tax-deductible. (As a branch, our IRS status had been through MGS.)
- IGSI will continue to work with MGS groups on projects and activities of benefit to our members.

A major benefit of our new status is that it allows us to pursue grants in our own name rather than through the identity of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. Thanks to Linda Miller, 2010 IGSI President, for her vision and persistence in starting this process. It sometimes takes time to see the fruit of one's labors.

New Website

Everyone is awaiting the rollout of the new IGSI website. And it is coming. Diane Lovrencevic and Bob Zimmerman are working on its many pieces to pull them together. It will be well worth the wait.

Membership Rates

$30 -- General
$40 -- International
$25 -- Electronic

Many Ways to Research

by Ann Eccles

In this age of digitization, online databases and other computerized wonderworks, I've spent last week doing genealogy research the "old-fashioned" way. I was visiting town halls on the East coast searching the print indexes to handwritten records of the 1700s and 1800s (for a non-Irish ancestor). It could be tedious at times but I find it satisfying as well.

Much of my pre-trip research was spent online identifying the locations to visit, their resources, even some of their information. Census records from *Ancestry* identified the county and towns; state library and archives identified resources in their possession. *Findagrave.com* provided photos of a couple of headstones and the named the cemetery locations. Yet the documentation to support my research needed supplementation. Hence, the hands-on scrutiny of original sources and non-digitized records.

Don't misunderstand. I love sitting at home at 10:30 at night checking genealogy website leads and connections on my multiple Irish ancestral lines. But I'm also "old-school" enough to enjoy sitting in a town hall's vault reading papers that are 200-300 years in age. It is both awe-inspiring and amazing to literally hold pages of history. Among the information I found were land records and probate information on the family line I was searching.

In viewing the original documents, I realized that an online statement of the birth of one of my ancestors in the mid-1800s was true. H.M. Willis was born to Jesse and Lydia – yet raised (and recorded in the 1850 and 1860 censuses) as part of the family of a Jesse and Nancy Willis. No, it wasn't a second marriage because I also found the handwritten affidavit regarding the marriage of the "widow of Jesse Willis" to another man in 1850. So, what relation were the younger Jesse and Nancy to the deceased Jesse that they took in H.M. and his younger brother to raise with their other children? Well, I didn't find the answer; it's something to be researched more.

IGSI last published an issue of *The Septs* on Irish resources to be found on the Web in January 2008. Since that time, the amount of available online information for family historians and researchers has expanded and multiplied each year. We can't include everything in one issue, but we can provide some information and direction for your research.

We welcome Juliana Smith, who may be known to some members through her writings for *Ancestry.com*, to writing for *The Septs*. She describes the many Irish resources available on *Ancestry.com*. For those who are not subscribers of the International edition of *Ancestry*, many public and genealogical society libraries subscribe to the Library edition which include these databases. Evva Housley provides step-by-step instructions to find Irish Civil registration information on the updated *FamilySearch.org* website and related microfilm numbers through the Family History Library catalog. Her search tips are very helpful.

Dwight Radford offers direction to finding and using the *FamilySearch* microfilm collections of Landed Estate Records as well as locating the records online at the new *findmypast Ireland*. This again leads one from contemporary research at home to a more "old-style" search of microfilms for additional data. David Rencher provides basic information on using resources to be found in law libraries that can enhance family history research. His list of Published Nominate Reports that accompanies the article indicates which reports can be found as Google Books, at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, or at the King's Inn Library, in Dublin.

Mary Wickersham explains the use of mail lists; Kathleen Strickland shares information about blogs, and genealogical blogs in particular. Jay Fonkert reminds us to be researchers, not merely copiers of information, for research will lead to a deeper understanding of family, place and time. Judith Eccles Wight identifies resources for researching County Kerry ancestors. She mentions a couple of books and the County Kerry Library website as particularly helpful.

Wherever or however you decide to research this summer, there is information in this issue to help you. Get online and explore some of the many resources mentioned. Keep up-to-date by subscribing and reading blogs or mail lists. Visit Salt Lake City or your local Family History Branch to view some of the microfilms mentioned in the issue. Or take a trip and visit the origins of your ancestors – in the United States, in Ireland, or elsewhere. May you be successful in whatever you do – but take a few minutes and explore the options!

Happy Reading.

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Finding Your Irish Story Online

by Juliana Smith

The Internet has forever changed the way family historians go about research. With one search you can now search over 6 billion records in more than 30,000 collections on *Ancestry.com* alone. Ranked by relevance or summarized by category, you can then go through the results and with a few more clicks attach the records you've found to an online tree.

While the availability of so many records online and tools that quickly assimilate them into family trees are terrific in terms of efficiency, it sometimes allows us to go a little too fast and miss what the records have to tell us.

Our family history is not just that pedigree chart on the screen, but a series of stories in which our ancestors are the stars. The records provide the storyline. We have to take the time to savor the details in them and glean every clue to build a robust family history.

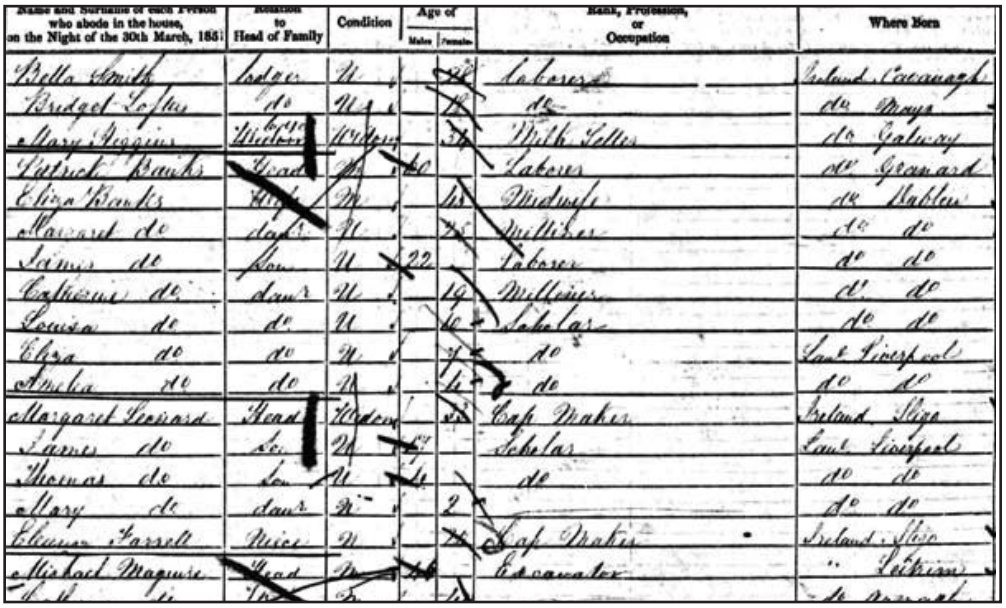
Fortunately, there are many rich collections that can help us as we seek out the stories of our Irish ancestors. Even records that at first glance may seem sparse in detail can hold compelling stories that can inspire and engage even the most disinterested family members. We just have to look at the records and read them with the eyes of a family historian.

Preparation is Key

Before you start seeking out your ancestor's immigration records and records in Ireland, it's important to learn as much about the family as possible. Irish family history research can be challenging, with common surnames that often morph into variations throughout the years. Add to that a rather "loose" attitude about reporting birth dates and it's easy to see why the faint of heart might find Irish research a bit daunting. Knowing the names and ages of all the members of the household, as well as extended family, will help you to identify your people.

Wherever your Irish ancestors landed to put down new roots, his or her home in their "new world" is the place you need to start. While the identification of an ancestor from Ireland might tempt you to cross the ocean, channel or sea, without sufficient background information that will help you identify your ancestor in the old country, it's easy to be completely overwhelmed and waste precious time and money.

Use core collections like census and vital records to thoroughly research not only direct ancestors, but extended family and associates as well. A good working knowledge of the immediate family structure and the names of extended family, neighbors and associates is helpful in distinguishing your James Kelly from the many others. Census records can be especially helpful in this aspect. Use dates and places of birth to zero in on the time frame in which the family emigrated. If your immigrant ancestor was alive and living in the U.S. at the time of the 1900, 1910, 1920 or 1930 census, those enumerations asked for the year of immigration.



Graphic 1 - Howard Street, Liverpool, England (Ecclesiastical District of St. Bartholomew), image 21 on Ancestry.com. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

Vital Records

Death and death-related records can be wonderful resources when it comes to determining a family member's place of origin in Ireland. While there are many indexes to vital records available online, increasingly we are seeing the actual records online.

Obituaries and cemetery records may also include that all important detail. *Ancestry.com* is home to a large collection of historical newspapers, and there are a number of free newspaper archives online as well. For example, the Brooklyn Public Library has posted a searchable archive of the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* online for the years 1841-1902. Cemetery websites like *Findagrave.com* bring together user-compiled records that can

include biographical details, photographs, and tributes.

Census Records

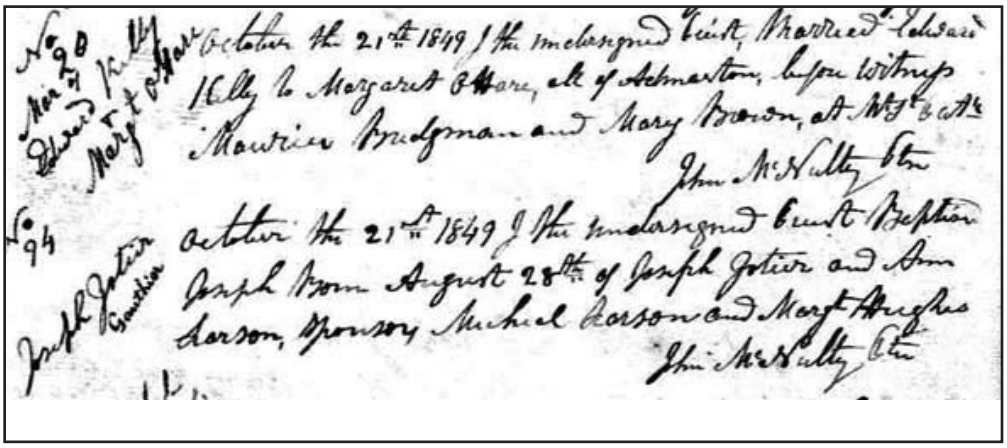
Ancestry.com collections include census images and indexes for the U.S. (1790-1930), Canada (1851-1916), England (1841-1901 and summary books for 1911), and Wales (1841-1901 and summary books for 1911), and an index to Scottish censuses (1841-1901). Ready access to these records allows us to use cluster research techniques to expand on what we know about extended family, godparents, witnesses, neighbors and other associates of our ancestors. While most census records will only include the country of origin for Irish immigrants, there are exceptions, particularly in UK Census records. '(See Graphic 1 on page 110 from the 1851 Census of England for Liverpool.)

Church Records

Liverpool was sporting a large Irish population even before the potato famine began driving many more starving immigrants to its port in the mid-1840s. Some stayed in Liverpool, while others moved on to other industrial cities in England seeking work. Many ended up moving on to America and other destinations. Before moving on though, some of these immigrants had children, met and married spouses and, during the famine years in particular, saw family members die. These events are a part of the family story and often they were recorded in religious records.

Ancestry.com recently posted records of Liverpool Catholic and Church of England baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials. Baptism and confirmation records can be particularly helpful in identifying extended family since relatives are often named as godparents or sponsors. Searching the baptism records by surname, also specifying the parish and adding the parents' first names can help fill in the family structure by pulling up the records of your ancestor's siblings. (Be aware that some of those siblings may have died young, particularly during and just after the famine years when so many Irish had fled to Liverpool and typhus and cholera took a horrible toll.)

If your Irish ancestors were in Canada, you may find them in the predominantly French-Canadian Drouin Collection. (See Graphic 2) While most entries don't list a place of origin in Ireland, it's still a good place to uncover extended family and associates who are listed as godparents on baptismal records or as witnesses to a marriage.



Graphic 2 - Drouin Collection records, Mont St. Patrick, Ontario, Canada, 1849. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

Military Records

Military records can be helpful in identifying the town or county of origin in Ireland. If you have a male immigrant in your family who was born between 1872 and 1900, search the World War I Draft Registration Cards and you may find this important piece of information.

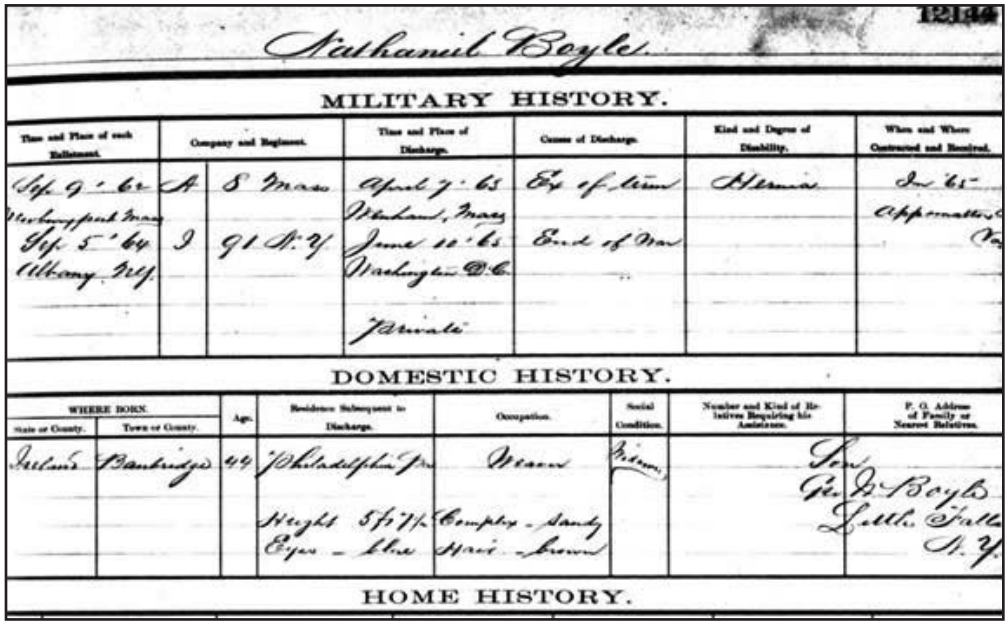
Military pension files may include an immigrant's place of origin in Ireland, as well as details about immediate and extended family. Sworn affidavits are often part of the pension package as family members testified to relationships and other statements made in the pension application. *Ancestry.com* has Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900 and *Footnote.com* has some Civil War Widows' Pension Files.

Among the more unique collections of military records on *Ancestry.com* is the database of records from the U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938. (See Graphic 3 on page 112.) The National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers were created following the Civil War. The purpose of these homes was to provide a place for disabled American soldiers and sailors to live. Admission to a home was voluntary and soldiers could request which home they wanted to live in. Since admission was voluntary, soldiers could also choose when they wanted to leave, both temporarily and permanently. For Irish immigrants, these records may include the town or county of origin, as well as the name and address of a relative, typically a parent, spouse or sibling.

New York Emigrant Savings Bank Records, 1850-1883

Beyond the core collections, be on the lookout for unique record collections like the records of the New York Emigrant Savings Bank, 1850-1883. Opened in 1850, the Emigrant Savings Bank was established by members of the Irish Emigrant Society following the huge wave of Irish immigration that resulted from the Irish Potato Famine.

To identify account holders, the bank asked for personal details that are pure gold to family historians. There are four kinds of records in this collection. Test books cover the years 1850-68. The information found in this set of records includes the date of the record, the name of the depositor, his account number, occupation, residence, and other remarks, which could include names of other family members, immigration information, or birth or residence information in Ireland. The 1859 record of my 4th great-grandfather (see Graphic 4, Emigrant Savings Bank, below) reveals that he was a native of Glackmore, Co. Donegal, and that he arrived at Halifax thirty years prior. His wife was dead at the time, but her name was Bridget McLoghlin and children were James, Mary, Jane and Elizabeth. Knowing the family structure was crucial to distinguishing my James Kelly among the other James Kellys in this collection.


Nathaniel Boyle.

MILITARY HISTORY.

Time and Place of each Enlistment.	Company and Regiment.		Time and Place of Discharge.	Cause of Discharge.	Kind and Degree of Disability.	When and Where Contracted and Received.
Sep 9 - 62 Washington Mass	A	8 Mass	April 7 - 63 Wenham, Mass	Exp of time	Hernia	Jan 63 - Approximately
Sep 5 - 64 Albany N.Y.	I	91 N.Y.	June 10 - 65 Washington D.C.	End of War		
			Private			

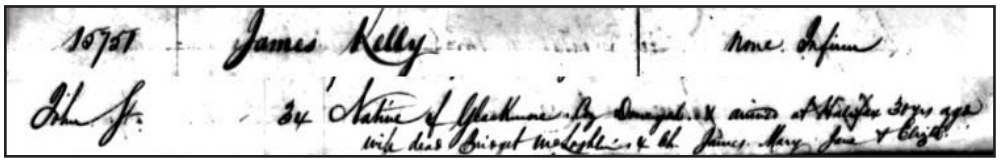
DOMESTIC HISTORY.

WHERE BORN. State or County.	Town or County.	Age.	Residence Subsequent to Discharge.	Occupation.	Social Condition.	Number and Kind of Relatives Requiring his Assistance.	P. O. Address of Family or Nearest Relatives.
Ireland	Bandridge	44	Philadelphia Pa	Weaver	Widow		Son Geo. D. Boyle Little Falls N.Y.
			Height 5 ft 7 in Eyes - blue	Complex - Sandy Hair - brown			

HOME HISTORY.

Graphic 3 - Portion of a record from the U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

Transfer, Signature, and Test Books existed from 1850-83 and were used primarily for recording changes made to an individual's account information. Examples of such a change could be a new signature, a change in address, or a change in the account holder. Information that may be found in this set of records includes the signature of the account holder, the date of the record, the account number, the individual's residence, occupation, year born, birthplace, and family relations. Deposit-Account Ledgers are arranged by account number and contain an account history for each individual, recording typical transactions such as deposits and withdrawals. The last record type is the Index Book, which is simply an index of all individuals recorded in the volumes, with the name and account number.


10757 James Kelly None Infirm

John St. 34 Native of Glackmore Co Donegal Ireland 30 yrs age wife dec Bridget McLoghlin children James Mary Jane & Elizb

Graphic 4 - James Kelly in the New York Emigrant Savings Bank records on Ancestry.com. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

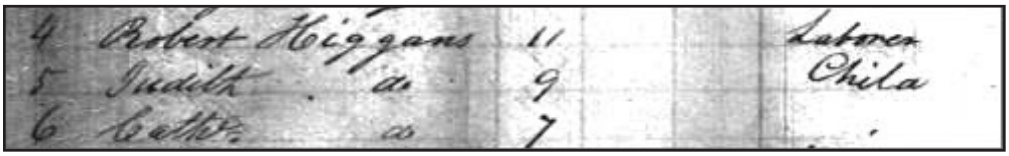
Passenger Ship Records

Passenger arrival records prior to the 20th century tend to get a bad rap because, at first glance, the details they contain seem a bit sparse when compared to their 20th century counterparts. But they are a major part of our immigrant ancestors' stories and, if you look a little closer, you may find a very compelling story.

I had located my great-great-grandparents, William and Mary Ann Huggins, on the passenger list of the *Ashburton*, 29 July 1844. Although I knew from census and other records that they had three children who had been born in Ireland, there was no sign of them on the list. A separate search found the three children on the manifest of the *Liverpool*, which arrived in New York 09 March 1849. (See Graphic 5 on page 113.)

Even to the casual eye, three children crossing the ocean without their parents (the eldest at age eleven listed as a laborer) is a story that leaps out at us. But when we look a little deeper, there is even more of a story in these records. Also listed on the same page of that manifest is Biddy Murtagh. A Biddy Murta is listed on Catherine Huggins' baptism in Ireland as a godparent. Although the Biddy on the ship's manifest was likely too young to be the godparent listed on the record, it's a coincidence that's hard to overlook. Beyond that, someone named John Walsh is listed as the godparent of another Huggins child born later in New York and that name is also found on the manifest. While more research is needed, it appears this is a group of immigrants all coming from the same area of Ireland, as was common.

Putting both manifests in the context of history, we see that William and Mary Ann left their three babies, ages two, four and six, in Ireland when they went to America and



Grophic 5 - The Huggins children on the Liverpool, from New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

before they could send for them, the famine struck in 1846.

Even the manifest heading adds to the tale. The *Liverpool* arrived in New York on March 9th. Since crossings at that time typically took at least a month, the passengers on board that ship were crossing the North Atlantic during February, which had to be very cold.

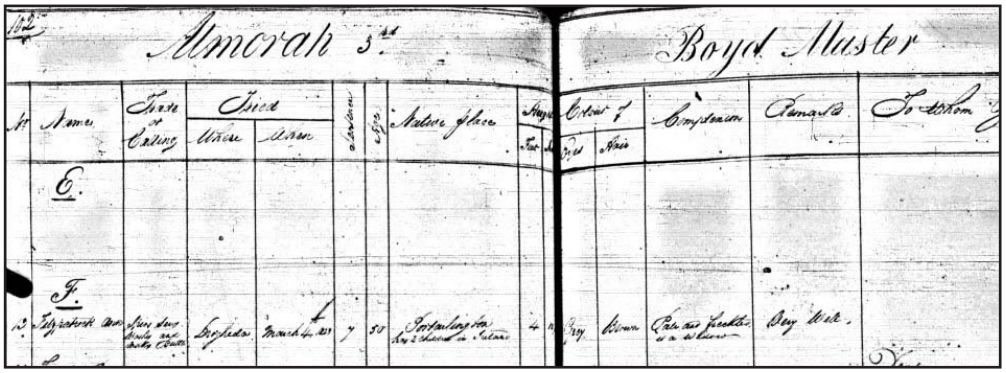
The statistics on the ship reveal that 37 of the 416 passengers on board the *Liverpool* died before reaching American shores—nearly 9 percent. One fellow passenger, eight-year-old Frances Tierney, arrived in America alone. He lost his mother, father and baby sister just days before reaching New York. For those who made it to America, these records are stories of survival and deserve to be more than just a date of arrival on a timeline.

Many more stories of the journeys our immigrant ancestors took can be found online today. The Immigration Collection on *Ancestry.com* includes indexes and images of passenger lists from New York, 1820-1957, as well as other major U.S. ports of entry. Also available on the site are Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865-1935, where you'll find many Irish immigrants to Canada, some of whom eventually made their way to the United States. (At certain times in history, travel to Canada was cheaper than directly to the U.S.) Beginning in 1895, the records of border crossings from Canada to the U.S. (often referred to as the "St. Albans' Lists") are online at *Ancestry.com*.

For some Irish men and women, immigration to a new land was not voluntary. In the database, Australia, List of Convicts with Particulars, 1788-1842, are sisters Ann and Mary Harvey, both tried in July of 1822 in Maryboro, Queens Co., Ireland. They are among the passengers on board the *Almorah* bound for Australia. While their crime is not listed, both were sentenced to seven years in the then penal colony. Ann's trade is listed as "sews, spins & knits" and her complexion was "fresh freckled." She had hazel eyes and dark brown hair, was 29 years old and had "one child with her and left three in Ireland." Under remarks, the record reveals she was "pretty quiet, unmarried."

online and searchable through the National Archives of Ireland.

In the absence of mid-19th century census records, researchers turn to Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland in an effort to locate family members during that time period and to see what property they owned or leased. James Reilly, in an online article "There's More to Griffith's Valuation than Names", provides information and the dates of the valuation for each county. The index to Griffith's Valuation has been available online on a number of websites, and some, like *AskAboutIreland.ie*, include images of the valuation. This past March *Ancestry.com* added images of the valuation to the existing index and linked Griffith's to the relevant *Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland, 1824-1846* for the locations in each record.



Graphic 6 - Portion of a page from the Australia, List of Convicts with Particulars, 1788-1842. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

Irish Records

So you've exhausted records in the places where your ancestor lived after emigrating from Ireland, have a good feel for family structure and know at least the county of origin in Ireland. What Irish-based records can be found online?

The only census returns available for all thirty-two counties in Ireland are the 1901 and 1911 censuses. These are now

Another link from each record in Griffith's Valuation on *Ancestry.com* will take you to a search for photographs of your ancestor's county from the Lawrence Collection, which includes some 40,000 glass-plate negatives taken between 1870 and 1910.

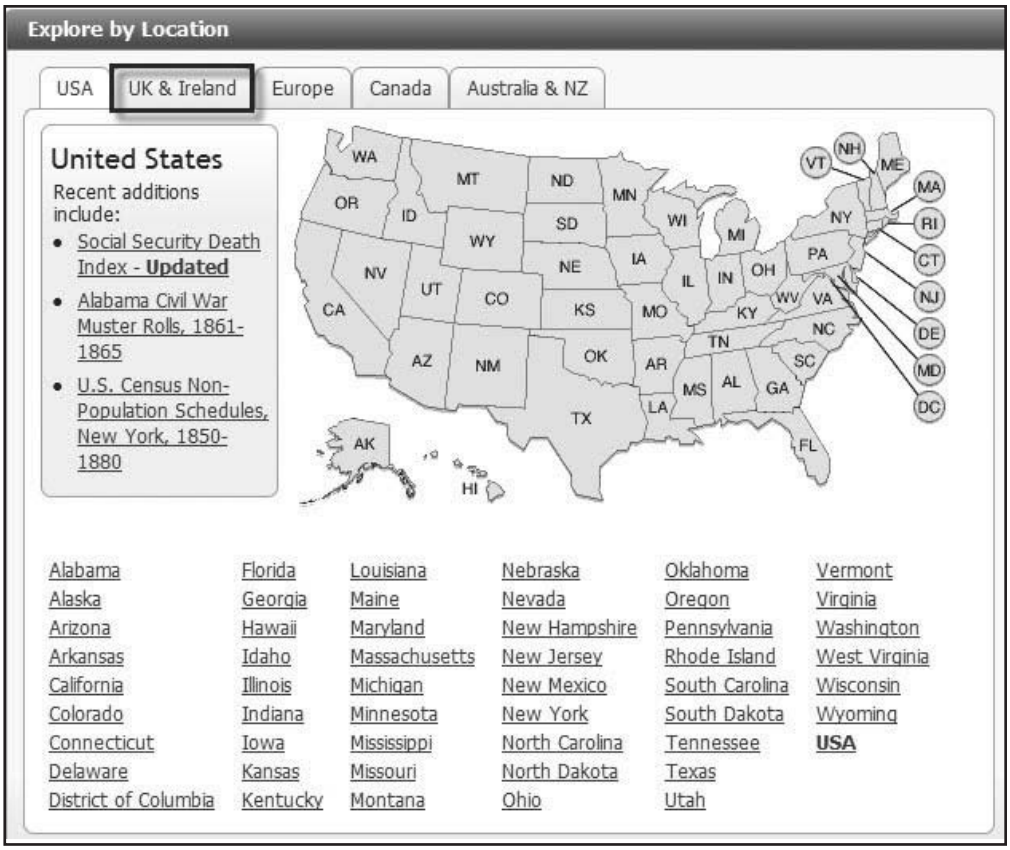
The results page from a search of Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland on *Ancestry.*

com offers links to the Ordnance Survey Maps and The Lawrence Collection.

Extracts from the Tithe Applotment Books, 1823-37, a unique land survey taken to determine the amount of tax payable by landholders to the Church of Ireland, are also available on *Ancestry.com*. The Tithe Applotment Books are not comprehensive and some parts of the country were not surveyed. Some parts of the country were exempt from paying tithe, among them glebe lands (land occupied by established clergymen), granges (land which in pre-Reformation times had belonged to a monastery) and all towns.

Civil registration for the marriages of non-Catholics in Ireland began in April 1845 and for the entire population in 1864. *FamilySearch.org* now has civil registration indexes online through 1958. With the registry district, volume, page and quarter found on these records you can then order the records from the General Register Office of Ireland.

Church records are significant resources in Irish research, and they're particularly critical prior to civil registration. *RootsIreland.ie* offers a pay-per-view service that includes extracts of parish records for many counties in Ireland. The free index search search shows the number of hits for the name, year and county, but for more details, the cost is €5. The additional details can include address, parish/district, exact date of Baptism or birth, denomination, parents' names and sometimes the father's occupation, and the names of sponsors.



Graphic 7 - Select a state from the map or a country from the tabs at the top to browse what collections are available on Ancestry.com by location. Graphic courtesy of Juliana Smith.

Exploring What's Available

The landscape of online research changes constantly as more collections are made available online. For that reason, it's important to know what is available. On *Ancestry.com* you can view collections by location by clicking on the Search tab in the top navigation bar and then selecting a location from the map in the lower left corner of the page. (See Graphic 7).

Additionally, you can search or filter through *Ancestry.com* using the Card Catalog. Similar to the way the card catalog at a library indexes the publications it holds, the Card Catalog on *Ancestry.com* is your guide to the individual collections on the site, some of which may not rank high in a search of the entire site, but may include your ancestors. Local histories and newspapers are good examples of this. Because of the way they're indexed, you'll get much better results searching them directly.

You can stay abreast of new collections through newsletters. *Ancestry.com* offers two free email newsletters—*The Ancestry Weekly Discovery* and the *Monthly Update*. You can sign up for both of these newsletters in the Learning Center. Just enter your email in the box in the column on the right and select the newsletter you'd like to receive. Beyond *Ancestry.com*, genealogical societies like the Irish Genealogical Society, Intl. and periodicals like this one are fantastic sources of information.

Webinars (online seminars that can be viewed over the computer) are another way to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to the latest resources and technology. *Ancestry.com* offers free webinars periodically and we have an archive of past presentations in the Learning Center.

While there is much to be researched in traditional settings and through correspondence, the Internet provides unprecedented access to many of the records our ancestors left behind. As family historians, the task at hand is to take advantage of this ready availability and preserve the stories of our Irish forebears so

that future generations can appreciate them as much as we do.

Irish Links

Ancestry.com Links

Historical Newspapers
http://search.ancestry.com/search/category.aspx?cat=149

Census Records on Ancestry.com
http://search.ancestry.com/search/default.aspx?cat=35

Lancashire County, England, Births, Marriages and Deaths
(Includes Liverpool Baptisms, Marriages and Burials)
http://search.ancestry.com/Places/UK/England/Lancashire/Default.aspx?category=34

Drouin Collection
(Canadian Church Records)
http://www.ancestry.com/drouin/

World War I Draft Registration Records
http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=6482

Australia, List of Convicts with Particulars, 1788-1842
http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1251

Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland
http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1269

Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland, 1824-1846
http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2192

Lawrence Collection, Photographs, 1870-1910
http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2191

Tithe Applotment Books, 1823-37
http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1270

Card Catalog
http://search.ancestry.com/search/CardCatalog.aspx

Learning Center
http://learn.ancestry.com/Home/HMLND.aspx

Ancestry.com free webinars
http://learn.ancestry.com/LearnMore/Webinars.aspx

Beyond Ancestry.com

***Brooklyn Daily Eagle* online**
http://eagle.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/

Find A Grave
http://www.findagrave.com/

Civil War Records on Footnote.com
http://go.footnote.com/civilwar/?iid=1010

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

There's More to Griffith's Valuation than Names
by James R. Reilly
http://www.deliapublications.com/More-2Griffith.htm

Ask about Ireland
http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/index.xml

Irish Civil Registrations (FamilySearch)
https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/list#page=1&countryId=1927084

General Register Office of Ireland
http://www.groireland.ie/apply_for_a_cert.htm

RootsIreland.ie
Irish Family History Foundation
http://www.rootsireland.ie/

Juliana Smith has been an editor of Ancestry newsletters for nearly thirteen years and is author of The Ancestry Family Historian's Address Book. *She wrote the "Computers and Technology" chapter in* The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy, rev. 3rd edition.

FGS Meeting in Springfield, Illinois

IGSI members interested in attending a national conference on genealogy can take in the FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies) conference in Springfield, IL, September 7-10, 2011. It is four days of genealogical talks by national speakers. Many sessions concentrate on Midwest research, with the Wednesday sessions dedicated to aspects on managing a successful society.

The Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) has organized a bus charter to travel from the Twin Cities to Springfield, leaving September 6 and returning September 11. Minnesota IGSI members are invited to travel along; the estimated cost is about $125 roundtrip.

MGS has also arranged for a block of rooms at the Mansion View Inn & Suites, 529 S. 4th St., Springfield, IL. Call the inn directly (217-544-7411) before August 30 for the MGS special deal.

Attending a national conference is a great experience for any family historian. It provides exposure to a variety of knowledgeable speakers and exhibits of genealogy-related products and services. Consider attending this conference. Full conference information at <http://www.fgs.org/ 2011 conference/>.

Caught in the Web: Be a Researcher, Not a Copier

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

Think about the three W's of the World-Wide-Web. It spans the world, its reach is wide, and it captures and links all kinds of jetsam and flotsam in its net.

If you are old enough, you may, like me, remember when the encyclopedia salesman came to the front door. His pitch to us was simple: everything you'd like to know about the world is contained in this one 26-volume set of books, all alphabetized for your convenience.

The Web drove the encyclopedia salesman out of business. The bookcase full of encyclopedia volumes that went instantly out-of-date is no match for the web-connected computer sitting on our desks. The web brings us almost anything we could possibly know, and some of the information is even accurate and reliable.

Apart from their vast difference in coverage, the difference between the encyclopedia and the Web is ease of publication. An editorial board solicited and vetted content for the encyclopedia. The Web makes everyone, including Aunt Matilda, the family historian, an editor and a publisher.

Encyclopedias were not without bias or error, but the Web is full of both. The Web places a higher burden than ever on the reader. The ease with which Aunt Matilda can publish her family history information on the Web intensifies our role as thinking, evaluating genealogists. The Web allows us to find in minutes what might have taken years in the past, but we still must ask the right questions, evaluate the answers, and weave the information together to accurately identify your ancestors and describe their lives.

Step back to 1983, near the dawn of personal computers and the full launch of the World Wide Web. In a classic book about genealogy as a field of study, Val D. Greenwood defined genealogy as a field of study concerning determination of family relationships. More importantly, he added: "This is not done by copying but rather by *research*." Research, he advised, is "an investigation aimed at the discovery and the interpretation of facts and also the revision of accepted theories in light of new facts."

I would have preferred that Greenwood used the word "information," instead of "facts," but his emphasis on the genealogist as interpreter is spot-on. The Internet brings us genealogical information at warp speed, which makes our role as interpreters of information more important than ever before.

Although the Web has accentuated our analytical responsibilities, the Web is truly a blessing for time-pressed and budget-limited genealogists. The Internet and the World Wide Web assist our genealogical research in at least three ways:

- The web is a vast virtual depository – or staging place – for an amazing wealth of genealogical information.
- Web-based search engines allow us to find more specific information faster than any library card catalog ever did.
- The Internet helps us find, and exchange information with, researchers who share our interests.

As David Rencher told us at a recent conference co-hosted by IGSI and the Minnesota Genealogical Society, the sun never sets on the genealogical data empire. The Web is open 24 hours every day, in every time zone of the world. "Casual business" attire is not required.

The Web as Depository. In the past, we had only libraries or archives as sources of information; now, the web brings millions of pages of information to us at home. But, it is important to remember that the information is on the web only because someone placed it there. That someone is often the same libraries or archives that hold the traditional physical collections. The web is an economical way to make books, documents and indexes available to researchers, and it saves wear and tear on fragile physical copies. Just a few examples suffice:

- FamilySearch <http://www.familysearch.org> is committed to making much of its huge collection of document images available online. Rather than wait three or four weeks for a microfilm to arrive at your local Family History Center, we are able to search collections and view documents at home.
- The National Archives and Records Administration <http://www.nara.gov>, which holds and protects millions of Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War pension files and other genealogically valuable documents, is partnering with Footnote.com to digitize documents and make them available over the web. Footnote.com is a fee-based service operated by iArchives, which serves to remind us that it costs money to make genealogical information free over the Internet. Footnote.com helps fund the costs of digitizing in exchange for a temporary license to provide the images to paying customers. After five years, the images return to NARA, which will make them available free to the public.
- The National Archives of Ireland is working to make Irish church records available on line. Ireland's Department of Tourism, Culture and Sport has started making

transcripts and some images of Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland records available free at <www.irishgenealogy.ie/index.html.> It seems the Irish have figured out that family history can generate tourism!

This is as good as it gets. We get to see photographic images of records preserved and catalogued by professional archivists. These kinds of organizations provide another important service: they provide full "meta-data" describing the origin and nature of the documents we are viewing so that we can properly evaluate the information they contain. Genealogy societies, GenWeb volunteers and individual family historians around the world are placing images of original records on the web, much to our delight. But, we must be a bit more careful about giving our full trust.

The Internet as Search Tool. The Internet transmits information fast, which makes it an ideal search tool. Do you remember the library card catalogs? You pulled out a single drawer (of dozens or hundreds, depending on the size of the library) and thumbed through one card at a time. You needed sharp eyes and a little luck. Computers have sharper eyes and can search entire catalogs almost instantly.

Think of *Google* as the card catalog of the Internet. Yes, it is o.k. to use *Google* for genealogy searching. Unlike the old card catalog, *Google* searches more than titles and authors; it searches for words and phrases within web documents. We can require specific words or phrases to occur in the document. For example, a search for a name as uncommon as "Fonkert" returns more hits than I can deal with. A search for "+Fonkert +Klaaswaal +genealogy" narrows my search to web pages that deal with the name Fonkert, genealogy and the South Holland town of Klaaswaal. I couldn't do that in the old card catalog!

I suggest you try a new search engine called *Mocavo* <http://www.mocavo.com>. *Mocavo* promises to return only hits dealing with genealogy. *Mocavo* is so new, that the jury is still out regarding its effectiveness. I tried a quick search for the name "Fawkner" – a somewhat uncommon variant of Faulkner or Faulconer. *Mocavo* returned more than 9,000 genealogy-related hits, placing many genealogy message board posts near the top.

Message Boards – The Internet as Information Broker. Some of our best sources are other researchers. The "greatest generation" plied phone books for surnames, wrote letters, and made expensive phone calls to people they hoped were distant cousins. It often worked – after ten years of waiting. Now, we hear back from those distant cousins in minutes, and we find other researchers we would never have found. There is nothing fancy about this kind of research, but it can bring us both genealogical information and lasting friends. Of course, we ask our new-found cousins and research collaborators about their sources. We do, don't we?

The Internet Is a Carrier, Not a Source

The Internet connects us to the billions of bits of information snagged in the World Wide Web. Like a cosmic transport service, carries streams of information in every direction at once at almost unimaginable speed. It is every genealogist's dream, but it is not a source.

Because the web is very democratic – almost anyone can make information available to the world at very low cost – we must be discriminating browsers and carefully evaluate the information the Internet brings us. We must keep our eyes focused on the source of the information, be it an original document, a book, a research report or even a photo of a gravestone. As careful researchers, we will think about the why the record was created, the reliability of the person who recorded the information, and whether we are dealing with an original or derivative version of the document.

We must evaluate the credibility of the institution or individual who placed information on the web. This is especially true of family trees or genealogies placed on the web by individuals. Does the author appear to be a careful genealogist? If the author did not provide source citations, we need be skeptical.

Because the Internet is so fast and easy, it can be like a giant gossip machine. Bad information can be copied and proliferated just as easily as good information. Remember what Greenwood said: good genealogy requires research, not copying. I second Greenwood's advice: If you don't know the provenance of what you find on the web, you must do real research to be certain of the facts.

And, when you get right down to it, real research is much more fun than copying.

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1 Val D. Greenwood, *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1893), p. 1.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is past 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.

Browsing in the Blogosphere

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

"Blog" is short for "web log," so called because the blog's creator—the blogger—logs in with new insights, thoughts, and discoveries to share with readers. Most blogs are tended regularly, like the daily log of a lighthouse keeper or ship's captain (think Captain Kirk and his *Stardate* log).

About a Blog

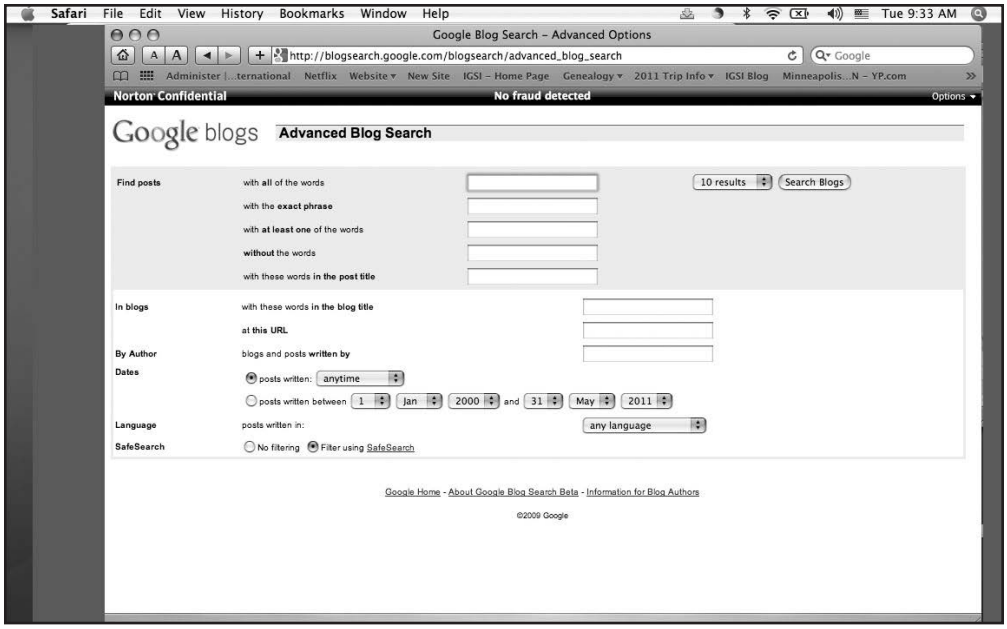
Websites mostly convey information uploaded as articles, listings, catalogs, and so forth. Blogs provide, according to blog publisher Wordpress.org, "…an ongoing chronicle of information." They publish news and opinions, and they encourage conversation through "comments." After each entry, readers may voice their thoughts to the writer—and to each other—in the comment box.

- An author who maintains a blog adds updates to his or her previous entries. The community of bloggers—folks who create a blog—makes up the "blogosphere." As of March 2011, there were 159 million public blogs, according to the Nielsen Company's "BlogPulse."

- Updates, known as "posts," appear in reverse chronological order. When you land on the blog page, you see the newest information first.

- The information on a blog will be very fresh if the writer is dedicated and posts regularly and often.

- Some blogs feature links to other blogs and websites. The linked sites generally relate to the topic of the one you are reading.



Blogsearch.google.com's advance search.

Blog Styles

Blogs abound for almost any purpose imaginable.

- A personal blog resembles a diary and concerns anything the author feels like sharing. Some are simple daily journals, or the description of a journey, or a self-improvement plan.

- Business and association blogs for employees and customers sometimes function as advertising vehicles.

- A genre blog might focus on a special interest in art, music, politics, travel, genealogy—almost anything that fascinates like-minded people.

- Different kinds media have their own blogs—for instance, one featuring videos is a video log or "vlog," and one featuring photos is a "photoblog."

Blog Search Engines

A blog search engine helps you find blogs that touch on your own interests.

- *Blogsearch.google.com* is my favorite general search engine. Use this to find blogs of every kind.

- Several blog search engines focus on genealogy, including *Genealogy Blog Finder*, *Mocavo*, and *GeneaBloggers*.

Blogging Ireland and the Irish

Following are examples of how to find what you want among Irish-related blogs:

- General search engine (*Google Search*, *Bing*).
    - I entered "Irish blogs" on *Google Search* and got 326,000 results. Ten blogs turned up on the first page, including a list of related searches such as "Irish political blogs" and "Irish pictures." An engine like *Google Search* or *Bing* brings together all blogs even remotely Irish.
    - Using *Google Search* again, I narrowed the terms to "Irish blog genealogy" and got more significant

results, including the Irish History and Genealogy blog at <irish-history-genealogy.blogspot.com> and Irish Family History blog at <irishfamilyhistory.ie/blog>

- Genealogy-centered blog finders, such as Genealogy Blog Finder, Mocavo.com and GeneaBloggers.com.

  - *Genealogue's Genealogy Blog Finder* <http://blogfinder.genealogue.com> lists categories of blogs, but not an Irish category. Enter "Irish" or "Ireland" in the search box to see blogs specific to those topics. To find relevant posts about surnames or places, check the posts option as well as the *directory* option under the box.

  - *Mocavo* <http://mocavo.com> is relatively new and claims to be the world's largest free genealogy search engine. It finds genealogy-related material all over the Web, including blogs and websites, and it searches only genealogy-related sites. Type "Irish blog" in the search box, and you'll be rewarded with more than 186,000 hits.

  - *GeneaBloggers.com* <http://www.GeneaBloggers.com>) searches for blogs with a genealogical slant and has an "Irish" subdivision under "Blogs by Type." An easy way to use this engine is to click on "Search all blogs" at the top of the homepage. Then, in the resulting search box, type in your term—I tried "Killybegs" and "Erskine" and got results for both.

Check Out These Blogs

So many blogs, so many topics, so many points of view…I present just a few.

- *Irish Family History: Irish family history and genealogy comments, tips, news and reviews.* Notice that the posts here are "of the moment." News items as I write this in May start with the May 5 announcement of new records coming online, followed by older posts about the new offices of Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) on March 29, and then on March 18, a breakdown of how the author used ship arrival lists to find an Australian ancestor.

- Many Irish blogs link to *Brophy's Irish Genealogy Blog,* <http://www.brophygen1.com>. Michael Brophy is a professional genealogist and heir searcher, and his blog also follows the latest genealogy news; he shares new websites, articles, books, and also links to his archived blogs.

- *Help! The Faery Folk Hid My Ancestors!* <http://irishfamilyresearch.blogspot.com/>, by family historian Deborah Large Fox, is another source of news in the world of Irish family research. Check out her extensive list of "Labels" linking to her earlier blog posts, including a couple featuring IGSI.

- For a single-family blog, check out *Nobles of Fermanagh, IRE and Northumberland, ON* at <http://nobility6.blogspot.com/>. Blogger John M. Noble talks about his Noble family research, and also links to the new Ireland Special Interest Group he chairs for the Ontario Genealogical Society (Canada).

- For an example of photos, see the collection at *Irish Family Photos Found: Collections from the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland,* <http://blog.myheritage.com/2011/01/irish-family-photos-found-collections-from-the-public-record-office-of-northern-ireland/>, from the MyHeritage Company.

- Try a blog in a travel context for beautiful photos at <http://blogs.ireland.com/thetravelblog/>.

- *Pue's Occurences* <http://puesoccurrences.com/> is an interesting collection of Irish history reflections and short interviews. Quite a few authors contribute posts, adding to the variety you find here.

A great way to keep up with the latest news in Irish genealogy, blogs also provide a peek into the thoughts of individual bloggers and provide a chance for all of us to "talk back" to the people who publish on the Internet. Blogs can be addictive and start you cruising the Internet for hours. You might even find a blog that speaks to your research passions and become a contributor—or a blogger—yourself.

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.

Using the Internet: Mail Lists

by Mary Wickersham

Genealogy mail lists are email groups you join in order to exchange emails with a relatively large group of people with similar interests.

The most prominent mail lists for genealogy are hosted at *Rootsweb* <http://www.rootsweb.com>. There are over 32,000 lists, grouped by geographic area (country, state/province, county), surname, or other interest. You must subscribe to a list in order to participate in its discussion. Search for a list by keyword at<http://bigfile.rootsweb>.

From: mnramsey-bounces@rootsweb.com on behalf of Dave and Maureen <nomosshere@ssctv.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2011 4:12 PM
To: MNRAMSEY@rootsweb.com
Subject: [MNRAMSEY] O'day/Partington

Mary Bridget O'Day, born in County Clare Ireland about 1845 came to Minnesota with her brothers Patrick and Thomas and Mother Mary Dillon in about 1851. They initially lived in San Francisco, Carver County, MN. Mary Bridget married someone named Partington. I haven't been able to find her with the name Partington. Any help would be appreciated.

Maureen Sausen

Lincoln, CA

To unsubscribe from the list, please send an email to MNRAMSEY-request@rootsweb.com with the word 'unsubscribe' without the quotes in the subject and the body of the message

Rootsweb Mail List message to the Ramsey County, Minnesota, Rootsweb list (MNRamsey; used with permission of its author)

Note that the subject line in this example includes MNRamsey, which makes it easy to spot incoming messages on a given topic. If you're busy, have your email software automatically sort them into a special folder to check later.

As with most groups, mail lists tend to have personalities. Some have a high traffic volume. You may find people on the list who will volunteer to dig up information from their files, or do census or other online searches for you. Other lists can be very quiet. I tend to "lurk" on a list, reading incoming messages, until I have a sense of the tone of participation.

Rootsweb has a searchable archive of past messages sent to their lists "from the beginning of ROOTS-L in 12 Dec 1987 to October 2006" at <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/search?aop?list=ROOTS>. If you find reference to a person you are researching, you can attempt to contact the person who submitted the information via the email address. Due to the age of the archived message, the email adress referenced could be obsolete, but at least you have a new lead, and you have a chance at locating the person who sent the email through use of other methods, such as *Ancestry.com* or *Facebook*.

Mail List Netiquette

- If the question posed is of general interest, reply to the email so your response is distributed to the list. But, if you find a cousin and need to exchange detailed information about your ancestors, take it "off-list": reply to their message publicly so the list knows a connection has been made, but send further messages directly to the cousin's email address (the email address given in "on behalf of").
- The subject line will be repeated as you reply to a message, so keep the subject line intact.
- Do not forward the full original message back to the list. You may want to include a snippet of the original message so readers know what part you're replying to. For the example, you could reply:

  "I have a Mary Partington in my family line in 1900 in St. Paul. She died in 1923. I have her death certificate and obituary. Please contact me off-list".
- If you are starting a new topic, use a new subject line. In the example, "O'Day/Partington" in the subject line allows those not interested in a subject line to quickly delete those messages.
- Keep your question short, to the point, and friendly.
- When the time arrives to remove yourself from a List, follow the unsubscribe instructions in an email footer to leave tactfully. There is no need to send an announcement of your departure to the entire List.

Further Information

For history about *Rootsweb*, check <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~socge/history.html>. *RootsWeb* started as a volunteer-only effort in the late 1980s. *Ancestry.com* began hosting the service when the operating expenses became too high.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is a current IGSI board member and past IGSI Officer. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

Irish Civil Registration on *FamilySearch.org*
Search Strategies and Tips

by Evva C. Housley, AG

Irish civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths is the most important source for tracing vital events of Irish ancestors in the 19th and 20th centuries. This government registration of births, deaths, and all marriages began on 1 January 1864. Registration of non-Catholic marriages began earlier on 1 April 1845.

When you have an ancestral event that falls within these dates, and when you know

- the name of your ancestor
- an approximate birth, marriage, or death date
- the county where the event took place
- parents' names or spouse's name

this source will help you find information on Irish ancestors the majority of the time. You may not even need to know the county, provided you know both spouses' names when searching for a marriage record or both parents' names (including the mother's maiden name) for a birth record.

The responsibility for registering a birth rested on the parents. There was a fee for registering a child's birth late, so it is quite common to find that many parents changed their child's birth date to avoid paying the fine. Therefore, never use the exact date of your ancestor's birth as a matching point in Irish civil birth records! There was also some non-compliance with the law, especially in the early years of civil registration, so sometimes you will not find a birth record for an ancestor. When this happens, you will want to try searching for a church baptismal record of the ancestor.

The responsibility for registering a marriage rested with the priest or registrar who performed the marriage. This means that most marriages were registered. It is fun to note that in this predominantly Catholic country, the most popular month to marry was February. Do you know why? A Catholic couple was not to marry during Lent. In Irish tradition, therefore, the time just before Lent was considered the luckiest time of the year to marry. You will notice the high percentage of marriages that occurred in the first quarter of the year.

Deaths were to be registered within a few days of the event, usually by someone who was present at the death. That person could be a family member, neighbor, physician, or sometime the head of a poor house. An Irish death certificate does not ask for the names of the parents of the deceased, as U.S. death certificates so often do. Sometimes the occupation on a child's death certificate is noted as "son of" and gives the father's name; or the occupation on a woman's death certificate is "wife of" and gives her husband's name. In many cases, the name of the informant on a death certificate may be your only clue to any family relationship. The townland of residence recorded on the certificate may also help in identification of the correct individual.

In January 2009 FamilySearch released the first searchable online indexes to Irish Civil Registration. You can find indexes from 1845-1958 on the website FamilySearch.org. (FamilySearch is the name of the family history arm of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Other names under FamilySearch are the Genealogical Society of Utah, and the Family History Library in Salt Lake City with its associated branch family history centers found throughout the world.) The following will help you understand the four indexes to civil registration on FamilySearch.org, and how to search each one.

The Databases

1. Go to *FamilySearch.org*
2. Under "Browse by location" click on "Europe" (See graphic 1 on next page)
3. Scroll down and select "Ireland" (See graphic 2 on next page)
4. You will see four databases. The first three are different from the fourth. The first three were created from actual civil registration *records*. The fourth was created from the civil registration *indexes*. Each database searches a little differently. Below are specifics on how to get the most out of each database. (See graphic 3 on next page)

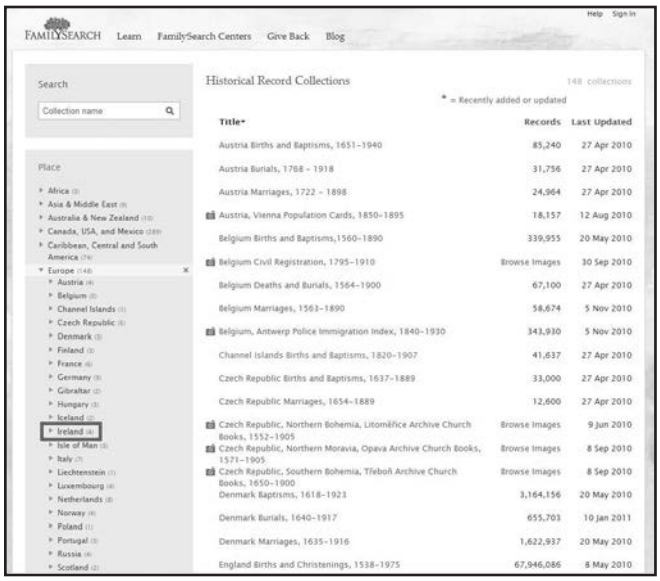
Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881

This database contains records extracted from actual civil birth registers and a few church baptismal registers held on microfilm by *FamilySearch*. Because the information is taken from the actual registers, the parents' names are given in this database as well as the child's name. In fact, if you click on "advanced search" you can search using the parents' names. The way the database searches currently, you will have more success in this database when you search the child's name in conjunction with his/her parents' names, rather than searching for the child's name with just a place and a date. (If you don't know the names of the parents and your ancestor was an immigrant, you may try getting a U.S. or Canadian death certificate, if you haven't already.)

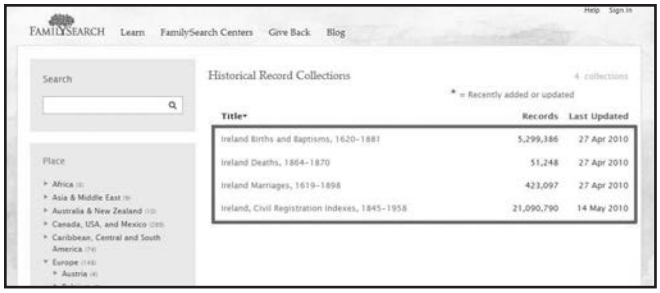
When you search by parents' names, you do not need to fill in the child's name. This will

Database Graphics From Previous Page

Graphic 1 - Browse location by continent.



Graphic 2 - Narrow location to Ireland.



Graphic 3 - Civil Registration Databases.

help you find previously unknown siblings of an ancestor. Be careful to always look at the original record and compare the townland and father's occupation to make sure it really is the same family, not just children who happen to have parents with the same names.

Remember that registration of births began 1 January 1864; even though the database has a few records back to 1620, you will not find a civil birth record until after 1863.

Ireland Deaths, 1864-1870

This database contains records extracted from actual civil death registers. This index covers fewer years than the birth and marriage indexes, and also is less complete for the years that it does cover.

Although an Irish death record may sometimes give a relationship, these fields have typically not been indexed, so using an "Advanced search" and putting in the spouse or father is less effective in this database.

Ireland Marriages, 1619-1898

Like the births database, this database contains records extracted from microfilm copies of actual civil marriage registers as well as a few church marriage registers. Because the information is taken from actual registers, this database shows the spouse's name and sometimes even the names of the fathers of the bride and groom. When searching this database you can do an "Advanced search" and enter the name of the spouse. Searching using the combination of both spouses' names is more effective, even if you only know the first name of the other spouse.

Remember that registration of non-Catholic marriages began in 1845, and registration of Catholic marriages began in 1864; even though the database has a few records back to 1619, you will not find a civil marriage record until after 1844 or 1863 depending on your ancestor's religion.

Search Steps for the Above Three Databases:

1. Select the database for the event you are searching (birth, death, or marriage).

2. If you know the names of the ancestor's parents, or the name of the spouse, select "Advanced Search."

3. Fill in the name of the ancestor whose event you are searching, a place (generally a county works best), and a year range when the event may have taken place. Please see the "Search tips" section below for more information about how to make your search successful.

4. Select the relationship, "Parents" or "Spouse," if known. This should bring up boxes where you can enter their names.

5. Enter parents' names or the spouse's name—even if you just know a first name or a woman's maiden name, this dramatically improves your search results.

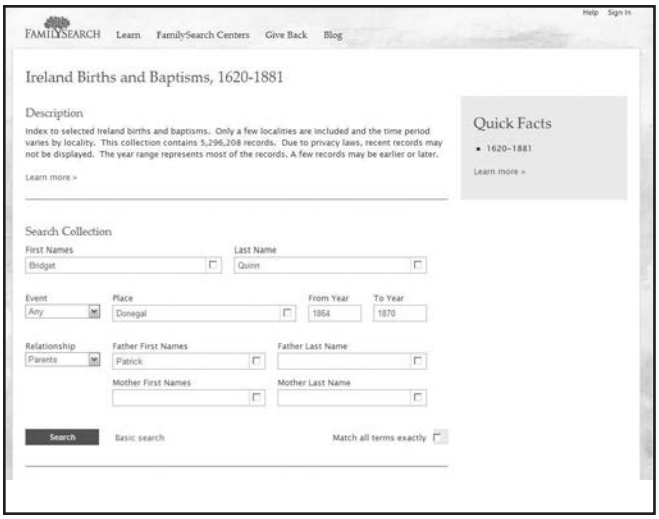
6. Leave the "Match all terms exactly" box un-ticked for your first search. See "Match all terms exactly" under the "Search Tips" section below.

7. Click "Search."

8. If you don't see your ancestor on the first page of results, go to the next pages of results. Currently the search function of these databases is not picking up places as well as it should.

9. To see more information, including the source, click on the name of the individual.

10. If you don't find your ancestor in one of these databases, try searching the fourth database, "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958," discussed in the section with that name below.



Graphic 4 - Search page for Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881.

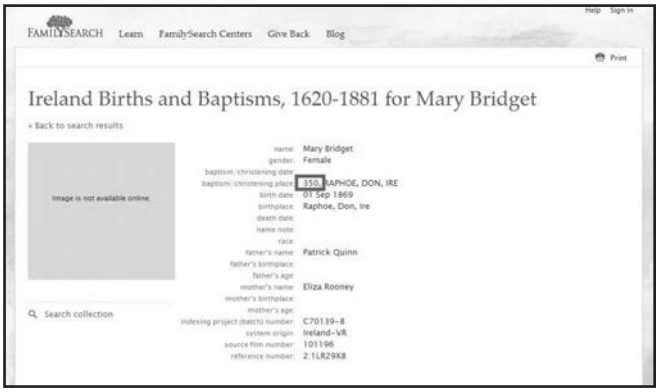
Source—Finding the Original Record

The information for the entries in these three databases has a "Source film number," which will lead you directly to a FamilySearch microfilm. There are often multiple entries within a database for the same person. Look carefully at all the entries—usually, at least one of the entries will give a volume and/or page number in addition to the source film number. The page number may appear as part of the "reference number" (see Graphic 5) or it may appear at the beginning of the "baptism/christening place," as in Graphic 6 below, page 350. [See graphic 5 & 6 at the top of next column]

You can order the source microfilm through your local family history center (go to FamilySearch.org to find a center near you). When you look at the microfilm, turn to the page indicated to see the entry for your ancestor. This is the exact information you would obtain if you

Finding The Original Record

Graphic 5 - Page number of original record is part of the reference number.



Graphic 6 - Page number of original record appears on line which gives baptism/christening place.

ordered a certificate from the General Register Office in Dublin or Belfast, except that it is not a certified copy.

If no entry gives the page number, you can obtain the page number by searching for the same individual in the last database "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958" described below. Use the "Source film number" that you already obtained.

Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958

This database is, as it says, just an index. The indexes used in creating this database give only the event (birth, marriage, or death), year, quarter (after 1878), name, registration district, volume and page. The death indexes also give the age at death. These indexes give no family members' names.

There is quite a bit of overlap between this database and the first three databases. That's because this is the *index* of all of civil registration for all years—including years that FamilySearch has microfilmed actual registers, as well as

for years that FamilySearch does not have registers. Certificates for years for which no registers are available through FamilySearch can be ordered directly from Ireland. For all of Ireland before 1922 and/or the Republic of Ireland from 1922 to the present order from The General Register Office <http://www.groireland.ie>. For Northern Ireland from the beginning of registration to the present you can order from <http://www.groni.gov.uk>. For some counties, the Irish Family History Foundation <http://www.rootsireland.ie> has pay-per-view transcripts of the civil birth, marriage, and death records.

If you did not find your ancestor in one of the first three databases, or if they did not cover the time period you need, or if you did not find a page number associated with your ancestor's entry, search this database. It is the index to all of civil registration for all years, including years that FamilySearch does not have registers for in its collection.

Search Steps for This Database

1. Select "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958"

2. Select "Advanced search"

3. Fill in the ancestor's name

4. Fill in the event type

5. Fill in a place. This database differs from the other three in that the place indexed was always the civil registration district. (See "Places" under the section "Search Tips" below to find out how to ascertain the civil registration district for your area.) If you only know a county of birth but not a civil registration district, you should search one district at a time because currently this database only lists the name of the district and not the county (or counties) in which a district was located. To find the civil registration districts within a county, check <http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/Ireland-civil-registration.html>.

6. Fill in a year range. See "Dates" in the section "Search Tips" below.

7. Do NOT fill in a relationship, as the indexes contain no relationships.

8. Click "Search."

9. To see more information, click on the name of the individual.

Finding the Microfilm Number of the Actual Register from the Indexes:

If you find your ancestor in the database "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958" but not in one of the other databases above, you should check the Catalog to see if there is a FamilySearch microfilm of the actual register.

1. Take the "Source film number" from the entry. In the case of the database "Irish Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958," this is not a film of the actual register, but only of the index.

2. Go to *FamilySearch.org* and click on "Catalog."

3. Choose "film/fiche number search."

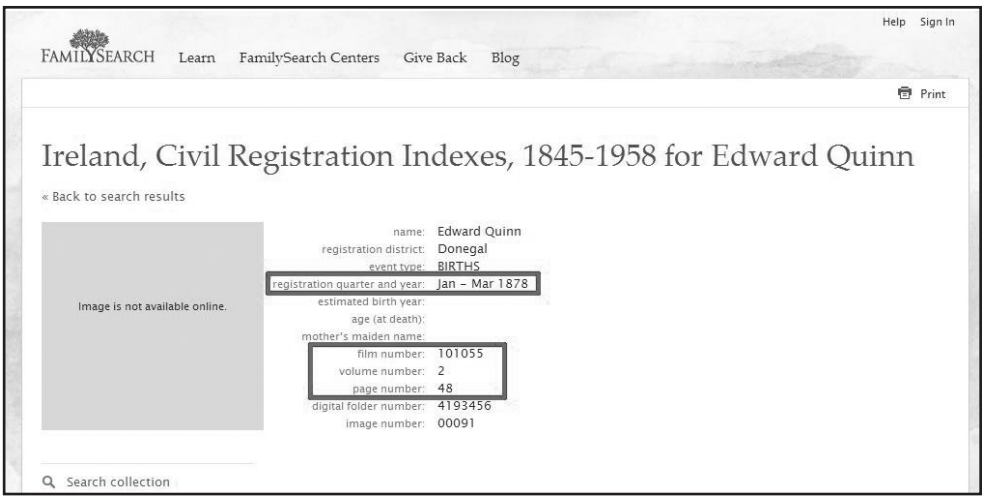
4. Enter the source film number from the entry and click "Search."

5. Select the collection that comes up.

6. Scroll down PAST the index films to the films of the actual registers.

7. See if FamilySearch has the year in question. You may have to view several pages of film notes to find your year.

8. If the year is present, match the quarter and volume number from the index entry. The page number will help you when you look at the actual microfilm.



Graphic 7 - Information on search results page will guide you to Index entry information.

9. Order the film through a local family history center.

If there is not a FamilySearch microfilm of the actual register, you can order a copy of the certificate directly from Ireland. Go to the web site for the General Register Offices listed above. To order a certificate, provide the following information from the index entry: name, event, year, quarter (if applicable), district name, volume, and page.

Search Tips

Names. Names have many variations and the search on *FamilySearch* does not always pick them up. Checking a website like *Irish Ancestors* <http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor> and searching your surname will give you some common spelling variations of your surname to use when searching on *FamilySearch* (or any site, for that matter). Also note that O' and Mc' prefixes can be added or dropped; try both ways.

Given names also have many variations. Visit a site like *KiwiCelts* <http://fhr.kiwicelts.com/Research/Gen_Nicknames.html> to find nicknames and interchangeable names. Below is just a sampling to whet your appetite and convince you that you should look up your ancestor's given name!

Jeremiah—Darby, Dermot

Bridget—Bidelia, Biddy, Delia, Bride, etc.

Julia—Judith

Edmond—Ned, Edward

Daniel—Danny, Donald, Dony

Hanora—Honour, Honora, Nora, Norrie, Hannah

And many more. . . .

Dates. There are several reasons to be flexible with dates. Even when you think you know how old someone was because you have, for example, a U.S. Census for them, people often did not know how old they were. This is particularly true of the Irish. In the 1800s, the average Irish man or woman thought they were two years younger than they really were.

Another reason to search a broad range of dates for your ancestor is that people tend to remember names and relationships better than dates and places. Therefore, if you find a civil registration entry where the date is off, but the relationships are right, that is more likely correct than an entry where the date is right but the relationships are not.

Again, remember that one out of three Irish parents changed their child's birth date in order to avoid paying a fine for late registration.

Places. Places in Ireland can be problematic for several reasons. One can be illustrated by asking the question, "Where are you from?" Chances are you will answer that question with the name of nearest place most people are familiar with, rather than with the name of your actual hometown or suburb. Immigrants did the same thing, often reporting the name of the largest town they lived near, instead of their actual townland. Another problem is that Irish place names were originally Gaelic, which gives a host of opportunities for creative English and American spellings.

Another challenge is peculiar to these databases on *FamilySearch*—usually, the exact townland was not indexed, only the less-familiar registration district or the registration sub-district. A registration district incorporated a number of parishes and was called by the name of the largest town in the district. Therefore, you may not recognize the name of the registration district as being correct because it is not the name of the place with which you are familiar. Registration districts crossed county boundaries as well. Use a site like *IreAtlas* <http://www.seanruad.com> to ascertain the correct registration district (also called Poor Law Union) for your townland or parish. However, it is often best to begin your search with just the name of the county.

Sometimes the name of the county has been abbreviated on *FamilySearch*, other times the name of the county was not indexed at all (the place recorded for the event is just "Ireland"). That is why it is important to look beyond the first page of results, to search with just names and no place at all, and to try different combinations of search terms.

Match all terms exactly box(es). This option only appears when you click on "Advanced Search." You should try searching with the box ticked as well as with it un-ticked. Also, you can do an exact match on just one search term by ticking the box next to that term. Using different combinations of information and using different combinations of exact match will give you different results. Try playing around with different combinations until you feel like you understand how the search is working. Try ticking the "exact match" box next to the place. Be careful though; if the place is spelled differently or it wasn't indexed, this could limit your results too much and eliminate the desired record. Remember, computers have no imagination, but you do!

If You Still Can't Find Them?

The *FamilySearch.org* site recently underwent major changes, which, in the long run, will make it a better website. In the short run, the website programmers continue developing and testing, for example, how the search feature works. If you cannot find your ancestor, try different combinations of information, different spellings, leaving out pieces of information (e.g. search for all of the "Patricks" with a father "Patrick" and mother "Mary" born between 1870-1874 omitting the surname and/or place

entirely), searching with and without exact matches, etc. If you have any suggestions of how the search experience could be improved, please click the "Feedback" button on the right-hand side of the page.

The search routine suggested in this article will help you explore Irish civil registration indexes online. If, however, you do not find your ancestor in civil registration online, do not give up. Perhaps you need to know a bit more about him or her, perhaps the entry is hiding under a spelling you haven't thought of yet, or perhaps the entry was missed by the indexers.

If the entry was missed, one strategy to try is to contact the local superintendent registrar in Ireland. When an event occurred, the information was recorded by the local superintendent registrar. The local registrar then made hand-written copies of his books and sent these copies to the General Register Office. The databases on *FamilySearch.org* were created from the GRO copy. That means that the books held by the local registrar have a more original copy of the records—perhaps an entry was missed when it was copied for the GRO, or perhaps there was a copying error. To find the registration district for your townland or parish, go to *IreAltas* <http://www.seanruad.com> (on this site the registration district is the same as the Poor Law Union). Once you know the district, find the addresses of the local superintendent registrars through the Government Register Office websites <http://www.groireland.ie> and <http://www.groni.gov.uk> for the North of Ireland. The local registrar, of course, will charge you for the search, but if they have something you're looking for, it will be well worth it!

Conclusion

So, take the names of your 19th and 20th century Irish ancestors and give them a whirl on *FamilySearch.org*. Make sure you know enough about them to know they are your ancestor and not someone else with the same name and birth year. Internet sources for tracing Irish ancestors have bloomed over the past two years. There has never been a better time to search for your ancestor. *FamilySearch* offers free online classes on a variety of research topics, including three Irish immigration classes, one Irish civil registration class, and one Irish church records class. Unfortunately, they are already out-of-date since the author created them, because websites come online with new Irish material so rapidly. You can view these classes on *FamilySearch.org* by clicking on "Learn" and then on "View the Courses" under "Research Courses."

Evva Housley graduated from Brigham Young Univeristy with bachelor's degrees in family history and economics. She was employed at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City from 2000 until 2011 when her first child was born and she quit to become a very happy full-time mother. She is an Accredited Genealogist researcher in Ireland and England.

Website News

August 1 will be the official launch of the new IGSI website. Six months ago a team was pulled together to update our old website. The reader will find old favorites in different areas of the site and new items added.

To get the most out of the new site, members should log-in immediately to have access to the members-only information. Unlike the old site, there is not a members section; instead, the members pages show up under the drop down menus across the top of the screen.

The website team asks IGSI members to help identify problems and glitches on the new website. Although we are working to have everything perfect, we know this is not possible. The team is made up of two volunters and we know not everything is added to the new site. There will be glitches along the way and ideas people will want to share. Our hope is that our members will be patient and inform us of any problems they find to WebEditor@IrishGenealogical.org.

Take a look at the new site by going to <http://www.IrishGenealogical.org> and let us know what you think.

Prior to the launch of the new website the old site will be shut down for a couple days to allow IGSI to move all old member data to the new site.

Donations to IGSI

We wish to express our appreciation to the following members for their donations to the Irish Genealogical Society International.

Shannon Boie	Andover, Minnesota
Thomas Brengan	Seattle, Washington
Maurna Complita	Seattle, Washington
Barbara Curnow	Saginaw, Minnesota
Mark Delaney	Winnemucca, Nevada
Mary L. Dowling	St. Louis, Missouri
Bob & Judy Dungan	Plymouth, Minnesota
Jeanette Jessop	Lavalle, Wisconsin
Beverly Johnson	Brooklyn Park, Minnesota
Theresa Liewer	Ankeny, Iowa
Mary May	Andover, Minnesota
James Robinson	San Rafael, California
Gerald Sands	Phoenix, Arizona
Gayle Soles	Simi Valley, California
James Sugrue	Yonkers, New York

2011 Trip Cancelled

IGSI has sponsored trips in the past and for the last three years our organization has offered our members a chance to go on research trips to one location or another. We went to Salt Lake City in 2009, Ireland in 2010 and this year we planned to go to Washigton DC to research at the National Archives, The National Library and the DAR library. Other activities were arranged as well.

The cost of the trip was based on the number of people who sign up for the trip but a minimum number of people need to sign up to make the trip. IGSI did not get enough members interested in going to Washington DC so however, will have to cancel this trip.

IGSI will not stop future trips. We will start planning in the fall and will announce our new research destination. Keep an eye out online and in our publications for future details.

For further information or to suggest a trip, email us at Trip@IrishGenealogical.org.

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but we also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

Deadline for submission of articles for the October issue is August 1, 2011. The theme of the October issue is Irish in the United States. Start now and plan to submit something for a coming issue. Themes and article submission deadlines for future issues are:

Issue Date	Submission Deadline	Theme
January 2012	November 1	English Records of the Irish
April 2012	February 1	Census Fragments & Census Substitutes
July 2012	May 1	History and Records of Ports of Entry: U.S.-Canada - Australia
October 2012	August 1	Irish South of the Equator

Encumbered Irish Estate Court Records

by Dwight A. Radford

The value of Encumbered (also called Incumbered) Court records has been written about in many publications and how-to books. These records are also referred to as "Landed Estates Court" records. Either way, they are the same source.

This article will focus on the records as they now exist online as well as on two microfilm collections at Family History Library. The online version at *findmypast* Ireland <http://www.findmypast.ie/content/landed-estate-court-records> should open up use to the vast microfilm collections. However, do not assume that the online version replaces the microfilm editions. They are best used together.

The Encumbered Estates Act of 1849 created a court to sell debt-ridden estates. In 1852, it was replaced by the Landed Estates Court. This court was replaced in 1877 by the Land Judges Court which was part of the Chancery Division of the High Court. All of these courts had the same purpose, to sell insolvent estates. Over 3,000 estates were processed by the courts between 1849 and 1857. But remember; only about 25% of all estates went bankrupt.

Printed sales brochures for estates sold by the court usually included a map of the estate and a listing by townland or street address of the tenants on the property. Further information about the tenants was given, such as their yearly rents and the types of tenure by which they occupied their land. This would include whether by a legal lease agreement; giving the number of years or names of lives involved or whether by a year-by-year rent arrangement.

Why Use the Encumbered Court Records?

There are several reasons why this collection of records is important. Even if your ancestor had emigrated, when the

Printed Sales Brochures (1850-1885)

Vol.	Dates Covered	FHL#
1-3	February 1850 to November 1850	2262220
4-6	November 1850 to April 1851	2262287
6-8	April 1851 to June 1851	2262288
8-11	June 1851 to October 1851	2262312
11-13	October 1851 to January 1852	2262364
13-15	January 1852 to May 1852	2262365
15-17	May 1852 to July 1852	2262414
17-19	July 1852 to November 1852	2262504
19-21	November 1852 to June 1853	2262527
21	June 1853 &	2262576
24	August to November 1853	2262576
(vols. 22-23 are missing from the National Archives)		
24-26	November 1853 to March 1854	2262577
26-29	March 1854 to June 1854	2262634
29-30	June 1854 to October 1854	2262658
30-32	October 1854 to December 1854	2262659
32-34	November 1854 to March 1855	2262680
34-35	March 1855 to June 1855	2262705
35-37	June 1855 to December 1855	2262763
37-39	December 1855 to May 1856	2262764
39-41	May 1856 to August 1856	2262765
41-43	August 1856 to December 1856	2262831
43-44	December 1856 to April 1857	2262832
(also an index to vol. 31)		
45-46	May 1857 to June 1857	2262833
46-48	June 1857 to November 1857	2262843
49-50	December 1857 to March 1858	2262844
51-52	April 1858 to June 1858	2262918
53-54	July 1858 to December 1858	2262919
54-57	December 1858 to October 1859	2262956
57-59	November 1859 to May 1860	2262957
59-60	May 1860 to December 1860	2299248
60-62	December 1860 to October 1861	2299375
63-64	November 1861 to April 1862	2298964
(also an index to v. 62)		

Printed sales Brochures (cont.)

Vol.	Dates Covered	FHL#
65-67	May 1862 to January 1863	2299033
67-69	January 1863 to July 1863	2299034
69-72	July 1863 to April 1864	2299042
72-74	April 1864 to November 1864	2299043
74-76	November 1864 to May 1865	2299093
77-79	June 1865 to December 1865	2299094
79-81	December 1865 to June 1866	2299161
82-83	June 1866 to December 1866	2299162
(also an index to v. 48)		
84-85	January 1867 to June 1867	2299185
85-87	June 1867 to December 1867	2299186
88-89	January 1868 to May 1868	2299249
90-92	June 1868 to January 1869	2299250
92, 94-95	January 1869 to November 1869	2299283
(there is no v. 93)		
95-98	November 1869 to September 1870	2299313
98-101	July 1870 to May 1871	2299401
101-104	May 1871 to December 1871	2299415
104-107	December 1871 to July 1872	2299416
107-109	July 1872 to April 1873	2299489
110-112	May 1873 to November 1873	2299538
112-115	November 1873 to June 1874	2299539
115-118	June 1874 to January 1875	2300621
118-120	January 1875 to July 1875	2299564
120-123	July 1875 to March 1876	2299633
123-125	March 1876 to July 1876	2299634
125-127	July 1876 to May 1877	2299635
127-130	May 1877 to November 1877	2299636
130-133	November 1877 to July 1878	2299679
133-136	July 1878 to June 1879	2299680
136-138	June 1879 to April 1880	2299747
138-141	April 1880 to June 1881	2299755
141-144	June 1881 to November 1882	2299795
144-146	November 1882 to May 1884	2299853
146-149	May 1884 to July 1885	2299875
149	July 1885 to December 1885	2299901
150	Donegal Estate, 1881-1885, Index to Owners, 1850-1866 (B-Y, A is at end of v.)	2299901

estate they lived on went bankrupt, the records would list relatives who remained on the land. Remember, when the land went up for auction, the tenants went with it. The potential buyer needed to know by what right a person held their lease or rent agreement with the estate. The tenant rights could be spelled out back into the 1700s, but usually the early 1800s.

Another reason to consult these records is to determine the series of landlords or landowners who possessed a townland. The identity of the actual owner is not always clear from the Registry of Deeds as land tended to be tied up in multi-layered lease agreements. By using the Registry of Deeds with the Encumbered Estate Court records, a clearer picture tends to emerge. Then you can search for the landlord papers (estate records) for lease agreements or rent books.

The sales brochures are very important when tracing a home site in the records,. Not only do they list the tenants and their right to be on the property, but there are also maps accompanying the sales. These are part of the series of pages that concern the estate being sold at a particular locality. Each tenant property is numbered on the brochures, and that number is keyed onto the published map, also part of the sales brochure.

Using the *findmypast Ireland* Collection

F*indmypast Ireland*, which just came online in May 2011, is a joint venture between findmypast and Eneclann. One of their databases is the "Landed Estates Court Rentals 1850-1885" collection. This massive database includes the names of more than 500,000 tenants. (It is a subscription database, which can be purchased for a six month or one year usage, or as a "pay as you go" option.) The basic search of the Landed

Estates Court records asks for the following information:

- First/Last Name: only the last name is required
- Year to Year: a beginning and ending year can be used
- County: all counties in Ireland are covered
- Parish: this would be the civil parish

The civil parish may be the only way to sort through common names. For uncommon names or surnames, the "First" and "Last" name search and the "County" name may be enough. The results of an inquiry will include the following information: Name, County, Year, Source: Landed Estates Court Rentals 1850-1885, and More Details.

To know if you have the correct entry, you have to click the "More Details" button. At this point, if you have a subscription, the record image appears. If not, your option is to "pay to view." All the documents on the FHL microfilm version of NAI collections should be available on this online version.

Using the Collections at the FHL

While there are other collections of the Landed Estates Court records in Ireland, I will discuss here the Family History Library (FHL) microfilms of the National Archives of Ireland (NAI) records and of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) records. There is some overlap of information between the two collections, but they are not exactly the same.

The FHL has microfilmed volumes of printed sales brochures (1850-1885) from the NAI holdings, as well as the indexes. These microfilms are difficult to find in the FHL Catalog. For this reason, they are being detailed as follows:

County	FHL#
Armagh	258793
Armagh-Tipperary	258794
Cork	258795-800
Clare, Galway	258801
Clare	258802
Carlow	258803
Cavan	258804
Down, Armagh	258805
Down	258806
Donegal	258807
Dublin	258808-811
Dublin, Cavan, Meath, Westmeath	258812
Dublin, King, Queen, Tipperary, Waterford, Kildare, Kilkenny	258813
Dublin, Kildare, Roscommon, Wicklow, Wexford	258814
Fermanagh	258815
Galway	258816-819
Kerry	258820-821
Kildare	258822
Kilkenny	258823-824
Kings	258825
Leitrim	258826
Limerick	258827-830
Londonderry, Antrim, Longford, Louth	258831
Mayo	258832
Mayo, Galway	258833
Meath	258834
Queens	258835
Roscommon	258836
Roscommon, Galway	258837
Roscommon, Mayo, Clare	258838
Cork	258839
Tipperary	258840-843
Tipperary, Meath, Waterford	258844
Tyrone	258845
Waterford	258846-847
Westmeath	258848
Wexford	258849
Meath, Wicklow	258850

A partial index was generated for 25 of the 58 microfilms (#258798 - #258822). These indexes are noteworthy for the details they provide; they can be found in volumes 3 and 5 of Joyce Parsons and Jeanne Jensen's *Index to Irish Films at the Family history Library Including Names from Wills, Land and Court Documents, Genealogies, Pedigrees, and Special Collections* (Salt Lake City, Utah: J & J Limited, 1995-1999). This valuable index is on microfilm for Volume 3 (#1145946, item 2) and Volume 5 (#1162455, item 6). A point that remains to be reconciled is the amount of duplication between this PRONI collection and the NAI collection.

Conclusions

While there are several collections of these sales brochures at various repositories, do not assume they are all the same. Make use of the indexes: there is an excellent partial name index to the PRONI collection and a place name index to the NAI collection, which can be used as a research tool in its own right, quickly informing if townland property went through the court system. The difference between the online index and the microfilm index is that with the microfilm index you immediately know if a townland is listed in the collection. The online version allows only a county and parish search – not a townland search at this time.

Special thanks for reviewing this article prior to publication goes to Kyle J. Betit, Senior Genealogist and Case Manager at ProGenealogists <http://www.progenealogists.com>, an official Ancestry.com research firm.

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former co-editor of The Irish At Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He also volunteers at the Utah State Prison teaching genealogy. He has placed his first book of prison experiences on his website www.radfordnoone.com under "Dwight's Prison Tales."*

Collections in Irish Law Libraries

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

Often overlooked in the category of Irish genealogical collections is the wealth of information contained in the reports created by the Irish legal system. While it is true that they were not created by a single antiquarian, historian, or genealogist, the published volumes of the summaries of cases create a tremendous resource for Irish genealogical research.

Law libraries can be intimidating if you do not have a research plan and specific objectives. The reference staff does not generally assist genealogists and rarely understands the research perspective from which you are approaching your investigation. In most instances, they are graduate students working on a law degree or studying to become professional librarians working on a Master's degree in Library Science.

This article is intended to assist you in understanding the records and resources available when you visit a law library and to help you in crafting a successful research strategy. With that basic understanding, the reference staff is well-equipped to assist you with your research as you pose well-crafted questions regarding the availability and location or access to specific records, databases and resources.

Law Reporting

The two most important collections in a law library are the nominate reports and the statutes. That is because the two major components of "the law" are rulings by courts and statutes (including constitutions). Statutes are laws enacted by the Parliament. Parliamentary acts usually address the general concerns of society, while court rulings typically address only the facts of a single dispute and issues raised by the parties involved in a specific lawsuit. The statutes (laws) enacted by Parliament are kept chronologically in what are called session laws. Most statutes are also arranged by subjects.

In 1863, Nathaniel Lindley of the Chancery Bar in England wrote a concise paper on law reporting that is as relevant today as it was when written. To understand the content of the law reports, you need to understand the criteria for which cases are worthy of having their full text quoted:

1. All cases which introduce or appear to introduce a new principle or a new rule;
2. All cases which materially modify an existing principle or rule;
3. All cases which settle or materially tend to settle a question upon which the law is doubtful;
4. All cases which for any reason are peculiarly instructive.[1]

When a case is selected to be included in the Nominate Reports, Lindley proposed that the details should include the following:

1. The [names of the] parties;
2. The nature of the pleadings;
3. The essential facts;
4. The points contended for by counsel
5. The grounds on which the judgment is based; and
6. The judgment, decree or order actually pronounced.

For genealogists, this creates the genealogically relevant details that can sometimes extend a problem or open new avenues of research. The details included may shed light on previously undisclosed family relationships, business dealings, land transactions, or criminal proceedings.

Lindley further proposed that in relation to the publication of the reports they should

1. Be published as speedily as is consistent with a conscientious discharge of the reporter's duties;
2. Be printed in clear type, on good paper and be of a convenient portable size;
3. Be accompanied by good indexes and marginal headings;
4. Be sold for the lowest price which is consistent with the payment of the expenses of the publication.[2]

Records in a Law Library

Nominate Reports are similar to the Case Reporters in the United States. The term "nominate" came from the Latin, nōmināri meaning "name" and was used to describe the summary judgments. It referred to the name of the person who actually wrote the reports.

"Nominate Reports is a legal term from common law jurisdictions referring to the various published reports of English [and Irish] cases in various courts from the middle ages to the 1860's when law reporting was officially taken over by the Council of Law Reporting,"[3] for example, Charles Haig's *Irish Equity Reports Particularly of Points of Practice, Argued and Determined in the High Court of Chancery, the Rolls Court, and the Equity Exchequer in Ireland, from Michaelmas 1838, to Trinity, 1839, Inclusive, in the Second and Third Years of the Reign of Queen Victoria*, referred to as Haig's Irish Equity Reports and cited

for example as: *Sandys v. Murray and others* Ch [1838]29.

> Excerpt: "The plaintiff was entitled, under a settlement, to an estate for lives renewable for ever, in three undivided fourths of the lands of Drumnacor and Lower Gurteen, in the county of Cavan, and was in possession of the former denomination…the persons from whom the plaintiff derived his title had, in the year 1806, demised a part of the lands of Lower Gurteen, containing about 134 acres, to one Daniel Murray, for three lives, with a covenant for perpetual renewal.
>
> In March 1835, the plaintiff and the other persons entitled to the remaining undivided fourth of these lands joined in executing a renewal to the principal defendant, John Murray, to whom, or in trust for whom, the interest in the lease of 1806 had been devised by his father, Daniel Murray, the original lessee…"

For propertied people and those with something to gain, the Nominate Reports often contain a wealth of genealogical information, particularly death dates, lease dates, marriages, divorces, and relationships. The poorer classes and landless may appear in the summaries as witnesses or as tenants on pieces of property in dispute.

> In England, the "earliest reports of actual cases were kept in two forms. First are the so-called 'Rolls': the court records which contain notes of the parties involved and the final judgment of cases although they provide no indication of the reasoning used by the judges. The second one came from what are known as the 'Yearbooks'. Unlike the Rolls, the early Yearbooks (covering approximately 1290 to the 1560's) did make a record of the judges' reasons for their judicial decisions, but they were in Norman French and were little used.
>
> Then followed the reports titled by the surname or an abbreviation for the reporters' names – so they are called the "nominate reports". Nominate reports varied in their quality and authority. Over 100,000 volumes of them were reprinted in the series English Reports (ER is the abbreviation). In 1865, the official law reports began, published by the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting.[4]

There are, of course, far fewer volumes of the Nominate Reports for Ireland. They are distinguished by the name of the Court and divided into Chancery, Exchequer, King's Bench and Equity, Common Law, Land, and Popery, etc. The standard work for the most comprehensive bibliographical listing of the Irish Nominate Reports is: Higgins, Paul, *A Bibliography of Irish Trials and Other Legal Proceedings*. Abingdon, Oxford: Professional Books, 1986.

Nominate Report Volumes

1. All Courts – There are Nominate Reports covering all courts for the years 1798-1810; 1827-1838; and 1840-1841.

2. Chancery – The Court of Chancery prepared important documents, writs and letters patent to which a seal was affixed. Chancery also played an equitable jurisdiction in cases or disputes in which no remedy was to be found in Common Law. The nominate reports for Chancery cases cover the years 1766-1791; 1802-1846; and 1850-1866.

3. Circuit Courts – The nominate reports for the Circuit Courts cover the years 1837-1846.

4. Common Law – The nominate reports for the Common Law Court cover the years 1604-1612; 1827-1831; and 1850-1879.

5. Common Pleas – Land disputes were the most common case tried in Common Pleas and the most probably court for commoners. The nominate reports for Common Pleas cover the years 1839-1840. For cases in other years, refer to the Exchequer.

6. Crown Court – The nominate reports for the Crown Court cover the years 1767 and 1822-1840.

7. Ecclesiastical – These "courts dealt largely with marriage and testamentary matters, ecclesiastical administration, cases of clerical misconduct, defamation and suites for the payment of tithe."[5] There were twenty-six ecclesiastical courts and a Prerogative court in Ireland.

8. Equity – The nominate reports for the Court of Equity cover the years 1867-1878.

9. Exchequer – Cases involving the receipt and payment of money and the auditing of accounts were handled by the Court of the Exchequer. The records were kept or enrolled on the pipe and memoranda rolls. The nominate reports for the Court of Exchequer cover the years 1867-1878.

10. King's/Queen's Bench – Presided over criminal cases and offences against the King's peace. The nominate reports for the King's/Queen's Bench cover the years 1604-1612; 1786-1788; 1793-1795; 1798-1834; 1838-1842; and 1846-1848.

11. Registry – The nominate reports for the Registry cases cover the years 1832-1840.

12. Rolls – The nominate reports for the Rolls Court cover the years 1816-1834 and 1840-1842.

Source Citations for Legal Materials

To properly cite the materials found in the nominate reports; the following guidelines should be used. The standard abbreviations for the nominate reports should be used consistently in the source citations.

Abbreviations for Nominate Reports. The name of the report is always abbreviated. The more common abbreviations are listed in the following table:

Abbreviation	Court Type	Explanation
AC	Appeal Cases	Reports of judgments in the Appellate Committee of the House of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council
KB	King's Bench	Reports of the judgments given in the King's Bench Division
QB	Queen's Bench	Reports of the judgments given in the Queen's Bench Division
Ch	Chancery	Reports of the judgments given in the Chancery Division
Eq.	Court of Equity	Reports of the judgments given in the Court of Equity
Ex.	Exchequer	Reports of the judgments given in the Court of the Exchequer
C.L.	Common Law	Reports of the judgments given in the Courts of Common Law
CP	Common Pleas	Reports of the judgments given in the Court of Common Pleas

Page Numbers. In legal records and in citing cases from the Nominate Reports, always cite the printed page number.

Volume Numbers. Depending on the format of the volumes, you may or may not need to cite the year in addition to the volume number. In instances when volume numbers are used, primarily after 1878 when the Law Reports were instituted, only the volume number is necessary. In earlier years when there were no consecutive volume numbers, the year must be included. To cite the year properly, see brackets below.

Brackets. When citing the year in legal documents, square [] and round () brackets have special significance. Using the [] bracket indicates that the year has special significance in citing the reference and the year must be included in the reference. When () brackets are used, it indicates that the year is not an essential part of the reference, but may be included for clarification purposes.

Italics. The names of the parties, including the 'v' are italicized. For example, *Hawkshaw v. Rencher.*

Selected Libraries with Irish Materials

Accessing the nominate reports will require some source research to identify the online collections or a hard copy you can examine on your next visit to a research library. The following list identifies a few of the more prominent collections for research.

England

- British Library, London
- Cambridge University
- University of Oxford
- Manchester Law Library Society, see: Catalogue of the Books of the Manchester Law Library Society (Google Books)

Ireland

- King's Inn Library, Dublin, Ireland
- Law Society of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland
- Queen's University Belfast – School of Law

United States

- Library of Congress, Madison Building, Law Library
- Harvard University Law School
- Smurfit Irish Law Center, St. Louis, Missouri

Web Resources for Irish Law Research

The following Internet resources may be useful.

Internet Law Library – *LawGuru.com* at <http://www.lawguru.com/ilawlib/index.php?id=114>

Google Book Library using a Google search. The volumes available in the Google Book Library are identified in the table of the nominate reports that follows.

Finding a Non-digital Copy of a Book

Using the features in *Google Books*, you may locate a library near you with the volumes you are seeking. For example, to locate a copy of Andrew Newton Oulton's work on the Irish Statutes, you would follow these steps:

- Go to *Google Books* http://books.google.com/
- Type in: "Andrew Newton Oulton"
- In the result set, select: "Index to the Statutes, at Present in Force in..."
- Next, on the right side of the screen, select: "Find this Book in a Library"
- Enter your location, e.g. Salt Lake City, UT 84140

In conjunction with *WorldCat*, the Online Computer Library's Center (OCLC) database of over fifty million books, Google will then list all of the libraries in closest proximity to your location where copies of the volume may be viewed. Since not all of the libraries are participants in *WorldCat*, if you are familiar with a law library near your home, you may want to consult its collection for the reference.

Conclusion

The wealth of genealogical data to be found in the nominate reports is often overlooked by Irish researchers. Since many of the records from which the summaries were derived were later destroyed in the Public Record Office in 1922, these reports fill another gap to mitigate the loss of the original records. They may also be used in conjunction with abstracts from the many other genealogical and historical collections to augment details that may have been excluded.

Endnotes

1 Nathaniel Lindley. *Paper on Legal Reports*, reprinted in W.T.S. Daniel, *The History and Origin of the Law Reports* (London, 1884), 63-7.

2 Daniel, *The History and Origin of the Law Reports*, 65.

3 Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nominate_reports>

4 English for Legal Purpose, <http://www.luyulei.cn>

5 Byrne, Joseph, *Byrne's Dictionary of Local History*, p.105.

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Richardson, John, *The Local Historian's Encyclopedia*. Third edition. ([London]: Historical Publications, 2003).

Inns of Court

Herber, Mark D. *Ancestral Trails, the Complete Guide to British Genealogy and Family History*. (London: Sutton Publishing, Ltd. with the Society of Genealogists, 1997). pp. 390-2.

Kenny, Column. *King's Inns & The Kingdom of Ireland, The Irish 'Inn of Court' 1541-1800*. (Blackrock, Ireland: Irish Academic Press, 1992).

Phair, P. Beryl, "Early Genealogical Sources for Attornies and Barristers," in *Irish Genealogy – A Record Finder*, Donal F. Begley, editor (Dublin: Heraldic Artists, Ltd., 1981), 181-194.

Irish Statutes

Oulton, Andrew Newton. Index to the statutes, at present in force in, or affecting Ireland, from the year 1310 to 1838 inclusive. (Dublin: Hodges and Smith, 1839).

Source and Legal Citations

English for Legal Purpose, *luyulei.cn*. Database. <http://www.luyulei.cn> : 2009.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence Explained*. Second edition. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2009).

Published Nominate Reports

All Courts

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Law Courts, England & Ireland			1798-1810	
The Law Recorder			1827-1838	LSM
The Legal Reporter			1840-1841	
Irish Law Reports	13 vols.		1838-1850	LSM
Irish Law Reports (New Series)	16 vols.		1849-1860	LSM

Chancery

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Wallis' Chancery	1 vol.	1839	1766-1791	KI
Schoale's & Lefroy's Chancery	2 vols.		1802-1806	KI
Ball & Beatty's Chancery	2 vols.	1824	1807-1814	KI; GB; LSM
Beatty's Chancery	1 vol.	1847	1814-1830	KI: GB; LSM
Molloy's Chancery	3 vols.		1827-1831	KI; LSM
Hogan's Chancery	2 vols.		1816-1834	KI
Lloyd & Goold's Chancery			1834-1836	KI; LSM
Lloyd Chancery	1 vol.	1835		KI; LSM
Sausse & Scully's Chancery	2 vols.		1835-1840	KI
Drury & Walsh's Chancery	2 vols.		1837-1840	KI; LSM
Flanagan & Kelly's Chancery	1 vol.	1843	1840-1842	KI; LSM
Connor & Lawson's Chancery	2 vols.		1841-1843	KI; LSM
Drury and Warren's Chancery	4 vols.		1841-1843	KI; GB; LSM
Drury's Chancery temp. Sugden	1 vol.	1851	1843-1844	KI; LSM
Jones & La Touche's Chancery	3 vols.		1844-1846	KI; LSM
Westropp & Treavor	1 vol.	1852	1850-1852	KI; GB
Irish Common Law & Chancery	34 vols.		1850-1866	KI
Drury's Chancery temp. Napier	1 vol.	1860	1858-1859	KI; LSM
Crawford & Dix (Abridged)	1 vol.		1837-1838	KI; LSM
Crawford & Dix	3 vol.		1839-1846	KI; LSM
Milliken	1 vol.		1841-1843	LSM
Unnamed	1 vol.	1841		LSM

Common Law

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Davies			1604-1612	KI
Hudson & Brooke			1827-1831	KI
Irish Common Law & Chancery	34 vols.		1850-1866	KI
Irish Reserved Cases			1860-1864	LSM

Irish Reports – Common Law	11 vols.		1867-1879	KI; LSM
Irish Law Reports	32 vols.		1878-1893	LSM
Irish Law Reports			1894-1896	LSM

Common Pleas

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Glascock's	1 vol.		1831-1832	LSM
Smythe Common Pleas & Ex.	1 vol.		1839-1840	KI

Crown Cases

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Forster		1767		KI
Jebb's Crown Cases Reserved			1822-1840	KI; LSM

Ecclesiastical

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Milward, Ecclesiastical			1819-1843	LSM

Exchequer

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Hayes Exchequer	1 vol.	1837	1817; 1830-1832	KI; LSM
Glascock's	1 vol.		1831-1832	KI; LSM
Hayes Exchequer	1 vol.		1832-1834	KI; LSM
Jone's Exchequer	2 vols.		1834-1838	KI; LSM
Smythe Common Pleas & Ex.	1 vol.		1839-1840	KI
Langfield & Townsend's Ex.	1 vol.	1843	1841-1842	KI; LSM
Jones & Cary's Exchequer			1858-1859	KI; LSM
Exchequer Chamber, Registry Appeals			1868-1876	KI; LSM

King's/Queen's Bench

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Davie's K.B.	1 vol.	1762	1604-1612	KI
Vernon & Scriven's K.B.	1 vol.	1790	1786-1788	KI
Ridgway, Lapp & Schoales K.B.	1 vol.	1796	1793-1795	KI; LSM
Rowe's Interesting Cases K.B.	1 vol.	1824	1798-1823	KI
Fox & Smith's K.B.	2 vols.	1825	1822-1824	KI; LSM
Smith & Batty's K. B.	1 vol.	1830	1824-1825 (sic)	KI
Batty's K.B.	1 vol.	1828	1825-1826	KI
Hudson & Brooke's K.B.	2 vols.		1827-1831	KI; LSM
Glascock's	1 vol.		1831-1832	KI; LSM
Alcock & Napier's K.B.	1 vol.	1834	1831-1833	KI; LSM

Cooke & Alcock's K.B.	1 vol.		1833-1834	KI; LSM
Jebb & Symes Q.B.	2 vols.	1842	1838-1841	KI; GB; LSM
Armstrong, Macartney & Ogle	1 vol.	1843	1840-1842	KI; LSM
Jebb & Bourke's Q.B.	1 vol.	1843	1841-1842	KI; GB; LSM
Blackham, Dundas, & Osborne	1 vol.		1846-1848	KI; LSM

(Nisi Prius) Nisi Prius is a Latin term denoting all legal actions tried before the judges of the King's Bench

Land Cases

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Greer's Irish Land Acts	1 vol.		1874-1897	KI; LSM
Dillon & Kehoe's Land Commission Reports	1 vol.		1881-1882	LSM
Brunskill's Land Reports	1 vol.		1891-1892	LSM
Greer's Irish Land Acts	5 vols.		1900-1903	LSM

Registry Cases

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Welsh's	1 vol.		1832-1840	KI
Alcock's Registry Cases	1 vol.		1832-1837	KI; LSM
Alcock's Registry Cases	1 vol.		1832-1841	KI; LSM

Rolls Court

Report	Vols.	Yr. Pub.	Period Covered	Availability
Hogan	2 vols.		1816-1834	KI; GB; LSM
Flanagan & Kelly			1840-1842	KI

Abbreviations:

GB = Google Books <http://books.google.com>
KI = King's Inn Library, Dublin
LSM = Law Stacks, Madison Building, Library of Congress, Washington, DC

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.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Kerry, Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

"Kerry has a rich tradition in the areas of archaeology, history and antiquities." This is the opening sentence about the Local History and Archives Department on the web site of the County Kerry Library <http://www.kerrycolib.ie/local.asp>. Judging from the list of resources found at the library, this appears to be true.

While I am not particularly a fan of the *Tracing Your ___ Ancestors* series, Michael H. O'Connor has done a good job of listing genealogical resources for County Kerry. He was assisted by several people including staff at the County Kerry Library as well as staff at other institutions throughout the world that hold records for this county. Among the resources covered in this book are censuses and census substitutes; church records; directories; memorial inscriptions; estate records; newspapers; local government records; military resources; and family histories. There is also a list of published County Kerry reference works.

One of the resources O'Connor mentions is *A Handbook of County Kerry Family History, Biography, &c.* by the Rev. H. L. L. Denny. This book was compiled in 1923, the year after fire destroyed invaluable records stored at the Public Record Office in Dublin. Denny inventoried records that survived including ones in local collections or in individual possession. *Tracing Your Kerry Ancestors* has a list of the families by surnames that are included in Denny's book. This book is not at the Family History Library. The author of this article has not seen a copy of this book and thus cannot provide a better description.

The chapter on Memorial Inscriptions lists transcriptions for various graveyards that were published and where the information is found. It also mentions other resources where memorial inscriptions are located. For example, the *M.R. Lascelles-Kelly* manuscript of memorial inscriptions, which includes some graveyards in County Kerry, is found on Family History Library microfilm 100153, item 1 or 100219, item 1 (a duplication).

County Kerry Library

The variety of genealogical material found at the County Kerry Library is impressive. Online databases include

- Kerry's World War I Dead which contains about 600 Kerry-related casualties. Following is an example of an entry from this database:

  BARRY, JOHN.
  Rank: Private. Regiment or Service: Australian Infantry, A.I.F. Unit: 47th Battalion.

  Age at death: 31. Date of Death: 09-August-1917. Service No: 2620.

  Supplementary information: Son of John Barry, of Oakpark, Tralee, Co. Kerry, Ireland. Born, Tralee, County Kerry. Occupation on enlistment, Gardner. Age on enlistment 30 years. Next of kin details: (mother) Mrs. Norah Barry, Oakpark, Tralee. Place and date of enlistment 14 June 1916. Charlevile, Queensland. Weight 164 lbs. Height 5 feet, 11 3/8 inches. Complexion fair. Eyes grey. Hair dark brown. Parents (John and Norah) were each awarded a pension of 15 shillings per fortnight from 22 October 1917. Grave or Memorial Reference: II. C. 6. Cemetery: Derry House Cemetery No 2, Heuvelland, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

- 1901 and 1911 census of Co. Kerry, linked to <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie>

- List of newspapers at the Library (27 local newspapers and 7 national)

- Kerry publications by years (2001-2009).

One of the publications in the 2009 list is *Ballydonoghue Parish Magazine 2010: 26th edition*. It is possible articles of a genealogical nature are included in this periodical as well as the other parish publications held by the Library.

There is another list titled **Main Sources** on the Library's web site. It includes various types of records such as Poor Law Boards of Guardians Minute Books; Grand Jury Presentments (1874-1889 and 1892-1897); North Kerry Archaeological Survey Maps and related fieldwork notes; private business records; estate maps, rental lists, deeds, financial records, ejectment notices and other resources for various County Kerry estates; and solicitors papers.

There are four journals or periodicals of historical, archaeological, and genealogical interest in the Library: *Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society Journal, Cork Historical and Archaeological Society Journal, Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland Journal* and *Capuchin Annual.*

Newspaper Collections

There are some published collections of County Kerry events reported in newspapers. The births, marriages, and deaths from 1781-1821 compiled by Basil O'Connell, can be found in volume 8 of

the series *O'Kief, Coshe Mang and Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland* (Family History Library microfilm 823805). Biographical notices from the Kerry Evening Post are found in volume 6 of the same series (FHL microfilm 823803). A card index to biographical notices in Kerry newspapers dating from 1754 to 1827 is found in FHL microfilm 537921-922. Finally, the Nash Collection, which contains newspaper clippings from Kerry newspapers, is found on FHL microfilm 477616.

O'Kief, Coshe Mang and Slieve Lougher and Upper Blackwater in Ireland

This monumental reference work was compiled by Albert E. Casey, an Alabama pathologist, as a result of genealogical research he did on his own family. It contains information for specific areas of Counties Cork and Kerry. Resources selected for inclusion in the books came from original records in Ireland gathered either by Casey or people in Ireland. There is a comprehensive index to the multiple volumes.

For a description of the collection including a list of information found in each volume see <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~irlker/caseydescription.html>. The article lists repositories where researchers can consult the published volumes. All of the volumes of this collection have been microfilmed and are available through the Family History Centers (FHL microfilm 823801-813809 and 1145995 with item 7 of this film being the index). The IGSI library owns the complete work in book form.

Church Records

Information from Catholic and Church of Ireland parish registers of County Kerry has been abstracted. Details are found on the web site <http://www.irishgenealogy.ie>. There is a link to this web site from the County Kerry Library's web site. The church records web site offers a free search of pre-1900 baptisms, marriages, and, if available, deaths or burials. Searches can be made by name, by date, and/or by specific parish.

If information found in the church records database is also listed in the Nash Collection, there well could be additional details in the latter. For example, the Tralee Church of Ireland baptism entry for Thomas Plowman lists his parents as James Plowman, Sergt. Carlow Militia, and Ellen. He was baptized on 15 November 1807. The newspaper entry in the Nash Collection gives additional details. James Plowman was a Lieutenant in the Carlow Militia. His wife, Ellen, was of Tralee. Son Thomas was seven days old when he was baptized.

County Kerry Web Site

Another useful County Kerry genealogical web site is found at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~irlker/records.html>. Details from some of the record links on this web site can be found in other web sites such as the free church records site and the National Archives Ireland 1901 and 1911 census site <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie>, which also has a link on the County Kerry Library web site. Other census substitute links that readers might want to explore are the 1871 list of subscribers to *A History of the Kingdom of Kerry* and the 1916 Knocknagoshel petition.

County Kerry Library Plans for the Future

Michael Lynch, Archivist at the Kerry Library, wrote that the Library is looking at collaborative schemes for future acquisitions to the web site. One of the things being considered is digitizing records from the estate paper collections and making the information available online. This project is still in the planning stages. It is possible that other records might also be digitized and added to the online databases. It will be interesting to see what this Library has to offer in the future.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

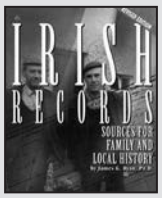
She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

> *It is indeed a desirable thing to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.*
> *– Plutarch*

Find These Books at the IGSI Bookstore

Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History

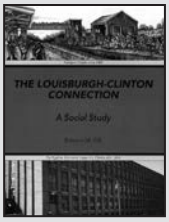
James G. Ryan, Ph.D.



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 - Cost $38.50*

Louisburgh-Clinton Connection

Edward M. Gill



The book recounts the suffering and harassment emigrants from Louisburgh, Mayo endured on their way to America. This book includes the names of emigrants who left Mayo. *Order Book #IE44 - Cost $27.66*

Richard Griffiths and His Valuation 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 Cost: $25.95*

Irish Ancestor 1969-1986

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 #J157 Cost: $79.95*

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July - October 2011
Irish Saturday Classes

July 9, 2011 - Locating Irish Church Records (10-11:30 AM)
Sheila Northrop, Instructor
Looking for details and step-by-step suggestions for locating Irish religious records? We discuss the main religions, what records are available and where to find them. Also, suggestions for requesting information - in person or long distance.

August 13, 2011 – No Irish Day Classes Offered
Join us at the Irish Fair!

September 10, 2011 – DNA Testing to Prove Family Lineage (1:00-2:30 PM) Dianne Plunkett, Instructor
Dianne Plunkett Latham is the volunteer DNA surname administrator for both the Plunkett family and the Lampert family for Family Tree DNA. She is a certified Volunteer Field Genealogist for the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and a member of the Mayflower Society. Dianne is a past DAR State Corresponding Secretary and is the Registrar for the DAR Monument Chapter. Her presentation will be on 'Using DNA Testing to Prove Lineage'.

October 15, 2011 – Halloween Special: Leprechauns, Banshees & Fairies (10-11:30 AM)
Date and Subject Tentative – Instructor and Location TBD

Make an Appointment

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email:
Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org
Phone: Beth Mullinax 763-574-1436

Dates to Put on Your Calendar

Don't miss any of the scheduled dates. Be sure to get them your calendar now!

Aug 6 - Yankee talk on DAR (IGSI members invited)

Aug 20 - Genealogy Book Sale

Oct 8 - IGSI at Scots-Irish Day in Brookings, SD

Aug 13-14 - Irish Fair

Sept 7-10 - FGS conference in Springfield, IL

Minnesota Irish Fair

Do you live in Minnesota and are interested in helping out at the Minnesota Irish Fair? Now's the time to sign up for working the fair. Take a two hour shift or more by contacting Questions@IrishGenealogical.org. Irish Fair runs from August 13-14, 2011. For scheduling time, contact us now.

Library Acquisitions

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases

C136 – Igoe, Vivien. *Dublin Burial Grounds & Graveyards*. Dublin, Ireland: Wolfhound Press, 2001, 364 p., illus., index of persons.

H679 - *Kilcummin. Glimpses of the Past* [Co. Kerry]. Tralee, County Kerry: Kilcummin Rural Development, 1998, 163 p., illus.

L110 – Punch, Terrence M. *Some Early Scots in Maritime Canada, Volume I*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2011, 180 p., indexed.

Donations

H547 - Benn, George. *History of the Town of Belfast, With an Accurate Account of the Former & Present State; To Which are added. A Statistical Survey of the Parish of Belfast and A Description of Some Remarkable Antiquities in its Neighbourhood* (sic). 1823, original publisher not stated.

[Note: IGSI has a two volume set of *A History of the Town of Belfast* by Mr. Benn but, as this volume has several old maps and additional information, we decided to add this to our collection. Donated by Kathy Lund, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

H680 - Brosna Book Committee. *Gathering the Memories. The Story of Brosna* [Roscommon County, Ireland]. Brusna, Ballaghadereen, Co. Roscommon, Ireland: Brusna Book Committee, 2010, 128 p., illus. Donated by Richard Towey, Corvallis, Oregon.

Research@IrishGenealogical.org

IGSI Benefit

Every so often, every researcher needs a little help, a pair of fresh eyes, or a push in climbing a brick wall. The Irish Genealogical Society International offers members that help as a benefit of membership.

At the inexpensive price of $10 per hour, our research staff is available to help. We check both online and print resources available in the IGSI Library. Members who wish to request research assistance may do so by letter or email to Research@IrishGenealogical.org with the following information:

- Your contact information – name, address, email or phone
- Your member number
- The specific query you have. Do you want to find the townland of your ancestor, a birth or marriage date, the maiden name a spouse? Please identify the individuals and background to start the search.
- Include a list of sources you have already checked. Many sources, including Griffith's and passenger lists, are now available online. If you have already checked them, we can move on to other resources without repeating your search.

Please do not send payment with your request. When we know the cost – including time and copies, we will notify you. If you wish to specify a limit of cost, do so in your request.

What do we check? The Library has a subscription to Ancestry and IrishOrigins, two online subscription databases with many Irish resources. Examples: Ancestry contains the Emigrant Savings Bank records for 1850-1883 (which we also own in print form) and an index to the Tithe Applotment Books for the counties comprising contemporary Northern Ireland. Irish Origins contains Griffith's Valuation, indexes to the Irish Strays of the 1841 and 1871 censuses of England, and an index to Tithe Defaulters.

The Library owns all 16 volumes of the Casey Collection (East Kerry & West Cork), Irish passenger list information in print and on CDs, the eight-volume Search for Missing Friends (advertisements placed in the Boston *Pilot* newspaper between 1851 and 1905 for Irish immigrants), and many books of Irish and county histories.

We can provide a study of a surname in one county of Ireland and map it on a parish map of the county. If a couple married in Ireland, we can map both surnames on the same map. However, if a surname is too numerous to provide a meaningful result, we will inform you of that fact.

We check for information in periodicals and books you have found in the IGSI library catalog or seen mentioned in our "New to the Library" feature. If your Irish ancestor was local to Minnesota, we may check the microfilmed parish records of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis for information.

This is only a sampling of the resources we use to answer your query on an Irish ancestor. Your goal is to discover your Irish ancestry; our goal is to help you do so.

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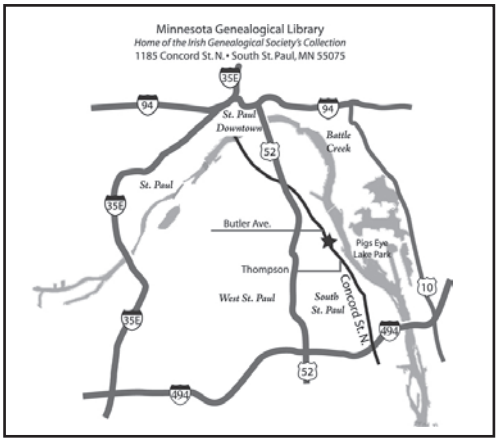

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During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

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.

Volume 32, Number 4

The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

Deireadh Fomhair (October) 2011

$10.00

Irish in the United States

St. Patrick's Day Parade, St. Paul Minnesota

2010 - 2011 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

OCTOBER 8, 2011
NOVEMBER 12, 2011
DECEMBER 10, 2011
JANUARY 14, 2012
FEBRUARY 11 2012
MARCH 10, 2012
APRIL 14 2012
MAY 12, 2012
JUNE 9, 2012
JULY 14, 2012
AUGUST 11, 2012
SEPTEMBER 8, 2012

(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 are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2011

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Anticipation . . .

by Ann Eccles

I sit here in the heat of August to discuss IGSI issues intended for winter action.

November 2011 Members Program
On November 19, there will be an IGSI program at the Family History Center in New Brighton, MN. It will include a short presentation by the IGSI Board of Directors on current and future IGSI projects and activities at 9:30 a.m. At 10:30 a.m., Tom Rice will present the program, "Irish Genealogy on the Internet" covering a variety of valuable resources that are not readily known by researchers. This is also a great time to check out the Family History Center's library, if you have not visited it before. (See article on page 182 for more information and directions.)

Board of Director Elections
The IGSI Board of Directors selects its 2012 officers and new Board members during the last quarter of 2011. If you are interested in joining the IGSI Board of Directors and/or serving as an IGSI officer in 2012, please contact a member of the current Board to let us know of your interest. Or come to a Board meeting. The next Board of Directors meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays October 19 and November 9 at the MGS Library, from 4-6 p.m.

Current members of the IGSI Board are: Ann Eccles, Mike Flynn, Gigi Hickey, Tom Rice, Kay Swanson, Mary Wickersham, Fern Wilcox, and Bob Zimmerman.

Appreciation of Two Volunteers
Beth Mullinax has served the IGSI in many roles for more than 30 years, working most closely with the library, instruction and research services. She has also been the "face" of IGSI to many organizations and members. Over the years, she is the one who has responded to member queries, helped scale brick walls, and provided direction to new researchers.

Sheila Northrop, a longtime IGSI member, stepped up in 2009 to develop a series of coordinated class offerings for Irish Saturdays. The monthly classes offered in 2010 and 2011 on topics from Basic Irish Research to contemporary topics have proved popular with members.

However, as the saying goes, all good things do come to an end. Sheila has stepped back as she has an education role of her own to complete. Beth has decided to take time to work on her own family genealogy, and she will step back from handling the member queries and research questions, effective December 2011. She will still maintain an active role with the library.

Beth & Sheila, thank you for your years of service to IGSI and for your roles with member education and research! We're lucky that, while you are stepping back some in your levels of involvement, you will still be a part of IGSI.

But this does create an opportunity for new volunteers; it opens the door for YOU to help carry on this great and necessary work. Please see the article below for more information on these volunteer opportunities.

IGSI Website & Blog
We are all waiting for the appearance of the new IGSI website. It is in the final stages of completion and should be up and functioning by the end of this year. We'll send out an email blast announcing its appearance. For more information on the new website, see the article by Diane Lovrencevic on page 159.

In the meantime, Board member Gigi Hickey has taken on the task of providing current information related to Irish research in a new IGSI blog, found at <http://www.blog.irishgenealogical.org>. Gigi says, "Our goal for this blog is to post tidbits of useful information on a regular basis. Items posted will always (we hope) be of interest to family history researchers, but there will be a strong emphasis on researching Irish ancestry." Check it out.

Share Your Talents

As with all volunteer organizations, an extra pair of hands – or a few pair – helps ease the workload of other volunteers.

As noted in the President's Latter, there are two critical vacancies in the IGSI organization: researchers to answer member queries and research questions, and a leader to organize educational opportunities for members.

What will happen if we don't fill the positions? These wonderful programs

Continued on page 158

Irish in America

by Ann Eccles

I've seen a variety of statistics regarding Irish immigration to America. A general number is about 250,000 (a quarter million) Irish migrated to America before 1800. About two million more arrived by the mid-1800s, the great majority as a result of the Famine, and another two million Irish followed by the end of the century. Statistics for the population of Ireland indicate a reduction by half – from about 8 million to four million during the 19th century.

Some came because of religious persecution, others because of political persecution. Some came because they could no loner support their families; others came to find a better life. Some were recruited to work in the mills; some were recruited for railroad or canal construction projects. Some came with their entire family; others came alone, widowed, orphaned.

For those of us searching for the stories and reasons our ancestors emigrated, some may find the story and others of us may always wonder about the real reason.

My ancestors are among those who came in the 1800s and may offer a glimpse into the "average" Irish who arrived in the U.S. One family migrated from state to state looking for work in the mills; I know this because the U.S. census reports the birth locations for their children in three different states. In another family, the children took different occupations. The oldest son apprenticed as a carpenter and went on to build a business in construction work; a second son went to work for the railroad and moved west with his job; the youngest became a priest. Another son worked in the textile mills as did his two sisters. In another family, the father opened a news and cigars store; his sons worked in textile mills and in insurance. When he retired, it was to a small farm.

The articles in this issue of *The Septs* present opportunities to learn more about the social and cultural history of the times in which our ancestors lived and suggestions for improving our skills in researching our ancestors. We also welcome three new writers who are contributors to this issue – Monica Cash, Donna Moughty, and Ross Weldon.

Monica Cash describes the postcard digitization project of the Linen Hall Library (Belfast, Ireland) which makes available the images of many of the Irish postcards in its large collection. Ross Weldon describes the collaboration that led to the new Irish genealogical research site, *findmypast.ie*, and some of the resources to be found there.

Donna Moughty offers details and instruction in doing genealogical research, sending us on our way to find Irish ancestors and ancestral townlands with the best methods. In the Beginning Genealogist, Jay Fonkert reinforces the research process.

Tom Rice offers a great introduction to the theme, Irish in America, and provides an extensive list of recommendations for further reading on the topic. Sue Kratsch shares her research on the builders of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The Irish furnished a large number of workers for its construction and their influence continued with those who settled in the area.

Judith Eccles Wight describes the family history resources specific to County Cavan. David Rencher shares information about Thomas Ulick Sadlier and his collections in Irish repositories that have been microfilmed by the Family History Library.

Mary Wickersham offers tips on getting the most when using Internet message boards.

It's a full issue with information that will appeal to all readers. Take a moment and learn a bit more about some aspect of your ancestor's story or how to find that story. Happy reading.

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Not By Records Alone

by Tom K. Rice, CG

You will never fully understand your immigrant Irish ancestors if you limit your study to genealogical records. The full story is not just the individual or even their family and descendants. What is missing from a records-only view is the rich texture of the story of the Irish as an ethnic society within the overall North American society. This latter story should be added to your family history research to give it its full texture. You will only truly understand the life of your ancestors if you know the story of the Irish in America as a whole and of the relevant sub-chapters of that story that apply to your family.

By sub-chapters, I mean for example:

- The story of the 18th century Scots Irish immigrants, with that story further divided into those who settled in Western Pennsylvania from those that moved south into the Piedmont areas of Virginia and the Carolinas.
- The differing stories of the urban Irish from the Irish in rural settlements.
- The story of those who came prior to the vast wave of post-famine Irish versus those who flooded ashore at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th.
- The story of how Irish immigrants got established when they first landed.
- The story of the economic, social and political ascendancy of the Irish in their new homeland.
- The stories of the Irish in such fields as the arts and entertainment, sports, the military, politics, business and finance, and religion.
- The story of how the Irish kept or lost their Irish identity.
- The overall story of how the ethnic group called Irish changed over the years and the corresponding effect they had on the greater society.

The story of the ethnic Irish in North America is a fascinating one with these many different story lines. Each differs depending upon the immigrant's circumstances in Ireland prior to emigration, the social/economic/religious group they belonged to in Ireland, when they emigrated, their route of emigration to their final destination, the place(s) they settled, the social and political conditions into which they moved, the status of the Irish and their descendants who had proceeded them, etc.

My Irish ancestors illustrate this diversity well. There were those who came in the 1830s, the 1850s, the 1870s, and the late 1890s. They came from Counties Down, Galway, Cork, Wexford and places yet to be determined. They came first to Quebec, Michigan, New York, Illinois, and Massachusetts. Some spent time in Iowa, Montana, Alberta and Dakota Territory. Their occupations included domestic servant, farmer, railroad engineer, railroad shop foreman, and harness marker. Their children became farmers, lawyers, a mayor, school teacher, clerical supervisor, postal inspector, hotelier, soldier, music teacher, opera singer, and railroad fireman. Looking at any one of these immigrants, their story and the story of their children is often fascinating, but unfortunately incomplete if not placed within the broader context.

Irish American studies is a rich vibrant field of study. This ethnic group is one of the largest in the U.S. It is a diverse group both now and in its origins. It was shaped in many ways by the country into which it moved and it contributed greatly to its new homeland. While there are some common aspects to the history of every ethnic immigrant group, the Irish are one of the most distinct in terms of their story. Knowing this history will help you move from knowing who your ancestors were to appreciating what they went through and being proud of what they accomplished.

Where does one go to learn these stories? Go to the library. Go to the Internet. Go to meetings of people who study the many fascinating aspects of Irish American culture.

A good starting point is the Wikipedia page on Irish Americans at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_American>. It has a brief outline of many of the topics that fit under the banner Irish American plus links to many websites relating to these topics.

An interesting and extensive online article about Irish Americans can be found at <http://www.everyculture.com/multi/Ha-La/Irish-Americans.html>.

There are several societies that focus on studying Irish Americans. Amongst the better known is the American Conference for Irish Studies <http://www.acisweb.com/index.php>. Their "Resources" page has a state-by-state listing of information about Irish studies offerings. Their "Related Sites" page lists a very broad range of websites relating to Irish studies, not just Irish-American programs. Links are grouped

under headings such as: Libraries and Online Catalogues; Literature, Folklore, Mythology and Electronic Texts; Genealogy, Diaspora Studies, & Irish-American Sites; Associations and Programs for Irish and Celtic Studies; and Publisher, Journals, Presses and Commercial Sites.

Of course, you can find much more online by doing a Google search using the terms "Irish-American" and "history."

Let the learning begin!

Bibliography

Here are some of the books I have read on the topic and that are in my personal library. These are not necessarily the best books on the Irish in America, nor do they cover all aspects of the topic in depth, but they will give anyone who pursues the topic a good start. I have included a few short words about each – highly subjective.

Akenson, Donald Harman. *The Irish Diaspora*. Toronto: P.D. Meany Compnay, Inc., 1996. A must read for a good perspective on the overall topic of the Irish diaspora.

Coffey, Michael, ed., Terry Golway, text. *The Irish in America*. New York: Hyperion, 1997. A light read, coffee table book.

Connelly, Bridget. *Forgetting Ireland*. St. Paul, Minnesota: Borealis Books, 2003. A well-researched study of the Graceland, Minnesota, Irish settlement.

Dezell, Maureen. *Irish America, Coming into Clover*. New York: Anchor Books: 2000. A popular, easy read treatment of the topic.

Greeley, Andrew M. *The Irish Americans, The Rise to Money and Power*. New York: Harper & Row, Publishers. 1981. A good look at the increasing good fortunes of the Irish in the United States from a sociologist's viewpoint.

Ignatiev, Noel. *How the Irish Became White*. New York: Routledge, 1995. An interesting perspective of the interplay between the Irish and the African American slaves in the United States.

Lee, J.J. and Marion R. Casey. *Making the Irish American: History and Heritage of the Irish in the United States*. New York: New York University Press. 2006. A collection of articles on select topics relating to the Irish in the United States. Somewhat academic.

Leyburn, James G. *The Scotch Irish, A Social History*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of North Carolina Press, 1962. A very good introduction to this unique subgroup of the Irish diaspora.

McCaffrey, Lawrence J. *Textures of Irish America*. Syracuse, New York: Syracuse University Press: 1992. An in-depth analysis of the story of the Irish in America. Be sure to read the preface to learn of the differing views that scholars have of the Irish in the U.S.

Meagher, Timothy J. *The Columbia Guide to Irish American History*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005. An encyclopedic overview of many aspects of the topic.

Miller, Kerby A. *Emigrants and Exiles: Ireland and the Irish Exodus to North America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1985. A key work that does an excellent job of tying together the happenings in Ireland with the world that the Irish immigrant entered in the United States.

Miller, Kerby A., Arnold Schrier, Bruce D. Boling and David N. Doyle. *Irish Immigrants in the Land Of Canaan: Letters and Memoirs from Colonial and Revolutionary America, 1675-1815*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003. This interesting approach uses letters sent between Irish immigrants and those left in Ireland, studying their meaning and putting them into the context of their time and place.

Regan, Ann. *Irish in Minnesota*. St. Paul, Minnesota: Minnesota Historical Society Press: 2002. One of many regional studies of the Irish in North America.

Emmons, David M. *Beyond the American pale: the Irish in the West, 1845-1910*. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 2010.

Miller, Kerby A. *Ireland and Irish America: Culture, Class, and Transatlantic Migration*. Dublin: Field Day in association with the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame, 2008.

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.*

Strategies for Starting Your Irish Research

by Donna Moughty

Success in solving your Irish research problem frequently begins with records in the United States (or other country where your ancestors settled). The importance of place, the name of the townland in Ireland, cannot be overstated and, if the information exists, it is probably in a record here. So before you purchase your tickets to Dublin, you must do your homework.

An understanding of genealogical principles and procedures will help keep you on track.

Work from the known to the unknown. The golden rule for genealogists is to always start with what you know and move back, carefully analyzing and recording evidence which will lead to new clues. Start with yourself and work back through each generation. With Irish research we emphasize whole family research. You never know what family member might have left the clue you are seeking. If fact, multiple family members might each have left a small piece of the puzzle which, when put together, allows you to complete the puzzle. I once found the information regarding the place of origin in Ireland for one of my clients on a collateral line (the brother of the subject), four generations removed from the immigrant.

Take complete notes and document your sources. If you ask most professional genealogists what they wish someone had told them when they were starting, the overwhelming response would be "cite your sources." I can guarantee that you will find conflicting information during your research. If you don't know the source of the information, how can you evaluate it? Having a copy of Elizabeth Shown Mills' book *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian* is a must! Your notes should include a complete citation, information about the type of source (original, derivative) and the type of information it contains (primary, secondary).

Write an analysis of your findings. When working at a repository (you can't find everything on the Internet) you often want to collect as much information as possible, but when you review the material at home, you find details lacking. Try to write an analysis of the document in your notes, making a list of questions the document uncovered and outlining your next steps. Too often by the time you look at all the documents you copied, your memories have faded and you need to make another trip to the same repository.

Keep a research calendar. Have you ever been at a library and picked up a book thinking this is the one to solve your research problem, then, as you start to page through, discover you have seen it before? By keeping a research calendar you will know that you have already checked that particular resource. Remember to note negative as well as positive results and the overall usefulness of the resource. Depending on the circumstances, negative results can tell you that your ancestor was not in that location at that particular time, and that you need to look elsewhere.

Make sure you have proved the connection before you move on. Do you have former ancestors? Those are the ones you researched for years only to find they were in the wrong family! Just because the name is the same, or they are in the area where you believe your ancestors lived, does not mean they are the correct person. If you are not sure, write a proof summary. Analyze all the records you have found and make a case for this being your ancestor. Were there other individuals in the area with the same name? Have you researched those individuals to prove they are not your ancestor? Are there loose ends or inconsistent records? You must resolve these issues before you move on.

Patrick J. Moughty

Death Certificate

Evidence

Patrick J. Moughty died 8 May 1973 at his home on 34 Hassake Road, Old Greenwich, Fairfield, Connecticut. He was married to Beatrice Moughty, and born in Ireland [no location given] on 26 Oct 1889 to Bernard Moughty and Mary [maiden name unobtainable]. His Social Security Number was 043-03-2720 and he was a retired chauffeur for Electrolux Corporation. He was not a veteran. The informant on the death certificate was Mrs. Christine Dennis of the same address [his daughter].

According to his death certificate, the cause of death was "Myocardial Insufficiency, 1 wk." This information was given by the assistant medical examiner (J. Colman Kelly, MD) who certified the death at 8:30 a.m. on 8 May 1973.

The undertaker was Leo F. Gallagher & Sons, Inc., 31 Arch Street, Greenwich, Connecticut. Patrick was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery, Greenwich, Connecticut on 10 May 1973.

Analysis

Most of the information provided on the death certificate was known with the following discrepancies to be researched:

Middle initial "J" not seen on any other document. What does it stand for?
Wife was always known as "Bridget." Where did Beatrice come from?
[If not already known, the name of the cemetery would confirm the religion as Roman Catholic.]

Next Steps

Obituary
Birth Certificate
Marriage Certificate
Census Records (both US and Irish)
Immigration
Naturalization
WWI Draft Registration
Social Security Records
Church/Cemetery Records

Source

"Patrick J. Moughty," Certificate of Death, Connecticut State Department of Health, 8 May 1973, Greenwich, CT, State File Number 211 (1973), Certified Copy.

Sample analysis of Patrick Moughty's death certificate, courtesy of Donna Moughty.

Location, Location, Location

Identifying the townland (and county) where your ancestor lived in Ireland is the single piece of information to mark success in your search. The townland is the smallest administrative division in Ireland and in size could be anything from a few acres to thousands of acres. There are over 60,000 townlands in Ireland and the Irish were not particularly creative in naming them. It's not uncommon to find the same townland name multiple times, even in the same county! Knowing only the county of origin may not be enough to get to the correct records, especially with a common surname. Once you know the townland and county, you can check the *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland*. Based on the 1851 census, it lists 60,000+ townlands and the other administrative divisions associated with them (the county, barony, civil parish and poor law union). The civil parish allows you to find church records, and the poor law union became the registration district for civil registration. This book can be found in most libraries with a genealogical collection. *GoogleBooks* has recently published it as an e-book, which has become a favorite addition to my electronic library.

Information about the origin of your ancestor in Ireland will most likely be found in a record in the United States. Begin with an exhaustive search for all records created in the country of immigration. Look at **every** record for each individual to find that all-important piece of information. If the information you seek cannot be found for your ancestor, research any siblings or other relatives you can identify with the same diligence. If that doesn't work, search neighbors or witnesses whose names appear, particularly on church records.

A difficulty in searching for Irish ancestors is the duplication of names. Not only are many surnames common, but Irish naming patterns (which are not cast in stone, but frequently used) name the oldest son after the paternal grandfather. If a family had four sons, the next generation would typically have four individuals, all close in age, with the same given name. For example, James Moughty, the son of Patrick, had six sons and four daughters. The oldest son was named Patrick after his grandfather. One son became a priest, and one remained a bachelor; the other four sons named their first son James after the grandfather. Since the Irish were not very mobile, there were now four James Moughtys, all close in age, living in the same area. In addition, the Irish were not particularly good with ages or birth dates. If one of these James emigrates to the U.S., how do you determine which one? Multiply this example by generations and you see the problem. If you are not careful, you can spend years researching the wrong family.

Begin by checking home and family sources.

Home Sources

What documents do you have in your home? Your birth certificate, marriage certificate, or those of your children are probably around the house or in the bank safety deposit box. You might also have baptismal or confirmation certificates, diplomas, or a family Bible. If your parents have passed away, you might have their death certificates, wills or other documents associated with their estate. For each of the documents, create a source citation and write a short report analyzing the clues contained in the document and listing the next steps in your research plan. Record the information on your family group sheets or input the information into your genealogy software or online family tree.

Your older relatives are other sources of information. One of my biggest regrets is that I developed the genealogy bug after all my grandparents had passed on. Perhaps you have grandparents or aunts and uncles still living. Don't waste any time...go interview them! Aunt Sally may not remember what she had for lunch, but she can probably regale you with stories of her childhood. Family stories and traditions frequently have inaccuracies (similar to the game of telephone you played as a child, where you whispered sometime to the person next to you, only to get back a very garbled message), but there are usually some bits of truth in them. It's your job to ferret out the truth. When you meet with your relatives, bring along those unidentified photos. One of your older relatives may be able to identify the people in them.

There are too many types of documents that might be found at home to list them all here. One great worksheet on home sources was created during the PBS Ancestors TV series, which is listed in the Resources at the end of this article. My mother-in-law provided one of my best sources of information, a drawer full of funeral cards. To this day, I go back through those cards and find names that meant nothing to me when I started, but that are now firmly fixed

on the family tree. Some cards from Ireland gave me the exact location of the family. All the cards provided death dates, usually a birth date or age, the name of the funeral home, and some gave me maiden names.

Vital Records

After reviewing your home sources, the next part of your strategy is to review vital records: a death certificate, a marriage license/certificate, a birth certificate. Record each piece of information in your database along with the citation. The death certificate may contain information on the parents' names, a date of birth and location, military service, cause of death, name of the undertaker and burial place. Always identify the informant...was the person likely to know the information? A death certificate contains both primary and secondary information. The primary information is the date and place of death, cause of death and burial information. Information such as the birth date and parents' names are secondary information. Allow for the possibility of incorrect information. If the information on the marriage license lists the parents' names and there is a discrepancy with the death certificate, give more weight to the marriage record since the informant (the bride or groom) was more likely to have known the correct information.

The analysis of these records should lead you to other documents: obituaries, cemetery burial records (who else is buried in the plot and how are they related), estate records, and church records. Then check census records, naturalization, Social Security SS-5, immigration, military, land records, city directories, tax records, and birth records of children – whatever records you can find. You may find pieces of information on various sources. For example, my grandmother listed her place of birth on her marriage license and on her husband's naturalization as Aberdeen, Scotland; however, on her voter registration, she listed her place of birth as Ballyshannon, Ireland. Each document listed a different birth date as well. A copy of her birth record from Irish civil registration confirmed her birth in Ballyshannon on 12 Dec 1892. Had I stopped at the first record, I would never have found her true birth record (or possibly found the wrong record).

Similarly, the only information I had on Michael Daly was that he was from Irishtown, county unknown (information from his daughter). According to the *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland*, there are twenty-six Irishtowns in ten counties in Ireland. The obituary of his half-brother told me that he was from Mayo and an aunt said that her mother used to write to someone in Crumlin in Mayo. Even with two Crumlins in Mayo, locating Crumlin and Irishtown on a map directed me the correct location in the civil parish of Claremorris. When researching Irish ancestors it is important to expand your search to include relatives, witnesses to life events such as baptisms, marriages or naturalizations; neighbors from the census or, if the name is not too common, other individuals living in the same area with the same name (be creative about spellings). Consider what brought your ancestor to a particular place – they probably knew someone there who had emigrated before them.

"We have loved him in life, let us not forget him in death."—*St. Ambrose.*

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in Thy love for me.—300 days.

Heart of Jesus, fount of all purity, have mercy on us.—100 days

Sacred Heart of Jesus
Have Mercy on the Soul of
PATRICK SPRATT
BUTTEVANT, Co. Cork
Who died 21st February, 1965
Aged 69 years.
R. I. P.

O Immense Passion! O Profound Wounds! O Profusion of Blood! O Sweetness above all Sweetness! O Most Bitter Death! grant him eternal rest. Amen.

Mother of Love, of Sorrows and of Mercy pray for us —300 days

O Compassionate Lord Jesus grant him eternal rest.—*7 years and 7 quarantines.*

Mary, Mother of God, and Mother of Mercy, pray for me and the departed.—100 *days.*

Good was his heart in friendship sound
Loved and respected by all around,
A beautiful life came to an end,
He died as he lived everyone's friend

We shall meet again in a brighter land,
Where farewell is never spoken
We shall clasp each other hand in hand,
And the clasp shall not be broken.

We miss thy kind and willing hand,
Thy fond and earnest care;
Our home is dark without thee
We miss thee everywhere.

Example of a funeral card (both sides shown), courtesy of Donna Moughty.

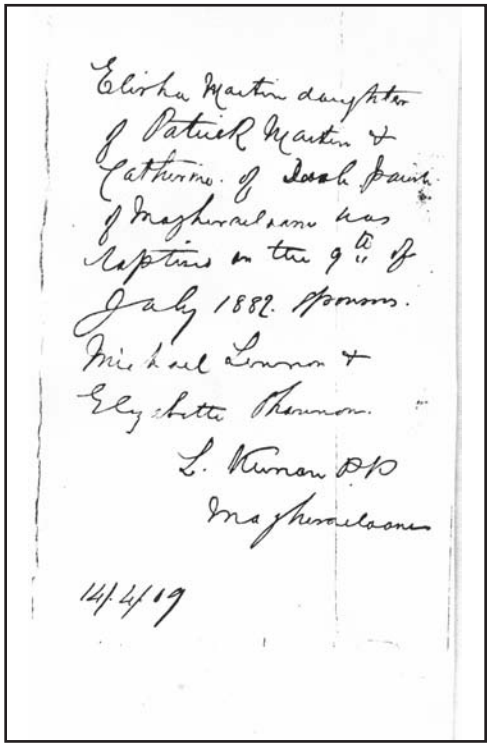
Church Records

After reviewing home sources and vital records, check for church records. Roman Catholic records are considered private; it is unlikely that you will be allowed to view the parish registers yourself. Typically you make a request to the church and the parish secretary transcribes the pertinent information onto a pre-printed form. If there is information in the register that does not have a place on the form, you probably won't get it unless you ask. In your request, explain that you are looking for information on the place of origin in Ireland. Ask that if there are additional notations in the register, that they be provided. Some priests would not marry a couple without proof of their baptism, and there might be a notation by the priest of the parish in Ireland. A request for a marriage certificate for Thomas O'Malley and Alice Martin included a copy of a letter from the parish priest in Ireland identifying the date of her baptism, her parents and sponsors, and, most importantly, the name of the parish in Ireland. The family story had stated she was from Carrickmacross in County Monaghan; however, the family was actually from the small townland of Doagh, about five miles west of Carrickmacross. This is why the townland is so important. Martin was a very common name in this area. Carrickmacross (the town) is in the civil parish of Magheross, and Doagh (five miles away) is in the civil parish of Magheracloone. Had I been searching in Carrickmacross according to the family story, I would have been researching the wrong family. Just as we do today – our ancestors, when asked for their place of origin, frequently named the largest town near their small townland.

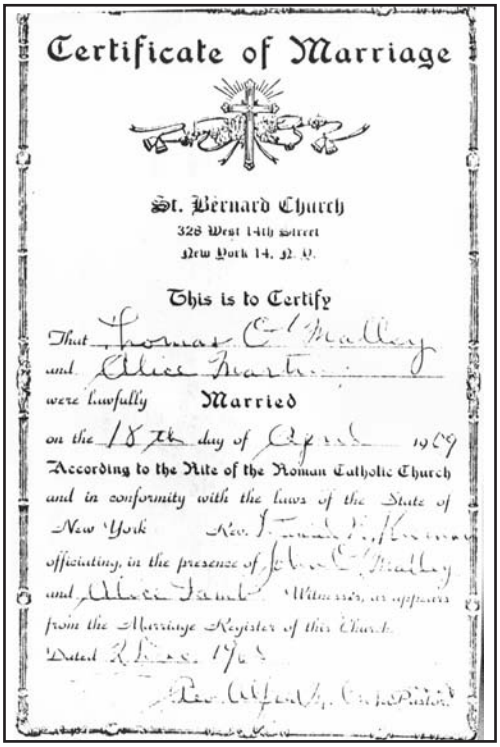
Timelines

Timelines lay out the events of your ancestor's life and where those events occurred. They direct your research, particularly when you hit a brick wall (which you inevitably will), and they help you to focus on what might be missing. Timelines show migrations, ensuring that you are looking in the correct location for the records. They may also help in distinguishing between two individuals of the same name.

While researching James Crofoot, I had originally identified him in the 1800 census in Newtown, Connecticut. When I looked at my information on James in a timeline, I discovered that James was living in Salisbury, Connecticut, in 1801, as identified in a land document; and, in an 1832 affidavit for a Revolutionary War pension for his brother-in-law, he stated that he knew him 40 years ago (1792) in Woodbury, Connecticut. This



Elisha Martin daughter
of Patrick Martin &
Catherine of Doagh Parish
of Magheracloone was
baptised on the 9th of
July 1882. Sponsors.
Michael Lennon &
Elizabeth Shannon.
L. Kernan P.P.
Magheracloone
14/4/19



Certificate of Marriage

St. Bernard Church
328 West 14th Street
New York 14, N. Y.

This is to Certify
That Thomas O'Malley
and Alice Martin
were lawfully Married
on the 18th day of April 1909
According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church
and in conformity with the laws of the State of
New York Rev. [illegible]
officiating, in the presence of [illegible]
and [illegible] Witnesses, as appears
from the Marriage Register of this Church.
Dated [illegible] 1963
[illegible]

Letter from Irish priest attesting to Alice Martin's baptism date, parents' names, and parish (left). Thomas O'Malley / Alice Martin marriage certificate, courtesy of Donna Moughty (right).

made me rethink the 1800 census record, which had seemed logical as the family had lived in the Newtown area for many years; but the timeline led me to other documents confirming that the James in Newtown was a different person.

Another use of timelines is to narrow the timeframe when searching for a record. I didn't know when Michael Daly emigrated from Ireland to the United States, other than he came through Ellis Island (1892-1924). There were 177 Michael Dalys in the Ellis Island database, so which one was mine? By looking at a timeline on Michael, I knew that in 1901 he was in Ireland (1901 census) and that he married in 1912 in Stamford, Connecticut. He did not appear in the 1911 census of Ireland, so that limited my emigration search to the timeframe of 1901- 1911 (and reduced the number of Michael Dalys to about 80). By adding his birth year (± 2 years) I narrowed it to 16 possibilities. Information collected after 1903 included the town where he was born and his mother's name; these helped me confirm my Michael Daly arrived 3 Apr 1909. Remember to add the birth of children to an individual's timeline. This can show the migration pattern of the family and confirm when they were in specific locations, based on the ages and locations from the census.

Michael W. Daly				
Age	Event	Date	Location	Occupation
	Birth	20 Dec 1886	Crumlin, Mayo, Ireland	
	Father Death: John, age 58	bef 1901		
15	1901 Census - Ireland	1901	Crumlin, Mayo, Ireland	Farmer's Son
20	Depart Ireland	28-Mar-09	Queenstown, Cork, Ireland	
20	Arrive United States	3-Apr-09	New York, New York	Laborer
	1910 US Census		NOT FOUND	
	1911 Census - Ireland	1911	DOES NOT APPEAR	
	Mother Death: Mary, age 66	aft 1911		
25	Marriage: Ann Jane (Jennie); len	24-Nov-12	Stamford, Connecticut	
26	Daughter Birth: Catherine Heler	15-Nov-13	Stamford, Connecticut	
28	Son Birth: John Francis	9-Jun-15	Stamford, Connecticut	
30	Son Birth: Thomas Martin	11-May-17	Stamford, Connecticut	
30	WWI Draft Registration	6-Jun-17	Stamford, Connecticut	Lather
30	Declaration of Intent	11-Dec-17	Stamford, Connecticut	Lathe Hand
32	1920 US Census	27-Jan-20	Stamford, Connecticut	Locksmith
34	Petition for Naturalization	19-Feb-21	Stamford, Connecticut	Machinist
37	Daughter Birth: Mary Alice (Sis	16-Feb-24	Stamford, Connecticut	
49	1930 US Census	16-Apr-30	Stamford, Connecticut	Janitor
46	Death	5-Apr-33	Shelton, Connecticut	Janitor

Example of a timeline, courtesy of Donna Moughty

I add historical events to my timelines. Was your ancestor the correct age to have served in a war? If he was born between 1872 and 1897 and lived in the United States (whether a citizen or not), he should have a World War I Draft Registration. If you have not been using timelines, give them a try. They may help to solve a longstanding research problem.

The time and location of an event also plays a role in your success in finding an ancestor's place of origin. New England vital records date from the 1600s; however, Pennsylvania only started statewide registration of births and deaths in 1906. Ship's passenger lists prior to 1893 typically listed only Ireland for the passenger's origin. With the introduction of standardized forms in 1893, each passenger was required to provide information on their last residence. This could provide the county or town. In 1903, the forms asked for the place of birth, which usually gave the townland. A similar problem exists with naturalization papers which, before 1906, provided few details. If your ancestor arrived earlier, one strategy is to find a relative who arrived later and check for their locality information. While early Irish (primarily Scots-Irish) frequently emigrated as a group, many of the later Irish practiced chain migration, one person arriving and sending back money to bring over the next family member. Finding a family member that arrived after 1900 might give you a hint as to the origins in Ireland.

Newspapers

Digitized historical newspapers have opened up new opportunities to find more than just obituaries. You might find an ancestor who was involved in an accident, named in a lawsuit, or being sought to resolve a probate issue. Check the January 2011 issue of *The Septs* for information on newspaper research.

One of the largest collections for Irish research is *The Search for Missing Friends: Irish Immigrant Advertisement, 1831-1920* which contains transcriptions of ads placed in the Boston *Pilot*, the oldest Catholic newspaper in the country. This paper had a wide distribution

across the United States and Canada and became a vehicle for finding lost relatives. Ads frequently give the townland information as well as last known residence and the name of a relative. Listing over 45,000 individuals, it is available in print at many libraries, on the *AmericanAncestors* website and at the Boston College website. A similar but smaller publication, *Voices of the Irish Immigrant*, is based on information wanted ads in the *Truth Teller* in New York City between 1825 and 1844.

County Histories

If your Irish ancestors arrived early and were pioneer settlers in an area, another strategy is to check the county and town histories which sometimes give the origins of early settlers. Some early settlers included their origins in Ireland on their tombstones, so check there as well.

Putting Your Family Online

A final strategy that I have used successfully is putting family information online. I refer to this as trolling and it has worked for me. I have family information both on my personal website and on *Ancestry.com*. In June, Agnes in Ireland emailed me after finding a reference to one of her family members in my Moughty: Daly Family Tree. Her grandmother, Margaret Martin, and my husband's grandmother, Ann Jane Martin, were sisters; Agnes still lives in County Monaghan. On my trip to Ireland next year, I hope to make a side trip to Monaghan to meet her.

An individual in Dublin who read one of my blogs had contacted me. Having been born in the town I mentioned, he knew the family I was looking for. He put me in touch and two years ago we celebrated at a pub in Mayo. Last year I visited a cousin of my grandmother on a line on which I had been unable to make any progress. A woman from England had recognized the married name of the individual and put me in touch with her. I was able to visit with my cousin last year in Chippingham, England.

Even without your own website, there are many ways to get your information out there. The family file links from my webpage were created in my genealogy software, *Reunion*™, and output as web cards. I just linked the "Home" card to the family name on my site. Most genealogy software has some way of creating a file for a website; you may have some free web space with your Internet Service Provider (ISP).

A blog is another way of sharing your family information. Creating a blog is just like creating a word processing document and sites such as *Blogger* and *WordPress* are free. You can tell the story of one of your ancestors, or discuss your research. If you are new to blogging, look to *Geneabloggers* as a great place to start.

Putting your family information on a database site using a GEDCOM is another option. The largest database is *Ancestry.com*. If you use their Family Trees for free, you can share your family information, but you cannot use the "hints" provided by *Ancestry*. You need to create a free account with a user name and password, but there is no charge. Make sure you read the submission agreement. It states: "*Ancestry* may reproduce, compile and distribute, all information about non-living individuals in your submitted GEDCOM file." Some people find this unacceptable, but I only submit the facts: birth, death, marriage. You cannot copyright facts; since I'm looking for connections, I have no issue with this. When people contact me, I establish the relationship before sharing other information.

When the new *FamilySearch* is released I will put my information there as well. Remember, you are trying to get the widest distribution of your information so that people can find you. Other databases are listed in the **Resources** below.

No matter what online solution you use, include your source citations with the information that you post. This helps to correct the wrong information that is out there.

You can also post information on a mailing list. *RootsWeb* has an extensive selection of mailing lists from surnames to geographic localities. You should join the mailing lists for the geographic areas where you ancestors settled, as this is the most likely place to find information. If your unknown cousins are looking for information, they are likely to check that location. And check the USGenWeb site for the area; it sometimes contains information not published anywhere else. If you know at least the county in Ireland, post a query on the RootsWeb IRE-[county] mailing list and check the IrelandGenWeb Project.

You might want to be more proactive and find people who have posted family files or queries. Recently, I added my daughter-in-law's family to my tree on Ancestry; in the process, I received a hint from another tree with my parents' names listed. I did not know the individual who had posted the tree,

so I contacted him. His wife's family connected through my Moag line. My great grandfather's brother died young in a mining accident and there was little information on his family. So I now have another cousin with whom to share information.

Summary

No one said Irish genealogy research would be easy; however, identifying the specific locality in Ireland where your ancestors lived will allow you to successfully jump the pond and search for records in Ireland. If the information about the locality in Ireland exists, it is most likely in a record left wherever your ancestor immigrated. Focus on finding all of the records they left in their new homeland and expand your search to include all relatives, witnesses and associates. Finally, sharing your information on the Internet may help you connect with cousins both here and abroad.

Resources

Ancestors Home Sources http://tinyurl.com/3fql58n

Ancestry http://www.ancestry.com/

Blogger http://www.blogger.com/

Books referred to in this article http://www.moughty.com/shop.html

Forms http://tinyurl.com/3gwtxyk

Geneabloggers http://www.geneabloggers.com/

Geni.com http://www.geni.com/

Google Books http://tinyurl.com/4xczlmo

Interview Questions http://tinyurl.com/3opqwsr

Ireland GenWeb Project http://www.irelandgenweb.com/

Lost Cousins http://www.lostcousins.com/

My Heritage http://www.myheritage.com/

RootsWeb http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/

WordPress http://wordpress.com/

Articles

Strategies for Starting Your Family History: Citing Sources http://www.moughty.com/blog/strategies-for-starting_2.html

Strategies for Starting Your Family History: Evidence Analysis http://www.moughty.com/blog/strategies-for-starting_3.html

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Donna Moughty is a professional genealogist who teaches classes for beginners and lectures on a variety of subjects, including Internet, Irish research and computer topics. She provides consultations, research assistance and training and is a member of APG and GSG. She attended the third and fourth Irish Genealogical Congresses in Ireland and was an instructor for the 2011 Irish course at IGHR. She writes a weekly genealogical blog that can be found at www.moughty.com.

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and services will end in December unless YOU step in and step up.

Research and Queries

Research Committee is such a formal title for this work; it is usually one or two people sharing the work of helping other IGSI members to continue the search for their ancestors and homeland in Ireland. With the loss of Beth Mullinax in this role – and she has been the single mainstay of research for many years – we are looking for a couple of people willing to share the duties. Beth estimates that she sometimes spends ten or more hours a week on some research queries. That's not meant to frighten you off but to offer a hint at the time commitment necessary for this particular project – and why we are looking for more than one person to fill the role.

Beth is available to help train her replacements, through the end of the year. If interested or for more information, contact Beth Mullinax at Research@IrishGenealogical.org or Ann Eccles at President@IrishGenealogical.org.

Education Coordinator

Again, this is a formal title for a role that provides focus on education offerings in IGSI. The classes on Irish Saturdays have been an enormous success these last two years. It would be great to continue them. If you have an interest in offering educational opportunities to members in other ways, talk to us about that.

Please share your talents! These two roles are critical to the purpose of our organization. For further information on either position, contact Ann Eccles at President@IrishGenealogical.org.

IGSI Website

by Diane Lovrencevic

The IGSI website that has served its members for so long will soon be replaced with a new one. Along with a new look, the new site uses up to date technology providing us with more we can do on our site and less problems and errors for our members. For the last half year the editors of the website have been learning this new technology and working on the content of the site. We hope our members will enjoy the new site and return often to see what we add and update as time goes on.

Our new site will still be located at the same address of http://www.IrishGenealogical.org.

One of the most important parts of the website is the member information section. After logging into our site you will find a button called **'My Account'** located in the left side of the green navigation bar. This area of the site allows the member to control their personal information used by the IGSI organization, such as updating their email and address. By clicking on this button called "you will find areas to renew your membership, change your contact information, record your volunteer hours and more.

In the 'Record Volunteer Hours' section IGSI volunteers can record the hours they have worked on a project by choosing the project they are involved, enter how many hours they worked and the date they gave those hours. The website will know who entered this and record them from their entry.

The bookstore has a button right by the Contact information button on the green navigation bar. This part of our site has been updated and corrected for the members use.

We hope you will take time to check out our site in full. In future issues of *The Septs* we will continue to share information on some of our sections. Some areas have been renamed. Under the main menu of the site you will find the following areas.

- IGSI Offerings:
  - About Us
  - Bookstore
  - Contact Info
  - Ginealas eNewsletter
  - IGSI Blog
  - Join
  - Journal
  - Library
  - Member Info
  - Renew
  - Research Help
  - Speakers List
  - Volunteering
- Activities:
  - Calendar
  - Classes
  - IGSI Events
  - Irish Days
  - Research Trips
  - Writing Group
- Projects:
  - Donation Projects
  - Pedigree Charts
  - Speakers Project
  - Surname Search
- Research:
  - Irish Counties
  - Genealogical Indexes
  - Maps
  - Search Periodicals
  - Web Links
- Education:
  - Classes
  - Educational Documents
  - Research Guidelines

IGSI wants the website to offer the help Irish researchers need. The editors will be working on problems as they come up while continuing to work on items to add. Suggestions are welcome and we want to hear from you. Contact us at WebEditor@IrishGenealogical.org.

Diane Lovrencevic has held many of the volunteer positions for the organization including past board positions. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of publications for IGSI and is editor of the website. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

Irish Builders of the Illinois and Michigan Canal

by Sue Kratsch

"To dig a canal, at least four things are necessary - a shovel, a pick, a wheelbarrow and an Irishman."[1] Predating the railroad, canals formed the beginnings of mass transportation in America. Early canals were dug by hand and required great quantities of cheap labor. While Germans, Norwegians, and Swedes all toiled on the canals, the backbone of the labor force was Irish.

The "ease" of connecting Lake Michigan to the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers was suggested in 1673 by French explorers Father Marquette and Louis Jolliet.[2] In 1822 and again in 1827, Congress gave Illinois control of lands on either side of a potential Illinois and Michigan Canal; the sale of "canal lands" would help finance construction. Ground was finally broken on 4 July 1836 at Hardscrabble (now Bridgeport, one of Chicago's oldest neighborhoods.).

The waterway followed the south branch of the Chicago River to "the Sag" (the junction with the Calumet River) and the Des Plaines River through Lemont, Romeoville, Lockport, Juliet (now Joliet), Morris, Marseilles, Ottawa, and Utica. It terminated at La Salle / Peru, where the Des Plaines joins the Kankakee to form the Illinois River. The choice of the canal's path profoundly affected the four counties on the route: Cook, Will, Grundy, and La Salle, and their villages and towns. Some grew into industrial and shipping centers, while others withered. Most importantly, the I&M, as it is known locally, "provided the rationale for the founding of Chicago."[3]

Canal Construction

Northern Illinois was sparsely populated in 1836, so the call for laborers went out to the east. Workers on the Erie Canal, completed in 1825, responded. Others were recruited upon their arrival in America, and some came from Canada. As laborers flooded in, camps were hastily built at Bridgeport, Haytown and Corkstown (north of Lockport), the Sag (near Lemont), Kerry Patch (near La Salle), and others up and down the route.

Temporary camps consisted of "miserable hovels - hybrids of logs, 'shake' and turf,"[4] abandoned when the work moved on. Unsanitary conditions in the camps led to outbreaks of cholera and malaria, then known as "canal fever." outbreaks. Yet for a few years, Haytown, was home to a Catholic cemetery and the oldest Catholic mission on the canal, which evolved into the parish of St. Dennis in Lockport.[5] Bridgeport, later known as the home of Chicago's Daley family, became a permanent Irish community.[6] Names of communities changed over time, but early records used the colorful older names.

Laborers were paid a dollar a day for a 14-15 hour day, plus a gill of whiskey – said to be demanded by the Irish.[7] Contractors undertook the building of sections of the canal and hired and paid the laborers. When financial conditions suspended canal work between 1839 and 1842, contractors were paid in canal scrip and passed the scrip on to the workers. The scrip quickly lost value, but could be redeemed for canal lands. Most workers were forced to spend devalued scrip on necessities; land speculators were the main beneficiaries of the scrip system.[8]

On 10 April 1848, the *General Fry* departed Lockport and entered the Chicago River at Bridgeport, the first boat to operate on the I&M Canal. Six days later a "grand fete" celebrated the formal opening. It was to be Illinois's only success in the nineteenth-century canal- building frenzy.

Faction Fights

Priests and a local historian noted fighting between groups of Irish. Perhaps this animosity was carried over from Ireland. Another view is that "immigrants were the victims of shrewd organizers who met them as they landed in New York, pledging all sorts of privileges and help for members and making dire threats to those who refused.... The associations demanded an oath of secrecy and fidelity and hated each other so fiercely that they would not attend Mass under the same roof."[9]

In 1838, violence occurred the length of the canal. The "First Irish War" took place near Romeoville on 4 July, between Corkonians, or "Far-ups," and the "Far-downs." The melee was halted only when the Posse Comitatus arrived from Joliet. Forty prisoners were taken, and 14 held for trial; but the jury couldn't agree and all were freed.[10] When the Corkonians fought the Far-downers at Marseilles and Split Rock, the sheriff and posse were called from Ottawa; ten workers were killed.[11]

Fights occurred among Irish canal

(and railroad) workers in New York and Indiana as well as in Illinois. One party to the fight was, invariably labeled Corkonian, identified with Counties Cork, Limerick, or even southern Connaught, Munster and Leinster. The Far-downers were sometimes from Ulster and, sometimes from Connaught. Ultimately a bishop "threatened excommunication to members of the secret societies." The founding of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Association "gradually sapped the strength of the racketeers."[12]

Finding the Irish

Once the canal was completed, many workers moved on to jobs in railroad construction[13] and in the Joliet-area limestone quarries.[14] Some, such as Patrick Slaven, obtained farms and settled along the canal;[15] a few, including Bernard Murtaugh,[16] accumulated enough canal scrip for their purchase. The Irish who fared best had been canal contractors. Matthew Neary was a contractor in La Salle County,[17] as was William Byrne, who was instrumental in establishing St. Patrick's Church (1838) in La Salle.[18] A contractor named Landrigan worked on the canal near Joliet in 1840.[19]

Some Irish remained to operate boats on the canal or the rivers. Canal packet boats were towed by horses and carried passengers; one or two companies essentially monopolized the business. Slower freight boats, towed by mules, were owned and operated by individuals; no examinations for captains were required, lowering the bar to entry.[20]

Early Church Records

Catholic churches were soon established in canal towns:, including Chicago (St. Mary's), Lemont (St. James), Lockport (St. Dennis), Joliet (St. Patrick's), Morris (Immaculate Conception), La Salle (St. Patrick's), and Ottawa (St. Columba's). Because the priests traveled over a wide area, as evidenced by St. Mary's published records, which "are for Catholics from all over Northeastern Illinois."[21] As Bridgeport grew, St. Bridget's became the center of that Irish community.

The published records of St. Patrick's in Joliet also include other parts of northern Illinois, but only the "Dead's Account" gives place names, both (permanent settlements and shanty towns.)[22] The Minnesota Genealogical Society Library holds owns this volume, and that on St. Mary's in Chicago. The IGSI Library has copies of the records of St. Patrick's, La Salle (1838-1925) and Immaculate Conception, Morris (1863-1876).[23] The records of St. Dennis in Lockport (1852-1951) are available on *Ancestry.com*.

Canal Archives

Lewis University in Romeoville houses the Canal and Regional History Collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, and maps relating to the I&M Canal and the areas it influenced. Images of canal boats and scenes are available on the website as well as essays on the canal and the surrounding area (the John M. Lamb Collection).

The Illinois State Archives in Springfield holds voluminous records on the building and operation of the canal.[24] While many have been microfilmed, few are indexed. Some records of genealogical interest are

- Time Books (payrolls), 1840-1927, unindexed. The first 8 handwritten pages from an 1847-48 volume have been transcribed and show name, position (nearly all are "laborer"), daily wage ($1.00), days worked and amounts paid, deductions for board and store purchases, and, occasionally, a signature.[25]

- Certificates of Boat Registration, 1849-1917, with name and residence of owner.

- Register of Boats Navigating the I&M Canal, 1855-1932.

- Certificates of Changes of Boat Names, 1849-1906, 4 volumes, indexed. If a vessel sank or was damaged and then repaired, its name might be changed "to conceal its previous identity."[26]

- Boat Clearances, 1848-1932, 286 volumes, unindexed.

- Tract Books of Canal Land Sales, 1830-1937, 17 volumes.

Canal Lands

According to the Illinois State Archives definition, "public domain land" encompasses land sold by the U.S. General Land Office plus the land granted to, then sold by, the Illinois Central Railroad, the I&M Canal, and a few other entities. The Archives has created a consolidated index of the initial purchases of public domain land. The canal lands portion of this database was evidently extracted from the above-mentioned Tract Books of Canal Land Sales.

A search of the database by name of purchaser or by legal description. The links to "detailed record of the purchase" and shows Type of Sale; CN indicates canal land.

Purchases made by canal scrip are not identified as such in the database. Many parcels were town lots, identified by a lot number such as L13BL124LS (Lot 13, Block 124, La Salle; abbreviations are on the web site.)[27] Canal lands may also be found in Archives records, such as:

- List of Land Patents Issued by the State of Illinois, 1831-1885, 2 volumes, indexed.
- Certificates for Lands and Lots, 1848-1870, unindexed.
- Record of Forfeited and Resold Land, 1851-1868, unindexed.
- Record of Forfeited Land and Lots Subject to Resale, 1860-1868, unindexed.

Check the relevant county recorder's office for subsequent sales and purchases of the land.[28]

Epilog

To compete with the railroads, the I&M was upgraded in 1871, reversing the flow of the Chicago River in the process; it was essentially obsolete by 1900, replaced at that time by the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. Despite attempts at preservation, the old I&M deteriorated badly until 1974, when the Illinois Department of Conservation acquired the land. The canal headquarters building in Lockport is now a museum that houses the Will County Historical Society. The I&M was declared the nation's first Heritage Corridor in 1998, in time for its 150th anniversary. It now serves a new generation as a recreation and conservation area.

Endnotes

1. George H. Woodruff, *Forty Years Ago! A Contribution to the Early History of Joliet and Will County* (Joliet, Ill.: Jas. Goodspeed, 1874), p. 67.

2. John Lamb, *I & M Canal: A Corridor in Time* (Romeoville, Ill.: Lewis University, 1987), p. 7, and at <http://www.lewisu.edu/academics/library/corridor/tocmain.htm>

3. Lamb, *I & M Canal: A Corridor in Time*; Michael P. Conzen, Introduction, p. 1.

4. Ronald S. Vasile, "Cholera, Counterfeiters, and the California Gold Rush; Passenger Travel on the Illinois & Michigan Canal, 1848-1852," *Journal of Illinois History, vol. 7* (Summer 2004), p. 133.

5. History of St. Dennis Catholic Church, Lockport, Chapter 2, "Holy Tramps," quoting Martin Murphy: http://www.saint dennis.org/archive/history/sdh2.html. Haytown burials were removed to St. James Cemetery at Sag Bridge, Lemont.

6. Lamb, *I & M Canal: A Corridor in Time*, Chapter 3, "The Canal and the Corridor;" Ron Vasile, "A Ride on the I&M Canal" <http://www.lewisu.edu/academics/library/corridor/chapter.htm?id=3>.

7. John Lamb, "The Irish Build the Canal," Newsletter, Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society, March 2003.

8. James W. Putnam, *The Illinois and Michigan Canal: a Study in Economic History* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1918), p. 71.

9. Rev. Norman G. Werling, *The First Catholic Church in Joliet, Illinois* (Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1987), p. 38.

10. Woodruff, *Forty Years Ago!*, pp. 68-71. Posse Comitatus refers here to civilians conscripted by a law officer to keep order; Woodruff provides a tongue-in-cheek description of the "Posse Come-and-take-us."

11. Elizabeth Cummings, *The Stone Church: the Story of St. Patrick's of La Salle, Illinois, 1838-1988* (Tappan, N.Y.: Custombook, 1988), pp. 15-16, at the IGSI Library.

12. Werling, *The First Catholic Church in Joliet, Illinois*, p. 38-39.

13. John M. Lamb, "Canal Boats on the Illinois and Michigan Canal," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 71:3 (Aug. 1978), p. 218.

14. Ronald S. Vasile, "Mule Drivers and Ditch Diggers: Family Stories and the Illinois & Michigan Canal," in *I&M Canal Pioneers' Stories: Bringing History to Life in the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor* (Chicago: Canal Corridor Association, 1999), p. 10.

15. Edward J. O'Day, "Illinois and Michigan Canal Payrolls as a Genealogical Source," *Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 30:1 (Spring 1998), p. 17.

16. Vasile, "Mule Drivers and Ditch Diggers," p. 9.

17. Vasile, "Mule Drivers and Ditch Diggers," p. 10.

18. Cummings, *The Stone Church*, p. 15.

19. Werling, *The First Catholic Church in Joliet, Illinois*, p. 94.

20. Lamb, "Canal Boats," pp. 213, 223.

21. Rev. Joseph J. Thompson, *The First Chicago Church Records, 1833-44* (Baltimore: Gateway, 1988), p. 57; mission stations in northeastern Illinois, and a map of the earliest settlements.

22. Werling, *The First Catholic Church in Joliet*.

23. Index, St. Patrick's, La Salle, 1838-1925; the records may be consulted by appointment. Immaculate Conception, Morris, in *Will - Grundy Counties, Ill., Genealogical Society Quarterly*; burials 1856-1899, 22:4 (Summer 2004); baptisms 1863-1876, 25:2-28:4 (Winter 2007-Summer 2010), at IGSI Library.

24. Illinois State Archives, Record Group 491.000, descriptive inventory <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/di/491__002.htm>

25. O'Day, "Illinois and Michigan Canal Payrolls," pp. 16-24.

26. Ann H. Peterson, "Finding River People on Western Waters," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 78:4 (Dec. 1990), p. 248; sources for nineteenth-century rivermen on the Upper Mississippi and its tributaries.

27. Fonda D. Baselt, "Buyers of I & M Canal Land in the Counties of Cook, Grundy, La Salle, and Will," *Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 30:1 (Spring 1998), pp. 25-37; the list of canal land purchasers, arranged by county, does not seem to include town lots.

28. Illinois State Archives, Databases, Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales <http://www.ilsos.gov/GenealogyMWeb/landsrch.html>

Sue Hahney Kratsch is a Joliet native whose Irish ancestors settled in Lockport, Illinois, in 1848. Her transcription of Lockport Baptist church records was published in 2003 by the Will-Grundy Genealogical Society. She thanks Nancy Bruce Crilly and the WGGS for valuable I&M references. Sue lives and researches in West St. Paul, Minnesota.

1940 U.S. Census

2 April 2012. What is the importance of this date? Many family historians have this date marked in red on their calendars. It's the much-anticipated day when the U.S. government will release the 1940 U.S. census.

But, let's get realistic for a moment. While the census is released on April 2, there will be limited access. The National Archives will offer digital images on that date; *FamilySearch* will offer digital images as well. But neither will have a name index on the release date.

The name indexes and databases for the 1940 census haven't been created yet and cannot be created until the release of the information – 2 April 2012. The only way to search the 1940 census in early April will be the old-fashioned way, by knowing the enumeration district and the person's street address. That's not to say that name indexes won't come quickly; they just won't be there on the release date.

You can start planning for using the 1940 census. There is information on the Internet describing the questions asked, giving historical background to the time, and explaining about the enumeration districts. Check the NARA or *FamilySearch* websites to learn more about their plans for the release of the 1940 U.S. census. Be prepared for what you can and cannot do in April.

Thomas Ulick Sadlier Collection

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

Thomas Ulick Sadlier was a true friend of the genealogist. He served as Deputy Ulster King of Arms from 1922 until 1 April 1943 when the office was turned over to the Government of Ireland. He was the son of the Rev. Francis Sadlier who was an Army Chaplain and died on 21 December 1957 at the age of 75. His education took place at the Rossall School in Lancashire, England, and Trinity College, Dublin. While his formal training led him to be called to the bar, his interest in genealogy is reported to have its origins in the study of bookplates. His legal training and career as Ulster King of Arms suited him well for his appointment in 1944 as an assistant librarian to the King's Inn Library, Dublin, where he served until shortly before his death.

Irish genealogists will recognize a number of his noted works with the Irish Memorials to the Dead Society, a decade's work with George Dames Burtchaell co-authoring *Alumni Dublinensis* and his manuscript that was published after his death, *King's Inn Admission Papers 1607-1867*. [1]

Published Articles

T. U. Sadlier was a popular presenter of papers at various society meetings of the Royal Irish Academy, the Society of Genealogists, London, and the Georgian Society, Dublin, of which he was a member of each.

He was the author of several noteworthy articles including:

"English entries in Irish Records," published in *The Genealogists' Magazine*, Vol. 1, no. 2 (July 1925) 40-5. The article includes entries from the Prerogative Court of Armagh and military regimental records.

"The descendants of George Walker, Governor of Derry," published in The *Genealogists' Magazine*, Vol. 2, no. 4 (December 1926) 90-6.

"Ulster Office Records," published in *The Genealogists' Magazine*, Vol. 6, no. 10 (June 1934) 434-8. This highlights some of the more prominent genealogical collections in the Ulster Office.

"Forgotten Sources of Genealogy," published in *The Genealogists' Magazine*, Vol. 1, no. 4 (October 1938) 98-102. This is an informative article of lesser known and used sources for Irish genealogy in the 1930's. The lists contained in the article have continued to be built upon by subsequent genealogists – notably, the known lists of freeholders at the time, and a significant military "return of the regiments quartered in Ireland circa 1769-1773, with the age of each officer and country of birth, as well as an Irish Concordatum Book which also gives useful data about British Army Officers (1818-21.)" Mention is also made of sources related to specific localities such as the "Diary of Pole Cosby" (1703-37) relating to detailed information about families in Stradbally, Queen's (Leix) County.

"Manuscripts at Kilbory, Co. Tipperary," published in *Analecta Hibernica*, 12 (1943) 131-154. This details the family papers of Lord Dunalley, an important contribution to the information about historical manuscripts since the Dunalley estate was burned during the troubles in 1922. The listing includes voter returns, 1775, deed abstracts – some of which pre-date 1708 for those held in the Registry of Deeds, Sadlier's Cromwellian military regiment of 1649, and various materials for counties Kilkenny, Tipperary, and Waterford.

Collections in Repositories

Public Record Office, Belfast (FHL microfilm 993,548)
T.857 contains extracts of parish registers and testamentary papers derived from materials in the PRO, Belfast and the British Museum, London. The materials relate to the Tipperary parishes of Borrisokane, Castletownarra, Finnoe and Cloghprior, Modreeny, Nenagh, and Terryglas for the time period 1668-1875. On the same microfilm, T. 932 includes transcripts of the marriage license entries from the Prerogative Marriage License Bonds for the years 1625-1857.

National Library of Ireland, Dublin
Ms. 7974 (not microfilmed)
Parish register transcript of the Church of Ireland parish of Killeigh, County King's, 1808-1835. The transcript was made by T. U. Sadlier.

Genealogical Office, Dublin (FHL microfilm 100,204)
Ms. 111B includes a copy of the certificate of arms to Thomas Ulick Sadlier as illustrated in the Visitation of Herford, 1634.

Ms. 424-427B (FHL microfilm 100,177, item 1-5)

Abstracts of wills and genealogical abstracts used to compile pedigrees – includes an index.

Ms. 494 (FHL microfilm 257,781, item 3)
Pedigrees compiled from the Irish Concordatums, 1817-1821. Concordatum was a special fund to assist persons associated with the British Court.

Ms. 546-547 (FHL microfilm 100,164)

Ms. 548-551 (FHL microfilm 100,165, items 1-4)
This is a set of obituary abstracts that have been alphabetically arranged.

Ms. 552-553 (FHL microfilm 100,184)
An almost complete collection of the High Sheriffs of Ireland, 1660-1900 – some counties are incomplete; also includes an Army list of the Irish regiments as they existed in 1771.

Ms. 554-555 (FHL microfilm 100,228, items 8-9)
Provides the list of admissions to the King's Inn, Dublin, 1607-1835, and served as the basis for the later publication by the Irish Manuscripts Commission. It also includes a small list of Prerogative wills made by Americans, namely:

1789 Samuel Abbot
1776 Nicholas Addison
1785 Timothy Allen
1726 Revd. John Bagge
1777 Charles Butler
1784 Robert Carson
1768 Arthur Connor
1735 John Cooke
1789 Walter Cunningham
1806 Robert Dyas

Ms. 557 (FHL microfilm 100,152, item 3)
An indexed set of genealogical notes used to compile lineage pedigrees.

Ms. 570 (FHL microfilm 100,224, item 1)
A collection of County Tipperary materials with lists of magistrates, 1715-1839; grand juries, 1714-1805; mayors of Cashel, 1697-1839; and high sheriffs, 1656-1910. The records were compiled in 1910, prior to the destruction of the originals in the Public Record Office, Dublin.

Ms. 571 (FHL microfilm 100,224, item 2)
A compilation of the names of Tipperary Cromwellian grantees – those who received land as a result of loyalty to the Crown in 1654.

Ms. 572 (FHL microfilm 100,224, item 3)
A collection of genealogical notes and abstracts by T. U. Sadlier primarily for counties Offaly and Tipperary. Included are 1821 census returns; parish register abstracts for the parish of Modreeny, Tipperary, 1786-1829; King's Inn Admission Papers, 1727-1778; Hearth Money Rolls, County Tipperary, 1667.

Ms. 573-576 (FHL microfilm 100,153, items 2-5)
A series of pedigrees compiled by T. U. Sadlier, primarily for Counties Tipperary and Offaly families. Sprinkled throughout the pedigrees are abstracts of records such as census returns and parish registers to support the compiled families. This collection also includes a list of Irish Boys at Trinity College, Cambridge, 1706-1798.

> Sample entry: 21 November 1764, Benjamin Bonsfield, F.C. s[on] of Thomas of Cork, from Lismore Sch[ool], aged 16.

Ms. 628-628A (FHL microfilm 100,154, items 2-3)
An indexed set of pedigrees including some associated with the Order of Malta, compiled circa 1930-40.

Ms. 665 (FHL microfilm 100,123, items 9-10)
A collection of information on Dublin Goldsmiths, 1675-1810; lists of Limerick Grand Juries, 1679, Freeholders of County Leitrim, 1791; abstracts of Dublin marriages taken from Dublin newspapers, 1731-1740; and 1766 Religious Census for the parishes of Uskeene and Ballingarry in the Diocese of Killaloe.

Ms. 700-700A (FHL microfilm 100,178, item 6)
A collection of indexed wills for families in the Dublin area.

Part II will detail the T. U. Sadlier collection in the National Archives of Ireland, Dublin.

To be continued…

End Notes

1. Obituary of Thomas Ulick Sadlier, *The Genealogists' Magazine* vol. 12, no. 13 (March 1958) 451-2.

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Your Family History: Where to Start?

by J.H. Fonkert, CG

I've always liked the tagline for a radio feature about composers: "All music was once new." And, I might add, all great composers were once beginners. The same is true of genealogists. We all start as beginners. Prodigies are rare.

I remember starting out. I knew my paternal grandparents were Dutch. Well, I sort of knew. I had never known them, and my Dad wasn't entirely sure the name hadn't been German at one time (perhaps, something like "Von Kirk"). I knew my maternal grandfather had come from Sweden, but knew nothing about either of my grandmothers.

You probably started much the way I did. I was curious about my ancestors. We had some old family photos, but few were labeled. I still have not found a family Bible record. Only one aunt survived on my Dad's side; my mother had no siblings.

I knew some people had family trees, but I had no idea where they got them. I didn't know about censuses. I didn't know genealogists existed.

If you are new to genealogy, you may be wondering where to start. Perhaps, you've poked around *FamilySearch* <http://www.familysearch.org> or *Ancestry.com* <http://www.ancestry.com>. Or, you've just plain "googled" around the web looking for your ancestors. If you've done any of these things, you could be easily overwhelmed. With so much out there on the web, where should you start?

I have some tips for you, but first remember this: it isn't all on the web. Some of the best sources are in boxes at home, in the heads of your aunts and uncles, at the courthouse, or at your local library or genealogy society. Don't let the web limit your success.

Find Your Starting Line

Suppose you know your grandparents grew up in Chicago. You'd like to find their birth families, but don't know when they came to the United States or where they came from. You don't know your grandmother's maiden name. Where would you start?

Before I make some suggestions, I offer a caveat: genealogy doesn't come with easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions. The more research you do the more adept you become at figuring out what to do next.

Perhaps, you remember people calling your grandmother "Ellen," but you think her name might have been "Helen." You knew your grandfather as "Grampa Gallagher," but aren't sure of his first name.

Your first priority is homework – that is, work at home. Scour the attic and closets in search of anything that might shed light on Grandma's life. Look for photo albums, family Bibles, diaries, old letters, scrapbooks or loose papers. You might get lucky, and find the outlines of several generations, or you might find only random clues – names on the back of photos, postmarks on envelopes, or Uncle Harry's army discharge papers.

Take inventory of what you have found. Write down what you know. Decide what you want to learn. Now, you're ready to gather information.

Three Basic Sources for Beginners

Let's assume you find only random clues. What next? My first three choices are censuses, death certificates and obituaries. These are genealogy-rich documents with the potential to quickly take you back another generation. And, with the explosion of online databases and newspaper archives, they are easier to find than ever before.

Censuses. The U.S. Census is the genealogist's best friend. The easiest way to find them is to search Ancestry.com or Heritage Quest. Ancestry.com is available for at-home subscription as well as in libraries; Heritage Quest is available at some libraries. In the past, it could take years to find an ancestor in printed indexes. Now, you can do a nation-wide search in minutes. The most recently available census is the 1930 census; the 1940 census will be released in April.

Say that you are looking for Helen Gallagher and you know (or think you know) that she grew up in Chicago. A 50-state search for "Helen Gallagher" on *Ancestry.com* produces more than 600 matches. You can narrow the search a couple of ways. If you think Helen was born around 1895, narrow your search to only Helen Gallaghers who were born five years either side of 1895. This reduces the number of matches to 114.

Maybe your home search produced a photo of a young couple labeled "Bert and Helen." A search for a Helen Gallagher of any age with a spouse named Bert results in a single match: Bert and Helen Gallagher in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. Is this the right family? Does anyone remember them living in Chicago? Perhaps you found some old letters with Chicago postmarks. Or better yet, your mother's name was Mary, and you remember, but never met, an Uncle Bert, Jr.

Living at 6826 Dorchester Avenue were:

Bert Gallagher, 25
Helen, wife, 35
Bert, son, 3
Mary, daughter, 2 years, 2 months

This is a very good match. The matches are not always this obvious, but making good matches is a key to good genealogy. Make sure everything fits before you go any farther.

As exciting as it is to find your ancestor listed in the census, be sure to look at all the information on the page. Work from left to right and extract several bits of information about the family, each of which can lead you to other sources of information.

- The Gallaghers owned their home, valued at $4,000. Another step: find the family in city directories and follow the Gallaghers backward and forward from 1930.

- Bert and Helen were both 31 when they married, placing their marriage about 1926.

- Their children, Bert and Mary, were born in Illinois, suggesting the marriage might have been in or near Chicago. Look for a marriage record in Cook County. Check USGenweb <http://www.usgenweb.org> county webpages for marriage indexes, or search the online catalog of the Family History Library for microfilms of marriage records.

- Bert and Helen, as well as their parents, were born in "Ireland F. S." or the "Irish Free State". This is exciting, but before you try to jump back to Ireland, you will want to look for more American records in hope of finding clues to a more specific Irish locale.

- Bert and Helen could both read and write English, and owned a radio. This doesn't tell much, but a comparison to other families in the neighborhood can provide clues about their social and economic background.

- Bert entered the United States in 1915; he said he was a naturalized citizen. Helen said she arrived in 1912 and also was a naturalized citizen. You will want to search for citizenship records, possibly in Chicago, but also possibly elsewhere.

- Bert was an officer in the city police department (presumably Chicago, but the census doesn't say). This information may help you track Bert in city directories. His name might appear in police records, newspaper reports or court records.

- Bert was not a military veteran. If he had been you might find information about him in military records.

Look for your ancestor in other census years. Bert Gallagher should appear in the 1920 U.S. Census, but where? He likely was in Illinois by about 1926, but he could have been almost anywhere else before that time. Helen will be nearly impossible to find in 1920 if you do not know her maiden name. You will have to look for her maiden name in other records.

Death Certificates. Death records are a bit more difficult to find, especially if you don't know the date of death. Look through those old family records to see if anyone kept a funeral card or clippings of an obituary. Otherwise, you have a couple of options. You may find indexes of deaths at an USGenweb county site. Or, if the person lived late enough to be eligible for Social Security, you may find a death date in the Social Security Death Index, which is searchable at *FamilySearch*.

Death records often give the name and birthplace of the deceased person's parents, but the information is sometimes incomplete or even wrong. However, if you know that Grandma had brothers or sisters, you will want to look for their death certificates, too. They may provide the missing information. A death certificate will provide an accurate date and place of death, which is the key to finding an obituary.

Obituaries. Obituaries are one of the most fertile sources for information about relationships. An obituary often gives maiden names, and sometimes names of parents. They also commonly list names and locations of surviving siblings and children, and sometimes siblings who died earlier. Pay particular attention to the names of married daughters.

The golden era of obituaries was from about 1910 to 1980. Except for prominent persons, obituaries were not common before 1900. In the past 20 or 30 years, full obituaries have again become somewhat less common, especially in large city newspapers. If you can't find an obituary, look back to the death certificate and see if it names a funeral home or cemetery. Although funeral home and many cemetery records may be private records, a polite inquiry may yield the information you seek.

Beyond the Basics

Census records, death certificates and obituaries are good starting points. They are valuable not only for the information they contain, but for the leads they give toward other records. Prominent among other sources are immigration and citizenship records. The 1930 Gallagher census record prompts a look for ships records around 1912 or 1915 and possibly naturalization records a few years later.

Gallagher is fairly common name, so it might not be easy to find immigration or citizenship records. The name "Bert" is tricky, because it could be a nickname for Adelbert, Hubert, Bertram or other names. Finding Helen will be harder yet, unless you discover her maiden name in a death or marriage record.

Charting Your Unique Path

Every family is different. Both your research path and your results will vary. Take small steps. The results will accumulate. Don't be afraid of new record types. Rather, learn by doing.

You don't need to be a professional genealogist to be a good genealogist, but you will get better results if you research in a professional manner. By professional manner, I mean learning about the tools of the trade, doing careful work, and producing products that can withstand scrutiny.

Don't rely on any single source. Think about the reliability of every source you look at. Did the person providing the information have good reason to know the facts? Fit the pieces together from several sources to form a coherent picture of your family. Cite your sources so that both you and researchers who follow will know where your information came from.

And never be intimidated if someone calls you a "newbie." All great genealogists were once newbies, and newbies are tomorrow's successful genealogists.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is past 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.

Launch of findmypast.ie

by Ross Weldon

Today, the Irish Diaspora amounts to 80 million people worldwide. This is more than 13 times the current population of Ireland, which stands at 6.2 million. The world's newest Irish family history website, <http://www.findmypast.ie>, aims to provide a simple way for those whose ancestors formed part of this diaspora to research their Irish roots. It may be the youngest website but, with over 56 combined years of experience between its founders, both experts in their fields, this joint venture between Eneclann and findmypast is uniquely positioned to become the leading Irish family history research website.

Eneclann, an award-winning Trinity College Campus Company based in Dublin, was founded in 1998 by Brian Donovan and Fiona Fitzsimons, both history graduates of Trinity College Dublin. In 2009, they decided to digitize The Landed Estate Court Rentals. They approached bright**solid** online publishing. This Scottish-based expert in the digitization of precious records owns and/or operates a family of websites including *findmypast.co.uk*, *ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk*, and the Friends Reunited Group. From this *findmypast.ie* was born.

It was launched in Dublin in May 2011 by the Irish Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Jimmy Deenihan. Within the next 12 months, they plan to increase the current collection of 5 million records to over 50 million, making findmypast.ie the world's most comprehensive online database for Irish family history.

The Records

There are six categories of records on *findmypast.ie:*

- **Vital Records**
  These feature a collection of birth, marriage and death records with details of more than 400,000 births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials. The records cover the whole island of Ireland and include more than 150,000 newspaper obituaries and four indexes to wills, dating back as far as the 13th century. Many of these records feature addresses and occupations in addition to the names.

- **Censuses and Substitutes**
  A recognized difficulty in Irish family history research is the well-documented destruction of all census returns previous to the 1901 census during the Irish civil war (1922) or by government order and administrative oversight in earlier years. *Findmypast.ie* has almost 150,000 names in census substitutes to help family historians fill these missing gaps. There are fragments dating from 1749 to 1901, as well as 19th century electoral registers. The 1851 Dublin City Census includes names and address of approximately 59,000 heads of households. The 1749 Census of Elphin lists all households, the names of household heads, their addresses, occupations, numbers of children, adults and servants, by age and religious denomination – a remarkable document for such an early date.

- **Land and Estates**
  Findmypast.ie provides exclusive access to the Landed Estate Court Rentals – the first time the collection has been available online. These records offer a wealth of information about land occupation in the mid-19th century. Originally published to organise the sale of bankrupt estates, a plethora of information about tenants, rented lots, tenancy terms, and boundary maps is included. Over 500,000 tenants are included in this collection, and it deals with more than 8,000 estates around the country.

  Griffith's Valuation contains information about households that lived through the Famine and until the start of the civil registration in 1864. The 1831 Tithe Defaulters compilation records the main data that survives about the people involved in the Tithe War.

- **Directories**
  A comprehensive collection of Irish National Directories dating back to 1814 includes those by Pigot, Slater and Thom, which list principal office holders, gentry, professionals, tradesmen, hotels, schools, public institutions, churches and even pubs for each town. The website offers access to comprehensive directories from the four provinces as well as local directories featuring details of smaller villages and towns in Ireland.

- **Military and Rebellion**
  These records contain fascinating details about Irish involvement in war and rebellions. The William Smith O'Brien Petition 1848-49 records the names, addresses, occupations and political loyalties of over 80,000 people from all over Ireland and parts of England. The 1798 Claimants and Surrenders include 8,440 names of those who took up arms and those whose property was damaged. While Ireland's Memorial Record: World War I 1914-1918 contains the names of 49,647 individuals from both North and South of the border.

- **Travel and Migration**
  Ports in Great Britain and Ireland were required to record details about those who came from North America between 1858 and 1870. This was mainly due to concerns over American support for an uprising by the Fenians in Ireland. The Transatlantic Migration Index contains the names of more than 40,000 individuals who travelled from North America to Great Britain and Ireland during this period.

This is a major achievement. By teaming up with findmypast.co.uk and brightsolid, we are bringing Irish history to life for millions. These remarkable records are available online to researchers and family historians all over the world for future generations. We are committed to publishing family history records which provide more than simply names and dates, instead describing what your ancestors did and how they lived.

-- Brian Donovan , Eneclann

Landed Estate Court Records

The Landed Estate Court Rentals represent one of the most valuable and under-used sources for anyone engaged in Irish research. Up until now, the biggest problem with the Landed Estate Court rentals has been access; most family historians were unaware of them although they were used by professional Irish genealogists. The microfilm records stored at the National Archives of Ireland are indexed by estate owner, of which 8,000 are listed. This makes it difficult to find the 600,000 tenants also listed in the records, unless one knows the name of the landowner from whom they rented.

With the permission of the National Archives and an agreement to allow free access to the digitised images in five years' time, the 100,000 microfilm images were taken, digitised and indexed and made available for the first time online at *findmypast.ie*.

The Rentals are effectively printed sale catalogues circulated to prospective purchasers. Compiled with the intention of attracting purchasers, they provided information on the estate in a clear and uniform manner. The Land Courts sold

estates in every county in Ireland; the rentals as a whole cover large parts of the country. The estates sold included urban as well as rural property, and many of the Rentals relate to houses and other buildings in villages, towns and cities.

The title page in a Rental identifies the estate and gives the date and place of sale. This is usually followed by brief descriptive particulars of the estate and its situation, intended to attract prospective buyers. Anyone who has read the property section of a newspaper will know what to expect in this section.

To the family historian, the critical information contained in these catalogues is the rentals, especially the Lot descriptions. The details often include

- Names of tenants: the particulars name all lives contracted for (usually three) and any of those names still alive at the time of the sale.
- Map Reference: the rentals usually include a map to situate the estate or lot in relation to the surrounding countryside, and often a detailed map of the lot itself. In the case of urban property, you will find a village or town plan.
- Yearly rent in pounds, shillings and pence.
- Day rent is due, labelled as "Gale days."
- Size of plot: in acres, roods and perches.
- Length of tenure.
- Observations: this column lays out the terms by which the land is rented and often includes interesting insights into the plots of land and those who rented them. A typical lease was given for 21 years or three lives (named). The date of the original lease is often given along with any circumstances of note regarding the tenant or plot.

The following sample illustrates a record and corresponding map from the Landed Estate Court Rentals, courtesy of findmypast.ie.

A Fee Simple Estate, comprising the Lands of RATHCARRON, situate in the Barony of Lune, and County of Meath,

TO BE SOLD IN THE FOLLOWING LOTS.

LOT 11.

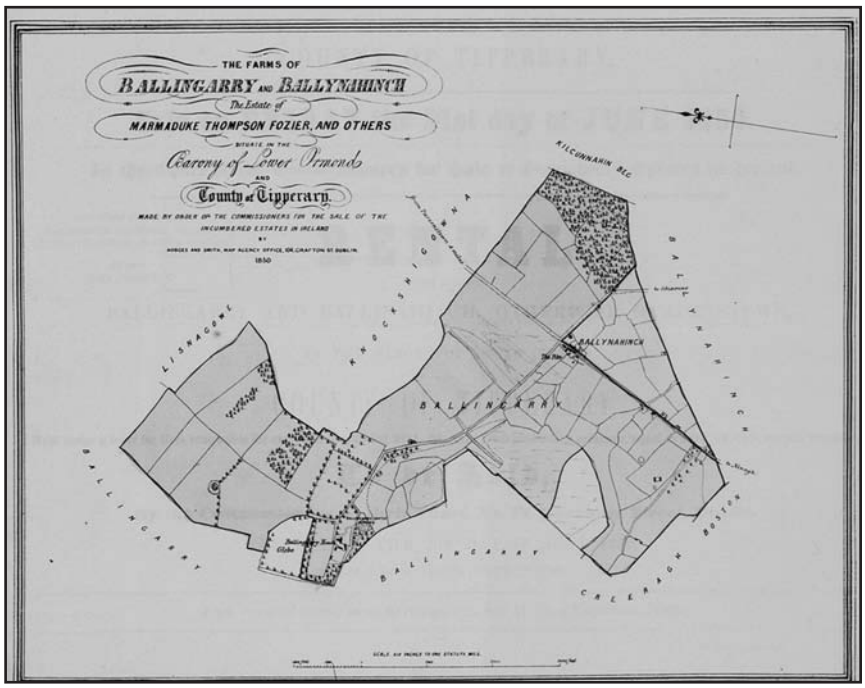
No. on Map.	DENOMINATION.	TENANT'S NAME.	GALE DAYS.	Quantity English Statute measure.	Yearly Rent.	Rent Charge.	Total Rent and Rent Charge payable by Tenant.	TENANT'S TENURE.
				A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1 to 20 both inclusive	RATHCARRON	Joseph Fox, Esq.	25th March & 29th Sep.	343 3 36	400 0 0	13 14 8	413 14 8	Lease, dated 28th April, 1826, from Anthony John Dopping, Esq., to, Joseph Fox, Esq., for lives of Elizabeth Darcy Fox, Dorothea Martha Fox, and Amelia Anne Fox, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Daughters of Lessee, all still living, or 31 years from 25th March, 1825. All Mines, Bogs, Ways, Water-courses, Quarries, Royalties, Underwood and Timber, are reserved to the Lessor, he making reasonable compensation for injury and also right of sporting.
				Deduct Tithe Rent-charge			£13 14 8	
				Nett Annual Rent			£400 0 0	

Like observation as to Lot No. 1, with respect to Mrs. Robinson's annuity.

LOT 12.

No. on Map.	DENOMINATIONS.	TENANTS NAMES.	GALE DAYS.	Quantity English Statute measure.	Yearly Rent.	Rent Charge.	Total Rent and Rent-charge payable by Tenants.	TENANTS' TENURE.
				A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
21 to 39 both inclusive	RATHCARRON	Mr. Michael Hope ...	25th March & 29th Sep.	230 1 0	258 9 2	8 11 8	267 0 10	Lease, dated 25th March, 1826, from Anthony John Dopping, Esq., to Michael Hope, Gent., for lives of Christopher Hope, son of Lessee, Edward Seery and Michael Seery, Grandsons of Lessee, of whom Christopher Hope, and Michael Seery, are the survivors; or 31 years from 22nd March, 1825. All Mines, Bogs, Ways, Water-courses, Quarries, Royalties, Underwood and Timber, are reserved to the Lessor, he making reasonable compensation for injury, and also rights of sporting.
40 to 43 both inclusive	"	Owen Farrelly ...		9 2 6	8 16 9	"	8 16 9	Yearly Tenancy determinable on the 25th March, in each year.
44	"	Patrick Smith ...	"	6 2 6	7 8 8	"	7 8 8	Do. Do.
				246 1 12	274 14 7	8 11 8	283 6 3	
				Deduct Rent-charge			£ 9 2 4	
				Nett Annual Rent			£274 3 11	

Like observation as to Lot No. 1, with respect to Mrs. Robinson's annuity.



The online edition of the Landed Estate Court rentals is a testament to the progress of Irish family history research over the last decade. Previously, family historians would have been content to find names and dates associated with their ancestors, but genealogists now think outside the box and look for more interesting windows into the past. The Landed Estate Court records provide not only names and dates but key facts about our ancestors' lives, such as where exactly they lived, who they lived with, what their lodgings were like and what the area in which they lived was like.

Upcoming Records

Since its launch, the team at *findmypast.ie* has been working to source, digitise and publish hitherto forgotten records. In June came the first fully-structured indexed version of the Sinn Féin Rebellion Handbook, made up of *Irish Times* articles relevant to the Rising as well as official lists, featuring the names of over 6,700 rebels, soldiers, prisoners, casualties and government personnel. With photographs and maps, it is the most detailed observation of the events of the 1916 Rising.

October will see the launch the Irish Prison Registers (1790-1924), a significant set of Irish records. For most of the 18th and 19th centuries, Ireland was the most incarcerated nation in the whole of Europe. Each entry provides a full physical description of the prisoner, their next of kin and also the name of their victim. More than 4 million names appear in these records.

Forum

A new feature on the site is the first-ever forum dedicated to those researching their Irish family history. The forum is an online community for the Irish diaspora to discuss everything from researching Irish family history, Irish geography, success stories and what it means to be Irish for those with Irish roots. The forum gives amateur and professional family historians alike the opportunity to ask questions of like-minded researchers across the globe and of the vastly experienced findmypast Ireland team. There is the benefit from the shared knowledge and experience gained from those who have previously hit brick walls in their research.

So if you're looking to fill in pieces of your Irish ancestral puzzle, search with the experts at *findmypast.ie*.

Ross Weldon is a graduate of Dublin Institute of Technology. He is new to the world of genealogy, having joined findmypast in April 2011. He is currently undergoing an Irish genealogy crash course under the tutelage of the vastly experienced and huegely knowledgeable teams at Eneclann, Dublin and findmypast, London.

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

In each issue of *The Septs* we include articles and family stories submitted by IGSI members as well as articles solicited or contributed by our regular columnists. We accept articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, general Irish culture and history. We encourage articles related to the theme of a particular issue, but we also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes. Articles should be 1000 – 4000 words.

If you are willing to share your family story or research or if you are knowledgeable about one of our theme topics, consider writing an article. Please contact Tom Rice, Managing Editor of *The Septs*, at Septsmnged@IrishGenealogical.org with questions or for further information.

Deadline for submission of articles for the January 2012 issue is November 1, 2011. The theme of the January issue is **English Records of the Irish.** Start now and plan to submit something for a coming issue. Themes and article submission deadlines for future issues are:

Issue Date: April 2012
Submission: February 1
Theme: Census Fragments & Census Substitutes

Issue Date: July 2012
Submission: May 1
Theme: History and Records of Ports of Entry: U.S.- Canada - Australia

Issue Date: October 2012
Submission: August 1
Theme: Irish South of the Equator

Images of Old Ireland: The Digitization of the Linen Hall Library's Historic Postcard Collection

by Monica Cash

The Linen Hall Library lies in the heart of Belfast both geographically and symbolically. Established in 1788 by a group of "worthy artisans," it is the oldest Library in the city and the only subscription library to have survived in Ireland. This cultural bastion is renowned for its unparalleled Irish and Local Studies Collections, which include early printed Belfast and Ulster books, unique genealogical sources and the celebrated Northern Ireland Political Collection, a unique archive of material relating to the recent "Troubles."

A product of the 18th century enlightenment, this famous institution is celebrating yet another new chapter in its history as it takes its first steps into the digital era. The Library has just completed a pilot project which has seen the digitization of its historic Postcard Collection, one of the largest and most comprehensive of its kind in Ireland. Deltiology, more commonly known as postcard collecting, is one of the most popular hobbies world-wide; however, unlike the Library, very few individuals or organizations can boast of having over 7000 such cards in their collection.

Historic Postcards

The postcard originated in Germany in the 1860s, but it was only in 1894 that private individuals in Britain and Ireland gained permission to send them through the mainstream postal service. They rapidly became a popular medium, mainly because they cost less to send than a sealed envelope and also because of their aesthetic allure. At first the rules stipulated that one side of the card should feature the address whilst the picture plus message had to be written on the reverse. This is why

in many of the early cards a note in minute handwriting appears below or beside the image. It was not until 1902 that the "divided back era" began and the message and address could be both written on one side, leaving the front unblemished.

The postcard soon became a popular channel of communication. In the early 19th century, a number of Education Acts were passed resulting in rising levels of literacy amongst the working classes, and along with this advancements in printing techniques allowed for high quality reproductions to be cheaply mass-produced. In the era pre-dating telephones, faxes and email, the postcard became the easiest and most cost-effective way to keep in touch with those at home and abroad.

Mass emigration from Ireland to the United States and Canada continued during the early part of the 20th century; for many, the postcard was the only form of contact with their loved ones at home. These communiqués not only carried news from family and friends, but they also provided treasured images of their beloved homeland. It also meant that, for the first time, pictures of distant places could be sent to those who had never actually been there.

The Linen Hall Library collection contains a plethora of images which capture Ireland in bygone days and gives a sense of what life was like in remote villages and towns over one hundred years ago. Topographical cards dominate the collection. Almost every city, town and village in Ireland is featured: from Malin Head in County Donegal to Skibbereen in West Cork. Famous landmarks and popular tourist destinations are well represented; for example, there are over one hundred images of the Giant's Causeway alone.

Social development in urban Ireland is captured in postcards depicting street scenes which illustrate the growth of cities such as Belfast, Dublin and Cork. From these photographs the viewer can trace changes in architecture, fashion and transport. In one such postcard the demise of the horse drawn carriage is

immortalized in a black-edged card that reads "sacred to the memory of the Belfast horse car which succumbed to electric traction."

Alongside these scenic cards other visual aspects of everyday life abound. Housing, local industries, sport and leisure are all covered and give a tangible sense of what conditions were like at the time. A series of political cards relating to British rule in Ireland include significant historical events such as the signing of the Solemn League and Covenant in 1912 and the Easter Rising of 1916.

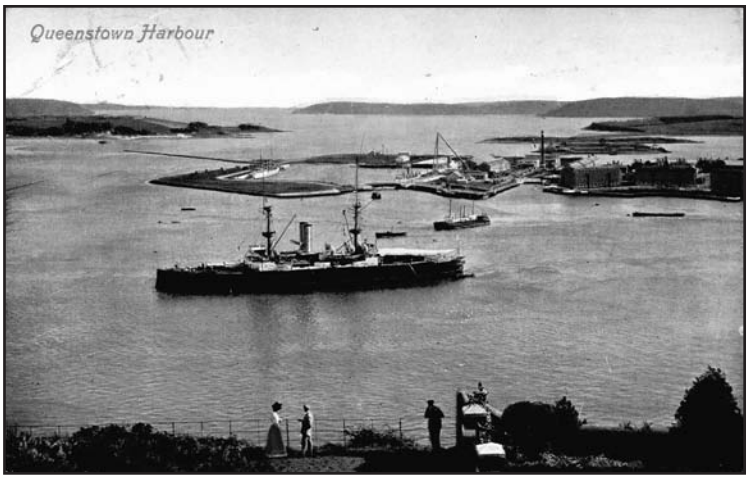
Vintage cards of formidable individuals, pretty ladies, famous politicians and everyday families are included in this archive. A poignant collection of sweetheart cards produced during World War I illustrate how men fighting on the Front stayed in touch with their loved ones at home. A range of humorous and specialty cards give a glimpse of a lighter side of life. One such card from Muckross Abbey in Killarney was published by the Irish Paper Agency in 1907 on paper made of turf and proudly states "This card is made from soil of Old Ireland."

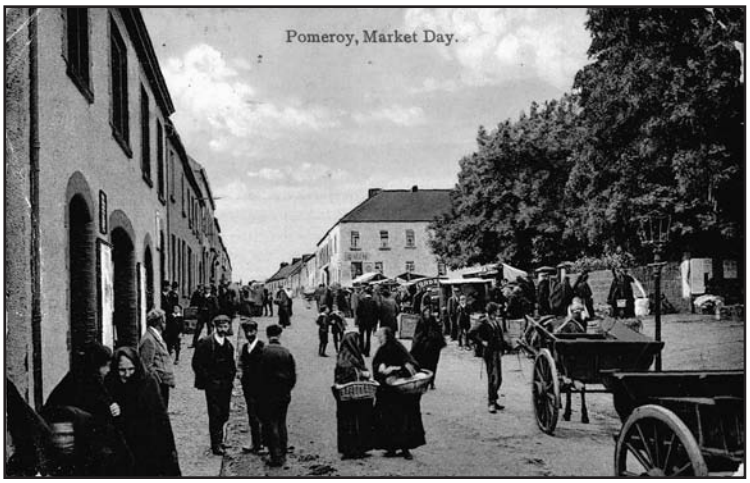
The Belfast Telegraph supports the Linen Hall Library by hosting and selling material on its behalf. It has dedicated a gallery on its photo sales site specifically linked to the Institution's postcard collections. Samples of some the Library's antiquarian Irish maps have been included not only to highlight this important collection but also to assist researchers in locating ancestry birth places. To view the Postcard Collection go to <http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/postcards>.

New Digitization Projects

There are a number of reasons why the Library decided to digitize some of its unique collections. By creating digital images, the original documents and manuscripts will be consulted less frequently and these items will be preserved for future generations. It allows researchers worldwide to view the material online, increasing easy access,. Finally, the Library hopes to generate much-needed income from the sale of certain products, such as print-size reproductions of the postcards or large scale copies of maps.

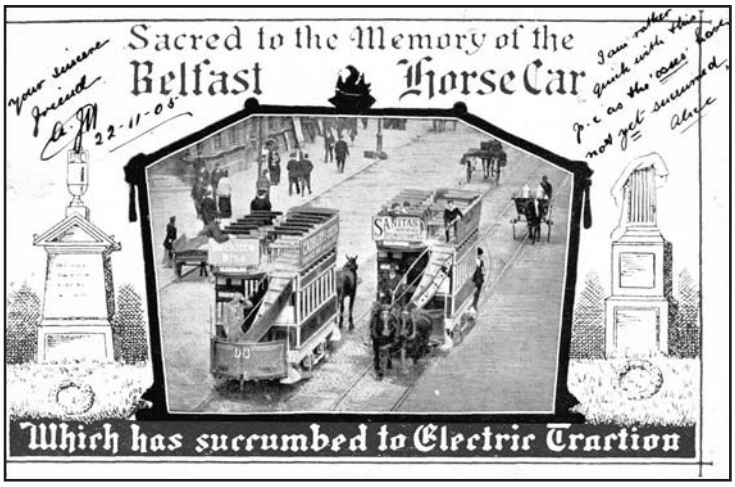
So where does the Linen Hall Library go from here? In addition to the postcards, the online *Belfast Telegraph* gallery includes a number of political posters from the Library's



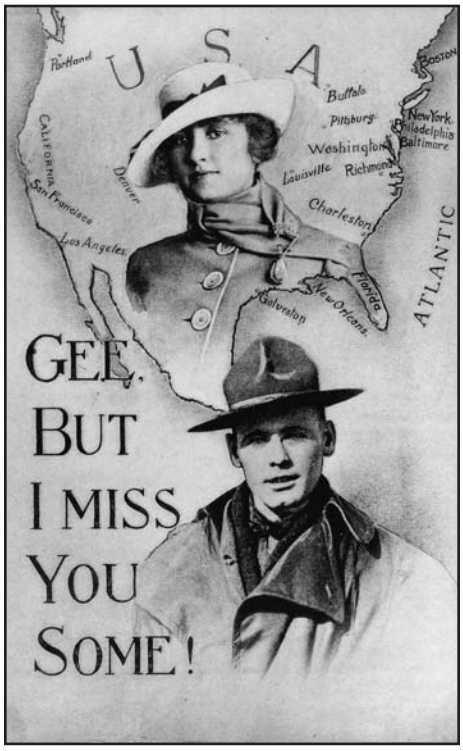


Northern Ireland Political Collection. Among these are some of the most iconic political and paramilitary images produced during the Northern Ireland conflict. *The Unearthing Hidden Treasures Project* supported by the *Heritage Lottery Fund* will see the full text version of rare items from the Irish and

Local Studies Collection made available in the latest turn page technology. As a taster, *Poems in the Scottish Dialect* by Robert Burns (1787) and *The Church Catechism in Irish* (1722) can already be viewed in the E-Treasures section of the website. Work recently began on the digitization of the Theatre & Performing Arts Archive, which is the primary source of theatrical material in Northern Ireland. This exciting project will see the digitization of several thousand original programs, handbills, posters, photographs and letters all of which will be available to peruse free of charge early next year.

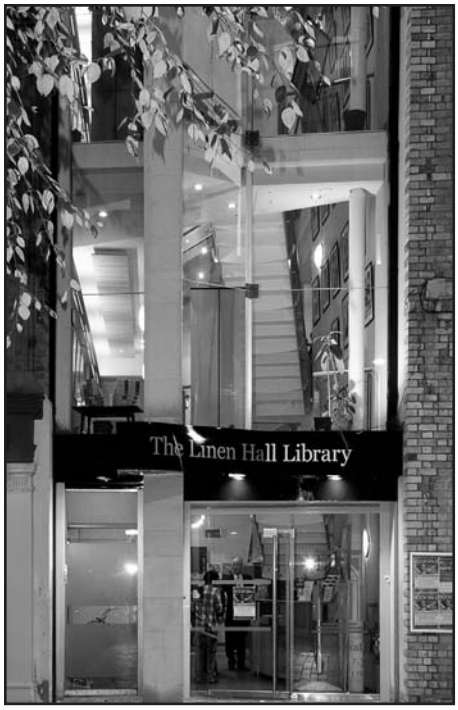


In the near future, the Library hopes to make scanned images of many of its rare genealogical resources accessible to a world-wide audience online: manuscripts such as the Blackwood Pedigrees, a unique collection of almost 1000 family trees of Ulster lineage; *The Belfast Newsletter* Births, Deaths and Marriages Index from 1737 to 1864, which is at present a hand-written card catalogue; and rare tomes, including *The Flax Grower's List*, which names all the people growing flax in Ireland in 1796, will be recreated in the e-book medium.



Visit the Library

The Linen Hall Library materials are available to browse and purchase. Readers can to them through the Library's website <http://www.linenhall.com>. Yet nothing can replace a visit to the Library delving into its many treasures whilst soaking up its relaxing ambience. The library is conveniently located at 17 Donegall Square North, opposite Belfast City Hall. Visitors are always welcome and there is definitely something for everyone. Come in, browse the collections, take in one of the many exhibitions, research your family tree or just relax in the coffee shop. Guided tours can be arranged by prior booking and perhaps, like the novelist Sam Hanna Bell, you, too, will find it to be "a place where you can browse among wonderful books and come out with half a dozen new ideas - like pollen on your shoulders."



Monica Cash is the Deputy Librarian in the Linen Hall Library, Belfast. She graduated in Humanities from the University of Ulster in 1991 and later received a P.G. Diploma in Library and Information. She joined the staff of the Linen Hall Library in 1998 as a cataloguer and then served as Bibliographic Services Librarian. In 2010, she became the first female Deputy Librarian in the library's 223 year history. Monica is married to Joe Cash and lives in North Belfast.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Cavan, Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

My first trip to Ireland in the late 1970s was filled with excitement and anticipation. My aunt and I had several things on our to-do lists. She wanted to see the Book of Kells. I wanted to be anywhere but in a big city. We both were excited about going to Counties Donegal and Cork, places where our Irish ancestors lived before immigrating to a new country for religious reasons and for financial opportunities. She also wanted to research her deceased husband's ancestors who came from Counties Cavan and Offaly.

Prior to the trip a great deal of research was done in records that were available through the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Records that were not available such as parish registers would have to be searched in Irish archives. Also on the itinerary were visits to the appropriate county libraries.

Back in the "dark ages" (before computers were used for genealogical purposes) one had to write a letter or make a phone call in order to learn about resources held in local repositories. Since this was not done in advance of our trip, the resources that were housed in the county libraries of interest were unknown. This situation was somewhat remedied by the publication of two books long after my first visit to Ireland.

- O'Neill, Robert K. *Irish Libraries: Archives, Museums & Genealogical Centres*. Ulster Historical Foundation, 2002 (as ebook, 2010).
- Helferty, Seamus and Refausse, Raymond. *Directory of Irish Archives*. Fifth edition. Four Courts Press, September 2011.

Both of these books contain information about various archives throughout Ireland. The various editions of the *Directory* list the repositories in alphabetical order. O'Neill's book is arranged by counties. Because these books present an overview of the collection of each archive, not everything genealogically-related will be listed. Researchers will find archive addresses, phone numbers, hours of operation, sometimes e-mail addresses (O'Neill's book), and other details.

County Cavan Public Library

Since my last visit to the Cavan Library a new building has been constructed—the Johnston Central Library. This facility is a huge improvement over the cramped headquarters the library once occupied. It not only houses the library, but it also is home to the Cavan Genealogy Centre, a fee-based research service company. Local history/genealogical resources that are found in the library include the usual things one would expect, such as well-known extant Irish censuses and taxation sources. Many of the references listed in the library's website <http://www.cavancoco.ie> are available at other repositories in Ireland and throughout the world. Some of the unique ones that might be harder to access include

- Cavan Assises Book (1807-1851)
- 1761 Poll book listing 1137 freeholders
- Various records relating to the Bailieboro Model School
- Some records of estates in County Cavan
- Diaries, including one by Presbyterian minister Randal McCollum of Shercock
- 1835 Ordnance Survey maps for County Cavan as well as the southwest portion of the Farnham Estate
- 1890 Dogs Regulation Act list of licensees

Unfortunately, church records are not part of its holdings.

The library has a small collection of periodicals of a genealogical or historical nature, including the local periodicals *Breifny Antiquarian Journal* (1920-1933), *Heart of Breifne* (1878-1987) and *Breifne Journal* (1958-to date). The library also houses the following newspapers:

- *The Anglo Celt* (1846 to the present)
- *Cavan Herald* (1818-1825)
- *Cavan Observer* (1857-1864)
- *Cavan Weekly News* (1864-1909)
- *Meath People* (1857-1863)
- All 20th century Cavan newspapers

Dr. Francis J. MacKiernan, Bishop of Kilmore from 1972 until 1998, donated his book collection to the library. There are 176 "local studies" items. While his collection has been catalogued, its value to genealogical researchers is unclear.

Although the information posted on the library's website indicates that there is an online Local Studies catalogue, it did not appear to be accessible from

the Internet at the time this article was written. According to library staff, the website is a work in progress and should be operational by the time this article is published.

County Cavan Archives

The Cavan County Archives has published several guides to its collections, including *National School, Grand Jury,* and *Private Collections* <http://www.cavancoco.ie/cavanweb/publish/domain/cavancoco/Default.aspx?StructureID_str=312>. The private collections descriptions are for letters, estate records, business records, the diary of Rev. Randal McCollum, and other resources the Archives has acquired. Informative details are listed in the record descriptions. For example, the listing for Rev. Randal McCollum's diary shows

Collection code: P029/001

Collection name: Diary of Reverend Randal McCollum

Date: 19 Dec. 1861-16 Dec. 1871

Description: Diary kept by Reverend Randal McCollum, a Presbyterian minister responsible for Glasleck, near Shercock, county Cavan. The diary describes Reverend McCollum's life as a clergyman, farmer and private tutor. In terms of his life as a clergyman, McCollum frequently mentions the topics on which he preaches; leading Sabbath school; attending Presbytery meetings with neighbouring clergymen; and the ceremonies at which he presided. He writes about members of his congregation. Reverend McCollum lived at Derry, Shercock, and farmed land there as well as at Darkley. He writes about the work done by his labourers and taking produce to market. In order to supplement his income, Reverend McCollum acted as private tutor to several boys. He frequently mentions his pupils.

Size: c. 250pp

Of particular interest is the comprehensive *Poor Law* guide that describes the surviving records of the various poor law unions in County Cavan. <http://www.cavancoco.ie/cavanweb/publish/domain/cavancoco/file/leisure-and-culture/Archives/Poor%20Law%20Unions.pdf>. Some intriguing records are found in this guide such as the Cavan Poor Law Union Labourers Act Ledger and the Bawnboy Poor Law Union Sick Diet book. Not all records are open to inspection.

County Cavan Resources

There is no County Cavan specific genealogical how-to. As I recomend in other articles in this series, researchers should consult John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* and James G. Ryan's *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History*. Both have chapters covering County Cavan. The website GENUKI also contains lists of records and resources for County Cavan <http://home.wavecable.com/~colin/genuki/CAV>.

Noel Farrell's book *Exploring Family Origins and Old Cavan Town* contains information for the town of Cavan extracted from the 1901 and 1911 censuses, Griffith's valuation, a 1942/43 electors register listing every inhabitant of the town over the age of 18, 1886 and 1931 lists of publicans, brief histories of the churches, a parish map of Cavan, and other information.

In 2006, a five-volume survey of County Cavan tombstone inscriptions was published. Details about this series can be found on the website <http://www.kabristan.org.uk/old-irish-graveyards.html>. A name index can be accessed from this website. The cemetery where the tombstone is found is listed beside each name in the index. Additional information must be obtained from the published volumes.

At present, no online databases are available from the library's website. However, staff indicates that the website is being developed and that genealogical sources will be added to it in the future. This is exciting news for people with County Cavan ancestry.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

Using the Internet: Message Boards

by Mary Wickersham

Genealogy message boards help you locate information held by distant researchers or cousins. Their use requires some effort and patience.

I have replied to several message board posts to which I never received a response. Why? Because the poster changed her email address without updating the board, is no longer interested in genealogy, or is ill or deceased.

Do not expect message board postings to provide good contact information. Message board sponsors do not have a process for identifying and correcting obsolete contact information. While it can be frustrating not to be able to connect with the source of a post, you may be able to take action on a lead you find on a board.

Patience can pay off. In 2001, I posted a message regarding my Irish great-grandfather's sister in the Barry section at *Ancestry.com*. In 2010, I received a reply from a third cousin. The "lost" sister's granddaughter was newly interested in genealogy and responded to my post from the Pacific island country of Brunei! I gave her information going back another generation from what she had, and received information about cousins from her branch in various countries, including Australia and Thailand. Delightful.

Features of a Message Board

Message boards list related messages under a "thread," which is a set of questions, answers, and comments related to one subject. When visiting a message board you can submit your own topic (thread) or information. The term for a member's submission to a board is "post." The following are a few tips for using message boards and their features:

- Find a "thread" by surname or other topic, such as a geographic location.
- Read and/or respond to a prior posting, or create your own "thread."
- Register before you can post. This is a hacking/spam prevention measure.
- Connect with other researchers in a more private format than a broadcast email list.
- Opt to receive email notices of updates to a thread or visit when you are researching a family line.
- Determine how current the information is by the date and time stamp of the post. The more current the post, the greater the likelihood of receiving a quick response.
- However -- once it's posted, you can't change the content of the post.

Finding Genealogy Message Boards

Search engines are a good tool to use to find message boards about your regional or surname interest.

Some message boards are subscription-based. A major paid sponsor of message boards is *Ancestry.com*, which maintains your email address as it changes over the years.

Rootsweb is hosted by *Ancestry.com*. See <http://helpdesk.rootsweb.com/boards/> for their Frequently Asked Questions . You do not need to register in order to view the board, but you will need to register in order to create your own message board post.

Cousin Connect <http://www.cousinconnect.com/> A friend swears by this site, but I have yet to find any pertinent information about my own family.

Ancestry.com <http://www.ancestry.com> provides subscribers with the email addresses of posts by other active members, so you can respond directly. Downside: you need to be a paid member.

Ireland Roots <http://www.irelandroots.com/> This free site has message boards for all Irish counties. The site says discussions expire after 12 months, but there are many older posts on current threads. Email addresses of posters are readily available to facilitate direct contact. You can browse without registering.

Read the complete thread. Follow past discussions on an existing thread for more information. Disagreements as to essential facts, such as names, dates, and locations can provide useful clues to help you define your own question.

Creating a post. You can create your own thread or post your response to an existing thread. When creating

your own thread, make the subject line pertinent to your research. Don't list all the surnames you're researching.

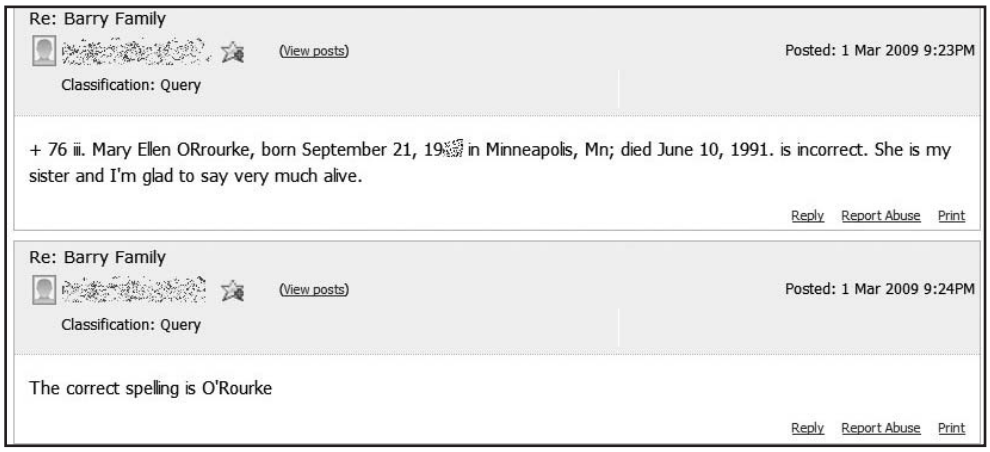
Keep your post short and to-the-point. If you are certain the post refers to your own family, you may include your email address in your post. If your email address changes, add a post with the update.

Do not post private information about living people.

Reporting errors or abuse. Most errors of fact can be dealt with by posting a correction with a reply on the same thread.

Occasionally, inappropriate information is posted. My birth date and those of other family members were posted by a cousin on *Ancestry.com*. I clicked on "report abuse" and protested, but the posting is still on the board. To the right side of Ancestry's message board is a section called "Page Tools," which includes a link for "Board Information." Clicking on the link shows the email address for the Administrator. I sent her an email as I was working on this article, asking her to remove the post.

My sister Margaret came to my defense when our cousin prematurely reported my death. I've obscured Margaret's user name and my year of birth for privacy and vanity purposes. In the example that follows, "Barry Family" is the name of the thread, and Margaret's posts have "Re: Barry Family".


Re: Barry Family
(View posts) Posted: 1 Mar 2009 9:23PM
Classification: Query
+ 76 iii. Mary Ellen ORrourke, born September 21, 19 in Minneapolis, Mn; died June 10, 1991. is incorrect. She is my sister and I'm glad to say very much alive.
Reply Report Abuse Print
Re: Barry Family
(View posts) Posted: 1 Mar 2009 9:24PM
Classification: Query
The correct spelling is O'Rourke
Reply Report Abuse Print

Message board example from Ancestry.com *provided by Mary Wickersham.*

Conclusion

Message boards can be helpful sources of research leads and can lead to collaboration with others researching your family. As with any information you find on the Internet, you need to treat the information as leads, not fact. Good information can give you great shortcuts, which you will need to verify with facts. With some luck, the relative you connect with through the board will be able to help you find some missing pieces of family history.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She writes the 100 Years Ago and More in the News column with her sister, Sheila Northrop, and is a current member of the IGSI Board of Directors. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society.

Donations to IGSI

We wish to express our appreciation to the following members for their donations to the Irish Genealogical Society International.

Alice Boucher	Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania
Frank Braun	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Joseph Carroll	Victoria, Minnesota
Leo Casey	Charlottesville, Virginia
Mary Clark	Long Beach, California
Hugh Harrison	Huntersville, North Carolina
Linda Madden	Sioux City, Iowa
Fern Meyer	Daly City, California
Carroll Strickland	Huntsville, Alabama
Nancy Weber	Shoreview, Minnesota

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrup and Mary Wickersham

250 Years Ago

[Desertions]

DESERTED from a Regiment of Young Buffs, commanded by Lieut. Col. Patrick M'Douall,

RICHARD SAVAGE, twenty-four Years of Age, five Feet eight Inches high, born at Trim in the County of Meath in Ireland, by Trade a Cordwainer, brown Complexion, brown Hair, grey Eyes, stout made, much pitted with the Small-Pox, and wears a wig, inlisted in London, the 9th of November 1761, and deserted the 24th.

WILLIAM HENLEY, Twenty-seven Years of Age, five Feet four Inches high, born at Killworth in the County of Cork in Ireland, by Trade a Cordwainer, swarthy Complexion, short dark brown Hair, hazle Eyes, and a little Pitted with the Small-Pox; inlisted in London, the 9th of November 1761, and deserted the 24th.

JOHN BALL, Twenty-eight Years of Age, five Feet three Inches high, born at Trim in the County of Meath in Ireland, fair Complexion, light brown Hair, light grey Eyes, smooth Faced, and wears a Wig; inlisted in London, the 11th of November 1761, and deserted the 24th.

ANDREW CONNELLY, Twenty-eight Years of Age, five Feet five Inches high, born at Killkenny in Ireland, by Trade a Shoemaker, brown Complexion, brown Hair, grey Eyes, pitted with the Small-Pox, and wears a Wig; inlisted in London, the 17th of November 1761, and deserted the 24th….

Whitehall Evening-Post or *London Intelligencer*
London, Middlesex 24 Dec 1761,
Page 2

150 Years Ago

THE LINEN TRADE IN IRELAND

Business in the north of Ireland consequent upon many of the usual markets for linens having been closed by the war in America, is in a very bad state. Some of the millowners are working short time, and others, private advices allege, have had to borrow money from the Loan Fund Board to keep themselves afloat until better times arrive.

Illustrated Times
London, Middlesex 14 Dec 1861,
Page 3

100 Years Ago

COLONIAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THE IRISH QUESTION

Possibility of Civil War

The position would be completely altered if self-government were to be conferred on Ireland, and if the majority of the people of that country were afterwards to resolve to secede. Ireland lies at the very doors of England and Scotland: it is separated from both countries by only a very narrow strip of sea. And, whilst the United Kingdom would have nothing to fear from the Irish republic itself, it would have everything to fear if Germany or some other powerful nation were to declare war against the mother country after entering into an offensive and defensive alliance with Ireland, and were to utilise the ports of the Green Isle for purposes of attack. In short, England and Scotland could not possibly permit Ireland to become an independent country. Whilst Canada and the other autonomous colonies would be allowed to depart in peace, Ireland would have to be invaded and its people cowered into subjection. If anything in the nature of a separatist movement were ever to be set on foot. The political integrity of the British Isles is essential for the maintenance of British freedom, power and influence. Just as the northern States of America could not possibly allow the southern States to secede in 1861 – just as the latter had to be subjugated in order to "save the Union" and to prevent "Government of the people, for the people and by the people" from perishing in the western hemisphere – so the United Kingdom could not possibly allow Ireland to secede without imperilling the existence of both. We all know what the prolonged Civil War cost the American nation. The conquest of a rebellious Ireland might not cost Great Britain quite as much, nor would the process (assuming that none of the great Powers intervened) be so long drawn-out. But such a struggle would shake the Empire to its very base…..

The Gleaner
Kingston, Kingston 14 Oct 1911,
Page 31

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 on the IGSI Board and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

Find These Books at the IGSI Bookstore

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 Cost: $32.95*

Genealogy at a Glance: Irish Genealogy Research

Brian Mitchell

This work is the inaugural publication in a new "how-to" series. Designed to cover the basic elements of genealogical research in just four pages, the "Genealogy at a Glance" series gives you as much useful information in the space allotted as you'll probably ever need. Brian Mitchell is the compiler of the Irish pamphlet. (4 pp) *Cost: $7.95*

The 1831 Tithe Defaulters

Compiled and Edited by Stephen McCormac

This CD-ROM includes details of 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*

The Irish Ancestor 1969-1986

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. *Order CD #J155 Cost: $79.95*

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October - December 2011
Irish Saturday Classes

October 8, 2011 (10-11:30 AM) – No class

November 12, 2011 **Writing Family Stories (1-2:30 PM)** Linda Miller
Linda Miller, past President of IGSI, presents an informative class on translating your raw family history data into a reader friendly format.

December 10, 2011 - No class – Happy Holidays

From Sheila Northrop, Education Chair
I want to thank everyone at IGSI for their support during my tenure as Education Chair. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving our members and I've learned a lot too! A change in my personal schedule does not allow me to continue in this position, but I hope to find a new role with IGSI in the future.

Go raibh míle maith agat!
Síle (Sheila)

Make an Appointment

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email:
Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org
Phone: Beth Mullinax 763-574-1436

IGSI Members Annual Meeting & Program
November 19, 2011

IGSI members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and Program, which will be held at the Family History Center in New Brighton, MN on November 19.

A short business meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. to update members on IGSI programs and activities. After a short break, Tom Rice will present the program, "**Irish Genealogy on the Internet**" covering a variety of valuable resources that are not readily known by researchers.

We will meet in the Relief Society Room at the
Family History Center
100 Silver Lake Road NW
New Brighton, MN 55126

Directions: Take the Silver Lake Road exit from I-694 and go south for one mile to County Road E. The church and library are located on the NW corner of Silver Lake Road and County Road E. You can pull into the parking lot right before reaching County Road E.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. The meeting is FREE to all members and non-members. The general public is invited to come and learn more about IGSI and Irish genealogical resources. Refreshments: donuts & apple cider

Library Acquisitions

by Beth Mullinax

Purchases

C137 - *Carved in Stone. A Survey of Graveyards & Burial Grounds: Edenderry & Environs*, [Kings/Offaly County]. Edenderry, County Offaly: Edenderry Historical Society.

D075 - *Post Office Glasgow Directory 1875-76*. Dublin, Ireland:Archive CD Books Ireland, 2011, 1 CD.

H506.3 - *The People of Ireland, 1600-1699. Part Three*, by David Dobson. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2011, 100 p.

H681 - *A Social and Economic History of Bere Island, 1900-1920*, by Siobhan Hawke. Castletownbere, Beara, Co. Cork, Ireland: The Shell, 2004, 81 p., illus. & maps.

H682 - *The History of Caheragh Parish* [Co. Cork], by Donal J. O'Sullivan and Cammy Harley. Skibbereen, Co. Cork, Ireland: Inspire Design and Print Ltd., 2010 (2002), 209 p., illus., map of Parish.

H683 - *The Great Famine in Ireland*, W. P. O'Brien, 1896. Dublin, Ireland: Archive CD Books Ireland, 2011, 1 CD.

K146 _ *The Registers of St. Michan, Dublin, 1634-1700*, by Parish Register Society of Dublin, 1909. Dublin, Ireland: Archive CD Books Ireland, 2011, 1 CD.

Donations

FH - *The Bean Tree: Robert and Martha Womack and Their Descendants 1764-1985*, by Estelee Beane Rankin. Mobile, AL: The Madaloni Press, 1986, 612 p., indexed. Donated by Nancy Thorson, Red Wing, MN.

S089 - *Family History of the O'Meagher's of Ikerrin-Tipperary, 3rd Century*. [Note: This is a beautiful history of the O'Meagher surname as well as the O'Meagher families in Ireland, Canada, and Minnesota. However, there is no author or donor name attached. If anyone knows who donated this, we would be very appreciative.]

K144 - *Immaculate Conception Church, Morris, Grundy County, Illinois. Baptisms 1863 - 1876; Burials 1856 - 1899*. Illinois Genealogical Society Quarterly. Donated by Sue Kratsch, West St. Paul, MN

K145 - *St. Patrick's RC Church, Monroe County, NY, Marriages 1833-1839*. Published by "Hear Ye Hear Ye" Newsletter of the Rochester Genealogical Society. Donated by Sue Kratsch, West St. Paul, MN.

K147 - *History of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Mount Savage, Maryland, Beginning with the coming of the first Catholic immigrant to Fort Cumberland in about 1758*, by Nancy E. Thoerig. Published by Nancy E. Thoerig, 2004, 57 p. Donated by Beth L. Mullinax, Fridley, MN.

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.

The causes of events are ever more interesting than the events themselves.
-- Marcus T. Cicero

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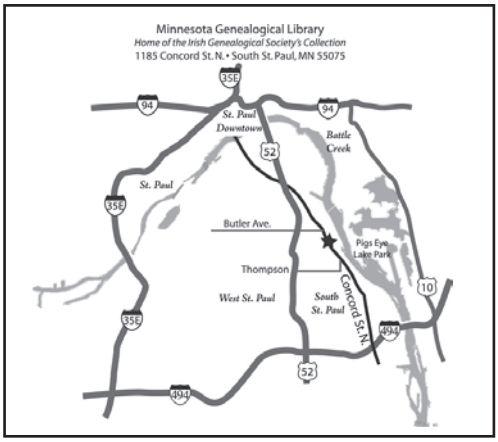

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During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

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.

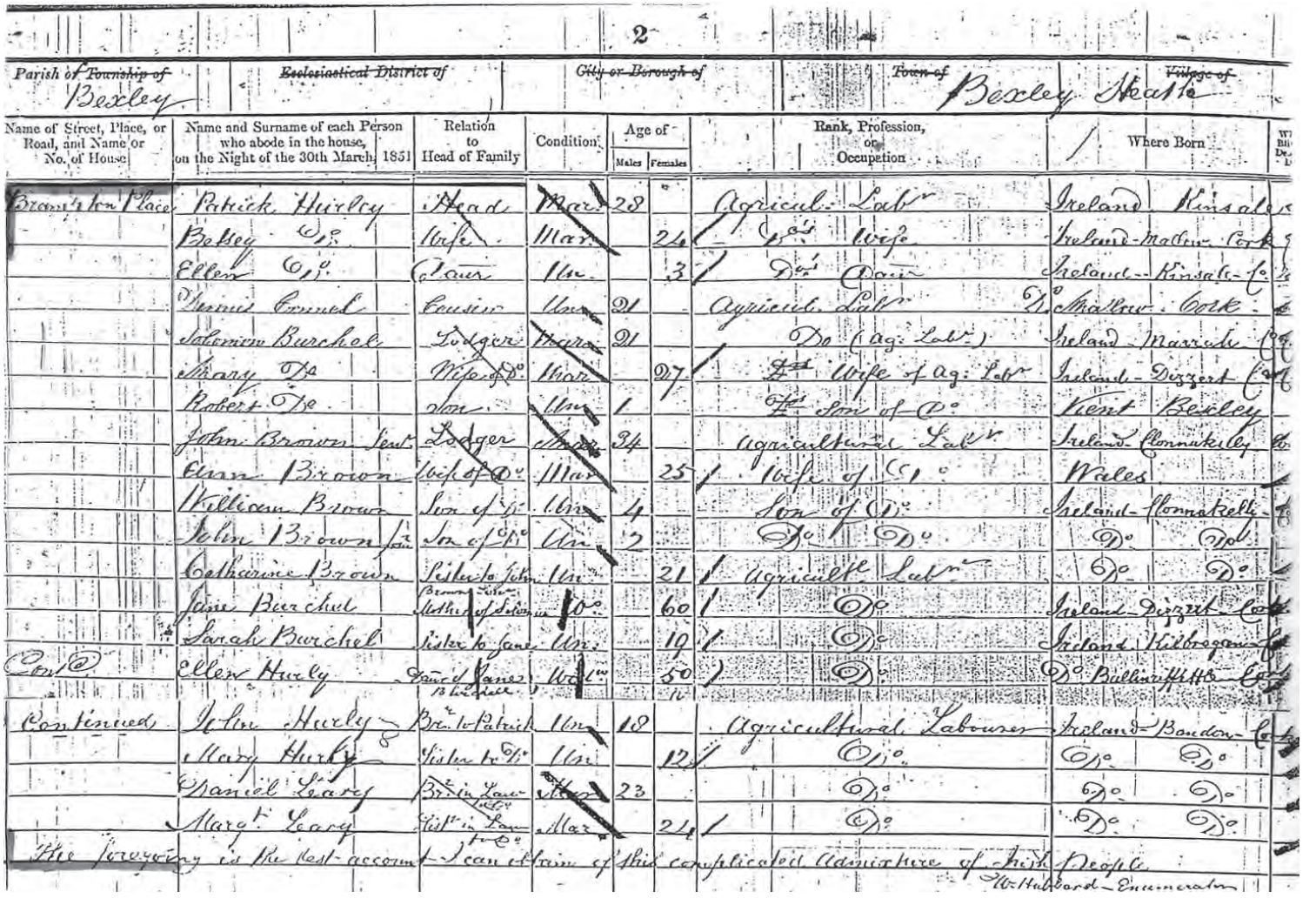
Volume 33, Number 1

The Septs

Irish Genealogical Society International

Canàir (January) 2012

Locating Irish Ancestors in English Records



2

Parish of ~~Township of~~ Bexley. | ~~Ecclesiastical District of~~ | ~~City or Borough of~~ | ~~Town of~~ Bexley Heath | ~~Village of~~

Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Males	Age of Females	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	
Bramston Place	Patrick Hurley	Head	Mar.	28		Agricul. Lab.r	Ireland Kinsale	
	Betsey Do.	Wife	Mar.		24	Do. Wife	Ireland-Mallow Cork	
	Ellen Do.	Daur	Un.		3	Do. Daur	Ireland-Kinsale Co.	
	Thomas Connel	Cousin	Un.	21		Agricul. Lab.r	Mallow Cork	
	Solomon Burchel	Lodger	Mar.	21		Do (Ag. Lab.r)	Ireland Mariscle Co.	
	Mary Do	Wife of Do.	Mar.		27	Wife of Ag. Lab.r	Ireland-Dizzert Co.	
	Robert Do	Son	Un.	1		Son of Do.	Kent Bexley	
	John Brown Sen.r	Lodger	Mar.	34		Agricultural Lab.r	Ireland Clonmakilly	
	Ann Brown	Wife of Do.	Mar.		25	Wife of Do.	Wales	
	William Brown	Son of Do.	Un.	4		Son of Do.	Ireland-Clonmakelly	
	John Brown Jun.r	Son of Do.	Un.	2		Do. Do.	Do. Do.	
	Catharine Brown	Sister to John	Un.	21		Agricult.l Lab.r	Do. Do.	
	Jane Burchel	Mother of Solomon	Wd.		60	Do.	Ireland-Dizzert Co.	
	Sarah Burchel	Sister to Jane	Un.		19	Do.	Ireland Hibbogan Co.	
Cont.d	Ellen Hurly	Sister to Jane	Wd.		50	Do.	Do. Bullinaffiffe Co.	
Continued	John Hurly	Br. to Patrick	Un.	18		Agricultural Labourer	Ireland-Bandon Co.	
	Mary Hurly	Sister to Do.	Un.		12	Do.	Do. Do.	
	Daniel Leary	Br. in Law	Mar.	23		Do.	Do. Do.	
	Mary Leary	Sist. in Law to Do.	Mar.		21	Do.	Do. Do.	

The foregoing is the best account I can obtain of this complicated admixture of Irish People.

W. Hubbard – Enumerator

2012 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 14, 2012
FEBRUARY 11 2012
MARCH 10, 2012
APRIL 14 2012
MAY 12, 2012
JUNE 9, 2012
JULY 14, 2012
AUGUST 11, 2012
SEPTEMBER 8, 2012
OCTOBER 13, 2012
NOVEMBER 10, 2012
DECEMBER 8, 2012

(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 are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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New IGSI Website is Waiting for You

Volunteers are everywhere at IGSI, from the articles in *The Septs* to the workers who help in the library. The website for IGSI follows suit. The folks who are working on the new website are volunteers as well. They are individuals who want to create an up-to-date website. This endeavor has been racked with problems and we find more all the time, however, the new site is up. Take some time to check it out as we work on some continuing problems.

Find us at www.IrishGenealogical.org.

Moving Beyond the Usual

by Ann Eccles

In preparing the 2012 budget for the organization, we recognized that *The Septs* is one of the major expenses of the organization. Yet it is both a visible and appreciated benefit. So, the editors suggested a few changes to the journal that may also help the financial line. We are cutting the number of pages in the journal by four. While we will continue to include information on activities and events, more information on IGSI activities will be included in the monthly e-newsletters, so that you hear about them and have reminders about them in a more timely fashion. While we still encourage you to share articles with us, we may share your writings in a variety of venues. Some articles submitted to *The Septs* may be cut in size or omitted; some may appear occasionally in the eNewsletter.

In this issue, our authors investigate English records for locating Irish ancestors. Many Irishmen were conscripted into the British military or spent time in England before moving on to other countries. Kathleen Strickland provides an introduction to the website of The National Archives at Kew. She offers hints and tips in using the site to locate ancestors. Evva Housley offers a guide to Britain's Military and Naval records, many of which are held in The National Archives. A second article by Evva Housley provides information on finding Irish in the British census records. Maureen Reed offers a story of tracking her Irish ancestors through their years of living in England. The end notes of her article aptly illustrate her sources and search.

And yet we still include information from Irish sources. Judith Wight shares information on family history resources in County Monaghan. Ross Weldon discusses the Irish Prison Registers from the National Library of Ireland that are now online with *findmypast.ie*. Dwight Radford provides a study of Methodists in Ireland. As originally submitted, this wonderful article on the Methodist church was too long for inclusion; it has been shortened to fit. The full article, with the charts referenced, will be available on the IGSI website.

Jay Fonkert offers advice on doing thorough research on ancestors, not merely collecting dates. Mary Wickersham discusses using Internet search engines.

So take a few minutes and look through the issue to find something that will help with your research. And let us know what you think of the changes.

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks.

Pausing for Reflection

by Ann Eccles

Often at the end of a year or project, we take a few moments to reflect, evaluate, or just look around at where we are in life, in our work, and even in our search for ancestors.

As this year ends, I see some wonderful accomplishments

- New faces stepping forward to help
- New status as an independent non-profit recognized by the IRS as such, and an affiliate of the Minnesota Genealogical Society (no longer a branch of that organization)
- A yearlong series of classes on Irish Saturdays
- Outreach efforts beyond the local area – to Fargo, ND and Brookings, SD
- Collaboration on a very successful two-day conference on the British Isles
- Participation in the annual Irish Fair in St. Paul and Family History Day in Minneapolis

Continued on page 31

The National Archives of the United Kingdom: A Bird's Eye View

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

The National Archives complex of the United Kingdom (TNA) is located in Kew in southwest London. The official government archives covers 1,000 years of British history, from the Domesday Book to up-to-the-moment websites. TNA holds 11 million documents; its companion website <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>, which receives 100 million hits each month, is chock-full of wide-ranging information. It is positively dizzying.

According to a historical article published by the BBC, TNA holds images of Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC) wills for the years prior to 1858, the World War I Campaign Medals index, the World War II Seaman's Medals, death duty registers, and some World War I diaries. It is important to note that TNA does not house records that apply to the Republic of Ireland. The records it holds may reveal details about your Irish ancestors if they settled in the UK before heading out to farther shores or if they served in the British military. Many Irish did.

From Ireland to England

The Irish have immigrated to England, Scotland, and Wales for centuries, in greater and lesser numbers and for a multitude of reasons. In 1841, the British government recorded 291,000 Irish living and working in towns across England and Wales. By 1861, that number had climbed to 602,000.

Irish immigrants settled mostly in towns where jobs were available—along the docks in Liverpool, near metal works in Birmingham, close to the textile industry in Manchester. London always had a sizeable Irish population, commonly taking on manual labor jobs.

During the famine years, the Irish tended to take the lowest-paid and most menial jobs. Many Irish settled in Liverpool simply because they could not afford to travel any farther. Some would later travel on to America, Canada or to the British colonies; some would never leave. The online Liverpool-area newspaper *Mersey Reporter* notes that in 1846, 280,000 people entered Liverpool from Ireland, of whom 106,000—fewer than half—moved abroad.

Website Organization

The homepage highlights three major sections: *Education, Records, and Information Management*. *Education* seems aimed primarily at students, while the bulk of genealogical information comes under *Records*. *Information Management* primarily addresses archivists and librarians who manage and care for collections.

Education

A quick way to peruse this section is to study a subject by selecting its period in history—for instance, Medieval 1066-1485 or The Victorians 1850-1901. Learning-style options include virtual classrooms and podcasts. Clicking on a major subject leads to a rich store of related ideas. Among articles in "The Victorians," you'll find material on migration, the census, and Jack the Ripper. A podcast covers "The Problem of the Poor." Go through these carefully and you'll find much that reflects on the Irish living in England.

Records

Categories of the Records tab are Person, Place, Subject, Online Catalogue, and Understanding the Archives. TNA offers **Signposts** to help website users research various histories and families.

Looking for a person?

Click on "Looking for a person?" and explore the records pointed out by the Signposts. You'll find directions on how to find the records—from the General Register Office of Ireland to the LDS *FamilySearch* website. Select the listing "Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Scotland and Ireland." At the bottom of the resulting page is an "In-Depth" guide to Irish genealogy which you can download as a pdf file. A long list of in-depth guides is available when you click "In-Depth Research Guides" on the Quick Link box at the upper left of the *Records* page.

Other Signposts take you directly to births, marriages, and deaths in England and Wales; births, marriages, and deaths of British nationals at sea or abroad; and births, marriages, and deaths in the armed forces. Check out naturalization, army, occupation, and more subject headings for finding individuals. Each category will lead you to a page with more information and links. Links reach many off-site resources such as *Ancestry.co.uk*.

As an example of resources that help you conduct research, click the occupation category and choose **railway workers.** You will find

- Looking for records of a railway worker?
- What do I need to know before I start?
- What records can I see online?
- What records can I find at the National Archives at Kew?
- What records can I find in other archives and organizations?
- What other resources will help me find information?

Looking for a place?
Click on this category and choose from Britain and the World; Specific Localities; and Buildings and Institutions. This is the place to locate the local census schedules and to view and download maps, including one of 16th century Ireland.

Looking for a subject?
This category covers political and military eras as well as society, industry, and the arts. Here you'll find plenty of background information about the kind of world your relatives may have known while living in England.

Catalogues and online records
Discover all the online sites you can access from TNA, including TNA holdings, partner websites, and records in other archives.

Using TNA's catalog is not intuitive and can be frustrating. Plans are in the works to make it more user-friendly. For now, just a few points:

- From the **Records** page, follow the Quick Link to the Catalogue.
- The Catalogue references subjects by government department code. A list of returned hits will show a short clipping of the relevant document.
- An easy way to learn more about the catalogue is to go directly to <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help/catalogue/basicsearch.htm>
- Links to partner sites are rich with possibilities. Try the link to "moving here" as an example.
- Under Links to other archives, you can visit the ARCHON site for a listing of archives in the Republic of Ireland.

Understanding the Archives
Here, you'll find wonderful educational tools. Among the treasures

- Quick animated guides about mapping out a research plan, using the catalogue, ordering documents, and more.
- Help in reading old documents, including Latin lessons and a wordlist; a quick reference to paleography, dating, numbers, and money.
- There is help in learning how to care for old documents.

The Worth of the Website

As an Irish family researcher, the greatest advantage of TNA's website is its value as a signpost — literally "a post with signs on it to direct travelers." Using the website content, I passed through many places where I might find helpful, pertinent information on the Irish in England. As an historian, I felt like I had wandered into a labyrinth of great stories and was in no hurry to leave.

However you use this website, be patient and expect to approach a subject from several directions to arrive at your destination. The rewards are well worth the time.

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.

Finding the Irish in British Military Records

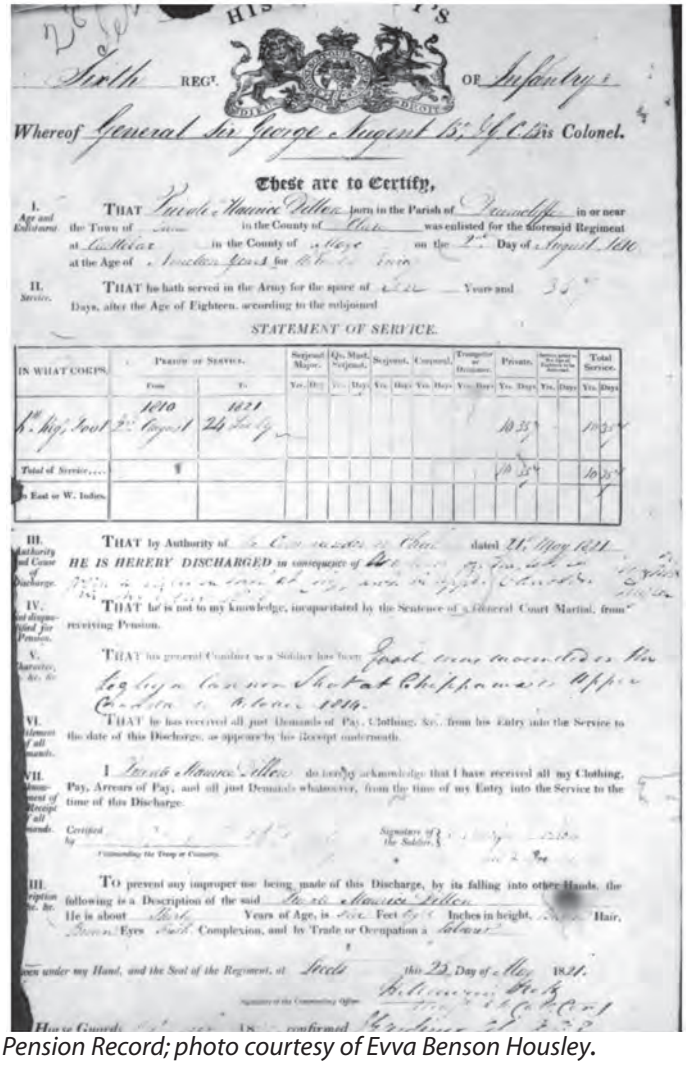
by Evva Benson Housley

During the 19th century, over one-third of the British Military were Irish. This makes British military records a valuable source for tracing Irish ancestors. The information available for your ancestor varies depending on his rank, length of service, medical condition, and the time period in which he gave service. It would take a book to cover all of the records available. Below is information about content and accessibility for sources most likely to reveal a birth place and approximate birth date for your military ancestor.

What are some clues that your ancestor was in the military? Perhaps you have a family tradition or some discharge papers in your possession. Maybe you found a civil registration, census, baptism, or marriage record that indicates he was a soldier. Maybe you have a photo of your ancestor in a uniform. Maybe it wasn't your ancestor who served in the military, but a brother or an uncle. However, finding the birth place of a close relative may lead you to finding your ancestor's birth place.

British Army

British Army Service Records. A census record that says "Pensioner" probably means your ancestor was an army pensioner. At *findmypast.co.uk* you can search the indexes and images of all the "Chelsea pension" records from 1760-1913 (WO 97). Note: very few Irish are mentioned in the records prior to 1800. For the time period 1760-1854 you can search the indexes (no images available) at <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/catalogue/default.asp> for free. Although it is the catalog of The National Archives of Great Britain (TNA), it is keyword searchable by people's names.


Sixth REGT. OF Infantry
Whereof General Sir George Nugent K.C.B. is Colonel.
These are to Certify,
STATEMENT OF SERVICE.

Pension Record; photo courtesy of Evva Benson Housley.

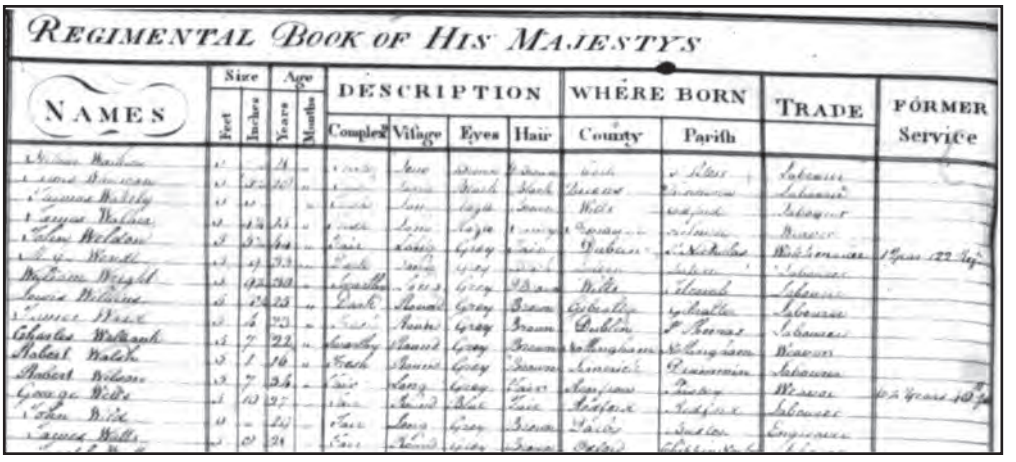
The Chelsea pension records are the service records of soldiers in the British army. The pensions were administered through Chelsea hospital, although most of the pensioners were "out-pensioners" and did not live in the hospital. These records are wonderful—they include the soldier's place of birth, age at enlistment, previous occupation, physical description, and the regiment served in. They may also include his service record with biographical material. The bad news is that prior to 1883 only a minority of soldiers received a pension, because most soldiers did not stay in the service long enough to receive one. Until 1871, 21 years of service was required to receive a pension, 12 years thereafter. Most pensions were granted due to some physical disability received during service. In 1883, those who were discharged without a pension are also included. For more details on these records, see <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/british-army-soldiers-discharge-and-pension-records.htm>.

Already mentioned above, it is always wise to search the catalog of The National Archives of Great Britain (TNA) as it indexes other classes of records as well as the WO 97 service records. It includes WO 119—certificates of service for pensions awarded through Kilmainham hospital from 1783-1822. As Kilmainham hospital was in Dublin, it contains mostly Irish soldiers for the time period. Also included is WO 121, another set of records related to Chelsea pensioners, but not entirely duplicating WO 97.

Muster Rolls. Your ancestor will be in the muster rolls whether or not he had a pension record. You can hire a researcher (or go yourself) to search muster rolls at TNA, located outside of London. TNA's webpage <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/paid_research.htm> gives details of how to commission research. In order to search muster rolls, you

must know in which regiment your ancestor served. This information might come from a marriage record, a baptismal record of one of his children, civil registration, family information, or another source. (The webpage <yourarchives.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php?title=British_army_regiments_names_and_numbers> gives the number of a regiment if you have the name of the regiment.) If your ancestor chose to have his children's births registered in the Army Regimental Registers of Births or if he was recorded in the Chaplains' returns (see below), this will reveal his regiment. Trace a man forwards and backwards to his first and last muster roll. Though this is a time-consuming process, it can be rewarding, as a man's first and/or last muster usually gives his birthplace and age.

Search the musters even if you found a birthplace in the pension records. Finding a birthplace in a muster roll would verify what you found in the pension records or it might list something different. Perhaps the pension only mentioned a county in Ireland but the muster may give the town. Or the handwriting in one record is easier to read than the other. Due to the time-intensive nature of searching muster rolls, you want to look for a pension record first and then see where it leads.


REGIMENTAL BOOK OF HIS MAJESTY'S

NAMES	Size		Age		DESCRIPTION				WHERE BORN		TRADE	FORMER Service
	Feet	Inches	Years	Months	Complex	Visage	Eyes	Hair	County	Parish		

Army Regimental Book; photo courtesy of Evva Benson Housley.

Army Regimental Registers and Chaplains' Returns. As mentioned above, your ancestor could choose to have his children's births registered with the army, whether the child was born at home or abroad. The index will tell you the name of the child, where the child was born, and the father's regiment. Chaplain's returns are another source for births of children, marriages, and deaths, but only for events abroad. Regimental Registers and Chaplains' Returns are indexed on *findmypast.co.uk* under the headings "Armed Forces Births 1761-2005," "Armed Forces Marriages 1796-2005," and "Armed Forces Deaths 1796-2005." For events recorded in Chaplains' returns, you must order the actual certificate from the General Register Office <www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/> (these are considered an "Overseas event") to find the regiment. These sources are incomplete but helpful should you be lucky enough to find your ancestor in them.

Another use of these records might be to trace the "missing" children of an Army ancestor, children who were born all over the world during his army service.

Depot Description Books and Casualty Lists. Both of these records (where they survive) include place of birth and former trade. Each then gives relevant additional information—the description books give age and physical description, the casualty lists give rank and next of kin. Microfilms of some of these records are available through local FamilySearch Centers. (FamilySearch Centers are branch libraries of the Family History Library and were formerly known as Family History Centers. To find one near you, go to <www.familysearch.org> and click on FamilySearch Centers.") To obtain microfilm numbers of these records, follow the instructions for finding WO 25 in the section "Officer's records" below; when you get to the catalog entry, look for your regiment. There are many types of documents for each regiment on these microfilms, so look through the entire film to make sure you don't miss anything.

HIS MAJESTY'S

Sixth REGT. OF Infantry

Whereof General Sir George Nugent Bt. G.C.B. is Colonel.

These are to Certify,

1. Age and Enlistment. THAT Patrick Maurice Dillon born in the Parish of Drumcliffe in or near the Town of Sligo in the County of Clare was enlisted for the aforesaid Regiment at Castlebar in the County of Mayo on the 2nd Day of August 1810 at the Age of Twenty years for Twenty years

Pension Records showing the place of birth; photo courtesy of Evva Benson Housley.

World War I Service Records. Approximately two-thirds of the World War I service records were destroyed during bombing in World War II. However, the records that do survive have been indexed with images by *Ancestry.com*. These provide much wonderful information for your ancestor, including birth date and place.

Officers' Records. If your ancestor was an officer – lieutenant, captain, major, lieutenant-colonel, colonel or general – your work may be easier. The published *Army Lists* have an index in the back of each volume; you can check for your ancestor by name to find his regiment. These are available as large .pdf files from TNA for free (<www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/army.asp>, then go to "Digital microfilm"). The officers' service records are found in two different record groups, WO 25 and WO 76. Most of these are on microfilm available through FamilySearch Centers. To find the microfilm numbers for these records

1. Go to <www.familysearch.org>
2. Click on "Catalog"
3. Select a "Keyword" search
4. Type in the phrase *Great Britain War Office Regimental*
5. Of the nine results, two are most important:
   A. "War Office Registers. . ." is WO 25. Click on the entry and scroll down to the film numbers labeled "Services of Officers on full and half pay." These are arranged in one alphabetical sequence for any officer who was alive in 1828.
   B. "Record of Officers Services, 1770-1919" is WO 76. Records are arranged by regiment and then alphabetically by the name of the officer.

Or hire a researcher at TNA. The records typically include birth place and date, details of his career, and sometimes information about his wife and children.

Indian Army. Until 1858, the Indian Army was independent of the British Army. If you believe your ancestor served in India, consult these records. The India Office of Great Britain kept more than just military records. For more information, go to the Families in British India Society <www.new.fibis.org/> and the India Office Family History Search website <indiafamily.bl.uk/UI/Home.aspx>. Many records of the India Office are available through the local FamilySearch Center. Go to < www.familysearch.org>, click on "Catalog," and do a "Keyword" search for Great Britain India Office. It is important to know which presidency—Bengal, Bombay, or Madras—your ancestor was in. To find this, go to, <dsal.uchicago.edu/reference/gazetteer> and type in the name of the place. If it doesn't say one of the presidency names, look up the name it does give you on the map at <indiafamily.bl.uk/UI/Home.aspx>. For more help on tracing India Office records, see <www.wiki.fibis.org/index.php?title=Beginners%27_Guide>.

Royal Artillery, Royal Horse Artillery, Royal Engineers. There were many branches of the British Army, and the service records of men in these branches, such as the Royal Artillery, Royal Horse Artillery, and Royal Engineers are available through TNA. TNA's website provides a list of researchers by research specialty whom you can hire to search the relevant records (see <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/paid_-research.htm>). Some records for these branches are on microfilms available through a local FamilySearch Center. To see what records exist, go to < www.familysearch.org>, click on Catalog, select "Keyword" search, and type in the phrase Great Britain Royal Artillery (or another branch of service of interest).

Royal Navy

Seamen 1853-1923. If your ancestor was a rating (common seaman) in the Royal Navy between 1853-1923, there is a good chance some of his records are online. Go to <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/royal-navy-service.asp> for more details and to search. The index gives his place of birth and date of entry into the navy. As there were many men with the same names, you might need to know some information to make sure it is really him. You can purchase a download of the full record for £3.50 on the website. Don't forget, many of the men listed in these records began their service many years before 1853. Go to <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/royalnavyrating1853-1923.htm?WT.lp=rg-3124> for more guidance.

Seamen before 1853. If your ancestor was a rating before 1853, your search will be more difficult. In this case you must know the name of the ship on which he served. A ship's name might come from family sources, a man's marriage record, or the christening of one of his children, a medal roll available at *Ancestry.com* or even a census. If you then find the muster for that ship, it will give his birthplace and age.

The webpage <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/ratingroyalnavybefore1853.htm?WT.lp=rg-3168> gives step-by-step guidance, plus a link to an online index to pension records. (You can order a copy of any records found via the index from TNA for a fee). The aforementioned

webpage allows you to type in the name of your ancestor's ship to find the call number for its musters. For example, the ship *Buffalo's* muster rolls from 1799-1802 are ADM 36/14230. Some of these musters are on microfilm available through your local FamilySearch Center. To find the film number, go to <www.familysearch.org>, click on "Catalog" and do a "Keyword" search for the phrase, *Great Britain Admiralty Muster*. There are three series; click on each one and see if you can match the ship's name, date, and ADM #. Not all the musters are available on FamilySearch Center microfilm; see the webpage at the beginning of this paragraph for details of how to obtain these records from TNA.

Officers. To look for an officer in the Royal Navy (commissioned or warrant), first try the online index at <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/adm196.asp>. It contains indexes service records from the 1840s to the early 20th century. If you find your man in the index, you can download his service record from the website for £3.50. See <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/commissionedofficerroyalnavy.htm> for more links and information.

The following books detail biographical information for officers:
The Commissioned Sea Officers of the Royal Navy 1660-1815 by D. Syrett and R.L. DiNardo. Aldershot, Hants, England: Scolar Press for the Navy Records Society, rev. ed. 1994.

A naval biographical dictionary . . . the life & services of every living officer in Her Majesty's navy from the rank of Admiral . . . to that of lieutenant by W.R. O'Byrne. 3 vol. London: John Murray, 1849, reprint. FamilySearch microfilm 845144.

Royal Navy lieutenants' passing certificates (1691-1902) by Bruno Pappalardo. Kew, Surrey: List and Index Society, 2001. This indexes all of the extant lieutenants' passing certificates. To achieve the first commissioned rank in the Navy, an exam was administered. Along with this exam candidates had to produce proof of age, which often included a baptism certificate. If an item of interest is located in the index, photocopies of the documents can be ordered from TNA <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/recordcopying/>.

Conclusion

There are many, many more military records available at TNA than are listed here. For more information and links, see <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/default.htm> and go to "Army" or "Navy." Also check <www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guide-listing.htm> for links beginning with "British Army" or "Royal Navy." With persistence and a little luck, British military records might lead you to the origins of that elusive Irish ancestor.

Evva Housley graduated from Brigham Young Univeristy with bachelor's degrees in family history and economics. She was employed at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City from 2000 until 2011 when her first child was born and she quit to become a very happy full-time mother. She is an Accredited Genealogist researcher in Ireland and England.

Irish Living in England Databases at findmypast.co.uk

The following records databases found at *findmypast.co.uk* are useful for people tracing Irish ancestry:

- Armed Forces birth, marriage and death records 1761 - 2005
  - *www.findmypast.co.uk/search/armed-forces/births*
  - *www.findmypast.co.uk/search/armed-forces/marriages*
  - *www.findmypast.co.uk/search/armed-forces/deaths*
- British Army Service Records 1760 - 1915
  - *www.findmypast.co.uk/search/army-service-records/all*
- Merchant Navy Seamen records 1918 – 1941
  - *www.findmypast.co.uk/search/merchant-navy-seamen*
- Passenger Lists leaving the UK 1890 – 1960
  - *www.findmypast.co.uk/*

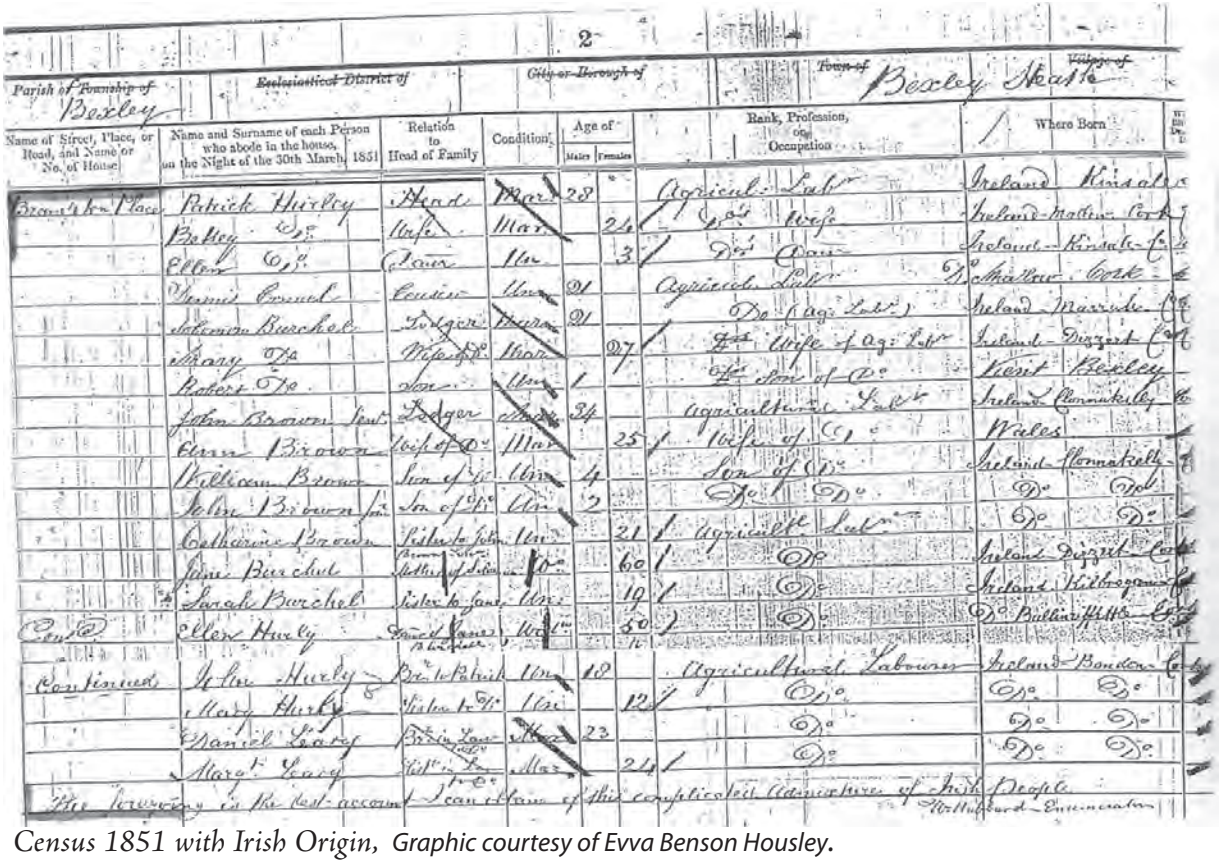
Finding Irish Origins in the English (or Scottish or Welsh) Censuses

by Evva Benson Housley

Much to the chagrin of Irish researchers, British (English, Scottish, and Welsh) census enumerators in the 19th century were given the directive to only state the country of origin if the person was born outside of the country of residence in the census. Hence, we find the generic "Ireland" as the birthplace of our ancestor in a British census. Discouraging.

But did you know that approximately 15% of census takers did not follow their instructions? That's right, 15% of the time you will find the name of the county or town of birth of an Irish ancestor! This means that you should search EVERY British census that could have included your ancestor. Even search censuses before and after you think they were in England. Each census you search gives you another chance at cashing in on that lucky 15%. Finding every census for a family is a GREAT strategy to learn more about them. In one census, an elderly parent may have come to live with them. In another census, they may live next door to someone with the same surname — a sibling perhaps.

In 1911, census enumerators were given new instructions: they were to specify the town and county of birth for everyone. So if you have an Irish ancestor in the 1911 British census, it will tell you their birth place. Remember however, that oftentimes people gave the name of a larger town near them and not the little place they were born. Don't give up if at first you don't find their birth record in the place they indicated; instead, expand your search to the surrounding area.



Census 1851 with Irish Origin, Graphic courtesy of Evva Benson Housley.

So, take heart and start searching the British censuses. They are available through many websites, though not always for free:

FamilySearch
www.familysearch.org

FreeCEN – UK census online
www.freecen.org.uk

Ancestry.com
www.ancestry.com

Findmypast
www.findmypast.com

The Genealogist
www.thegenealogist.co.uk

Searching Navigation Records of the I & M Canal

by Sue Hahney Kratsch

In April 1848, the Illinois and Michigan Canal was opened, connecting Lake Michigan to the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The new waterway profoundly affected the Illinois counties of Cook, Will, Grundy, and LaSalle through which it passed, and was said to have "provided the rationale for the founding of Chicago."[1]

In September 2011, I visited the Illinois State Archives in Springfield to search the records of boats and boatmen operating on the canal. While many of the records have been microfilmed, they are not available on interl-Library loan; and few are indexed. The archives' web site has a descriptive inventory summarizing the major record groups.[2] I consulted all or parts of three record groups: Boat Clearances, Certificates of Boat Registration, and Register of Boats.

Boat Clearances

Clearances are certificates issued by a collector of tolls authorizing the boat master to travel on the canal. It is the largest record group, consisting of 286 volumes on about 75 rolls of microfilm. Records are organized by the eight toll collection locations and begin in 1848 for some locations. The clearance was issued by the collector nearest to the boatman's point of entry to the canal, likely his home port. Using a detailed breakdown of the contents available only at the archives, the canal records archivist was able to direct me to films for Lockport, my ancestor James Wesley Mooney's residence.

Clearances show the date, name of boat and master, amounts and types of cargo, and the points of origin and destination of the trip. Many trips began or ended at "Br Port", the canal terminus at Bridgeport within the city of Chicago. Canal officials completed most of the form, but the boat master signed the clearance, providing me with the only example of my great-great-grandfather's signature I have ever seen. It appears that most were literate; only a few signed with an "X".

Certificates of Boat Registration

The certificates in this group, which begin in 1849, show some boat name changes and changes of ownership. The new owner and residence, former owner, date, and name of boat are given. The certificate is signed by the purchaser.

Register of Boats

The Register of Boats Navigating the Illinois and Michigan Canal lists boats chronologically. In 1855, when the records begin, only the boat name, port, and date are given. By 1857, the register began to show "hailing place", owner, where owned, where registered, and remarks. A few boats hailed from ports in Wisconsin and Michigan. Boats were often owned by multiple individuals or by companies, while some boat masters owned the boats they operated. In the records I examined, I did not find any female boat masters, but there was at least one female owner: Julia Finn.

I was able to consulted only a few of the many canal records available at the archives. Many of these deal with navigation, others with the building of the canal. See the October 2011 issue of *The Septs* for further information.[3]

Endnotes

1. John Lamb, *I & M Canal: A Corridor in Time* (Romeoville, Ill.: Lewis University, 1987); Michael P. Conzen, Introduction, p. 1.

2. Illinois State Archives, Record Group 491.000 http://<www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/di/491__002.htm>

3. Sue Kratsch, "Irish Builders of the Illinois and Michigan Canal," *The Septs* 32:4 (October 2011), p. 160.

Sue Hahney Kratsch is a Joliet native whose Irish ancestors settled in Lockport, Illinois, in 1848. Her transcription of Lockport Baptist church records was published in 2003 by the Will-Grundy Genealogical Society. She thanks Nancy Bruce Crilly and the WGGS for valuable I&M references. Sue lives and researches in West St. Paul, Minnesota.

Research Is More Than Looking Things Up

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

The Internet, including a multiplying number of searchable online databases, has made it easier than ever to look up and copy information from genealogical records and other genealogists' research. We can find more information faster and less expensively than ever before. Few genealogists would want to go back to the "good old days" when it took months or years to connect with other researchers or retrieve information from a distant source.

As good as we have it, research remains hard work. As an eminent genealogist once wrote, research is "an investigation aimed at the discovery and the *interpretation* of facts and also the revision of accepted theories in light of new facts" (emphasis added)[1]. This kind of research is hard work, but so rewarding. It requires digging for obscure source material, puzzling over clues, and fitting bits of evidence together to reveal a clear picture of family histories that can be enjoyed by our children and grandchildren.

Even if you are new to genealogy, you probably have figured out that there is no single step-by-step recipe for success. Research trails are seldom straight and direct; rather, paths of discovery often zig and zag, depending in part on serendipity. Usually, genealogical serendipity requires more than luck; it requires a genealogist to look in the right places and to be prepared to recognize the relevance of what he or she finds.

Sometimes, you can simply look up the answer to a question. Who were your ancestor's parents? A birth certificate or a baptism record may give a direct answer. Other times, no easily found source carries information that answers the question so directly. The deeper you get into your family history, the more often you have to piece together bits of information from several sources to indirectly answer a question.

So, how do you go about this process of puzzling-out answers from what genealogists call "indirect evidence"? It involves three kinds of thinking:

1) comparing and evaluating conflicting evidence
2) drawing logical inferences from information that does not directly answer a question
3) brainstorming and testing hypotheses.

Resolving Conflicting Evidence

One of my first pieces of advice for beginning genealogists is: do not trust any single source. A corollary is: try to find information pertaining to the same event in two or more sources. If the information from two sources does not match, decide which, if either, to trust. Evaluate each source separately, considering who provided the information, how the information was recorded, and whether it is an original or derivative source.

Modern death certificates carry a wealth of information, including dates and places of both death and birth and names of parents. Death certificates provide more reliable information about a person's death than about birth dates and birth places for a simple reason: the information about date and place of death is provided soon after the event by someone with good reason to know the facts; information about the deceased person's parents and birth many years earlier is often provided by someone who has only second-hand knowledge of the facts.

Catherine Faulkner's death certificate says she was born 22 May 1877.[2] A careful researcher takes this information with a grain of salt, especially because the 1900 U.S. Census reported her birth date as May 1875.[3] It is not clear if Catherine or someone else in her household provided that birth date. Without a birth certificate or a family Bible, it is hard to know what to think about Catherine's birth date. Perhaps another official form of identification might help reconcile the conflicting evidence. Catherine applied for a U.S. passport in 1922. Alas, she gave her birth date as 22 May 1880.[4] Which birth year is correct: 1875, 1877 or 1880? Possibly, all are wrong, because the 1880 U.S. Census reported that Catherine was 7 years old.[5]

If two or more sources agree, all still could be wrong. Consider two sources which give a birth date for Ann B. (Faulconer) Sears. Her Indiana death record and obituary state that she was 86 years old when she died 29 December 1894, consistent with her gravestone, which says she was born 4 July 1808. However, these sources probably are not independent of each other. That is, the same informant

probably provided the information for both, and both could be wrong. A third source does not state a birth date but implies a birth date consistent with the 4 July 1808[6] date. Ann's mother gave consent for her Orange County, Virginia, marriage 19 July 1828, implying Ann was not yet 21.[7]

This is a good point at which to reiterate the distinction between sources and information. A source is a document or artifact that carries information. Think of a source – be it a death certificate, family Bible, gravestone, or Grandma herself – as a vehicle that transports information from an informant to the genealogist, just like a ship transports ore from a mine to a factory, where the ore is combined with other raw materials and processed into a useful product, such as steel. Like a factory that heats up a mix of raw materials to make something more valuable, a genealogist uses mental energy to mix together raw information from multiple sources to produce the evidence from which a conclusion can be built. Both factories and genealogists add value to the raw materials they use.

Elizabeth Shown Mills explains that evidence is created by thought. Evidence "is whatever the researcher deduces when he or she mentally processes" the information presented by one or more sources.[8] This is the "interpretation" part of research.

Information in "official" documents must be carefully evaluated just like any document. "Official" refers to the nature of the document, not to the information itself. The document is official in the sense that it was created by a person legally charged to truthfully and accurately record the information. The legal requirements (and sometimes penalties) behind vital records and other government records increase the likelihood that the information they carry is truthful but does not guarantee so. The clerk who created the document was dependent on an informant – perhaps a relative, a physician or a witness – who provided the information.

Drawing Logical Inferences

Sometimes, no single piece of information in any source directly answers a parent-child relationship question. Still, a skilled genealogist may be able to reach a conclusion based on logical inference from a body of evidence. A genealogist can process, or correlate, information from several sources to build a logical answer to the question.

No known source carries information naming the parents of the "Patsy" Nelson who married John C. Faulkner in Garrard County, Kentucky, in 1806.[9] However, information from several sources can be combined to produce a logical answer.

- The 1797 will of Ambrose Nelson named his wife, Rhoda, and a daughter, Martha.[10]
- John C. Faulkner bought a parcel of corn at the estate sale of Rhoda Nelson in 1813.[11]
- "John C. Faulkner and Patsy his wife" relinquished their right to land bequeathed them by Ambrose Nelson in 1813.[12]

"Patsy" is a nickname for Martha. While no source provides information directly answering the question, it can be concluded that the parents of Martha "Patsy" Nelson were Ambrose Nelson and his wife Rhoda. This is the kind of reasoning that genealogists are talking about when they speak of drawing conclusions based on "indirect evidence."

Posing and Testing Hypotheses

Brainstorming – as important to genealogists as to scientists and other researchers – is the process of imagining possibilities. What might be the plausible answers to a research question? What might possibly explain a migration path or a blended family?

The 1850 U.S. Census enumerated four Faulkner minors – John E., 15; Cyrus W., 13; and George S., 11 – in the household of William Sears in Hendricks County, Indiana. William Sears had an apparent wife, Ann B., age 42. Also present in the household were four apparent Sears children, aged 9 months to 8 years.[13] This information raises a question: who were the parents of the Faulkner children? A reasonable hypothesis is that they were Ann's children from a previous marriage. Where might you find information to test this hypothesis? Marriage, probate and guardianship records might provide evidence.

- A marriage license was issued to Wesley Sears and Ann B. Fawkner in September 1840.[14]
- "Ann B. Sears (formerly Ann B. Fawkner) former Guardian of the minors aforesaid" requested that Wesley B. Sears be appointed guardian of John E., Cyrus W., George S., and James C. Faulkner.[15]
- Ann B. Faulconer, "widow of John C. Faulconer" relinquished her claim to the administration of the estate of John C. Faulconer in June 1839. She signed the document

"Ann B. Fawkner."[16]

- In August 1839, "Ann B. Fawkner, widow of J. C. Fawkner" gave a receipt for funds received from the estate of "John C. Fawkner."[17]
- Ann Faulconer's mother gave consent for her to marry John C. Fawkner 19 July 1828.[18]

These pieces of information support the hypothesis that John, Cyrus and George "Faulkner" were children of Ann Faulconer from her marriage to John C. Fawkner. In this case, information supported the hypothesis. However, it is just as important to seek negative evidence that might cause rejection of an hypothesis. If you find evidence to reject a hypothesis, you can put it aside and work on alternative hypotheses or explanations.

Be a Researcher, Not a Gopher

The Internet makes it easier than ever to look things up. You may be lucky and quickly find what you are looking for. But don't stop there. Think about where the information came from and whether you can trust it. Look for another source to back up what you've found. If you have conflicting information, try to resolve the conflict. Never trust any single source and consider the possibility that every source is wrong.

Puzzle over what you see. Brainstorm. Develop hypotheses. Seek evidence for or against your hypothesis. Being skeptical will slow you down. But, you will end up with a more reliable family history.

Don't just root around like a gopher. Be a genealogical researcher.

End Notes

1. Val D. Greenwood, *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1983), p. 1.
2. Catherine A. Faulkner entry, Ancestry.com. *California Death Index, 1940-1997* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000. Author has not viewed the death registration or certificate
3. 1900 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, Enumeration District2 27, Sheet 7B, dwelling 88, family 135, Thomas Faulkner household; National Archives and Records Administration Microfilm T623, roll 100; digital image viewed at www.ancestry.com, 16 November 2011.
4. Catherine Faulkner U.S. passport application, stamped 183562, 2 June 1922; *Passport Applications, January 2, 1906–March 31, 1925*, National Archives and Records Administration microfilm publication 1,490, digital images viewed 18 October 2010
5. 1880 U.S. Census, California, San Francisco County, San Francisco, Enumeration District 104, p. 5, stamped 504, dwelling 44, family 45, Thomas Faulkner household, FHL film 1,254,075. For a more complete account of this case, see J. H. Fonkert, "Official, but Wrong: The Faulkner Sisters' Passports," *The Septs*, 32:1 (January 2011), 45-48.
6. "Death of Mrs. Sears," *Danville Republican*, 3 January 1895; Hendricks County, Indiana, Department of Health, Death Record Book 47, p. 20; Ann B. Sears gravestone, Danville South Cemtery, viewed and photographed by author.
7. Orange County, Va., Court, Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns 11 (1825-29): 234-35, Fawkner-Faulconer; Library of Virgnina Orange Co. microfilm 53.
8. Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Working with Historical Genealogical Principles and Standards," in Evidence, a special issue *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 87:3 (September 1999), p. 179.
9. Bill Vockery and Katheryn Vockery, comps., *Garrard County, Kentucky, Marriage Records, 1797-1853* (Richmond, Ky.: B. and K. Vockery, 1989), 35. The compilers found the marriage record in the courthouse in 1989, but report it is now missing. See Kathy Vockery to author, letter, 15 November 2008.
10. Garrard County, Ky., Probate Book A:1, Ambrose Nelson will; FHL microfilm 183,232.
11. Garrard Co., Ky., Probate Box 164, p. 81; Rhoda Nelson estate, bill of sales; FHL microfilm 183,232.
12. Garrard Co., Ky., Deed Book D: 277, Faulkner to Nelson, 1813; FHL microfilm 183,243.
13. 1850 U.S. Census, Hendricks County, Ind., Pop. Sch., Marion Twp., p. 80, dwelling 1,101, family 1,119, William Sears; NARA microfilm M432, roll 150..
14. Hendricks County, Indiana, Marriage License Book 2:126, Fawkner-Sears, 1840.
15. Hendricks County, Indiana, Circuit Court, Probate Order Book 3:336, John C. Fawkner Heirs.
16. Hendricks County, Indiana,

Circuit Court, John C. Fawkner Estate probate file, loose paper, dated 25 June 1839.

17. Hendricks County, Indiana, Circuit Court, John C. Fawkner Estate probate file, loose paper, dated 3 August 1839.
18. Orange Co., Va. Court, Fawkner-Faulconer.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He is past 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.

IGSI February Class

February 11, 2012
Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Getting Started with Your Irish Genealogy
Tom Rice, Instructor

Introduction to the key tools for finding your ancestors in Ireland: most important record types, Irish geographic terms, Irish names, key Irish genealogy web sites and books.

Class held at MGS Library in South St. Paul, Minnesota.
$10 Members / $15 Non Member
Wheelchair Accessible

Reviews for Genealogists

Book reviews by IGSI Members

Book Review by Ann Eccles

Indexes to Irish Wills

By William P. W. Phillimore and Gertrude Thrift, editors.
Originally published in London, 1909-1920. (Five volumes in one.) Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1970.

This is a compilation of five indexes to more than 30,000 diocesan wills proved in the Consistorial Courts of Ireland between 1536 and 1857. The original indexes were published in Ireland in the early 1900s. The contents, while alphabetical, follow the original arrangement by diocese and volume of publication.

Information included here is of help to the researcher in determining the social and financial status of an ancestor: the name of the testator, his parish, county, and the date of probate.

The years included in the index vary by the diocese. Volumes 1-3 cover the South of Ireland; the last two cover the North of Ireland.

Volume I

Diocese of Ossary	1536-1800
Diocese of Leighlin	1652-1800
Diocese of Ferns	1601-1800

Also covers parts of Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Queens, Wexford and Wicklow

Volume II

Diocese Cork & Ross	1548-1800
Diocese of Cloyne	1621-1800

Volume III

Diocese of Cashel & Emly	1618-1800
Diocese of Waterford & Lismore	1645-1800
Diocese of Killaloe & Kilfenora	1653-1800
Diocese of Limerick	1615-1800
Diocese of Ardfert & Aghadoe	1690-1800

Volume IV

Diocese of Dromore	1678-1858

with a cross index to aliases

Diocese of Newry & Mourne	1727-1858

Volume V

Diocese of Derry	1612-1858
Diocese of Raphoe	1684-1858

The IGSI library has this information in various formats: as a book, on a CD, and the Internet. This information is also available elsewhere, e.g. at Ireland's National Archives and in various Irish local history journals.

Continued on page 31

Using the Internet: Search Engines

by Mary Wickersham

Internet search engines are helpful tools for genealogists. Use them to seek information from a variety of web pages about family surnames, local histories, research archives, libraries, churches, government entities, and a wealth of other valuable information.

Popular search engines include *Google* < www.google.com>, *Yahoo!* < www.yahoo.com>, and *Bing* < www.bing.com>.

Search engines build databases by sending computerized "bots" to read text on web pages. Key words and phrases from web pages are stored in massive databases. The bot moves on to read web pages that are linked to by web pages it finds.

When you enter a search request, the search engine retrieves a list of terms and their associated web pages, providing links to the pages that have those terms. The "Results List" is presented in an order ranked by the search engine company based on many factors: popularity, whether other sites link to the webpage and how legitimate they are, and frequency of the terms in use on the site. Each search engine uses its own statistical analysis and rules to determine how to rank the results.

Search engines have some drawbacks:

- They are provided by profit-driven businesses, whose primary source of revenue is advertising.
- It isn't always easy to identify paid (or "sponsored") links. (See the *Yippy* example – the words "Sponsored Results" and "Search Results" are in pale gray on a white background.)
- Site rankings in results lists can be manipulated by clever marketers, who may insert terms on web pages to increase chances you will follow their link. This is probably why you see links to pages completely unrelated to the search terms you used.
- *Google* knows where you live based on the IP address of your computer. It therefore will rank results which are closer to home higher on the results page. While that may work well if you are searching for a new local restaurant, it may not help much when searching for websites about Ireland. Therefore, include a location in your searches.
- Search engines gather various data about your search habits.

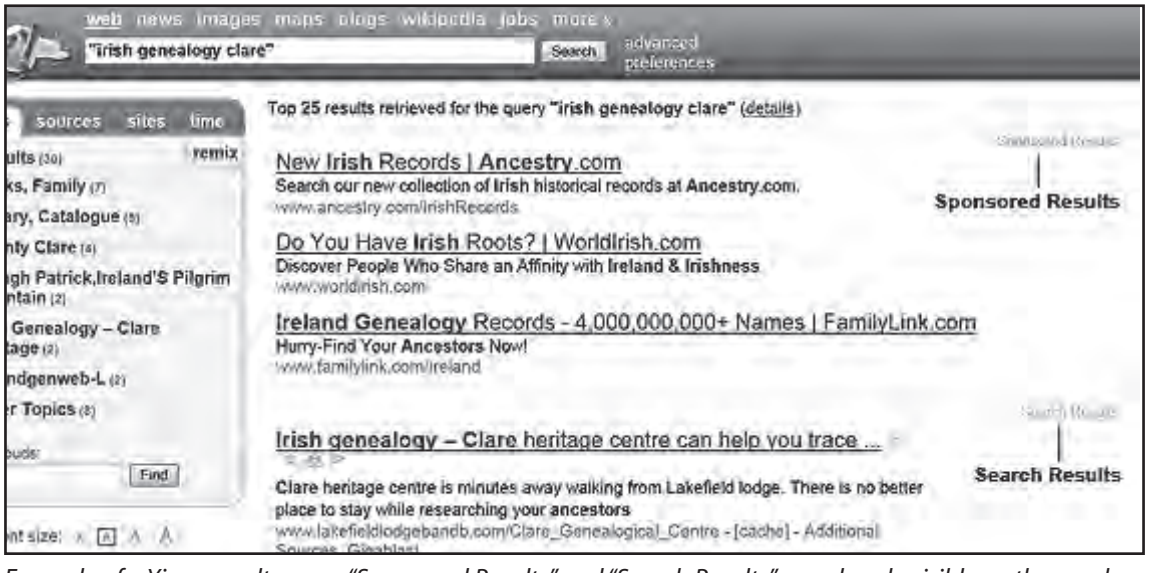
Tips for using search engines:

- Read the help pages.
- Skip non-essential words, such as "the" and "of".
- Include enough location information to help the tool give you pertinent results. Searching "genealogy Polk County MN" vs. "genealogy Polk County IA" will get you different answers.
- Don't worry about taking time for proper punctuation or capitalization. Search engines ignore them.
- Paid ads are usually listed first and last, and sometimes off to the side of the results list. Click those links if you are in shopping mode.
- Read at least the next two pages of the results list after the first page.
- Misspell words and transposing characters in names may help you find a gem.
- Pay attention to the number of results. Add more terms to reduce the number of results and improve your odds of finding something helpful. A quick test of *Google* showed:
    - Irish genealogy: 2.3 million results
    - Irish genealogy Clare: 1.6 million results
    - Irish genealogy Clare library: 822,000 results
- Add quotation marks to indicate where two or more words should be listed together, or use "AND" to limit results that contain one or more words or phrases.
    - "Irish Genealogy" Clare: 111,000 results
    - "Irish Genealogy" AND "County Clare" – 12,000 results

- Use NOT or a minus sign (-) immediately before a word, to reduce the size of your list of results.
    - Irish genealogy McNamara: a pub was listed first in Google's results list.
    - Irish genealogy mcnamara – pub: drops the pub entry from the list
- Search engines can substitute words and recommend correct spelling. If you include the words in quotation marks, search engines will search for the precise spelling within the quotation marks.
    - Genealogy (no quotation marks) = "Genealogy", "Geneology" and "Family History"
    - "Geneology" (with quotation marks) = only "Geneology"
- Use more than one search engine. Since each has its own formulas for ranking pages, you may get a result in *Bing* that you wouldn't find in *Google*.
- Try a metasearch engine. Metasearch engines send your search request to several other search engines and gather the results in one place. *Clusty* – also known as *Yippy* - <search.yippy.com> groups results by topic, so you can narrow in on an area of interest.

Find information about individual family members using search engines:

- Search a surname, location and a year of birth or death. If you find your ancestor listed in someone else's family tree, use the information provided as a lead. This may be an opportunity to collaborate.
- Try surname, then first name, in quotation marks. Many transcriptions of census and cemetery lists are in alphabetical order by surname.



Example of a Yippy results page. "Sponsored Results" and "Search Results" were barely visible, so the words are added to the image for emphasis. Graphic courtesy of Mary Wickersham.

Search engines are a powerful tool for genealogists. If you take some time to get familiar with search techniques, you will save time in the long run.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is a current IGSI board member and past IGSI Officer. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

A Trilogy of Manchester: the 1820s

by Maureen Reed

Within any genealogic tale resides a trilogy. The first is the story of the "what": what she did, where they went, and when he died. The second is the tale of the "why": why she migrated or why he fled. The third story is the "how": how the researcher discovered and reassembled the facts some decades or centuries later. This, then, is a trilogy: a brief tale of Manchester, a context of economic imperatives, and a fortuitous, circuitous path to the facts.

The What and the Why of Industrial Manchester

Rolling and green, the land of western County Armagh in northeastern Ireland is equal parts wood and field. Tracing the contours of the hills, the road to Tynan town turns sharply near the ruins of an old round tower before ascending to the village itself. Perched on a hill, the village surveys the surrounding countryside. An 8th century stone Celtic cross marks the junction of two roads, and nearby St. Vindic's Church of Ireland commands the landscape. Tynan Catholic Church, strikingly more modest than St. Vindic's, is nestled in a valley just to the southeast of Tynan village.

So familiar were these landmarks that they likely escaped the day-to-day notice of twenty-one year old Catherine Hughes.[1] In 1824 the young woman from nearby College Hall Townland had eyes for things other than crumbling ancient monuments. Her gaze had fallen upon a neighborhood man several years her senior. With the May sun warming the fields, she and Thomas Vogan strolled down the lane to Tynan Catholic Church to be married.[2] Apparently approving of the match, Catherine's relatives John and Cate Hughes joined the celebration and lent their names to the church registry as witnesses.

But all was not rosy. With the Irish linen trade in decline, Thomas and Catherine may have whispered at the hearth that their future was brighter in a foreign land. On the other side of the Irish Sea, the textile industry was flourishing, and Manchester's cotton mills were as thirsty for workers as they were for water.

The newlyweds were hardly alone in their discussion of Manchester. The opportunities in England were well known to the Irish, and the labor routes were well traveled.[3] While churning butter or cutting thatch, many a Tynan resident recounted stories of life in Manchester as written in the letters of brothers or aunts who had relocated there.

Manchester's slums soaked up Irish labor like a sponge. Thomas and Catherine, now pregnant with her first child, sailed for England. Other members of their families had also judged the economic opportunities in Manchester to be more attractive than what they faced in Tynan. Patrick Hughes and Mary Ann Hughes, possibly Catherine's brother and sister (or sister-in-law), also resided there.

No matter how many stories they had heard, rural folks like Catherine and Thomas suffered a culture shock of astonishing proportions when they arrived in Manchester in the 1820s. Infamous for the squalor of its Irish slums, the districts of Little Ireland, Angel Meadow, and Irish Town were home to many of Manchester's estimated 15,000 Irish.[4] Stark and sordid, Little Ireland was marked by ". . black smoke, polluted rivers, unpaved streets, the smell of pig sties, privies, open sewers . . . The chimneys of its houses, some of them three stories high, are little above the level of the road. Many of these houses have cellars whose floor is scarcely elevated above the level of the water flowing in the Medlock [River]. About 200 of these habitations are crowded together in an extremely narrow space, chiefly inhabited by the lowest Irish. The district has sometime been the haunt of hordes of thieves and desperadoes who defied the law and is always inhabited by a class resembling savages in their appetites and habits. It is surrounded on every side by some of the largest factories of the town whose chimneys vomit forth dense clouds of smoke."[5]

When Catherine went into labor in the spring of 1825, it is likely she was but one of the "savages" living in these wretched slums. And given the strength of family bonds, it is also likely that Mary Ann Hughes was on the scene. Squalor aside, the outcome was joyous. A few days later godparents Mary Ann and Patrick Hughes accompanied the proud new parents to St. Augustine's Catholic Church[6], situated between the slums of Little Ireland and Irish Town.

Catherine may have not seen the stone Celtic cross of Tynan again. A year after Isabelle's birth, the young mother

died in Manchester.[7] Perhaps the filth of Manchester exacted its revenge or perhaps a second pregnancy ended in disaster. The story of Catherine's death did not survive in family lore, and Manchester records provide no clue.

In addition to coping with new-found grief and ever-present financial stress, Thomas now faced the task of finding a caregiver for his baby girl. It is possible that he remained in Manchester and asked godmother Mary Ann Hughes to care for her. Alternatively, he may have returned to Tynan with the infant to place her in the custody of a grandmother or aunt. Whatever the arrangement, it was not permanent.

Several years later,[8] before the Poor Laws and the Great Famine flooded England with waves of desperate Irish, Isabelle's father Thomas immigrated with his only child to New York City. Godmother Mary Ann Hughes immigrated with them or followed soon thereafter. For this little Vogan family, England had been but a stopping point on a journey to a much more distant land.

The How of a Search

The Old Reed Family Bible is a treasure, even though it has not been seen in 70 years. In fact, no one alive today has laid eyes on it. Its very existence is a story within a story.

According to an entry in the bible, it came into Isabelle Vogan's possession in New York in 1842.[9] She treasured it. Handwritten notes in its front pages detailed the births, marriages, and deaths of the Hughes-Vogan-Reed family. After Isabelle died, the bible rested in the hands of Isabelle's youngest son Tom. But in 1935 he decided to send the bible to his elder sister who was mentally and physically failing. Maybe she had requested it, or maybe he felt its well-worn, familiar pages would give her comfort in her last years. Before sending it, Tom transcribed the entries. "To whom it my concern: the following is a transcript of the marriages, births and deaths as given in the old Reed family bible, taken just before I sent it, the bible, to my sister at Minneapolis."[10]

His wisdom and forethought paid off. Three years later, after his sister's death, a family member who saw the bible described it as being in rough shape with its cover torn off.[11] There has been no record of the bible since 1938. But Tom's careful hand-written transcription has survived.

That transcription lists Isabelle Vogan's birth details as "March 20, 1825, Manchester, England" and Catherine Hughes Vogan's death as "May 9, 1826, Manchester, England."[12] As the only two events in the entire family tree occurring in England, these entries cried out for verification – and explanation.

The verification came in two steps. The first step was emailing the Manchester Records Office. Unfortunately, their earliest vital records start in 1837, long after the births and deaths of interest to us.[13] Not wishing to spend time learning the details of Manchester genealogic records, I sought help from the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society.[14] This useful office and website provided a link to local genealogists, specifically Judith Moore. She knew that the pre-1870 Manchester Catholic records were held at the Lancashire Record Office,[15] and her experienced eye proved invaluable. Her research of the extant Manchester Catholic registers in Lancashire revealed no 1821-1824 marriage for Catherine Hughes and Thomas Vogan, no 1825 baptism for Isabelle Vogan, and no burial records for Catherine Hughes Vogan's 1826 death. But the St. Augustine's Church baptism registry listed a March 27, 1825 entry for "Isabella Fogan."[16] Spelling error notwithstanding, this proved to be the entry we sought.[17]

The lack of a Manchester marriage entry for Catherine and Thomas raised the possibility that the couple had been married elsewhere. Again the bible transcription paid off. Because Isabelle's future husband was listed as born in the parish of Tynan, County Armagh,[18] perhaps the Hughes-Vogan family originated in Tynan as well. Thus the second step was a trek to the National Library of Ireland, a step I did not hire out. In the NLI's vast repository of microfilmed church records, hidden in the poorly legible records of Tynan Catholic Church, was the May 10, 1824 marriage of Catherine Hughes and Thomas Vogan. Verification complete.

What remained now was uncovering the explanation -- the context -- of the family's Manchester story. Unfamiliar with Northern Ireland in the early 19th century, my first stop was at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. The library houses an extensive Irish collection on its open shelves and in its more protected Celtic Collection.[19] These catalogs are searchable at <clicnet.clic.edu>. Browsing the collection revealed the wonderful sources mentioned above. Other sources are available online[20] and on the shelves of the Irish Genealogic Society International.[21]

With the family facts in hand, the context clearer, and the search complete, the Manchester trilogy had come to a close.

End Notes

1 Old Reed Family Bible transcription 1935.

2 Marriage record, Tynan Catholic Church, Co. Armagh, Ireland 5-10-1824.

3 Robins, Joseph. *The Miasma: Epidemic and Panic in Nineteenth Century Ireland*. Dublin: Institute of Public Administration, 1995.

4 MacRaild, Donald M. *The Great Famine and Beyond: Irish Migrants in Britain in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*. Dublin, Ireland: Irish Academic Press, 2000.

5 Swift, Roger, and Sheridan Gilley. *The Irish in Britain, 1815-1939*. Savage, Md: Barnes & Noble Books, 1989.

6 Baptism record, St. Augustine's Church, Manchester, England, 3-27-1825.

7 Old Reed Family Bible transcription 1935.

8 1900 U.S. Federal census, Jacksonville Township, Chickasaw County, Iowa.

9 Old Reed Family Bible transcription 1935.

10 Old Reed Family Bible transcription 1935.

11 Letter of Isabel Marie Reed to her father Thomas F. Reed, 1-19-1938.

12 Old Reed Family Bible transcription 1935.

13 <www.manchester.gov.uk/info/323/birth-historical_searches/1114/tracing_your_family_history>

14 Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society <www.mlfhs.org.uk>

15 Lancashire Archives < www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/web/?siteid=4528&pageid=30552>

16 Baptism record, St. Augustine's Church, Manchester, England, 3-27-1825.

17 Other useful website addresses for the history and genealogy of Manchester, England include UK and Ireland Genealogy <www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/LAN/Manchester/> and Manchester City Library Archives and Local Studies <www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/LAN/Manchester/>

18 Old Reed Family Bible transcription 1935.

19 University of St. Thomas <www.stthomas.edu/libraries/collections/special/collections/celtic/default.html>

20 Manchester's Irish Story <www.manchesterirish.com/irishstory/mancirishstory1.htm>

21 Irish Genealogical Society International <www.irishgenealogical.org/default.asp>

Maureen Reed is the Executive Director of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum. She is also a medical doctor and a former chair of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. Her interest in genealogy dates to her childhood. She continues to pursue the goal of identifying the townlands of origin of her eight Irish great-grandparents; two remain undiscovered.

IGSI March Class

March 10, 2012
Time: 10:30AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Military Records
(This is a class on US Military)
Beth Mullinax, Instructor

Researching military and veterans' records can yield all kinds of information, or none at all! It is not difficult; it is just know where to look and what to do with what you find.

Class held at MGS Library in Sout hSt. Paul, Minnesota.
$10 Members / $15 Non Member
Wheelchair Accessible

Local Genealogical Resources for County Monaghan, Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

County Monaghan Library Services has done a commendable job of producing an online genealogical guide to tracing ancestors in this county. *How to Trace Your Ancestors in County Monaghan* can be found at the library's website, <www.monaghan.ie/contentv3/services/library/historygenealogy/>. This 14 page guide starts with generic research tips. A brief description of key genealogical resources for Ireland such as census returns, Griffith's Valuation and the Tithe Applotment books, civil registration, and church records is given.

The pages that cover the three main religions (Catholic, Church of Ireland, and Presbyterian) list the commencement year of records for the various parishes/congregations. County Monaghan Church of Ireland parish registers that were destroyed in 1922 are not included. Repositories are mentioned where County Monaghan church records are found. Addresses for the various Catholic parish parochial houses, the Presbyterian manses, and the Church of Ireland rectories are included.

The section for tombstone inscriptions includes a list of inscriptions that have been published. Only nine Catholic, five Church of Ireland and three Presbyterian cemeteries are mentioned in the guide. These are found in one book or in issues of the *Clogher Record*.

Newspaper holdings of the Monaghan County Library are also listed. The earliest newspaper published in this county is the *Northern Standard*, a weekly which began in 1839. Death notices and obituaries that appear in this newspaper from 1839 to 1879 have been published. Death notices and obituaries from *The Peoples Advocate* newspaper (1876-1906) have also been published.

One of the more intriguing resources at the library is the book, *Index to the North Monaghan Inquisition Book April 1846 - December 1855 held by* [coroner] *William Charles Waddle*. The Family History Library does not own a copy of this book. Given the years that it covers, it might include information about people who died during the potato famine.

The library has few estate rental books. The Anketell Estate, the Newbliss Estate and the Ballybay Estate are mentioned. Extant records are very limited, with the exception of the Anketell Estate holdings.

Only a few other resources are listed in the guide, such as directories and parish histories. The one page listing other sources mentions the County Monaghan 1930s folklore collection that is part of the Department of Irish Folklore; limited Grand Jury Presentments and Outrage Papers on microfilm; a published history of County Monaghan, as well as some local histories, an Admittance Register for the Monaghan County Infirmary, and other selected items.

It is suggested that the microfilm reader be booked at least one day in advance of a visit to the library. Additional information about the library and its genealogical holdings can be found on the library's web site.

Monaghan County Museum also holds genealogical resources for this county. The list of subjects encompassed by the collection can be found on the Reference Library's web page <www.monaghan.ie/contentv3/services/museum/>. Among the subjects listed are genealogy, history, emigration, military, police, education, and religion. Unfortunately, there is no online list of specific resources. According to the web site, the Reference Library is accessed by appointment only.

A 1990 article about this museum's document collection was published in volume 2, issue 5 of *North Irish Roots* (Journal of the North of Ireland Family History Society). It includes specific resources such records of certain estates, minute book of the Clones Petty Sessions, Monaghan Urban rate collection books, Monaghan County Infirmary accounts ledger, Castleblayney workhouse registers and minutes, and school registers.

Clogher Record has many articles pertaining to County Monaghan. An index to the 1953-1999 articles in this periodical is found at <homepage.eircom.net/~chs/clougherArticlesIndex1316.htm#Anchor-No-45980>. Among those listed are extracted estate records for the Ker estate in Newbliss (1790-1830); rent rolls or books for Clones (1821), Castleblayney (1772) and Anketell (1784-1789); land occupiers in the Ballybay Estate (1786); an extensive article about the Bath Estate (1700-1777) including names of tenants and lease holders; a survey of Church of Ireland families in Aghabog parish (1824); and names of people in the Castleblayney Poor Law Rate Book of 1847. Tombstone inscriptions for several burial grounds have also been published in the *Clogher Record*.

Some Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland Baptism, Marriage and Burial records for County Monaghan were recently placed online at <monaghan.rootsireland.ie/>. Searching the index is free; there is a fee to view the records.

The following parishes have been added:

Deaths
- Church of Ireland Currin 1816-1922
- Church of Ireland Errigal Shanco 1877-1974
- Roman Catholic Tydavnet 1825-1826

Births
- Roman Catholic Aghabog 1836-1898
- Church of Ireland Clones 1755-1939
- Church of Ireland Donagh (St. Salvators) 1736-1897
- Roman Catholic Donaghmoyne 1858-1886
- Church of Ireland Ematris (St. John's & Kilcrow) 1795-1839
- Roman Catholic Killeevan (Newbliss) 1867-1880
- Roman Catholic Monaghan 1839-1900
- Roman Catholic Tullycorbet (Ballybay) 1862-1884

Marriages
- Roman Catholic Aghabog 1840-1906
- Roman Catholic Clontibret 1860-1882
- Roman Catholic Donaghmoyne 1872-1880
- Roman Catholic Drummully 1865-1881
- Roman Catholic Ematris (Rockcorry) 1849-1890
- Roman Catholic Kilmore 1836-1900
- Roman Catholic Monaghan 1827-1926
- Roman Catholic Muckno (Castleblayney) 1835-1920
- Roman Catholic Tullycorbet (Ballybay) 1862-1876
- Roman Catholic Tydavnet 1823-1881

The Clogher Historical Society's web site has a link to books that can be purchased through this organization. The list includes some histories that contain information about people from County Monaghan such as a reprint of Denis Carolan Rushe's *History of Monaghan for 200 Years 1660-1860* and Evelyn P. Shirley's *The History of the County of Monaghan*. There are some censuses and census substitutes listed that can be found in these published histories. Details about these books can be accessed from <www.clogherhistory.ie/Publications/bookshop/Books>.

The Society's web site also hosts a message board forum <forum.clogherhistory.ie>. It contains links for different counties or topics including History of County Monaghan, families by surnames, and emigration and immigration. There are some interesting posts about obscure records or people in this forum. One does not need to be a member of the Clogher Historical Society to post a message.

For a small county, Monaghan has been aggressive in collecting historical and genealogical information. Readers may want to consider joining the Clogher Historical Society. The journal that it publishes is a gem.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

The IGSI Library collection includes more than 40 books on County Monaghan, including the two mentioned in the article.

H418 *History of Monaghan for 200 Years 1660-1860*, by Denis Carolan Rushe.

H353 *History of the County of Monaghan*, by Evelyn P. Shirley.

In November 2011, the following books on County Monaghan were added to the IGSI Library:

C138 - *Short Guide to Coolshannagh Municipal Burial Ground*. Castleblayney, Monaghan: Castle Printing, 2011. (Tully Estate, Co. Monaghan).

H685 – *Togan, a Townland and a Family. Castleblayney, Monaghan*: Castle Printing, 2009. (Townland in Drumsnat Civil Parish, Co. Monaghan)

H686 – *Tully, the first 50 Years*. Monaghan: Tully Residents' Association, 2007.

H687 - *Townlands of Tydavnet Parish*, by Canon John Gilsenan. Belfast, NI: Knockatallon Development Company Ltd, 2011.

The Methodist Church in Ireland

by Dwight A. Radford

This is a portion of an in-depth article which was too long for us to print in The Septs. *The full article can be seen in its entirety – with additional material on the history of Methodism in Ireland, its relationship with other denominations, and the chart of baptismal records referred in this article to the education section on the IGSI website at www.IrishGenealogical.org.*

The Methodist Church in Ireland is a movement that should not be ignored in family research. In its formative years in Ireland, the bulk of people forming a local Wesleyan Methodist Society were Church of Ireland and Presbyterians.

Methodist /Presbyterian Church, Galway City, photo by Ken P. Rice

The relationship of Methodism with the Church of Ireland was complex and has the potential to affect your genealogy research. The Methodist Society was allowed to operate as an auxiliary of the local parish church. Methodists were tolerated as long as they kept within certain bounds. They were warned not to say anything negative against the Established Church; they were to keep their enthusiasm under control; and they were not to draw people away from Anglicanism. However, the Anglican clergy often frowned upon these societies. They complained that Methodist class meetings resembled Catholic confession with its emphasis on prayer and testimonies. They also complained that Methodist meetings often interfered with Anglican services. For many in the clergy, Methodism was a disdainful movement. However, the Anglican clergy did welcome the seriousness of the Methodists and their ability to revitalize the parishes. Yet, Methodists were not allowed to use Church of Ireland buildings.

The Methodist relationship with Presbyterianism was different than that with Anglicanism. Societies were allowed to use Presbyterian meeting houses as long as they did not say anything that might undermine evangelical growth within Irish Presbyterianism. The Methodists provided Presbyterian clergy an example of how to conduct evangelistic meetings. From this perspective, Methodism actually helped to spread the message of the orthodox Presbyterian ministers at the turn of the 19th century. As a result, many Presbyterian districts which had gravitated towards Arianism (Christ was a created being) swung back towards a Reformed theology. Methodism also set the example wherein the Presbyterian clergy would strongly emphasize a personal conversion and help to tone down Presbyterian millenarianism. All of this helped prepare the way for the great Ulster Revival of 1859.

Methodist Church Records

Methodism has had its own Conference in Ireland since 1752, giving it an identity and missionary zeal, although remaining close to the Methodists in Great Britain. This means that records were produced by Irish Methodists prior to separation from the Church of Ireland in 1817-18. Two excellent genealogical references have been published detailing Methodist records. Steven C. ffeary-Smyrl's *Irish Methodists – Where Do I Start?* (Dublin: Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations, 2000) details the records and provides lists of chapels locations in 1862. The second is Marion G. Kelly's chapter "Methodist Records in Ireland," in James Ryan's *Irish Church Records* (Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland: Flyleaf Press, 1992). Another resource to add to this list is dated, but worth considering: the chapter "Methodist Records," in Margaret Dickson Falley's *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research* (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1962, reprint 1988), pages 335-360. She provides the depth and background needed to understand the Methodists and their records.

When approaching Methodist records,

there are some essential facts that you need to understand. Among these are the following:

- Prior to 1818, Methodists had dual membership in the local Church of Ireland parish and their Methodist society. For this reason, the Church of Ireland registers are an essential part of Methodist research. The Primitive Methodists remained within the Established Church until 1871 with no indication in the parish registers that they were also Methodists.

- Methodist societies drew from all denominations in Ulster; prior to the Methodists breaking from the Church of Ireland in 1818, there were other non-conformist groups, such as Presbyterians who had joined local Methodist societies. Due to the destruction of half the Church of Ireland registers in the 1922 Four Courts fire, Methodist records are especially helpful in documenting former Church of Ireland families once they separated from the Established Church.

- Presbyterians who had joined Methodist societies remained in their local Presbyterian congregation until after 1816, when they started asserting their independence. As with other Presbyterians and dissenters, they were subject to the laws governing their baptism, marriages and burials. If tracing a Methodist family not found in the Church of Ireland registers, then assume next they were Presbyterians and look at those registers. Unfortunately, many Presbyterian registers do not pre-date Methodist registers.

- Eighteenth century Methodism was different from nineteenth century Methodism. The earliest Methodists were home-based, not chapel-based. In the nineteenth century, when chapels began to be built, institutions founded and formal theological training became standard, Methodist preaching emphasized men.

- There was not one united Methodist denomination in Ireland until at least 1910. Prior to that, there were four Wesleyan organizations: Irish Methodist Conference (1818-present), The Methodist New Connexion (1789-1905), The Primitive Methodist Connexion (1823-1910) and The Wesleyan Methodist Association (1832-1872). Each had its own records though all eventually united into the Irish Methodist Conference. Historically, others existed also; yet these are the main branches of Irish Methodism.

- Marriages in Methodist chapels or preaching houses were not licensed until 1863. From 1845 to 1863, a marriage could occur within a Methodist chapel, but it had to be in the presence of the District Registrar who retained the record. For this reason, there are few records of Methodist marriages prior to 1845, with most from 1864.

- Few Methodist churches had graveyards attached to them.

- On the local level, the records you should be most concerned about are society and circuit registers. The Circuit records include baptisms, memberships and minutes. Society records include board minutes.

- Methodists may or may not be members of fraternal societies, such as the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Loyal Orange Lodge. There is no one cultural rule that applies across the board for Methodists and lodge membership.

The largest concentration of Methodists was in Ulster and along the border. By 1830, 43% of all Irish Methodists lived within one of two areas: the "Linen Triangle of Ulster" and a rectangular area with Lough Erne at its center. The records reflect this concentration. The descriptions below have been adapted from David Hampton's essay "Methodism in Irish Society, 1770-1830":

> Linen Triangle: This geographic area formed a triangle on the north from Dungannon, County Tyrone in the west, to Lisburn on the Antrim-Down border in the east, with both meeting at Newry on the Armagh-Down border in the south. Growth occurred in the 1780s, 1800-2, 1809-10 and 1819-21. The Linen Triangle shared in the great evangelical revivals of Southern Ulster in 1809-10 and 1819-20. However, the Methodists declined until the great Ulster revival of 1859.

Lough Erne Rectangle: This geographic area streatched from Ballyshannon, County Donegal in the west to the County Cavan towns of Cavan and Ballyhaise on the eastern side. Then from Irvinestown, County Fermanagh in the north to the southern line running from Manorhamilton, County Leitrim to Cavan Town. Periods of explosive growth occurred in 1772-3, 1783, 1785-7, 1799-1802 and 1819-20. During this last period Methodism emerged as its own denomination. The revival of 1799-1802 saw large numbers of Methodist converts in Cavan and Fermanagh.

Records for all Methodist denominations can be found on microfilm at the PRONI, however, most of their collection concentrates on the counties comprising old Ulster. For areas outside of Ulster, records may still be in local custody. Various Methodist collections can be found at the Wesley Historical Society, located at Edgehill College in Belfast.

Methodist record keeping practices are established and formalistic, which is opposite to the approach of Irish Presbyterianism. The Methodist practices followed those of the Church of Ireland of the nineteenth century. In Irish Methodism, there are patterns where lists and statistics were compiled and the records returned to a central place. Originally, lists and statistics were sent to Dublin; now the central place is in Belfast.

Methodist records that are useful to genealogical research include class lists (lists of members of each class in the society), baptismal registers and, after 1863, more complete marriage registers. The class lists (membership rolls) show when a person joined; these can be arranged by family unit. These often have notations such as marriages, transfers and deaths in the margin of the register book itself. Baptismal registers are nearly all arranged on a circuit basis, while marriage registers are on a congregational basis. The congregations that comprised a circuit changed often, which can complicate the search for the relevant circuit register.

Within the circuit records are the baptisms. In the 1820s Methodists began to have their children baptized by Methodist circuit clergy rather than Church of Ireland clergy. This is reflected in the PRONI *Guide to Church Records* inventory online, where many records for congregations begin in the 1820s. When exploring the early baptismal registers, it is often difficult to determine the circuit to which a family belonged, particularly in rural areas. When there is a large geographic area with scattered Methodist families and ministers it is best to search several circuits. In some areas, each chapel kept its own records; in other areas, the baptisms from several Methodist chapels were in the main circuit register.

Baptismal registers are simple and straightforward: the name of the child, his or her parents, and the date of baptism. Additional details could have been added by the minister, though rarely was the maiden name of the mother preserved. From about 1816 to 1845, there is a consolidated baptismal register known as the "Irish Wesleyan Methodist Connexional Baptismal Register." This register is on microfilm at PRONI and includes most Methodist circuits and missions (MIC429/1). For an American not used to Irish place names, using this baptismal collection can be difficult as the circuits and missions are listed by the name of the town. Since most researchers use the civil parish as the foundational unit of sorting through records, the "Irish Wesleyan Methodist Connexional Baptismal Register" has been rearranged by the county and civil parish. This allows you to geographically look at the circuits and missions. If you do not find your ancestors in one circuit or mission, then expand your search to the next nearest one. [A table adapted from Steven C. ffeary-Smyrl's chart in *Irish Methodists – Where Do I Start?* (pp. 7-9) and the PRONI online inventory *Guide to Church Records* can be found on the IGSI website with the full article.]

Methodist records are often indexed by the various heritage centres in Ireland and Northern Ireland. When you consult the online indexes at the Irish Family History Foundation website, check for what is actually contained in the county's database. If Methodist records are a part of the collection, it will be noted.

Not all Methodist records come in the form of circuit/mission or congregation registers. For example, a history which can shed light on individual Methodist ancestors is Charles H. Crookshank's three-volume *History of Methodism in Ireland* (London: 1885-1888). This work includes information about preachers and prominent members of the Methodist societies from 1747-1859. Crookshank's history is indexed by persons and by places. These are online at *GoogleBooks*.

Other valuable records surround the ministers. If your ancestor served as a Methodist minister in Ireland, there may be detailed information about him

and his family. In *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research*, Margaret Dickson Falley reproduced two lists from *Thom's* 1847 directory: one an alphabetical list of Wesleyan Methodist ministers showing the year each minister began to travel and the name of his circuit and the other an alphabetical list of Primitive Wesleyan Methodist ministers showing the name of each minister's circuit (Vol. 2, pp. 352-357). The Wesley Historical Society has an index to all ministers from all the branches of Irish Methodism. They also have indexes to biographical information in the following Irish Methodist magazines: *Armenian Magazine* (1778-97), *The Methodist Magazine* (1798-1821), and *Wesleyan Methodist Magazine* (1822-39). These include information about ministers and some lay members. The Wesley Historical Society has published biographical sketches of ministers who died prior to 1840 in the *Irish Christian Advocate* and another list in Robert H. Gallagher's *Pioneer Preachers of Irish Methodism Who Were Called to Their Eternal Reward During the First Century of Methodism* (Belfast: Wesley Historical Society (Irish Branch), [1965]).

Other important works take the form of historical dictionaries which provide entries on persons, places, movements and theology. An excellent work is John A. Vickers' *A Dictionary of Methodism in Britain and Ireland* (London: Epworth Press, 2000). This valuable resource is also an online database at the "Wesley Historical Society" located in Oxford, England. The database provides links within each article referencing other articles. A good search engine covers all the articles. Each article has a source list and a "See Also" section.

A dictionary of those associated with John Wesley during his 50 years of preaching in Britain, Ireland, the American colonies and elsewhere is Samuel J. Rogal's *A Biographical Dictionary of 18th Century Methodism* (Lewiston, New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 1999). This work documents more prominent persons in the movement. A dictionary of a wider scope than simply England and Ireland and which includes biographies is Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. and Susan E. Warrick's *Historical Dictionary of Methodism* (Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press, 2005). Another encompassing work is Nolan B. Harmon's *Encyclopedia of World Methodism* (2 vols. Nashville, Tennessee: United Methodist Publishing House, 1974). Although dated, for many years it has been the source for Methodism. You can read it online at *Archive.org*.

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Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former co-editor of The Irish At Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *He also volunteers at the Utah State Prison teaching genealogy. He has placed his first book of prison experiences on his website www.radfordnoone.com under "Dwight's Prison Tales."*

The Irish Prison Registers 1790-1924

by Ross Weldon

The Irish Prison Registers held at the National Archives of Ireland are one of the greatest untapped resources for tracing your ancestors. They contain over 3.5 million records of imprisonment spread across 130,000 pages. Each record provides a wealth of information about the person who was incarcerated: their name, address, place of birth, occupation, religion, education, age, physical description, name and address of next of kin, crime committed, sentence, dates of committal and release/decease. In many cases, the record of the crime committed includes the name and even address of the victim.

Until now, with no index or detailed finding aid, these records have been difficult to use and accessible only to those in the know. In October 2011, this changed when the records were released on *findmypast.ie*, fully indexed and digitally imaged, allowing even the most novice computer user or family historian to search for their ancestors.

The Prison System

Until the beginning of the 19th century prisons in Ireland were almost superfluous. Sentences were usually corporal (flogging, stocks etc.), transportation, or death; and the vast majority of those in prisons were either awaiting trial or sentence. The only significant use of prisons was for those in debt, where people were held until the debt was discharged. These debtors' prisons were overwhelmingly run by city corporations or landlords attached to a manorial court and were known as "black holes." There were 125 of these "black holes" in operation in 1822.[1]

Thanks to the radical ideas of many British and Irish social reformers at the beginning of the 19th century – that offenders could be reformed and rehabilitated in prisons – a massive expansion in state run prisons was undertaken. The first of which was new Kilmainham Gaol, which opened in 1796 as the County of Dublin jail. This was followed by the opening of other county and city jails across the county, the closure of all "black holes" and the opening of newly built, state-run bridewells attached to courts and police barracks.

The state's commitment to the new prison system as a means of reform had two important consequences relevant to family historians and genealogists. Firstly, a large proportion of those who came before the courts system were imprisoned rather than receiving a corporal punishment. Secondly, and most importantly, the State began to keep detailed records of prisoners.

Crime

The prison registers are not only valuable for tracing Irish ancestors; they also offer a real insight into 18th-19th century Ireland. They present evidence of a society of rebellion and social confrontation, where rioting and assault were common occurrences, and of widespread poverty and destitution, with the theft of everything from handkerchiefs to turnips.

The reasons for incarceration cover a whole spectrum of crime from petty theft to murder, as well as political reasons and social conflict, such as involvement in rebellion. The most common reason for imprisonment though, perhaps unsurprisingly, was drunkenness; it accounted for over 30% of all crimes reported and over 25% of incarcerations. The top five offences recorded in the registers are

1. Drunkenness - 25%
2. Theft - 16%
3. Assault - 12%
4. Vagrancy - 8%
5. Trespass - 4%

Other common crimes included workhouse offences, begging, prostitution and riot. The nature of these crimes was significantly different from those of our neighbours in England. The rate of conviction for drunkenness and tax evasion was three times greater, and the rate of conviction for both destruction of property and prostitution was twice that of England[2].

The large proportion of women in the registers is also notable. This is attributed in part to the almost complete survival of registers of the women's prison in Grangegorman on Dublin's Northside, which includes 386,976 incarcerations up to 1897. However, it is also indicative of the high rate of incarceration of women in general in Ireland. For the most part, women were convicted of the same offences as men, particularly drunk and disorderly behaviour, but large rates of imprisonment for such "female" crimes as infanticide and concealment of birth are evident.

Looking through the crimes in the registers, one can see that the rate of imprisonment for infanticide and "concealed" births increased during the

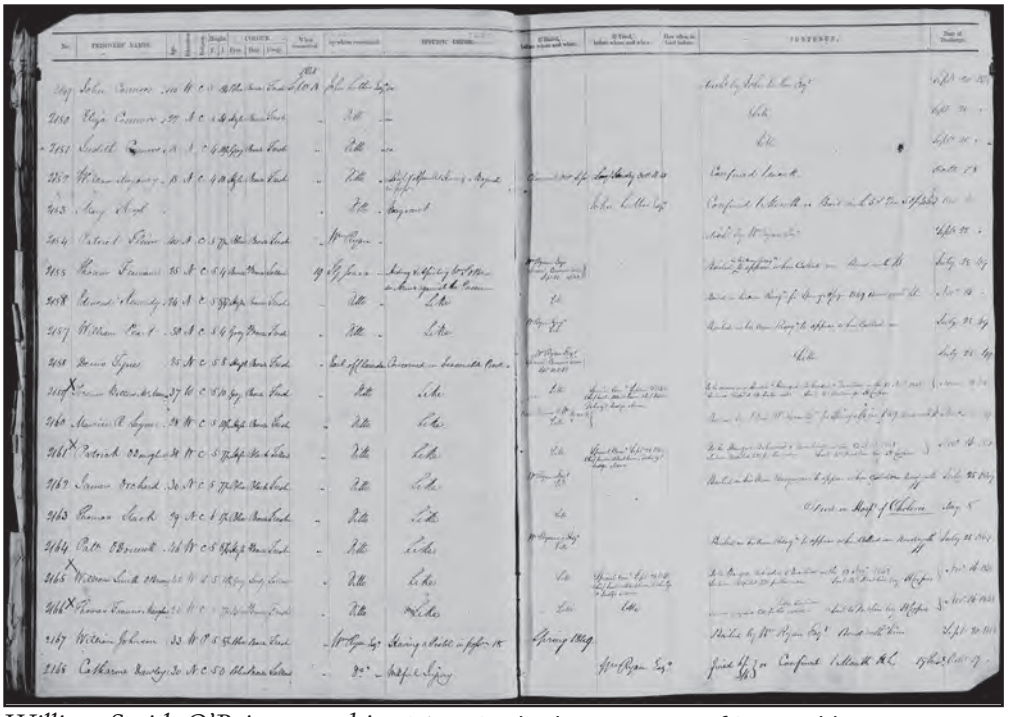
course of the 19th century. This may be simply because, during this period, the state began to acknowledge that the murder of illegitimate or otherwise unwanted infant children was a social problem rather than indicating any real increase. By comparison, during the same period, a marked increase in the desertion of children and infants reached its peak during the Famine, when parents no doubt were driven to unimaginable extremes of desperation.

Cases

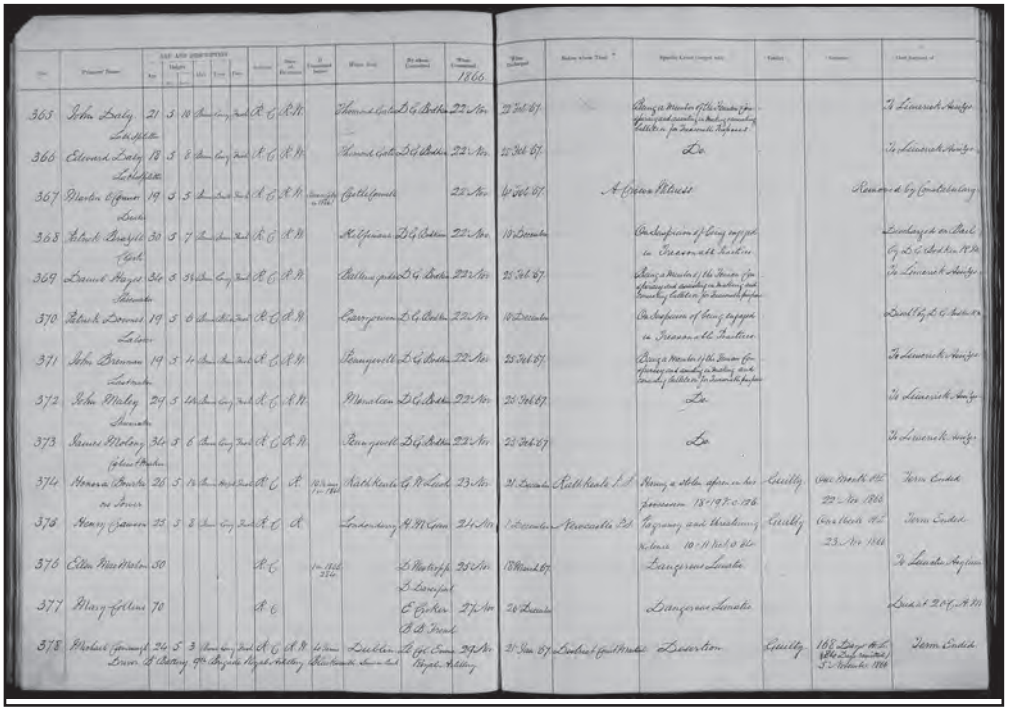
The records are full of individuals who were arrested for very minor offences; for example, a record from the Cork City Gaol Court Book lists an arrest for Giles O'Sullivan (26), with no education and no previous convictions, on the 30th of March 1848 for being "a dangerous and suspicious character." Other examples of the heavy hand of the law can be seen in the case of John Cunningham from Finglas (21) who was arrested for "Washing a car on a thoroughfare" and young Christopher Doyle (14) arrested "for being an idle, disorderly rogue and vagabond".

Aside from spotting minor offences in the records, you can trace the history of rebellion in Ireland. Below are the records for some of our most famous patriots who found themselves on the wrong side of the law in their struggle for independence.

This record shows the arrest of William Smith O'Brien and Thomas Francis Meagher for "Serious Treasonable Practice" in 1823. They later became leaders of the Young Irelanders during the 1848 Rebellion.

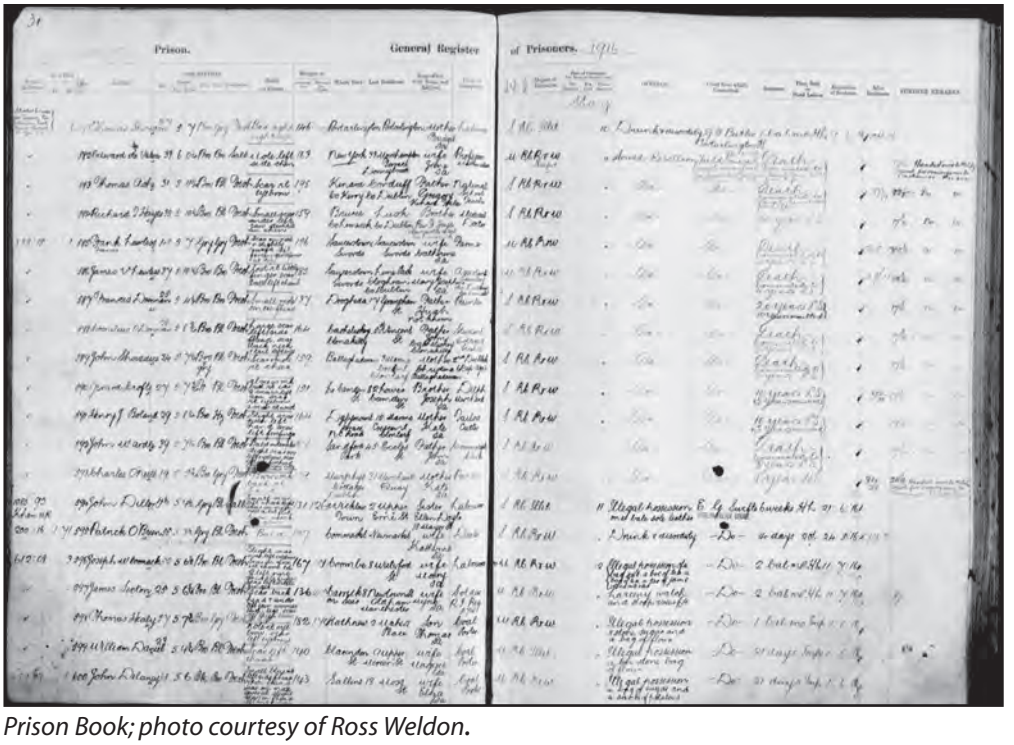


William Smith O'Brien record in Prison Book; photo courtesy of Ross Weldon.



John Daley's record in the Prison Book; photo courtesy of Ross Weldon.

Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) leader, John Daly, and his brother Ned were arrested in 1866 for "Being a member of the Fenian conspiracy and assisting in making & concealing bullets for treasonable purposes."



Prison Book; photo courtesy of Ross Weldon.

How to Search the Irish Prison Registers

Users can search all names appearing in the registers (prisoners, relatives and victims) and can limit their search by selecting a specific time frame or prison. Users should bear in mind that the "county" option is the county of prison, which is not necessarily where the prisoner lived or was born. The record for Eamonn DeValéra above shows the level of detail in each record:
Along the top of the page one sees

- DeValéra's Prison No: 582
- Name: Edmund DeValéra
- Age: 33
- Height: 6ft 1/4inch
- Hair: Brown
- Eyes: Brown
- Complexion: Sall (Sallow)
- Marks: Mole left side of chin
- Weight: 163 lbs
- Where born: New York
- Last Residence: 33 Morehampton Terrace, Donnybrook
- Next-of-kin: Wife Jane
- Occupation: Professor of Mathematics
- Date Committed: May 10th
- Offence: Armed Rebellion
- Court from which Committed: Field General Court Martial
- Sentence: Death – Commuted to penal servitude for life
- Further remarks: 17/5/16 handed over for conveyance to Dartmoor Prison

For genealogical research the most significant detail is the place of birth. Tracing a country's population which moved around a lot is inherently difficult, especially prior to civil registration, so this information is vital. The physical descriptions, a huge benefit in the absence of photos, coupled with the detailed descriptions of crime and sentence show how these records are vital for anyone researching their Irish family history as they genuinely assist in building a detailed picture of those referenced.

Brian Donovan, Director of *findmypast.ie*, comments: "These records provide an invaluable resource for anyone tracing their Irish ancestors, providing a window into the harsh reality of crime and law enforcement and its impact on offenders and victims alike. These records provide such a wealth of information that they are sure to shock and surprise almost anyone looking for the missing links in their Irish family tree."

End Notes

1. 1st Report of Inspectors General (1823)
2. *Judicial Statistics 1864: Ireland* (1865)

Ross Weldon is a graduate of Dublin Institute of Technology. He is new to the world of genealogy, having joined findmypast in April 2011. He is currently undergoing an Irish genealogy crash course under the tutelage of the vastly experienced and huegely knowledgeable teams at Eneclann, Dublin and findmypast, London.

Pausing for Reflection

Continued from page 4

At their annual conference in October, the Minnesota Genealogical Society recognized three IGSI members. I add my congratulations on the excellence of their work:

- Beth Mullinax for her work with the MGS library which serves all the local societies
- Mary Wickersham for her research capabilities
- Gigi Hickey for her writing skills as she took first place in the writing competition

Looking back tells us where we have been. Looking around and forward gives us a sense of place and direction to go. And, oh, the places we want to go! We are expanding the board of Directors by one person. Greg Winters, the e-newsletter editor, will join the Board for 2012. He also is changing the e-newsletter to make it a monthly communique with current information

Thanks to Fern Wilcox, Beth Vought, and Audrey Leonard who stepped forward to form the 2012 IGSI Research Committee.

Bookstore Volunteers Needed

Can you give a few hours a month to help other Irish researchers?

The IGSI Bookstore needs a couple of people willing to help with the inventory and mailing processes. The online Bookstore cannot operate without this additional help. If interested, contact Ann at President@IrishGenealogical.org or call 952-937-1437.

Book Reviews

Continued from page 16

Book Review by Ann Eccles

Irish Relatives and Friends: from "Information Wanted" Ads in the Irish American

by Laura Murphy DeGrazia and Diane Fitzpatrick Haberstroh, compilers. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2001, 464 pages, indexed.

This volume is a chronological transcription of twenty years of advertisements (1850-1871) placed by relatives and friends seeking contact with Irish immigrants in America. *The Irish American* was a weekly New York City newspaper that began publication in 1849.

Of particular genealogical interest are 8500 surnames and the names of several thousand places (both in Ireland and elsewhere) mentioned in the ads. Even some ships' names are mentioned.

Five indexes allow ease of use: surname; Irish place name (by county, then locale); U.S. place name (by state, then locale) other places (by country, then locale), and New York City streets. While the content of this publication is similar to the "Finding Friends" columns of the Boston *Pilot*, it certainly couldn't hurt to check this as well.

This book is available in the IGSI library.

Book Review by Beth Mullinax

Quinn/ O'Quin: A History

by Louis Quinn, Historian to the Quinn/ O'Quin Septs.
Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland: Louis Quinn, 2010, 244 pages, illustrations.

This is a very complete history of the surname Quinn/O'Quin which will answer questions you might have on this surname.

The published information on this book states, "This sept history has not been written for over four hundred years, since the Annals of the Four Masters in the early 1600s. Some of these Quins were Knights Templars and true Coptic Christians of the West. The book also records unusual characters associated with the name, eg, Robin Hood and Ned Kelly, to name but a few."

The title is available in the IGSI library.

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrup and Mary Wickersham

Civil War Veteran Stopped as Alien

Official red tape temporarily shut the doors of the country against Hugh Sweeney, a veteran of the civil war, who arrived yesterday in the second cabin of the Anchor liner Caledonia. Sweeney has lived in this country since he was a very young man. He is now 84 years old. He has raised a family of stalwart Americans, and one son, with whom he lives in Indianapolis…He was asked whether he could show citizenship papers, but he replied that he could not.

My war record and my honorable discharge from the service of my country have been my citizenship right," said he. He added that for forty-eight years he had exercised every right of a citizen and that without question. As proof of what he said he produced papers showing that he has been a pensioner since 1890, and that he has recently had an increase of pension. The Inspector listened, but he decided that he would not admit the passenger. So Sweeney was sent to Ellis Island. He will probably be kept there just long enough for him to show his papers and he will then be allowed to proceed to his Indianapolis home.

The veteran was plainly vexed by being held up. He said afterward that he had made up his mind to take things as they came and not to worry. Not worrying he gave as one of the rules for a long life. He said that he was not unprepared for what had happened. He has made several visits to his birthplace, Letterkenny, Ireland. Three years ago when he returned he was halted by an Immigration Inspected and had to go through much the same experience as that of yesterday.

… he enlisted as a private in the Twelfth Kentucky Regiment, Volunteers. He served through a great part of the war. He was wounded at Chancellorsville and again he fell in the Wilderness. After the war he went to Indianapolis, where he settled and brought up his family… "I am more of a citizen than some. I thought that fighting for a country was enough claim to citizenship."

New York Times
New York, New York
Jul 17, 1911

Unclaimed Estate May Go to Ireland

The estate of William A. Kinneally, in the charge of the State for more than fifty years, which has increased in that time from $50,000 to more than $100,000, and for which claimants have appeared time and time again only to have their claims disallowed, is in a fair way at last of being settled…The Attorney General was so impressed by the claims of one Timothy Finn of Limerick, Ireland, that he has his testing…filed in the County Clerk's office.

Finn is 64 years old and has lived in Ireland most of his life, though the civil war here so stirred him that he crossed the ocean, fought through the war, and then returned home again…

…he is the son of Michael Finn, who died in 1880 at the advanced age of 80. The elder Finn was one of several children, the others being girls, and it is through one of these, his aunt, Mary, that Timothy Finn hoped to prove his claim to the Kinneally fortune. Mary Finn, Timothy says, was married in Ireland in 1810 to John Kinneally, a neighbor and old friend, and bore him two children, William B. and Edward. Then the family emigrated to this country and settle in Michigan, where Mary died.

Timothy Finn admits that he has lost track of John Kinneally and the son Edward; but William B., he says, was left in Ireland when the others came to America, and there enlisted in the British Army… sooner or later he was ordered to Canada and settled in Quebec…until his term of enlistment had expired and then set out for himself to make a fortune in the New World, finally settling in Brooklyn.

New York Times
New York, New York
Sep 12, 1911

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 on the IGSI Board and also chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogy Society.

The Irish Famine: An Illustrated History

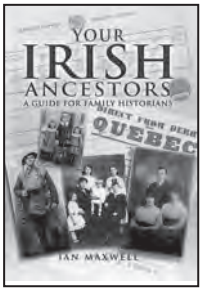
Helen Litton

Why did millions of starving people seem to accept their fate without rebelling? Why did people starve beside seas and rivers stocked with plenty of fish? Helen Litton succinctly deals with issues surrounding the Great Famine with clarity and compassion. With quotes from first-hand accounts, and information from numerous studies and sources, both sides of the tragedy are exposed.

The Irish Famine offers a fuller understanding of Ireland's past and this catastrophic event that shaped so much of its future. (141 pp.) *Cost: $12.95*

Your Irish Ancestors

Ian Maxwell



Your Irish Ancestors provides an entertaining insight into everyday life in Ireland during the past four centuries. Aimed primarily at the family and social historian, Ian Maxwell's highly readable guide introduces researchers to the wealth of material available in archives throughout Ireland. Many records, like the early twentieth century census returns and school registers will be familiar to researchers, but others have been traditionally overlooked by all but the most experienced genealogists. Each chapter takes the form of a detailed social history showing how the lives of our ancestors changed over the centuries and how this is reflected in the records that have survived. *Your Irish Ancestors* is more than just a technical how-to-do it book, for it will help family historians put their ancestral research in historical perspective, giving them a better understanding of the world in which their ancestors lived (192 pp.) *Cost: $29.00*

Surnames of Ireland

Edward MacLysaght

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Share Your Research

Each issue of *The Septs* centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories – some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors. We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history. We also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

The theme for the April 2012 issue is Irish Resources and Methods. The deadline for submission of articles is February 1, 2012. This is a change in our schedule due to an unexpected but wonderful article from Irish genealogist Brian Mitchell on Irish resources. Future themes and submission dates have been adjusted.

Issue Date: July 2012
Submission Date: May 1
Theme: Census Fragments and Census Substitutes

Issue Date: October 2012
Submission Date: August 1
Theme: History & Records of Ports of Entry: U.S. - Canada - Australia

Issue Date: January 2013
Submission Date: November 1, 2012
Theme: Irish South of the Equator

Make writing an article for IGSI one of your 2012 genealogical resolutions.

Research at the MGS Library

The IGSI collection of Irish genealogical materials is housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) library in South St. Paul, MN. There are two ways that IGSI members can utilize the collection in their research: those who live nearby or travel to the St. Paul area can do hands-on research in the building; any member can ask the IGSI researchers to help them in their Irish research

IGSI members who come to the library to use its resources have free access to the Irish and any other collections in the building. Those who are not members of IGSI or another affiliate of the MGS pay a $10 fee per visit.

Irish Saturday is the second Saturday of each month – a day when IGSI members have access to the wealth of information of volunteers who will help them onsite. IGSI offers free onsite assistance to members researching at the MGS Library. Members who visit Minnesota at a time other than an Irish Saturday should contact the librarian 1-2 weeks beforehand if they wish to have IGSI assistance with their library research (Librarian @IrishGenealogical.org).

IGSI also offers fee research assistance to members (both near and far) by contacting the IGSI Research Committee (Research@IrishGenealogical.org). These member volunteers check Irish resources available in the IGSI collection to find information on Irish ancestors or to identify next steps in Irish research. The fee is $15 per hour of research, one hour research is minimum. Additional charges for photocopies, etc. Check the website for more information on requesting research help.

Take the next step to locating your Irish ancestors in 2012. Contact the IGSI librarian or research committee.

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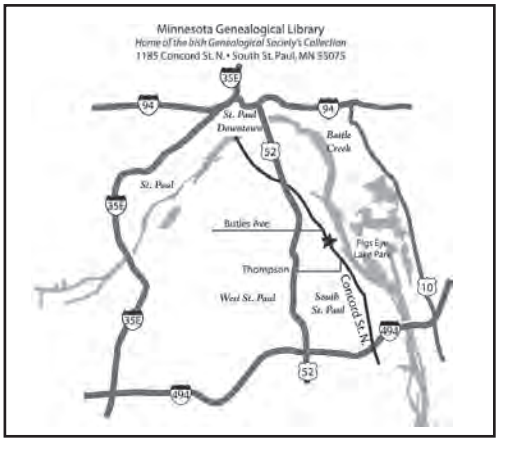

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During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

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 us at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

Volume 33, Number 2

The Septs

An t-Alòredn (April) 2012

$10.00

Irish Resources and Methods

2012 - 2013 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

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SEPTEMBER 8, 2012
OCTOBER 8, 2012
NOVEMBER 12, 2012
DECEMBER 10, 2012
JANUARY 12, 2013
FEBRUARY 9, 2013
MARCH 9, 2013

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

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

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Printed in the USA

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2012

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Finding Our Guide

by Ann Eccles

Every so often, I review the information I've accumulated in my family history research - even if it's just one family or individual. I might look at my "timeline stories" to see what I'm missing or identify next steps for that line's research. Other times, I might look through the miscellaneous recently-obtained images, copies or handwritten notes and add them to the appropriate file.

So too, it's helpful to stop and review how we do our research – the methods and the sources that we use. That's what we hope you will find in this issue – a guide or overview of Irish resources for family genealogists, details on research methods and some sources.

Brian Mitchell, the well-known genealogist from Northern Ireland, provides an excellent and inclusive guide to tracing Irish ancestors. He gives step-by-step direction for the novice to the more-experienced researcher in this updated article.

David Rencher advises researchers on evaluating the usefulness of Irish genealogical collections. While beneficial to any researcher, this advice is for those researchers willing to spend the time with materials that are not readily available online.

Kathleen Strickland looks into the National Library of Ireland's free online index to the Hayes Catalogue of manuscripts and Irish articles, called Sources. She walks us through a search and options for using this index in our research.

Judith Wight provides reviews of three books by Ian Maxwell – all available from the IGSI Bookstore – and helpful in researching ancestors in Northern Ireland.

Jay Fonkert addresses the abundant information to be found in newspapers that will expand our knowledge of our ancestors' lives, time, and historical place. Mary Wickersham provides some basic information about Internet browsers.

There's a fair amount of Society news, particularly an article related to the new website. So take a few minutes and read this issue. Perhaps you will find a new guide or direction for your 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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Post St. Patrick's Day

by Ann Eccles

Everyone is excited in anticipation of St. Patrick's Day and the celebration of all things Irish during March. But what happens after all the green beer is gone and the shamrock pins disappear into closets?

To be an Irish researcher is a year-round activity and IGSI is present and available to members throughout the year. Our new research team, headed by Audrey Leonard, is working to help some members climb a brick wall. There is a new slate of monthly classes for Irish Saturdays. The Bookstore is receiving needed attention and should reopen fully before mid-year. The new website is up, if not fully accessible yet. Please see the article on page 41 for more details on the website. The e-newsletter is being revised and coming to you in a new format. Look for it in your email box soon.

We are making connections with other Irish groups and genealogy groups:

- we shared some excess books with Irish family historians in Arizona
- IGSI members spoke on Irish research at meetings in Minnesota and Wisconsin
- we plan to participate in the St. Paul Irish Fair in August and
- we are investigating shared trips with another Irish group.

We had a gathering of local Minnesota members at a pub in March – purely social. It was good to meet some members who have not been active and to see some old friends as well.

IGSI is here for members year-round. Research and education are our two main goals, but other activities are helpful to keep us a well-rounded organization. Are there events or programs that you would like to see happen? Let me know – at President@IrishGenealogical.org.

The Truth of the Matter Is . . .

by Diane Lovrencevic

The truth of the matter is that a website the size of IGSI's grows by leaps and bounds. By adding information and updating technology, we can do things now that were impossible just a few months ago. This growth affects everyone as everyone makes changes. While we would like to make things easier, the changes to the website are needed for the growth of our organization.

A change in the software that runs our website includes a security measure for the sign-in / password protocol, one that assigns the user a new digitally-chosen password. The protocol does not allow the website manager to see your password. Should you forget your password, you can have a new one sent to your email by using the link – Request new password – on the right side of the green stripe at the top of the homepage. Your new password will be emailed to you. Check what you enter since the password is case-sensitive.

When logged in to your account, the green bar at the top of the page contains four links: **Bookstore, Contact Us, My Account**, and **Logout.** The Bookstore link connects to the IGSI **Bookstore**. The **Contact Us** link includes a list of IGSI email addresses (on the right hand side of the window) to use to send an email to people working in different areas of the organization. **My Account** provides basic member information, a membership renewal area, and a place where volunteers can report the hours they have worked. **Logout** should be self-evident.

Additional links, as window-shades, on the upper right side of the window link to familiar and to new areas of the website. We will work on these links – changing and adding to them – after the issues surrounding the data transfer and launch of the website are complete.

As I said, the truth is that this website has grown immensely in the last three years. Introducing this new site has kept the committee busy, but we would love to hear from you. Please use the **Contact Us** link to share your user experiences.

Diane Lovrencevic has held many of the volunteer positions for the organization including past board positions. A graphic designer by profession, she does the layout of publications for IGSI and is editor of the website. Diane lives and works in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area.

National Volunteer Appreciation Week
April 15 – 21, 2012

IGSI has a core of volunteers who work on special projects, serve on committees and the Board, teach classes and help in the library. Some are easily recognized; others are not widely known. Yet, each and every one makes a contribution to the services and success of this organization.

Thank you for your work. We couldn't do it without you.

National Volunteer Week
April 15 – 21, 2012

The IGSI Board

Tracing Your Irish Roots: Step By Step

by Brian Mitchell

Introduction

Three centuries of emigration from Ireland has resulted in a significant Irish Diaspora, numbering 70 million people in countries such as the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain. Many descendants of these immigrants are keen to explore their Irish roots.

There are two essential aspects to Irish family history research: the search for birth, marriage and death events; and an examination of census returns and census substitutes for the locality (i.e., townland and parish) in which your ancestor resided.

I believe that initiating research into your Irish ancestry is quite straightforward. In my opinion, there are eight major record sources to examine:

- Civil registers of births, marriages and deaths
- Church registers of baptisms, marriages and burials
- Gravestone inscriptions
- Wills
- 1901 and 1911 Census returns
- Mid-19th century Griffith's Valuation
- Early-19th century Tithe Applotment Books
- Other Census substitutes

This article will examine each of these sources and where they can be found. These sources should be searched before you consider further research options.

These sources can be examined in national repositories in Belfast, Dublin and in an expanding range of databases, many of which can be accessed on the Internet. Many sources have been filmed or digitized. The films can be rented through the Family History Library's network of FamilySearch Centers; the digitized versions can be viewed at the FamilySearch website, <https://www.familysearch.org/>.

An overview of national archives of relevance to those researching their Irish roots, with contact details and short descriptions of record sources held, are recorded in Appendix 2 at the end of this article. Refer to this Appendix when seeking additional information on any record office mentioned in the main body of this article.

This article also recognizes the Internet as a very powerful tool for family historians who want to search databases online. There are a growing number of Irish record sources on the Internet.

Irish genealogy has been totally transformed in the past two years with the availability of online databases of important Irish record sources such as:

- 1901 and 1911 census <www.census.nationalarchives.ie>
- Mid-19th century Griffith's Valuation <www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation>
- Indexes to Irish civil birth, marriage and death registers at <www.familysearch.org>, and
- County databases of church and civil records at <www.rootsireland.ie>.

For Irish family researchers to get the most from their hobby they must be guided to the Internet to use online databases. This article stresses these websites.

Record Loss

On 6th December 1921, with a treaty signed between Britain and Ireland, the partitioning of Ireland by the Government of Ireland Act of November 1920 came into effect. Two Home Rule parliaments were established: one for Northern Ireland which consisted of the counties of Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry (also referred to as Derry) and Tyrone; and the other for Southern Ireland which consisted of the remaining 26 counties of Ireland. The powers of both parliaments were limited by Westminster.

In Southern Ireland reaction to the Anglo-Irish treaty led to a civil war with the anti-treaty IRA (Irish Republican Army) seizing the Four Courts in Dublin in April 1922. This, of course, was to have serious repercussions for family historians. Michael Collins ordered the pro-treaty Free State army to attack the Four Courts and drive the IRA out of Dublin. The shelling of the Four Courts on 28 June 1922, aided by two 18-pound guns lent by the British army, resulted in a fire and the destruction of many important historical documents, including many Church of Ireland registers, wills and early 19th century census returns.

But All Was Not Lost

A primary aim of this article is to dispel the widely-held notion that most records of genealogical interest in Ireland were destroyed; they weren't.

Major record sources such as civil registers of births, marriages and deaths and the registers of Roman Catholic parishes and Presbyterian congregations were not destroyed in this fire. Furthermore, copies, transcripts and abstracts of many wills and Church of Ireland registers, together with the existence of census

substitutes, have lessened the impact of the Four Courts' fire. See David Rencher's past articles in *The Septs* which detail many of the special collections of materials extracted from records prior to the Four Courts fire.

Getting Started - First Steps

Irish family history research begins with building a picture of the original immigrant in his adopted homeland.

Family Reminiscences and Family Papers

The first, and perhaps the most crucial, step in compiling your family tree is one that many people neglect: namely, the quizzing of relations and family friends.

Parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts should all be questioned. Names, dates, places of birth and any anecdotes, no matter how unlikely or inaccurate you might think them to be, associated with all branches of your family tree should be recorded. In genealogy, you never know when a piece of information that seemed irrelevant, might, on reflection, suggest a line of inquiry.

Family memories and knowledge should not be underestimated. There are many instances where family folklore, passed down through the generations, extends beyond what is written in historical records or captured in databases.

Historical research and story telling should not be separated; they are both crucial in any attempt to construct your family history. As family historians we seek the facts to the origins of our ancestry, but it's the anecdotes and stories that capture our imagination and certainly the interest of others. The information and anecdotes relatives can provide help bring the family tree to life, as well as provide much-needed clues for its construction. The oral traditions within the family circle are of immense interest and value.

John Steinbeck, Nobel prize-winning author, reminiscing in *Collier's Magazine* (31 January 1953) about the Irish roots of his mother, Olive Hamilton, wrote: "I guess the people of my family thought of Ireland as a green paradise, mother of heroes, where golden people sprang full-flowered from the sod. I don't remember my mother actually telling me these things, but she must have given me such an impression of delight. Only kings and heroes came from this Holy Island, and at the very top of the glittering pyramid was our family, the Hamiltons."

John Steinbeck knew exactly where his roots lay: "We were looking for a place called Mulkeraugh. You can spell it half a dozen ways and it isn't on any map. I knew from half-memory that it was near to Ballykelly, which is near to Limavady, and I knew that from Mulkeraugh you could look across the lough to the hills of Donegal."

In addition to oral tradition, a search through family papers could unearth old photographs, newspaper clippings, perhaps an obituary, letters, or even a family Bible with its own family tree within. You never know until you look what useful information may be lurking in the back of a cupboard or hiding in a box in the attic.

Record Your Information

It is important to record and organize the information you gather about your family history. The simplest method is to record birth, marriage and death details of direct line ancestors, i.e., parents, grandparents and great grandparents, on a purpose-designed pedigree chart. Information that is unknown is simply left blank, thus highlighting the areas where further research is needed. This chart will be constantly updated as new information comes to light.

A large selection of family tree charts, in many styles and degrees of complexity, on which to record your family history can be purchased or downloaded and printed, for free, on the Internet.

Purpose-designed pedigree charts usually offer no space for detailing brothers and sisters of direct line ancestors and their descendants. The solution is simply to draw your own family chart in which there are no limitations to size. A further advantage of such a chart is that you choose what families to highlight.

With family information gathered and then recorded in family tree charts, you are now ready to begin research through historical sources

Surname Research

Surnames, or inherited family names, are the building blocks of genealogy; without them, it would be impossible to trace your ancestors back through the generations. Irish surnames can provide clues and insight into the origins of your family history as they offer an authentic link with history, location and identity.

Surnames of Gaelic Irish origin frequently confirm membership in a sept which Edward MacLysaght defined as "a group of persons who,

or whose immediate and known ancestors, bore a common surname and inhabited the same locality." Even today, Irish surnames remain dominant and numerous in the very districts where their names originated.

By examining surname reference books or by using the "Surname search" facility on the Irish Times website at <www.irishtimes.com/ancestor> researchers can build a picture of the location, frequency and history of Irish surnames.

In Irish historical records there are many spelling variations of the same name. There is no doubt that the process of Anglicization has obscured the origins of many Irish surnames. From the 17th century, Gaelic surnames of Irish and Scottish origin were translated, and in many cases mistranslated, into English; others were changed to similar-sounding English names. Family names of Gaelic origin were further disguised in the 18th century by discarding the prefix Mac, Mc and O.

Thus, in conducting family history research you should be aware of the possibility of different spellings of the same surname. For example, in various record sources, Doherty can be written, to list but a few, as Dogherty, Dougherty, Docherty, O Dochartaigh, O'Doagharty, O'Dogherty and O'Doherty.

Place-Name Research

People care deeply about who they are and where they come from; in Ireland, place and kin hold a very strong emotional bond. It is said that when Amelia Earhart (the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, Canada, to Londonderry, Ireland) landed on Saturday, 21 May 1932, in front of Dan McCallion's cottage, she asked: "Where am I?" An astonished Dan McCallion, who was out herding his cattle, replied: "In Gallagher's Pasture."

The key to unlocking an Irish family's history is the knowledge of place. In tracing your roots in Ireland, the most important piece of information to be gleaned from either family folklore or record sources is any information as to a place of origin of your ancestors.

Successful genealogical research is rooted in geography; all major Irish record sources are organized by what appears to be a confusing array of administrative divisions. Records of value to the family historian were gathered by one or more of these divisions. (See Appendix 1 for a brief description of the key Irish jurisdictions relevant to genealogical records.)

The author, for example, lives in the village of Eglinton which is located in the townland of Muff (318 acres in size), in the civil parish of Faughanvale, in the Diocese of Derry, in the Barony of Tirkeeran, in the district electoral division of Eglinton, in the registrar's district of Eglinton, in the poor law union of Londonderry, in the probate district of Londonderry, County Londonderry, Province of Ulster, Ireland.

From a family historian's perspective, the most effective way to view Ireland is as a country that is subdivided into 32 counties, which in turn are subdivided into 2,428 parishes, and which in turn are subdivided into 60,462 townlands. A driving force among most people tracing their family history is to identify an ancestral home; to stand on land where the family house would have stood centuries ago. In Ireland, this means identifying the townland where your ancestor lived.

The *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland* (Alexander Thom, Dublin, 1861; reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1986) identifies all of Ireland's 60,462 townlands together with their 1st edition Ordnance Survey map number. The "Placenames" search option at <www.irishtimes.com/ancestor> enables researchers to pinpoint the county and parish locations of 65,000 Irish place names.

Between 1829 and 1842, Ordnance Survey Ireland completed the first ever large-scale survey of an entire country. These maps were surveyed on a county basis. A record of townland names, shapes and sizes for all Ireland exists in the maps of the Ordnance Survey, 1st edition completed by 1842, at the scale of six inches to one mile.

Most record sources of value to family historians, whether civil or church, were compiled and recorded by parish. This means that, in the absence of indexing and databases, realistic genealogical research requires knowledge of the parish in which your ancestor lived. Church of Ireland parishes normally conform to the civil parish; Roman Catholic parishes do not, as they are generally larger. The Roman Catholic Church, owing to the Reformation of the sixteenth

century, had to adapt itself to a new structure centered on towns and villages. The Presbyterian Church does not have a parish structure; the congregations generally formed where there was sufficient demand from local Presbyterian families. Generally, Presbyterian congregations in Ireland are associated with the nine counties of the northern province of Ulster.

A *New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland* (Brian Mitchell, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 2nd Edition, 2002) locates the following administrative divisions for every county in Ireland: baronies, civil parishes (which largely match Church of Ireland parishes), Roman Catholic parishes, dioceses, poor law unions and probate districts; and for the nine northern counties of Ulster, its network of Presbyterian congregations.

The IreAtlas Townland Database at <http://www.seanruad.com/> is a useful online database of Irish placenames which can be searched for Townland, County, Barony, Civil Parish, Poor Law Union, or Province to find the matching jurisdictions.

The Main Record Sources

In this section I will detail the major Irish record sources in terms of what information they contain, their limitations, where they can be found, and how they can be accessed.

Civil Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Civil registration in Ireland of births, deaths and Roman Catholic marriages began on 1st January 1864 while Protestant marriages were subject to registration from 1st April 1845. For the purpose of civil registration, Ireland was divided into about 800 registrar districts, which were grouped into 140 poor law unions. Books recording births, marriages and deaths were kept in each local registrar district; a consolidated name index, with limited information, was then compiled at the national level.

The detail included in civil birth, marriage and death registers, together with their associated indexes, make this source an ideal starting point in researching Irish ancestors.

A civil birth entry records the name, date of birth and place of birth of the child, the father's name, occupation and residence, and the mother's maiden name.

A civil marriage entry gives the date and place of marriage and the names, ages, occupations and residences of the bride and groom together with the names and occupations of their fathers and the names of two witnesses.

A civil death entry supplies the deceased's name, age, occupation, date of death, place of death and cause of death.

Civil birth, marriage and death registers are indexed, in alphabetical order by Surname and then by Christian Name; the early indexes were compiled annually while the later ones (from 1878) were arranged by quarter year. These indexes can be examined, in person, at the General Register Offices in Belfast and Dublin (see Appendix 2).

You can search the indexes to 21 million entries of Irish civil birth, marriage and death registers for free at <www.familysearch.org> by clicking on 'Europe' and then selecting 'Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958' from the country list. Furthermore, some Irish civil registers have been digitized; these can be examined by selecting 'Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881,' 'Ireland Deaths, 1864-1870' and 'Ireland Marriages, 1619-1898' from the same country list.

Many of Ireland's county-based genealogy centres have computerized all information recorded in civil registers of births, marriages and deaths prior to 1922. You can search the indexes to these online for free at <www.rootsireland.ie>. These indexes point to 15 million birth, marriage and death records of pre-1922 civil registers as well as pre-1900 church registers for 27 of Ireland's 32 counties. There is an option to purchase an extract of a record on a pay-per-view basis. You can either search across all counties or search a particular county by clicking the appropriate county on a map of Ireland.

Church Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials

To find a birth, marriage or death that occurred prior to the commencement of civil registration, family history researchers usually rely on baptismal, marriage and burial registers kept by churches.

A baptism entry can provide the name of the child; date of baptism; date of birth; parents' names, including maiden name of mother; parents' address (by townland); occupation; and names of sponsors (particularly in Roman Catholic registers).

A marriage entry can provide the names of the bride and groom; their places of residence; date of marriage; parents' names; and names of witnesses.

A burial entry can provide the name and residence of the deceased; burial date and place; and age of the deceased. In the case of children, the names of parents may be included.

Church registers, like civil registers, can supply enough information to build and confirm family linkages.

It must be emphasized that dates of commencement and quality of information in church registers vary from parish to parish and from denomination to denomination. This source, however, should always be checked if you know the civil parish address and religious denomination of your ancestor. *A Guide to Irish Parish Registers* (Brian Mitchell, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1988; reprinted 2001) attempts, on a county basis, to locate churches of all denominations within their civil parish and provide the earliest commencement date of their registers.

Church of Ireland registers prior to 1st January 1871 are public records. While the Four Courts fire in Dublin in 1922 destroyed 1,002 pre-1870 Church of Ireland registers, many registers of great age have survived.

The National Library of Ireland holds microfilm copies of the registers of most Roman Catholic parishes in Ireland for years up to 1880. The National Archives of Ireland holds originals, microfilm copies, transcripts and abstracts of many Church of Ireland registers. The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland holds microfilm copies of the majority of church registers of all denominations for the nine counties of Ulster. Researchers should also check the Family History Library catalog because many church records of several denominations have been filmed.

There is no national index to church registers. To date, only the county-based genealogy centres have attempted large scale, systematic indexing of church registers in their localities. These can be examined online at <www.rootsireland.ie> for 27 of Ireland's 32 counties. Church registers for Dublin city, south and west Cork and Counties Carlow and Kerry can be searched for free at <www.irishgenealogy.ie>.

Gravestone Inscriptions

With civil registration of births and deaths commencing in 1864, and with the patchy survival of church records prior to 1820, gravestone inscriptions take on a special significance. As mentioned, many Church of Ireland burial registers were destroyed in 1922. The registers of the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian churches are especially poor regarding burial entries.

In many cases, a gravestone inscription is the only record of an ancestor's death. But gravestones offer much more than the date of death; they frequently mention the townland address of the deceased, and the names, ages, and dates of death of other family members. Many graves are in family plots and, as a consequence, list family members and their relationship to each other.

After identifying an ancestor's residence (i.e., townland or parish), a researcher should visit the local graveyards. Church of Ireland graveyards should be examined irrespective of an ancestor's religion. Prior to the 1820s, owing to the operation of the Penal Laws, both Catholics and Presbyterians shared the same graveyards. And prior to the Burial Act of 1868, which permitted dissenting (i.e., Presbyterian) ministers to conduct burial services, the Church of Ireland clergy held jurisdiction over funeral services for all Protestants.

The unkempt state of many graveyards (especially those now isolated from a functioning church) and the weathering of headstones preclude the reading of many inscriptions. Also, only a small percentage of burials in any graveyard are marked by headstones.

Many old graveyards are separated from a functioning church. With the establishment of new churches throughout the 19th century, many graveyards attached to the old church fell into disuse as new graveyards were opened beside the new church. The new church and graveyard were often located some distance away from the old church and graveyard.

Between 1888 and 1934, the *Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead*, published more than 10,000 gravestone inscriptions collected from all over Ireland. A composite index to surnames and places for the first 20 years of publication was published in 1910. The National Library of Ireland holds a complete set of this Journal.

Many of the county-based genealogy centres in Ireland have computerized gravestone inscriptions for their areas; these can be searched at <www.rootsireland.ie>. Furthermore, extensive databases of inscriptions from graveyards throughout Northern Ireland can be examined at <www.irish-world.com> and <www.historyfromheadstones.com>.

Wills

Wills which list relatives – brothers, sisters, children and even grandchildren – are valuable genealogical documents. Yet only a small proportion of the population – usually the better-off, such as gentry, farmers and merchants – made wills. Although there is no guarantee that your ancestor made a will, you should search the indexes that exist.

Before 1857, consistory courts of the Church of Ireland, based in each diocese, were in charge of all testamentary affairs. Although most of these wills were destroyed in 1922, the indexes to these wills were not destroyed; they are available in the National Archives of Ireland. A central Prerogative Court, under the authority of the Archbishop of Armagh as Primate of Ireland, dealt with testamentary matters where the deceased's property was assessed to be worth more than £5 in more than one diocese.

Family Tree Maker's CD, *Irish Source Records*, includes *Indexes to Irish Wills, 1536-1857* and *Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland, 1536-1810*. This information can be searched, by subscription, online at *Ancestry.com* and *Irish Origins*.

Indexes to Irish Wills is an alphabetical index of over 30,000 Diocesan wills proved in the Consistory Courts of Ireland between 1536 and 1857. Arranged by diocese, and preceded by maps showing in which dioceses the various Irish counties are situated, the *Indexes* provide the name of the testator, his parish, county, and the date of probate. The indexes to these pre-1858 church diocesan wills for Northern Ireland can be searched, at no charge, by using the 'Name Search' option on the website of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland at <www.proni.gov.uk>.

All of the Prerogative Wills of Ireland were destroyed by fire in Dublin in 1922; before that, Sir William Betham had made abstracts of the genealogical data in the wills from 1536 to 1800. In 1897, Sir Arthur Vicars prepared an index to Betham's abstracts, i.e., *Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland, 1536-1810*. This index has 40,000 entries arranged alphabetically by the name of the testator, showing his rank, occupation, or condition; his town or county of residence; and the year when the estate was probated.

The *Irish Wills Index*, containing over 102,000 names to surviving testamentary records, includes original documents, copies, transcripts, abstracts and extracts held in the National Archives of Ireland for the time period 1484 to 1858. These can be searched, by subscription, on the *Irish Origins* website at <www.irishorigins.com>. Each index entry contains the name of the person leaving a will or being covered by a grant of probate or administration. It also contains the person's address, sometimes an occupation, and the place where the document was proved (i.e., a diocesan or the Prerogative court). The index also contains the names of the executors for almost half the entries, with their addresses.

In January 1858, testamentary jurisdiction was transferred from Church control to the State. Thereafter all probates and administrations were granted at a principal registry in Dublin and at eleven district registries. From that date, yearly calendars of wills and administrations were published in printed volumes in alphabetical order by Surname and Christian Name. These indexes provide the name, address, occupation and date of death of the deceased.

A complete set of these calendars for the whole of Ireland up to 1917 are held in both the National Archives of Ireland and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. The indexes from 1918 for the 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland and for the 6 counties of Northern Ireland are held in the National Archives of Ireland and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland respectively. The calendars can be a useful means to identify relatively quickly the date of death of an ancestor.

Wills and/or copy will books survive for all districts except for wills proved in the Dublin registry prior to 1922. The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland holds the will books for the districts of Armagh, Belfast and Londonderry; the National Archives of Ireland has the books for the remaining eight district registries in the Republic of Ireland.

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland is currently indexing and digitizing all wills that were proved in the District Registries of Armagh, Belfast and Londonderry from 1858. A fully searchable index to the will calendars for these districts, from 1858 to 1943, can be searched on their website, <www.proni.gov.uk>; for the period 1858-1900, these are linked to digitized images of the wills themselves.

1901 and 1911 Census Returns

Although census enumerations were carried out every decade from 1821, the earliest surviving complete return for all Ireland is that of 1901.

The first four census enumerations, i.e., 1821, 1831, 1841 and 1851, were largely destroyed by fire in the Public

Record Office at the Four Courts, Dublin, in June 1922; and those for 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891 were destroyed by order of the government. Again, many of these records are available to search, for a fee, online.

In Ireland the census enumerations of 1901 and 1911 are open to the public. These returns were arranged by townland in rural areas and by street in urban areas.

For each member of the household, the 1901 census records name, age, religion, education (i.e., if they could read or write), occupation, marital status, county or city of birth (or country, if born outside Ireland) and if a speaker of Irish. The 1911 census provides additional information on a marriage: the number of years married, the number of children born, and the number of children still living.

The 1901 and 1911 census returns should be examined once you have established where your ancestor lived at the turn of the 20th century.

The National Archives of Ireland holds the manuscript returns of the 1901 and 1911 censuses for all counties of Ireland. The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland holds microfilm copy of the 1901 census returns for the six counties of Northern Ireland.

The National Archives of Ireland, in association with Library and Archives Canada, has digitized the 1901 and 1911 census returns for all counties of Ireland. All name, age and place information has been indexed and linked to digital images of the actual 1901 and 1911 census returns; 4,500 reels of microfilm containing 6 million images were digitized. This means that, in addition to being able to search the 1901 and 1911 returns by both name and place, you can view, at no charge, an image of the original household census form for any named individual at <www.census.nationalarchives.ie>.

Griffith's Valuation

In Ireland, the almost total loss of the 19th century census returns means that sources which act as 19th century census substitutes are very important to Irish family history researchers.

One such source is Griffith's Primary Valuation. Griffith's Valuation, or Primary Valuation of Ireland, was carried out between 1848 and 1864, under the direction of Sir Richard Griffith, to determine the amount each household should pay towards the support of the poor within the poor law union. Each poor law union was named after a chief town in the district and usually serviced the area in a ten-mile radius, often extending across county boundaries. In detailing every head of household and occupier of land in Ireland, against a townland address in rural areas or street address in urban areas, Griffith's Valuation is viewed as a census substitute for post-Famine Ireland.

This source details against every property in mid-19th century Ireland: the occupier's name; the landlord's name; description of property; size of farm (if applicable); and rateable valuation of any buildings and land. The results of the survey were published in volumes by poor law union.

At first glance, the family historian might feel disappointed with Griffith's Valuation as it names heads of household only. With no information provided on family members within each household or relationships between householders, it is not possible to confirm the nature of linkages between named people in this source.

Griffith's Valuation, however, can deliver valuable insight into the economic and social status of an ancestor as it measures farm size and details valuations of land and buildings. It can assist in locating the ancestral home and in identifying the type of settlement of an ancestor (for example, in an isolated farmstead, a village or a town).

A significant feature of Griffith's Valuation was the compilation of maps to accompany the survey. Every lot number in Griffith's Valuation (recorded under the heading "No. and Letters of Reference to Map") was marked on a copy of the Ordnance Survey map (at a scale of 6 inches to 1 mile). This means that the locations of all properties in the mid-19th century - houses and farms - can be identified once you have found your ancestor in Griffith's Valuation, thus helping you to identify with accuracy the location of the ancestral home or farm even if it is long gone.

An examination of Griffith's Valuation confirms that in many rural areas, and in particular in marginal areas less suited to economic farming, the population still lived in small village clusters that had not yet been broken up into the dispersed farm dwellings which dominate the Irish landscape today. Such clusters of farmhouses in "farm towns" without church, shop or public house were called clachans.

Clachans were associated with a communal system of farming known as rundale where farms consisted of infield and outfield sections and where agriculture was subservient to the demands of cattle herding. The bonds of kinship were close

and strong among the occupants of clachans, with new houses added as holdings were subdivided among co-heirs. Furthermore, clachans were associated with the townland unit, the smallest and most ancient of Irish land divisions. Indeed, at one time, clachans were the nuclei of Ireland's network of townlands.

You can search Griffith's Valuation for free at <www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation> by Family Name and Place Name. 'Family Name Search' provides transcripted details, an image of the original document page, and the appropriate Valuation map for a selected occupier. Use the 'Place Name Search' to find everyone who lived in a particular place.

Early 19th Century Tithe Applotment Books

Owing to the destruction of most early 19th century census returns the Tithe Applotment Books are widely used by family history researchers as a census substitute for pre-Famine rural Ireland.

The Tithe Applotment Books were compiled between 1823 and 1837 by civil parish. They list all landholders who paid tithe by townland address. Tithe was a tax based on land valuation, which was determined by farm size and quality of land. It was assessed on all landholders, irrespective of religious denomination, for the support of the Established Church (i.e., Church of Ireland).

Tithe Books, therefore, show the names of tenant farmers but not of urban dwellers or landless laborers. A landholder may also appear more than once on a list, indicating that they held more than one piece of land. The results of this assessment were published in hand-written volumes by parish. Tithe Books for Northern Ireland can be examined at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast, and for the Republic of Ireland in the National Archives of Ireland, Dublin.

This source usually details against every landholder in early-19th century Ireland: the landholder's name; size of farm (in acres, roods and perches); the quality of land (1st class, 2nd, 3rd, etc.); valuation of the land; and the amount of tithe composition (in pounds £, shillings s, and pennies d).

Tithe Books, like Griffith's Valuation, name heads of household only; they don't name any other family members. However, in addition to confirming the ancestral home (i.e., townland) of an ancestor, the tithe entry of a landholder, by detailing farm size, quality and valuation of land, and amount of tithe to be paid, offers some insight into the economic and social status of an ancestor.

In Tithe Books, land is measured in acres, roods and perches. Generally, there were 40 perches to a rood and 4 roods to an acre. Different land measurements have been used in Irish land surveys since the 17th century. In Tithe Books, land was usually measured in Irish Plantation acres; the mid-19th century Griffith's Valuation used English acres or Statute acres. The 'Irish' or 'plantation' acre was equal to 1.62 'statute' or 'English' acres. An Irish acre is, therefore, bigger than an English acre. Thus, 5 'Irish' acres were equivalent to 8 'English' or 'Statute' acres. In Ulster, in particular, land could also be measured in 'Scottish' acres. The 'Cunningham' or 'Scottish' acre was equal to 1.29 statute acres. Thus, 5 'Irish' acres are equivalent to 6.45 'Scottish' acres. Researchers, therefore, need to be aware of these differences when comparing farm sizes in different surveys. Dwight Radford provided an explanation of converting Irish and English acres in an article, "Linking Property in Griffith's with the Tithes," *The Septs*, Vol. 31, No. 2, April 2010.

Regarding valuations in Tithe Books, there were 12 pennies (d) to a shilling (s) and 20 shillings to a pound (£). Decimalization was introduced in 1970.

Family Tree Maker has published in CD format, *Tithe Applotment Books, 1823-1838*, an index to some 200,000 landholders extracted from the Tithe Books of 233 parishes in the six counties of Northern Ireland. Landholders are listed by surname and forename against their townland, parish and county of residence. The Tithe Applotment Books can be searched, by subscription, online at *Ancestry.com* and *Genealogy.com*.

Other Census Substitutes

Any surviving fragments of 1821, 1831, 1841 and 1851 census returns are held in the National Archives of Ireland with microfilm copies in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.

County Derry is fortunate in that an abstract of the 1831 census has survived. This census, arranged by parish and townland, lists: the name of each head of household; the number of individual families in each house; the number of males and females, including servants, in each household; and their religious denomination. Although this source names all heads of households, over 40,000 in total, in County Derry, it doesn't name the other family members within each household. An index to the 1831 census can be examined at <www.

billmacafee.com>.

Pension search summaries can act as a partial reconstruction of 1841 and 1851 census returns. The Old Age Pension Act was introduced in 1908. For persons applying to the local Pensions Officer for a pension with no proof they were over 70 years old, searches were requested of the 1841 and 1851 censuses at the Public Record Office, Dublin. These searches were completed before the fire in 1922.

The Old Age Pension search summaries for the Republic of Ireland are held in the National Archives of Ireland and for Northern Ireland in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.

Indexes to these Old Age Pension search summaries have been published as *Ireland: 1841/1851 Census Abstracts (Northern Ireland)* and *Ireland: 1841/1851 Census Abstracts (Republic of Ireland)* in Family Tree Maker's CD, *Irish Source Records*. Although only a small fraction of the population is covered by these summary book abstracts, these Pension search summaries, by salvaging some census data of 1841 and 1851, identify 23,000 individuals in Northern Ireland and 5,800 persons in the Republic of Ireland.

As many parishes have no church registers pre-dating 1800, it is quite possible that you will not be able to link with any degree of certainty your family connections back through the 17th and 18th centuries in Ireland.

There are, however, a number of census records and census substitutes, usually compiled by civil parish, which can be searched for the 18th century and such as:

- Flax Growers Lists of 1796: This source lists farmers who were entitled to a grant, in the form of equipment, for the sowing of flax seed. Family Tree Maker has published in CD, *Irish Flax Growers List, 1796*, which names 60,000 flax growers (from all counties in Ireland except Dublin and Wicklow) by civil parish and county.
- Religious Census of 1766: Compiled by Church of Ireland rectors, these returns list, by parish, heads of household and their religion.
- Protestant Householders Lists of 1740: These lists of Protestant heads of household were compiled by county, barony and parish.
- Hearth Money Rolls of the 1660s: This source lists households, by county, parish and townland, liable to a tax of 2 shillings raised for every hearth or fireplace.
- Muster Rolls of 1630: These lists of adult males capable of military service were compiled by estate/manor.

The one significant weakness of all census substitutes is that they list the names of heads of household only. As no information is provided on family members within each household or relationships between householders, it is not possible to confirm the nature of linkages between named people in these sources.

Census substitutes, however, are very useful in confirming the presence of a family name in a particular townland and/or parish, and in providing some insight into the frequency and distribution of surnames. These sources, for example, can prove very illuminating in highlighting the spread of English and Scottish settlers into the northern half of Ireland during the 17th century, as many surnames can be identified tentatively as being English, Scottish or Irish in origin.

You will find any surviving copies of these sources in the National Archives of Ireland, the National Library of Ireland and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.

You can search, for free, a number of 18th century census substitutes for Northern Ireland, such as indexes to pre-1858 wills, 1740 Protestant Householders Lists, and Religious Census of 1766 by selecting the 'Name Search' option on the website of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland at <www.proni.gov.uk>.

Consider Also

Passenger Lists

Family historians are fascinated by passenger lists. Official passenger lists from Ireland exist only from 1890. You can search, for free, the indexes to 24 million long-haul passengers who left from 35 ports in the United Kingdom (which includes the Republic of Ireland until partition in 1921) between 1890 and 1960 at <www.ancestorsonboard.com>.

As a general rule, prior to 1890, you are more likely to identify passengers at the port of arrival than at the port of departure. By the mid-19th century, 70% of Irish emigrants entered the U.S. through New York. The bulk of these

passengers to New York are recorded on two websites, <www.castlegarden.org> for arrivals prior to 1892 and <www.ellisisland.org> for the time period 1892 to 1924. Stephen Morse provides tools that make searching the *Castle Garden* and *Ellis Island* sites easier, <http://stevemorse.org/>.

The "U.S. Immigration Collection," accessible by subscription at *Ancestry.com* contains indexes to passenger lists of ships arriving from foreign ports to Boston from 1820 to 1943 (3.8 million immigrants), Philadelphia, 1800 to 1945 (1.6 million), and New York, 1820 to 1957 (83 million). Information contained in the index includes: given name, surname, age, gender, ethnicity, nationality or last country of permanent residence, destination, arrival date, port of arrival, port of departure and ship name. Furthermore, the names found in the index are linked to actual images of the passenger lists.

The "U.S. Immigration Collection" also names 4.5 million immigrants to the USA and Canada extracted from published arrivals records in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries; 16.3 million passengers arriving in the UK (from foreign ports outside of Europe) between 1878 and 1960; 8.4 million 'unassisted' immigrants to New South Wales, Australia, from 1826 to 1922 and 450,000 'assisted' immigrants to New South Wales from 1828-1896; and 7.3 million passengers arriving at Canadian ports between 1865 and 1935.

Genetic Genealogy: the Future?

Genetic genealogy has been described as "the newest and most exciting addition to genealogy research." Businesses have been established in recent years to assist researchers discover their ancestral roots through DNA connections.

DNA is the genetic material within our cells that is handed down from generation to generation. Within it is written not only our personal history, but the history of the whole human race. The human genetic code, or genome, is 99.9% identical throughout the world. What's left is the DNA responsible for our individual differences. A random, harmless mutation can occur which is then passed down to all of that person's descendants. Generations later, finding that same mutation, or marker, in two people's DNA indicates that they share the same ancestor. By comparing markers in many different populations, scientists can trace their ancestral connections.

These minute changes in genetic material are preserved in your mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), which is passed down intact from mother to child, and in the Y chromosome (yDNA), which travels from father to son, (yDNA signatures are inherited, in the majority of cases, with surname over time.) These genes pass from generation to generation and they don't change except by a slow process of mutation. By comparing DNA markers you can construct probability statistics as to what extent two people share a common ancestor; the degree of difference in markers is an indication of how long ago they shared a common ancestor.

Geneticists at Trinity College, Dublin claim that as many as 1 in 5 people in North West Ireland are descended from a common ancestor who "was likely to have lived about 1,700 years ago." In the eyes of the researchers at Trinity College, this concentration in the Northwest, together with the time factor, points to the Ui Neill dynasty. Ui Neill means 'descendants of Niall'; Niall being Niall of the Nine Hostages, High King of Ireland from 379 to 405 A.D.

By tradition, two of Niall's sons, Conall Gulban and Eoghan, were the paternal ancestors of the major Gaelic families of Counties Derry, Donegal and Tyrone. Conall and Eoghan conquered North West Ireland, c.425A.D., capturing the great hill fort of Grianan of Ailech which commanded the entrance to Inishowen between Lough Swilly and Lough Foyle. Those tracing descent from Eoghan include: Brolly, Carlin, Devlin, Donnelly, Duddy, Duffy, Farren, Gormley, Hegarty, McCloskey, McLaughlin, Mellon, Mullen, O'Hagan, O'Kane, O'Neill, Quinn and Toner. From Conall Gulban: Doherty, Friel, Gallagher, McCafferty, McDaid, McDevitt and O'Donnell.

Appendix 1: Irish Administrative Divisions

Successful genealogical research is rooted in geography as all major Irish record sources are organized by what appears to be a confusing array of administrative divisions. Records of value to the family historian were gathered by one or more of these divisions:

PROVINCE	The largest geographical division. Ireland is divided into four provinces: Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster.
COUNTY	Ireland is divided into 32 counties. This division, begun in the 12th century, reflected the imposition of the English system of local government in Ireland. Their boundaries reflected the lordships of the major Gaelic families.
BARONY	This subdivision of a county is now an obsolete division, but in the 19th century it was widely used. Ireland was divided into 327 baronies which tended to reflect the holdings of Irish clans. Baronies and counties became established in the government land surveys of the 17th century.
PARISH	The knowledge of the parish address of your ancestor allows you to select record sources to examine. Ireland was divided into 2,428 civil parishes. Most record sources, both civil and church, of value to family historians were compiled and recorded by parish. Ecclesiastical parishes were grouped into dioceses.
TOWNLAND	The smallest and most ancient land division in Ireland. Parishes were, in effect, subdivided into townlands, a few hundred acres in extent. There are 60,462 townlands in Ireland. In identifying a townland address you have effectively identified the ancestral home. A record of townland names, shapes and sizes for all Ireland exists in the maps of the Ordnance Survey, 1st edition completed by 1842, at the scale of six inches to one mile.
POOR LAW UNION	A district centered on a large market town and created in 1838 for the financial support of the poor. Ireland was originally divided into 130 Poor Law Unions. In 1898 the poor law union replaced the civil parish and barony as the basic unit of local government. Poor law unions were subdivided into 829 Registration Districts (to gather civil birth, marriage and death details) and 3,751 District Electoral Divisions (to gather census returns).
PROBATE DISTRICT	Created in 1858 for the purpose of proving wills. There were 12 probate districts in Ireland.

A *New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland* (Brian Mitchell, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 2nd Edition, 2002) locates fthe following administrative divisions or every county in Ireland: baronies, civil parishes (which largely match Church of Ireland parishes), Roman Catholic parishes, dioceses, poor law unions and probate districts; and, for the nine northern counties of Ulster, its network of Presbyterian congregations.

Appendix 2: The Major Record Offices

General Register Office

Government Offices
Convent Road, Roscommon, Ireland
Telephone: 00 353 90663 2900
Website: www.groireland.ie
Email: gro@health.irlgov.ie

The General Register Office also maintains a family history research facility for the purpose of searching indexes to birth, death and marriage records and for obtaining photocopies of records identified from the indexes at 3rd Floor, Block 7, Irish Life Centre, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1.

Research Room: Open Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Sources:
Births and deaths registered in whole of Ireland from 1 January 1864 to 31 December 1921. Marriages registered in whole of Ireland from 1 April 1845 to 31 December 1921. Births, marriages and deaths for Ireland (excluding Northern Ireland) from 1 January 1922.

Fees:
A particular search of indexes for 5 years €2.00
A general search of indexes for 1 day covering all years €20.00
A photocopy of an identified entry €4.00

General Register Office

Oxford House
49-55 Chichester Street
Belfast, BT1 4HL, Northern Ireland
Telephone: 028 9151 3101
Website: www.nidirect.gov.uk/gro
Email: gro.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk

Research Room: Open Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 4.00 pm
(The indexes are computerized. As there are limited spaces in the search room, it is advisable to book by telephone or email.)

Sources:
Birth and death registers for the six counties of Northern Ireland from 1st January 1864 to the present-day and civil marriage registers for Northern Ireland from 1st April 1845 to the present-day.

Fees:
Computerized indexes can be searched for 6 hours at cost of £14.00. This cost includes 2 verifications of entries by staff with the option of further verifications at £4.00 each. Assisted search of records with member of staff at £35 per hour.

National Archives of Ireland

Bishop Street
Dublin 8, Ireland
Telephone: 00 353 1407 2300
Website: www.nationalarchives.ie
Email: mail@nationalarchives.ie

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 5.00 pm

Sources:
This office's collection is very extensive and of all-Ireland significance. It holds wills; microfilm copies of many pre-1870 Church of Ireland registers (original registers held locally or in Representative Church Body Library in Braemor Park, Churchtown, Dublin 14; email, library@ireland.anglican.org); 1901 and 1911 census returns; Griffith's Valuation; Tithe Books; surviving 19th century census returns and Religious Census of 1766.

The National Archives provides a Genealogy Advisory Service where members of the public can consult a professional genealogist about sources relating to their family history. It is free and open to the public Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 1.30 pm.

The National Archives of Ireland in association with Library and Archives Canada have digitized the 1901 and 1911 census returns for all counties of Ireland. This means that, in addition to being able to search the 1901 and 1911 returns by both name and place, you can now view, at no charge, an image of the original household census form for any named individual at <www.census.nationalarchives.ie>.

National Library of Ireland

Kildare Street
Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone: 00 353 1603 0213
Website: www.nli.ie
Email: info@nli.ie

Opening Hours:
Monday to Wednesday 9.30 am to 7.45 pm
Thursday to Friday 9.30 am to 4.45 pm:
Saturday 9.30 am to 12.45 pm

Sources:
Microfilm copies of the registers of most Roman Catholic parishes in Ireland for years up to 1880 and of the early 19th century Tithe Applotment Books. The National Library also holds on microfiche the mid-19th century Griffith's Valuation. The library holds a comprehensive collection of directories, photographs, newspapers, maps and manuscripts.

The National Library provides a Genealogy Advisory Service where members of the public can consult experienced Library staff about sources relating to their family history. It is free and open to the public Monday to Friday from 9.30 am to 4.45 pm.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)

2 Titanic Boulevard
Titanic Quarter
Belfast, BT3 9HQ, Northern Ireland.
Telephone: 028 9053 4800
Website: www.proni.gov.uk
Email: proni@dcalni.gov.uk

Opening Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.00 am to 4.45 pm: Thursday 10.00 am to 8.45 pm

Sources:
This office's collection relates mainly to the nine counties of the province of Ulster (i.e. Counties Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone in Northern Ireland and Counties Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan in the Republic of Ireland). It holds wills; microfilm copies of most church registers of all religious denominations; microfilm copy of 1901 census returns (for Northern Ireland only); Griffith's Valuation; Griffith's Valuation maps (for Northern Ireland only); Tithe Books; and surviving 19th century census returns.

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland at <www.proni.gov.uk/> is committed to making its archives more widely available. You can search online their eCatalogue to locate over one million catalogue entries relating to their archives.

Furthermore, PRONI has created a number of significant online databases of indexes to records with Northern Ireland-wide coverage in their collection, such as: Street Directories 1819 to 1900; Will Calendars 1858 to 1943 (for the period 1858 to 1900 are linked to digitized images of the wills themselves); pre-1840 Freeholders' Records of Registers and Poll Books (which list people entitled to vote or people who voted at elections); and

Ulster Covenant (which identifies just under half a million original signatures and addresses of men and women who signed the Ulster Covenant on 28 September 1912). You can search online, via their 'Name Search' option, indexes to pre-1858 wills, 1740 Protestant Householders Lists and Religious Census of 1766.

For an extensive list of Irish record websites see the "Irish Genealogy Sleuth" page at *ProGenealogists*, <http://www.progenealogists.com/ireland/irishsleuth.htm>. While this is a very lengthy list of links, it is a few years old and, consequently, is not complete. Some links no longer work.

Brian Mitchell has been involved in local, family and emigration research in the wider Derry area since 1982. He supervised the construction of the Derry Family History Centre's database containing one million records (dating from 1642 to 1922) extracted from the major civil and church registers of County Derry. It can be accessed at <www.derry.rootsireland.ie>. He is author of a number of Irish genealogy reference books such as A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland.

Methodology For Researching Irish Genealogical Collections

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

With the destruction of the Public Record Office in Dublin in 1922, antiquarian and genealogical collections in Ireland took on a significant place of prominence in reconstructing the historical record set. Certified copies, abstracts, and transcripts of the records that were deposited in the Record Office prior to its destruction were now some of the only existing evidences of the lives of people who lived in Ireland.

Identifying Appropriate Collections

Since those who compiled the collections throughout Ireland had varying interests in families, religions, localities and subjects, it is necessary to evaluate the collections and determine what the motivation for the genesis of the collection was.

Regarding each collection, ask – was this:

- A collection for a single surname?
- A group of families from a particular locality?
- The subject of an authored work about a particular subject?
- What subject?
- Solely for the clergy of a particular religion?
- Primarily for Catholics or Protestants?
- Transcripts of complete record sources?
- Abstracts of only certain entries from record sources?

Methodology

Organization

To determine the organization, scan the collection at a high level overview, moving through the microfilm at a fairly high rate of speed stopping every thirty images and at every break in between the microfilm target boards. In some instances, the indexes are located at the end of the collection – but usually appear in the first few pages following the target board.

How is the collection organized?

- Is it seemingly random, or is it compiled in notebooks with a theme running through it?
- Is there any descriptive information (metadata) about the collection within the notebooks or loose pages?

Indexed Collections

Some of the genealogical collections you will search have been indexed by surname, surname and given name, record type or locality. It is always wise to spot check the accuracy of the index by examining a dozen entries. If you believe that it is possible that the index is flawed, examine all of the pages of the collection.

If the collection is indexed:

- Abstract the entries for the surnames of your family or study subject
- Next, abstract the surnames of known associates
- Expand the list of known associates from any of the entries that are deemed ancestral and abstract the new names

Un-indexed Collections

The majority of the collections of historical records that you will examine will not be indexed. In some instances, other genealogists have made indexes to the collection. Notable examples are:

1. McAnlis, Virginia Wade. *The Consolidated Index to the Records of the Genealogical Office, Dublin, Ireland*, 4 vols. Issaquah, Washington: Privately Published, n.d. This index has NOT been microfilmed by the Family History Library. This collection is indexed alphabetically with the alphabet spread over the four volumes. (See table at end of article for a list of microfilms indexed in this publication.)

This index is available for sale from the author:
Virginia Wade McAnlis
21617 SE 34th Place
Issaquah, WA 98027

2. Parsons, Joyce and Jeanne Jensen. *Index to Irish Films at the Family History Library*, 5 vols. Salt Lake City: Privately Published, n.d. This index has been microfilmed by the Family History Library. Each volume has an index A-Z, so all five volumes must be consulted. (See table at end for a list of microfilms indexed in this publication.)

Volume	FHL Microfilm	Item Number
1	1,559,440	11
2	1,696,675	9
3	1,145,946	2
4	1,145,974	8
5	1,162,455	6

Un-indexed collections should be approached in a similar manner to mining the destination data in the emigrant ancestor's settlement. The records should be examined in a ranked order (roughly) from lineage-linked to un-linked.

Organized by record type, the records should be examined in this order:

- Pedigree sketches (lineage linked)
- Census or census substitutes
- Vital records, church record abstracts
- Probate records – wills and administrations
- Land records
- Chancery, Exchequer and other court records
- Directories and lists of people
- Newspaper extracts

Automated Tools

Using Excel spreadsheets, Word tables, or database management systems like Access will allow you to stage and correlate the evidence you have gathered from record sources. Genealogical information may be entered directly into the spreadsheets as the data is gathered, or existing copies and extracts can be used to create working evidential worksheets.

Record Types

Sketch Pedigrees

In many instances, the originator of the collection has already begun the process of compiling the abstracted data into lineage-linked family groups. You should check their analysis and see if you concur with the conclusions. You may have additional data that either augments the conclusion or invalidates it.

The vast majority of these sketch pedigrees have been compiled from probate and church records. Look for copies of the original abstracts within the body of the collection.

Census and Census Substitutes

Conventional census records for Ireland are rare prior to 1901, but many copies and abstracts exist in the genealogical collections of the noted antiquarians and genealogists of the period. All of the known census abstracts for a given area should be examined for clues to your family. In some instances, the names of family members may have been recorded due to their occupation, such as servants within a given household.

Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths or Burials

These may be abstracted and sorted directly into the tables. This will allow you to correlate births and baptisms

to the marriages and burials and sort them into family groups. Witnesses, sponsors and god parents may also be correlated into relational groupings.

To set up the spreadsheet, include all of the available elements and columns to correlate the evidence. Excel is useful due to the feature that allows the addition of comments to each box. This allows you to track your thinking and conclusions as you reconstruct the context of the family groupings.

Examine the list and ask:

- Are there patterns to establish possible family groups?
- Do any of the dates within these possible family groups conflict to expose possible parents with the same name?
- Are there gaps in the registers that are important – did you remember to note them?

Name Lists

Multiple name lists may be correlated using other identifiers in the lists to help sort persons of the same name and multi-generations. Start by creating a separate area/space for each candidate. As you examine the data, these will begin to merge as you identify same individuals originally believed to be two persons of the same name.

Land Records

Land records require an approach that stages and correlates all of the property owned or leased by an individual. An approach that many genealogists prefer is to create an In/Out table. The 'In' data details all of the pieces of property acquired. The 'Out' data accounts for the disposition of each piece of property through sale or inheritance. The missing deeds or pieces of property unaccounted for in the ensuing analysis open the trail of records to be further explored.

In Ireland, it is possible that deeds may have pre-dated the Registry of Deeds holdings in Dublin or that additional leases need to be located in the estate papers of the large landed estates.

Probate Records

The best of the genealogical sources are the probate records. They often list relationships that may be difficult to establish through other means. Pay particular attention to collections of wills and administrations of the Catholic Clergy since they were unmarried and often named parents, siblings, nephews and nieces.

The Chancery, Exchequer, Kings (Queens) Bench and Common Pleas records offer a wide variety of data elements due to the nature of the records. When sworn testimony is given in the depositions, they can often establish relationships and the names of close associates and/or business partners in a given area.

Conclusion

Genealogical collections offer a wealth of material to the advanced researcher willing to plough through the seemingly un-indexed and unorganized material. The richness of the picture of a given community comes to life when the material is correlated with known facts about a family or group of families and framed with the history of the area, its resources, religious history, and cultural fabric.

Genealogical Office Collection Indexed - FHL Microfilms:
Virginia Wade McAnlis

MICROFILM	INDEX VOL.	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL.	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL.
100,103	McAnlis	100,131	McAnlis	100,192	McAnlis
100,104	McAnlis	100,133	McAnlis	100,193	McAnlis
100,105	McAnlis	100,134	McAnlis	100,196	McAnlis
100,106	McAnlis	100,135	McAnlis	100,197	McAnlis
100,107	McAnlis	100,136	McAnlis	100,201	McAnlis
100,108	McAnlis	100,137	McAnlis	100,202	McAnlis
100.109	McAnlis	100,138	McAnlis	100,203	McAnlis
100,110	McAnlis	100,141	McAnlis	100,204	McAnlis
100,111	McAnlis	100,144	McAnlis	100,205	McAnlis
100,112	McAnlis	100,145	McAnlis	100,208	McAnlis
100,113	McAnlis	100,146	McAnlis	100,211	McAnlis
100,116	McAnlis	100,153	McAnlis	100,212	McAnlis

Genealogical Office Collection Indexed - FHL Microfilms: Virginia Wade McAnlis - Continued

MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL
100,117	McAnlis	100,156	McAnlis	100,238	McAnlis
100,118	McAnlis	100,159	McAnlis	100,241	McAnlis
100,119	McAnlis	100,160	McAnlis	100,242	McAnlis
100,120	McAnlis	100,161	McAnlis	100,243	McAnlis
100,121	McAnlis	100,162	McAnlis	100,244	McAnlis
100,129	McAnlis	100,163	McAnlis	100,245	McAnlis
100,130	McAnlis	100,187	McAnlis	100,246	McAnlis

FHL Microfilms of Irish Genealogical Collections Indexed by Joyce Parsons and Jeanne Jensen

MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL
101,011	Parsons – 1	258,816	Parsons – 5	581,926	Parsons – 1
101,012	Parsons – 1	258,817	Parsons – 5	581,927	Parsons – 1
101,013	Parsons – 1	258,818	Parsons – 5	581,928	Parsons – 1
101,014	Parsons – 1	258,819	Parsons – 5	581,929	Parsons – 1
101,015	Parsons – 1	258,820	Parsons – 5	581,930	Parsons – 1
101,016	Parsons – 1	258,821	Parsons – 5	581,931	Parsons – 1
101,017	Parsons – 1	258,822	Parsons – 5	581,932	Parsons – 1
101,018	Parsons – 1	496,361	Parsons – 1	581,933	Parsons – 1
101,019	Parsons – 1	496,362	Parsons – 1	592,932	Parsons – 1
101,020	Parsons – 1	496,363	Parsons – 1	592,933	Parsons – 1
255,803	Parsons – 5	496,364	Parsons – 1	592,934	Parsons – 1
255,804	Parsons – 5	496,365	Parsons – 1	592,935	Parsons – 1
257,841	Parsons – 1	496,366	Parsons – 1	592,936	Parsons – 1
257,842	Parsons – 1	496,367	Parsons – 1	592,937	Parsons – 1
257,843	Parsons – 1	496,368	Parsons – 1	592,938	Parsons – 1
258,561	Parsons – 4	496,369	Parsons – 1	592,939	Parsons – 1
258,562	Parsons – 4	496,370	Parsons – 1	592,940	Parsons – 1
258,563	Parsons – 4	496,371	Parsons – 1	592,941	Parsons – 1
258,564	Parsons – 4	496,372	Parsons – 1	592,942	Parsons – 1
258,565	Parsons – 4	496,373	Parsons – 1	592,943	Parsons – 1
258,566	Parsons – 4	496,374	Parsons – 1	592,944	Parsons – 1
258,567	Parsons – 4	496,375	Parsons – 1	592,952	Parsons – 1
258,568	Parsons – 4	496,376	Parsons – 1	592,953	Parsons – 1
258,793	Parsons – 3	496,377	Parsons – 1	592,954	Parsons – 1
258,794	Parsons – 3	496,378	Parsons – 1	593,622	Parsons – 1
258,795	Parsons – 3	496,379	Parsons – 1	593,623	Parsons – 1
258,796	Parsons – 3	496,380	Parsons – 1	593,624	Parsons – 1
258,797	Parsons – 3	496,381	Parsons – 1	593,625	Parsons – 1

FHL Microfilms of Irish Genealogical Collections Indexed by Joyce Parsons and Jeanne Jensen

MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL
258,798	Parsons – 3	496,382	Parsons – 1	593,626	Parsons – 1
258,799	Parsons – 3	496,383	Parsons – 1	593,627	Parsons – 1
258,800	Parsons – 3	496,384	Parsons – 1	593,628	Parsons – 1
258,801	Parsons – 3	496,385	Parsons – 1	593,629	Parsons – 1
258,802	Parsons – 3	496,386	Parsons – 1	593,630	Parsons – 1
258,803	Parsons – 4	496,387	Parsons – 1	593,631	Parsons – 1
258,805	Parsons – 3	496,388	Parsons – 1	593,632	Parsons – 1
258,806	Parsons – 3	496,389	Parsons – 1	593,633	Parsons – 1
258,807	Parsons – 5	496,390	Parsons – 1	593,634	Parsons – 1
258,808	Parsons – 5	496,391	Parsons – 1	593,635	Parsons – 1
258,809	Parsons – 5	496,392	Parsons – 1	593,636	Parsons – 1
258,810	Parsons – 5	496,393	Parsons – 1-2	593,637	Parsons – 1
258.811	Parsons – 5	496,394	Parsons – 1	593,638	Parsons – 1
258,812	Parsons – 5	496,395	Parsons – 1	593,639	Parsons – 1
258,813	Parsons – 5	579,477	Parsons – 1	593,640	Parsons – 1
258,814	Parsons – 5	579,478	Parsons – 1	593,641	Parsons – 1
258,815	Parsons – 5	581,925	Parsons – 1	593,642	Parsons – 1

FHL Microfilms of Irish Genealogical Collections Indexed by: Joyce Parsons and Jeanne Jensen

MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL	MICROFILM	INDEX VOL
593,643	Parsons – 1	595,361	Parsons – 1	596,411	Parsons – 2
593,644	Parsons – 1	595,362	Parsons – 1	596,412	Parsons – 2
593,645	Parsons – 1	595,363	Parsons – 1	596,413	Parsons – 2
593,646	Parsons – 1	595,364	Parsons – 1	596,414	Parsons – 2
593,647	Parsons – 1	595,365	Parsons – 1	596,415	Parsons – 2
593,648	Parsons – 1	595,366	Parsons – 1	596,416	Parsons – 2
593,649	Parsons – 1	595,367	Parsons – 1	596,417	Parsons – 2
593,653	Parsons – 1	595,368	Parsons – 1	596,418	Parsons – 2
593,654	Parsons – 1	595,369	Parsons – 1	596,419	Parsons – 2
593,655	Parsons – 1	595,370	Parsons – 1	596,420	Parsons – 2
593,656	Parsons – 1	595,937	Parsons – 1	596,421	Parsons – 2
593,657	Parsons – 1	595,938	Parsons – 1	596,422	Parsons – 2
593,658	Parsons – 1	596,408	Parsons – 2	823,473	Parsons – 1
595,359	Parsons – 1	596,409	Parsons – 2	823,474	Parsons – 1
595,360	Parsons – 1	596,410	Parsons – 2	823,475	Parsons – 1

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.

Irish Research: Finding Manuscripts and Journals Anywhere

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

Searching far-flung manuscripts and journals from around the world in search of our Irish ancestors has become streamlined, thanks to the National Library of Ireland. The library has been digitizing its holdings and now offers a snappy search feature called *Sources*, an online index to the Hayes Catalogue. Tom Rice, managing editor of *The Septs*, describes it as "probably the best tool for finding manuscripts and articles relating to things Irish, many of which may have genealogical value."

Hayes Manuscript Sources (Hayes Catalogue

Richard J. Hayes, a National Library director, believed the library should collect "all *sources* of information on everything relating to Ireland or to Irishmen for all periods." His team set out in 1941 to find and index Irish manuscripts and important Irish journals all across the globe. The project located more than 100,000 manuscripts, took more than 30 years to complete, and covered a thousand libraries in 30 countries.

This collection breaks out into manuscripts and periodicals:

- *History of Irish Civilisation*, ed. Richard J. Hayes (11 volumes, 1965, and 3 supplementary volumes, 1975)
- *Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation: Articles in Irish Periodicals* (9 volumes, 1970)

The 23-volume collection is composed of 17,000 pages of indexes. Card catalogs were collated, photographed and printed, then bound in folios. The catalog was available in only a few libraries and archives around the world. Researchers needed to go in person to an archive holding the catalog.

Sources: A National Library of Ireland database for Irish Research

Now the NLI has encoded and digitized the Hayes Catalogue and uploaded it as free online index, *Sources*, at <www.sources.nli>. According to County Kildare Online, "People can retrieve any one of up to 196,574 records of materials housed in the National Library of Ireland or in the universities and research institutions around the world. Subjects covered in the materials range from art, architecture and archeology through economics and genealogy to history, politics, literature, science and zoology." These include

- All the National Library's **manuscripts** through the 1980s as well as Irish manuscripts held in other repositories across the world at the time of compilation, between the 1940s and the 1970s. The index notes
    - Title
    - Location of manuascript
    - Manuscript reference number
- Articles from more than 150 Irish periodicals dating from 1785 to 1969. The index notes
    - Author
    - Title
    - Citation reference number
    - How to access the periodical

Genealogist and blogger Nicholas Wolf writes that *Sources* "provides a list of potential subject categories related to the results, rather than guessing what wording and terminology the catalogue has assigned to various items."

A Walk Through the Process

Let's say you are researching the Watson family of County Armagh. In the family history you have collected are several references to the town of Portadown.

Go to the *Sources* database directly at <http://sources.nli.ie>. Currently, in the beta version, you can search by using the "find" box at the top of the page. Search *Sources* by "All Fields," "Title," People," and "Subject."

- Since "All Fields" will bring the most results, type into the box: Armagh, Portadown, Watson. If there are no returns from this search, it indicates that all three terms are not mentioned together in the same manuscript or articles.
- Searching for Armagh, Portadown, however, brings up 53 results. Scan through all the entries to see if anything of interest appears. Alternatively, look to the right-hand column to filter your results.
    - A lead that may be worth following is the listing "Copies of extracts from wills, marriage licenses, Hearthmoney roll, 1664, Portadown, list of freeholders Drumcree parish, subsidy roll, 1634 and other papers made by Canon Leslie relating to residents near Portadown

and the Whaley, Carter, Obins Workman and other families, 17th-18th century."
  - Clicking this entry reveals that it is a manuscript and that it is archived in Belfast, in the Belfast Public Record Office, T.281.
  - On this page, a column on the right-hand side lists "Similar Items" that may be helpful to the searcher. In this case, there is further mention of the Obins family, which appeared in the listing.
- Typing "Watson Portadown" into the Find box results in one listing.
  - "Copy Codicil to will of M. Forde of Seaforde, Co. Down, Dec., 1837. Chancery scheme, March, 1919 concerning estate of W.J. Watson, Portadown."
  - This manuscript is also located in the Belfast Public Record Office, T155-156.
- Finally, we check to see what is available about the history of County Armagh, so into the Find box goes "County Armagh history".
  - The first entry is "County Armagh: toponymy and history".
  - This is noted as an article from the journal, Proceedings of the Irish Catholic Historical Committee.
  - Indicated below the notation is the journal archived at the National Library of Ireland with its call number.
  - Under the heading "Elsewhere," click on Use WorldCat to discover where else the journal might be held, and you'll discover that the journal is also available at The British Library.

Good to Know

- Researchers may filter by eight categories:
  - Resource type: journal or manuscript
  - Subjects, such as Irish Abroad or Army
  - People: names of individuals
  - Dates: to narrow time period of interest
  - Places
  - Journal items
  - Archive holdings
  - Collections
- Note in the example of the "Armagh Portadown" search that the "Copies of extracts of wills…" manuscript shows names of people in the Portadown area.
  - This manuscript does not appear in the results when filtering "Armagh Portadown" by Subject and then by Directories and Lists of People.
  - With this online database, it's a good idea to check extended lists as well as filtered results.
- Names of archival institutions appear in Sources as they were at the time the records were gathered. For instance, if Sources shows a location as "Dublin: Public Records Office" or "Dublin: State Paper Office," the actual location today is the National Archives of Ireland.

Obtaining Copies

- For the National Library of Ireland, order copies of periodical articles from the Reprographics department using citation details (including page numbers) and the call numbers shown on the records.
- For manuscript items held at the NLI, order from the Manuscript department. Find details for ordering manuscript items at Copying Services on the main NLI website.
- For other repositories, make a request directly to the organization that holds the material.

Give *Sources* a try, whether you are looking for a particular family or simply wish to get a flavor for Irish places in different time periods. You'll find the information more accessible than you might have imagined.

Kathleen Strickland holds a degree in history from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and has been her family genealogist for many years. While studying history, she developed a flair for research that motivated her to follow up on the many family stories her mother and grandmother had passed along to her. She now provides research, ghost-writing and editing assistance through her personal and business support services company, the Get~it~Done Gurus.

Using Your Internet Browser's Standard Features

by Mary Wickersham

Web browsers access and download information on a web page to the browser on your personal computer and hand-held devices for display. Your computer's browser interprets the information from the web page in order to make it visible on your device's display. Because not all monitors are the same, what you see on your browser may not fit another person's screen the same way. You should be able to see all the content; the display just looks different across different types of browsers and displays.

Browsers perform the same basic operations using Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) to find files on the World Wide Web, download them to your device, and display them.

Key browser features for genealogists include multiple browser tabs, bookmarks, history, and cookies.

Browser Tabs

Browsers provide for multiple pages to be open within one copy of your browser software. This comes in particularly handy to move back and forth between two pages – even of the same website. Click a file-card tab to the right of where your current page title is displayed. Or, press and hold Ctrl (Command on Mac) while you hit the letter "T". You can have multiple tabs opened to the same web site. I frequently have two or more tabs opened to different views of Ancestry.com results, such as census records.

Bookmarks

Browsers store and organize "bookmarks" (some browsers refer to these as "favorites"). This allows you to save a link to a web site you want to revisit, to a list of favorites. You access this feature from the top of your browser's window.

When you find a useful web page, use Bookmarks/Favorites, then Add, to save the link to the web page you are viewing.

After some time saving favorites, you will find your list is growing, and you can find sites more quickly if bookmarks were organized into groups. And, within those groups, further breakouts. Use bookmarks/organize, add folders for each of your groups. Then drag and drop your existing bookmarks into the folders.

For genealogy bookmarks, use whatever fits with how you organize topics in your head:

- Ireland
  - General
  - Clare
  - Tipperary

History

If you forgot to bookmark that web page you found so useful yesterday, click History to see a list of the most recently visited web pages. You should be able to link on the entry on the drop-down menu to go back to that page.

Cookies

Cookies are small pieces of data which are stored on your computer. After a cookie is downloaded from a web site, the information stored will be uploaded the next time to visit that site. A good example of this is when you register with a web site and check the box "remember me." If your computer's security permits it, the user name will be stored on your device. Next time you connect to that web site, the information in the cookie is passed to the website, so your username or a welcome message can be displayed.

Browser Navigation

Usually forward and back arrows on the browser are enough to move around through a series of web pages. If you receive an error message, it's probably because you were searching within a database, so you won't be able to use the back arrow to go back to the last results list.

My favorite: use Ctrl (Command on Macs) and F to search within a browser window. This works really well with cemetery transcriptions and other pages with lengthy lists of information. Look for the "next" and "previous" arrows or links, to quickly hunt through a lengthy page.

Browsers, as simple as they appear, are sophisticated. Explore the options or preferences (usually available under Tools) for setting up your security, home pages (you can have multiple tabs open automatically when you launch your browser!), printing preferences, and many other options.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is a current IGSI Board member and past IGSI officer. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

Use Newspapers to Create Context for Genealogical Facts

by J.H. Fonkert, CG

Some genealogists have diaries or family letters that relate stories of daily life. If you are not among these fortunate, consider turning to newspapers. Newspapers from your ancestor's lifetime are one of the best sources for details of family and community life that will create social, economic and historical context around basic genealogical facts.

Preserved old newspapers are like time capsules of our ancestors' lives just waiting to be opened by family historians. Newspapers chronicled events large and small. Especially in smaller cities and towns, newspapers were at bit like today's Internet social networks – a place for people and organizations to share their day-to-day news. Most genealogists look in newspapers for obituaries, engagement and wedding stories, and sometimes birth reports, but newspapers offer much more. Their contents offer glimpses of family and community life and paint a backdrop of socio-economic and historical trends.

To learn about using newspapers in Irish research, you will want to dig out the January 2011 (vol. 32, no. 1) issue of *The Septs*. In that issue, Alison Clare Emery showed how she used small town newspapers to answer questions about her McNevin family. This article uses examples from Fonkert, Tidball and Fawkner family research to illustrate how material from old newspapers can enliven family history.

What You Can Find

Small-town newspapers tend to reveal more intimate details of family life and are easier to search than large urban papers. They reported accidents and illnesses, parties and social gatherings, visits to out-of-town relatives, school and church events, and small business news. Most news about your family will likely come in small doses in sections of the paper devoted to church or school news, or gossipy reports from correspondents in small towns around the county. The odds of finding your family mentioned in larger urban newspapers are probably lower, unless your ancestors were prominent in business or politics or were party to crime or scandal.

Church and Society. Churches were a center of social life. Mrs. Aubrey Tidball (Carrie Ehlenbach) gave a talk on "The Extent and Location of the Countries of Latin America" at a meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of the First Christian Church of Duluth, Minnesota.[1] At another meeting, her mother-in-law, Mrs. John Tidball, gave a presentation on the work of Henry Stanley in Africa.[2]

Politics and Civic Affairs. Newspaper searches reveal a number of things about Thomas Tidball: he was a Sunday school superintendent, he wrote letters to the editor supporting temperance,[3] and he was a delegate to the state prohibition convention.

Health. Over the years, local newspapers reported John Fonkert's encounters with mumps, sunstroke and other ailments, offering clues about his health. "John Fonkert of Hospers suffered a broken shoulder Jan. 21st while crossing a street in Orange City. Mr. Fonkert had transacted business at the court house and was on his way to his car when he suffered the injury." [4]

Good Times. Parties always made for good reading. In late November after the harvest, the young farmers got out for a "Blue rock shoot." Plenty of turkeys, ducks and geese sent the boys home "well satisfied."[5]

Dinner parties, birthday parties and anniversaries made happy news. A report of John and Kate Fonkert's 25th wedding anniversary was full of good cheer and hinted at their standing in the community.

> A large crowd of relatives and friends were present to congratulate them… Mr. and Mrs. Fonkert have lived in this vicinity all these years and are highly respected. They may not have accumulated a barrel full of money during these years, but they have raised a fine family and have played square with their fellow man.[6]

Reports of parties whether family affairs or high society give a flavor of how people entertained themselves.

> Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Tidball, 2815 Minnesota Avenue, entertained at a swimming and beach party Friday night

> in compliment to their house guest, Miss Barbara Teacore of Minneapolis… A swimming frolic was indulged in until 9 o'clock, when a marshmallow roast on the beach was enjoyed. Later refreshments were served at the house. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Ames, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Risdon, Rev. Mr. Mae and Mr. Mae, Mrs. Esther Tischer, Miss Greta Clark, Miss Edith Blackwood, Miss Geneva Ehlenbach, Miss Glenn Blackwood, Ben Sender, Clifford Cohagen of Seattle, William and Clarence Langster.[7]

Party guest lists are good clues to relatives and associates. In this case, Lawrence Ames was married to the Tidball's daughter.

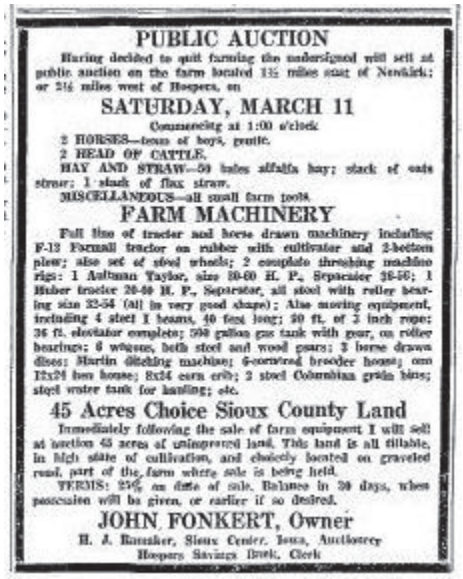
Business. Over several years, newspapers may chronicle events in an ancestor's small business or farm. Gossipy newspaper reports give glimpses of ups and downs in John Fonkert's farm business over the years.

> 1904 – Gerrit Beyer is busy cutting down the cottonwood trees on P. H. De Jong's place. He has purchased a portable saw mill, and with the help of John Fonkert and the latter's threshing engine will saw the trees into lumber…[8]

> 1910 – Being unable to procure competent help I am compelled to sell one of my Traction Engines. I will sell my sixteen horse Advance engine. This is an all purpose engine – just the engine to have on the farm. Will burn cobs, wood or coal and will do all a gas engine can do and more too. It will pull the road grader or three gang plows.[9]

> 1914 – John Fonkert has purchased a Ford automobile.[10]

John Fonkert put his farm up for sale at auction in March 1944. A newspaper advertisement gives details not found in land records. For sale were 45 acres of unimproved land, two horses, two head of cattle, 50 bales of alfalfa hay, a stack of oats straw and a stack of flax straw – really not much, even in 1944. The good stuff was the farm machinery – "a full line of tractor and horse drawn machinery – including a Farmall tractor, two complete threshing rigs, a 36-foot elevator, six wagons, three horse-drawn discs, a corn crib and grain bins.[11]



PUBLIC AUCTION

Having decided to quit farming the undersigned will sell at public auction on the farm located 1½ miles east of Newkirk; or 2½ miles west of Hospers, on

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Commencing at 1:00 o'clock

2 HORSES—team of boys, gentle.

2 HEAD OF CATTLE.

HAY AND STRAW—50 bales alfalfa hay; stack of oats straw; 1 stack of flax straw.

MISCELLANEOUS—all small farm tools.

FARM MACHINERY

Full line of tractor and horse drawn machinery including F-12 Farmall tractor on rubber with cultivator and 2-bottom plow; also set of steel wheels; 2 complete threshing machine rigs: 1 Aultman Taylor, size 30-60 H. P., Separator 36-56; 1 Huber tractor 20-40 H. P., Separator, all steel with roller bearing size 32-54 (all in very good shape); Also moving equipment, including 4 steel I beams, 40 feet long; 20 ft. of 3 inch rope; 36 ft. elevator complete; 500 gallon gas tank with gear, on roller bearings; 6 wagons, both steel and wood gears; 3 horse drawn discs; Martin ditching machine; 6-cornered brooder house; corn 12x24 hen house; 8x24 corn crib; 2 steel Columbian grain bins; steel water tank for hauling; etc.

45 Acres Choice Sioux County Land

Immediately following the sale of farm equipment I will sell at auction 45 acres of unimproved land. This land is all tillable, in high state of cultivation, and choicely located on graveled road, part of the farm where sale is being held.

TERMS: 25% on date of sale. Balance in 30 days, when possession will be given, or earlier if so desired.

JOHN FONKERT, Owner

H. J. Ramaker, Sioux Center, Iowa, Auctioneer

Hospers Savings Bank, Clerk

Trouble. Crime and scandal always made news, but newspapers often took note of less serious offenses. Surname searches in online indexes may turn up unexpected life events.

George's fortunes improved after he moved to St. Paul, but mishaps still occurred. In the summer of 1893, Fawkner's team of horse ran over a young boy at First and Nicollet in Minneapolis. "Mr. Fawkner immediately placed the lad in his carriage and drove to a doctor's office, where his injuries were attended to."[12]

Placing Events in Socio-economic and Historical Context

As you browse old newspapers for birth notices, engagement announcements or obituaries pay attention to the rest of the news. Front page news of national or world events, courthouse news, sports pages and advertisements give a flavor of what was going on around your family.

News of the World. What was happening at important moments in your ancestor's life? What was in the news when grandma graduated from high school or walked down the aisle? Granted, world or national news might not have been foremost in her mind on those days, but current

events might have influenced her plans for the future. Was the hometown booming? Was war on the horizon? Was a drought withering crops?

Material Culture.
A wedding story often gave a colorful description of what the bride and bridesmaids wore, but advertisements showed the fashions appearing in store windows. You can take a look at the movie ads to see what movies were playing. Who were the big stars? What did a Friday night date cost? Take a look at the grocery store ads. What did a pound of chuck roast or a loaf of bread cost?

Issues of the Day. Small town newspapers' strength was local news, but they also covered state and national news. What were the hot button issues? What were your ancestors likely talking about at the dinner table?

How to Find It. The United States is a newspaper-rich country. The U.S. Newspaper Directory includes more than 140,000 newspapers from 1690 to the present. To search the directory, go to the Chronicling America website <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> and on the far right-side of the page click on "U.S. Newspaper Directory."

Most old newspapers are available only on microfilm. The U.S. Newspaper Program <http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html> has supported projects in every state to preserve, catalog and microfilm old newspapers. The project's website has links to eight national newspaper collection repositories <http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html#ENR>. The U.S. National Digital Newspaper Program <http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>, a partnership between the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities, produces the LC's Chronicling America database.

If newspapers from your ancestor's community have been microfilmed, sitting and scrolling through microfilm can be worthwhile. However, searchable online indexes of digitized newspapers make it easier to find articles about your ancestors. The largest searchable databases include

- **Chronicling America** <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>. Free.
- **NewspaperArchive.com** <www.newspaperarchive.com>. Fee-based.
- **GenealogyBank** <http://www.genealogybank.com/gbnk/>. Fee-based.
- **Ancestry.com Historical Newspaper Collection** <www.ancestry.com>. Fee-based.

Free Newspaper Archives <http://freenewspaperarchives.us/default.aspx> is a portal to a variety of free newspaper databases. Your library may offer access to other full-text newspaper archives, including ProQuest Historical Newspapers and America's Historical Newspapers. These services cover mostly large city dailies.

The coverage of online newspaper databases varies widely. Some databases include only a few issues or years of a particular title. A database may include several "successor" titles reflecting a single publication's name changes over time. Different indexes return different results for the same search, so try more than one. The indexes are dependent on optical character recognition technology, which sometimes misreads fuzzy or unusually formed type-face. Try searching with variant spellings.

The only certain way to catch every article of interest in a series of issues is to read them column by column on microfilm. Check the catalogs of state historical societies, archives, the Family History Library, and university and public libraries to locate microfilm editions of newspapers.

End Notes

1 *Duluth (MN) News Tribune*, 18 October 1916, p. 7.

2 *Duluth (MN) News Tribune*, 12 December 1917, p.7.

3 "Does Not Want Patrol Limits Extended," *Duluth News Tribune*, 11 April 1912, p. 8.

4 *Hawarden (IA) Independent*, 20 January 1936, p. 3.

5 *Alton Democrat*, 1 December 1910, p. 3

6 *Hospers (IA) Tribune*, 2 March 1928, p. 5.

7 *Duluth News Tribune*, 20 August 1916, p. 6.

8 "Thirty Years Ago," *Alton (IA) Democrat*, 21 September 1934, p. 2.

9 *Alton Democrat*, 20 August 1910, p. 4, and 27 August 1920, p. 4.

10 *Alton (IA) Democrat*, 11 April 1914, p. 3.

11 *Alton Democrat*, 9 March 1944, p. 3.

12 "Minneapolis Globules," *St. Paul Daily Globe*, 14 July 1893, p. 3.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified GenealogistSM 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.

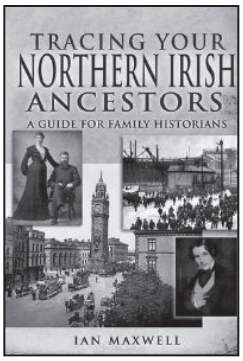
Local Genealogical Resources: Author Ian Maxwell

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

This is a departure from previous articles in this series. As I was doing some searches in *Google* trying to find information about the county I had chosen for this particular article I found a previously unknown (to me) book written by Ian Maxwell. Although the books that are discussed in this article do not contain information about resources in local (county) libraries, readers with Northern Ireland ancestry will find his books extremely helpful and informative.

Maxwell is well qualified to write about genealogical resources of Northern Ireland. He graduated from Queen's University in Belfast. For many years he was a Records Officer in the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) Search Room. During his time there he wrote a series of leaflets on genealogical sources that can be accessed from the Internet. Links to the PRONI leaflets can be found at <www.proni.gov.uk/index/research_and_records_held/catalogues_guides_indexes_and_leaflets/information_leaflets.htm#yourfamilytreeseries>.

Tracing Your Northern Irish Ancestors: A Guide for Family Historians. Barnsley, England: Pen & Sword Family History, 2010.



There are 19 chapters in this book. The first chapter covers basic research strategies, gives an overview of PRONI, the Linen Hall Library, the Belfast Central Library, and local libraries (generic), and briefly mentions the North of Ireland Family History Society. The other chapters discuss

- census records
- civil registration
- 17th and 18th century records
- the Plantation of Ulster
- church records
- school records
- valuation and tithe records
- landed estate records
- wills and testamentary records
- various printed sources (Ordnance Survey Memoirs, directories, and newspapers)

local government records including Grand Jury, Corporations, and County Council

military records

electoral records

law and order resources

emigration
miscellaneous collections (solicitors', business, Orange Order, hospital, charity, pedigrees and the Ulster Covenant of 1912).

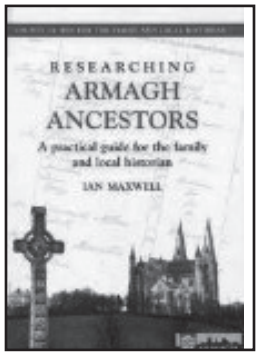
Maxwell does a wonderful job of describing the various resources. Reference numbers (film or manuscript) or website addresses are given for many of the resources that are found at PRONI. If the Family History Library has the resource in its collection, this too is noted although film or book numbers are not cited. In some cases information is found in periodicals. The name and issue of the periodical is identified.

The book also contains examples of many of the resources Maxwell discusses. The chapter on poor law records lists by name some people who were admitted to the workhouse along with their ages, details about their health, places of residence and the date of admission. This information is found in an account book for the Lurgan, County Armagh Board of Guardians. Another reference that is cited comes from the chapter on printed sources. Miss Ellen Price, a 22 year old woman from County Fermanagh, sued to recover damages for the alleged breach of promise concerning her impending marriage to Thomas Robert Thompson. Details about the broken engagement are listed in the 4 May 1904 *Fermanagh News*.

Maxwell lists several obscure sources that many researchers might not be aware of. A number of church censuses are noted as are registers of trees (a census substitute covering 1800s and early 1900s). Of particular interest are the stock returns of 1803. These returns of dead and living livestock are from 40 maritime parishes in County Down. The names of the owners and their residences are included.

The Appendix lists major repositories, heritage centres, and societies. Addresses, phone numbers, and email and website address, if there are any, are given.

Researching Armagh Ancestors: A Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian. Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2000.



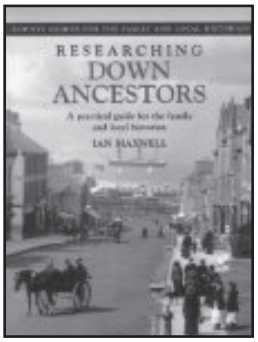
This book includes eight chapters, a bibliography and several appendices. The introduction gives background information about County Armagh and a historical overview of Ulster Province including events that contributed to "the troubles."

The first chapter is a generic description or how-to for researching Armagh ancestors. The chapters that follow deal with various records sources including ones listed in his book about Northern Ireland. Specific resources for County Armagh are identified (e.g., various church and school records) as well as PRONI repository codes for the manuscripts/films.

Some specific examples are cited for some of the sources. For example, a list of people who were not allowed to vote in 1753 indicates that Rich Crump and Wm Simons were married to Papists; Silas Hamilton was a Rioter; and Robert Jones was seen at Mass and gave offerings to the Priest.

Appendix 3 is particularly useful. It lists in alphabetical order the various townlands in County Armagh along with each townland's civil parish, barony, poor law union, and district electoral division. Appendix 4 is another geographical resource listing unofficial placenames, and the townland, civil parish, and Ordnance Survey map reference of each. The last two appendices are boundary maps showing the civil and Catholic parishes of County Armagh.

Researching Down Ancestors: A Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian. Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2004.



This book is similar in content to the one for County Armagh but more expansive. It contains 16 chapters and several

appendices. The section on the peoples of Down includes statistical information by country (English and Irish), religion, and a table of the most common surnames. The chapter on church records not only lists the various churches that are found in each civil parish but gives details about the church records that exist and PRONI reference numbers for the records. The bibliography is much more extensive and includes a list of local history journals (periodicals). Like the Armagh book, this one also includes appendices listing townlands and unofficial placenames.

The chapter on landed estate records lists various County Down estate record holdings that are found in PRONI. They are arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the estate. A list of encumbered estate rentals that are found in PRONI follows. Finally, Maxwell gives a brief summary of the major land acts from 1870 to 1903.

Through his books, Ian Maxwell provides invaluable help for people looking for their County Down or Armagh ancestors. In the book about researching Northern Ireland ancestors he provides generic help in the form of information directed at specific record sources. His books serve as a catalog to PRONI repository codes for hundreds of resources. They are, however, some years old. New resources have since been added to this archive. Be sure to consult the PRONI catalog and finding aids for additional information.

Details are lacking about records found in local (county) repositories. Since Maxwell worked at PRONI, this national repository was the focus of his books. Over the course of this series of articles information will be provided about local genealogical resources for Counties Armagh and Down that are found in other repositories.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

"Ireland Reaching Out" Goes National!

Ireland Reaching Out (Ireland XO) Diaspora project is based on a simple idea; instead of waiting for Irish-Americans and their global counterparts to come to Ireland to trace their roots, we go the other way. Working through voluntary effort at a townland, village and parish level, we identify who left and trace them and their descendants worldwide, proactively engaging with them and inviting them to become part of an extended "virtual" community with their place of origin.

The project held an inaugural "Week of Welcomes" in June 2011, which invited members of the diaspora in the US, UK, Australia and New Zealand back to their parish of origin in South-East Galway proved the success of this initiative. Ireland Reaching Out is now being rolled-out to 2,500 parishes North and South.

While Ireland XO parish volunteers are reaching out around the world, the project's website <www.irelandxo.com> provides a landing point in Ireland for people abroad who have some detail about where their emigrant ancestors came from in Ireland. By joining any parish community online, they can seek direct genealogical research assistance from local people in the area who also volunteer to meet them on their return.

This "Meet/Greet/Connect" offer from parish communities across Ireland has been identified as a missing element from developing the Irish Diaspora in times past. The Ireland XO project is enabled today by the harnessing of the best of modern communications and internet technology, combined by the simple welcome and hospitality for which Ireland is known and celebrated worldwide.

Speaking of the project, An Taoiseach said that "… Ireland Reaching Out has shown how 'reverse genealogy' can engage the diaspora to bring real social and economic benefits down to parish level."

Find These Books at the IGSI Bookstore

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.) 3rd edition *Sale Price $15.00*

Genealogy at a Glance: Irish Genealogy Research

Brian Mitchell

This work is the inaugural publication in a new "how-to" series. Designed to cover the basic elements of genealogical research in just four pages, the "Genealogy at a Glance" series gives you as much useful information in the space allotted as you'll probably ever need. Brian Mitchell is the compiler of the Irish pamphlet. (4 pp) *Cost: $8.95*

A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland

Brian Mitchell

A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland has established itself as a key resource in Irish genealogical research. The maps detailing the location of Roman Catholic parishes in all thirty-two counties of Ireland and Presbyterian congregations in the nine counties of Northern Ireland, moves the book to the forefront of Irish genealogical research. Also, for the first time ever, this one volume contains a complete geographical picture of the three major religious denominations in Ireland during the middle years of the 19th century. (175 pp) *Cost: $26.00*

Richard Griffith And His Valuations Of Ireland

Reilly, James R.

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) *Cost: $25.95*

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South St. Paul, MN 55075

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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*

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April - July 2012
Irish Saturday Classes

April 14, 2012 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Irish Records in Canada
Kathy Lund, Instructor
This class will cover how to locate records on the Irish in Canada, what records are available and how and where to access them.

May 12, 2012 12:30 -2:00 PM
Class Title: Irish Research Websites
Mary Wickersham, Instructor
This class covers a current introduction to all of Mary's favorite Irish Research Websites. Mary for an overview of her top free and subscription websites. Learn what information each website covers and receive helpful research hints.

June 9, 2012 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Why is Griffith's Valuation Important and What Can it Tell Me?
Beth Vought, Instructor
Is Griffith's Valuation still a mystery to you? Do you still wonder how it can be important to you with your search for your ancestor in Ireland? How can you figure out when there are many with the same name, which one is your ancestor? This class may give you some insight. We'll start with the basic concept of what Griffith's is, then go on to when it may be beneficial for you to use it, and all the information you may get from it.

June 9, 2012 (2nd Class) 12:30-2:00 PM
Class Title: PRONI Wills Online
Beth Vought, Instructor
Wills were not common documents in the annals of Irish history but they are out there. One free online source is through the PRONI (Public Record Office of Northern Ireland) website. There are people mentioned in wills on their website that lived in all areas of Ireland and even in America. Learn about what you may find in the wills, or in the will abstracts if the will has been lost. Learn how to search for wills and do some searches in class.

July 14, 2012 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Irish Research Gems of the Minnesota Genealogical Library
Ann Eccles and Fern Wilcox, Instructors
It's a class, a tour and a sharing of local research resources. Learn what resources -- beyond the Irish collection -- at the Minnesota Genealogical Library might help your Irish ancestral research.

Genealogy and Ireland

Irish Family History Events

Ireland XO (Ireland Reaching Out)
Week of Welcomes in South-East Galway
June 24 – 30, 2012
www.irelandxo.com

Back to Our Past Conference
October 12 - 14, 2012
Dublin, Ireland
Third annual Irish genealogy and family/social history experience.
www.backtoourpast.com/mysitecaddy/site3/index.htm

Research Trips to Ireland
If you would like to travel to Ireland to research ancestors with other family history researchers, check out these trips.

Donna Moughty
October 7 – 14, 2012
http://www.moughty.com/

TIARA
October 10 – 20, 2012
http://tiara.ie/futureTrips.php

Who Do You Think You Are Live
February 22 – 24, 2013
London, England
The biggest family history event in the world.
http://www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories – some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors. We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history. We also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

The theme for the July 2012 issue is Census Fragments and Census Substitutes. The deadline for submission of articles is May 1, 2012. Have you done research with Irish census records that have helped in finding Irish ancestors? Share your story with us.

Future themes and submission dates have been adjusted.

Issue Date: October 2012
Submission Date: August 1
Theme: History & Records of Ports of
Entry: U.S. - Canada - Australia

Issue Date: January 2013
Submission Date: November 1, 2012
Theme: Irish South of the Equator

Make writing an article for IGSI one of your 2012 genealogical resolutions.

Research at the MGS Library

IGSI Benefit

Genealogical materials is housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) library in South St. Paul, MN. There are two ways that IGSI members can utilize the collection in their research: those who live nearby or travel to the St. Paul area can do hands-on research in the building; any member can ask the IGSI researchers to help them in their Irish research

IGSI members who come to the library to use its resources have free access to the Irish and any other collections in the building. Those who are not members of IGSI or another affiliate of the MGS pay a $10 fee per visit.

Irish Saturday is the second Saturday of each month – a day when IGSI members have access to the wealth of information of volunteers who will help them onsite. IGSI offers free onsite assistance to members researching at the MGS Library. Members who visit Minnesota at a time other than an Irish Saturday should contact the librarian 1-2 weeks beforehand if they wish to have IGSI assistance with their library research (Librarian @IrishGenealogical.org).

IGSI also offers fee research assistance to members (both near and far) by contacting the IGSI Research Committee (Research@IrishGenealogical.org). These member volunteers check Irish resources available in the IGSI collection to find information on Irish ancestors or to identify next steps in Irish research. The fee is $15 per hour of research, one hour research is minimum. Additional charges for photocopies, etc. Check the website for more information on requesting research help.

Take the next step to locating your Irish ancestors in 2012. Contact the IGSI librarian or research committee.

Make an Appointment

Visit IGSI at the MGS Library

IGSI Benefit

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email:
Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org
Phone: Beth Mullinax 763-574-1436

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.
1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

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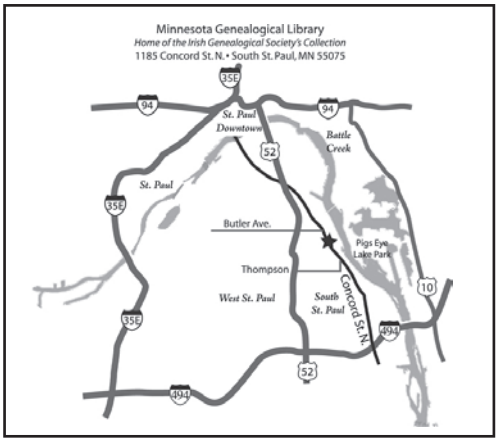
Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. (IGSI)

Library and Offices located at the Minnesota Genealogical Library

IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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.

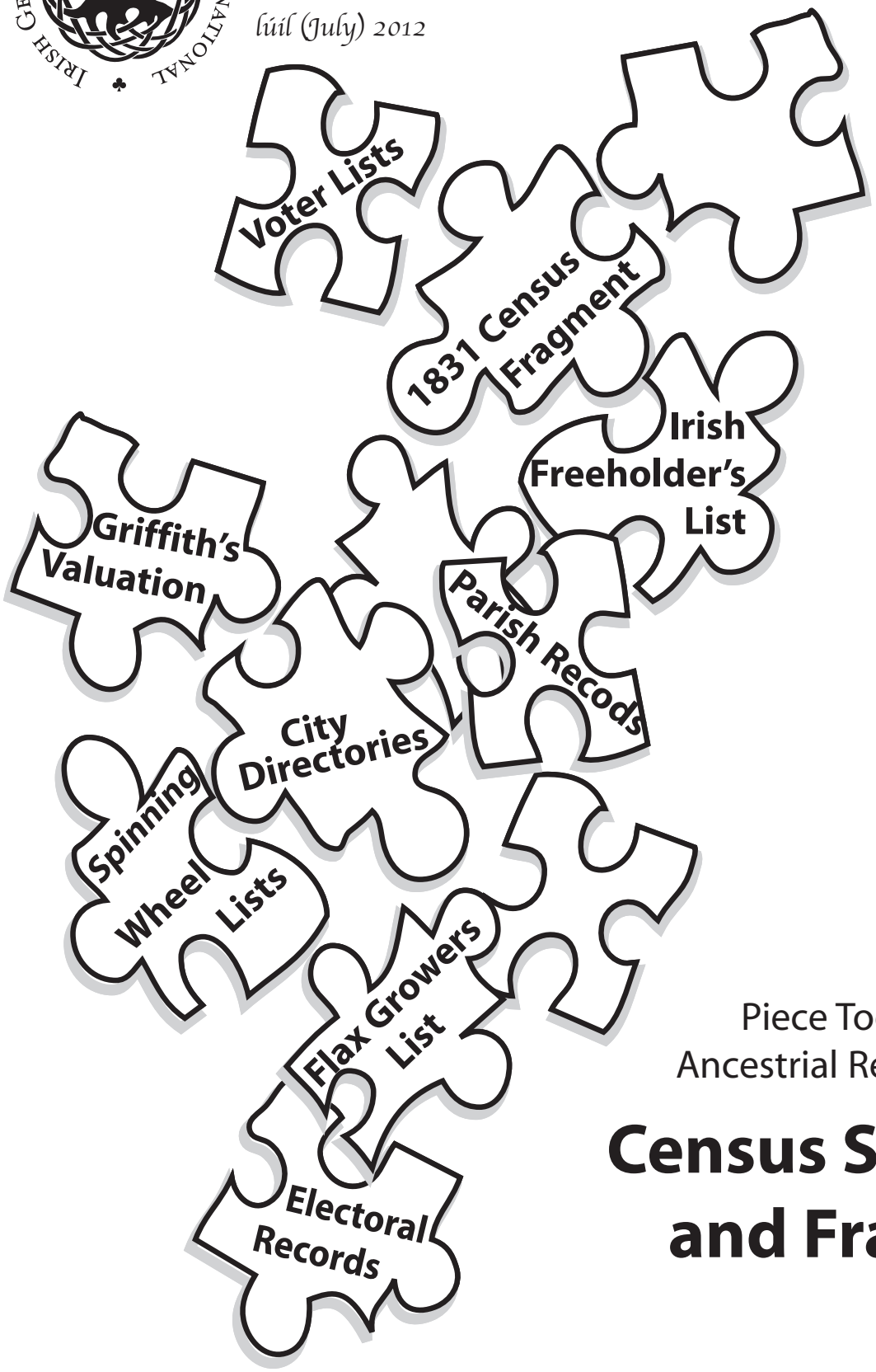
The library is a self-supporting research library staffed by volunteers. If you are a member of the IGSI and are coming from out of town, contact Beth at Research@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

Volume 33, Number 3

The Septs

lúil (July) 2012

$10.00



Piece Together Your Ancestrial Records By Using

Census Substitutes and Fragments

2012 - 2013 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JULY 14, 2012
AUGUST 11, 2012
SEPTEMBER 8, 2012
OCTOBER 8, 2012
NOVEMBER 12, 2012
DECEMBER 10, 2012
JANUARY 12, 2013
FEBRUARY 9, 2013
MARCH 9, 2013
APRIL 13, 2013
MAY 11, 2013
JUNE 8, 2013

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

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

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Printed in the USA

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2012

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Catching Up – Catching Our Breath

by Ann Eccles

It's the middle of summer – after an almost summer-like springtime in Minnesota.

Some of you may be reading an issue for the first time in more than a year. In May we did a mailing to individuals who did not renew when their membership ended in 2011. Welcome back! We hope that you continue to find help and information through IGSI.

During the spring months IGSI had a presence at genealogy meetings in Wisconsin and provided a full series of classes in South St. Paul on Irish Saturdays. What's coming up? Time is running out if you are interested in entering the Michael Clark Writing Competition as the deadline for submissions is July 15. Although sponsored by the Yankee Genealogical Society, part of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, you do not have to be a member of MGS or the Yankee group to participate in this annual writing contest. IGSI members are welcome to submit an entry. Check the MGS website <www.mngs.org> for full information and submission directions.

We have Irish Saturday classes scheduled in July and September. Just remember that there isn't one in August. Instead, stop by the Irish Fair that weekend and look for our table. Come say hello – or offer to help staff the table for a couple of hours one day.

On Saturday, August 25, we will sell new and used books as part of the Genealogy Book Sale at our South St. Paul location. It's a great way to supplement your research library at a low cost. In September, we plan to have another members' gathering at a St. Paul pub. More information about that later.

So, just catch up or catch your breath before starting something new. Find a cool library for research or a comfortable spot to relax. Take a class or record family stories or update your research records. There's always something for a genealogist to do.

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

Genealogical Intellection

by Ann Eccles

Genealogy can challenge a researcher's creativity and reasoning. How frequently we draw conclusions in our research from evidence found and substantiated. Yet at times we imaginatively approach some data whose message eludes us. The articles in this issue encourage us to look at things with new eyes and intent.

The theme of this issue is "Census Substitutes and Fragments." Dwight Radford explains the process of creating a census substitute and challenges researchers to use found lists to do the same when necessary. Tom Rice explains that census substitutes are not limited to Irish genealogy; they can help researchers in any area of genealogy.

Harold Hinds and Tom Rice review two newly-published books; one gives insight into Scots Irish in the U.S. and the second details the 4th edition of John Grenham's classic. Inspired by an earlier article by Tom Rice, Dick O'Malley shares a list of books he found helpful in his Irish family research. Gabrielle Ni Mheachair provides background around the symbolism, history and culture of the Irish harp and the shamrock.

Jay Fonkert offers a creative image for genealogy research; Judith Eccles Wight explores local history resources in Carlow County; and Mary Wickersham shares ways to use online maps for genealogical research. Sheila Northrop tracked down some interesting bits of news from "100 Years Ago and More." And don't forget to check the information on Society activities.

A new issue of *The Septs* is reason enough to sit down, take a break and renew one's interest in Irish genealogy, get up-to-date on IGSI, and restart your creative thinking.

Taking a Source and Developing a Census Substitute

by Dwight A. Radford

To me, one of the fascinating parts of Irish family history research is that we have to rely on "census substitutes" also called "census alternatives." Due to record destruction or the general lack of registers, we have to develop a research strategy on the spot which will fit our particular historical situation. I am a big proponent of not relying just on the standard "census substitute" lists for our research. As researchers with access to technology, we can develop our own particular sources for us and others to use.

This article will focus on a source I came across last year in my search for viable "census substitutes" for Ulster, which was the linen trade area. For a family involved in the linen trade, one would certainly consult the 1797 Spinning Wheel Premium Survey. This excellent source was developed as a "census substitute" and we all use it. However, it is not the only source available.

Account books for the linen merchants that predated the 1797 Spinning Wheel Survey captured my attention. Using one of these account books as an example let me show you how you can ask the right questions and develop your own "census substitute" resource. The following steps can be rearranged to fit a particular source, geography, or historical context.

Step 1 – Identifying the Source

In this case, Thomas Greer's "Market Book for Crown Linen" is a handwritten book with 39 pages listing 1061 accounts. The original is at the National Archives of Ireland in Dublin (T1127). It is also on microfilm through the Family History Library (#258619 item 3), making an indexing project easy. Thomas Greer was a resident of Dungannon, County Tyrone, and in 1758-59, he kept an account book of the linen he purchased at various markets and from whom he purchased it.

Step 2 – Coverage of the Source

While Greer's Account Book does not list the residence of the seller of linen to Mr. Greer, it does record the market town where the linen was purchased. A reasonable assumption is that the seller lived in the surrounding area. In this case, Thomas Greer made 1061 purchases; each lot purchased was given a number (e.g., 1 through 1061). When he purchased more than one lot of linen from the same seller a "do" was placed under the name. There are about 700 individual names within the 1061 entries. All purchases were from Ulster markets in 1758-59.

Step 3 – Arranging the Source

To create a usable census substitute the source needs to be arranged in a fashion where it can be studied and used as a resource tool. For this account book, it could be arranged alphabetically by the name of the seller and the market town in which they were selling. Or it could be arranged alphabetically within the market town. Personally, I prefer this second arrangement because Mr. Greer purchased from seven market towns in four counties. The assumption is the various sellers at the several markets were not related. However, this assumption would always need to be kept open for reevaluation.

Once the source is arranged, the indexing can begin. The account book arranged by market town and purchase numbers would look like this:

- Armagh, Armagh Parish, County Armagh: #88-112, 539-554, 800-811
- Caledon, Aghaloo Parish, County Tyrone: #323-335, 572-598, 716-745, 930-957
- Coagh, Tamlaght Parish, County Tyrone: #381-387
- Dungannon, Drumglass Parish, County Tyrone: #1-87, 113-138, 150-183, 202-234, 240-265, 277-297, 315-322, 355-361, 375-380, 404-413, 432-443, 458-502, 526-538, 555-574, 599-607, 641-674, 715, 754-770, 822-885, 913-929, 958-979, 1010-1061
- Monaghan, Monaghan Parish, County Monaghan: #771-799, 886-912, 980-1009
- Moneymore, Artrea and Desertlyn parishes, County Londonderry: #139-149, 298-314, 414-431, 608-640, 746-753
- Stewartstown, Donaghenry Parish, County Tyrone: #184-201, 235-239, 266-276, 336-354, 362-374, 388-403, 444-457, 503-525, 675-714, 812-821

The civil parish of the market town provides the center from which to expand your search for a seller you need to document further. With a proper arrangement of the data, you can utilize other sources to supplement the account book, such as the rent books of the local estates or the Registry of Deeds. The additional sources should be centered around the market town

as the residences of the linen sellers are not listed in Greer's account book.

Step 4 – The Importance of the Source

Once you have arranged the source and placed the entries in a usable format, then you can determine the importance of the source. Mr. Greer's account books not only identified families involved in the linen trade, but linked those families to a geographic area surrounding a particular market town. This is now a new source for County Tyrone in 1758-59, as there were markets in Caledon, Coagh, Dungannon and Stewartstown.

To continue with this example to more fully study the linen trade in Ulster, one can use other surviving account books on microfilm at the FHL or at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast. Account books such as these may help solve difficult problems for a time period which lack church registers.

References and Reading

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Rice, Tom, "Census Substitutes? In Search of the Perfect Census" in *The Septs* 27, #1 (January 2006): 10-12.

Webster, David W., "Irish Censuses and Census Substitutes," in *British Connections* 5, #4 (2004): 49, 52-54.

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He writes a free daily blog on Irish family history research: http://blog.thejourneyhomegenealogy.com.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Carlow, Ireland

***by** Judith Eccles, AG*

There is no comprehensive genealogical how-to book for County Carlow. Michael C. O'Laughlin created a 78 page book entitled *Ireland: Genealogy & Family History of Counties - Kildare, Wicklow, Carlow* (Kansas City, Missouri: Irish Genealogical Foundation, 2002) that includes generic information about key genealogical resources found throughout Ireland. Little will be found that identifies unique County Carlow resources for those researching their ancestors in this county.

Exploring Family Origins in Carlow Town by Noel Farrell (Longford, 2004) is one of a series of books about larger towns in Ireland. This out-of-print book contains information for residents of Carlow Town found in Griffiths Valuation of 1850 with a corresponding 1854 Map, the 1901 and 1911 censuses, a 1936 Electors Register that lists everyone in the Town who is over the age of 18, and a list of publicans in 1940.

Carlow Libraries Website

The Carlow Library has a Local Studies Department on the first floor of the Carlow Central Library. According to information on its web site <www.carlowlibraries.ie/index.html> it is not necessary to make an appointment to use the resources in this Department. However, if one wishes to use the microfilm reader/printer arrangements need to be made ahead of time.

The Carlow Libraries website offers some elementary information about various topics through the link to **Local History**. *A Guide to Carlow Local Studies* (March 2011) includes topics helpful to researchers of all ages:

- Architecture and Streetscapes
- Castles and Monuments
- Education
- Famous Carlow People
- Industry and Business
- Sport in County Carlow
- Transportation in County Carlow
- Towns and Villages

There are interest-based pages for students regarding geography, archaeology, and architecture and construction. Three "research pages" include social life, family history and

genealogy, and the big house and the aristocracy in County Carlow. The page for family history and genealogy is a basic guide for getting started with a list of potential generic resources (e.g., civil registration records, school records, and Griffith's Valuation) that should be consulted in tracing a family.

The **Archive** link contains a short introduction to the Carlow County Archives. Since its early stages of organization in 2010, the website is supposed to update researchers on the progress made in cataloguing the collections at the Carlow Library. Among a list of resources that are currently available for research, the following may be of particular interest to genealogical researchers:

- Burton Collection, 1570-1972.

  This collection contains estate records of the Burton family. The online description of this collection is very detailed.

- Minute book of the Corporation of Carlow, 1816-1842

- Archives of Carlow Grand Jury, 1786-1895

- Catalogue – Small Private Collections.

  This collection includes estate records and maps, business records, and an 1847 list of freemasons in the Carlow Lodge

- Archives of Carlow Poor Law Union (Workhouse), 1845-1923

The list is not exhaustive; other material is available. Researchers are instructed to contact the Archivist for further information and to make an appointment to view records in the Archives.

On the left side of the Archives page are other links, including **Ask About Ireland**. The link <www.askaboutireland.ie/search.xml?library=1208354330-38&author=27> opens up a list of topics pertaining to County Carlow. Of particular interest for genealogical and historical research are the ones for Carlow Artists; Famous Names in Carlow Science and Engineering; Carlow Writers; 1798 in Carlow; and Carlow Poor Law Union. Each topic contains multiple pages. The Carlow topic includes two scanned books—Rev. M. Comerford's *Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin* and John Ryan's *The History and Antiquities of The County of Carlow.*

The **Ask About Ireland** Learning Zone has a section on Social Change: The Workhouses. It includes information about the Carlow Poor Law Union at <www.askaboutireland.ie/learning-zone/secondary-students/history/social-change-the-workhou/carlow-poor-law-union>. The Content list on the right hand side of the Poor Law Union page lists various subjects pertaining to the care of the poor in County Carlow. The Carlow County Library has 130 volumes of Poor Law Guardian Minutes for Carlow Union covering 1845-1923.

Miscellaneous Records

A list of estate records found in various archives in Ireland can be found at <www.from-ireland.net/genealogy/Irish-Estate-Records%3A-Carlow#display>. No attempt was made to verify if all of the estates listed are actually in County Carlow.

My attempts to contact the librarian at the Carlow Library in an effort to clarify details about the local history collection for this article were unsuccessful. Thus, it is unknown if plans are in the works to scan and make available online some of the resources found in its collection. If you are considering a trip to the Carlow Library, I suggest contacting the Local History section by phone at 011 353 599129705 (if calling from the United States) or perhaps snail mail (Carlow Central Library, Tullow Street, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow, Ireland) to find out more about local resources available for this county.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

Census Substitutes Are Not Just for Ireland

by Tom Rice, CG[SM]

What is a census substitute? Most specifically, it is a source that provides the same, or at least some of the same, information one would get if there were a surviving census for a given time and place. In its most minimal format, a census tells us if a person was living in a given place at a given time. In its more expansive format, a census also tells us a good bit more about a person, such as family relationships, birth date and place, occupation, economic holdings, etc. Given the many census formats used in various times and places, a reasonable observation is that there never was a perfect census, because no one census ever gives all of the information we wish we had about a research subject.

A good census, in terms of the information gathered and in terms of its coverage of everyone living in a given locale, is a joy; there are few, if any, substitutes for that sort of record anywhere. All substitutes fall short in one or another aspect of the perfect. Most do not list everyone living in a given place and time. Most record only a limited amount of information about the enumerated. Many cover only a limited geographical area, a township, a village, a city, a county or a state.

However, even with the above in mind, the "Substitute" in census substitute does not mean it should be considered irrelevant if the actual census is available. Even with its limitations, a census substitute is an essential and valuable tool for the diligent researcher in almost all cases. One of the key canons of the Genealogical Proof Standard is to conduct a reasonably exhaustive search. Just looking at a person as listed in the census is unreasonably lazy and far from reasonably exhaustive.

While census substitutes are often disregarded in other fields of genealogy, they are an essential element of Irish genealogy because of the almost total lack of surviving 19th century censuses.

However, census substitutes are not just for Irish research. There is always a time in any research project when we need the sort of information a good census would give us but for which one is not available – such as, when a person came and went between the times the surviving censuses were conducted, or when the census did not ask the questions for which we now need answers. Nothing brings this home more than the loss of most of the 1890 U.S. census or the sparse information gathering of the 1790 to 1840 U.S. censuses.

So what records do we turn to as census substitutes? A core list that replicates much of what we would list for Ireland or for almost any place includes such records as directories of all sorts, voter lists, and tax lists. Then there are records that are more unique to a given time and place, such as plat maps, military draft records, alien registrations, state military bonus lists, etc. The diligent researcher looks to discover all the records kept for the time and place under investigation. Two good points for learning what records were created are bibliographies relating to locations and record types. A recent and rapidly growing resource to consult is the FamilySearch Research Wiki entry for a place under investigation: <https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page>.

When the term "census substitute" is used, we usually think of a list: lists of freeholders, lists of members of a given religion in a region, lists of voters, etc. Some genealogists disregard collections of records, such as naturalization records or state military bonus records, because they are not lists *per se* but rather individual records. However, if there is an index to such a collection that is reasonably limited as to time and/or place, then this is more a census substitute than a mere list. Consider the index to those who applied for a Minnesota State bonus for having served in the Spanish American War. Anyone listed in this index most likely served in the Army during that war, was within a defined age range at the time, and lived in Minnesota at the time of making the application. Knowing just this amount of information may be quite useful. Learning all that the actual application reveals about the person provides a bonanza of information.

Finding a census substitute is only the first step. To get full value out of it we need to understand its nature and limitations. Ask: why was this record created, who was covered – defined as to geography or jurisdiction at least, what time period does it cover, what information was recorded, what do knowledgeable authorities say about it as a genealogical resource?

Examples of a census substitute and what we can learn from them:

1896 Plat Map for White Bear Township, Minnesota:

- All land owners at that time and place
- Location of land holding(s), acres owned, or at least a graphic representation from which acreage can be ascertained or estimated
- Graphical representation from which a legal land description can be derived
- Information as to neighbors and their relative distance from the research subject
- Special features in the area, such as roads, railroads, and bodies of water; location of schools, churches, cemeteries, etc.

To some degree, such a record is a list in itself, albeit arranged not alphabetically but graphically. Plat maps often have accompaniment of a list of the property owners shown on the map.

1918 Alien Registration for Minnesota:

- Lists all adults who were not U.S. citizens in Minnesota in 1918, excluding most Germans.
- Among 35 questions asked, information was gathered regarding
  - Kind and amount of property holdings
  - Address where form was filed
  - Reason for not becoming a citizen
  - Birth place and date
  - Names of spouse, names and ages of living children
  - Information about ownership of farm land in Minnesota

There is both a filmed and online index to these records.

American Survey Cards for Ramsey County, Minnesota (1918):

This survey of families in St. Paul, Minnesota, provides

- Family information, such as church, lodge and newspaper subscription.
- Questions asked of those 16 years and older included: age, sex, country of birth, years in U.S., citizenship status, languages spoken or written, birth places of mother and father, occupation.
- For those under 16, the survey asked last school and grade attended.

While these three examples of census substitutes are unique to Minnesota, they are typical of what any diligent researcher is likely to find in almost any jurisdiction. Make looking for and using census substitutes a key part of your genealogical research. There is an abundance of information in these types of records not to be missed.

Tom Rice, CG[SM] 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.*

Blogs about Irish Genealogy

What blogs do you read or follow? Here are a few about researching Irish genealogy.

Irish Genealogical Society International Blog
http://blog.irishgenealogical.org/
A source for information on Irish genealogy and on IGSI activities.

The Journey Home
http://blog.thejourneyhomegenealogy.com/
Short items to move your Irish genealogy research forward.

Irish Genealogy News
http://irish-genealogy-news.blogspot.com/
It's just what the title says.

Using Google Maps for Genealogy

by Mary Wickersham

Understanding and mapping geographic locations can help you come up with strategies for pursuing your family history research. My mapping tool of choice is Google's mapping tool, <www.maps.google.com>.

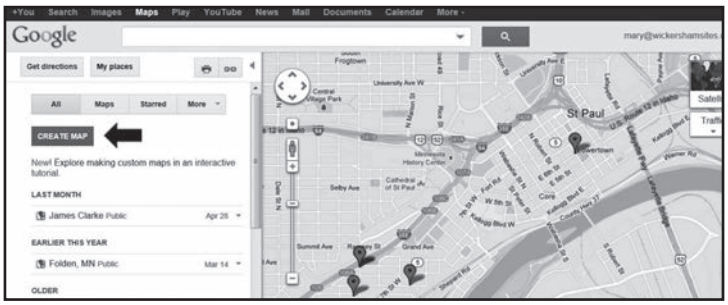
Some uses for mapping tools in genealogy are to
- Plot where family members lived
- Plan research trips
- Use maps that others have created to help your research

For the most effective use of Google maps, you should register as a Google user. This will allow you to create and store your own "views" of maps with markers appropriate for your purpose. Once registered, you can create your own maps and can indicate if the map is for public or private viewing.

Google has had some negative publicity for tracking users' web searches for marketing purposes; therefore, I recommend not checking the box for "stay signed in" when you log in.

Plot Where Family Members Lived

To get started, click "create map" (arrow added). Once you have your map created (and named), and are clicked on that entry, any address you search for will appear on the map. When you locate an address you wish to flag, click "Save to Map." Use your mouse to move around the map. Use the scroll bar to zoom in and out. The example shows how addresses for one family from the 1890s moved around.



Creating a map. *Google map courtesy of Mary Wickersham.*

Google Maps provides a "street view" image when available. In the next example, I entered the year 1890 as a comment (see arrow). By clicking on each balloon, I can view the areas where the family resided and trace their movements.

Adding a comment to the map. *Google map courtesy of Mary Wickersham.*

Since most of the addresses from the city directory no longer exist, it was good to see that the house at 398 Banfil (the balloon at lower left) is still there.

House on Banfil St. *Google map image courtesy of Mary Wickersham.*

A check of online county property tax records shows the construction date for the building as 1875, so I know this is the structure where the family lived in 1895.

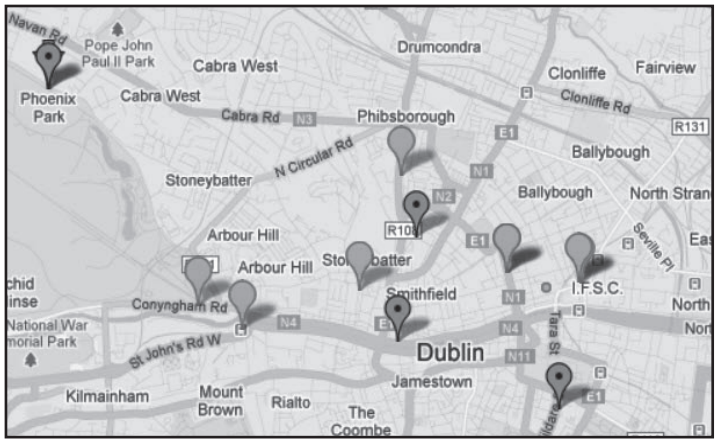
Property Class Description	Res Hstd Res Hstd
Year Built	1875
# of Stories	1.00
Residential Finished SQ Feet/Comm, Ind, Apt Bldg Area	837
Foundation Size	650

Property tax record for home on Banfil St. *Courtesy of Mary Wickersham.*

What does this tell me? Based on the dates and the cluster of addresses, it appears that the ancestor under investigation first lived in downtown St. Paul after his arrival from Ireland. After marriage (and two children), the family lived in a more family-oriented area. This information can help locate possible sources of information, such as churches and cemeteries.

Plan Research Trips

I often use mapping tools to obtain driving directions, but I can also use them to plan visits to repositories. I can create a map for each trip and add balloons to show locations. This is my map of repositories in Dublin that I hope to visit in 2013. The balloons with the dots are mine; Google provided the empty balloons (they are different colors).



Maps for research trips. *Map courtesy of Mary Wickersham.*

Once I see the distances, I can decide if I need to search for "public transportation" for train and bus routes.

Use Maps Created by Others

Be careful with this as the public maps are user-created. Many organizations have added their information to Google's general database. Since Google allows submitters to enter their own keywords, it has become an advertising tool for businesses. When I entered "cemeteries in Tipperary" I found a hotel in Clonmel, but no cemetery. A search for "churches in Clare, Ireland," resulted in a map that omitted a church I have visited.

Conclusion

Mapping tools can help to analyze your family's locations, plan research trips, and come up with ideas for further research. Treat the information you find through the maps as you would other information from the Internet – use your judgment.

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is an IGSI Board Member. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

The Irish

Be they kings, or poets, or farmers,
They're a people of great worth,
They keep company with the angels,
And bring a bit of heaven here to earth.

-- An Irish saying

Books That Introduced Me to the Lives and Times of My Irish Ancestors

by Dick O'Malley

My Irish great-grandparents came to New England from County Mayo and County Armagh at the time of the great famine. Since all my grandparents were deceased by the 1950s, books have been a major source of my obtaining family knowledge. This essay is meant to illustrate that point and to cover the full history of my Irish immigrants and ancestors, both in Ireland and in America. [1]

While this is not a list of "how to do Irish genealogy" books, suffice it to say that I could not have succeeded without some basic knowledge. Three books stand out:

Dwight A. Radford & Kyle J. Betit, *Discovering Your Irish Ancestors*, Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2001

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

Brian Mitchell, *A Guide to Irish Parish Registers*, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1988

The first Irish book that I purchased was from Mrs. Kenny at her bookstore in Galway. Sitting at the base of the shop's stairs, she would tell her customers what books would meet their needs and interests. For me, she recommended a book about the lives of my ancestors as small ordinary farmers, a collection of tales published over many years in the *Mayo News*:

James Berry, Gertrude M. Horgan (ed.), *Tales of the West of Ireland*, Gerrards Cross, England: Colin Smyth, 1988

To discover what drove people from Ireland, I had to find out about the potato famine of the 1840s. For me, three books are tops: the first tells about the misery in Ireland (Mayo was especially hard hit); the second tells of the terrible life on the famine ships; and the last tells about the thousands of Irish who died from disease on the crowded ships waiting to dock at Grosse Ile, the Canadian "Ellis Island."(It was much cheaper to go to Canada than to the U.S.; these coffin ships carried passengers west after delivering timber to England).

Cormac O'Grada, *Black '47 and Beyond: The Great Irish Famine*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999

James J. Mangan, *Gerard Keegan's Famine Diary: Journey to a New World*, Dublin: Wolfhound Press, 1991

Marianna O'Gallagher, *Grosse Ile: Gateway to Canada*, 1832-1937, Quebec: Carraig Books, 1984

Looking for more information about the parish and townland my relatives came from, I explored local publications. While visiting the area, I bought a Louisburgh history book, but the big surprise was to learn of the periodic publications of the local parish. *An Coinneal* ("The Candle") has been published since 1959 and has over 100 pages in each of 25 issues. It includes frequent articles by my cousin, Una O'Malley of Kinnadoohy. *The Ways of Old* tells about farm life in Ireland, and *The Louisburgh-Clinton Connection* gives details of chain migration between one town in Ireland (Louisburgh) and another in Massachusetts (Clinton).

John Lyons, *Louisburgh: A History*, *Louisburgh: Louisburgh Traders Association*, 1995

Kilgeever Parish, *An Coinneal*, *Louisburgh*, (biennial) 1959-2009

Olive Sharkey, *Ways of Old: Traditional Life in Ireland*, Dublin: O'Brien Press, 1985

Edward M. Gill, *The Louisburgh-Clinton Connection*, Victoria, BC: Trafford Publishing, 2006

To learn about immigrants' lives in America, I have picked five books. *The Paddy Camps* tells about the work and living conditions in a growing New England mill town. *Erin's Daughters* tells about the lives of immigrant women in the 19th century (often domestic workers who made important contributions to the family by sending money back to Ireland). *Voices of the Irish Immigrant – Information Wanted Ads in The Truth Teller* lists people seeking to find long-lost family members (brothers, husbands, wives, etc.). *Inventing Irish America* tells the story of Irish assimilation in Worcester, Massachusetts. *Irish Rebel* recalls the story of John Devoy, a newspaperman who devoted his life to raising money in America to support revolutionary activities in Ireland.

Brian C. Mitchell, *The Paddy Camps: The Irish of Lowell, 1821-61*, Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1988

Hasia R. Diner, *Erin's Daughters in America: Irish Immigrant Women in the 19th Century*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983

Diane Fitzpatrick Haberstroh and Laura Murphy DeGrazia, *Voices of the Irish Immigrant: Information Wanted Ads in The Truth Teller, New York City 1825-1844*, New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2005

Timothy J. Meagher, *Inventing Irish America: Generation, Class and Ethnic Identity in a New England City, 1880-1928*, Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame, 2001

Terry Golway, *Irish Rebel: John Devoy and America's fight for Ireland's Freedom*, New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 1998

Two other books indicate what the immigrants left behind. *The Transformation of Ireland* gives a decade-by-decade history of 20th century Ireland leading up to the Celtic Tiger economy. Matt Cooper, an experienced reporter, tells what happened to end the boom and ruin the economy.

Diarmaid Ferriter, *The Transformation of Ireland*, Woodstock, NY: The Overlook Press, 2004

Matt Cooper, *Who Really Runs Ireland: The story of the elite who led Ireland from Bust to Boom and back again*, London: Penguin Books, 2010

Finally, I like to read novels to get an idea of community life and values. I particularly have enjoyed the works of Irish writers John B. Keane and John McGahern. But I also recommend the following two autobiographies:

Frank McCourt, *Angela's Ashes*, New York: Simon & Shuster, 1996. This book describes his life in Limerick and New York.

James Michael Curley, *I'd do it again!* Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1957. This autobiography tells Boston Mayor Curley's story (fictitiously recounted in Edwin O'Connor's *The Last Hurrah*).

The following are two other books in my collection about living in modern pre-boom Ireland:

Thomas Lynch, *Booking Passage: We Irish and Americans*, New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2005. A Michigan undertaker describes sabbaticals at his great grandfather's West Clare home.

Niall Williams and Christine Breen, *O Come Ye Back to Ireland: Our First Year in County Clare*, New York: Soho Press, 1987. This story is of a young couple who met at Trinity College, married, and worked in New York City before moving to the wife's great grandfather's cottage in the West of Ireland.

I'm sure that others could come up with a similar list of Irish family history books.[2] If you have comments and suggestions of other books that you have found useful, please contact me at dick@dickomalley.com.

End Notes

1 This article was prompted by the contribution "Not by Records Alone" by Tom K. Rice that appeared in the October 2011 issue of *The Septs* where he presented an excellent bibliography on Irish-American issues.

2 My comments apply to an Irish Catholic family. For those who have Scotch-Irish ancestors, I recommend Senator James Webb's book, *Born Fighting: How the Scots-Irish Shaped America*, New York: Broadway Books, 2004.

Dick O'Malley is a retired engineer and manager of manufacturing and marketing. He began genealogy after a 1990's trip to Ireland. The results of this work can be found at his website <www.dickomalley.com> which chronicles his New England Irish and French-Canadian ancestors. He often wishes that the Irish were as well-documented as the French-Canadians.

Data Mines, Information Transports and Genealogy Evidence Factories

by J.H. Fonkert, CG

Have you ever seen a genealogy factory?

Before you dismiss this as a silly question, consider this: as a genealogist, you are a genealogy evidence factory manager. You are the factory manager charged with forging a value-added product: the best possible account of what really happened in your ancestor's life. This analogy may help you understand why genealogy educators talk so much about methodology.

The Product and the Market

Your job is to produce accurate and reliable family history. Perhaps the most important part of genealogy methodology is thinking about what you are trying to do. Boiled down to the basics, the goal of genealogy research is to identify an ancestor, link the ancestor to parents, and repeat the process back in time. Thought of this way, the core challenge in genealogy is establishing identity. The process involves three steps:

- Establish the existence of an individual in the past. The evidence for an individual's existence is usually direct. That is, the person is named in a census or a record created in connection with an historical event – for example, records pertaining to immigration, naturalization, birth, marriage, death, military conscription, a court action, or newsworthy event. Information in these records about age, spouses, occupation, physical appearance or other personal characteristics help establish an initial identity.

- Use records from events at other times or places to combine biographical fragments into a single merged identity or, if necessary, separate identities of two individuals who are easily confounded because of similar names, ages or residences.

- Link fully identified individuals together into families (siblings) or across generations (parent-child relationships), move back another generation, and start the process over again.

The second and third steps often require construction of proofs based on logical arguments tying together both direct and indirect evidence, drawn from information passed on by a mix of informants – some with primary knowledge of what happened, and some with only secondary knowledge of events. If you can complete these three steps, working back generation by generation, you will end up with a well-constructed family history.

Source Mines and Information Transport

Where do you get the raw information about past events that you need to produce your genealogical proofs?

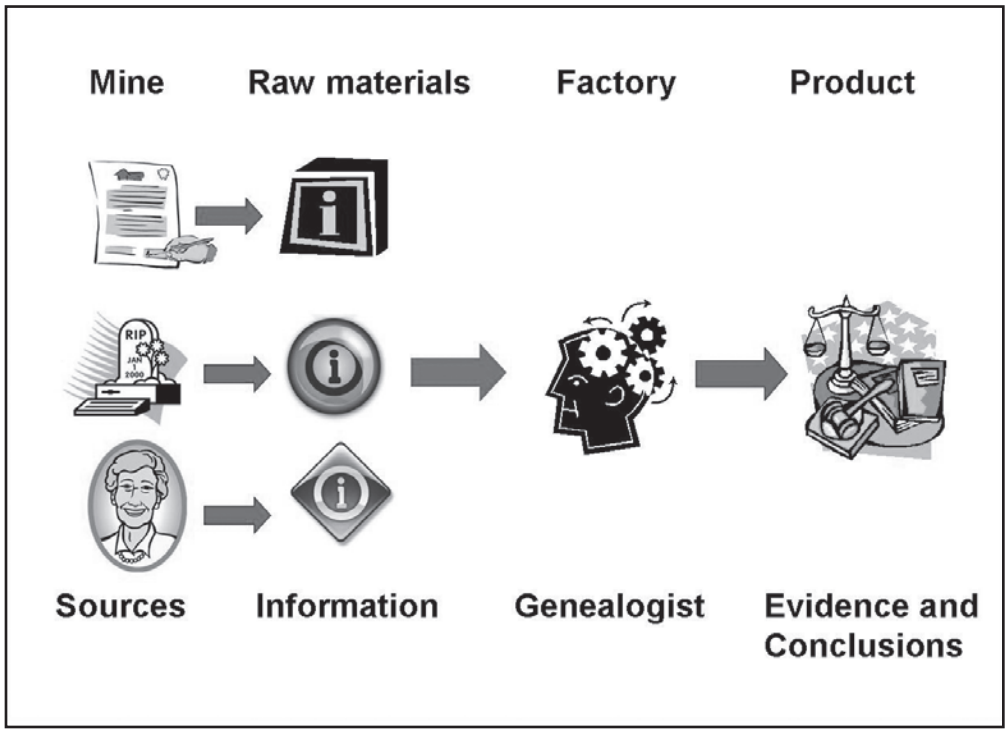
Think about the difference between *sources* and *information*. As a genealogist, you prospect for information about past lives and events that you weren't around to witness. To produce your family history, you need raw material: the names, dates, addresses, and other facts associated with past lives and events.

Because you weren't there, you must rely on accounts or records created by those who were there. The books, court records, photographs, gravestones, audio recordings and other things that carry the information forward to you are genealogical sources. Looked at this way, a genealogical source is an information transport vehicle, much like a freighter that hauls iron ore and other raw materials from a mine to a factory that makes steel. In this sense, Aunt Myrtle is a source when she tells you a story about Grandma's elopement.

Information quality. The quality of genealogical information depends on both its origin and transport. Just as a steel factory manager or a breakfast cereal plant manager needs to know about the quality of the ore or grain she uses, so too the genealogist needs to know where information came from. The steel plant wants the purest ore possible, the cereal plant wants oats grown from the best soil, and the genealogist wants accurate and untarnished information about past events. This is why genealogists prefer information from original sources and informants that had primary knowledge of historical events.

The freighter transports raw material over space, from mine to factory. A genealogical source carries information across time. Iron ore doesn't spoil, but

other kinds of cargo like fresh fruit or grain can. Genealogical information can also deteriorate over time. Errors can creep into records as they are copied or transcribed, and Aunt Myrtle's memory can fade. This is why it is so important for a genealogist to know where the information came from and how it was preserved and transported to the present.



The Genealogy Factory

A steel factory receives shiploads of iron, coal and limestone, and then uses energy to heat and mix the raw materials to produce higher value steel. The genealogist does much the same, taking in raw material, heating it up with mental energy, and producing a genealogical conclusion or a complete family history. Quality information and good analysis will produce a reliable family history product that will satisfy your customers – I mean, your family.

Methodology Demystified

You probably know more about methodology than you think. Do you cook? If so, you've probably learned about basic principles, practices and procedures that improve the odds of the dish getting raves from your family. Or, if you garden, you've learned methods of planting, fertilizing, and weeding to ensure a good crop.

Experience teaches cooks, gardeners and steel factory managers not only that quality raw materials are important, but also that method matters. My dictionary defines "methodology" as "the system of principles, practices and procedures applied to a specific branch of knowledge."[1] It sounds a bit scary, doesn't it? It need not.

Dropping-off the "ology" makes the word a bit less imposing. "Method" refers to the regular and systematic way we do something – in this case, genealogy. An important part of good genealogical method is evaluating the raw information that sources bring to us. Good information, uncontaminated during transport, carefully combined and processed, gives us the best chance of producing a quality family history product.

Sound genealogical analysis is what converts raw information into meaningful and reliable family history. No one can do it for you, because no one else has the all the information and insight that you do. You are the genealogy evidence factory manager.

End Notes

1. The American Heritage Dictionary, Second College Edition (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1985), p. 791.

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Symbols of Ireland: The Harp

by Gabrielle Ní Mheachair

Harp Song
Mystical music
Swells the soul
Ancients remembered
Betrayal
Dreamers dreaming
Lessons learned
Ireland.[1]

The harp is one of the oldest musical instruments in the world. Many ancient civilizations have connections with lyres and harps as testified by murals, frescoes, stone carvings, tombs, and other art forms that have survived from ancient times. We hear stories of Greek gods and goddesses wielding harps and ancient Egyptians playing the lyre.

It is probable that the original harp was invented by accident when an unsuspecting hunter discovered the sweet sound made by his taut bowstring. He may have added more strings, eventually making a simple hand-held instrument called the lyre, which, over time, developed into a more complex instrument, the harp.

The Celtic harp, often called the folk harp, is a small, portable, hand-held, instrument unlike the large concert harp we are familiar with today. The Celtic harp has been the symbol of Ireland for centuries, dating back to the mythical Amhergin, Ireland's first harpist.

Ancient manuscripts describe the first Celts as the Milesians, in honor of their father Milead, a tribal Chieftain in Northern Spain. Milead's sons invaded Ireland bringing with them their Celtic culture and traditions. One of his sons, Amhergin, is considered to be Ireland's first bard. His warrior brothers arrived in Ireland carrying iron swords and metal shields, while Amhergin carried a willow harp. He is credited with composing Ireland's first poem.

I am Ireland
I am the wind, which breathes upon the sea
I am the wave of the ocean.
I am the murmur of the billows.
I am the ox of the seven combats.
I am the vulture upon the rocks.
I am a beam of the Sun.
I am the fairest of plants.
I am a wild boar in valor.
I am a salmon in the water.
I am a lake in the plain.
I am a word of science.
I am a point of a lance in battle.
I am the God who created in the head the fire.
Who is it who throws light into the meeting in the mountain?
Who announces the ages of the Moon?
Who teaches the place where couches the Sun?
If not I?
I invoke the land of Ireland![2]

Amhergin did not claim any part of Ireland for himself. He left the division of the island to his brothers while he traveled from north to south and east to west, his muse enhanced by this enchanted land. Henceforth, the harp became associated with the bardic tradition of music, song, and story.

The bards of Celtic Ireland were held in high esteem. After the Celtic chieftains and the druidic priests, the bards were the next most honored citizens. Druids controlled the religious and spiritual realm of Irish life, while the bards were the keepers of history, clan genealogy, and the composers of poetry and song.

Bards, for the most part, played a variety of rustic instruments, but it seems that the harp was the most favored instrument in royal households. Irish chieftains kept a resident bard who memorized the genealogy of their clan, composed songs and poetry to honor the current chieftain, and entertained on festive occasions. In the very early years, the harp was simply an accompaniment to recitation. Later, with improvements to the design and shape, it was esteemed for its own musical properties. As a result, harpists as musicians emerged and flourished. A good harpist was expected to lull to sleep, draw tears, and induce laughter. The harpist became an integral part of Irish life.

The renowned folk tale, "King Labhraidh O Loingseach Has Horse's Ears," explains the role of the harpist in Irish society. The court barber had a secret that was eating away at his soul, and the court harpist needed a new harp. On the advice of a druid the barber told his secret to an ancient willow tree growing deep within the forest. He was cured of his ailment. Some time later, the bard went into the same forest and fashioned a magnificent new harp from the same willow tree. When the bard presented his new harp at court it took on a life of its own and disclosed the barber's secret to the entire

assembly. "Labhraidh O Loingseadh has horse's ears," it sang, over and over again. This was a devastating revelation about King Labhraidh O Loingseach, considering that under Gaelic law anyone who bore a blemish or disability was denied candidacy for chieftainship.

The earliest record of the harp being used as a national symbol dates back to the 1500s. Henry VIII had the harp impressed on coins after declaring himself King of Ireland and England. His daughter, Queen Elizabeth I, presented the charter of Dublin City in 1583. This charter had a harp imprinted upon it. King James I of England and the VI of Scotland, successor to Elizabeth I, had a harp emblem displayed upon one of the banners carried at her funeral in 1603. He also incorporated the harp into the royal coat of arms when he was crowned King of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. It seems that from this time forward the harp was recognized officially and internationally as the symbol of Ireland.

From the time of Elizabeth I to the late 1700s Ireland proved to be a thorn in the royal crown, refusing to accept British dominion. A series of penal laws were enacted to curb the rebellious spirit of its wayward people. As a result of these penal laws, the Irish language, religion, and culture were frowned upon and punishments for nationalism were severe: flogging, oppressive fines, imprisonment, deportation, or death. During these turbulent years, priests, bishops, monks, and teachers were outlawed. Many went into hiding, emigrated, or quit their trade. Bards and musicians, particularly harpists, were seen as nationalistic sympathizers and rabble-rousers. They, too, were outlawed. Harpists became itinerant musicians wandering from one Gaelic castle to another in search of food and lodging in return for a song. The following story is from the Ó Meachair tradition:

"In the year 1617 during the reign of James I, Sir George Carew, the President of Munster, decided upon a campaign to demoralize the native Irish chieftains. He hired the well-known bard, Aengus Ó Dalaigh, to help with his plan. Ó Dalaigh was to visit native Irish castles and at an appropriate time to satirize his host in front of both guests and clansmen. Aengus began his tour of the many Irish tower houses and publicly satirized each chieftain for his lack of hospitality, food, entertainment, and generosity. It was not long before Aengus became quite unpopular and was forced to travel incognito. When he arrived at the Ó Meachair tower house of Bawnmadrum, Roscrea, the Ó Meachair pretended not to recognize the bard. He treated Ó Dalaigh with the respect due his position as an Irish bard, but he was scorned for his acts of treachery. This infuriated the bard who went on to satirize the Ó Meachair household.

Ó Meagher's men feasted around a great fire,
A huge pot hung o'er it, - with blackberries stewing:
'T were hard to say which it was – 'kitchen' or 'byre'-
Where Meagher's old cow littered near his 'home brewing.

His cutting words ignited violent anger amid the clansmen, causing a servant to lunge towards the bard and stab him in the neck. while shouting, 'The Red Bard should never satirize an Ó Meagher because he did not recognize him.' Ó Dalaigh fell to the floor and with his dying breath retracted his satire of Ó Meachair and admitted to his treacherous treatment of other Irish Chieftains.

All the false judgments that I have passed
Upon the chiefs of Munster I forgive;
The meager servant of the Grey O' Meachair
Has passed an equivalent judgment on me.

Aengus Ó Dalaigh secured for himself an untimely death in an Ó Meachair castle, unaware that his satire trod deeply upon a tradition intimately associated with the ancient name, "the most hospitable of clans."[3]

Turlough O Carolan (1670-1738), the blind Irish folk harpist, traveled around Ireland collecting and composing hundreds of harp tunes. As school children, we were told that while Turlough O Carolan was traveling from house to house looking for board and lodging in return for entertainment.

He spent many nights sleeping in ditches and on roadsides. One stormy night, he found shelter in a grove of beech trees. Because he was blind he could not have known that he had fallen asleep on a fairy fort. At midnight when the fairies came

out to dance, they found the sleeping bard right in the middle of their dance floor curled around his harp and snoring loudly. They recognized him immediately as the blind harpist. Instead of punishing him for his crime they imbued him with the gift of song. When O Carolan awoke his head was swimming with enchanted fairy music. Subsequently, he called these his fairy tunes. Thomas Moore, a famous balladeer, wrote the following ballad reminiscing about the years when the Irish harp was silent.

The Harp That Once Through Tara's Halls

By Thomas Moore (1779-1852)

The harp that once through Tara's halls
The soul of music shed,
Now hangs as mute on Tara's walls
As if that soul were fled.
So sleeps the pride of former days,
So glory's thrill is o'er,
And hearts that once beat high for praise,
Now feel that pulse no more!
No more to chiefs and ladies bright
The harp of Tara swells;
The chord alone that breaks at night,
Its tale of ruin tells.
Thus Freedom now so seldom wakes,
The only throb she gives
Is when some heart indignant breaks,
To show that still she lives.[4]

The penal laws of the 1700s played havoc with harp traditions and almost led to the extinction of the Irish harpist. In 1792, ten harpists attended a revivalist festival held in Belfast with the express purpose of recording their oral harpist traditions. At this festival and subsequently, Edward Bunting recorded an extensive collection of harp music, which included almost 220 of O Carolan works for posterity.

As a result of a failed rebellion in the early 1600s, the Ulster Chieftains O Neill and O Donnell left Ireland for the continent where they died in exile. In 1642, O Neill's nephew, Eoghan Rua O Neill, returned to Ireland at the head of an army carrying a green banner with a golden harp at its center. This banner became a flag representing Ireland. The Society of United Irishmen, which led a rebellion in 1798, also carried a green banner with a golden harp at its center. This latter banner carried two mottoes, "It is now strung and shall be heard" and "Equality." Robert Emmet led another failed rebellion in 1803; he carried a green flag with the golden harp, using "Erin go Bragh" as his motto. Thomas Francis Maher, the man responsible for the current tri-color, carried a green banner with a harp and shamrock into battle during the American Civil War.

This green and golden harp banner was adopted by all nationalistic organizations until 1916 and became a concrete symbol of Irish identity. Today the harp continues to be the centerpiece of Irish culture and identity.

The tri-color – Ireland's current flag of green, white and gold – is reminiscent of the green flag with the gold harp and the white fringe. However, the tri-color has taken on a new meaning: green for the south, orange for the north, and white for the peace between them.

The presidential flag shows a golden fifteen-stringed harp on an azure background. This particular instrument is a representation of Ireland's most famous harp, the Brian Boru harp, which is said to have belonged to Brian Boru, the man who vanquished the Vikings in 1014. This harp is displayed in all its glory at Trinity College, Dublin.

The Presidential seal has a harp in the center with the words Éire (the official name of Ireland) underneath. Irish coinage, including the modern euro, has a harp on the under side. Throughout the years there have been harps on money, postage stamps, official seals, food products, Guinness beer, Ryan airlines, pottery, jewelry, and multiple craft works. This ancient Irish symbol links us to our past, our culture, and our independent spirit.

As claimed by Ireland's first harpist, the harp itself can also claim, "I am Ireland."

End Notes

1 Poem by Gabrielle Ni Mheachair, 2011.

2 Translated from the *Leabhar Gabhala*, or *Book of Invasions*, by Douglas Hyde; printed in his work, *The Story of Early Gaelic Literature* (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905) p. 26.

3 Gabrielle Ní Mheachair, "Ó Meachair, The Story of a Clan" unpublished manuscript, 2012.

4 From *Soodlum's Irish Ballad Book*, (Dublin, Ireland: Oak Publications, 1982) p. 72.

Symbols of Ireland: The Shamrock

by Gabrielle Ní Mheachair

The harp and the shamrock are the most well known symbols of Ireland. Contrary to popular belief, the harp is the official national symbol of Ireland, while the shamrock is the symbol for Saint Patrick. When I came to America many years ago I was frustrated to no end by people's insistence that the shamrock was our national symbol. While I love the dear shamrock with all my heart, I am adamant that it will not replace our fine harp as the official symbol of my beloved country. To Ireland the harp, to Patrick the shamrock!

A shamrock is a small green plant in the clover family that is often considered a weed. It grows from a bulb and spreads out close to the ground on short stems. The plant remains dormant in winter and rarely survives indoors. It has compound leaves with three small leaves on each stem. When looked at closely, one can almost see a tiny, dull, green, heart, embossed on each leaf. *Dineen's Foclóir Gaedhilge agus Bhéarla* (Irish Language dictionary) describes the shamrock as an *seamróg*, a shamrock, trefoil clover, a bunch of green grass, wood sorrel, (the shamrock of the Elizabethan writers). The four leaved shamrock is believed to bring luck, related to an early apotropaic sign enclosed in a circle (sun or wheel), the shamrock is used in modern times as a national emblem of Ireland…from the legend of Saint Patrick's illustration of the Trinity and possibly as a survival of the trignetra, a Christianized wheel or sun symbol, red shamrocks are associated with Tara.[1]

The red shamrock referred to above by Dineen is often called wood sorrel or wild shamrock. This wood sorrel is different from the common green shamrock. It has five violet-colored petals and is usually found in woods and rocky places. This plant was a mystical symbol for the ancient Druids in Ireland. It represented joy, maternal tenderness and was also connected to the Celtic sun wheel as described above.

The Druids Celtic paganism predates the Christian influence of Patrick. They acted as religious dictators who ruled through fear, magic, and an extensive knowledge and manipulation of the natural world. The number three was sacred to their rituals and their power. Three was a spiritual number that reflected their triad of gods, balance in nature, and the circle of life itself. The Druids also envisioned the shamrock as having mystical and medicinal powers, among which included forecasting rain, a bad harvest, good fortune, and a cure for bites and stings.

The shamrock came to be closely associated with Saint Patrick during the fifth century. Patrick traveled around Ireland, a Christian Bishop eager to convert the pagan Irish. This clever saint made no effort to distort or eliminate the entrenched pagan traditions. Instead, he superimposed his Christian ideals upon their pagan ones. Hence, he used the triad, or symbol three, to teach about the Catholic Holy Trinity who is three persons in one, just like the shamrock is three leaves in one. One leaf represented the Father, one the Son and one the Holy Spirit. Since the shamrock was a sacred druidic plant and the triad a sacred concept of their beliefs, he was most successful in his conversions. Countless images appeared of Patrick standing on mountaintops, at stream banks, and in open fields holding the tiny shamrock aloft and preaching to his pagan audience. This is the image of Saint Patrick most familiar to us today.

Even the elusive leprechaun is known for his associations with the dear little shamrock. When a leprechaun is found relaxing he is most certain to be smoking clover weed, or shamrock, from his little *dúdine*, (clay white pipe, with a thick bowl and stem). Clover weed is said to have medicinal properties that have a calming effect on the leprechaun's nasty temper. It helps him to relax. It also reduces the appetite whereby he doesn't need to eat a lot. The fairies provide the leprechaun with ample amounts of clover weed and poteen to keep their most important employee happy. He is also paid one gold coin per pair of shoes he mends, which, of course, he stores in his crock at the end of the rainbow. The fairies also hold the shamrock in high esteem. As a result, most Irish mortals know that wearing a shamrock can undo fairy magic or protect them from fairy enchantments.

For many centuries, the Irish shamrock has been used as a symbol of rebellion against English domination. During the 1770s, the shamrock was the symbol used by the Irish Volunteers and again by the 1798 rebels. In the American Civil War, the Irish Brigade led by Thomas Francis Meagher carried a flag adorned with a harp and shamrocks.

Below is an anonymous street ballad referring to the 1798 United Irishmen's rebellion in a bid for Irish independence. This revolution was brutally beaten down and the leaders imprisoned, deported or executed. As a result of this rebellion any show of patriotism or nationalism was punishable by law. Wearing pins or badges of nationalistic sentiments, or even the shamrock, was considered seditious.

The Wearin' o' the Green

O Paddy dear, and did ye hear the news that's goin' round?
The shamrock is by law forbid to grow on Irish ground!
No more Saint Patrick's Day we'll keep, his color can't be seen
For there's a cruel law ag'in the Wearin' o' the Green."

I met with Napper Tandy, and he took me by the hand
And he said, "How's poor old Ireland, and how does she stand?"
"She's the most distressful country that ever yet was seen
For they're hanging men and women there for the Wearin' o' the Green."

"So if the color we must wear be England's cruel red
Let it remind us of the blood that Irishmen have shed
And pull the shamrock from your hat, and throw it on the sod
But never fear, 'twill take root there, though underfoot 'tis trod.
When laws can stop the blades of grass from growin' as they grow
And when the leaves in summer time their color dare not show
Then I will change the color too I wear in my caubeen
But till that day, please God, I'll stick to the Wearin' o' the Green.

The shamrock struck such fear of resistance into the hearts of the English authorities that they banned the display of this simple symbol. During the reign of Queen Victoria the Irish Regiments in the English army were forbidden to wear the shamrock or display it in any way, shape, or form. Ironically, on Saint Patrick's Day today, a member of the British Royal Family presents shamrock to the Irish Guards' regiment. Even Queen Elizabeth II wore green and shamrocks during her visit to Ireland in 2011. Fortunately, the Irish shamrock is no longer a symbol of division or derision. In fact even people who aren't Irish wear it with pride.

A four-leafed clover is supposed to be a rarity and finding one to be a rare piece of luck. In all my years growing up in Ireland and harvesting shamrocks for Saint Patrick's Day, I have never ever found a single four-leafed shamrock. Having scoured our colorful clover field, where red and white clovers are a source of delicious nectar to millions of honeybees, I failed to find even a four-leafed clover. Yet, when I came to America there seemed to be no shortage of four leafed clovers. Everyone had one, or had seen one, or knew someone who had one, even I have seen several! Clearly, the Americans have all the luck!

End Notes

1. Dineen, Rev. Patrick S., *Foclóir Gaedhilge agus Bhéarla*, 1927, page 1004.

Gabrielle Ni Meachair 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.*

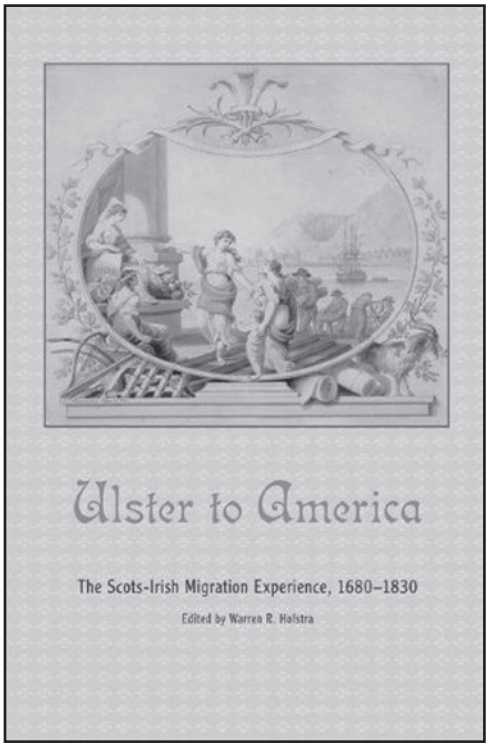
A land without ruins is a land without memories -- a land without memories is a land without history.
Abram Joseph Ryan

Cutting-edge Reinterpretations of the Scots-Irish Experience in the United States

by Harold E. Hinds, Jr.

Ulster to America: The Scots-Irish Migration Experience, 1680-1830 (University of Tennessee Press, 2012), a collection of revisionist essays edited by Warren R. Hofstra, is essential reading for anyone interested in contemporary scholarship on the Scots-Irish. The collection is an outgrowth of a series of consultations about the further development of the outdoor exhibits at the Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh, Northern Ireland, depicting the U.S. frontier experience of the Scots-Irish. In particular, the collection seeks to challenge the traditional view of the Scots-Irish, as presented, for example, in James G. Leyburn's *The Scotch-Irish: A Social History* (1962), David Hackett Fischer's *Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America* (1989), and James Webb's *Born Fighting: How the Scots-Irish Shaped America* (2005). To somewhat oversimplify, the traditional view characterizes the Scots-Irish as individualistic, anti-elitist, gun-loving, anti-authoritarian, warlike, hard-living, conservative, patriotic, and working class.

It should be noted that, although Hofstra prefers to label this group Scots-Irish, some contributors prefer the more traditional label of Scotch-Irish. For example, Hofstra states, "Because the term 'Scots-Irish' has no tradition of historical usage, it has been widely adopted in American writing and publishing as a standard that evades partisan association or affiliation" (p.116, n.1). Katharine L. Brown and Kenneth W. Keller, on the other hand, state, "The most widely and commonly used term that the emigrants from the north of Ireland and their descendants in North America applied to themselves was 'Scotch-Irish'. It is for this reason that we have adopted 'Scotch-Irish' in our article" (p.142, n.2). In deference to this disagreement, I will adopt each contributor's preferred label when discussing their individual essay.



David W. Miller opens the collection with a rapid overview of the cultural baggage that the Scots brought, first to Ulster, and then from Ulster to America. Consumption of whiskey, folk dancing and music, and a religion that held ministers accountable to popular interpretations of scripture - all crossed the Atlantic. They also altered their culture to adapt to the North American frontier, for example, with dispersed and independent farmsteads and log cabins.

Marianne S. Wokeck argues that the Delaware River port of New Castle was a significant entry port for all Irish voyagers and travelers between the late 1710s and the American Revolution. However, her essay on the nature of this migration is largely theoretical, given the scarcity of records (see p.46, n. 7, and p.48, n. 31).

Richard K. MacMaster makes a well-documented case that the "Donegal [Springs, Pennsylvania] settlers [1820s-1730s] may have lived on the farthest limits of Pennsylvania, but they were as concerned for security of tenure and the laws of trespass as any landowner or tenant in Ulster... Their desire for order is in sharp contrast with the romantic notions of frontiersmen as footloose and prone to move on if they saw the smoke of another settler's chimney, bridling at any restraint and reluctant to accept any effort to bring them into a community or extend its authority over them" (pp. 51-52). MacMaster bases this perspective on the central role of the Presbyterian Church, the "orderly process for obtaining a land grant" (p.55), their emphasis on getting a maximum return on investment and integration into the commercial main stream, and a "common vision of order" (p. 71).

MacMaster, in another chapter, demonstrates that the frontier town of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, largely settled by the Scotch-Irish during the 1750s-1780s, established all the institutions

necessary for orderly local government. He also emphasizes that Carlisle became a vibrant center of trade which linked Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Belfast and London merchants to the backcountry as distant as the Illinois country.

Warren R. Hofstra has frequently written about Opequon, a German and Scots-Irish settlement in the lower Shenandoah Valley. In his chapter, he focuses on the 1730s-1760s. Settlement at Opequon Creek was motivated by a complex set of British colonial interests: it "served the interests of imperial expansion and colonial security in a western buffer against the French, the Indians, Lord Fairfax [who sought to extend his Northern Neck claim], and black maroons" (p.109). The above referenced settlers all sought, and obtained, peace and security, which only ended with the onset of the Seven Years' War. Even then, the settlers were motivated only to defend their homes and were reluctant to defend imperial interests.

Katharine L. Brown and Kenneth W. Keller, in a superb chapter on the Upper Shenandoah Valley, known as the Irish Tract, in the 1770s-1790s, focus on the Scots-Irish settlers' search for a republican basis for status. In contrast to the Ulster social order left behind, they fashioned a two-class society, in which elite status was based on purchased real estate; freedom of religion; inclusion of men of Scots-Irish as well as of German and English descent; service in a citizen army; and representation in an elected legislature.

Michael Montgomery's essay on Scots-Irish George Galphin, the most prominent and successful of all South Carolina backcountry Indian traders, is fascinating. Galphin's estate at Silver Bluff became a center for extensive and peaceful trade with natives and "a meeting ground where peoples of three worlds – diverse groups of Europeans, Indians, and Africans – came together, where one could witness a new, multi-ethnic society being formed and all kinds of cultural exchange taking place" (p. 153). Galphin's positive relations with natives were an essential key to keeping the Creeks neutral during the American Revolution.

Peter Gilmore and Kerby A. Miller, using Southwestern Pennsylvania during the period 1780-1810, make a detailed and somewhat convoluted case for "a crucial, formative era of Scots-Irish social, political, and cultural development" (p. 165). Crucial events in the U.S. during this period paralleled similar struggles within Northern Ireland, especially the failed Rebellion of 1798 leading to the 1800 Act of Union. This was in part due to the large immigration of Ulster Presbyterians to the U.S. following the American Revolution. In addition, the Scots-Irish community divided along class lines into a "mushroom aristocracy" made up of "substantial farmers, merchants, manufacturers, and lawyers" (p. 179), as well as Presbyterian elders and public officials, as opposed to a lower class of small farmers, tenant farmers, squatters, and the landless.

Patrick Griffin discovers the mythic Scotch-Irish in the crucible of the American Revolution and its aftermath. Before and during the American Revolution the Irish from Ulster, or their descendants, migrated into Kentucky. During the Revolution, eastern elite revolutionaries largely abandoned this frontier population to the ravages of the Indian allies of the British. This frontier violence largely dissolved previous ethnic identities into a general whiteness, that is "not Indians" (p. 221). Ironically, once Kentucky was pacified as a result of the defeat of a western confederacy of Indians at Fallen Timbers in 1794, the Scots-Irish for the most part failed to acquire an independence which they had sought to secure by land ownership. Rather, independence was secured by "white male suffrage" and the entitlement "to life and liberty." The American Ulster Irish rediscovered their Scotch-Irishness and fashioned a myth that they were the quintessential frontiersmen, the very essence of a true American.

In a final chapter, Robert M. Calhoun posits that the Scotch-Irish "reputation for displays of fierce anger, violent defense of personal and family honor, and aggressive pursuit of political power has fostered a one-dimensional historical image." It masks the other side of the same coin, "the moderation intrinsic to their culture" (p. 234). Despite the constraints of empire and an environment given to "contingent violence and other forms of immoderation," the Scotch-Irish sought order and "religiously grounded moderation" (p. 243). They exhibited "caution, prudence, forbearance, and civic-minded gregariousness" (p. 235).

This collective reinterpretation of the Scots-Irish experience in the U.S. is essential reading for anyone of Scotch-Irish ancestry, for anyone interested in the Scots-Irish within the broad perspective of Atlantic history, and for anyone interested in why the foremost scholars of Scotch-Irish history believe that the traditional view of this ethnic group is largely inaccurate.

Harold E. Hinds, Jr., PhD, is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Minnesota--Morris. He is the author of more than forty scholarly volumes and the managing editor of the Town of Wilmington (New York) Transcribed Serial Records, *being published by Willow Bend Press. His most recent publication is* Crafting A Personal Family History *(2011), which establishes and demonstrates the basic principles necessary to successfully research and document a personal family history. He can be contacted at hindshe@morris.umn.edu.*

Tips for Travelers

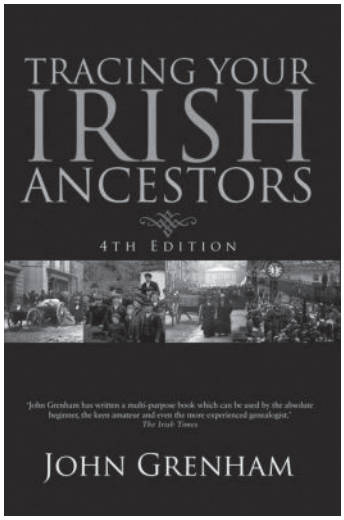
Summer is a favorite time for travel. Those who have been to Ireland can offer a piece or two of advice from experience or tips given to them. Here are a few reminders.

- In this day of modern technology, use a GPS if you are driving. Irish road signs and roundabouts can be confusing.
- Always pack a sweater or jacket and an umbrella, for Ireland can be cool or rainy any season of the year.
- To save on fees and find perhaps a better exchange rate, get foreign currency from an ATM or at a bank.

Tracing Your Irish Ancestors – 4th Edition

Reviewed by Tom Rice CG[SM]

That Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* is valued by the Irish genealogy community is affirmed by the issuing of this 4th edition. Few genealogy method or reference books ever make it to a 2nd edition much less a 4th edition. For there to be a new edition of any book there is generally a need for new information to be brought to the reading community. A mere increase in demand for the same information generally results in a reprinting, not in a new edition.



So what is new in this edition? Well, page count can give a partial answer. This new edition is larger by 10% with a 17% increase in the key "County Sources Lists" section and a 7% increase in the invaluable "Roman Catholic Parish Registers" section. These two sections make up two thirds of the book. The 10% increase in size represents 50 pages. This means 50 pages of additional information, almost all of which is found in either the reference sections or in material relating to Irish resources on the Internet.

Besides beefing up the key reference sections, Grenham has added much material regarding the Internet. While there is a chapter on the Internet, the real value is in his integration of Internet resource information throughout the text. Whenever a relevant Internet resource is pertinent to the discussion, he inserts it. But he adds much more value to his Internet reference than just a listing. He provides valuable information as to the holdings of these websites and often provides pointers on getting the most out of these websites. Another valuable addition to this edition is an index.

The organization is basically the same as in past editions – why change what works. Grenham begins with a brief introduction to genealogical methods and to key sources to be found in the major countries of the Irish diasporas that can be used to locate an immigrant ancestor's place of origin in Ireland, a key step for successfully tracing any Irish lineage. This is followed by chapters on each of the key Irish record types: Civil records, church records, censuses, property and valuation records, wills, registry of deeds, newspapers, directories, occupational records, the Genealogical Office, and emigration and the Irish Abroad. The latter is mostly a listing of books about the Irish in various countries along with passenger lists. This section on key record types is followed by the two major reference sections. The last chapter is "Research Services, Societies, Repositories and Publishers."

The "County Sources List" section provides a bibliography of sources for each county under the headings of: Census returns and substitutes, Online, Publications – local histories etc. and

directories, Gravestone inscriptions, and Estate Records. For most listings he provides a pointer to the holding repository and the call number or Internet location. To have pointers to all of these County resources in one place is a gift.

The other major reference section is titled "Roman Catholic Parish Registers." Here Grenham provides a map of Roman Catholic parishes for each county. More importantly, for each parish he lists what years records exists for baptisms, marriages and burials along with a pointer as to where those records may be found: whether in a named major repository, a Family History Library film or still in local possession. Each reference to a repository or film provides the call number or film number. This is a most valuable resource for quickly learning what records still exists and where to find them. A key feature of this section is that Grenham points to alternative sources for these records whenever they exist. However, what is missing in this edition is the "Variant Names of Roman Catholic Parishes" section which was in the last edition.

Grenham is a major proponent for improvements in records access and for cooperation between Irish genealogical agencies to give better service to the Irish genealogy public. As such, he does not hesitate to comment on some of the bureaucratic idiosyncrasies that exist and the internecine rivalries and insecurities that get in the way of the development of needed improvements in record access systems, whether this be searching in person or on the Internet.

This is primarily a reference book not a methods book. However, there is a presentation of methods, but this is more on how to use a repository, a website or resource rather than providing an overall strategy for your research. For that, look to *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors* by Radford and Betit. The key value found in this book is the thoroughness of its pointers to what resources exist, what is in them and where they can be found.

This book by John Grenham should be considered an essential part of every Irish genealogist's library along with Brian Mitchell's *New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*, and Dwight Radford and Kyle Betit's *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors*. I do not see how one can do Irish genealogy without these three books.

John Grenham, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, 4th ed.*, (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2012) 579 pages, $37.95 ISBN: 9780806318974.

Tom Rice, CG[SM] 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, a current director of IGSI and a genealogy help desk volunteer for the Minnesota History Society. He can be contacted at info@heritagehunters.com.*

Website Update

I am sure that most of you have had the opportunity to see our new site and have seen the many changes to the website. Most of the features of our old website still exist, just with a different look. To move IGSI into the 21st century and to increase the content that we offer to our members, the website committee has created a new look for the website and moved into new technologies. We are excited by the possibilities that these new technologies offer. We will have more flexibility in design of our web pages and, as we learn more about these new technologies, the ability to add a greater degree of functionality.

The discussion of the login/passwords in the last issue of The Septs requires some clarification. For members whose membership remained current throughout the transition, your User ID is your old IGSI membership number and your password has not changed. If your membership has expired, you will be asked to create a new User ID and password. During the migration from the old system, some members were incorrectly converted; those members may experience difficulty in logging in. If you have problems logging into the new website, contact us at webeditor@irishgenealogical.org and we will remedy the situation.

With the implementation of any new computer system, there are inevitably a few functions that do not work smoothly or correctly. Some of the hiccups with our transition can be fixed immediately; others will take some time. We would love to hear from you regarding your experiences with our new website – both positive and negative.

100 Years Ago and More

Compiled by Sheila Northrop

100 Years Ago

IRISH EMIGRANTS LESS IN NUMBER

Canada Boomers Not Encouraged

Even, more significant than the actual decline in the emigration figures is the attitude taken by the Canadian government agents, who are employed to attract laborers to the new lands in the west by every means in their power. An army of these boomers is spread all over the United Kingdom, but for the last year or two they have been paying less attention to Ireland, and now they frankly admit that as far as Ireland is concerned they can't earn their salaries, and they are gradually withdrawing from the Irish field and devoting themselves to England and Scotland, where the rush of emigrants today is something like that which almost depopulated Ireland twenty-five years ago.

These agents, who are shrewd observers, declare that the reason for the falling off in emigration is the growing prosperity of Ireland, which makes it possible for the people to earn a living at home. In addition to this, Ireland – by European standards – is really under populated at present and there is practically no unemployment. Farmers, for instance, complain that agricultural labor never has been so scarce and so dear, and to the industrial towns of the north it has actually been found necessary to import workmen from England and Scotland.

The Irish Standard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 6 Jul 1912

The Similarity

She was a bright girl and her escort, who was also her intended, was delighted to find how quickly she grasped the points of the game. She got on so well that he ventured a slight witticism on the subject. "Baseball reminds me of the household," he remarked; "there's the plate, the batter, the fowls, the flies, etc." "And it reminds me of marriage," she retorted; "first the diamond where they are engaged, then the struggles and the hits, then the men going out and finally, the difficulty they have getting home."

The Irish Standard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 27 Jul 1912

150 Years Ago

[1861 Emigration Commission Report]

The twenty-second general report of the Emigration Commissioners for the year 1861, which has just been issued, contains, as usual, some interesting information with respect to the emigration from the United Kingdom, which, it appears, attained its maximum in 1852, when the emigration amounted to no less than 368,754 souls. In the eight years between the 1st January, 1847, and the 1st January, 1855, 2,444,802 emigrants quitted the United Kingdom. The great majority of these emigrants were from Ireland, and they proceeded principally to the United States, attracted thither by the large field offered for employment and by the numbers of their countrymen who had preceded them, and who assisted their emigration by liberal remittances. Those remittances in the 14 years ending 31st December, 1861, amounted to upwards of 12 millions sterling. In 1855 emigration began to fall off, partly, no doubt, from the demand for labour created by the Russian war, and partly also from the improved state of Ireland and the exhaustion of the class from which emigrants were drawn.…

Even if civil war had not broken out in the United States, it is probable that the emigration to that country would never have recovered to its former proportions. As it consisted almost entirely of Irish, the depletion of Ireland by the excessive emigration of recent years must, under any circumstances, have brought it down to moderate proportions. …

Australian and New Zealand Gazette
2 Aug 1862

200 Years Ago

THURSDAY'S POST -- LONDON

It appears by recent letters from Nova Scotia that two ships with emigrants from Scotland and Ireland, bound to the United States, had been carried into Halifax, & that the passengers who had dispersed themselves throughout the Province were perfectly content with the situations they obtained. – This circumstance shows how important it is to the public interest that some measures should be adopted

to divert the current of these emigrants to those parts of the British North American colonies which may be thought most advisable at the present crisis. The importance of these Colonies is now universally acknowledged, and from the encouragement which has been given by the present Administration to their trade and fisheries, it is natural to presume, the whenever the subject of emigration from Scotland and Ireland is brought again under the consideration of Government, every facility will be granted to induce persons disposed to emigrate to give preference to his Majesty's settlements in North America.

The Edinburgh Advertiser
Edinburgh, Midlothian 6 Nov 1812

250 Years Ago

[Regiments from Ireland to Embark for Newfoundland]

We hear there are letters in town from Newfoundland, confirming the report of the French having burned and destroyed everything belonging to the fishery upon the whole island.

They also mention that a small vessel had given notice of the French being near the coast to our ships four days before they attacked the place; however the French took twenty-five of them.

It is said that three regiments from Ireland are to be embarked immediately for Newfoundland, in order to retake that valuable island. …

Gazetteer and London Daily Advertiser
London, Middlesex 28 Jul 1762

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a co-president of Midwest Ancestor Research. She is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past Education chair for the Irish Genealogical Society, International. Sheila specializes in Irish-specific research topics. She traces her own family history to Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.

Genealogy Book Sale

August 25, 2012 9A.M. - 3 .P.M.
South St. Paul, Minnesota

It's the second year that all of the genealogy societies associated with the MGS Library are making available a plethora of genealogical books and materials for your home library. Some books are priced as low as a dollar. Come early for the best selection; come later for discounts on a bag of books.

This year, the IGSI Bookstore will be part of the event, selling new books and maps from the Bookstore's inventory. If you forget to check out the Bookstore on an Irish Saturday, stop by for a look. If you'd like to see the full gamut of items on Irish research available for purchase, be sure to stop by and visit the book sale.

Oh – an added benefit! The library upstairs will be open as well.

Stop by and say hello – and buy a few books for your home library.

Visit the IGSI Bookstore

at the
Genealogy Book Sale

Saturday, August 25
9 AM - 3 PM at
1185 Concord St. N
South St Paul

Irish Fair of Minnesota

August 10 – 12, 2012

The nation's largest free celebration of Irish culture – the Irish Fair of Minnesota – will take place Friday, August 10 through Sunday, August 12 on Harriet Island in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

This annual celebration offers you an opportunity to celebrate authentic Irish Heritage through a multitude of activities. There's Irish food, a marketplace, cultural events and activities set along the banks of the Mississippi River.

Throughout the festival grounds, workshops and seminars abound! The Irish Genealogical Society International will have a display area at the fair. The booth's location is currently identified as along the riverbank area. Stop by and say hello!

Those who attended last year may remember the sheep-herding events with the dogs. This year nine different Irish breeds of dogs will exhibit at the fair. There are a number of contests related to the Fair – see the results of the Talent, Baking and Photo contests as well as attend or participate in the Best Legs in a Kilt contest at the Fair.

The musical line-up for the three stages includes Ireland's best traditional folk group, Derek Warfield & the Young Wolfe Tones; Liz Carroll with Cormac McCarthy; the Young Dubliners; and many well-known local groups. Check out Locklin Road, Rumgumption, Gaelic Storm, Wild Colonial Bhoys, the Belfast Cowboys, and many more.

For more information on the Irish Fair itself, directions to the Fair, and the full schedule of events and activities, visit their website at <www.irishfair.com>.

Volunteers to Help at Irish Fair

A loyal cadre of Society members help staff an IGSI booth at the Irish Fair each August to answer simple questions about Irish genealogy and heritage. But additional member help is appreciated. Join the group and volunteer with IGSI this August. Help is also needed with the set-up and take-down of the booth on Friday afternoon and late Sunday afternoon.

If you can volunteer Friday late afternoon (for set-up), or during the days on Saturday or Sunday (for a few hours), we would appreciate your help. Please contact Kay Swanson at Membership@IrishGenealogical.org **before August 1 to volunteer.**

Return to Ireland in 2013

It appears that the Irish government has realized the financial benefits of visits by the descendents of Irish families which left the country during the diaspora. In October 2011, Ireland's Tourism Minister Leo Varadkar issued an invitation to the world to come and join in Ireland's renewal for a year-long event called "The Gathering." This invitation offers an outstanding opportunity for creating closer bonds and long-term links on both sides of the Atlantic and even around the world. The notion of a closer relationship with Ireland is at the heart of most Irish organizations and community groups.

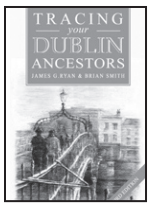
The Gathering will include a series of events in all towns and villages throughout Ireland: flagship festivals as well as new and traditional programs and events. Fantastic New Year's Eve festivals will bookend the year. The numerous special interest events will showcase Irish arts, food, sports, heritage, science, and culture throughout the year. You can find the most up-to-date information at their website <www.thegatheringireland.com>.

Many people (family historians and others) who have Irish connections or a fondness for Ireland have often mentioned traveling to Ireland – sometime. Next year may be the time to experience Ireland at its very best.

Sale on Older Titles - $10 each plus FREE SHIPPING

Tracing Your Dublin Ancestors (2nd edition)

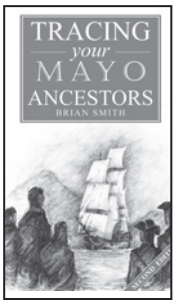
James G. Ryan and Brian Smith



This book provides a list of resources available and the libraries where rare items are located. Sometimes call numbers are given. Non-Ireland repositories are also mentioned. There is a vast bibliography of newspapers dating back to the late 1600s. (106 pp) Sale Price $10.00

Tracing Your Mayo Ancestors

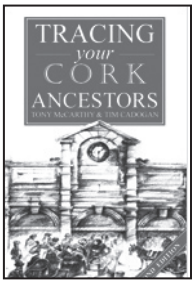
Brian Smith



Mayo families are a mixture of native Gaelic families, of Gaelic families who migrated from Ulster, and of English and Scots-Irish settlers. This book sets out the records available and how they can be used to best effect. (95 pp) Sale Price $10.00

Tracing Your Cork Ancestors (1997)

Tony McCarthy and Tim Cadogan



This book sets out the records available for research on the history of County Cork families, where they can be accessed, and how they can be used to best effect. For each type of record, it describes how it was compiled and the categories of people and data included. It also provides background on the social history of County Cork and how this history has affected the keeping and survival of records. (122 pp) *Sale Price $10.00*

Tracing Your IrishAncestors - 2nd Edition

John Grenham

This 2nd 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.) 2nd edition *Sale Price $10.00*

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July - November 2012
Irish Saturday Classes

July 14, 2012 Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Irish Research Gems of the Minnesota Genealogical Library
Ann Eccles and Fern Wilcox, Instructors
Description of items held in the Minnesota Genealogical Library in the Irish other Collections held in the library. Find out where to locate these, what collections they are located in have an in depth tour of the stacks. Will include books available in the IGSI bookstore and maps located in the collection.

August 11, 2012 No class.
We encourage all to attend the Minnesota Irish Fair.

September 8, 2012 Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Irish Immigration
Linda Miller, Instructor
For those who want to find more about your ancestor's immigration, this is the class for you. You will hear about how to search for those immigration papers, where to look, when is it best to search Ellis Island and what you might find on ship's papers.

October 13, 2012 Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Using the Census
Beth Mullinax, Instructor
This class shows what you can find out about your ancestors, how to expand your search and much more.

November 10, 2012 Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Estate Records
Tom Rice, Instructor
For much of the 19th Century most Irish lived on land that was part of an estate. The records of these estates may list renters and leases along with various details about them and their lives. Find out how to identify the estate owner, where these records are and how access them.

December 8, 2012 No class.
Happy Holidays

Genealogy and Ireland

Ulster Genealogy and Migration Studies Autumn School
October 7 -13, 2012
Omagh, County Tyrone
Learn about Ulster's migration history first-hand, with time for your own research.
http://www.ancestryireland.com/autumn-school/

Back to Our Past Conference
October 12 - 14, 2012
Dublin, Ireland
Third annual Irish genealogy and family/social history experience.
www.backtoourpast.com/mysitecaddy/site3/index.htm

Be sure to stop by the booth for our sister-group TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association) of Boston and say hello. some of their members are members of IGSI as well.

Who Do You Think You Are Live
February 22 – 24, 2013
London, England
The biggest family history event in the world.
http://www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/

Clare Genealogy Conference
April 2013
Contact the Clare Roots Society (http://www.clareroots.org/) for information

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories – some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors.

We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history.

We also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes.

The theme for the October 2012 issue is History & Records of Ports of Entry: U.S. - Canada - Australia. The deadline for submission of articles is August 1, 2012. Do you have expertise in this area? Have you done research with records of ports of entry in the U.S. or another country for your Irish ancestors? Share your story with us.

The theme for the January 2013 issue is Irish South of the Equator. The deadline for submission of articles is November *1, 2012.* Do you have expertise in this area? Did your ancestors settle – for a time or permanently – in a country or area in the Caribbean or south of the Equator? Share your story or research with us.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

Make writing an article for IGSI one of your 2012 genealogical resolutions.

IGSI Research Options

IGSI Benefit

The IGSI collection of Irish genealogical materials is housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) library in South St. Paul, MN. There are different ways that IGSI members can utilize the collection in their research: those who live nearby or travel to the St. Paul area can do hands-on research in the building; any member can ask the IGSI researchers to help them in their Irish research.

In Person

IGSI members who come to the library to use its resources have free access to the Irish and any other collections in the building. Those who are not members of IGSI or another affiliate of the MGS pay a $10 fee per visit.

Irish Saturday is the second Saturday of each month – a day when IGSI members have access to the wealth of information in the collection, possible class on an Irish research topic, and Irish research volunteers who will help them onsite.

IGSI welcomes out-of-town members to visit and research at the MGS Library. (See the article below for information on making an appointment for onsite assistance.)

For a Fee

IGSI offers research assistance for a fee to members who live either near or far. Research volunteers check Irish resources available in the IGSI collection to find information on Irish ancestors or to identify next steps in Irish research. The fee is $15 per hour of research, with a one-hour minimum; there are additional charges for photocopies, etc. Check the IGSI website for more information on requesting fee-based research help.

Contact the IGSI Research Committee (Research@IrishGenealogical.org) for more information and assistance.

Take the next step to locating your Irish ancestors in 2012. Contact the IGSI librarian or the research committee.

Make an Appointment

Visit IGSI at the MGS Library

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email: Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org
Phone: Beth Mullinax 763-574-1436

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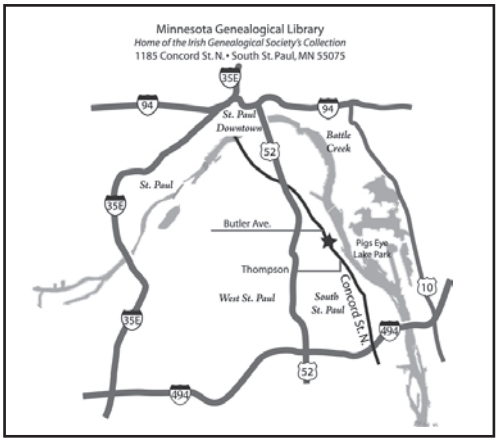
IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
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Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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 Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

Volume 33, Number 4

The Septs

Deireadh Fomhair (October) 2012

$10.00

History & Records of Ports of Entry

2012 - 2013 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

OCTOBER 8, 2012
NOVEMBER 12, 2012
DECEMBER 10, 2012
JANUARY 12, 2013
FEBRUARY 9, 2013
MARCH 9, 2013
APRIL 13, 2013
MAY 11, 2013
JUNE 8, 2013
JULY 13, 2013
AUGUST 10, 2013
SEPTEMBER 14, 2013

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

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

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Printed in the USA

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2012

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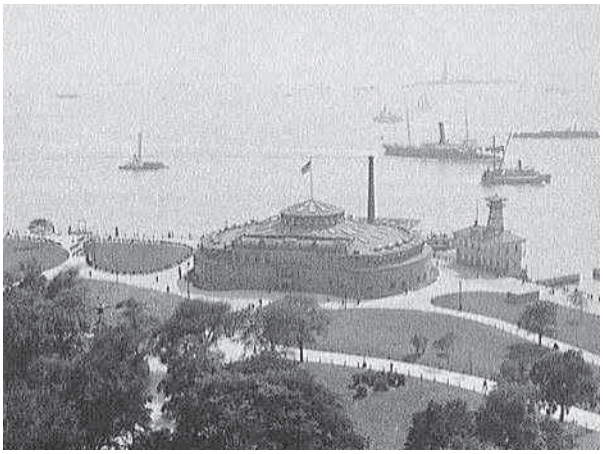


In This Issue

by Ann Eccles

To paraphrase Robert Burns, the best laid plans often go awry. I recently traveled south to research an ancestor who left New England for the wilds of Georgia in the 1890s. Thanks to the 1910 and 1920 censuses, I knew where he settled. I went in search of vital records and newspaper accounts of the times. I called ahead to the local library and asked what they had on history of the area and if they had any newspapers on microfilm. The responses were promising. Unfortunately, I forgot to ask one important question – and the information was not volunteered at the time of my inquiry. Their only microfilm reader had died and they were waiting for a replacement!

And thus starts the story of this issue. With a theme of ports around the world, we planned to offer great information for the ports of various countries. But that was not to be. That doesn't mean we have nothing to offer. We have some wonderfully informative articles in this issue.

Tom Rice takes the opportunity to demonstrate his research process – in this case, searching on a port. He lets us follow his search methods for the Canadian port of St. John in New Brunswick. Kathleen Strickland looks at using the Ellis Island database to find ancestors who arrived in the U.S. through the port of New York between 1892 and 1924.

Dwight Radford explains the importance of Irish Workhouse records to family history researchers. Judith Wight reports on the genealogical and historical resources to be found in County Leitrim.

Mary Wickersham describes the treasures to be found on *Google Books* when searching for ancestors or locations.

Jay Fonkert explores the Five W's of writing in the light of genealogy for family historians who are preparing reports or family-based stories.

So find a seat and settle in for a good bit of information to help your research of Irish ancestors. And don't forget to check the articles about Society events and activities. Happy reading.

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 as president of the Board of Directors, assists in the library and with other tasks. She has been a member of IGSI since 2003.

A Busy Season

by Ann Eccles

The year continues to fly along.

August witnessed a wonderful experience at the Irish Fair. The weather was cooperative; our location near the river was easy to find and away from the noise of dancers. People stopped to visit and check on their surnames; members stopped by to say hello; brochures were distributed to potential members. Thanks to Kay Swanson and Beth Mullinax for coordination and planning, and to the many volunteers who helped staff the booth.

Thanks to Gigi Hickey, Kay Swanson, Mike Flynn and Tom Rice for their help at the Genealogy Booksale on August 25. We sold more than $400 of books.

What's coming up in the next few months for genealogy events in the Minnesota area?

October 5-6. The Minnesota Genealogy Society is holding its North Star conference on October 5 – 6 in Edina, Minnesota. While not Irish-centered, the conference offers knowledgeable speakers; Joshua Taylor will be the keynote speaker. Check the website<www.mngs.org.> for additional information and registration for the event.

November 3. Join us on Saturday, November 3, at the Hennepin County Family History program at the Minneapolis Central Library. In addition to exhibitors from local genealogy groups there are short programs on various aspects of genealogy. Check the events section of the library's website for further information and to register.

November 17. Come to the IGSI Members Meeting and Author Talk with local author Patrick Day on Saturday, November 17, at the LDS library in New Brighton. This free meeting/program will start at 9:20 AM. (See page 129 for more information.)

The New Brighton LDS Library is now open from 9 AM – 3 PM on Saturdays. If you haven't visited the library, take a moment after the meeting to explore the resources. They have *HeritageQuest* and *Fold 3* databases on their computers, as well as *Ancestry*.

I hope to see you at one of these events.

Researching Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

by Tom Rice, CG[SM]

My original intent was to write an article to fit the theme for this issue of *The Septs* which is the history and records of ports of entry in the U.S., Canada and Australia. Somewhere along the line I got immersed in the process of researching my port of choice and the research process itself became the subject. So, in this article you will get a glimpse at how this genealogist goes about investigating a new topic, and if you follow the links provided in this article you will learn a lot about my port of choice.

So what port did I choose, and why should you be interested in my research wanderings? Saint John, in the Canadian Province of New Brunswick, is my chosen port of entry for this exercise. I chose it because it is one of those ports often neglected when people talk about Irish immigration to North America. Yet it was a significant port of entry for the early years of the 19th century, especially for Irish going to Canada, which many did. Also, it is a topic that I can get my hands around with a reasonable amount of effort. As for why you might be interested in my research process and its results: Hopefully, looking at my research process can give you some ideas that will be useful for you in your work: maybe a website you have not thought of, maybe a different way of framing a question, maybe a different resource to consider. Even if you do not find the research process itself to be of benefit, you may discover something new and useful at the websites, articles and other resources mentioned here.

Research is a search that is repeated, it is an in depth questioning. Where better to start searching than with *Google?*

STOP: *Let's set some ground rules. In this article when a term is in square brackets [ ] it represents what I typed into a search box. If it is in quotes within the square brackets, then I put it in quotes in the search bar. Note that for Google, and for most other search engines, capitalization does not matter. The names of websites will be shown in italics.*

In this article if the web address is relatively short, I will use that. If it is quite long, I will use a tiny url in place of the long version.

Searches 1 – 2 Google

1. For my first query, I put ["st john" "new brunswick"] into the search window. Among the first results listed was a link to "Saint John, New Brunswick" <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_John,_New_Brunswick>, a *Wikipedia* article providing an overview of the city and its history.

2. As I started to re-enter the search terms used above, but without the quotes, *Google* suggested [st john new brunswick immigration port] as a search term. I chose to follow this suggestion. On the first page of 50 hits, I found the following interesting results:

1. *TheShipsList*, <http://www.theshipslist.com/> Once on that page, I did a Find (ctrl +f) for "Saint John" and was led to

    1. *Saint John, N.B. Customs House Passenger Lists 1815, 1832, 1833-1834 & 1837-1838, <http://tinyurl.com/9jjkphs> (140+ passenger lists) A* complete collection of the only surviving passenger lists for the port of Saint John, New Brunswick for the periods noted.

2. *Port of Saint John*, a *Wikipedia* article, <http://tinyurl.com/8z24daz> is another good history. Within this article there was a link to Partridge Island. Clicking on this led to another *Wikipedia* article:

    1. *Partridge Island, New Brunswick*, a *Wikipedia* article, <http://tinyurl.com/9o3nv4b> Here I scrolled to and clicked on three links that interested me:

        1. *Partridge Island Quarantine Station*, <http://tinyurl.com/9lcd6vd>, a web page about the island posted under the heading "Canada's Historic Places."

        2. *"1967.25A-C Partridge Island,"* <http://tinyurl.com/9q5eqn2>, which had several 19th century photographs of the island.

3. *Typhus epidemic of 1847*, <http://tinyurl.com/93rfqfa>, a *Wikipedia* article about this epidemic.

2. *In History of New Brunswick*, a *Wikipedia* article, <http://tinyurl.com/9vmho7b > a paragraph on immigration referenced an article, "Orange Order and Social Violence in Mid-Nineteenth Century Saint John." I ran a *Google* search using ["The Orange Order and Social Violence in Mid-Nineteenth Century Saint John"] which gave me the link <http://tinyurl.com/9rnwav5> for downloading this article.

3. On the *Irish Genealogy in Canada* page <http://layden-zella.tripod.com/IrishGen.index.html>, I clicked on the link "The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick" and got a 404 message. The link was bad. So, back to *Google* with the search ["The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick"]. This worked and brought me to the *Provincial Archives of New Brunswick* website <http://tinyurl.com/9a2uw2k>, a treasure trove of links to online digitized and extracted records. By clicking on "Search" in the navigation bar I found a page of interesting links. These included

   1. *Marriage Bonds, 1810-1932* <http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS551A/?culture=en-CA >

   2. *Saint John Burial Permits, 1889-1919* <http://tinyurl.com/99rvqcn>

   3. *Vital Statistics from Government Records* <http://tinyurl.com/8snwtpo>

   4. *Port Returns [Including Passenger List], 1816-1838* <http://tinyurl.com/8wwx2p6> included links to pages where you can search by passenger names or vessel names.

   5. *The New Brunswick Irish Portal* <http://tinyurl.com/8ck7vtu> had many links of interest to me in relation to my research on the port of Saint John.

   1. *Saint John Almshouse records* <http://tinyurl.com/8e4opdh>

   2. *Brenan Funeral Home Records: traces of Ireland* <http://tinyurl.com/8jwv6kl>

   3. *Fitzwilliam Estate Emigration Books 1847-1856* <http://tinyurl.com/9odykw6>

   4. *RS555 Provincial Secretary: Immigration Administration Records* <http://tinyurl.com/8athu83> There are links here to pages where you can search by passenger names or vessel names.

   5. *Immigrant Letters* <http://tinyurl.com/9eyl7yk>

   6. *Newspapers* <http://tinyurl.com/99cbkhr>

   7. *Teachers Petition Database* <http://tinyurl.com/9cj7ncn>

   8. *Irish Immigrants in New Brunswick Census of 1851 and 1861* <http://tinyurl.com/9mvdlre>

6. *Newspaper Vital Statistics (Daniel Johnson)* <http://tinyurl.com/8q4oy28>

7. *Mgr Donat Robichaud Genealogical and Historical Research Collection* <http://tinyurl.com/8khuq6u>. This site has a link to Genealogical Files <http://tinyurl.com/8e8mn7n> which itself provides links for downloading 14 PDF files of genealogical information arranged by surname. Note that these are a mixture of French and English records.

Searches 3-5 Family Search

3. At the *FamilySearch* home page <https://familysearch.org>, under "Browse by Location," I clicked on "Canada," then on "New Brunswick" which led me to a list of 12 record collections which consisted mostly of birth, marriage and death

records, most with record images; some indexes of births/baptisms from 1789, deaths from 1815, marriages from 1789 and deeds from 1780.

4. Back at the *FamilySerch* home page <https://familysearch.org>, I clicked on "Catalog" and then chose to search the catalog using the "previous version" because I prefer how it presents search results. Once there I clicked on "Place Search" and entered [New Brunswick] in the first box and [Canada] in the second box. This gave me a list of links to various categories of records found in the catalog for that location. I clicked on "Emigration and Immigration" and found 11 listings. Of special interest to me amongst these were

    1. *A Chronicle of Irish Emigration to Saint John, New Brunswick, 1847,* <http://tinyurl.com/cmsld9w>

    2 *The Irish Emigrants & Their Vessels, Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841-1849,* <http://tinyurl.com/c73hbad>

    3. *Passenger Lists for New Brunswick, 1816-1837, and index,* <http://tinyurl.com/dx3bl5k>

    4. *Passenger Lists, Ships Manifest/manifeste de navire, Saint John, New Brunswick; National Archives of Canada,* NAC reel T-504, <http://tinyurl.com/bvojumx>

    5. *Passengers to New Brunswick: The Custom House Records, 1833, 34, 37 & 38,* <http://tinyurl.com/d5pu2xu>

    6. *Poor Ignorant Children: Irish Famine Orphans in Saint John, New Brunswick,* <http://tinyurl.com/dy8n82z>

    7. *Ships' Passenger Lists for Canada, 1900-1922, 1925-1935,* <http://tinyurl.com/ccuercu>

    8. *St. John, New Brunswick - "Courier," Saturday, 10 July 1847 (page 2, columns 2 & 3),* <http://tinyurl.com/9qg7uxh>

You can take one of several approaches as to how to handle Family History Library items that are in print format and do not circulate. You could search for them using *WorldCat* to see what libraries hold them and then either visit a library, if it is nearby, or request a copy through interlibrary loan. You could request a photocopy of pages of interest to you, i.e. the index entries for names you are searching or the table of contents; then make a second request for the content pages you want to see. You could engage a researcher in Salt Lake City to examine the work on your behalf.

5. Next, I went to the *FamilySearch* Wiki <http://tinyurl.com/9sbsd5b>. I searched using [New Brunswick] and clicked on the result titled "New Brunswick." This took me to the *New Brunswick* <http://tinyurl.com/9ofe8t6> page where I pursued the following three links:

    1. "New Brunswick Emigration and Immigration," <http://tinyurl.com/8azaxqy>.

    2. Under Research Tools, I clicked on "BYU Research Outline for New Brunswick, Canada" which gave me a download of a PDF research outline, <http://tinyurl.com/9e4eha5>.

    3. "History," <http://tinyurl.com/8pjt73e>, which provided me with a New Brunswick history timeline and directions to several resources for New Brunswick history.

Searches 6 – 7 Ancestry.com

One cannot say one has done a thorough Internet search on a genealogical topic if *Ancestry.com* is not included in that search.

6. At *Ancestry.com* I clicked on "Search" then on "Card Catalog" where I entered [saint john] into the database title search field. This gave me 11 hits amongst which were

    1. Irish Emigration to New England through the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841-1849.

    2. Atlas of Saint John, city and county, New Brunswick.

3. Early Saint John Methodism and history of Centenary Methodist Church, Saint John, N.B.: a jubilee souvenir.

4. Livingston's hand book and visitors' guide to Saint John: with an account of Fredericton and St. John River.

5. History of the General Public Hospital in the City of Saint John, N.B.

7. I did another search in Ancestry's Card Catalog using [new brunswick] as the search term. With this, I was shown 55 hits. Four that I thought would be especially useful for this project were:

   1. New Brunswick, Canada, Passenger Lists: 1834.

   2. Irish Emigration or New England through the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841-1849.

   3. New Brunswick: with Notes for Emigrants.

   4. Atlas of Saint John, city and county, New Brunswick.

Searches 8 – 10 Google – with options

8. Back to *Google*, where I searched using ["st john" OR "Saint john" "New Brunswick"]. After the results of this search appeared, I clicked on "News" in the left hand column. Under "Any Time" I clicked on "Custom Range" and entered 1/1/1700 in the top box and 1/1/1900 in the bottom box. I got 295 hits for articles published in that time frame.

   1. I added [irish] to the search terms and got 34 hits.

   2. I tried the addition of [port] to the search term and got 102 results.

9. At *Google Maps* <https://maps.google.com>, I searched for [Partridge Island, Saint John, NB, Canada]. I looked at the results using the satellite, map and earth views.

10. Back once again at *Google*, I searched for ["st john new brunswick"] and clicked on "Images" on the top bar. This gave me over five million hits.

    1. I clicked on what appeared to be an old black and white drawing and was brought to Virtual Gallery of Historic Saint John, Early Painting, Prints and Photographs, 1750-1910 <http://tinyurl.com/8rxn546>.

    2. I clicked on an image of an old map and was brought to large image of 1844 map of St. John, New Brunswick, Harbor <http://tinyurl.com/8odnj2g>.

    3. I scrolled down on the left side and clicked on "Black and White" to filter the results to where I then saw a higher concentration of older prints and photos.

Searches 11 – 13 Searching for Books & Articles

11. I searched Worldcat <http://www.worldcat.org> for [saint john new brunswick], then filtered the results by clicking on "Topic: History & Auxiliary Services" and "Book." This yielded 1,142 hits. Some hits of interest to me were

   1. Irish emigration to New England through the port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841 to 1849

   2. We hardly knew ye: St. Mary's Cemetery, an enduring presence, Saint John, New Brunswick

   3. The New Brunswick census of 1851, Saint John County

   4. Missing persons from Ireland: notices from newspapers of Saint John, New Brunswick, 1828-1906

   5. A chronicle of Irish emigration to Saint John, New Brunswick, 1847

   6. Passenger lists: ships manifest/manifestes de navire, Saint John, New Brunswick

   7. Irish emigrants & their vessels, Port of St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841 to 1849

   8. Poor, ignorant children: Irish famine orphans in Saint John, New Brunswick

I could have requested an interlibrary loan of any of these titles. Because several books were published early enough such that they would no longer be covered by U.S. copyright, I looked to see if they would be available for either reading online or downloading. My two tools for doing this are Internet Archives, <http://archive.org/index.php>, which has a very good tool for searching and reading textual material online plus the ability to download a book in several different formats, such as epub, mobi, text or pdf. The other tool of choice is Google Books, <http://books.google.com/books>, which allows for searching within a book for a word or phrase. Google Books also allows me to create an online library of books from their collection which I can organize by topic if I so choose.

12. Another excellent but often overlooked search tool is Google Scholar <scholar.google.com>. Here, my search using ["saint john" "new brunswick" immigration irish] yielded 1,400 hits. A search for ["partridge island" "new brunswick" immigration irish] yielded 98 results. Some of these search results can be read online or downloaded. Others are available for a fee. Almost all can be found in some library. Some interlibrary loan websites allow you to order a photocopy of an article. You can learn about Google Scholar at <http://tinyurl.com/rc2ja>.

The following titles found at Google Scholar might be of interest as part of this port of entry research project:

1. The Irish of New Brunswick at Mid-century: The 1851 Census, <http://tinyurl.com/cwd2v96>

2. "Allmost as Bad as Ireland": Saint John 1847, <http://tinyurl.com/buw7uut>

3. Records of Immigration, <http://tinyurl.com/9q2y4a5>

4. The Geography of the Irish Emigration to Canada, <http://tinyurl.com/cqqrv78>

5. Poor, "Ignorant Children": "A Great Resource," the Saint John Emigrant Orphan Asylum Admittance Ledger in Context, <http://tinyurl.com/c9tsmv6>

6. Fleeing the Famine: North America and Irish Refugees, 1845-1851, <http://tinyurl.com/bnfnsqb>

7. Irish Emigration to New England Through the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841 to 1849, <http://tinyurl.com/d5yrxed>

13. I can open my search further to include online catalogs of major or regional libraries, genealogical societies and even local historical societies. In this instance, I searched the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society library <http://tinyurl.com/crzwnqv>, entering ["st john"] in the first search field of their advanced search tools and ["new brunswick"] into the second search field. This gave me 11 hits. Note: the *Worldcat* search achieved the same results as this library is one of the more than 10,000 libraries covered by *Worldcat*. However, because not all libraries are part of the *Worldcat* system, it pays to do a separate search within the catalogs of some genealogical and historical society libraries.

Other Internet Searches

14. Whenever doing an in-depth genealogy-related search, one always should consult *Cyndi's List* <www.cyndislist.com>. A search for ["saint john" "new brunswick"] yielded 42 results, while a search for ["partridge island"] gave me 5 results. Several of these turned out to be bad links.

15. *Rootsweb* <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/> is another "must visit" site for anyone doing genealogical research, especially for research relating to a new place. My favorite strategy is to drill down through links to the specific place I am investigating. In this case the path taken was Websites at RootsWeb>Canada>New Brunswick>St. John. There are several links of interest in the left margin on this page: "Pictures of Saint John," "Cemeteries," and "Passenger Ship Lists." This last link brought me not to passenger lists but to *NB Gen Links* which, as the name implies, has links to many additional New Brunswick resources. Of special interest to

this project are the links labeled "Records: New Brunswick," "Migrations," and under that "Irish" and "An Gorta Mor."

This search and research project has been a long and winding path. The information gathered includes history, maps, photos, articles and books about the port and immigration there; records online; and references to records to be obtained via film rental or interlibrary loan. I found these by use of general and specialized search engines and the online encyclopedia, *Wikipedia*. I also used several genealogy related sites, such as *Cyndi's List*, *Ancestry.com*, *FamilySearch* and *RootsWeb*. I found many of the best sites by drilling down through links provided by the search tools or a genealogy specific site.

Was this an exhaustive search? Not really, but it was good enough to provide a reasonable history of the port of St. John, New Brunswick, in terms of its role as a port of entry for 19th century Irish immigrants to Canada. This search also provided me with access to records I can search looking for ancestors who may have used this as their entry to North America. I am sure every reader of this article who researches the same topic will find gems I missed and will want to tell me about the most obvious web sites I failed to look at. No search ever finds everything. No search or research is ever finished. However, this search was sufficient for the purpose of gathering material for an article. It would also suffice the family history researcher's need to learn about the port and its role in Irish immigration to North America.

So what do you do with these findings? At a minimum, you should read some of these pages. You may want to search some of the databases or collections of records for surnames of interest to you. You could create a collection of bookmarks to those websites of most value in understanding the Irish immigration to and through the port. Of course, because some findings point to books or articles, you may want to borrow these from the library or order them through interlibrary loan. You may want to create a report or article incorporating these findings. That is what I would have done had I chosen to write an article about the port of Saint John rather than an article about researching a port.

Looking for New Leaders

Directors will select IGSI officers for 2013. After two terms as president, I will step down from the office. While I'll pursue some new projects outside genealogy, I will continue to volunteer with and for IGSI. Others may also step down from the Board of Directors after serving for a number of years.

Is it time for you to get more active with IGSI? You may say that you already are active:

- you are a member of IGSI
- you research at the library
- you purchase books or attend classes
- you support IGSI goals.

And that's true. Continued membership indicates an involvement with a group. But there are ways to increase your level of activity with IGSI, and expand your group of friends.

- Rather than just research at the library, sign on to volunteer on Irish Saturday – either at the welcome desk or as a volunteer research assistant. New family historians can use your expertise.
- Rather than attend a class or program, offer to help organize or work on a project or program (booksale, meeting, gathering, etc.).
- Rather than passively supporting IGSI with your dues, step up to take a leadership role on the Board of Directors or a committee.

We all transfer the skills, knowledge and our enthusiasms from the business world to the business of this organization – the education and services for individuals

Continued on page 122

Book Review: Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors

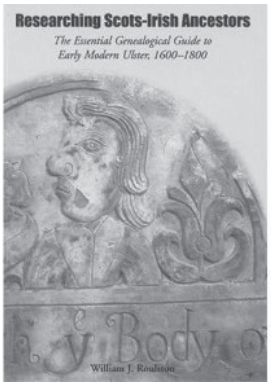
Compiled by Tom K. Rice[CG]

Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors, The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600-1800, by William J. Roulston, Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2005.

This book is a valuable reference for those with Ulster ancestors, especially if the search needs to extend back beyond the 19th century. The focus is on a specific place, the province of Ulster in Ireland, and a specific time period, the 17th and 18th centuries. With this focus the author does justice to a time period often given short shrift by many of the more popular Irish genealogy texts that stress more recent records of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Roulston begins with a brief history of Ulster during the 17th and 18th centuries. This is an excellent idea. Too few genealogy books discuss records without putting them into historical context. Another somewhat unique technique the author employs is the presentation of two case studies. These serve as excellent examples of just how much information can be gathered from a time period and place that many genealogists consider to be a record desert. By means of these examples, and in fact by the very scope of the book, the author puts to shame those who say all Irish records were either never created in the first place, were destroyed, or were lost.

Following the historical introduction and case studies, the book reviews most of the more important classes of Irish records in a chapter by chapter exposition. These include: general sources, landed estate records, registry of deeds, wills and testamentary papers, election records, local government records, corporation records, military records, newspapers, genealogical collections and miscellaneous. Two chapters, however, take a different approach and focus on a time period rather than a record type. There are separate chapters for records specific to the 17th and to the 18th centuries. Many of these are relevant to all of Ireland while some, such as Plantation records and the flaxseed premiums of 1796, have a strong Ulster focus.



Three sections of the Appendix are especially useful. One section focuses on pre-1800 church records for Ulster. While useful, the title is more promising than the content, which is limited almost exclusively to laying out the holdings of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) on the topic. The second Appendix section deals with estate records pre-dating 1800. For large holdings, the records are broken down into categories such as maps, rental rolls, leases, and manor court records. This is useful because there is little else in print that informs the reader as to what time period and type of content might be found in an estate record holding. The third section of the Appendix of special interest covers records of individual parishes. Here the author lists for each parish what is available under the headings of estate papers, church records, census substitutes, corporation records, and miscellaneous, followed by mention of any relevant local histories.

The strength of this reference is that it brings to light in an organized manner the many resources available for Ulster during this important 200 year period in its history. Of necessity, the works listed are drawn heavily from the holdings of PRONI to the point that, in most instances, the PRONI call number is given. This is good. If there is a major failing in this work it is the almost total neglect of the relevant holding of the Family History Library (FHL) for this locale and time period. Upon finding mention of a work in this volume that may be relevant to their research, readers should check the FHL catalog to see if it is available for rental or if it has been digitized or extracted and placed online.

In summary: a well-organized work, providing an in-depth listing and explanation of records pertaining to early modern Ulster that should be in the library of any genealogist whose ancestors came from that time and place.

Tom Rice, CG[SM] 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, a current director of IGSI and a genealogy help desk volunteer for the Minnesota History Society. He can be contacted at info@heritagehunters.com.*

Using Workhouse Records to Reconstruct Emigration History

by Dwight A. Radford

This is the other half of your family's emigration history. As you look at their lives in the new country, you may have many unanswered questions as to how they arrived, under what conditions, why a particular port of entry, and what was the economics of the immigration process. Not all Irish emigrants, particularly in the mid-19th century, could afford the price of ship's passage. Many of those greatly affected by the Potato Famine lost their livelihood and their homes. Families in dire straits or family members deserted by loved ones often had to turn to the Workhouse.

People entered the workhouses for a variety of reasons. The workhouse regimen was so grueling that only those who had no other choice would consider going there. While hunger and unemployment may have been the main reasons, workhouses were also a haven for unmarried pregnant girls, for separated families, orphaned children, and the old and infirm. For emigration purposes, the workhouse was the last stop for many families, individuals, and the last Irish document where you may find your ancestors. It is from these workhouse records you can reconstruct not only when your family left Ireland, but under what conditions they arrived in their new country.

The Poor Law Act of 1838 established Poor Law Unions in Ireland. Each union had a Board of Guardians, erected a workhouse, collected fees from local landowners to sustain the workhouse, and provided assistance to those wishing to emigrate. The Poor Law records are the archives of the Boards of Guardians which administered relief to the poor from 1838 through 1948.

Each Poor Law Union had its workhouse in the town it was named after. Poor Law Union boundaries and how they compare to civil parishes can be found in Brian Mitchell's *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland* (rev. ed. Baltimore, Maryland Genealogical Publishing Co., 2002). I utilize Mr. Mitchell's book on a daily basis in my research. Simple and to the point, it helps me to determine what parishes (civil and Catholic) were in which Poor Law Union.

As a researcher, sometimes I look at a particular family arriving at a given port and I just know that they didn't have the money to purchase a ticket. With this in mind, I consider the possibility of assisted emigration out of a workhouse as a reason for the voyage. This doesn't mean that all emigrants were assisted. Some families got back on their feet and left the workhouse before emigrating. But the workhouse may still be the last place to document these unassisted emigrants. It is an important resource to consider, as a clue to the economic situation of your family, their relationships and level of poverty, and how they escaped the dreaded routine of the place.

If the workhouse discharge records, as found in the Indoor Relief Registers, are the last place you document your ancestors prior to their emigration, note the date they were discharged from the workhouse. When you compare this date with the U.S. or Canadian passenger arrival list, you may be able to create a better time line as it is the closest record to a departure. Remember, many people went to Glasgow or Edinburgh in Scotland, or to Lancashire in England for a period of time prior to continuing on to America.

Of the several types of workhouse records, the ones most adaptable for documenting departures are the "Indoor Relief Registers" and the "Minute Books." The Indoor Relief Registers provide information, such as name; residence (townland, town or simply the Poor Law Union); marital status (single, married, deserted); the status of a child (orphaned, deserted, bastard); the condition arrived (physically dirty, has clothes, physical and emotional condition); religion; date arrived; and date died or discharged. The Minute Books for the period of the Potato Famine document the people to whom the Board of Guardians gave assistance to emigrate. The majority of the information on the residents will be in the Indoor Relief Registers.

For emigration purposes, the Workhouse and the Board of Guardians records are important for the years of the Potato Famine (1845-51). However, the pressures of the Potato Famine made it necessary to help people while not housing them in the workhouse. Due to the overcrowding of the workhouses during the Famine years, the Outdoor Relief programs began in 1847 so that people could remain in their homes, work for the Poor Law Union, and be paid in food. The Outdoor Relief program records are less informative than the Indoor Relief Registers.

The original records are housed in Irish archives, such as the National Archives of Ireland (NAI) and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI). However, many are also held at the various county libraries. Online catalogs should reveal where they are located. Some collections of Workhouse records have been microfilmed and are

available for loan through the Family History Library (FHL). Inventories for the records of the Poor Law Unions can be found in Deirdre Lindsay and David Fitzpatrick's book, *Records of the Irish Famine: A Guide to Local Archives, 1840-1855* (Dublin: Irish Famine Network, 1993).

Check the Internet for articles on the conditions of the workhouse and what life was like for someone living there. You may also find extractions of workhouse records, especially the funded emigration schemes, online. There are several articles on the Poor Law Unions and Workhouses at *AskAboutIreland* <www.askaboutireland.ie>.

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Location of Poor Law Union Records in Ireland

Each county has several Poor Law Unions, some of which cross county boundaries. Of the 150+ Poor Law Unions in Ireland, each union has to be checked as to whether its records are to be found on microfilm at the FHL, online, or at a county archive. An online list at <www.workhouses.org.uk/records/archives.shtml> offers addresses for library and archives.

County	Record Location
Antrim	PRONI, FHL
Armagh	PRONI, FHL
Carlow	Carlow County Library
Cavan	Cavan Archives Service
Clare	Clare County Library
Cork	Cork City & County Archives
Donegal	Donegal County Archives
Down	PRONI, FHL
Dublin	NAI, FHL
Fermanagh	PRONI, Dublin City Archives, FHL
Galway	Galway Local Archives
Kerry	Kerry County Library
Kildare	Kildare County Library
Kilkenny	Kilkenny County Library
Laois	Laois County Library
Leitrim	Leitrim County Library, FHL
Limerick	Limerick Studies Archives
Londonderry/Derry	PRONI, FHL

County	Record Location
Longford	Longford County Library, FHL
Louth	Louth County Archives Service
Mayo	Castlebar Central Library
Meath	Meath County Library, FHL
Monaghan	PRONI, FHL
Offaly	Offally County Library
Roscommon	Roscommon County Library
Sligo	Sligo County Library
Tipperary	Tipperary Libraries Local Studies and Archives
Tyrone	PRONI, FHL
Waterford	Waterford County Archive (Dungarvan Library)
West Meath	Longford Westmeath Library, FHL
Wexford	Wexford County Archives Service
Wicklow	NAI, Wicklow County Archives, FHL

Five Ws for Family Historians

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

If you took a high school journalism class before, say, 1970, you were probably taught the five fundamental questions to be answered in good reporting:

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where?
- Why?

I say "before 1970" because, when I took journalism in the late 1960s, we were taught to get the Five Ws close to the lead, but now reporters are taught to grab the reader's attention and deal with the Five W's later. Still, a news story that doesn't eventually answer all five questions hasn't told the whole story.

The same could be said for family history writing. Genealogists tend to pay a lot of attention *who* and *when*, but attention to *what*, *where* and *why* will enhance a family history.

The Five Ws have a long history. *Wikipedia* asserts that evolution of the Five Ws goes all the way back to Hermagoras of Temnos, a Greek rhetorician in the 1st century BC. He taught students to deal with seven elements of an issue: *quis, quid, quando, ubi, cur, quem ad modum, quibus admininiculis* – who, what, when, where, why, in what way, by what means. Rudyard Kipling simplified matters by immortalizing five Ws, plus *how* in his poem "The Elephant's Child":

> I keep six honest serving-men
> (They taught me all I knew);
> Their names are What and Why and When
> And How and Where and Who.

Today we focus on just the Five Ws. Family history research and writing is a bit like investigative reporting. Both investigative reporters and family historians seek to discover the essential facts of complex events that they were not present to witness. The challenge is to reconstruct what happened from whatever evidence they can uncover. Let's explore the importance of the Five Ws in genealogy and family history.

Who? Most genealogists are pretty good at *who*. It is the question at the beginning of most family history research. Who was Grandpa? Who was Grandma? What was her middle name? A family tree looks pretty bare without names to hang on the branches.

The best thing about names is that they are the key to finding everything else. Think of a name as an identifier. Automobiles, airline flights and freight shipments get numbers that can be tracked. People get names. If you know an airline flight number, you can look up information about it. If you know an ancestor's name, you can look for the name in indexes of military or court records to find information associated with that name.

Of course, genealogists know that *who* doesn't always have a straight-forward answer. More than one John McGee of about the same age may live in the same town at the same time. Researchers must use other identifiers, such as occupation, religion or associations to be sure of having the right John McGee.

As important as names are, genealogists don't get too hung up on the spelling of names. Fawkner, Faulkner, Falkner, Faukner and Faulconer are all variants of the same name. Before exact spelling became important for records like drivers' licenses and social security accounts, consistency in names was not so important. Genealogists learn to think about how a name may have sounded to a census enumerator or a courthouse clerk.

Genealogists also pay attention to middle names, nicknames and aliases because they can be the key to certain identification of a person over time. Parents often gave a child the mother's maiden name for a middle name (my parents did). Middle names were not in widespread use before the 19th century, but a middle name or middle initial can be critical to matching an ancestor in different places or times. Nicknames can lead researchers astray. Mary may be known as "Polly," Margaret as "Greta" or "Peggy," and Martha may become "Patsy."[1] In Irish families, "Bridget" may become "Delia" and "Jeremiah" may become "Darby."

What? This can be a tough question for genealogists and family historians. For some people, the *what* is genealogical lineage – the facts of births, marriages, and deaths. Some are motivated by medical history; others by cultural heritage – their "Irishness." Preserving family stories – true or not – is the motivation for still other researchers. The important point is this: you, the researcher, must decide *what* you want to preserve. The answer will both determine your research strategy and the kind of product you leave behind for your descendants.

When? What could be more obvious than *when*? After all, it is family *history* and history is about dates, right? The importance of dates and chronology is obvious. Birth dates, marriage dates and death dates all matter; they are the bare essentials in a family history. Your family history will be more interesting if you pay

attention to "the times." What was going on in the local and world events during your ancestor's lifetime? Think about war and peace, boom times and recession, revolution and reaction, religious fervor and religious freedom, and fashion and fads.

Remember, the past was another country – that is, today's values and customs may not have held sway when your ancestors lived. Beware of "presentism" – the application of present-day attitudes and knowledge to the past. Instead, learn what people thought and understood in their own time. Researchers are especially vulnerable to presentism when dealing with moral issues, such as slavery or colonialism. Be careful not to condemn ancestors for attitudes that we know today are grounded in ignorance or superstition, but which were widely held in the past.

Where? In genealogy, location is the key to finding records. More precisely, it is knowing in what governmental jurisdiction a place was located. This is why genealogists pay attention to changing state or county boundaries. *The Red Book* and the Newberry Library's *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries* <http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/> are go-to sources for understanding how new counties were spawned from existing counties in America. For Irish placenames, use the *1851 General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, parishes and Baronies of Ireland*.

Location is more than a place name. It is a place *somewhere*. It might be a townland, a neighborhood in a city, a parish, or a region in a state. Every place is at a unique location relative to other places. It might be in a sparsely settled area distant from larger cities or in a densely settled area along a heavily traveled transportation corridor. Having a feel for relative location helps family historians understand migration patterns and settlement choices. Knowing where an ancestor lived can be a clue to where he came from. Other families in the same place may have followed similar migration paths.

Places, like people, have character. Learning about climate, topography, soil quality, water and other natural resources help family historians understand why ancestors settled where they did, how they fared, and why they moved on or went "back East." It makes family history more interesting.

Why? Or, if you wish, "How?". These questions deal with motivations, circumstances, and even serendipity. They are powerful and sometimes difficult questions. Family historians have endless *why* and *how* questions – for example:

- How did Grandma and Grandpa meet?
- Why did they settle there?
- How did they get from there to here?
- Why did he sell that piece of land?
- Why did he take up that occupation?
- How did he stay out of the army?

A leading authority on Irish migration opens and closes his book on European out-migration quoting the 19th century cultural historian Jacob Burckhardt: "Everywhere in the past we encounter things which remain unexplained only because they were completely self-understood in their time, and like all daily matters, were thought not necessary to write down."[2] Donald Akenson reminds family historians of the "Black Box" problem: the human mind. No matter what one knows about what happened before an ancestor's decision to marry, migrate, or take up a trade, and no matter what version of the story was passed forward, the true reasons behind the ancestor's decisions are forever unknowable.[3]

Still, it is worth asking *how* and *why*. Your family history will be richer if you do.

Family History Readings

Five of my favorite family history books illustrate the power of the Five Ws:

- ***Only a Few Bones*** by John Philip Colletta (Washington, D.C.: Direct Descent, 2000) is a genealogical best-seller. As much a mystery as a family history, Colletta's book is an outstanding example of dealing with the *what*, *where*, *when*, and *why* in his family history.

- ***Eighty Acres: Elegy for a Family Farm*** by Ronald Jager (Boston: Beacon Press, 1990) is more memoir than family history. Jager's descendants will surely appreciate it for the way it brings to life the place and times that shaped his Dutch-American family's farm life in Michigan.

- ***A Scattered People: an American Family Moves West*** by Gerald McFarland (New York: Penguin, 1985) follows several family streams from the colonial era forward to 1900. It pays special attention to how religious schisms and revivals, European-native American conflicts, anti-slavery crusades, and economic panics influenced his ancestors' careers and residential choices.

- ***Family*** by Ian Frazier (New York:

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1994; reprinted by Harper, 1995) follows Frazier's ancestors west from Ohio and Indiana. Frazier uses visits to the places his ancestors lived and labored to add color to his story.

- ***Annie's Ghost*** by Steve Luxenberg (New York: Hyperion, 2009) is perhaps best-known for uncovering the details of a family secret. It is also remarkable for getting beyond presentism to help the reader (and the author's family) understand how evolving attitudes about physical disability and mental health sentenced Annie to life in an institution.

For advice on writing an engaging family history, I recommend two books:

- ***You Can Write Your Family History,*** by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2003) includes a chapter on how to research social history.

- ***Writing Family History Made Very Easy,*** by Noeline Kyle (Crows Nest, Australia: Allen & Unwin, 2007) is a very readable, non-academic primer on writing a family history. It includes a chapter on creating historical context.

Endnotes

1 Christine Rose, *Nicknames: Past and Present*, 4th Edition Expanded (San Jose: Rose Family Association, 2002).

2 Donald Harman Akenson, *Ireland, Sweden and the Great European Migration 1815-1914* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011), pp. 1, 262.

3 Ibid., p. 228.

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.

Visiting Ireland in 2013

Many times I've heard it said, "I want to go to Ireland and visit my ancestor's homeplace." In an increasingly globalized world, the ethnic heritage and roots have become important to many. Ireland's series of 2013 events, known The Gathering, can help strengthen those bonds for the descendents of Irish emigrants.

Throughout 2013, The Gathering will bring together hundreds of festivals and events throughout Ireland. The events will celebrate the best in Irish music, art, literature, dance, culture, heritage, sport, film and food. But on the website <www.thegatheringireland.com> you also can find a link to a page on "Tracing Your Roots."

The Ireland Reaching Out project is based on a simple idea: instead of waiting for people of Irish descent to trace their roots, Irish volunteers are looking to contact those who left, or their ancestors, to connect in a global Irish community.

This "Meet/Greet/Connect" offer from parish communities across Ireland has been identified as a missing element from developing the Irish Diaspora in times past. Ireland XO's website <www.irelandxo.com> provides a point in Ireland for people abroad who know some detail about where their emigrant ancestors came from in Ireland and want to make a connection. Even while parish volunteers from are reaching out around the world.

So, with a little pre-planning, you may be able to attend a Gathering event during your visit to Ireland, connect with local people in the area of your ancestor's origin, or solicit some local genealogical research assistance.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Leitrim

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

Last April I made a long overdue research trip to Ireland. One of my goals was to visit as many of the county libraries as possible during the limited time I was there. Unfortunately, some of the libraries I had hoped to visit were closed on the weekdays that coincided with my time in those counties. But the five repositories I was able to visit were full of delightful surprises.

Although County Leitrim is the smallest county in Ireland, the Leitrim Local Studies Library housed in the Leitrim County Library in Ballinamore is first class. During my visit there I noticed how cordial and helpful the staff was. One spent an inordinate amount of time helping a couple and their adult daughter who were there trying to research their family in some obscure sources. If this is any indication of the quality of services in such a small library, it is well worth a visit.

There are two film readers at this library and seven computers for patron use. If you plan to visit this library it might be wise to contact them first to make an appointment for the use of a film reader.

Helpful links at the Leitrim County Library website <www.leitrimcoco.ie/eng/Services_A-Z/Library> are listed in the sidebar on the left hand side of the page. Of interest to genealogists are Locations and Opening Hours; Archives; Local Studies; Tracing Your Leitrim Ancestors; and Placenames of Leitrim.

Placenames of Leitrim apparently is a temporary database of placenames for this county. Not all of the County Leitrim placenames are listed on the site of *Placenames Database of Ireland* <www.logainm.ie>, so this section fills the void. The placenames listed are from the original *O'Donovan's Name Books*.

Tracing Your Leitrim Ancestors takes you to the fee-based *Leitrim Genealogy Centre*. The list of publications on its website references small run local history/genealogical publications that can be purchased from the Centre. Readers might possibly find some of these items in libraries in the United States, such as the Family History Library or the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Archives has three sections.

- "Local Government in Leitrim" describes records of the Grand Jury and the Board of Guardians. Also included is a list of surviving Board of Guardian records.
- "Archives of Private Origins" has a generic description of what these records might include. There is a notation that images from Devany papers will be included in this section. As noted in the catalog, John Devany compiled records about the North Leitrim Devany family.
- "Acquisitions Policy"

The gem of the library's web site is the **Local Studies** section. It includes links to Leitrim Interest Publications; Search Local Studies Database (an online catalog); Library Online Resources; Leitrim Newspapers; Electronic Resources; and National Schools Roll Book and Register. The latter lists all school records that are deposited in the Leitrim Local Studies Library.

Check **Leitrim Interest Publications** to find what new resources have been published that might be of help in genealogical research. For example, at the time of this article was written, I found a review for *Annals of Annaduff*. Author Des Guklan, according to the review, used many records and sources in the story of life in this parish over a period of centuries, including the planter families of Waldron, Nesbitt, Forbes, Campbell/Rowley, and Jones.

The Leitrim Local Studies Library carries genealogical/historical periodicals, including a complete run of *Breifne*, the journal of the Breifne Historical Society (for Counties Cavan, Leitrim and Fermanagh), *Ardagh and Clonmacnois Antiquarian Society Journal*, and *Leitrim Guardian*. Articles from these periodicals are referenced in the Local Studies catalog.

Leitrim Newspapers lists the newspaper holdings at the Leitrim County Library which are

Leitrim Observer 1904 - 1920, 1923 to date
Leitrim Journal 1850 - 1872
Leitrim Advertiser 1867 - 1916, 1921 - 1924
Leitrim News 1971
Leitrim Leader 1950 - 1952
Leitrim Gazette 1858 - 1867
Roscommon & Leitrim Gazette 1822 - 1850
Longford/Leitrim Weekender 1994
Roscommon Herald 1914 – 1922

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of participants of FAS CE Projects (temporary employees who created the indexes to church records for the Leitrim Genealogy Centre) over a 20 year period, an every-name index was created to the 1822-1905 newspaper holdings at the library. During my trip, I was researching a man named Abraham Cathcart. The

name Abraham popped into my mind as I sat at the computer in the library. Multiple entries appeared to newspaper articles containing the word Abraham. The online database only gives basic details as seen by the example below.

Newspaper: *Leitrim Advertiser*
Newspaper Content: The above could not get shoes big enough
Date: 15 June 1871
Newspaper Subject: Abraham (Inmate at Mohill Workhouse)

However, it is possible to get copies of articles from the library. The service provided stipulates that 20 newspaper articles can be copied at the cost of €1 each. When an entry of interest is found in the newspaper index, click on the MARC Display link above the entry. All of the information in the MARC Display must be provided in the request.

At the time this article was written only three items appear in the **Electronic Resources** section. They include links to the Local Studies Index, the Newspaper Index, and Ask About Ireland.

The Search **Local Studies Database** is the online library catalog. There are three ways to search this catalog: the first is by Author.; the second is by Subject; and the third is to all records in the Local Studies database. The search by Subject is the most useful to genealogists. Placenames are included, so one could search for the townland of residence of a County Leitrim ancestor. Some of the subjects that were noticed in the index were ancestors; Ancient Order of Hibernian; Assize (a list of Grand Jury Presentment Books); Board of Guardians; and estate. Many of the records are cross-indexed and listed in more than one subject.

The subject index had a few references to "preacher's books." Staff at the Local History Library looked up one of these references. The record that was checked contained the names of the preachers and the date that each one was in attendance at the church, how many people were in the congregation on those dates, and how much money was collected.

The Local Studies Database lists published books, items in the vertical files, newspaper articles, pictures, resources on microfilm, and periodical articles. This database is continually updated as often as new acquisitions are added to the library holdings.

Other Resources

There does not appear to be a how-to genealogical book for County Leitrim. Information about specific record sources for this county are listed in John Grenham's book *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* and in James Ryan's book *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History*. The Leitrim Local Studies catalog includes a reference to *Resource County Leitrim*, a CD that was compiled and published by John Hunter who resides in Australia. The web site <http://www.heritagehunters.com/handouts/septs/13-es.pdf> lists topics covered by the CD including an introduction; townland index; civil, Catholic, and Church of Ireland parishes; maps; Griffith's Valuation records; Leitrim County Library; research notes; examples of records available for most parishes and townlands; and distribution of surnames in 1854. I have not looked at this CD, but it is available at the Family History Library as an online source on the computers.

At present there are no plans to digitize records in the Leitrim Local History Library and place the information online. One can only hope that when Ireland's economy improves this service might be available in the future.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

Continued from page 114

searching for Irish ancestors. If you are approached to serve on the IGSI Board of Directors, please give it serious consideration. If you feel called to serve on the Board or on a particular committee, talk with a Board or committee person about it.

Thank you for considering an active role in IGSI.

Finding Your Ellis Island Immigrant: Two Ways to Search, Part 1

by Kathleen Strickland

Did one of your ancestors immigrate to the United States between 1892 and 1924? Chances are good that he or she was among the 22 million people who passed through the immigration station at Ellis Island, New York.

In 2001, the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation <www.ellisisland.org> released an index to its database of digital images, including ships' manifests and passenger records, recording details about immigrants who entered the United States through the Port of New York. If you are one of the 100 million Americans now living whose ancestor arrived by way of Ellis IsIand, you may benefit from the Ellis Island Database (EIDB).

Searching the Ellis Island Database

Steven Morse, a computer technology innovator—he developed the Intel 1086 microprocessor—brings an entrepreneurial edge to searching the EIDB. Morse, who was frustrated with unwieldy and slow search options on a number of online genealogical databases, created search methods that are faster and provide consolidated results. As a happy result, we, the frustrated, time-starved masses, now benefit from his innovative search techniques.

Morse's first venture into tweaking search tools on genealogy databases was "Searching the Ellis Island Database in One Step," <www.stevemorse.org>. While the EIDB fairly explodes with helpful information, it is a little cumbersome to run searches using its data entry fields. With "One Step," much of your known ancestor data is entered on the search page, and results return on a single list.

To understand how the search sites differ, run an experimental search for someone—with an arrival date between 1892-1924—about whom you have a lot of information. Plug this data into both the Ellis Island and the One-Step search forms. Compare the process—how many times you enter a set of data, how the results are returned—and see which you prefer. Whichever website you decide to use, try working through arrivals by searching on different data until you feel confident about digging for information.

Putting the EIDB Search Tools into Action

Take as your test subject Great-Uncle Michael Corry for whom you know the following information:

- He was born in County Carlow, Ireland, about 1889.
- His mother's name was Mary.
- He arrived in the United States in 1913.
- His age on arrival was about 24.
- He worked in a livery stable after making his home in Philadelphia.

Log on to the *Ellis Island Database*, <www.ellisisland.org>. The Welcome Page appears with options to enter

- Passenger's First Name (optional) / Michael
- Passenger's Last Name / Corry
- Approximate date of birth / 1889 (he was 24 when he arrived in 1913)
- Exact year, or +/- a number of years / enter +/- 2 to include room for estimation
- Gender / male

If you are already registered on this website, your results may pop up right away. Registered users sign in with their username and password. If you are not registered, you must create a user name and password before proceeding. Registration is free.

The EIDB returned two exact matches.

Exact Matches (2)						
Name of Passenger	**Residence**	**Arrived**	**Age on Arrival**	**Passenger Record**	**Ship Manifest**	**Ship Image**
Michael Corry	Batroni, Syria	1912	21	View	View	View
Michael Corry	Tulla, Ireland	1907	18	View	View	View

Matching Passenger Records

Of the exact matches, the first Michael is from Syria, so he is probably not your man. The second, though, is from Tulla, Ireland, although the arrival date and the age do not agree with your information. Click on "View" to see the passenger record in a certificate form.

Click on "Original Ship Manifest" at the top of the page to see the original record. Page 2 of a 2-page record appears… but you need to see page 1 to find Michael.

- The box to the left of the image shows page number 0508. Under that are choices for "previous" and "next." The first part of the image will be one of those, and there is no way to know which one, because images from microfilm were recorded both going forward and going backward.

- Clicking on "previous" brings up what you want—Michael Corry on Line 9. His occupation is listed as laborer, and his nearest friend or relative is his father, Patrick Corry. Michael is from Tulla, Ireland, but part of the address of his father – also of Tulla — is difficult to read.

This could be your Michael, but there is not enough information to match him up with Michael Corry. You must discover where in Ireland Tulla is located and whether it is in or close to County Carlow. A search on *Wikipedia* reveals that Tulla is in County Clare.

Since this Michael is not likely to be the one you seek, vary your search in different ways to bring up more people who may include Great-Uncle Michael.

For example, to cast a broader net, go back to the original search page and click the "Passenger Search" drop-down box. Choose "Advanced Search." You now have an opportunity to enter more—or less— of what you know about Michael.

- Change surname box from "is" to "sounds like."
- Enter his arrival date of 1913—you have documented this for Michael.
- Check the "Irish" ethnicity box.
- Leave out his age, since you are estimating that.

The "sounds-like" matches result in seven Michaels who landed in New York in 1913, six of them from Ireland. Michael Curry from Carlow—indeed, age 24— looks to be the most likely candidate, so click on "view" under "Passenger Record."

Sounds Like Matches (7)						
Name of Passenger	**Residence**	**Arrived**	**Age on Arrival**	**Passenger Record**	**Ship Manifest**	**Ship Image**
Michael Carey	Milrush, Ireland	1913	9	View	View	View
Michael Carr	Ballylar, Ireland	1913	21	View	View	View
Micheal Carr	Inurrin, Ireland	1913	21	View	View	View
Michael Carrey	Clooncunnay, Ireland	1913	28	View	View	View
Michael Crowe	New Foundland	1913	20	View	View	View
Michael Curry	Carlow, Ireland	1913	24	View	View	View
Michael Curry	Limerick, Ireland	1913	40	View	View	View

Sounds Like Records

Follow the same procedure as before, and check out the original manifest for Michael #6.

- Click "previous" and "next" pages to find the first half of the page that has been returned. Find it on the previous page.

- Line 19 shows Michael Curry who is the same age as your Michael, lived in County Carlow, and made his living as a groom. In addition, his mother's name is Mary, and his final destination is Philadelphia. This is a lead worth following up!

In the next issue of *The Septs*, I'll run the same search for Michael Corry using Stephen Morse's one-step database search, "Searching the Ellis Island Database in One Step."

Kathleen Strickland holds a degree in history from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and has been her family genealogist for many years. While studying history, she developed a flair for research that motivated her to follow up on the many family stories her mother and grandmother had passed along to her. She now provides research, ghostwriting and editing assistance through her personal and business support services company, the Get~it~Done Gurus.

Using Google Books for Genealogy Research

by Mary Wickersham

The website *Google Books* provides useful leads for family history researchers. If you are interested in the history of the project, visit <http://www.google.com/googlebooks/history.html.> Or, go to <www.books.google.com> and dive in.

After years of checking regional histories, many obtained through interlibrary loan, I understood that it would be unusual for my Irish American ancestors to have received coverage. Many were immigrants to North America during the late 1800s, unskilled laborers, and not involved in politics and society. You have to check those histories – just in case! - and *Google Books* provides ready access to checking out histories we may otherwise miss.

Using Google Books

Like any major search engine, *Google* wants to lead visitors into becoming members. When you search *Google Books* <www.books.google.com>, you will be prompted to join *Google* by providing your email address and creating a password. I would not hesitate to do so. I have not received solicitations or extra announcements from *Google* as a result of signing up.

Enter search terms that you would for any search engine. Start with

- Surname
- Location
- The word "History"
- First name (add if needed or unique)

Note that

- For multiple terms to be included in the results list, you must use quotation marks around multiple words, and + (plus) signs
- If you receive too many results, use – (minus) signs to exclude terms
- There is no need to capitalize

Google Book Results

If you omit the quotation marks and + sign, *Google Books* search results will give you many more results. The downside of this is that you may have far too many results to visit.

Start without the first name. When I searched for [Mahoney Minneapolis History,] there were 5,260 results. The count was high because I hadn't used any additional requirements, such as quotation marks around multiple terms.

However, first among them were results for Stephen Mahoney and Mrs. B. Mahoney. (See graphic on next page.)

Mrs. B. Mahoney is a step-aunt of my great-grandmother, Mary Mahoney. If I had searched for her as "Bridget Mahoney" she would not have appeared in the results.

Trying the same search, but using [mahoney + "hennepin county"] resulted in 970 hits, but the History of Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis fell to 8th on the list.

Using [mahoney + "hennepin county" + history] brought 124 results, with the article about Mrs. B. Mahoney listed first.

Click on the result item you want. The words that match your search terms in that item are highlighted in yellow.

Book Results

If the book is out of copyright, *Google Books* may provide a complete, searchable image of the text of the book. Note the "EBOOK – FREE" link. You can download the book to an Android device,

The ... annual report for the year ...: Volume 19 - Page 260

books.google.com
Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota - 1892 - Free Google eBook - Read
Geological and Natural **History** Survey of Minnesota. THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE **...** John S. Pillsbury, **Minneapolis**, ... - 1896 Hon. H. H. Sibley, St. Paul,* 1897 **...** Stephen **Mahoney**, **Minneapolis**, ... 1^95 Hon. S. M. Emery, Lake City, **...**
More editions

History of Hennepin County and the City of **Minneapolis**: including ... - Page 587

books.google.com
George E. Warner, Charles M. Foote, Edward Duffield Neill - 1881 - 713 pages - Free Google eBook - Read
In July, 1880, he came to **Minneapolis**, and contemplates making this his home. Mrs. B. **Mahoney** is the owner and landlady of the Excelsior House, situated at the corner of Second street and Second Avenue. This house was built in 1872; it is **...**
More editions

Partial results page for Mahoney search, courtesy of Mary Wickersham.

or store it so you can read it on the Web.

You can also search within the text of the book for further references. Once you find a book in the vicinity where your family lived, be sure to search for all the surnames you're aware of in the area. If you have a family member with a unique first name, try searching for that first name without the last name.

Because scanned images of text are not reliable, you should also search for variations of the name. In this case, a search for Maloney did not find additional "ancestor suspects." I checked the book's index, and found several entries. Google Books provides links to the appropriate pages within the file, so check those out.

If the book is in copyright, the EBOOK-FREE link is replaced with GET PRINT BOOK. *Google Books* then links you to sources to obtain the book. As a profit-making company, *Google* lists sources from which you can purchase the book first. If you click on the "Find in a library" under the GET PRINT BOOK menu, you will link directly to the WorldCat website,which will identify the closest library, using your zip code as your location. Hopefully, you can borrow that book via your local library through Interlibrary Loan.

Happy hunting!

Mary Wickersham retired in 1998 after 27 years working in bank operations and software development. She is an IGSI Board Member. She chairs the Research Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. To keep her technical skills up, she builds websites for small businesses & gardening societies.

Website News

by Bob Zimmerman

There is a great deal of power and complexity in the new IGSI website. With complexity comes the potential for problems, and we have had a significant number of issues with the implementation of our new website. The website committee is working diligently to identify and correct problems.

As I write this, there are still several major issues that we have not yet been able to fix. These are high priority items for the committee and we are working with web developers who will assist us in correcting the deficiencies.

The most obvious problems relate to the Surname Search and the Pedigree program. Neither of these functions is working properly at the current time and will be temporarily removed from the site pending corrective action.

Some members have had difficulties renewing their memberships online. If you are experiencing difficulties in renewing your membership, here are a few hints. If you have been a member for a while, you should be able to renew using your old IGSI membership number as the user id. If you are still having problems renewing online, send an email to webeditor@irishgenealogical.org with your name and user id; we will set up a new password. Once you have renewed, please remember to change your password. This is done from the My Account tab at the top left of the home page. Once you are in the My Account page, click on the Edit tab to change the password. It is also still possible to use old fashioned "snail" mail to renew membership.

If you have any comments, notice any problems, please contact us at webeditor@irishgenealogical.org.

100 Years Ago and More

Compiled by Sheila Northrop

300 Years Ago

[From the Printed Boston News-Letter of June 13]

New-York, June 17. They write from Albany, That the French of Canada have debauched our 5 Nations of Indians, and insinuated to them, that the English design to murder all the Indians on the Main, &tc. And 'tis reported our Indians design to surprise Albany, and murder all the English. Our Government have given Orders about it, and Messengers are going to the Indians.

One would think that the French in those parts should have foreborn such barbarous Practices, since they could not but know long before that time, what Advances were made in the Negotiations betwixt England and France; but it would seem by this villainous Attempt, and the Outrages and Barbarities they have committed at Monserrat (sic), &tc. that they still may be reckon'd among the People who delight in war.…

Dublin Intelligence
Dublin, Dublin
October 14, 1712

250 Years Ago

[Extract of a letter from New York, July 29]

"Thursday evening last the Ship Jenny, Capt. Jerold, and Ship Betty, Capt. Waite, arrived here from Corke, in 60 days, loaded with 2700 Barrels of pork, and 1000 firkins of butter, &c. for the use of his Majesty's troops on the Continent. They sailed from Corke the 23d of May, in company with nineteen other ships, all loaded with provisions for Quebec, under convoy of his Majesty's ship the Aldborough, of 20 guns, Capt. Graham, and the Tamer sloop of war, of 16; from the latter they parted 130 leagues off the coast of Ireland; and from the whole fleet, with the Aldborough, the 13th of June, in latt. 44. long. 33. 15. all well."

Gazetteer and London Daily Advertiser
London, Middlesex
September 21, 1762

200 Years Ago

[Extract of Letter from Middleberry, dated Sept. 21]

"I have this moment seen a Proclamation of Governor Provost, of Sept. 19th, by which all citizens of the United States are ordered to quit Canada by the 15th October – till which time they may depart with their moveable property, by permission of three of the Council. After that time every citizen of the United States found in Canada will be considered as a prisoner of war, unless he has taken the oath of allegiance."

Courier
London-Middlesex
October 28, 1812

150 Years Ago

The Original South Carolina Gentlemen

The genesis of the South Carolinians, as stated by themselves to the peripatetic correspondent of the London Times, has the merit of conciseness – "The State of South Carolina was founded by Gentlemen."…

At a later date, towards 1690, a large Irish immigration begins to pour in. – They were followed by a few arrivals from Scotland and France,* and "some Dutch settlers enticed from New York." "But of all countries," says one of the earliest original authorities, "none has furnished the province with so many inhabitants as Ireland. Indeed so numerous were they that the lands in Ireland were in danger of lying waste." …

The Nashville Daily Union
Nashville, Tennessee
September 23, 1862

EMMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL

From the Liverpool emigration tables we learn that in the last quarter ending September emigration has slightly revived. The total number of persons, supposed emigrants, who left Liverpool during the last quarter was 16,778, or 5,536 more than in the corresponding quarter of 1861. America still takes the lead, as out of the whole 16,000 and odd upwards of 10,000 went to the United States. Canada and Australia have, however, become much more popular than formerly in the estimation of emigrants, and it is not at all improbable that many who take passage to New York may work their way to Canada.

Evening Star
London, Middlesex
October 3, 1862

100 Years Ago

Prince Gikha En Route.

Pretender to the Albanian "Throne" is Going There

BUCHAREST, Nov. 23. – Prince Albert Gikha, pretender to the rulership of Albania, departed to-day for that country to look after his interests following the announcement that Albania independence had been proclaimed.

Prince Gikha's wife was formerly Miss Madge Dowling, member of a wealthy Irish family in Australia. She once achieved fame as the most heavily insured woman in the world, there being a $250,000 policy on her life.

The Sun
New York, New York
November 24, 1912

Fat Turkeys Today for 1912 Pilgrim Fathers? Nix!

New York, Nov. 28 - …

Well, there is Patsy Hayes, late of county

Cork. Patsy is a big, fine, raw-boned Irish youth of 28, typical Pilgrim Father of 1912.

In the great detention "pen" at Ellis Island I found him with several other hundred immigrants. As he hove near, the strong smell of antiseptics seared the air – for Uncle Sam sprays all the twentieth century Pilgrims.

Patsy was waiting at Ellis Island for his "girl." She was coming from Hartford, where she has been working in the knitting mills all these years since she and Patsy parted "back in old Ireland."

"And we were going to get married Thanksgiving day," Patsy told me, ruefully, "but now it's likely that we cannot. P'raps we'll be having it put off till Christmas."
"And why is that, Patsy?"

"Work – that's all," said Patsy. "Just WORK!"

"You see," he said, "a friend 'o mine got me a job before I came here. I'm to be a motorman on the subway, and I'm to work all holidays the first year – except Christmas.

"It seems awfully funny to me. In Ireland they tell us that all they do in America on Thanksgiving day is to eat turkey and have a good time. And now one of the guards here at the Island says to me, say he:

"'Aw pal, it's all bluff. Why, turkey costs so much now that only millionaires can eat it. And besides, says he, 'what would be the use of turkey, anyway? You wouldn't be home to eat it, most likely. It's getting so that these holidays ain't for the poor folks any more. One day's just like another to us.'"…

The Tacoma Times
Tacoma, Washington
November 28, 1912

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a co-president of Midwest Ancestor Research. She is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past Education chair for the Irish Genealogical Society, International. Sheila specializes in Irish-specific research topics. She traces her own family history to Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.

October - November 2012
Irish Saturday Classes

October 13, 2012 Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Using the Census
Beth Mullinax, Instructor
This class shows what you can find out about your ancestors, how to expand your search and much more.

November 10, 2012 Time: 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon
Class Title: Estate Records
Tom Rice, Instructor
For much of the 19th Century most Irish lived on land that was part of an estate. The records of these estates may list renters and leases along with various details about them and their lives. Find out how to identify the estate owner, where these records are and how access them.

December 8, 2012 No class.
Happy Holidays

Membership Catagories

Electronic ($25) Individual receives all benefits of membership. Quarterly journal, *The Septs* delivered electronically rather than print copy.

General ($30) This is the Membership class for U.S. residents. Individuals receive all benefits of membership and a print copy of IGSI quarterly journal, *The Septs*.

International ($40) This is the Membership class for members with a postal address outside the U.S. Individuals receive all benefits of membership and a print copy of IGSI quarterly journal, *The Septs*.

Write for *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories – some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors.

We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history. We also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

Date of issue: January 2013
Theme: Irish South of the Equator
Date for submission: November 1, 2012
Do you have expertise in this area? Did your ancestors settle – for a time or permanently – in a country or area in the Caribbean or another country south of the Equator? Share your story or research with us.

Date of issue: April 2013
Theme: Major Irish Resources on the Internet
Date for submission: February 1, 2013

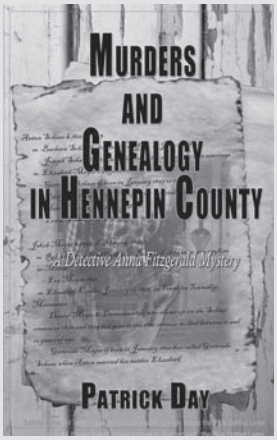
Date of issue: July 2013
Theme: Occupational Records
Date for submission: May 1, 2013

Date of issue: October 2013
Theme: Repositories
Date for submission: August 1, 2013

Date of issue: January 2014
Theme: Estate Records
Date for submission: November 1, 2013

IGSI Members Meeting

Murders and Genealogy in Hennepin County



Join us on November 17, 2012, when local author Patrick Day will tell how he came to chronicle a genealogical mystery in a historical fiction book that is a refreshing departure from all the "how to" books about genealogy.

For nearly four years, Patrick Day has visited Marv Schaar every Saturday morning in a nursing home in Buffalo. Marv is a genealogy aficionado who exhaustively covered with Patrick the Schaar genealogy, going back to the early 1700s in Germany. While tracing his lineage to the mid-1800s, Marv discovered an intriguing mystery concerning his great-aunt Gertrude. Was she really a Schaar or was Alden Meads her real father? Census statistics and other genealogical information supported first the one case and then the other.

Patrick and Marv used available evidence to construct a definitive solution to the mystery, which Patrick shares in his novel Murders and Genealogy in Hennepin County: A Detective Anna Fitzgerald Mystery. The heroine of the story is Anna Fitzgerald who is proud of her Irish heritage, as is her boyfriend Jack Quinn. Rounding out the Irish characters in the book is Michael O'Hara, a fellow detective with Anna who lived in County Kerry until the age of fifteen.

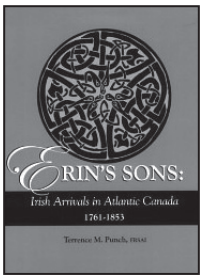
Author, Patrick Day

Murders and Genealogy in Hennepin County

IGSI Members Meeting
Saturday, November 17, 2012
Meeting: 9:20 AM
Author Talk 10:15 AM
Family History Center (LDS Church)
100 Silver Lake Rd NW
New Brighton, MN
(Just a mile or so south of I-694)

Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada to 1863, Vol. IV

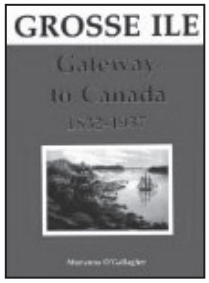
Terrence M. Punch



This volume contains extracts of data from a wide range of sources, mostly public records: newspapers and cemetery records. Records of marriages, deaths and census records predominate. Irish-born population of Atlantic Canada peaked in early 1860s. Also, there are out-of-the-way records of ships' passengers, runaways, deserters and old soldiers. Indexed. Published 2010 (180 pp) Price $30.00

Grosse Ile, Gateway to Canada 1832 – 1937

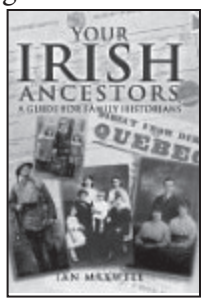
Marianna O'Gallagher



Covering the years of 1834-1937, this book provides the history of the quarantine station at Grosse Ile, Canada. Three chapters detail the Irish connection, the results of the famine immigration of 1847. Also, it gives a sketch of Canadian immigration. Maps, photos, and copies of original documents illustrate this work. Published 1984 (181 pp) Price $16.95

Your Irish Ancestors, A Guide for Family Historian

Ian Maxwell



This guide introduces researchers to the wealth of material available in archives throughout Ireland. It gives an insight into everyday life in Ireland during the past four centuries. Some of the records covered are census substitutes, church records, Poor Law Records and birth, marriage and death records. Published 2008 (194 pp) Price $29.00

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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	Location in Ireland (locale if known)	Location in US	Other Post-Emigration Locations
Example	*Sullivan*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*MN (Rice Co), AZ*	*Can-QC; Australia*

Place additional surnames on blank sheet of paper.

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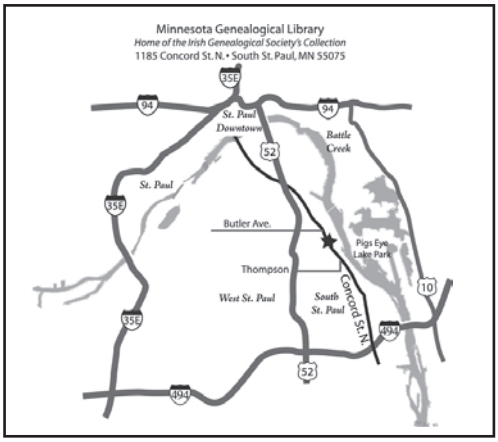

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During severe weather please call before coming to the library to check if open.

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 Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

Volume 34, Number 1

The Septs

Canáir (January) 2013

$10.00

Irish South of the Equator

2013 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 12, 2013
FEBRUARY 9, 2013
MARCH 9, 2013
APRIL 13, 2013
MAY 11, 2013
JUNE 8, 2013
JULY 13, 2013
AUGUST 10, 2013
SEPTEMBER 14, 2013
OCTOBER 12, 2013
NOVEMBER 9, 2013
DECEMBER 14, 2013

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

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

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2013

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Transitions

byMary Wickersham

The IGSI Board of Directors elected our officers for 2013. Mike Flynn returned as Treasurer, Past President Ann Eccles became Secretary, and I was named as President. I hope I can live up to the high standards set by past presidents. Tom Rice ended his current term as a director in December. He will remain actively involved in IGSI in his roles as Managing Editor of *The Septs*, lecturer, and advisor.

Ann continues as Editor of *The Septs*, assisting in the library and doing pretty much anything that needs to get done. Our other directors – Gigi Hickey, Kay Swanson, Fern Wilcox, Greg Winters and Bob Zimmerman – remain and remain active. Gigi writes our Blog; Gigi and Kay run our Bookstore; Kay also takes care of Membership. Fern is organizing 2013 classes; Greg creates our e-newsletter; Bob manages and supports the website. We are fortunate to have such an active, fun group of people leading our society.

2013 IGSI Officers, Mary Wickersham, Mike Flyn, and Ann Eccles.

Many thanks to our officers and directors, and volunteers for all your support of IGSI, past, present and future!

IGSI Is Going Strong

After several years of deficits, our finances are back in the black. This is due to the efforts of many: controlling costs and pursuing sources of income, such as providing research services to members and others, selling books, and promoting membership in the Society as opportunities arise.

We are a non-profit. As an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, we work hard to keep our expenses down, our membership and program fees affordable. We are grateful for the support of eighteen members who donated $780 to IGSI for Give to the Max Day on November 15. Many of you also contribute extra funds when you renew your memberships.

Some of success with our balanced budget can be attributed to continual improvements and innovation:

- High editorial standards and excellent design of the award-winning *The Septs*, which allow us to attract talented authors.
- The IGSI website, which allows us to attract interest (and new members) from a large geographic area.
- Offering e-memberships: the numbers are increasing as people decide they do not need to receive hard copy issues of *The Septs*.
- We are increasing use of e-mail for member communications. A high percentage of us have e-mail vs. about 20% when we first sent email reminders about our meetings.
- Maintaining a blog (web log) on Irish genealogy.

Going Forward

IGSI will co-sponsor an Irish conference with The University of St. Thomas (UST) in St. Paul on Saturday, March 9. Expected topics run the gamut from anthropology to vocations, alcoholism, memoirs and poetry. Formats will include lecture and round-table discussions. James Rogers of UST is an IGSI member and organizer of the program. If you are able to attend, please "save the date" and watch your email for announcements and updates.

What do you think IGSI should focus on during 2013? Please contact me at president@irishgenealogical.org to share your ideas and suggestions.

My personal "wish list" includes using social media (such as Facebook) to attract those new to family history research and investigating what tools we need for members to participate in or view classes and meetings via the Internet.

If you are using these technologies, maybe you can help! As we all pull together, we can continue to build on what we've accomplished over the years, and keep IGSI a vibrant society.

Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister, Sheila Northrop. Currently the President of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSI's first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are Co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor Research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

Expanding Horizons

byAnn Eccles

A while back I came across a quote that has stayed with me – perhaps because of my librarian background or perhaps because of my interest in genealogy. A couple hundred years ago Will Henry, a chemist, asked "What is research but a blind date with knowledge?" And for me, it's true. I can't count the number of times that I have started out blindly searching for a connection or specific fact only to be surprised into learning not only the fact but a whole lot more. And so it is with this issue – an opportunity for a blind date.

Why, you may ask, should you read about Irish emigrants in Argentina, South Africa, or Australia? Well, it's good to expand your awareness of Irish history, culture, and resources. Another good reason is the base of Irish genealogy – to research the entire family unit. Your ancestor may have come directly to the U.S. but other family members may have traveled to other countries for permanent or temporary residence. Many of the Irish transported to Australia as punishment for criminal offenses left other family in Ireland – perhaps one of them your ancestor. Many of the Irish who traveled to Argentina did so during the Diaspora, perhaps the time when your ancestors left their homeland. And did you know that the South African death notices carry information on relatives who may never have set foot in that country?

Two of the articles referenced above were written a dozen years ago and are reprinted (with permission) here. Perry McIntyre identifies Irish records related to Australian convicts. Arden White identifies and describes the wide range of resources in Argentina for finding information on Irish immigrants there. We've added a sidebar to each article with a few current websites you can check for further information, but the content of the articles still holds value. Dwight Radford provides the information on South African death notices as a resource.

Jay Fonkert uses the comparison of researching family history to preparing a meal. The right ingredients make it a great success and enjoyable for all. Judith Eccles Wight reports on genealogical resources she found in Donegal while traveling in Ireland. Kathleen Strickland provides a second way to search for your Ellis Island immigrant. Mary Wickersham offers hints and tips for managing photos and family history images on your computer. Bob Zimmerman offers information about the IGSI website. And, of course, we offer some short snippets from newspapers of long ago.

So, find a cozy spot, sip a cup of tea or coffee, and expand your knowledge base. Enjoy.

Ann Eccles is a retired librarian who has re-focused her research skills to family history and Irish genealogy. Ann has several Irish ancestral lines to trace as both of her parents descended from Irish families. She currently serves on the Board of Directors as Secretary of IGSI, is the editor of The Septs *and an Irish Saturday volunteer.*

IGSI Social at O'Gara's in St. Paul

Join other IGSI family historians on Sunday, March 24, for an evening of good food and times in an Irish setting. St. Patrick's Day celebration may be March 17, but we'll still celebrate the Irish a week later.

We'll meet at O'Gara's Bar and Grill (164 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul) at 5 PM. Their menu has quite a large and varied selection of foods and reasonable prices. Come join us. While there, you can check out a mural of leprechaun cobblers in the main dining room or the shillelagh over the bar from the County Sligo, home of the first O'Gara clan. In the new dining area there's etched glass, with family name and family crest, as well as a green granite bar top specially designed for this area.

Meet some new friends, visit with some old friends, and have a delicious meal. It will be a fun time – just ask anyone who was at last year's event. Reservations are required. Please call Kay Swanson (651-699-8602) by March 19 to reserve a place. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Researching the Irish in Argentina

by Arden C. White

About 60% of the Irish immigrants who settled in Argentina came from counties Westmeath, Longford, and Offaly. Another 15% came from County Wexford. Family historians worldwide with ancestors from these counties may benefit from using Argentine records to document members of the family who emigrated to Argentina. An Irish place of origin may be preserved in Argentine records. This article discusses non-ecclesiastical records available for tracing Irish immigrants in Argentina. For a discussion of the history of Irish settlement in Argentina, see White's article "Irish Immigration to Argentina: An Historical Introduction," in *The Irish At Home and Abroad*.

Eduardo Coughlan's book, *Los Irlandeses en la Argentina -su actuacion y descendencia*, a significant source for Argentine Irish, lists specific origins in Ireland for many of the Irish families who came to Argentina. For example, the three Cummins brothers were born in County Westmeath, "Andrew in 1856 in Ballingoo, Castle Town... Daniel in Ballinaca in 1850 ... and Bernard in Kilbeggan in 1856... The brothers arrived in Argentina in 1880 and lived in Lobos. Bernard married Brigid MacHugh, who was born in Mullingar in 1862 ..." (p. 162).

Passenger Lists

Eduardo Coughlan's work, *El Aporte de los Irlandeses a la formacwn de la Nación Argentina*, documents the Irish who entered Argentina from 1822 to 1880. This information was taken from passenger lists from 1822 to 1862 and from the newspaper *The Standard* from 1863 to 1880. The entries are arranged alphabetically by surname and include date of arrival, port of departure, name of ship, and sometimes the place of origin. Coughlan included all English sounding surnames so both Protestants and Catholics would be noted.

Original copies of passenger lists for disembarkation at and embarkation from Buenos Aires are available at the Archivo General de la Nación and the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City for 1821-1870. These records provide the age, place of birth (usually country only), and relationships between persons traveling together. These records include some passport information. The records and their FHL microfilm numbers are:

Entering Buenos Aires

Years	FHL#
1853-1855	#1840670 item 3 (includes passports)
1833-1860	#1840671 item 1 (includes passports)
1841-1860	#1840671 item 2 (includes passports)
1860	#1840672 item 1 (includes passports)
1821-1838	#1840672 items 2-9
1838-1853	#1840673
1853-1860	#1840674
1860-1864	#1840675
1864-1866	#1840676
1866-1867	#1840677
1867-1868	#1840678
1869-1871	#1840679 items 1-2
Jun-Dec 1868	#1840683 item 5
Dec 1868	#1840684 item 1

Leaving Buenos Aires

Years	FHL#
1829-1843	#1840679*
1843-1855	#1840680
1856-1863	#1840681
1863-1867	#1840682
1867-1869	#1840683 items 1-3

* *includes individuals detained from leaving the city*

Entering and Leaving Buenos Aires

Years	FHL#
1842-1844	#1840683 item 4

British Board of Trade passenger lists (record series BT 27) record passengers

leaving the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland (Northern Ireland after 1922) by sea beginning in 1890. These records are held at the Public Record Office (PRO) at Kew, Surrey, England. The FHL has a microfilm copy of the inventory of these passenger lists providing the PRO reference numbers (FHL# 824521 item 3).

Land Records

As land became available on the frontier the Irish would settle large tracts for shepherding and some cattle-raising. The land initially cost very little; but as more of the population moved away from Buenos Aires city, the value of the land increased so much that within a few years many Irish were the owners of millions of dollars worth of land. In this way the Irish became members of the wealthier class in many rural communities in which they lived. The land deeds include the dates, names of grantees and grantors, residences at time of purchase, and sometimes the relationship of individuals named in the deeds. Land records are located at the Archivo General de la Nación in Buenos Aires.

Civil and Criminal Registers

These court records include land deeds, transfer information, and power of attorney records. They are found at the provincial or state level in the provincial judicial archive and notarial registers from about 1571 forward. The most significant provincial archive is that in Buenos Aires (Archivo General del Poder Judicial de la Nación) since the majority of the Irish lived in this province prior to 1900. These records sometimes include places and dates of birth, marriage and death of children, parents, grandchildren and grandparents and other biographical information. Many of these records have not been indexed or microfilmed so they are difficult to access.

Military Service

Argentine Military

Generally military records exist from the mid-1700s to the present. Argentina was involved in several conflicts. In 1810 Argentina began its struggle for independence from Spain. In 1837 it was involved in war with Bolivia followed by a ten-year war with Great Britain, France, and Brazil. From 1865-1875 war was waged against Paraguay.

There are three major types of military registers: inspection lists, regimental registers, and service registers. All of these records provide the soldier's name, place of birth, parents' names, and residence. Inspection lists also provide the number of members in the soldier's family, and the other two lists provide the soldier's religion. These records are located in the Archivo de la Nacion: inspection lists in archival room #7; regiment registers in room # 10, and service registers in room #3. The records have been partially catalogued.

British Military

The presence of the British military in Argentina was brief, 1805-1807. They were in the country as an invasion force during the Napoleonic Wars. Sir Home Popham landed in 1805 with 1,700 men who were subsequently driven from Buenos Aires. Another larger British expeditionary force was again driven from Buenos Aires in 1807. There were two regiments during that time that were known to be made largely of Irish recruits, the 87th regiment (Royal Irish Fusiliers) in 1807 and the 88th regiment (Connaught Rangers) in 1807. A few Irish soldiers from these regiments are known to have remained in Argentina.
British Army records are held at the PRO at Kew, Surrey, England, with microfilm copies of some available at the FHL. For details about the records see Michael J. Watts and Christopher T. Watts' *My Ancestor Was in the British Army* and Simon Fowler's *Army*.

Records for Family Historians.

Census Records

There were only three complete national censuses taken in the nineteenth century and early twentieth century: 1869, 1895 and 1914. They are available at the Archivo General de la Naci6n.

Censuses of Buenos Aires province were taken in 1855 and 1877. The 1855 census of Buenos Aires city often lists a specific place of nativity, e.g., Dublin, Cork. For the rest of the province of Buenos Aires only "Ireland" was recorded as the place of birth. These censuses list the maiden names of married females in the traditional Latin manner of record keeping.

The censuses of 1869 and 1895 only list "Ireland" as the place of nativity. The 1855, 1869 and 1895 censuses are available at the FHL. There is no comprehensive index to any of these censuses.

Eduardo Coughlan extracted the large majority of families with English sounding surnames from the 1855, 1869 and 1895 censuses in *Los Aportes en la Argentina* including names, ages, and places of birth. Coughlan also included footnotes which sometimes give relationships and other information found either in the censuses or in other sources such as passenger lists and newspaper accounts.

Numerous other censuses for various parts of the country, often for the wealthier classes, were taken. Irish immigrants are found scattered through the early censuses. Most of these censuses are at the Archivo General de la Naci6n (reference gives room, section, stand and volume) with some in other locations. (See Table 1 on page 9.)

Genealogy

Eduardo Coughlan's *Los lrlandeses en la Argentina* represents over thirty years of work. It traces the genealogy of many Irish families still living in Argentina back to 3,667 original immigrants. The book was published privately in Buenos Aires in a limited edition in 1982.

Newspapers

Two Irish newspapers of importance were published in Buenos Aires province to inform the Irish community of events in Argentina and Ireland. On 1 May 1861 *The Standard* began publication. It was written in English and published daily until 1952. Copies of the newspaper for the years 1870-1905 can be obtained through interlibrary loan from the University of California at Berkeley or Santa Barbara. The Library of Congress in Washington, DC houses this newspaper for the years 1921-1952.

The Southern Cross was published weekly in English from 1875 to 1967 after which it was published in Spanish until the present time. Copies of *The Southern Cross* from 1916-1918 are deposited at the British Library Newspaper Library, while copies of *The Standard* from 1870-1936, with a few gaps, are deposited there. Although these were the two major newspapers that dealt with the Irish, other Buenos Aires newspapers also published events in the Irish community.

The information of greatest genealogical value published in the Argentine newspapers were passenger lists and obituary information:

1) Lists of Irish persons arriving in Argentina give the ship's name, port of departure, and sometimes the locality of origin of each passenger.

2) Obituary information sometimes gives quite specific information on origins and surviving family members both in Argentina and Ireland.

Civil Registrations

Civil registration began in Argentina in 1881. Copies of records can be obtained at the Archivo General de la Nacion or Archivo General del Poder Judicial de La Nacion. Birth records give the names of parents and grandparents and witnesses. Marriage records state the nationality of each party, age, and nationality, name of spouse and names of parents.

Nationalizations

Nationalizations began in 1875. The records include the place of birth of the applicant, names and places of birth of parents and sometimes even the names and places of birth of the individual's grandparents. Naturalization records are located in the judicial archives of each province.

Masonic Lodges

The United Grand Lodge of England had several lodges in Argentina as early as 1853, some of which are still functioning (Info can be found in Table 2, on page 9.) Membership records may be accessed through the United Grand Lodge in London.

Passports

During Spanish rule in Argentina, the government in Buenos Aires kept tight control over individuals migrating to locations within Argentina. Detailed physical descriptions and places of birth were recorded. Various people from Ireland were issued passports from 1817 to 1821. Passports dating 1817-1821 are available at the Archivo General de la Naci6n and on microfilm at the FHL as follows:

1817 (March-May)	1840665 item 3
1817-1818	1840667
1818-1819	1840667
1819 (Feb. - Oct.)	1840668
1819-1821	1840669
1821	1840670 item 1
1820	1840684 item 2

Table 1. Censuses for various parts of Argentina

Year	Description (quality)	Location
1623-46	Census of "Indians"	AGN 9=9.4.4
1657	Enumeration of missions	AGN 9=18.7.7
1664	Census of Buenos Aires	AGN 9=918.7.8
1676	Enumeration of missions	AGN 9=18.7.8
1677	Enumeration of missions	AGN 9=18.8.1
1683-1777	Census of Atacoma	AGN 9=7.7.1
1726-1775	Census of Buenos Aires City & surroundings	AGN 9=9.7.5
1735	Census of missions	AGN 9=18.8.2, 3&4
1743	Census of Santa Fe Archivo Indidias,	Seville, Spain
1772	Census of neighborhood in Buenos Aires	AGN 9=45.3.3,4
1772	Census of missions	AGN 9=18.8.5, 6&7
1773-76	Province of Pacajes - "Indians"	AGN 9=20.4.2
1777-1808	Slave Census (name, nationality)	AGN 9=18.8.11
1778	Census of province of Cordoba	History of Cordoba
1778-1807	Census of the "Interior"	AGN 9=20.4.3
1782-1807	Census of Buenos Aires	AGN 9=9.7.7
1810-11	Census of Buenos Aires	AGN 9=10.7.1
1812	Military Census of Catamarca	AGN 9=43.10.6
1812-1817	Census of Buenos Aires	AGN 9=10.7.2
1815	Census of Campans	AGN 10=8.10.4
1820	Census of Corrientes	Archivo de Corrientes
1836	Census of Buenos Aires	AGN 10=25.2.4

Table 2. United Grand Lodge of England

Lodges in Argentina

#	Name	Location	Existence/Record
617	Excelsior	Buenos Aires	1853-present
789	Teutonia	Buenos Aires	1859-1872
1025	Star of South	Buenos Aires	1864-present
1553	Light of South	Rosario	1875-1986
1740	Southern Cross	Cordova	1878-present
2329	Victoria*	Buenos Aires	1889-present
2459	Quilmes	Quilmes	1893-present
2517	St. John's	Lomas de Zomora	1894-present

* Victoria lodge is now called the Pampa lodge

Source: John Lane's *Masonic Records* for a listing of the lodges and the founding dates, and Katrina Jowett, Assistant Librarian, United Grand Lodge of England for the dates the lodges existed and the date of records.

Irish in Argentina

Additional Online Resources

"Irish Argentine" – a Wikipedia article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_Argentine
A good review of Irish emigration to Argentina mentioning causes for leaving, numbers of emigrants, and effects on Argentina

"Viva Irlanda! Exploring the Irish in Argentina" at IrishCentral. http://www.irishcentral.com/roots/117894964.html#axzz2C1qXAAin

"Society for Irish Latin American Studies", http://www.irlandeses.org/
Only a moderate amount of material is available for nonmembers, but worth considering for anyone with a deep interest in the topic.

"Los Irlandeses en la Argentina" by Pat Nally, Secretary, Longford-Westmeath Argentina Society, originally published in *Familia*, journal of the Ulster Historical Foundation (volume 2, no. 7, 1991) reprinted on *Irishtimes.com*, http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/magazine/articles/uhf_argentina1.htm.

Addresses

Archivo de Corrientes: 25 de Mayo #1025, planta alta, 3400 Corrientes, Argentina; Tel: (054) 22912.

Archivo General de la Nacion: Avenida Leandro N. Alem 246, 1003 Buenos Aires, Argentina; Tel: (054) 13 342345; Fax: (054) 13317932.

Archivo General del Poder Judicial de la Nacion: Talcahuano 550 subsuelo, 1013 Buenos Aires, Argentina; Tel: (054) 1406509/4666.

Archivo General de Indias: Avda. de la Constitucion 3, 41004 Sevilla, Spain; Tel: (034) 95 4225158; Fax: (034) 954219485.

Family History Library: 35 North West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84150, USA; British Isles Reference Tel: (801) 240-2367; International Reference Tel: (801)240-3433.

Library of Congress: 101 Independence Ave., Washington DC 20540, USA; Tel: (202) 707-5000.

Public Record Office: Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, SurreyTW9 4DU, England; Tel: (0181) 876-3444; Fax: (0181) 878-8905.

Servicio Hist6rico de la Armada (Naval Historical Department): Avenida Almirante Brown 401, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Tel: (054) 1362 1130.

Servicio Hist6rico del Ejercito (Army Historical Department): Balcarce 677, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Tel: (054) 1-334-2621.

United Grand Lodge of England, Library & Museum: Freemasons Hall, Great Queens Street, London WC2B 5AZ, England; Tel: (0171) 831-9811; Fax: (0171) 831¬6021.

University of California at Berkeley: University Library, 245 Doe, Berkeley, CA 94720-6000, USA; Tel: (510) 642-3773.

University of California at Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA; Tel: (805) 893-4676.

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Editor's note: We thank Arden C. White and the editors of *The Irish At Home and Abroad* for permission to reprint this article. It originally appeared in *The Irish At Home and Abroad*, Vol. 5. No. 1, (1st Quarter 1998), 26-30.

Arden C. White has worked as a professional forensic genealogist for over 18 years in the United States and many foreign countries and testified as an expert witness in various courts throughout the United States. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and NCISS. He is also a contributing editor to various genealogical magazines and journals.

IGSI Website Offering

by Robert Zimmerman

The purpose of IGSI is to provide guidance and assistance to members in researching their Irish roots. In light of this intended purpose, we designed the content of the IGSI website to provide such assistance and to keep you informed regarding the activities and offerings of IGSI, as well as other genealogy related activities.

Why don't you check out some of our offerings, many of which are available only to our members? From the main menu item, "IGSI Offerings," you can access varied points of interest:

- **The Bookstore.** These books, maps and pamphlets related to Irish genealogy, listed all in one location, are available for purchase at reasonable prices.
- **Ginealas.** You may download a copy of this entertaining and informative e-newsletter in Adobe pdf format.
- ***The Septs,*** our award-winning journal. All of the issues back to 1980 are available for your perusal. This is an exclusive perk for our members (non-members must purchase copies). You may download any copy in Adobe pdf format for offline reading.
- **Contact information.** How you can reach various committee members.
- **Library information.** The IGSI library is a joint library with Minnesota Genealogical Society and its branch and affiliate groups. Find the hours under "Facts" and connect to the MGS Library Catalog to search for Irish resources.
- **Join.** How a non-member may join IGSI.
- **Member Information.** How to access your member information to change addresses, passwords, etc.
- **Research help.** How to obtain help from experienced Irish researchers with your specific research problems. Members receive a discount for this service.
- **Renew.** How to renew your membership.
- **Speaker's List.** If you have specific knowledge regarding genealogy and would like to be placed on our speaker's list, or if you would like to have a speaker for some event, check out the Speaker's list.
- **Volunteering.** Information on projects and opportunities for volunteers.
- **IGSI Blog.** Access link to the blog.

We continually develop new content for the website, provide updates, and correct identified problems. We always look for your suggestions of what additional content you would like to see. If you have any suggestions, comments, or notice any problems, please contact us at webeditor@irishgenealogical.org.

Robert Zimmerman, our Web Editor, has been a member of IGSI since 2004. He was previously the IGSI Treasurer and is currently a member of the Board of Directors. He was infected with the genealogy bug from his Icelandic grandmother, who told him stories about his Icelandic ancestors. He has been actively looking into his Irish and Icelandic roots since he retired in 2005.

Society Fair at NERGC

IGSI will have a table at the Society Fair of the New England Regional Genealogical Conference in Manchester, NH. If you will be there stop by the table at the exhibition hall Thursday evening, April 18, between 5 and 7 PM. We look forward to meeting some of our members from the East coast.

Irish Records of Australian Convicts

by Perry McIntyre

Australia was settled as a penal colony in 1788. The majority of people who arrived to the settlement at that time were either convicts or the military guarding them. Transportation to Australia continued from Britain, Ireland and British colonies until 1840 in New South Wales (NSW) and until 1853 in Tasmania (Van Dieman's Land). A few convicts arrived to NSW, Port Philip (Victoria) and Moreton Bay (Queensland) after these years with the last arriving in Western Australia in 1863. From 1788-1863 Australia received almost 161,000 transportees. While some Irish convicts arrived before 1791, in that year the ship the *Queen* was the first to transport convicts directly from Ireland to Australia.

This article discusses the surviving records in Ireland that are available to trace the approximately 50,000 transportees who were Irish. Many Irish, including my own fourth-great-grandfather Thomas Dunn, were Irish-born immigrants convicted in England. Others were transported from the colonies or military outposts of Great Britain such as Madras, Calcutta, Bengal or Mauritius. Many of these Irish were in the British Army.

For prisoners convicted in England like Thomas Dunn, who was tried and convicted in London in 1796, a transcript of the trial is available in printed form and through the Australian Joint Copying Project on microfilm. In this case the documents are the Old Bailey Sessions Papers, October 1796 (Home Office record series 26/5 Criminal Registers), the originals of which are at the Public Record Office (PRO), Kew, England. The detail of the trial and the circumstances of Thomas's arrest are fascinating, but the genealogical disappointment is that a full place of origin in Ireland is never given. Nothing other than "Ireland" appears in these records. Thus, for those tried and transported in the very early years to Australia the full details may not be available even for those tried in England where trial records survive. For those Irishmen who were in the British Army it is possible to find records of their trials and trace their army careers through Army records held at the PRO. For further details, see David T. Hawkings' *Bound for Australia*. Other Irish transportees tried in counties of England can be traced through the relevant County Record Offices which usually hold the trial transcripts.

Records in Ireland

Unfortunately, for the Irish tried and transported from Ireland, the record situation is not very encouraging. The vast majority of eighteenth and nineteenth century Irish court archives together with other convict records were destroyed by fire in Dublin during the Civil War in 1922. However, it is possible to piece together the story of a convict ancestor transported to Australia. Keith Johnson and Michael Flynn, when researching the 155 male convicts transported on the *Queen* in 1791, were able to find details of the crimes of more than half from the contemporary Irish newspaper reports. The results of their study were published in *Exiles from Erin: Convicts Lives in Ireland and Australia*, edited by Bob Reece. At this early period of transportation Johnson and Flynn found the *Hibernian Journal* a particularly useful newspaper. Also, local Irish county newspapers should be searched for crime and conviction details.

Convict Indents

The main sources for tracing a convict transported to Australia are the Convict Indents; the originals are at the PRO with microfiche copies available from the Archives Office of New South Wales. They cover the complete period of transportation to all States of Australia and include date and place of trial and, beginning in the early 1820s, other details such as age, whether married or not, number of children, occupation, crime, native place, complexion, height, colour of eyes and distinguishing marks such as scars or tattoos. Using the Convict Indents to identify the time of transportation of a prisoner from Ireland is the beginning of the journey back into Ireland to discover other details which may be found in the Chief Secretary's correspondence.

Chief Secretary's Office Correspondence

The power of British administration in Ireland until 1922 resided in the Lord Lieutenant who was assisted by a Chief Secretary. In the absence of court records the various categories of the Chief Secretary's Office Correspondence are the obvious place to search for details about a convict ancestor.

Convict Reference Files

The Convict Reference Files, a sub-section of the Chief Secretary's Office correspondence (CSO CRF), for the period 1836-1922 are contained in 1,223 cartons each containing about

200 separate documents. In the years 1836-1853 a number of these files refer to convicts sentenced to periods of banishment to Australia. The usual run of files concerning a transportee includes a petition from a relative and a letter from the trial judge giving an outline of the charge, the evidence, his observations, the sentence passed, and the character and general conduct of the person charged.

These Convict Reference Files for 1836-1853 provide the means of checking the Irish background for the convict destined for the main places of banishment in the colonies of Sydney or Hobart. As well as the Convict Reference Files there are 16 convict reference books, 1836-1924, in which the names of all convicts are recorded alphabetically. These files together with the convict material held in Australia allow the researcher to form a good picture of an Irish transportee. The Convict Reference Files are discussed in my article, "Transportation Registers: Ireland to Australia" in *The Irish At Home and Abroad*. The main series of these files is at the National Archives, Dublin. The files are available on microfilm and indexed.

Prisoners' Petitions and Cases

There is a series among the state papers titled *Prisoners' Petitions and Cases* (20 cartons) which contain 4,251 files. This is the only single pre-1836 archive source surviving in Ireland for those sentenced to transportation, mainly to New South Wales and in later years also to Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania). There are also four cartons of petitions from state prisoners for the period 1796-1799. These are men who were accused of being involved in activities arising from the 1798 rebellion.

Rebellion Papers & Outrage Papers

An earlier series of Chief Secretary's Office papers has law and order for its subject, and thus it is possible to find some of the activities of an ancestor who was later transported. The first class of these papers is the Rebellion Papers covering the years 1790-1807 (67 cartons) and events and participants in the 1798 and 1803 rebellions. A second class of papers is the State of the Country Papers, 1790-1831 (107 cartons) which contains reports of local violations and transgressions of the law and order. From 1832 until almost the end of the transportation period these papers are known as the Outrage Papers.

Main Series

In addition to these sub-sections of the Chief Secretary's Papers the main series may contain material relating to an ancestor transported to Australia. However, it is misleading to suggest that it is easy to find an individual in these papers or that they will reveal the total story of what happened to an ancestor before or after transportation. However, with guidance from other sources, particularly those which survive in Australia, it is possible to establish a starting date of a search of the Outrage Papers. Patience and time are needed to conduct a thorough search of any section of the Chief Secretary's Office Registered Papers (CSORP) which date from 1818 to 1924. A search of one section of these papers, the Outrage Papers, must be conducted in conjunction with the general series of correspondence in order to establish the full connection between these series of papers of the Chief Secretary.

From 1818 to 1839 there are annual indexes held at the National Archives in Dublin. In most cases the papers survive and an examination of these indexes for an individual ancestor and a subsequent tracking of the papers can be most rewarding.

Free Settlers Papers

The final series of documents held at the National Archives in Dublin which relates to convicts are the Free Settlers Papers (FSP) containing about 600 files covering the period 1828-1848. They provide details of convicts who applied to have their wives and families brought out to join them in New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land. These documents, together with those in the Archives Offices of New South Wales and Tasmania, provide details of the family in Ireland. These papers sometimes include personal letters from the husbands and wives to each other. They provide the precise place of residence of the family in Ireland.

Availability of Records

Many of the aforementioned documents are now microfilmed and indexed. Some of the series of correspondence relating to transportation to Australia are on the microfilms of the Petitions and Papers given by the Irish Government to the Australian Government as a bicentennial gift in 1988. All the other main series of records must be

examined at the National Archives in Dublin. A more detailed description of these papers up to 1924 can be accessed on the National Archives of Ireland web site at <www.nationalarchives.ie/ > where the index and brief description of the transportation records appears.

Examples

For the main series of the Chief Secretary's Office Registered Papers the following example from 1827 is typical of the correspondence to be found about a transported ancestor's family:

> **CSORP 1827/1559.** James Lynne recommends Eleanor Mahon for passage to NSW. He states he has received a letter from Eleanor Mahon the poor woman who made several applications on behalf of her husband James Mahon who was transported nearly two years ago. She has two children to support and is now in the greatest misery in town of Mullingar. Wishes of all things on this earth to follow him ... if not fears her two children will perish for want. He was a man of the best character until that unfortunate affair happened...

While a letter like this may not give detail of crime and trial it does provide a detailed social picture of Ellen Mahon and her two children in Ireland. James Mahon had been transported to New South Wales for life on the *Boyne* arriving in 1826. On 1 January 1830 he applied in Sydney to have his wife sent out to him. His petition in New South Wales gives Ellen's maiden name as Green and states that she lived at Church Town, County Westmeath and had two children, Honor aged seven and Richard aged five. His application was sent from the colony, and following the departure of her husband, Ellen had obviously also written more than once to be allowed to join him.

As well as the socially important information found in the Chief Secretary's correspondence there are references to trials. For example, CSORP 1826/14546 is the petition of Margaret Boland (alias Moore), wife of John Moore, for permission to go to New South Wales. She states that:

> Her husband was convicted last March in Assizes in Clonmel for taking a horse on the road for a jaunt, which he put into a stable in said town that the owner may find him - petitioner's husband was detected immediately, tried, prosecuted and sentenced as before specified ... wants to go to said husband (viz Botany or New South Wales) ... noble humane and charitable gentle (person) would feel for poor petitioner afford her the facility and means to go and live with him even in his exile. The petition is certified by John 0'Neil, the Parish Priest of Carrick on Suir.

Thus, while the trials of convicts transported directly from Ireland to Australia do not survive, it is possible to find other sources, such as the Chief Secretary's Papers in the National Archives in Dublin and newspapers, which combine with the documents in Australia to give a clearer picture of the situation before transportation.

Addresses

Mitchell Library: State Library of New South Wales, MacQuarie Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia; Internet:<http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/>

Archives Office of Tasmania: 91 Murray Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7000, Australia: Tel: (03) 6233 7526; Fax: (03) 6233 7902; Internet: <http://www.linc.tas.gov.au/findus/southern/statewide/izone >.

National Archives of Ireland: Bishop Street, Dublin 8, Ireland; Tel: +353 (0)1 407 2300; Fax: +353 (0)1 407 2333; Internet:<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/>

The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, England; Tel: +44 (0) 20 8876 3444; Internet: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/

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Acknowledgments
The author would like to thank the former Keeper of State Papers, Breandan MacGiolla Choille, for his article, "A Signpost to Irish-Australian State Papers" in *The Irish Australians* upon which much of this article is based.

Editor's note: We thank Perry McIntyre and the editors of *The Irish At Home and Abroad* for permission to reprint this article. It originally appeared in *The Irish At Home and Abroad*, Vol. 5. No. 2, (2nd Quarter 1998), 91-93.

Perry McIntyre, BSc, MLitt, DipEd, Dip Local & Applied History, PhD, has been involved in Irish history and genealogy since the late 1970s. She has served on the History Council of NSW, as President in 2005 and 2006, a councillor of the Society of Australian Genealogists for 20 years, and a councillor on the Royal Australian Historical Society, the Australian Catholic Historical Society and the Great Irish Famine Commemoration Committee. She has published and spoken extensively on immigration, particularly 19th century Irish, and has co-authored three books. Perry works at St John's College at the University of Sydney. Her website is <www.irelandhome.com.au>.

Irish Convicts Transported to Australia

Additional Online Resources

"Irish Convicts to New South Wales, List of Ships Transporting Convicts to NSW 1788-1849" http://members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/ships.htm

"Irish Convicts to Australia – Links to Australian Convict Sites" http://members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/austlinks.htm

A bit of a bibliography on the topic of transportation to Australia: "Booklist: transportation to Australia" at Down County Museum http://www.downcountymuseum.com/template.aspx?pid=214&area=1&textsize=1

"Irish Convict Transportation to Australia" at independentaustralia.net http://www.independentaustralia.net/2010/australian-identity/australian-history/irish-convict-transportation-to-australia/

"Irish Convicts Transported to Australia" at rootsweb http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fianna/oc/oznz/pasconau.html

"Irish Trials and Transportation records, 1788-1868" at State Library, New South Wales http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research_guides/convicts/instructions/irish_online.html

Irish around the World

This issue includes information on various destinations of Irish emigrants, particularly at the time of the Diaspora in the 1800s. About 70 million people left Ireland at that time.

A map on the website The Gathering <www.thegatheringireland.com> indicates the many countries across the globe in which their journeys ended. Nearly 40 million Irish arrived in the United States and another 5 million in Canada. Australia and Great Britain received 2 million and 9 million Irish immigrants, respectively. Another 10 million settled in other European countries and not quite a million in the Middle East and Asia.

Both The Gathering and Ireland XO are programs in Ireland seeking to connect with the descendants of those Irish who left home so long ago. The Gathering is sponsoring and/or promoting many activities across Ireland, from clan gathering and family reunions to city or county festivals. IrelandXO <www.irelandxo.com> is more of a reverse genealogy program, attempting a reach out project by those in Ireland to help find the home place.

Visit these websites if you need help in locating your ancestors' origins – and look for extra help across the sea. The Irish may be located around the world, but the heart is always attached to the Emerald Isle.

South Africa Death Notices

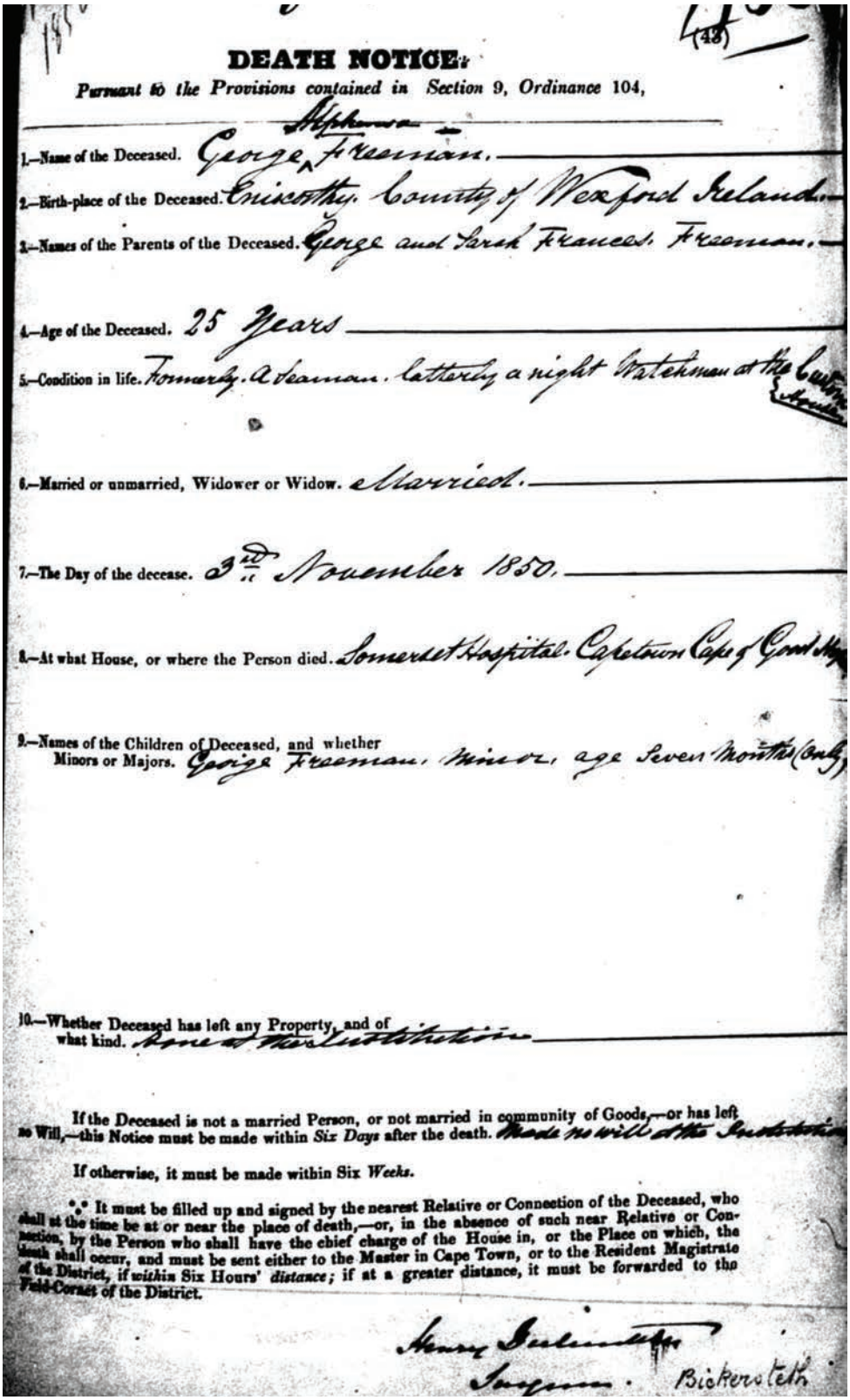
by Dwight A. Radford

South Africa, officially known as the Republic of South Africa, is located at the southern tip of the African continent. The number of Irish who immigrated to South Africa in the 19th century is small in comparison to other countries; yet they provided governors, judges and politicians to the area. Irish troops fought in the Anglo-Boer Wars. Some remained while others later returned to settle in South Africa. By the early 20th century, there were about 5,000 Irish in South Africa.

The government of South Africa handles the records around the estates of dead persons different from most English-speaking countries. South African records include more information, often even about people who were never physically in that country. The key piece in their documentation is the Death Notice.

Death Notices are not to be confused with death certificates or a published obituary. They are an entirely different record type. A death notice form is completed soon after a person dies, usually by a relative. The form requests name, occupation, address, birthplace, date and place of death, age at death, names of parents and spouses (living and dead), names of children and/or siblings. It also notes whether the deceased owned property or left a will. The estate file itself usually includes a copy of the will.

All the files are open to the public and housed in a South African archive



DEATH NOTICE.

Pursuant to the Provisions contained in Section 9, Ordinance 104,

1.—Name of the Deceased. George Freeman.

2.—Birth-place of the Deceased. Enniscorthy, County of Wexford Ireland.

3.—Names of the Parents of the Deceased. George and Sarah Frances Freeman.

4.—Age of the Deceased. 25 Years

5.—Condition in life. Formerly a Seaman. Latterly a night Watchman at the Cape

6.—Married or unmarried, Widower or Widow. Married.

7.—The Day of the decease. 3rd November 1850.

8.—At what House, or where the Person died. Somerset Hospital. Capetown Cape of Good Hope

9.—Names of the Children of Deceased, and whether Minors or Majors. George Freeman, Minor, age Seven Months (Only)

10.—Whether Deceased has left any Property, and of what kind. None at the Institution

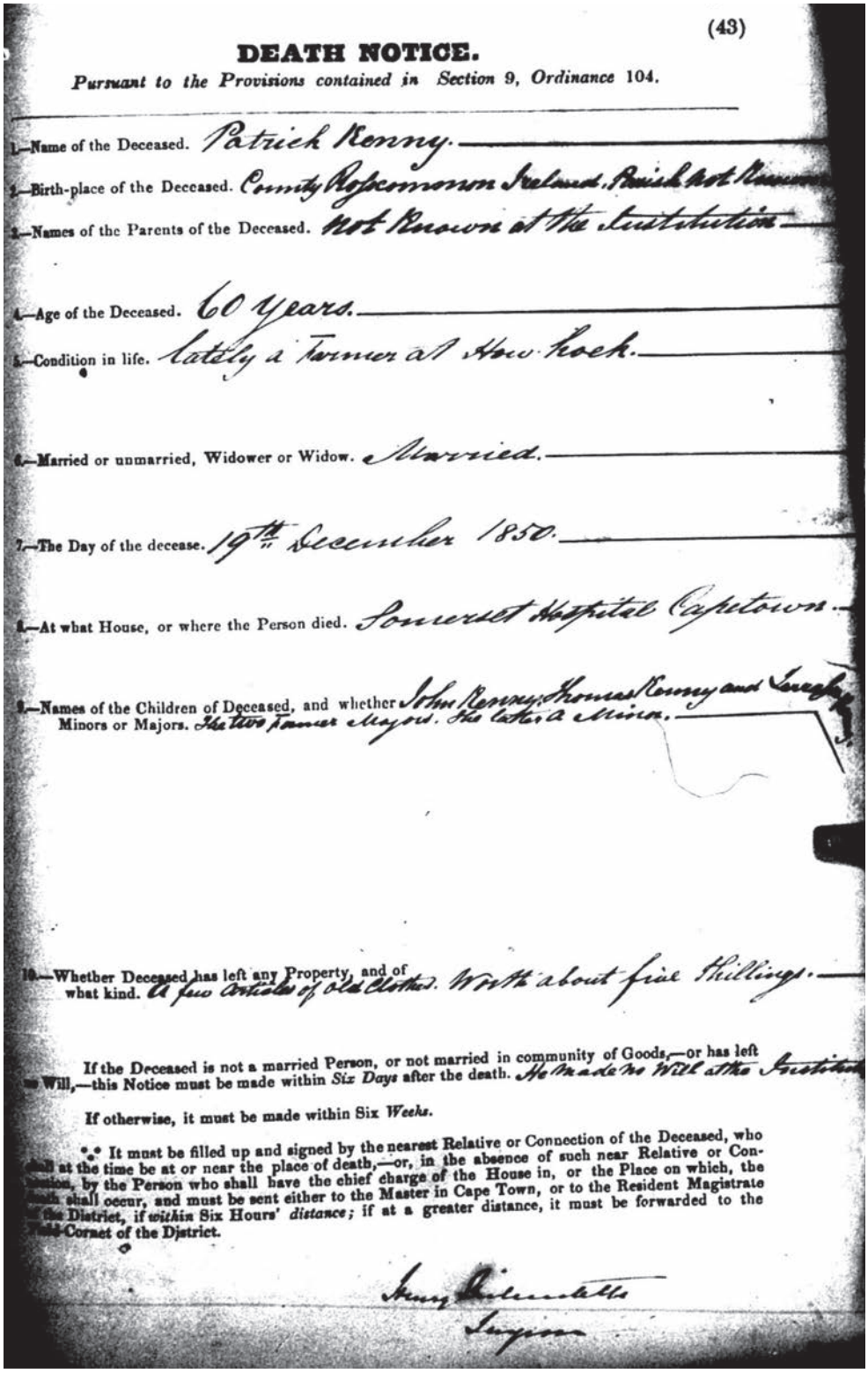
If the Deceased is not a married Person, or not married in community of Goods,—or has left no Will,—this Notice must be made within *Six Days* after the death. Made no will at the Institution

If otherwise, it must be made within Six *Weeks*.

*** It must be filled up and signed by the nearest Relative or Connection of the Deceased, who shall at the time be at or near the place of death,—or, in the absence of such near Relative or Connection, by the Person who shall have the chief charge of the House in, or the Place on which, the death shall occur, and must be sent either to the Master in Cape Town, or to the Resident Magistrate of the District, if *within* Six Hours' *distance*; if at a greater distance, it must be forwarded to the Field-Cornet of the District.

Henry Sedinger
Surgeon. Bickersteth

Sample of 'Death Notice'.



(43)

DEATH NOTICE.

Pursuant to the Provisions contained in Section 9, Ordinance 104.

1.—Name of the Deceased. Patrick Kenny.

2.—Birth-place of the Deceased. County Roscommon Ireland. Parish Not Known

3.—Names of the Parents of the Deceased. Not Known at the Institution

4.—Age of the Deceased. 60 Years.

5.—Condition in life. Lately a Farmer at How Hoek.

6.—Married or unmarried, Widower or Widow. Married.

7.—The Day of the decease. 19th December 1850.

8.—At what House, or where the Person died. Somerset Hospital Capetown.

9.—Names of the Children of Deceased, and whether Minors or Majors. John Kenny, Thomas Kenny and Geraghty. The two former Majors. The latter a Minor.

10.—Whether Deceased has left any Property, and of what kind. A few Articles of old Clothes. Worth about five Shillings.

If the Deceased is not a married Person, or not married in community of Goods,—or has left no Will,—this Notice must be made within *Six Days* after the death. He Made no Will at the Institution

If otherwise, it must be made within Six *Weeks*.

*** It must be filled up and signed by the nearest Relative or Connection of the Deceased, who shall at the time be at or near the place of death,—or, in the absence of such near Relative or Connection, by the Person who shall have the chief charge of the House in, or the Place on which, the death shall occur, and must be sent either to the Master in Cape Town, or to the Resident Magistrate of the District, if *within* Six Hours' *distance;* if at a greater distance, it must be forwarded to the Field-Cornet of the District.

Surgeon

Sample of 'Death Notice'.

or are available on microfilm at the Family History Library (FHL) <www.familysearch.org>. The Genealogical Society of South Africa <www.genza.org.za> is compiling an online index to the "Cape Masters Office Estate Files."

The FHL collections by province are as follows. The records are in English and Afrikaans, with indexes available on microfilm, and coming online:

Cape Province: Cape Town Supreme Court (1834-1989); Kimberly Office (1871-1913) covered the magisterial districts of Barkly West, Britstown, De Aar Gordonia, Hay, Herbert, Hopetown, Kenhardt, Kimberley, Kuruman, Mafeking, Philipstown, Postmasburg, Prieska, Taungs, Vryburg and Warrenton

Natal Province: Pietermaritzburg (Natal) Master of the Supreme Court (1846-1950)

Orange Free State: Master of the Supreme Court (1832-1989)

Transvaal: Master of the Supreme Court (1869-1958)

Zululand: Pietermaritzburg (Natal) Master of the Supreme Court (1890-1903)

For records in Afrikkaans, there is an "Afrikaans Word List" online at <www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Afrikaans_Word_List>. This list is extensive and provides not only parish

register language but also words to be found in the Death Notices. The Afrikkaans language incorporates both Dutch and German words, with some words mixing the two languages.

Immigration Research Strategies

More Irish spent time in South Africa than you might think. Considering its geographical location, South Africa's people had access to shipping lanes worldwide. Irish South Africans can be found immigrating further on to most major countries where other Irish settled, including Australasia, North America, and the UK. South African research is potentially important no matter what country your ancestors settled, as siblings and birthplaces are mentioned in the records. For example, if records in Canada, the UK or the United States do not provide the Irish origins of the family, a Death Notice in South Africa may be the only place the origins are preserved. The fact that they are indexed and being placed online makes the search for this branch of your family even more exciting. Mention in a South African Death Notice or a will might be that one source for finding your ancestor's birthplace in Ireland if you are researching a branch of your family that lived in South Africa.

Further Reading

For access to articles on South African research, including articles which may contain information on Death Notices, check the Periodical Source Index (PERSI). PERSI provides access to the articles published in the Genealogical Society of South Africa's quality journal *Familia*, as well as family history journals worldwide. PERSI can be found on *Ancestry.com* and *Heritage Quest*.

Barnes, Pamela M., "Death Notices in South Africa," in *The Irish At Home and Abroad*, 5, #4 (1998): 162-163.

Harrison, Elly, *Family History: A South African Beginners Guide* (Gauteng, South Africa: Elly Harrison, 1995): 11-12, 32.

Lombard, R. T. J., *Handbook for Genealogical Research in South Africa* (Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council, 1990): 27.

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. His daily blog can be read at http://blog.thejourneyhomegenealogy.com

Genealogy Conferences

Return to the Cradle of Irish Presbyterianism
15 - 21 September 2013
2013 is a very important year for Irish Presbyterianism. It is the 400th anniversary of the arrival from Scotland of Rev. Edward Brice, the first Presbyterian minister to settle in Ireland. 2013 is also the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Irish Reformed Presbytery from which today's Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) Church of Ireland descends.
http://www.ancestryireland.com/irish-presbyterianism/

British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa
20-22 September 2013
Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa.
The focus this year will be on Ireland.
http://www.bifhsgo.ca/

Within the U.S.

New England Regional Genealogy Conference
April 17-20, 2013
Manchester, New Hampshire

NGS Family History Conference
May 8 - 11, 2013
Las Vegas, Nevada.

Southern California Genealogy Jamboree
June 6 - 9, 2013
Burbank, California

Federation of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference
Aug 21-24, 2013
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Finding Your Ellis Island Immigrant: Two Ways to Search, Part 2

by Kathleen Srickland

In Part 1 of "Finding Your Ellis Island Immigrant," we explored how to search the Ellis Island Database (EIDB). In Part 2 of this article, we'll do the same search using the Steve Morse tool, "Searching the Ellis Island Database in One Step."

As before, our test subject is Great-Uncle Michael Corry. Our known information:

- He was born in County Carlow, Ireland, about 1889.
- His mother's name was Mary.
- He arrived in the United States in 1913.
- His age on arrival was about 24.
- He worked in a livery stable after making his home in Philadelphia.

Having performed the search using the EIDB <www.ellisisland.org>, let's go to *One-Step* Webpages by Steven P. Morse <www.stevemorse.org> and execute the same search. NOTE: Results returned on an Ellis Island Database search performed one day may be different from the identical search performed on the next day.

Activate the One-Step Search Tool

We log on to the One-Step Database, <www.stevemorse.org>. This database requires no fee, registration, or log-in.

The first listings on the One-Step page are the Ellis Island databases. There are three choices for searching the EIDB:

- White form, a basic search
- Gold form, an enhanced search
- All New York arrivals 1820 – 1957 (a search of the *Ancestry.com* database)

The Gold form is a good place to start as it is more comprehensive search than the White form and does not require membership in *Ancestry.com* to bring up detailed results.

We'll click on the Gold form link and enter information about Michael Corry:

First name "Michael," last name "Corry." Year of arrival is 1913. For ethnicity, we check "Irish." On a list below the ethnicity choices, let's check "full date of arrival" and "ship" and "port."

The search engine has returned zero results for these parameters, so we will loosen them by changing last name to "sounds like" Corry. Results include five individuals who may be our Michael Corry, including two who are about the right age, one from Carlow and one from Clooncunnay. See below for One-step results.

Checking the location of Clooncunnay for the Michael Carrey return, we find it is likely in County Roscommon, so we'll concentrate on Michael Curry.

Clicking on "view passenger record" for Michael Curry of Carlow brings us back to the Ellis Island website. To search further, we must register or log-in if already registered. Login is free.

The resulting passenger record gives additional information about Michael: that he was single and that information about him is found on Line #19 of the ship manifest. Now we can call up the same information available that we found in the original search on the EIDB website.

In addition to checking the ship manifest, let's take time to browse other choices on the results page:

Chart 1 - One-step results using the Gold form

Name	Residence	Age	Born	Arrived	Ship	Port
Carey, Michael	Milrush, Ireland	9	1904	Oct 4 1913	Campania	Queenstown
Carrey, Michael	Clooncunnay, Ireland	28	1885	Apr 27 1913	Carmania	Liverpool
Curry, Michael	Carlow, Ireland	24	1889	Mar 24 1913	Carmania	Queenstown
Curry, Michael	Limerick, Ireland	40	1873	Oct 10 1913	Celtic	Queenstown
Kerr, Michael	Dublin, Ireland	35	1878	Apr 27 1913	Carmania	Liverpool

- Ship image
  - o A photo and description of the ship Carmania
  - o An opportunity to purchase the photo from Ellis Island Organization
- View annotations: these are comments by other people who have an interest in Michael
- Create an annotation
  - o Make a correction or change to the record
  - o You might note that Michael always spelled his name "Corry" rather than "Curry"
  - o You may add other details of Michael's life for researchers to find, such as his birth and death, spouse and children, and other relatives in the United States

Take a Quick Trip Through *Ancestry.com* Records

One-Step also powers a search of the *Ancestry.com* database, "All New York arrivals 1820-1957." If we put Michael Corry's information into this search engine, we get somewhat different information than our EIDB results.

For "All New York Arrivals 1820-1957," enter first name Michael, last name "sounds like" Corry, nationality Irish, date of arrival 1913.

Of our six results from the *Ancestry.com* website, four are approximately the right age: Michael Carr, Michael Crowe, Michael Currey, and Michael Cerr. Most likely to be our Michael is Michael Currey. To retrieve further information (See Chart 2 below.) If you do not have a membership, most libraries offer free searching from their library edition of Ancestry.

Steve Morse's Streamlined Searching

Steve Morse has created streamlined searching for many databases. Check out the Canadian Census for 1881 and 1901, as well as the British Census for 1901. You'll find access to the Social Security Death Index as well as a form to search LDS records for the United States.

Personally, I'm looking forward to exploring Morse's One-Step search of DNA databases. There are great articles about how DNA searching works in genealogy as well as opportunities to explore findings in FamilyTreeDNA, the Sorensen database, and YSearch. This collection of finding tools and articles is fun to explore and gives a taste of the character of future genealogy hunting.

You've seen how the different searches work. You can decide which website best serves your genealogical needs and investigative style. You may find one quicker and easier, or one may simply suit you better.

Chart 2 - Results from Ancestry.com

Name	Arrival Date	Birth Year	Port of Departure	Ethnicity/Nationality	Ship Name
Michael Carr	27 Oct 1913	abt 1892	Londonderry, Ireland	Irish	Caledonia
Michael W Carr	4 May 1913	about 1897	Queenstown, Ireland	Irish	Cedric
Michael Crowe	26 May 1913	abt 1893	Halifax	Irish	Stephano
Michael Cuary	10 Oct 1913	abt 1873	Queenstown, Ireland	Irish	Celtic
Michael Currey	24 Mar 1913	abt 1889	Queenstown, Ireland	Irish	Carmania
Michael Cerr	14 Sep 1913	abt 1892	Londonderry	Irish	Cameronia

Kathleen Strickland holds a degree in history from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and has been her family genealogist for many years. While studying history, she developed a flair for research that motivated her to follow up on the many family stories her mother and grandmother had passed along to her. She now provides research, ghostwriting and editing assistance through her personal and business support services company, the Get~it~Done Gurus.

Your Family History Images

by Mary Wickersham

Most of us have many family history images. Almost all family tree software packages allow you to link those images to people and sources in your family tree. Examples of useful images are: family photos, scans of census records, birth, marriage and death certificates, and other treasured images.

Free and inexpensive software packages are available for editing and managing your images. Use a search engine to locate articles, reviews, and sources. One source of information I respect is at *PC World* <http://www.pcworld.com/product/collection/8708/free-image-editors-for-everyoneeven-experts.html>.

Kick the tires of your software. Use an image that you have difficulty seeing. Maybe the lighting wasn't good: try to brighten it. Save the brightened image under another file name; open the original and try it again.

Most image software packages provide the same basic features:

1. **Crop** is the ability to highlight a rectangular section of an image whose content you wish to retain, and to remove the area around it.

2. **Size** sets the width and height of an image. Depending on the software in use, this feature may be found under the "image" drop-down. Setting size reduces the number of pixels in the image, and thus the size of the image file itself. More on this later.

3. **Adjustment** is used to tweak an image's appearance. Most software will pop up a slide control and preview the image for you to use to decide when your image is at its best.

   - Brightness: the amount of white in the image.
   - Contrast: the difference between dark and light areas. At low contrast, you see more gray.
   - Sharpen: the photo editing software removes some of the grayness around solid lines. (See image 1.)

After changing brightness and contrast, and two rounds of sharpening, see image 2.

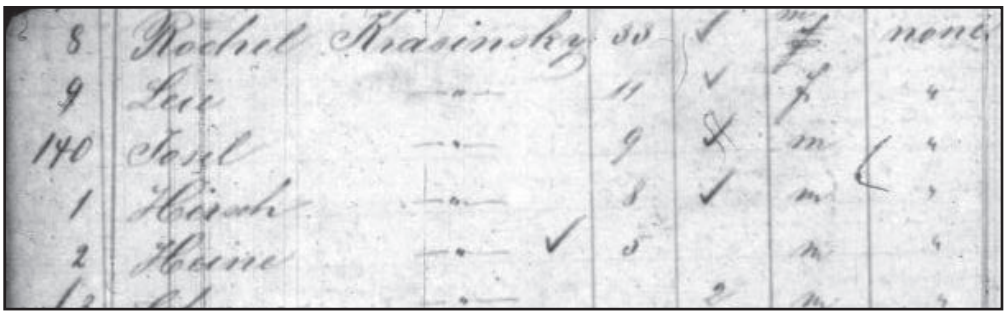


Image 1 - Photo courtesy of Mary Wickersham

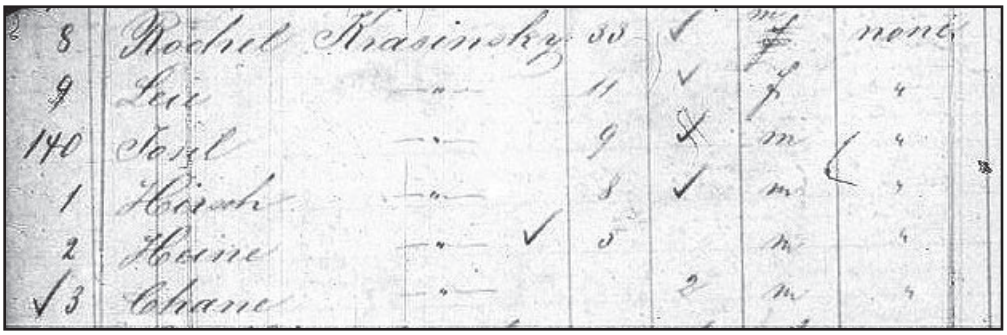


Image 2 - Photo courtesy of Mary Wickersham

4. **Canvas** is the area on which your image is displayed. Most software allows you to expand the canvas by adding space above, below or to the sides of the image in these formats.. Expanding the canvas can be useful if you want to add a background or border, or layer multiple images into a collage.

5. **Formats** for saving your files include .jpg (or .jpeg) and .gif. Your image will lose some content (and therefore, quality) if you repeatedly open, change and save your image. To avoid loss of content of the file, keep your original JPG file to go back to if needed in the future, and save new versions under another file name. Better yet, change your image to .tif, .gif or .png format which do not lose quality with each save.

Image Tips

Image size. It's better to start with a large image (in terms of pixels) and reduce its size when you have time to work with the image. You will not be able to increase the image pixels later. Set the camera or scanner for largest pixels (also known as highest quality, maximum file size, etc.).

Word processor and web browser software can "shrink" an image to fit an area of a page. If you are using a high-quality image (in "megapixels"), your images will take less time to load on your computer if you size the images to the appropriate size in advance of inserting them into your document. Likewise, reducing file size before emailing it will cause the file to be smaller and less of a load for the recipient's computer or handheld device.

Organize your images by creating folders and sub-folders. As a Windows user, I file mine under a surname folder for a given branch of the family in a genealogy folder in My Documents folder. Windows automatically offers to transfer any image files to the default "My Pictures" folder, but I prefer to have them filed with the correct family.

I try to keep originals and working versions of files in an "image work area," and the parts needed for printing reports in the Images folder.

For example:

- Mahoney
  - Patrick
- Image work area
- Death certificate [original]
- Obituary [full original]
- Images
- Death certificate
- Obituary [cropped to include in my report]

Back up your images. Since my family tree images are in the My Documents folder, all of them are backed up to my external hard drive when I back up my other important documents. Since I don't regularly back up the My Pictures folder because it takes so long to do, I have my important images saved.

How to find images. At times, we all forget where we put things. This is particularly true when there are multiple places we may have filed them. An example is when I have a census record which includes both Mahoney and Hennessy family members.

I prefer to keep one copy. If I add Image Properties to my files, they will be displayed in a results list if I search on the term.

Image 3 - Photo courtesy of Mary Wickersham

You can add descriptive information to individual image files. Here, I've added keywords and indicated that the image is copyrighted. Now I will see the image in a search results list for either term: "Graffity" or "New England". (See image 3 on previous page.)

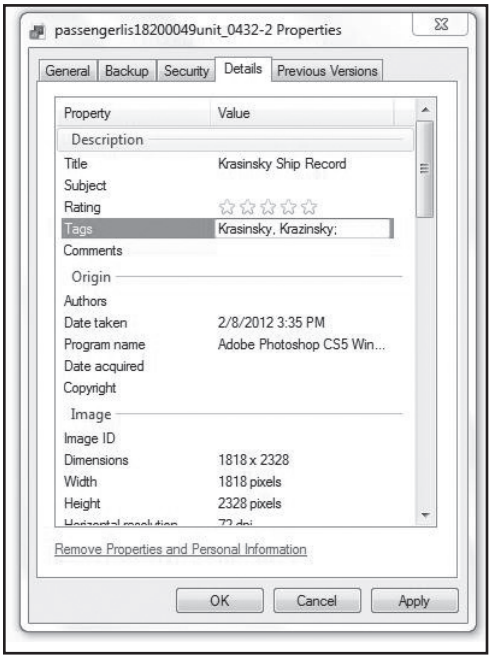


Image 4 - Photo courtesy of Mary Wickersham

Another way to add image properties is to select your image in a file list, then (in Windows) right-click, then click on the "Details" tab. You can add as much or little information as you care to. In the example below, I entered two spellings of the surname in the "tags" field. (See image above.)

This is pretty basic information about images, but hopefully you will try (and try again) to improve your use of images in your family history records.

Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister, Sheila Northrop. Currently the President of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSI's first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are Co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor Research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

Award for General Register Office of Northern Ireland

The Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO) presented its 2012 Award for Excellence in Genealogy to the General Register Office of Northern Ireland (GRONI).

In making the Award, CIGO recognized that GRONI had completed the digitization of all Birth, Marriage and Death records for the six counties of Northern Ireland in 2011. This allowed for new and more informative indexes to be created. These indexes can be searched on computers in GRONI's Public Search Room. This user-friendly system allows varied searches of the indexes including 'wildcard' searches.

GRONI is working towards creating a new online access service to its historical records to start in 2014. When complete, it will allow access to historical BMD records from anywhere around the globe. This will include births which were registered 100 or more years ago, deaths 50 or more years and marriages 75 or more years ago.

Northern Ireland's Finance Minister Sammy Wilson noted that the benefits of this modernization would provide first class service to the people of Northern Ireland when undertaking family history and genealogy research. He noted that it is important that government services keep up to date and meet the demand and expectations from our customers.

Working Without a Recipe: Finding Origins of Laurence Lee of Minnesota

by J.H. Fonkert CG

Most of us can turn out a passable casserole if we have the right ingredients and follow a time-tested cookbook recipe. Genealogy is arguably more complicated. An aspiring genealogist will find no single tested recipe for baking his or her family history. Because each family left a different trail of evidence, each family researcher must walk a different research path. The starting evidence ingredients vary from family to family, and each researcher must puzzle out how, and in what order, to mix them.

The main goal in genealogy research is to accurately connect children to parents, one generation at a time. It is usually best to start with the most recent parent-child relationship known and work back in time.

Research into the British origins of Laurence Lee of Minnesota offers an example of puzzling out answers even when some of the most valuable evidence ingredients are missing. Family letters and photo albums provided some clues about relationships, but the goal in this exercise was to work back to England and Ireland using only publicly available records. The same order of research steps might not work for your family, but this case study illustrates one general three-step strategy:

1) Mine the North American records for clues to home-country origins,

2) Match an individual or family across North American and home-country records, and

3) Follow the family back through home-country records.

Step 1

Censuses, vital records, obituaries, citizenship and immigration records are among the most important records in step 1. Lawrence Lee died 18 April 1983 in Ramsey County, Minnesota. His death certificate gives several useful pieces of information.[1]

- Laurence was born 12 December 1892 in St. Paul.
- His father was John Lee, who was born in England.
- His mother was Ellen Baker, who was also born in England.

His obituary named his surviving widow, but did not name surviving siblings or parents or give any more information about his birthplace.[2]

Laurence should have been about 47 at the time of the 1940 census – the latest available U.S. census. In fact, the 1940 census enumerated Lawrence Lee, 45, with a wife, Vera (indexed "Nera"), 38, in White Bear Lake, Ramsey County, Minnesota. On the left-hand side of the census manuscript next to Vera's name, the enumerator wrote: "Information by Auger." The head-of-household of the next enumerated family was Maurice Auger. Lawrence and Vera had no children at home.

Tip 1: Use tables to track families through censuses.

It is now possible to use censuses to trace Laurence back to his birth family. A simple table is a useful way to compare information across censuses.[3]

The 1930 census found Lawrence and Vera living in White Bear Lake; Lawrence's widowed mother, Ellen Elizabeth Lee, 62, was living with them.[4] Working back to 1920, Lawrence is found with his siblings and widowed mother in St. Paul.[5] The implication is that Lawrence and Vera were married between 1920 and 1930, possibly in Ramsey County. The Lee family is also found in the 1910 and 1900 U.S. censuses and in the 1895 Minnesota census.[6]

Tip 2: Follow leads from the census.

The 1900 census provides useful information that could lead to other sources.

- Laurence Lee had brothers Charles, John, and Bertram, and a sister, Ellen.

- John Lee and Ellen had been married 10 years, suggesting a marriage about 1889 or 1890. The 1910 census stated that widow Ellen had been married 20 years.

- John's mother and father were born in England.

- The couple's first child, John, was born in Minnesota about 1890, implying a marriage in the late 1880s.

- The family immigrated about 1899. The 1910 census states that

Ellen immigrated in 1885, but the 1930 census states 1899. The 1895 Minnesota census states that that John Lee had been in Minnesota six years.

- John Lee was a naturalized citizen.

In this case, most of the likely leads ran dry.

Twentieth-century death certificates often report the birthplace of the deceased and also the names and birthplaces of parents. John Lee died 12 March 1905 in Ramsey County. However, Minnesota did not require standardized death certificates until 1907. The Ramsey County death registration for John Lee states only that he was born in England, and does not state his birth date or name his parents.[7]

Obituaries sometimes name parents and birth dates and places, as well as name siblings whose death records might also provide information about parents. However, a search of four St. Paul daily newspapers did not produce an obituary for John Lee.

A declaration of intention for U.S. citizenship might name a port, ship and date of arrival, but no record has been found in St. Louis County, Minnesota, where the family lived in 1900. At any rate, the Lees arrived in the United States too early for passenger arrival records to be helpful. Beginning in 1892, standardized passenger arrival manifests asked about the last place of residence and intended destination of immigrants. Beginning in 1907, authorities asked for the birthplace of each passenger. Earlier passenger arrival records usually recorded only name, age, occupation and country of origin. The Lees have not been found with certainty in passenger arrival records.

Tip 3: Research children and siblings

If John Lee had siblings, their death records or obituaries might provide information about birthplaces or parents. However, no publicly available American records identify any brothers or sisters.[8]

Modern American death certificates often ask for the birthplace of the deceased's parents. Minnesota death certificates for John Lee's children might give clues to his birthplace in England. However, death certificates for his sons John and Charles state only that both their father and mother (Ellen Baker) were born in England.[9]

Step 2

This case was near to a dead-end. With no clue to a locale in England, it was going to be hard to match the family across American and English records. John and Ellen Lee's children were all born in Minnesota, and the family had apparently emigrated before the 1891 Census of England, making it even harder to locate John and Ellen in England.

The marriage of John Lee and Ellen Baker plausibly could have been in Minnesota or England. Marriage records can be hard to find if the location of the marriage is not known. *Ancestry.com* and *FreeBMD.org.uk* offer a free index of English civil marriage registrations. Both indexes allow a searcher to enter the names of both the bride and groom. An *Ancestry.com* search for a "John Lee" marrying a "Baker" in about 1888 or 1889 should have located the marriage, but the search returned no matches.

However, a similar search at *FreeBMD.org.uk* returned one hit: the marriage of John Lee in the third quarter of 1889 in Croydon registration district. Clicking on the page number (254) brings up the other grooms and brides appearing on the same page. Among them is Ellen Elizabeth Baker. With this information, a researcher can order a copy of the marriage registration from the General Register Office. When received, it stated that John Lee, 26 and son of Bartholomew Lee, married Ellen Elizabeth Baker, 22, 1 September 1889 in the parish church of St. Mark's in North Norwood, Surrey.[10] The couple was a good match for the couple enumerated in the 1900 U.S. Census.

A similar index of civil birth registrations led to a birth registration for a John Lee, born 4 September 1863 at Melksham, Wiltshire to Bartholomew Lee and "Eleanor Lee, formerly Price."[11] The 1900 U.S. Census reported that John Lee was born in September 1862, but there was little doubt that John Lee and wife Ellen were matched across American and English records.

Step 3

The next step was to use English censuses and civil registration records to

track John Lee back to his birth family and his father Bartholomew. Although the Lee surname is rather common, Bartholomew is not a highly common given name. It seemed it would be easy to search indexes of the 1871 and 1881 English censuses for a Bartholomew Lee with a son John born about September 1863. It was not.

Searches of indexes of English censuses from 1841 to 1881 revealed a handful of Bartholomew Lees of about the right age (born 10 years either side of 1836) to be John's father. None in the 1871 or 1881 censuses had a son John. However, the 1881 Census of England enumerated a John "Lea," born in Melksham, Wilsthire, living with his mother, Eleanor Lee in Bristol.[12] The family lived on Wade Street in 1871, but John was absent. Also noticeably absent was John Lee's father, despite the fact that Eleanor Lee told the 1871 census-taker that she was married.[13] John Lee, 7 and born in Melksham, was living with his grandparents John and Joanna Lee on Earl St.[14]

The 1851 census yields the only Bartholomew Lee that seems a good fit for John Lee's father. Fourteen year-old John Lee, a porter, lived with his parents John and Hannah Lee. He was not born in England as the 1900 U.S. Census and his sons' death certificates indicated. He was born in Cork, Ireland.[15] The discovery of his Irish origins requires more sleuthing in English and Irish records. This part of the story must wait for the next issue of *The Septs*.

Endnotes

1 Minnesota Department of Health, Section of Vital Certificates, Laurence Lee Certificate of Death, state file no. 1983-MN-10504, filed Ramsey County, 22 April 1983.

2 "Laurence Lee," *White Bear News* (White Bear Lake, Minnesota), 27 April 1983, p. 8b, col. 7.

3 1940 U.S. Census, Ramsey County, Minnesota, Enumeration District 12, White Bear Lake city, sheet 1B, 19, G, Lawrence Lee; National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) microfilm T627, roll 1,950, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 11 November 2012.

4 1930 U.S. Census, Ramsey County, Minnesota, Enumeration District 178, White Bear Lake, sheet 4B, dwelling 82, family 82, Lawrence Lee; Family History Library (FHL) microfilm 2,340,849, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 13 November 2012.

5 1920 U.S. Census, Ramsey County, Minnesota, Enumeration District 7, St. Paul ward 1, sheet 11B, dwelling 183, family 225, Ellen Lee; NARA microfilm T625, roll 852, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 13 November 2012.

6 1910 U.S. Census, Ramsey County, Minnesota, Enumeration District 19, New Canada Township, sheet 3A, dwelling 26, family 26, Ellan [sic] Lee; NARA microfilm T624, roll 716, digital image, www.ancestry.com, 13 November 2012. 1900 U.S. Census, St. Louis County, Minnesota, Enumeration District 285, Duluth ward 7, sheet 3A, dwelling 33, family 40, John Lee; FHL microfilm 1,240,790, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 13 November 2012. 1895 Minnesota Census, St. Louis County, Duluth ward 5, p. 56, household 249, John Lee; Minnesota Historical Society microfilm V290, roll 96, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 13 November 2012.

7 Ramsey County Death Registration Book 2, p. 69; original viewed at Ramsey County Department of Public Health, St. Paul, Minnesota.

8 Research in England will reveal siblings, one of them a sister who immigrated to Minnesota. Had her identity been known at this point in the research, the path to the Lee origins in England would have been easier.

9 Minnesota Department of Health, Section of Vital Certificates, John Lee Certificate of Death, state file no. 1926-

MN-24521, filed Ramsey County, 17 June 1926; and Charles W. Lee Certificate of Death, state file no. 1977-MN-2409, filed Ramsey County, 25 July 1977; microfilm copies, Minnesota Historical Society Library, St. Paul, Minnesota. Bertram Bartholomew Lee died in California in 1970, but his death certificate has not yet been obtained.

10 General Register Office, Certified Copy of an Entry of Marriage, Croydon Registration District, John Lee and Ellen Elizabeth Baker, 1 September 1889, issued 31 January 2007.

11 General Register Office, Certified Copy of an Entry of Birth, Melksham Registration District, John Lee, 4 September 1863, issued 14 February 2007.

12 1881 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Philip and Jacob Out, p. 28, schedule 134, Eleanor Lea household, RG11, Piece 2,498; Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) microfilm 1,341,602; digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 24 November 2012.

13 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Philip and Jacob, p. 6, schedule 34, Eleanor Lee (indexed "Leo") household, RG 10, Piece 2,556; GSU microfilm 835,264, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 25 November 2012.

14 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. James, p. 20, schedule 122, John Lee household, RG 10, Piece 2,531. GSU film 835,256; GSU microfilm 835,256, digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 25 November 2012.

15 1851 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Augustine the Less, p. 13, schedule 67, John Lee household, HO 107, Piece 1,951, GSU film 87,351; digital image, www.ancestry.com, accessed 25 November 2012.

Jay Fonkert is a Certified Genealogist[SM] 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.

Charlotte O'Connell

New IGSI Board Member

I have been a member of IGSI since 2009. One Tuesday, while at the Minnesota History Center, I had a question regarding one of my Irish relatives. I was referred to Tom Rice. One of the first things he suggested to me, in no uncertain terms, was that I join IGSI, so I did. It was good advice.

I have been interested in genealogy since childhood. I recall being at the "the lake" and hiding some boards behind the couch, so they wouldn't be thrown out – boards where some of my ten brothers and sisters and I recorded our height over the years. Important historical information for sure, I thought! Unfortunately, those boards were eventually thrown out.

I've taken many of the IGSI class offerings and have conducted research at the IGSI library and on-line. I'm very impressed by the quality of the resources available to the membership.

I am a native Minnesotan and have visited Ireland four times. I retired as the Human Resources Manager for the Second Judicial District (Ramsey County District Court), although occasionally perform human resources consulting work for Ramsey County.

I very much look forward to serving on the IGSI Board of Directors.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Donegal

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

A trip to County Donegal is always a cause for celebration since my Hutchinson family resided there for decades before immigrating to Scotland and later from there to the United States. Just across from Letterkenny where the Central Library is located I can look across a field and see the parish where my ancestors lived. If the Church of Ireland building was not in ruins, I could probably see the church they attended as well. I was home!

Central Library

During my visit to the Central Library I was informed that staff produced a guide to tracing County Donegal ancestors entitled *Family History: Finding aids for family history research in County Donegal*. Staff was kind enough to send me a copy of the 6th edition (updated October 2012) by e-mail. Researchers should note that mention is made throughout the guide that the one microfilm reader at the library must be booked in advance.

The guide is arranged in three sections. Part A covers sources in the Central Library, including

- Census and census substitutes for the 17th-19th centuries
- Land records
- Church records and graveyard inscriptions
- Other sources (passenger lists, trade directories, newspapers [not listed in the Contents page] and military records)

Part B includes sections on civil registration records of birth, marriage and death, records at the Donegal County Archives, and the services provided by Donegal Ancestry. The Donegal County Archive records that are discussed are Poor Law Boards of Guardian, Grand Juries, local authorities, and estates.

Part C is entitled Getting Started. Useful websites are mentioned as well as books for beginners. Several published histories by town and parish are listed. Also included is a list of family histories for County Donegal families that were donated by researchers. The last item in this section is an audit of historical photographic collections for the county. Some of these collections are available online.

Some of the more unique resources listed in the guide are

- **Census and census substitutes:** a list of persons in the parish of Culdaff on 8 March 1782; Protestant householders of Templecrone parish in 1799; and a list of families in Conwal parish in 1878.
- **Estates:** the limited estate records for this county are available at the library are identified. The collection is summarized on pages 17 and 18 of the guide. Mention is also made of the 1899 Letterkenny Urban District Council rates book, a taxation or census substitute source.
- **Gravestone Inscriptions:** the library has typescript records for over 30 graveyards. Some have maps. There is also a list of burial grounds that are included in the website <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~donegal/mis.htm> as well as a couple of other links to online information for other graveyards.
- **Military Records:** a list of Donegal-born men in the Royal Hospital Chelsea from service documents (1780-1855) is available at the library.

Only a few of the websites contained in Part C are County Donegal specific. The list of websites covers several pages. Researchers will find useful links in this section.

Of particular interest is the list of books found in the guide. Reference is made to Helen Meehan and Godfrey Duffy's *A Guide to Tracing your Donegal Ancestors*, 2nd Edition, 2008. Several published town or parish histories are mentioned. The list of individual family histories is found on pages 31-37. A note at the end of the list mentions that it is not exhaustive and to check the catalog on the library's website, <www.donegallibrary.ie>. Researchers would do well to heed this advice. The name of my ancestor's civil parish—Leck—was searched in the library catalog. Three resources were found that are not listed in the guide, namely, L. R. Lawrenson's pamphlet *The Parish of Conwall, Aughanunshin and Leck*, a photocopy of the 1665 Hearth Money Roll for Leck parish, and information found in the Ordnance Survey Memoir transcriptions.

Head librarian Una Matthewson stated that Central Library has a large collection of Local Studies materials that do not fall into the category of Family History, such as those mentioned above for Leck. These resources are not included in the guide which is intended to be an overview of Family History resources available at the Central Library.

Donegal County Archives

The link that is listed in the guide to the Donegal County Archives was not working at the time this article is written. If researchers want to visit the Archives an appointment must first be made, preferably a week or more in advance. The e-mail address listed on the web site <www.askaboutireland.ie> for this record office is archivist@donegal.coco.ie.

Records held in the archive include Board of Guardian Records for eight Poor Law Unions. Workhouse and medical records exist for some places. Information found in these records varies from place to place. Reasonably complete runs of Minute Books exist for each of the Unions with the exception of Donegal Union. A detailed list of Poor Law Union records found in the archive is summarized in the guide.

The Grand Jury Presentments that survive for County Donegal consist of 30 volumes covering 1840-1890. One volume covers 1807-9.

Donegal County Archives also holds records of the County Council and the defunct Rural District Councils. These records contain little of genealogical use. It also has the Minute Book of the County Donegal branch of the Irish Medical Association (1903-1977).

Donegal Genealogy Resources

One of the websites referenced in the guide is Donegal Genealogy Resources at *Rootsweb* <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~donegal>. This website links researchers of County Donegal ancestors to approximately 2,900 pages of transcribed records including civil registration, census and census substitutes, family and famine relief, passenger lists, school registers, and much more. A separate list is included for on-going projects for each civil parish in the county. "Additions, updates, and news of new accessions" that is summarized at the end of the home page is continually updated.

The format used for each civil parish in this website is the same. Each has a description of the parish extracted from Samuel Lewis' *1837 A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*. The topics listed for each parish include births, marriages and deaths; census; churches; families; headstone inscriptions; land; links; maps; media; other resources; registers; researchers; and townlands. Information inserted in these categories depends on volunteer provided resources. For example, the civil parish of Muff includes abstracted baptisms from St. Patrick's RC Church (1858-1901), marriage and death notices from early newspapers, headstone inscriptions for three graveyards, and details from two national school registers among other items. The list of researchers is by place name and provides an e-mail address for each person. No details are given about the researcher's background or experience in doing genealogical research.

The website also has a link to the genealogy how-to booklet *Ten Step Guide to Researching Your Donegal Ancestry* found at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~donegal>. Although elementary in nature, this booklet is full of useful tips, links to websites, pictures, and images of genealogical records that are discussed. One of the links, <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~bhilchey/DonegalMain.html>, contains colored maps showing parish boundaries. Each parish has a map showing the townland boundaries. It was exciting to find that this booklet provides links to records listed in the Family History Library catalog.

The previously-mentioned *A Guide to Tracing your Donegal Ancestors* contains chapters on several genealogical resources such as civil registration, land, probate and church records, and tombstone inscriptions. The chapter on newspapers lists several historic County Donegal and Londonderry newspapers that are held by the National Library of Ireland and the British Library.

The chapters on County Donegal in James Ryan's *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History* and John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* (the 4th edition of this book was published in 2012) also list resources for this county including local journals [periodicals]. Grenham's book also lists limited genealogical websites pertaining to each county.

A list of records that have been indexed for County Donegal by Donegal Ancestry is found at <http://donegal.rootsireland.ie/generic.php?filename=sources.tpl&selectedMenu=sources>. These resources can be accessed through the fee-based website <http://www.rootsireland.ie>.

Additional information about Donegal Ancestry research services including additional records that staff can consult is found at <http://indigo.ie/~donances/new_web/index.html>.

Readers who are interested in acquiring a copy of *Family History: Finding aids for family history research in County Donegal* should send a request to central@donegallibrary.ie. Both the Central Library and the Donegal Genealogy Resources website welcome contributions from individuals.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish and Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogical Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of the Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

She is founder, past president, and forever board member of Ulster Project-Utah, an ecumenical peacemaking organization that brings Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland to the U.S.

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop

300 Years Ago

[no title]

Kinsale, March 27. Yesterday came in her Majesty's Ship the *Mermaid*, Capt. Collier Commander, having under his Convoy the *Endeavour* Storeship, from Plymouth, but last from Baltimore. Sailed the *King's-Weston*, and *King William* Galleys, both of Bristol, for the Mediterranean.

Dublin Intelligence
Dublin, Ireland
28 Mar 1713

250 Years Ago

[no title]

Belfast, Jan. 14. An account is receiv'd that the Ship *Providence*, Capt. Clark, of Coleraine, which some time ago sail'd from Portrush, arriv'd safe at Newcastle in America, after a passage-of six weeks and three days, with 300 passengers on board.

London Evening Post
London, Middlesex
25 Jan 1763

[no title]

Lately died at Sanellis, in the diocese of Agen, one John Magnan, a sailor, aged 104. He had been bred to the sea, but afterwards turned laborour. He served on board the fleet which Louis XIV fitted out, in 1689, to carry the King of England, James II to Ireland.

London Evening Post
London, Middlesex; 15 Jan 1763,

150 Years Ago

Letter From John Martin

At a time when such Irish patriots as Meagher are doing all in their power to sustain Northern despotism, it is pleasant to find afloat upon newspaperdom so feeling and warm a letter as the following, from John Martin, one of the Irish exiles of 1848. It is addressed to the *Dublin Nation*. He letter is held to be of so much importance that the *Irish American* of New York, a furious war journal, feels it necessary, though with a protest, to reprint it: …

My name has been mentioned in your paper of last Saturday as that of a sympathizer with the Southern States, in the war which at present is raging in America. I am a sympathizer with the South. And since the fact is now publicly stated, I desire, with your kind permission, to say a few words by way of explaining and defining my sympathy.

Both parties are our kindred, our friends, our benefactors. Ireland has no quarrel with either, but is bound to both by the strongest ties of affection and interest. The Irish race has contributed largely to the people of the Southern as well as of the Northern States; and the Irish in America, like all other American citizens, have to take part in this war with the State, of which they happen to be residents. The most honored and trusted of our political exiles are upon opposite sides. …

Edgefield Advertisor
Edgefield, South Carolina;
4 February 1863

Iowa Items

Ben M. Samuels made a public statement that Confederate money was worth as much as "green backs." An old Irishwoman of Dubuque, having

a quantity of Confederate cash in her possession called on Samuels, and invited him to give her greenbacks for her sort of money. Samuels, being caught, blundered out an admission that he had only been joking, and dismissed the woman without complying with her request. Samuels is the President of the Dubuque Democratic Club. It is habitual with him to denounce the Government currency as trash worse than Confederate shoeplasters.
Des Moines Iowa State Register
Des Moines, Iowa
11 March 1863

Anecdote
The Hon. Erastus Corning, President of the New York Central Railway, notwithstanding his remarkable activity, is lame. He was one day hobbling over the railroad track, at Albany, when an Irishman, who was placed to guard the track, sang out with marked Celtic accent, "Will ye leave the track?" Mr. Corning smiled inwardly and stumbled on, when the Irishman again cried, "Begone, ye stumbling highbinder, or the 11:30 Express will be forment ye, and Mister Corning will have to pay for ye the full price of a well man with two legs." This was too much for "Old Central;" he yielded the track in good time for the 11:30 Express, and sent a reward and a commendation to the faithful watchman, who had never once suspected the position of the "stumbling highbinder."
Beaver Dam Argus
Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
5 August 1863

100 Years Ago

American's Debt To The Irish - What They Have Achieved
Pioneers and Industrial Pathfinders
The Irish have been peculiarly the physical makers of America. In earlier days, unskilled for the most part, they took up the hardest part of our work. They cleared the forests, they dug the canals, they built the railroads, they "carried cities upon their backs," and with it all they brought an instinctive loyalty to American institutions. Here, after centuries of the cruelest persecution, they found almost unbelievable peace and opportunity. They made the most of it: they made the best of it….
Salt Lake Tribune
Salt Lake City, Utah
16 March 1913

Irish Congratulated On Getting Home Rule
Assembly Adopts Resolution by Unanimous Vote Following Several Addresses
SACRAMENTO, Jan. 28. – Tributes to men prominent in present day and past history of Ireland and to all Irishmen for Ireland's sake were brought forth in the assembly today upon the passage of the resolution introduced by Assemblyman James Ryan of San Francisco, congratulating the Irish people on their acquirement of home rule.

"I have grandfathers and great grandfathers buried beneath the sod of old Ireland," said Assemblyman Arthur L. Shannon of San Francisco, "and I hope they, too, can hear the cheers for the freedom for which they worked."

After remarks by Finnegan, Walsh and other assemblymen of Irish name and ancestry, the resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote.
The San Francisco Call
San Francisco, California
29 January 1913

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a co-president of Midwest Ancestor Research. She is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past Education chair for the Irish Genealogical Society, International. Sheila specializes in Irish-specific research topics. She traces her own family history to Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.

IGSI Bookstore

The IGSI Bookstore is stocked with Ordnance survey maps, histories of Irish counties, books on Irish surnames – and much more. Check out the bookstore on the website or – if looking for a specific item – send an email to Bookstore@Irishgenealogical.org with your query.

Thanks to Those Who Helped in 2012

Publications
The Septs,
Ginealas (e-newsletter), and
IGSI Blog
Ann Eccles
Jay Fonkert
Gigi Hickey
Evva Housley
Harold Hinds, Jr.
Sue Kratsch
Diane Lovrencevic
Brian Mitchell
Beth Mullinax
Kevina Munnich
Michael Murphy
Gabrielle Ní Mheachair
Dick O'Malley
Sheila Northrop
Dwight Radford
Maureen Reed
David Rencher
Tom Rice
Kathleen Strickland
Beth Vought
Ross Weldon
Mary Wickersham
Judith Eccles Wight
Greg Winters
Robert Zimmerman

Classes
Diane Lovrencevic
Kathy Lund
Linda Miller
Beth Mullinax
Tom Rice
Beth Vought
Mary Wickersham
Fern Wilcox

Library Workers
Beth Mullinax
Ann Eccles
Sue Kratsch
Kathy Lund
Virginia Mahoney
Beth Vought
Bob Vought

And other IGSI members who volunteer other than Irish Saturdays

Bookstore
Gigi Hickey
Kay Swanson

Website
Bob Zimmerman

Membership
Kay Swanson

Research
Audrey Leonard

Volunteers
Jeanne Bakken

Irish Fair
Frank Braun
Kathleen Conard
Ann Eccles
Mike Flynn
Gigi Hickey
Theresa Larson
Beth Mullinax
Tom Rice
Kay Swanson
Carol Tindell
Beth Vought
Bob Vought
Fern Wilcox

We thank those members who distribute our information in their home area, who work on indexing projects from home, and who support the IGSI in a myriad of ways.

Thank you!

The IGSI Board of Directors

Make an Appointment

Visit IGSI at the MGS Library

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email: Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org.

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State/Province _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

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Mail to
IGSI Membership
1185 Concord St N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

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	Location in Ireland (locale if known)	Location in US	Other Post-Emigration Locations
Example	*Sullivan*	*Kerry (Ballylongford)*	*MN (Rice Co), AZ*	*Can-QC; Australia*

January - March 2013
Irish Saturday Classes

January 12, 2013 Time: 10:30 A.M.-12:00
DNA Testing to Prove Lineage
Dianne Plunkett Latham, Instructor
In an easy to understand manner this class will clarify how DNA testing will help in your genealogical research. DNA testing can help you make connections with cousins who share your DNA and learn what areas of the world your ancestors came from. It might even help you get over a brick wall. Come and get your questions answered about DNA testing.

February 9, 2013 Time: 1-2:30 P.M
Choosing Books for Irish Genealogical Research
Tom Rice, Instructor
This class is perfect for those of you who see or hear about books but are unsure if they are what you need to help you in your research. As a professional genealogist Tom has expertise in researching the Irish and will be able to clarify which books are helpful for specific areas of research.

Save the Date!
March 9, 2013
9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
A symposium sponsored by the University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies Family Studies Program, and College of Arts and Sciences.

THE IRISH FAMILY AT HOME AND ABROAD

A multidisciplinary program on all aspects of the Irish family.

Keynote speaker: Dr. Brigittene French, Department of Anthropology, at Grinnell College, who recently returned from a Fulbright residency in Ireland.
Her topic: "What Irish Anthropologists Have Found – And What They Have Gotten Wrong"
Roundtables and panels will include
- Therapists' Perspectives on the Irish Family
- Patterns of the Family in Recent Irish Writing
- Images of Vocation in Irish Writing
- Alcoholism and the Irish Family
- Irish and Irish-American Memoirists on Shame and Respectability
- Irish-American Poets on their Family – readings by various poets.

Luncheon talk by Patrick O'Donnell, Normandale Community College, on "Tyrone Guthrie's Remarkable Family."

Cost: to be determined, but it will be affordable. For more information, contact James Rogers, UST Center for Irish Studies, (651) 962-5662; e-mail jrogers@stthomas.edu

Genealogy and Ireland

Who Do You Think You Are Live
February 22 – 24, 2013
London, England
The biggest family history event in the world.
http://www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/

Clare Genealogy Conference
April 2013
Contact the Clare Roots Society (http://www.clareroots.org/) for information

Sligo Genealogy Tour
The County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Centre and Wild West Irish Tours are offering an exclusive guided tour package as part of The Gathering 2013.

The Emigrant Trail Tour will trace the steps of the Irish emigrant from the family cottage, to the workhouse, to the "American Wake" and to the very shipping channel and shores they departed from on their voyage to North America.

The Emigrant Trail Tour will run five times between May and September. For more information about dates and costs, email or phone USA: 571-236-9650 or Ireland: 85 134 9300.

Ulster History & Genealogy Summer School 2013
24 – 29 June 2013
Over six days you will be assisted to carry out research for yourself at Belfast's main archives and libraries as well as discover the history of Ulster first hand through excursions to some of the province's most historic sites
http://www.ancestryireland.com/summer-school/

Share Your Research in *The Septs*

Each issue of The Septs centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories – some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors.

We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history. We also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

Theme: Major Irish Resources on the Internet (April 2013 issue)
Date for submission: February 1, 2013
This issue will feature information on new Internet resources for researching Irish ancestors and heritage. If you would like to share a favorite website or the success you have had with Internet research to burst through a brick wall, please contact us.

Or plan ahead and prepare an article related to the theme of one of our future issues.

Theme: Occupational Records
Date of issue: July 2013
Date for submission: May 1, 2013

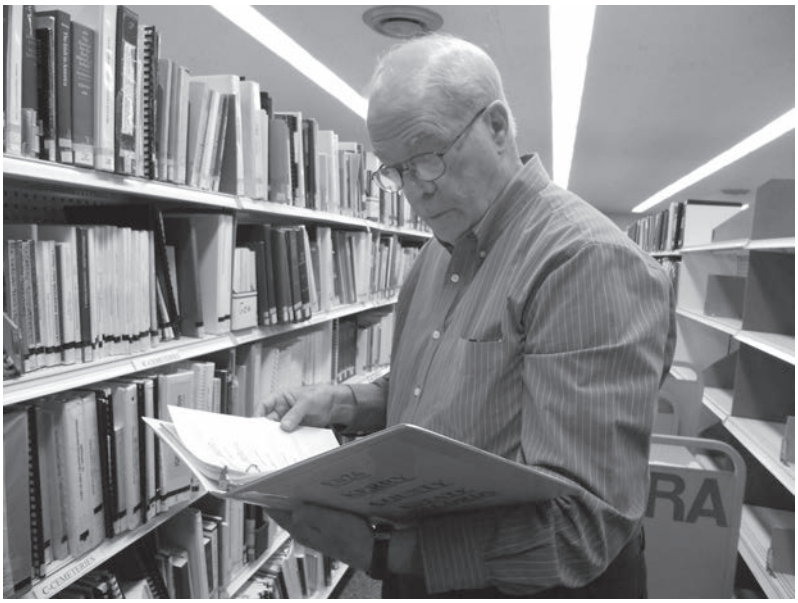
Theme: Repositories
Date of issue: October 2013
Date for submission: August 1, 2013

Theme: Estate Records
Date of issue: January 2014
Date for submission: November 1, 2013

IGSI Research Options

IGSI Benefit

The IGSI collection of Irish genealogical materials is housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) library in South St. Paul, MN. There are different ways that IGSI members can utilize the collection in their research: those who live nearby or travel to the St. Paul area can do hands-on research in the building; any member can ask the IGSI researchers to help them in their Irish research.



In Person

IGSI members who come to the library to use its resources have free access to the Irish and any other collections in the building. Those who are not members of IGSI or another affiliate of the MGS pay a $10 fee per visit.

Irish Saturday is the second Saturday of each month – a day when IGSI members have access to the wealth of information in the collection, possible class on an Irish research topic, and Irish research volunteers who will help them onsite.

IGSI welcomes out-of-town members to visit and research at the MGS Library. (See the article below for information on making an appointment for onsite assistance.)

For a Fee

IGSI offers research assistance for a fee to members who live either near or far. Research volunteers check Irish resources available in the IGSI collection to find information on Irish ancestors or to identify next steps in Irish research. The fee is $15 per hour of research, with a one-hour minimum; there are additional charges for photocopies, etc. Check the IGSI website for more information on requesting fee-based research help.

Contact the IGSI Research Committee (Research@IrishGenealogical.org) for more information and assistance.

Take the next step to locating your Irish ancestors in 2012. Contact the IGSI librarian or the research committee.

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.
1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

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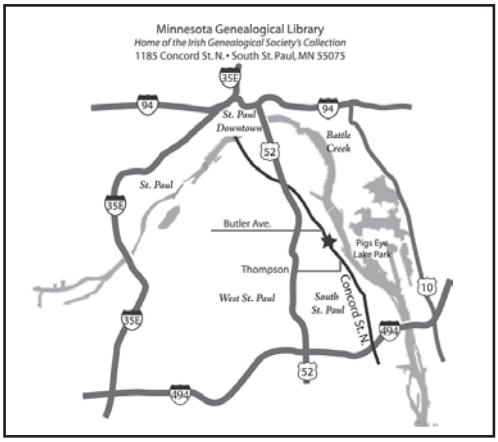
Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. (IGSI)

Library and Offices located at the Minnesota Genealogical Library

IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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 Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

Volume 34, Number 2

The Septs

An t-Aloredn (April) 2013

$10.00

Irish Resources on the Internet

2013 - 2014 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

APRIL 13, 2013
MAY 11, 2013
JUNE 8, 2013
JULY 13, 2013
AUGUST 10, 2013
SEPTEMBER 14, 2013
OCTOBER 12, 2013
NOVEMBER 9, 2013
DECEMBER 14, 2013
JANUARY 11, 2014
FEBRUARY 8, 2014
MARCH 8, 2014

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

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

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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Layout/Design	Diane Lovrencevic	SeptsLayout@IrishGenealogical.org

The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2013

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Technology, Education, Progress

by Mary Wickersham

Dear Members and Friends,

This year is off to a great start, with many of our members making significant progress on a wide variety of efforts.

The Septs Volume 14, Issue 1 was published in January. We all extend our thanks to Editor Ann Eccles, Managing Editor Tom Rice, Diane Lovrencevic (Layout/Design) and our many regular and feature writers for the ongoing excellence of our journal.

DNA Testing to Prove Lineage brought an overflow group to the meeting room at the Library for our first class of the year. In addition to being very educational and not overly technical, the session was highly entertaining. I particularly enjoyed Dianne Plunkett Latham's suggestion that if we visit with a cousin and they collect our coffee cup while wearing white cotton gloves, we may be getting our DNA tested by stealth.

Are you interested in DNA testing? After Dianne's talk, I am eager to pursue it. If you're interested in researching and organizing a DNA testing project, we may be able to team up with affiliated groups to see if we can obtain group pricing. Meanwhile, we're interested in hearing about your experiences with DNA testing. And, if you're interested in investigating group pricing, we welcome your help.

Web broadcasts are of interest to several members who are not within easy reach of the Library, who would like to view videos or webcasts from home or another location. The Board recently approved a project to investigate webcasting our classes. The project team will check into services for viewing classes at or from the Library and other locations; investigate and test (budget permitting) hardware and software needed to do a webcast. Team members: Mike Flynn, Tom Rice, Greg Winters, Bob Zimmerman, and me. If you have experience in this area, please get in touch to offer your expertise and advice. Tom will be part of a pilot project by the Minnesota Genealogical Society to test out webcasts, and is assuring we share information.

Are you a Facebook user? We updated our page recently, but we would benefit from dedicated attention by a member who can focus on keeping it up to date. We have many channels of communication: *The Septs*, the blog, *Ginealas*, webpages, email notifications, Facebook, and it can be hard to keep all of them up-to-date. (Any Tweeters out there?)

Tom Rice gave a program February 9th on how to use books for Irish research. Many thanks to Tom, Managing Editor of and contributor to *The Septs*, and past director, for his continuing efforts to educate us.

Thanks to Greg Winter & many others for putting together and distributing the printer-ready (PDF) version of our e-newsletter, *Ginealas*.

IGSI threw our support behind the University of St. Thomas Irish Studies Program in St. Paul, with "The Irish Family at Home and Abroad" offered March 9, which coincided with our Irish Saturday. We anticipate an ongoing collaboration with this cultural education program and will report on its success in a later issue of *The Septs*.

We held our second March social event in the Twin Cities area – thank you, Kay Swanson, director and membership chair, for organizing a gathering at O'Gara's Restaurant in St. Paul. If you are interested in organizing an IGSI social event in your area, i.e., any informal gathering or dinner at an Irish pub, let us know. We'll see if we can put you in contact with other members in your area who may be interested.

Donations are always welcome, as our budget doesn't provide much wiggle room. Please consider adding a contribution as you renew your membership (or any time), via our website.

Questions, comments, offers to help? Please contact me via email at president@irishgenealogical.org

"May the hinges of our friendship never grow rusty."*

*from Island Ireland, folk culture, http://islandireland.com/Pages/folk.html

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Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister Sheila Northrup. Currently the president of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSIs first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

Digital Research for Genealogists

by Ann Eccles

I greatly admire the family historians who, twenty years ago and earlier, researched their family ancestors. They patiently reviewed pages of printed materials and rolls of microfilm; they wrote letters and waited days, weeks or months for a response. And repeated the process again and again. Now that is perseverance. I started researching my family just about ten years ago when online resources were far fewer than today.

Irish genealogist Steven Smyrl recently wrote, "In barely a generation, most research is now being done online rather than in traditional venues of archives and libraries."

Today, family historians use many of the numerous genealogical databases and websites of the Internet. We type in our search term or surname and see either a specific answer or a selection of options to follow. Instead of traveling across or outside the country to visit an archive or library, we review their holdings or catalog without leaving home. That's not to say that visits to archives and libraries are obsolete research options. Visiting the website of a library or archive to prepare for a research trip adds to the benefits to be reaped on the actual visit. For me, by checking in advance I'm aware of what I'm looking for and I waste less time trying to find it in a research locale.

This issue is dedicated to reviewing and introducing online resources for the Irish genealogist. We've done this topic twice before; it's one that can be repeated often as the information on the Internet continually grows.

Two standard websites are discussed at length: Evva Housley writes about the resources of *FamilySearch* that are helpful to Irish family historians and Kathleen Strickland shares information about GENUKI resources. Our IGSI President, Mary Wickersham, shares some of her favorite genealogy websites and IGSI Librarian, Beth Mullinax, lists some of her favorites as well.

Judith Eccles Wight reports on various genealogical resources to be found in County Down; David Rencher describes the records to be found in the Thomas Ulick Sadleir collection in the National Archives of Ireland. Dwight Radford relates his experiences in creating unique dictionaries specific to genealogy research – and encourages us to create our own when we need one.

Jay Fonkert traces one of his English ancestors back to County Cork. IGSI members Jim O'Toole and Michael Murphy contribute two tales of researching their families. James O'Toole describes his efforts and recent success in tracing his family back to County Mayo. We present an excerpt of Michael Murphy's family story, tracing his line of stonemasons back to County Waterford.

In addition, we have information on IGSI activities and committees, 100 Years Ago and More, and more.

It's a moment in time in this digital age of genealogy. To keep abreast, take a few moments to learn about and check out the new features at *FamilySearch* and the sites and resources mentioned in other articles. These may lead to breaking through a brick wall or discovering a new line of research. Sit down with that cup of coffee or tea and this issue of *The Septs* to refresh your enthusiasm for Irish genealogy.

Within the next few months, the editors will identify themes for future issues of *The Septs* – for 2014 and 2015. If you have ideas and suggestions for issue themes, please send them to one of us by May 31. See the inside cover of this issue for the email addresses of the editors.

Ann Eccles is a retired librarian who has re-focused her research skills to family history and Irish genealogy. Ann has several Irish ancestral lines to trace as both of her parents descended from Irish families. She currently serves on the Board of Directors as Secretary of IGSI, is the editor of The Septs *and an Irish Saturday volunteer.*

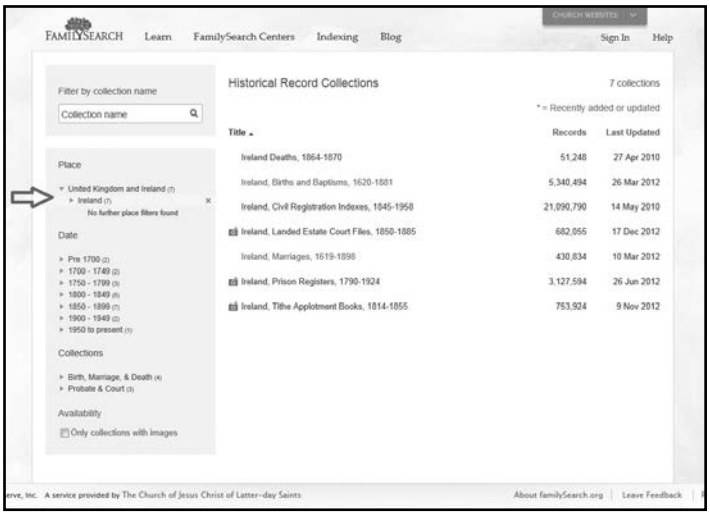
What FamilySearch.org Has to Offer Irish Genealogists

by Evva Housley, AG

FamilySearch has always had millions of Irish ancestors tucked away in the old International Genealogical Index, but now they have pulled these into separate Irish databases and added other compelling offerings.

Databases

The best way to search the databases, I believe, is to search them individually. That way your results for a common-named ancestor don't get buried under hundreds of results from the U.S. Census. You can achieve this by scrolling down to the bottom of <www.familysearch.org>. Under "Browse by location" click on "United Kingdom and Ireland" and then filter by "Ireland." You will see seven databases offered. You will want to check back in the future, as it is probable that more will be added.



FamilySearch Ireland search results page courtesy of Evva Housley.

Ireland Deaths, 1864-1870. FamilySearch holds microfilm copies of the civil registration deaths from their beginning in 1864 through 1870 (and some later years as well). Some of these have been indexed in this database. There will be a source microfilm (and usually a page, too) listed that you can order to your local FamilySearch center. The place of death listed in the index is usually the townland. It is advisable to obtain the source film, as it not only gives more details (mainly the name and relationship of the informant), but also the Poor Law Union and sub-district, which is essential in telling apart multiple townlands with the same name.

Ireland, Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881. FamilySearch holds microfilm copies of civil registration births from their beginning in 1864 through 1881 (and some later years as well). Most of these from 1864-1881 have been indexed in this database. A few church records are also included in this database, which gives it the early date of 1620. There will always be a source film given and usually a page, too—the volume number is irrelevant since the source film is already that volume. In the event that no page number is given, you can search for the same individual in the "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958" to obtain the page number. As noted previously, you don't need to worry about the volume number.

The place of birth in this index varies: sometimes the townland is listed, sometimes the registration sub-district, sometimes the county, sometimes just Ireland. You will want to order the source film and get a photocopy of the original, not only to verify if the information is correct, but to make sure you know the exact townland of birth, as well as extra details that were not indexed.

Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958. This database is simply an index of the civil registration indexes. It does cover all the indexes from 1845 (the beginning of registration of non-Catholic marriages) through 1958 and is therefore the most complete of the databases for its time period. However, because it is just an index of indexes, the source film for an entry will NOT be the actual register entry, but rather merely a microfilm of the index. The indexes only give the year, quarter, event, name, poor law union, volume, and page. In order to find the actual birth, marriage, or death event found in this index, one must:

1. Search in one of the other databases on *FamilySearch*

2. Order the microfilm of the actual event (do a keyword search of the Catalog for *Ireland General Register Office* and then sort through the titles for the right time period, event, and place), or

3. Request the certificate (or uncertified photocopy) from Ireland (<www.groireland.ie> for the entire Island before 1922

or the Republic from 1922 on or <www.nidirect.gov.uk/index/do-it-online/government-citizens-and-rights-online> for the North).

Ireland, Landed Estate Court Files, 1850-1885. From the record description on *FamilySearch* found by clicking on "Learn more" we read:

> During the 1840s, Ireland suffered a massive famine. Many tenants died, and others emigrated, hoping to find relief. As a result, landlords lost their major source of income, and their estates went into debt, culminating in a high number of foreclosures. It is estimated that between the years 1850 and 1858 around 8,000 estate foreclosures were handled.
>
> In 1849, an act was passed which established the Encumbered Estates Court. This court handled the sale and accounting of bankrupted estates. In 1858, the Landed Estates Court was established. This court handled both unencumbered and encumbered estates.

The reason these records are valuable for the average Irish researcher is that as part of a description of their estate, landlords often provided a list of their tenants. *FamilySearch* partnered with *findmypast.ie* in order to provide not just the index, but images of the actual records. You will always want to view the image because it often gives details of the lease held, including the lives named on the lease, which if you are lucky are relatives of the leaseholder. Note: In order to view the image, you must either go to a FamilySearch center, or be a "signed-in member of supporting organizations." At present, that means members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Of course, if you have access to *findmypast.ie*, you can view the images there.

One note, the search results for *findmypast.ie* will say that the record type is "probate." I'm not sure why this is, perhaps the Landed Estates Court had probate-type authority, but don't let it confuse you. These are not probate records in the normal sense of the word. These records are more like a census of tenants on individual estates at the time those estates were sold through this court.

Ireland, Marriages, 1619-1898. FamilySearch holds microfilm copies of civil registration marriages from their beginning in 1845 through 1870 (and some later years as well). Most of these from 1845-1870 have been indexed in this database. A few church records are also included in this database, which gives it the early date of 1619 and late date of 1898. There will always be a source film given and usually a page, too—the volume number is irrelevant since the source film is already that volume. In the event that no page number is given, you can search for the same individual in the "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958" to obtain the page number. As noted previously, you don't need to worry about the volume number. You want to order the source film and get a photocopy of the original, not only to verify if the information is correct, but to obtain the extra details that were not indexed. When a place of marriage is listed in this index, it is usually the parish, although the actual register entry will tell you that for sure. If no place is listed, you will definitely need to find the actual register entry.

Ireland, Prison Registers, 1790-1924. This is probably one of the least known records, and heretofore, one of the least accessible. The fact that there are over 3 million names indexed from these records, whether they be the prisoner, relatives of the prisoner, or victims of their crimes, indicates this index is valuable and should be searched regardless of any known "criminal" history in the family. Most the offenses were not serious. Different levels of detail are available depending on the date and location, but sometimes age, place of birth, physical description, occupation, religion, and relatives are given. Partnering with *findmypast.ie*, *FamilySearch* has made available not only the index, but the images of the actual record, online. Again, in order to view these images, you must either go to a FamilySearch center, or be a "signed-in member of supporting organizations." At the present, that means members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Of course, if you have access to *findmypast.ie*, you can view the images there.

Ireland, Tithe Applotment Books, 1814-1855. This is a very important

and new source offered at *FamilySearch*. *FamilySearch* partnered with the National Archives of Ireland to offer this index online, complete with the images of the actual record! This index and accompanying images cover the entire island and is free to everyone. (See image in next column.)

Searchers should be aware of the limitations of the Tithe Applotment books. They list heads of household only, and it is estimated that only about 40% of all heads of households were included. Large cities have very poor coverage since inclusion was based on holding of land not a house, like the later Griffith's Valuation. There is more information available on the background of the Tithe Applotment by clicking on the "Learn more" link under the description that comes up with the search fields after you have first selected this database.

United Kingdom Military Databases. If you remove the "Ireland" filter and instead click on the "United Kingdom" filter, you will find four military indexes that contain Irish men in the British military. If your man was in the military, these records often give a county or even parish of birth.

FamilySearch Volunteer Indexing. Did you know many of these databases were created by volunteer indexers who possibly only did about 15 minutes of work a week? If you are interested in helping make more records available online, go to <https://familysearch.org/volunteer/indexing>, or just click on the word "Indexing" at the top of the *FamilySearch* homepage.

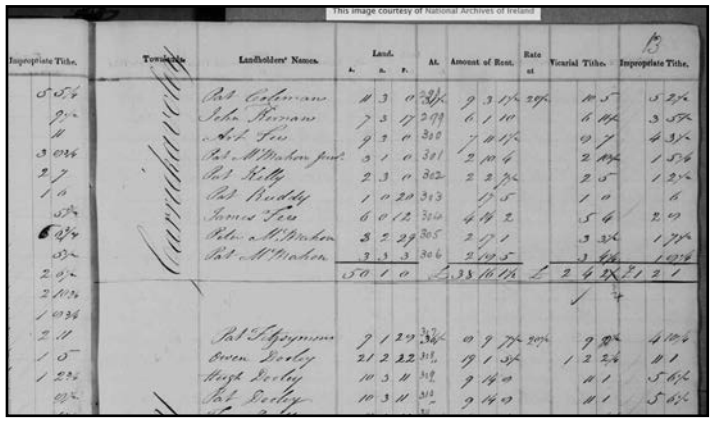


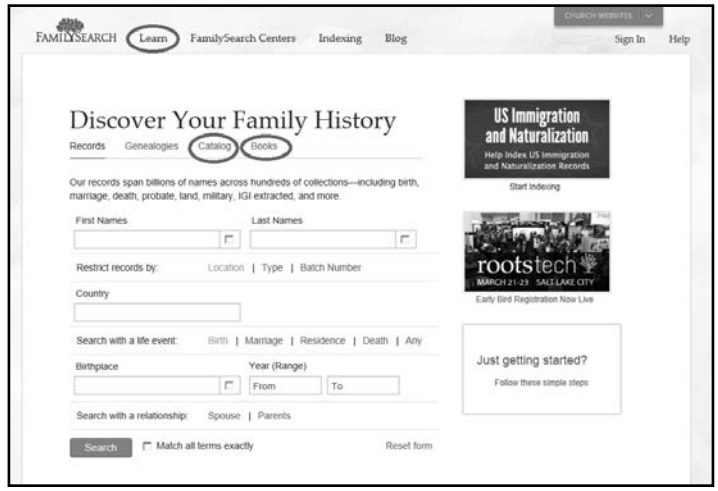
Image from "Tithe Applotment Books" FamilySearch results courtesy of Evva Housley.

Books

In cooperation with other genealogy libraries, *FamilySearch* has made great inroads into digitizing books valuable to genealogical research. Click on the "Books" tab under the heading "Discover Your Family History" near the top of <www.familysearch.org>. Search by the title of the book if you know it, or browse using a word like "Ireland" or the name of your county or parish. Some books can only be viewed at FHCs and must be "checked out," but many are freely available to see on the Internet from the comfort of your own home. In the FamilySearch Catalog, when a book is available online, it is indicated and a link to the online version is provided.

How to Use the FamilySearch Catalog

The FamilySearch Catalog is the new version of the old Family History Library Catalog. It is found by clicking on the "Catalog" tab under the heading "Discover Your Family History" near the top of www.familysearch.org. For readers unfamiliar with the Catalog on *FamilySearch*, or unfamiliar with the new version of the catalog, there are eight searches available:



Screen shot from FamilySearch catalog, courtesy of Evva Housley.

- Place Name. This is the traditional search by the name of the locality of interest. In Ireland you can search for the name of the country, county, parish, and sometimes even townland. When found, all of the types of records available for that locality will be listed. Clicking on one of these subjects expands the list to show all of the titles associated with that subject.

- Last Names. This is the old "Surname" search. Its primary function is to search for

published family histories on a given surname.

- Titles. If you happen to know the exact title of a book or film, you can search for it this way. This can be useful when you've found something once and you want to go directly back to it without having to sort through other related titles.

- Author. If you know the name of the author, you can search for it here. You can use "corporate" authors as well, such as, *Great Britain Admiralty* if you are trying to find what British Navy records FamilySearch holds.

- Subjects. This is a tricky search to use, because the subject headings might not use the words you would use to describe something. But everything listed here can also be found some other way.

- Keyword. This is a fail-safe when you can't find something any other way. Sometimes you might not know the exact locality something is cataloged under. Or perhaps there are too many results when you do a last name search for "Smith." Keyword search scans the entire catalog entry looking for your combination of keywords, not just the subject the entry is cataloged under. The Keyword search assumes "and" between all of the words you enter.

- Call Numbers. Perhaps you have an old Family History Library call number written and can't remember what book it referenced. Type it in here and it will take you to that book.

- Film Numbers. Perhaps you have found a source film number in one of the online indexes at *FamilySearch*. Type it in here to get details and see what type of a record it is.

Research Wiki

The Research Wiki is a great place to learn more on just about anything. It is located by clicking on the "Learn" tab at the top of the page, then by clicking on "Research Wiki." You then have a search box where you can enter keywords. You can enter "Ireland Church Records" to see what instruction the Wiki has to offer on that subject. Or you can enter a place in Ireland to see if there is any tidbit of information about that location that someone else has put in. Alternatively, you can click on "List all countries" under the words "Browse by country" located just under the search box. The direct link is <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Ireland>. This will give you a page with links by topic to the articles for Ireland. The Wiki is user-contributed, which means two things. One, articles may be of varying quality. Two, if you find something in a Wiki article that you know is wrong and you'd like to correct it, you can register for an account and edit the page. Or perhaps you've done extensive research in a particular parish and have helpful hints you'd like to pass along, then you can author an article on that parish. Go to <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Help:Contributor_Help> for guidelines and information on how to contribute.

Genealogy Video Lessons

Go to <www.familysearch.org>, click on the "Learn" tab on the top of the page, then click on "Research Courses." You can then scroll through a list of countries and areas that have instructional videos recorded about them. If you click on Ireland it will show you just those related to Ireland. Alternately, you can go straight to the Irish list by using the following URL, <https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/results.html?fq=place%3A%22Ireland%22>. The greatest weakness of these videos is that once they are made and posted, they are subject to becoming out of date. The strength of these videos is that you can watch a real instructor presenting in their area of specialty instead of having to read through pages of information, and they will highlight the most important parts of their topic for you.

Don't limit yourself to just the Irish offerings! Many of these videos have been recorded by top genealogists, historians, and archivists. Some of the classes concern methodology more than a particular geographical region, so don't forget to check out the subject links as well. You will also want to try different keywords, e.g. searching for the term "Irish" picks up an extra class not listed under the "Ireland" link.

FamilySearch Centers

This is the new name for the local Family History Centers. There are currently about 4,500 operating centers throughout the world. Click on the link "FamilySearch Centers" at the top of the page to find one near you. As mentioned previously, the centers all have access to the Family History Library's patron desktop, complete with free access to subscription websites such as *Ancestry*.

com, findmypast.com (but not yet their Irish collections), *Origins.net*, the *Times* digital archive, and more.

FamilySearch has much to offer the Irish genealogist, whether using the website or researching at a FamilySearch center. Do not hesitate to provide feedback on the site for ways that *FamilySearch* can continue to improve its offerings.

Evva Housley graduated from Brigham Young University with bachelor's degrees in family history and economics. She was employed at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City from 2000 to 2011 when her firt child was born and she quit to become a very happy full-time mother. She is an Accreditied Genealogist researcher in Ireland and England.

"My first advice on how not to grow old would be to choose your ancestors carefully."

Bertrand Russell

The GENUKI Journey

***by** Kathleen O'Malley Strickland*

When it's time to up the information ante on a complex genealogy project, GENUKI answers the question, "Where can I research next?" GENUKI listings lead to countless sources: maps, archives, libraries, microfilm collections, books, societies, websites and more.

GENUKI describes itself this way:
The aim of GENUKI is to serve as a 'virtual reference library' of genealogical information that is of particular relevance to the UK & Ireland. It is a non-commercial service, provided by an ever-growing group of volunteers in cooperation with the Federation of Family History Societies and a number of its member societies… The information that is provided in GENUKI relates to primary historical material, rather than material resulting from genealogists' ongoing research…

… Research is never completed. Around the corner lurks another possibility of interview, another book to read, a courthouse to explore, a document to verify.

~Catherine Drinker Bowen (1897–1973), U.S. biographer

While GENUKI sometimes provides information on particular individuals, its strength lies in sourcing the background needed to paint a fuller picture of the lives of our Irish ancestors.

Using the Website

On the home page of GENUKI's website, <www.genuki.org.uk>, are two lists: Regional Page Links on the left and Quick Links on the right. Regional Page Links lead directly to one of the geographical areas within GENUKI's scope. Clicking on "Ireland" brings up sources concerning Ireland as a whole. At the top of the page is a selection of separate website sections that cover particular counties.

GENUKI adheres to the classification style used by the Family History Library Catalog categories for the British Isles.

Scrolling through the all-Ireland list reveals references to Archives & Libraries, History, Probate Records, and much more. Clicking on a county name narrows the same results to items at county level.

The home page is always accessible by clicking on the green Ireland logo at the top left of every page.

Researchers can learn more about GENUKI by returning to the home page and checking out the Quick Links column choices. Both the "FAQ" and the "Guidance for first-time users" answer basic questions about using the website and also provide background on GENUKI itself.

GENUKI provides a bird's-eye view of its organizational structure through the "Contents and Site Map." Clicking on that page shows the flow chart of information and the organizational format of the site. Clicking on any part of the diagram leads directly to that section.

Searching Across Genuki: A Case Study

Perhaps the best way to understand how GENUKI works is to begin a search and discover how information is distributed. The easiest way to understand the scope of this broad website is to just start searching through the pages.

I propose to learn more about the origins and native home of the immigrant Lynch family who came to New York from County Cavan, Ireland. Several family records mention the parish of Crosserlough.

On the home page, I click "Search GENUKI". The website's powerful search engine includes all of its own sources plus libraries and other websites linked to, but not part of, GENUKI. It is not possible to search, however, in the all-Ireland or County Cavan sections individually.

I perform a site-wide search and then, on each resulting page, use my computer's search function to seek a particular term—such as Lynch or Crosserlough.

GENUKI's search form offers several options for "all words," "Boolean searches," and so forth. I check the option "Title and summary of the pages found," which gives me a brief description of each search result returned. In the search box, I enter combinations that can help me find more background information on the Lynch family of Crosserlough parish in County Cavan.

Search A: In the search box, I type <Cavan Crosserlough Lynch> (not enclosing the three terms in parentheses).

Four results return:

Result #1 brings up the dedicated Crosserlough page. I use my computer's search function to look for "Lynch" and find two people of that name attached to the 1796 Flax Growers' List. Results show a wealth of references to learn more about Crosserlough:

- Books listing cemetery inscriptions
- Links to Crosserlough-related microfilm held by LDS and PRONI
- Maps
- Lists of townlands, and more.

Result #2 is a transcription of Griffiths Valuation for Crosserlough.

Result #3 is specific to the town of Kilnaleck in Crosserlough, and it includes a transcription of the 1821 census for Kilnaleck.

Result #4 specifies LDS records containing census information for parts of Crosserlough.

Search B: <Crosserlough Cavan>

This search does not bring up references to the Lynch family; however, it returns sources of information that I can check to find out more about them.

Besides the original four returns in Search A, the search engine listings include subjects, such as a page for the Cavan Militia, with a long list of references. Any of these might have some bearing on the history of the Lynch family. Among many choices, information includes where to locate general books and articles about the Royal Irish Fusiliers, and then sources within LDS records and newspapers.

A host of references to church records—Roman Catholic, Church of Ireland, Methodist, and more—shows up, with document descriptions of the collections in libraries and archives.

Search C: <Cavan>

Finally, looking for deep background on the origin of the Lynch family, I search for County Cavan only. Among the 200 results are several links to the IGSI website, with its own Cavan collection. There is also a history with a map showing the plantation of Cavan by English and Scots settlers. On the resulting "Genuki: Probate" page, I find the LDS microfilm numbers for Cavan District wills.

Broadening the Search

To see even more of what GENUKI offers, I go to the homepage and click on the "Ireland" button. The resulting sources apply to the entire country. Clicking on "Cavan" brings up a long page of resources. It lists almost everything that came up in my Cavan search using GENUKI's search function, but on this page everything is organized to find

sources more quickly. Results are a rich mix of links and references to written works. A dedicated researcher can mine a list like this for a long time.

The map of Cavan parishes shows all the parishes that border Crosserlough. It would be worth my time to search these in the hunt for Lynch history—the family undoubtedly moved back and forth across parish borders when marrying and moving to different farms or homes.

More GENUKI Features

The "Contents and Site Map" offers more than geographical choices. I click this button and then check out the options listed across the top of the page.

- Gazetteer. When I type in Crosserlough, choose County Cavan, and "plot places on map," Crosserlough is pinpointed on a map of Ireland.
- Church database. Ireland is not yet included here.
- Surname interest lists. A list of websites for connecting with others studying the Lynch family.
- Genealogy discussion groups. Here are leads to mailing lists, web forums, and newsgroups.
- Family history and genealogy societies in the UK and Ireland.

GENUKI consolidates searching with ease and saves time. Instead of trawling through multiple Internet sites—the Family History Library catalog, the PRONI index, and archives and library holdings from around Ireland—I just tap into the resources at GENUKI. The brick-wall-breaking results are pre-qualified, so to speak—casting a wide net from a single Internet location.

Kathleen Strickland holds a degree in history from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and has been her family genealogist for many years. While studying history, she developed a flair for research that motivated her to follow up on the many family stories her mother and grandmother had passed along to her. She now provides research, ghostwriting and editing assistance through her personal and business support services company, the Get~it~Done Gurus.

Online Magazines

As we all know, there's ever so much available on the Internet of interest to family historians: genealogy websites, archives and library catalogs, subscription databases, even newspapers and magazines to read on computer.

Three genealogy-related magazines that this editor has seen recently are some that you may want to check out:

Irish Roots Magazine: <www.irishrootsmagazine.com> is available by subscription but can be viewed online.

Irish Lives Remembered Genealogy eMagazine <www.irishlivesremembered.com> is an online magazine that is free to read/download.

Though not Irish, ***The In-Depth Genealogist*** also has a free digital genealogy magazine available at <www.theindepthgenealogist.com>.

There are more. And always remember that as members of IGSI you can download back issues of ***The Septs*** from our website at no charge – free. This list is but a sampling of e-magazines and online reading options for family historians and Irish genealogists. Search around a bit and you may discover more.

Thomas Ulick Sadleir Collection, Part II

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

The T. U. Sadleir collection in the National Archives of Ireland, Dublin is extensive and much of it has not been imaged or microfilmed. However, some of the records from which the material was taken were not destroyed and, therefore, there are copies in other archive or online collections.

From 1939-1947, the Public Record Office, Dublin – now known as the National Archives of Ireland – acquired a considerable amount of material from his collection. It is detailed in the *Fifty-Eighth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records and the Keeper of the State Papers in Ireland* (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1951) 24-5.

The materials may be categorized in the following groups of records:

- Deeds and Family Papers
- Maps of Estates and Parishes
- Records of Public Works
- Transcripts of Parish Registers
- Freeholder's Lists
- Voter Registers
- Clergy Lists
- Military Records
- Import/Export Records
- Hearth Money Rolls
- Wills and Administrations

From the Fifty-Eighth Report of the Deputy Keeper, the following summary descriptions are provided. The numbers assigned to each record group are the identifying record numbers used by the National Archives.

Deeds and Family Papers (see also Wills and Administrations)

A collection of deeds, testamentary documents and miscellaneous papers relating to the Eyre family in Galway City and County and the White, Hedges and Eyre families in County Cork, and records of property belonging to the Pearse family of Limerick City for the years 1663-1819 (D11565-11723; T3793-3850; C2321-2438; M970x-1027). Also included is a rare adventure's certificate for James Reed and others for Longford, Castlefleming and Queen's County, dated 19 October 1666 (C2420). The family papers of the Wolfe family of Forenaghts, County Kildare, and their property in Counties Dublin, Kildare and Limerick are included.

Maps of Estates and Parishes

There is a certified copy of the map of the Down Survey for the parish of Macroom in the West Riding of County Cork (M1026) and an early nineteenth century map of the estates of Hedges and Eyre (M1027). Maps of the property of the Wolfe family for their lands in Clanwilliam, County Limerick (D12649-12652). Map of Gurtnara in the parish of Kilnamana, County Tipperary on the Vaughn estate, 1772 (M1366).

Records of Public Works

Accounts of the Kilcullen turnpike road commissioners, 1787-1792 (M2484). Commission of the Peace, County Tipperary to Sir William Vaughn, 1720 (M1224).

Transcripts of Parish Registers

Transcripts for the Church of Ireland parish registers of Killeigh in the diocese of Kildare, 1808-1835; register of burials for St. Paul's Dublin, 1719-1820; register of burials for Carne, 1815-1876, diocese of Ferns; register of burials for Kilpatrick, 1834-1864, diocese of Ferns; and register of burials for Churchtown, 1835-1877, diocese of Lismore (M1451).

Freeholder's Lists

A list of freeholders for County Meath for the year 1781 taken from a manuscript in the Headfort collection (M1364).

Voter Registers

A copy of the poll book for the County of Westmeath for the year 1761 (M1367).

Clergy Lists

List of priests in Dublin for the year 1697 from a notebook formerly belonging to a member of the Monk Mason family (M1368).

Military Records

There are rolls of the Forenaghts, County Kildare corps of cavalry, 1807–c.1814, and the Forenaghts yeomanry, c.1796–1808 (M.1111-1112). Eight notebooks containing lists of army commissions, 1736-1744 and 1757-1761 (M1356-1363).

Import/Export Records

Abstracts of imports and exports for the years 1764-1768 (M2482-3). These records were likely taken from records that were destroyed in the fire in the Custom House, Dublin in 1921.

Hearth Money Rolls

One of the few copies of the hearth money rolls for southern Ireland, that of County Wicklow for the year 1668 (C3440). Much of the collection of

hearth money rolls survives only for Northern Ireland from the transcripts made by Tenison Groves.

Wills and Administrations

Transcripts of the Diocese of Ossory Administrations 1738-1804 (T7425). A large collection of miscellaneous deeds and wills. The wills are indexed in the collection of known surviving transcripts and copies in the National Archives. This collection is detailed as 1672-1868 (D14053-14066; 14111-14115); (T4863-4876; 5013-5016; 5065-5077; 5139-5141; 5324-5326); (C3441); and (M1170-1174; 1316-1320; 1372-1373).

Thanks to the efforts of antiquarians like T. U. Sadleir, we have copies of a number of records that were destroyed in 1922 in the unfortunate fire and explosion in the Public Record Office. These records sometimes give direct evidence of a relationship while others pinpoint a particular individual in a given place and time. Whatever the information gleaned, it has great genealogical value in piecing together the fragmentary evidence of the lives of these individuals.

Key to Record Group Letters:

D = Deposited original
T = Transcript
C = Copy
M = Maps

[Editor's note: This article is a continuation of an article by this author on the T.U. Sadleir collection from *The Septs*, Volume 32, Number 4]

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.

2013: Ireland's Family History Year

In February, Tourism Ireland announced at the London gathering of WDYTYA? Live that 2013 is Ireland's "Family History Year". It's an initiative within an initiative; The Gathering has done a lot of the leg work; there is a full schedule of clan gatherings, genealogy and local history events planned for the year. The Family History Year opened with the St Patrick's Festival Genealogy Centre in Dublin in March.

Future events include: on the fun side, the International Gathering of the O'Neill Clans in Dungannon; Co Tyrone's recreation of the crowning of the King of Ulster; the Gallagher Clan Gathering, which will attempt to break the world record by assembling 5,000 Gallaghers in one place in Co Donegal; and the 'It's A Long Way to Tipperary Festival', with its unique International Churn Dairy Maids Races!

Mark Henry, Tourism Ireland's central marketing director, said of Ireland's Family History Year: 'The programme of clan gatherings and local history talks will continue right through to October, when Ireland's largest genealogy event, Back to our Past, takes place.

'There are more talks, seminars and clan gathering taking place in 2013 than ever before. Our message to the Diaspora in the UK and throughout the world, is that there has never been a better year to visit Ireland, to trace their ancestry and learn more about their Irish roots.'

A dedicated Facebook page been launched by Tourism Ireland for people to share stories and learn more about their Irish roots. The page will keep people updated on the special events that are happening as part of Ireland's "Family History Year". Its 10,000 plus 'Likes' is pretty impressive!

Also visit the websites of *The Gathering* <www.thegatheringireland.com/> for a full listing of events scheduled throughout Ireland, and *Ireland Reaching Out* <www.irelandxo.com/> a reverse genealogy project to reconnect the 70 million of the Diaspora back to their roots in Ireland.

Creating a Genealogical Dictionary or Glossary

by Dwight A. Radford

Let's face it, as family historians we love reference books. They aren't popular nor are they high-volume sellers. Yet, for specific questions, we pull our favorite reference book and plow through it until we find an answer to our question at hand.

The same holds true for a genealogy-related dictionary or glossary of terms. These can be so valuable. Unfortunately, there aren't many on the market specifically aimed at Irish research problems. Out of my own frustration, I've tried to remedy this by creating some of my own. While I pull information from any number of published books, I also find a wealth of information on the Internet. Much of what we need to create our own reference tool can be found in bits and pieces, so we have to refer to a number of books and websites, not just a few or the well-known ones. Very few sources, including already available works, pull everything together into one reference tool.

This article will focus on strategies I have used to create research dictionaries and glossaries specifically for Irish-related genealogy. It's not as complicated as it seems; the key is to think methodically. I will draw from examples that I have created and have published on my blog site or am planning to publish in the future. (Check out my blog site for the dictionaries themselves. Look under the topics of "Dictionary" and "Glossary" at <www.thejourneyhomegenealogy.com>).

Creating a Reference Dictionary or Glossary

The steps below are drawn from my own experience. It's a great service to create reference tools; my motivation is my own frustration. My suggested steps are as follows:

Step 1: Identify a personal research need. Is it frustration with the Irish Registry of Deeds or a particular religious denomination? Both the Registry of Deeds and organized denominations have their own special language. The Registry of Deeds uses odd or confusing legal language, whereas various churches use unique religious terms. Once decided upon a topic, we must limit it.

For example, with the Registry of Deeds, we may want to include language found in estate record and tax records. They both deal with land issues. We may not want to include probate legal terms, although there may be some cross over. Probates is unique enough to warrant its own dictionary of terms.

A church dictionary may be a little harder to define. For example, religious language from the Roman Catholic Church would differ from a Protestant church. However, there is cross over. Yet there is enough unique about Quakers, Plymouth Brethren (Christian Brethren), and Moravians that they would require their own dictionary of terms. I know. I've compiled them! Also, we must keep our history and theology straight. For example, it would not be appropriate to place a Mormon dictionary under Protestantism. They are not a Protestant denomination. Although many Mormon words are shared in common with Protestant churches, they have a different meaning entirely.

So we decide our goals and stick to them. We will not be too broad as to lose the meaning of what we want to accomplish. Also, we won't be so narrow that we help nobody. Both extremes can undermine credibility.

Step 2: Choose reference material carefully. We shouldn't assume that any one source is the final word on what a word or term means. This is a new creation representing specific needs for a researcher.

In the "Land and Tax" Dictionary that I compiled, I utilized numerous sources:

- Julian Cornwall, *How to Read Old Title Deeds XVI-XIX Centuries* (Shalfleet Manor, Isle of Wight: Pinhorns, 1970): 39-40, 44-46
- Julian Cornwall, *Reading Old Title Deeds*, 2nd ed. (Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications), Ltd, 1997): 45-49
- Family History Library Staff, *Register of the Registry of Deeds Ireland With Surname and County Indexes* (Salt Lake City, Utah:

Family History Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2002): vi-vii

- James F. Fitzpatrick, Esq. A *Practical Guide to the Valuation of Rent in Ireland* (Dublin: E. Ponsonby, 1881)

- "Place Types and Land Allocation in Ireland": Internet website <http://ei.epodunk.com/place-types.html>

- James R. Reilly, "Is there More in Griffith's Valuation Than Just Names?" in *The Irish At Home and Abroad* 5, #2 (1998): 58-69

- James R. Reilly, *Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland* (Baltimore, Maryland: Clearfield Co., 2000): 67-68

- James R. Reilly, "Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland" in *The Irish At Home and Abroad* 4, #3 (1997): 106-113

- James R. Reilly, "The Sacred Tenth: The Tithe Applotment Book as a Genealogical Resource" in *The Irish At Home and Abroad* 3, #1 (1995/96): 4-9

While there are compiled glossaries for Irish tax lists, there is currently very little available for the Registry of Deeds. The English deeds provide the definitions as both systems were based upon English law. Genealogists have compiled lists of English terms; where there is crossover with Ireland, the English definition can be used. In this case, I sought out English reference books on deeds because I was so frustrated with what I encountered with Irish publications.

For those of us who have used Quaker records, we know that they can be frustrating. Whether it's the unique language or the abbreviations used, a reference dictionary is a must have. When I compiled my Quaker dictionary, I drew heavily from the Internet, as I found entire websites dedicated to the subject.

- "Glossary," Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends website, Baltimore, Maryland

- "Glossary of Quaker Terms & Concepts," on the New York Yearly Meeting website

- "Glossary of Quaker Terms and Phrases," on the Quaker Jane website

- "A Quaker Glossary," on the Quaker Information Center website

- "Quaker Glossary," on "The Light Within" website of the Downingtown Friends Meeting

- "Quaker Glossary: Quaker Speak," on the Devon and Cornwall Quakers website

- "Quaker Jargon Buster," website

- "Quakers and Slavery Glossary," on the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

- "A Small Glossary of Quaker Terms," on the Swarthmore Friends Meeting website, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

- Richard S. Harrison, *A Biographical Dictionary of Irish Quakers* (Dublin, Ireland: Four Courts Press, 1997, 2008).

Whether to include the actual web address or not is a matter of debate. The problem with citing a web address is the possibility that it may change by the time the work is published. The theory is the name of the website will stay the same, so by searching that one find the new web address. For example, if Quaker Jane's "Glossary of Quaker Terms and Phrases" address changes, I can find it again. The same holds true for "Quaker Jargon Buster."

Continuing with Quakers as an example, we may not want to include every term from every dictionary. Some are very modern and reflect the contemporary state of the faith, not the historical faith the records represent. Familiarity with our topic allows us to pick and choose what will serve our Irish genealogical need.

Step 3: Maintain integrity. We should always provide references in our work and never draw from another's work without crediting them. We can reword/rework a previously published source – yes, but never plagiarize – not even unintentionally. It's far easier for someone to fact-check now than ever before.

Also, we are creating a genealogical resource tool. It is not a political, religious, or personal-opinioned work. Keep the original goal and purpose in mind at all times.

Recently, I pushed the envelope a bit by creating a "Racial Dictionary" for my blog site. My goal was to include the main ethnic groups which were from Ireland or intermarried with the Irish upon immigration. I had to define potential sensitivities of my audience, choose my sources very carefully, and then present them from a genealogical perspective, which is historical. Yes, many of the terms I chose were nothing more than historical slurs. Yes, I even admit to hiding a few within the larger definition for another word. Here are the sources I carefully chose:

- "List of Ethnic Slurs": <www.enwikipedia.org/wiki/Ethnic_slurs>
- "List of Ethnic Slurs by Ethnicity": <www.en.eikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ethnc_slurs_by_ethnicity>
- "List of Regional Nicknames": <www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_regional_nicknames>
- "The Racial Slur Database": <www.rsdb.org>
- Virginia Easley DeMarce, "Very Slitly Mixt": Tri-Racial Isolate Families of the Upper South – A Genealogical Study," in *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 80 (March 1992): 5-35: <www.genpage.com/DeMarce.pdf>
- William Harlen Gilbert, Jr., *Surviving Indian Groups of the Eastern United States* (Washington D. C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1949)
- "1811 Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue, by Francis Grose": <www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/5402/pg5402.html >
- "Old Time Racial Terms & More People of Color": <www.smoot-family.us/terms.html>

Due to people's sensitivities, and since this was going on the Internet where non-genealogists would have access to it, I went one step further. I had it reviewed by family historians I know and respect in the United States, Canada and Ireland:

Jayne Davis, past president of the Franklin County, Ohio Genealogical Society: <www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohfcghs>;

Ann Eccles and Tom Rice with the Irish Genealogical Society International: <www.irishgenealogical.org> in South St. Paul, Minnesota;

Leland Meitzler, publisher and blogger of <www.FamilyRootsPublishing.com> and <www.genealogyblog.com> based in Salt Lake City, Utah;

Claire Smith-Burns, Library & Public Education Committees Director for the Kelowna & District Genealogical Society in Kelowna, British Columbia: <www.kdgs.ca>;

Bob Murray, genealogist in Belfast, Northern Ireland: <www.youririsheyes.com>.

Once I felt covered on all sides with this topic, I published my creation and have not received any e-mails from distressed readers! That was a successful blog topic in my book!

I'm saying to not shy away from sensitive topics. This is genealogy and no matter how ugly a topic is, we need to understand it. This is the way it was and we can't change it. It is history. I did a similar "Bondage Dictionary" of researched historic terms concerning European, African and Native American slavery in the New World. That was fun, but an equally dicey topic.

Step 4: It's time for publication. Current publishing options are amazingly varied. The size of the work determines our publication options. The goal is that future researchers find our work.

We have chosen and limited our topic, consulted respectable sources, and had a peer review of our work. While this may be a "labor of love," we should look to making it available for future usage by family historians. The Internet is a prime source for this. Blog sites are good, but sometimes limited; I divided a dictionary or glossary into several blogs. Print is another good medium, e.g. a genealogical journal. If the work is large enough, another option is to professionally publish it in paper or electronically.

Conclusions

With the merger of genealogy and technology, creating a personal reference dictionary or glossary is far simpler than ever before. We no longer have to wait for someone to do it for us. The technology at our fingertips

provides us with the means to do in hours what would have taken years in the old days. Such a project could even be a collaborative effort using the knowledge and research skills available in a genealogical society.

Therefore, if you have a frustration from the lack of a specific reference tool, the chances are you are not alone. Go create your own!

Dwight Radford is a professional genealogist residing in Salt Lake City. He is versed in genealogical sources and emigration methodology for Irish and Scots-Irish families. He is the former editor of The Irish at Home and Abroad *and coauthor of* A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors. *His daily blog can be read at http://blog.thejourneyhomegenealogy.com*

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

- Mark Twain

Researching Irish Genealogy with Internet Databases

by Mary Wickersham

It's good to revisit Irish genealogy-related databases periodically. Recently, I was delighted to find my husband's great-great-grandmother Margaret McGrane's christening record from Drogheda on *Ancestry.com's* Irish collection. An added bonus was the discovery of records for several siblings we had known of – and some we hadn't!

As with all databases and Irish names, be creative with the spelling of forenames and surnames.

Vital Records and More

Ancestry.com <www.ancestry.com> This is a well-publicized genealogy website. While a subscription database, the Library edition is available free at many public libraries and at the IGSI library. There are more than 26 million records. Of particular interest to Irish researchers are the Indexes to Griffiths Valuation, Tithe Applotments, and Civil and Religious Records. New York Emigrant Savings Bank database and some immigration/naturalization records are part of its U.S. collection. Full World Deluxe membership subscriptions are about $300/year.

The National Archives of Ireland (NAI) <www.nationalarchives.ie> From the homepage of this free website, one can connect to information for visiting the facility, for searching the archives, or for getting information to start researching family history. This latter section offers a list of professional genealogy researchers in Ireland as well as a listing of all county-based genealogy centres. There are some sections listed under the NAI, including a new access point for genealogists <www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie/>. From this page, one can access the Census Records for 1901 and 1911, the Tithe Applotment Books from 1823 to 1837, and the Soldiers' Wills from 1914 to 1917. This site will have other genealogical records added to it in coming years.

Direct access to the 1901 and 1911 Census records online is <www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>. All fields are searchable, with links to copies of the original records in PDF format.

Irish Family History Foundation (IFHF) < www.rootsireland.ie > This website contains a searchable index of vital and religious records for most counties. To search on the site, one must be a registered user and purchase "credit" to use to view search results or individual records.

Irish Origins <www.irishorigins.com> This subscription database is available free at the IGSI library in South St. Paul, MN. Key Irish genealogy records on this site include Griffith's Valuation, various censuses and directories, wills, passenger lists, militia records, and more. Irish only subscription is about $9.50 for 72 hours or $15/month, Full British Isles for about $17/month.

Family Search <www.Familysearch.org> This is the free website of the Church of Latter Day Saints. It has

25 million+ searchable Irish records available online. Some records have been indexed more than once, so check the details on multiple entries to compare the contents. (See Evva Housley's article on *FamilySearch* Irish records on page 42.)

Irish Genealogy <www.irishgenealogy.ie> This free website is hosted by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. At present it includes 2,750,000 Church records of Baptism, Marriage and Death comprised of Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland Records from Counties Carlow, Cork, Kerry and Dublin City.

Immigration

One-Step Webpages by Stephen Morse <www.stevemorse.org> Free; this is not a database, but a series of tools for flexible lookups. The best-known of his webpages are the search sites for Ellis Island and Castle Garden records. Check out other databases available for search assistance from Steve's toolbox.

The Ship's List <www.theshipslist.com> Free; this website of ships' lists transcriptions, includes a special Famine Emigrants section. It also contains immigration reports, newspaper records, shipwreck information, ship pictures, ship descriptions, shipping-line fleet as well as hundreds of passenger lists to Canada, USA, Australia, and even some for South Africa. It is searchable by surname.

Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild (ISTG) <www.immigrantships.net> Free; this website includes ships' list transcriptions of 12,000+ passenger manifests.

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration <http://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-description.jsp?s=639&cat=GP44&bc=,sl&col=1002> Free; page 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."

Newspapers in U.S.

Information Wanted <http://infowanted.bc.edu/> Free; hosted by Boston College, this is a database of newspaper advertisements placed between October 1834 an October 1921 in the "Missing Friends" column of the *Pilot* by people looking for "lost" friends and relatives who had emigrated from Ireland to the United States.

Brooklyn Eagle - <http://eagle.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/Default/Skins/BEagle/Client.asp?Skin=BEagle> Free; digitization of the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* newspaper from October 1841 – December 1902 as a project of the Brooklyn (NY) Public Library. Access can be gained either by date of issue or by keyword searching.

Other

The IreAtlas Townland Database aka **Sean Ruad** <www.seanruad.com> Free; fabulous townland location database.

Italian Genealogical Group <www.italiangen.org> Free (they request donations); these indexes to an assortment of records from New York City boroughs and nearby counties include many Irish surnames. Earliest records are 1862 up into 1940s. If your family initially settled in NYC area, check its groom's and death indexes.

Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister Sheila Northrup. Currently the president of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSIs first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

Success Stories

by James O'Toole

This is the info I once sent out looking for that next step: "Lost in America I have a good handle on 4 generations of O'Tooles, all of them can be tracked back to the Amboy, Illinois area in the 1860-1900 era. The family history has them moving there from Smith Falls, Ontario in Canada. Only undocumented evidence puts them there around 1850. When they came from Ireland, what part and how is totally unknown."

I remember reading the success stories of others who "found" their family roots through some stroke of luck. It could have been a letter found in Aunt Nell's papers, a newspaper article or a civil record somewhere. I think I had exhausted all of those sources that I could access. Most of my search had been done in the 1980s and 1990s and I had hit dead ends everywhere. My family came through Canada (family memories "near Smith Falls") and became citizens when enlisting in an Illinois regiment at the time of the Civil War. Because of that there are no naturalization papers and no records for commonwealth movement into Canada. I only had one item that was of interest to follow: a marriage between my O'Toole family and the Garvin family who were my grandfather's cousins. I found two Garvin/O'Toole marriages in Canada six years apart but with the correct names in both cases. I could find nothing to support either of these as my family. One had more detail -- the parent's names, Anthony & Bridget O'Toole. If this one was mine, I had more to look into. That however proved to be a dead end, too. Research in Ireland is not possible if you can't even guess on a county. So I gave up looking at that time.

Then my wife retired. Since I had found her father's family back to 1690s, she wanted to start looking for her mother's side. In helping her get started, I began to find many new resources available on the Internet. So why not recheck my family? New census records and all the checks only confirmed what I knew after Civil War. I began "googling" combinations of names and places to see what might pop up as a new source. Lots to look at but no real connections. But you never know.

I found an 8-year-old query entry that fit my Garvin/O'Toole/Iowa keywords and the detail looked like my family.

Garvin Descendents in Marcus, Cherokee, Iowa

GARVIN, OTOOLE, GORDON, REILLY, HEALY, TOVEY
Posted By: Jane Murphy (email)
Date: 6/24/2004 at 00:02:16

I sent a note to the email address in the post. I had done that many times before, stating my information and plight. I had never had a response other than sympathy. This time it was different.

I had a response from an avid researcher in the Garvin family and we began exchanging notes and information. Yes, her Garvin family was the same who married my Catherine O'Toole. Yes, she came from the Anthony and Bridget O'Toole family. In the 1852 Canada West Leeds (county) Kitley township census they were listed as Otowell. And they were the entry next to the Garvin family. My great grandfather John William O'Toole and great aunt Catherine O'Toole were children in that family. She also had information about the families near them from her husband's tree and details linking all of our families into Ireland. She knew for a fact that they had come from Doonanaroo townland near Kilfian in Country Mayo. She contacted a friend in Ireland who checked with the parish priest and found the marriage with

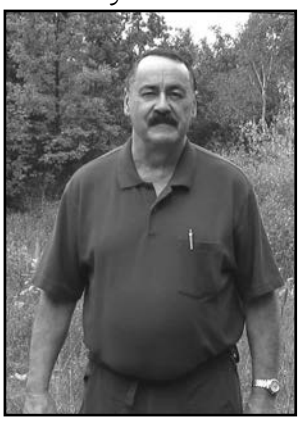
A Clashmore Chronicle

by Michael E. Murphy

an O'Hora as a witness (another family from Kitley, Ontario, group) and Connor family events in the records. What put a cap on it was to find the baptismal dates for Thomas and Patrick, the first two children of Anthony & Bridget, listed there.

I have visited Kitley, Ontario, and walked on the exact property; I have seen one of the preserved cabins from the shared Garvin / O'Toole farm and found the bill of sale signed by Anthony & Bridget. Now I am planning to go to Ireland again. This time I'll visit Mayo knowing the area I claim as homeland.

James (Jim) O'Toole has been a member of IGSI for more than 20 years. A dabbler in genealogy, he has volunteered several times for State Fair, library and conversion to electronic media. When he couldn't find his own family in Ireland he attended several O'Toole Clan Rallies around the globe. He has always lived in Minnesota and traces his family through South Dakota, Iowa, Illinois and Canada. The route is the interest.



While growing up in St. Paul, we didn't ask our parents much about our Irish origins, nor did they tell us much. When we'd drive past the Cathedral, Dad would remind us that his father was a stonemason who had worked on its construction. He said our grandfather had learned that trade from his own father, Patrick Murphy, the first in our Murphy line to emigrate from Ireland. Dad seemed to think that Patrick and his wife, Mary, had come from Waterford to settle in Lawrence, Massachusetts; but he never told us why he thought Patrick and Mary had come from Waterford. So, long after it was too late to get help from our parents, my siblings, some cousins and I decided to test the Waterford premise.

A cousin in Lawrence found Patrick's burial site and death records there, including the fact that the name of Patrick's father (our great-great grandfather) was Michael. So, armed with the suppositions that Patrick Murphy was born in County Waterford in the early 1820s; that his father's name was Michael and his wife's name was Mary Heffernan; and that Patrick was a stonemason – we went to the Waterford Heritage Services (WHS) for research assistance. That's when the Waterford probability became the Waterford certainty.

We commissioned the WHS in Waterford city to do a search for us. The WHS has collected, organized, and preserved on computer files all existing marriage and baptismal records kept in the Catholic parishes throughout Waterford. Based on our information, the WHS discovered a Michael Murphy and a Margaret Leane who were married at St. Cronan's Catholic Church in the village of Clashmore (southwestern County Waterford) in February 1822. Their records showed that this Michael and Margaret Murphy baptized a son, Patrick, in March 1823. Their records also showed that this child was the only Patrick Murphy baptized in County Waterford in the early 1820s whose father's name was Michael. And Irish census data gathered during the 1840s indicates that a Michael Murphy living in Clashmore parish was a stonemason!

We knew that when Patrick left Ireland for America in 1845 he was accompanied by his new bride, Mary Heffernan Murphy. And assuming that young men and women of marrying age would most likely meet one another "in the neighborhood," our search turned to Heffernan families in or near Clashmore. We were rewarded: a John and Mary Curtain Heffernan lived in nearby Knockanore (the next parish just west of Clashmore). Church records and Irish census data indicate that this Heffernan family probably lived in the townland of Kilcockan, just south of the village of Knockanore, during the 1820s and '30s. They seem then to have moved down to the townland of Garrananaspick, just south of the village of Clashmore and down the road from what we believe to be the location of Michael and Margaret

Murphy's (and, of course, Patrick's) house. We're sure this must be our Mary Heffernan's family, because the 1870 U.S. census shows a John Heffernan, and a Mary and other Curtains, sharing the same dwelling in Lawrence, Massachusetts, with Patrick and Mary Heffernan Murphy. All the experienced genealogists helping us, both amateur and professional, encouraged our belief that we'd found where our Murphy line had come from in Ireland. I was ready to begin my walk in the footsteps of our Murphy ancestors.

My walk began by attending Sunday Mass with my sons at St. Cronan's church in Clashmore village. This church was built in the mid-1820s and so must have been our ancestors' parish church. I had written the pastor, Fr. Maurice O'Gorman, telling him I'd be there and asking him to remember our Murphy clan at Mass. And he did. And then he invited us to his home the next afternoon to inspect the original church records. Now that was a trip!

Fr. O'Gorman showed us his collection of tattered books containing the time-faded records (in Latin) of his parish's marriages and baptisms going all the way back to 1811. He showed us the pages for February 1822 and for March 1823. And sure enough, there were the entries for the marriage of Michael and Margaret Leane Murphy and the baptism of their son Patrick a year later. The experience of seeing these original records there before us was spiritual.

After our visit to Fr. O'Gorman, we met with Fr. Patrick Condon, the pastor at Knockanore. He showed us the original and the computerized records of the John and Mary Curtain Heffernan family as members of the Knockanore parish. Again, the old records were in Latin, but easily discernible.

The next day, we met with the archivist at the Dungarvan Library, who was able to pinpoint the exact parcel of land on which our great-great-grandparents, Michael and Margaret Murphy, must have lived. Using census data and maps, the archivist identified two parcels of land occupied by a Michael Murphy within a mile of one another and on either side of the road running north across the Licky River bridge into the village of Clashmore. At first, the archivist thought that the two parcels might have been occupied by the same Michael Murphy, but on further reflection, she concluded that they must have been occupied by two different Michael Murphys.

It's interesting how she reached that conclusion, and how she was convinced that we had found our great-great-grandparents' homestead in Clashmore parish. One of the two parcels is identified as a "12 shilling" cottage without any adjoining land; just the cottage. It was subleased to this Michael Murphy by a Curreen family, which leased 77 acres from the English owner. (We were told Catholics could not own land in Ireland back then.) This cottage would have been occupied by a laborer employed by the Curreens to work their farm – most probably a full-time job for this Michael Murphy.

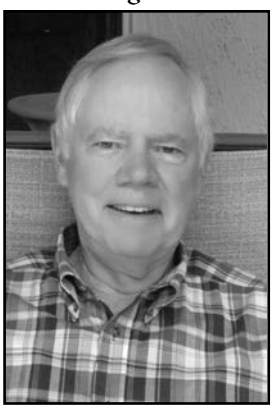
The other Michael Murphy parcel lies along the right side of the road running up to Clashmore village over the Licky River bridge. This parcel contained a larger, "15 shilling" house plus an acre of farmland (large enough to feed a small family). We were told this would have been a stonemason's house – someone who had a trade with which to make a decent living, enough to afford the extra land for a year's crop to feed his family.

Having identified the probable location of our Michael Murphy's homestead on the old map, the archivist superimposed a satellite map of the area as it is today. We were able to coordinate the old and new maps in such a way as to identify the very parcel of land where our great-great-grandparents lived in Waterford 170 years ago. Naturally, we had to drive back out there and photograph the field – which probably looks much like it did back then, except that the "15 shilling" house is long gone.

On the way back, we encountered a disturbance in the otherwise pristine fields and hills lined, as they were everywhere, with low stone walls separating land uses and marking property boundaries. On the crest of a hill, we saw what looked like an industrial works of some sort – piles of roughly thrown earth, rock and

sand, massive pieces of machinery and equipment that looked oddly out-of-place in this bucolic setting. "A quarry," said our guide. "There are stone quarries in this part of the county." But of course! How else to explain our coming from a long line of stonemasons? Michael was a stonemason; so was his son Patrick; and so were Patrick's sons. That's what we believe drew our grandfather to St. Cloud, Minnesota (known as "The Granite City" for its quarries).

All this reinforces our belief that our Murphy line came from southwestern County Waterford, from Clashmore. And now we had come home – to alter Yeats – across the mackeral-crowded seas, the salmon falls, home to the banks of the Licky River.



After a brief career as an English professor at St. Olaf and Macalester Colleges, Michael Murphy spent 30 years as an international business lawyer. Since his retirement in 2004 from Faegre & Benson, he has been an adjunct professor at the University of St. Thomas Law School. He and his wife, Jane, live in St. Paul. They will be in Ireland for "The Gathering" later this year.

Tracking Irish-born Bartholomew Lee Back to Cork

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

In the last issue of *The Septs*, I illustrated how you can use a three-step strategy to find your ancestors in the British Isles:

1) Mine the North American records for clues to home-country origins.
2) Match an individual or family across North American and home-country records, and
3) Follow the family back through home-country records.

As we saw, the search for the ancestors of Lawrence Lee led to his father John's marriage to Ellen Elizabeth Baker in Surrey in 1889. The marriage record identified John's father as Bartholomew Lee.[1] John Lee was 26. The 1881 Census of England enumerated a John "Lea," 18, born in Melksham, Wilsthire, living with his mother, Eleanor, in Bristol.[2] A decade earlier in 1871, the family lived on Wade Street, but John was absent. Also noticeably absent was John Lee's father, Bartholomew, despite the fact that Eleanor Lee told the 1871 census-taker that she was married.[3] As will become clear later, John Lee was living with his grandparents John and Joanna Lee on Earl St.

In this issue the search for Lee family ancestors continues. Because every family's historical trail is different, each family history researcher must walk a different research path. The keys to success are attention to clues and creative searching.

Lee Family in England

Ancestry.com and *FreeBMD.org* offer online indexes to English civil registration records. A search for John Lee, born about 1863, produced a good candidate: John Lee, birth registered 4th Quarter, 1863, in Melksham. The indexes give the information (registration district, volume and page number) necessary to order a certified copy of birth registrations from the General Record Office. John Lee's birth registration states that he was born 4 September (born in 3rd Quarter, but not registered until 10 October) to Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Lee, formerly Price. Bartholomew Lee was a railway porter.[4]

The next question was: where did Bartholomew come from? From 1851 forward, the Census of England named each individual's county of birth in England and sometimes for Ireland. The next logical step was to find Bartholomew Lee in the 1861 census, but he was nowhere to be found. The 1871 census listed Eleanor Lee's oldest child as William, age 13,[5] suggesting a marriage date in the late 1850s. A search in the civil registration indexes led to the marriage registration for Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Price, both 21 years old when married in May 1857. Bartholomew's father was John Lee, a mason's laborer; Eleanor's father was Charles Price, a milkman.[6]

John and Hannah Lee

Reaching back to 1851, the Census of England yields a good fit for Bartholomew Lee – 14-year-old Bartholomew Lee living with his parents, John and Hannah Lee. Bartholomew was born in Cork, Ireland. The names and ages were a good fit, and the father's and

son's occupations were good matches for those reported in the 1857 marriage registration. Father John was a mason's laborer; Bartholomew was a porter. John, 46, was reported born in "Ireland Cork." Hannah, 43, and all the couple's children, aged 7 to 19, were also reported born in Cork, suggesting the family came to Bristol in 1844 or later.[7] Possibly the economic dislocations associated with the great Irish potato famine pushed the Lees out of Ireland.

It's always wise to pay attention to close neighbors. In 1851, the Lees lived with six other families at 33 Host Street. Three of the families were Irish, including the Timothy Hennesey family. Both Timothy and his wife Mary were born in Cork. Timothy Hennesey also was a mason's labourer.[8] Possibly, the men were related through their wives. The Henneseys probably came to Bristol by 1847, as both their children, Patrick, 4, and William, 2, were born in Bristol. If the Lees and Henneseys came to Bristol together, their date of arrival would be narrowed to the 1844-1847 period.

This was helpful, but a search in Ireland would be more feasible with a more specific locale within Cork. Before crossing over the Irish Sea, it would be prudent to learn more about the Lee family from English records. Death registrations would not help, because they do not give information about parents or birthplace. The best bet was to find the John Lee family in censuses after 1851.

A search of the 1861 census found two candidates for John and Hannah.[9]

St. Augustine, Bristol
John Lee, 54, laborer, born Ireland
Johanna, 46, born Ireland

St. Paul's, Bristol
John Lee, 50, laborer, born Ireland
Johanna, 44, born Ireland

Both John Lees were laborers. The first John Lee was close to the right age for Bartholomew's father, but the first wife Johanna was too young. Based on age, the second couple was an even poorer match. Yet, the John and Johanna living in St. Paul's probably were the parents of Bartholomew for two reasons:

- They had a son John, age 17, who was a good match for Bartholomew's 7-year-old brother from 1851.

- The Lees in St. Augustine had children Margaret, 14, and James, 11, who did not appear as siblings of Bartholomew in 1851.

The St. Augustine's family was clearly the same family living on Waterloo Court in St. Augustine the Lesser in 1851. This John and Johanna Lee probably lived in the Bristol City Workhouse at Stapleton in 1871 and 1881. They were from Limerick. The 1871 census stated that this John Lee was born in Limerick.[10]

The second John Lee, a mason's laborer, lived with his wife Johanna on Earl Street in the St. James district in 1871. John was 66 and Joanna 65 – good matches for the 1851 parents of Bartholomew. Living with them was a 7-year-old grandson, John, born in Trowbridge – a good match for a son John born to Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Price at Melksham in 1867. Trowbridge is about 5 miles from Melksham and on the same railroad line. The 1871 census delivered a critical clue to the Lee origins in Ireland. It stated that John was born in Middleton and Joanna in Castle Martyr[11], towns east of the city of Cork, making them a good match for the 1851 parents of Bartholomew.

Lee Family in Ireland

Lee and Hennesey families did live in Castle Martyr during this time. An 1846 Irish directory listed a James Hennesey and a Thomas Lee, in Castle Martyr. Both were bootmakers;[12] a Christopher Lee was a saddler and harness-maker; a William Lee was a tailor; and a Margaret Lee was a straw bonnet-maker. A John Hennesey was a boot-maker in Cloyne, five miles southwest of Castle Martyr.[13]

Since Margaret Lee of the Bristol family was born about 1832, it is likely John and Joanna were married in Ireland about 1825-1832. John and Johanna Lee probably lived at Cloyne and Aghada, where baptisms are found for the three children living in Bristol in 1851.[14]

Margaret
Baptized at Aghada Parish, 22 October 1831
Father: John Lee; Mother: Johann Kenefeck
Address: Lorog
Sponsors: John Hurley and Frances Nenefeck

Bartholomew
Baptized at Cloyne Parish, 19 May 1836
Father: John Lee; Mother: Johanna Kenifeck
Sponsors: Timothy Ahren and Johanna Lee

John
Baptized at Cloyne Parish, 7 May 1843
Father: John Lee; Mother: Johanna Kenefic
Address: Ballycroneen
Sponsors: David Sheehan and Catherine Haly

Bartholomew Lee

Bartholomew Lee's Irish origin was established, but the remaining mystery was: where was he in 1861 and later? Family stories indicated that Bartholomew Lee left his family behind in England to join a gold rush in America. Exactly which gold rush and where is not known. But the story is consistent with Bartholomew's absence in the 1871 census when John, age 7, born in Trowbridge, was enumerated as "grandson" in the household of John and Joanna Lee in St. James, Bristol.[15] The grandparents' birth places – Midleton and Castle Martyr – allowed a confident conclusion that the 7-year-old boy was a son of Bartholomew.

Where was the Bartholomew Lee family ten years earlier in 1861? Searches for Bartholomew and Eleanor in the Bristol area found nothing. In fact, searches for Bartholomew Lee anywhere in England produced no good matches. Why not? Because, when the census-taker came, Bartholomew gave his name as "John." John and Ellen Lee were living in Melcombe Regis in Dorset.[16] The proof that John Lee was the same man as Bartholomew Lee came from the birth places of the family members and John's occupation. As enumerated in the census, the family included:

John Lee, 24, a porter, born in Ireland,
Ellen, 24, born in Bristol,
William, 3, born Bristol, and
Charles, 1, born Weymouth.

In 1851, fourteen-year-old Bartholomew Lee was a railroad porter. The clincher came from the birth registration of one-year-old Charles. He was born 14 January 1860 to "Bartholomew" Lee and Eleanor, "formerly Price." The father was a porter for the Great Western Railway.[17]

The last traces of Bartholomew come from the birth of two more sons. John was born September 1863 in Melksham.[18] Laurence was born August 1869 in Bristol.[19] So, Bartholomew was probably still in Bristol in early 1869, but off to America sometime in the next two years.

End Notes

1 General Register Office, Certified Copy of an Entry of Marriage, Croydon Registration District, John Lee and Ellen Elizabeth Baker, 1 September 1889, issued 31 January 2007.

2 1881 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Philip and Jacob, p. 28, schedule 134, Eleanor Lea household, RG 11, Piece 2,498, GSU film 1,341,602.

3 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Philip and Jacob, p. 6, schedule 34, Eleanor Lee (indexed "Leo") household, RG 10, Piece 2,556.

4 General Register Office, Certified Copy of an Entry of Birth, Melksham Registration District, John Lee, 4 September 1863, issued 14 February 2007.

5 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Philip and Jacob, p. 6, schedule 34, Eleanor Lee (indexed "Leo") household, RG 10, Piece 2,556.

6 General Register Office, Certified Copy of an Entry of Marriage, Bristol Registration District, Bartholomew Lee and Eleanor Price, 12 May 1857, issued 7 June 2005.

7 1851 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. Augustine the Less, p. 13, schedule 67, John Lee household, HO 107, Piece 1,951, GSU film 87,351.

8 Ibid, schedule 65, Thomas Hennessey household.

9 1861 Census of England, Bristol St. Augustine, p. 6, schedule 28, John Lee household, RG 9, piece 1,724, GSU film 542,857; Bristol

St. Paul, p. 24, schedule 187, John Lee household, RG 9, piece 1,718, GSU film 542,856.

10 1871 Census of England, Stapleton, Bristol City Workhouse, p. 26, lines 22-23, John Lee and Johanna Lee, RG 11, piece 2,508, GSU film 1,341,605.

11 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. James, p. 20, schedule 122, John Lee household, RG 10, Piece 2,531. GSU film 835,256.

12 *Slater's National Commercial Directory of Ireland* (I. Slater, 1846).

13 Ibid.

14 Irish Family History Foundation (ifhf.rootsireland.ie), 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.

15 1871 Census of England, Gloucestershire, Bristol St. James, p. 20, schedule 122, John Lee household, RG 10, Piece 2,531. GSU film 835,256.

16 1861 Census of England, Dorset, Melcombe Regis, p. 42, schedule 192, John Lee household, RG 9, Piece 1,349, GSU film 542,799.

17 Charles Lee birth registration, no. 116, Weymouth District, Weymouth Sub-district, birth 14 January 1860, registered 21 February 1860, certified copy of an entry of birth given at General Register Office, 30 January 2008.

18 John Lee birth registration, no. 25, birth 4 September 1863, registered 10 October 1865, Melksham Registration District, Melksham Sub-district, certified copy of an entry of birth given at General Register Office, 14 February 2007.

19 Laurence Lee birth registration, no. 451, birth 5 August 1869, registered 15 September 1869, Bristol Registration District, Saint James Sub-district, certified copy of an entry of birth given at General Register Office, 14 February 2007.

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FHL Policy Change for Photocopy

In February, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City announced a change in the policy for patrons who request copies.

All requests for information to be copied from films, book pages, CDs, marriage, death or birth certificates, wills and/or deeds, etc. will be copied in digital format and emailed to patrons in a zipped PDF or JPG file format. There will be no charge for this service.

Patrons should request copies by emailing their request to Photoduplication@familysearch.org. All requests MUST include the following information:

- Film or Fiche number
- Item number
- Name of Individual(s) referred to in the record
- Title of the record
- Name of parents, spouse, grantor, grantee, etc.
- Event type (Birth, Death or Marriage)
- Complete event date and place
- Event place (county, parish, township, etc.)
- Volume or page number
- Registration or Certificate Number
- Any other information that will help us locate the record.

The service is to help researchers get copies of records that they otherwise could not obtain. There is a limit of 5 copy requests per month. This does not replace ordering films nor will the staff do the research.

Local Genealogical Resources for County Down, Northern Ireland

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

Unlike the other county libraries I have written about for this ongoing series of articles, County Down's offerings are sparse in comparison. This is because of its proximity to Belfast where the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) is located. PRONI holds a vast collection of genealogical resources for all of the counties in Northern Ireland plus records for other Republic of Ireland counties. Nonetheless, there are reasons to visit the two libraries in County Down that hold heritage material.

Information about resources held in the various libraries in Northern Ireland can be found using the online catalog <https://opac.librariesni.org.uk>.Doing a keyword search for a record will bring up a list of records fitting the description for all of the libraries in Northern Ireland. I tried this using the term "estate records" and ended up with 57 pages of records including periodical articles.

The Northern Ireland Heritage Services Manager stated that Libraries NI is looking into digitizing some records with the goal of making them available online. Funding first needs to be secured for this to be done.

Newry City Library

The Heritage Collection is located on the second floor of the Newry City Library. This library has two reader-printers. Researchers are strongly encouraged to book a machine prior to their visit.

Websites that can be accessed at this and many other libraries throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland include Ancestry, JSTOR, and DIPPAM. JSTOR is a collection of about 90 Irish interest journals dating from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Many of these journals contain genealogical information. For a list of the journals found in JSTOR see <www.jstor.org/actionhowJournals?browseType=collectionInfoPage&selectCollection=ireland>

DIPPAM stands for Documenting Ireland Parliament, People and Migration. It consists of three resources.

- EPPI—Enhanced British Parliamentary Papers on Ireland contains 15,000 official government publications relating to all aspects of Irish life. It includes a comprehensive body of records pertaining to the Irish potato famine as well as emigration, employment, and other subjects.
- IED—Irish Emigration Database is a virtual library of emigration-related primary source records gathered by the Centre for Migration Studies in Omagh, County Tyrone. This archive was covered in the article "Local Resources for County Tyrone, Northern Ireland" in the October 2010 issue of *The Septs*).
- VMR—Voices of Migration and Return contains modern life-narrative interviews of migrants to and from Ulster.

Anyone can search the DIPPAM resources free of charge at <www.dippam.ac.uk>.

The Newry City Library book collection includes Irish histories, local studies, and family histories. It has a good collection of historical (Ordnance Survey) maps for County Down dating from the 1830s through the 1930s. It also has the Crossle Papers genealogical collection on microfilm. This resource is also found in other Irish libraries, PRONI, and the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. For a description of the Crossle collection see <http://www.rascal.ac.uk/index.php?CollectionID=207&navOp=locID&navVar=40>.

The following are among the thirteen historical newspapers that can be consulted at this library:

- Banbridge Chronicle (1874-1924; 1927-1979)
- Lisburn Standard (1879-1959)
- The National (Newry) (1842-1852)
- Newry Commercial Telegraph (1828-1847; 1849-1867)
- Newry Examiner (1832-1844)
- Newry Examiner and Louth Advertiser (1845-1880)
- Newry Reporter (1857-1903; 1905-2008)

The other newspapers in its collection commence in the 1900s and are not listed in this article.

For further information about the Newry City Library including a more comprehensive list of newspaper holdings, download the leaflet *Heritage Collection, Newry City Library* from the website <www.ni-libraries.net/libraries/newry-city-library>.

Downpatrick Library

Downpatrick Library has a much larger collection of local history and genealogical material for County Down including a cuttings consisting of newspaper clippings arranged by names and places. It has three reader-printers which also need to be reserved in advance by researchers.

The large reference collection of books includes family histories, Belfast and Ulster Street directories (mid 1800s to 1996), monumental inscriptions, and Ordnance Survey Parish Memoirs. A 1669 rent roll for Downpatrick is also available. Other items researchers can view are Newtownards Board of Guardian Minutes (1836-1851; 1853-1894), Downpatrick Board of Guardian Minutes (1877-1893), Grand Jury records prior to 1898, Registers of Electors (1960s-2000), and a register of inhabitants of Killyleagh 1891-1899.

The following County Down periodicals of interest to genealogists are found in this library.

- Down and Connor Historical Society magazine
- Down and Dromore Parishes magazine
- Dromore and District Local Historical Group Journal
- Inverbrena
- Lecale Review

Downpatrick Library's newspaper holdings on microfilm are impressive. Included in the collection are many historical Belfast newspapers, the *County Down Spectator* starting in 1904, *Down Recorder* (1836-2009), *Dromore Weekly Times* (1905-1952), and *Newtownards Chronicle* (1874-2009). A detailed list of the newspaper holdings and information about the Downpatrick Library is found in the leaflet *Heritage Gallery, Downpatrick Library* <http://www.ni-libraries.net/libraries/local-studies-downpatrick>.

Some newspaper indexes have been published, and apparently more indexing is being done. Published indexes currently completed are *County Down Spectator* (1904-1964), *Down Recorder* (1836-1886), *Mourne Observer* (1949-1980), *Newtownards Chronicle* (1871-1900), *Newtownards Chronicle* (1901-1939), *Northern Herald* (1833-1836), and *Northern Star* (1792-1797). Photocopies of cited articles can be obtained from this library for a nominal fee.

A comprehensive County Down genealogy how-to book is Ian Maxwell's *Researching Down Ancestors: A practical guide for the family and local historian*. This book was discussed in the April 2012 issue of *The Septs*.

Raymonds County Down website <http://countydown.x10.mx/html/index2.htm> covers the areas of Aghaderg, Loughbrickland, Banbridge, Dromore, Dromara, Kilkeel, Mourne, Newry, Rathfriland, and Rostrevor. It has information from multiple sources. A name search can be done of all resources from one search box. However, it is best to check the list of resources for each place by clicking on the place of interest once the site has been entered. A list of resources is included for each place name. Click on the ones of interest to access the abstracted information.

This article is a good place to plug the **North of Ireland Family History Society** <www.nifhs.org>. The £16 annual individual Associate membership fee (£14 if you live in the UK or Europe) covers a bi-annual journal, a bi-annual e-newsletter, online access to the journals in JSTOR, and other perks. Recently I was able to use the member only look-up service while researching a County Down family. A volunteer used the church records index and accessed information from Presbyterian records for the family I was researching.

Local member volunteers continue to index various church records and compile information from tombstone inscriptions. A list of resources that are currently available through this Society is found at <http://nifhs.org/lookups.htm>.

The Society has a library/research centre in Newtownabbey, County Antrim. Members can go there to utilize resources held by the Society. The hours that it is open are limited. Details about the library are found at <http://nifhs.org/rescentre.htm>. There is link to a 72 page list of its holdings on this web page.

Judith Eccles Wight is a graduate of Brigham Young University, an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Irish Scottish research, and a former Certified Genealogist Record Specialist. She was British Reference Consultant at the Family History Library (1990-2001) and Director of Sandy, East Stake Family History Center (1997-2000).

100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop

300 Years Ago

Advertisements

Whereas the Silver Mines in the County of Tipperary are now brought to good Perfection. If any good Miners, or Such as are skilled in Dressing of Lead-Oar, report to Robert Lydall, at the Said mines, they may have Imployment, and all fitting Encouragement. At the Same place is sold Pig-Lead, Sheet-Lead, Shot, Letharge, and Red-Lead, at reasonable rates; or in Dublin at Mr. George Young's in Castle-Street.

Dublin Gazette
Dublin, Ireland 19 May 1713

250 Years Ago

Extract of a Letter from New York, April 21

A design is set on foot in this country, to settle a colony upon the finest part of the Ohio. … The name of the colony is to be New Wales, in honour of the Prince of Wales, who is to be sole proprietor of the colony. It is proposed that every family, who become proprietors and settlers in this colony, shall have 390 acres of land granted by patent to them and their heirs forever. …The number of families proposed to form the first settlement is 4000, who are to march in two divisions, and to compose two cities or towns, for the more convenience of laying out the lands round each: these will be laid out upon the river, and every advantage taken, with respect to situation. This colony will be so advantageously situated, with respect to the navigation to the West-Indies, that the inhabitants will be able to transport thither in a few days, those things that are in demand, viz. lumber, live-stock, pork, beef, and flour; many of which articles they may raise the first year, besides some for Great Britain, particularly tobacco, which in that rich soil, is easily cultivated, and turns to great advantage. Every family must have two draught-oxen, all sorts of breeding-stock, and every kind of farming utensils: the colony will march from Philadelphia: the grants for the land will be given before they set out: upon the delivery of the patents, each family must pay five pounds, which is also to be laid out in provisions for the march, as many people will omit providing those articles, from the great distance they will have come to Philadelphia.

London Chronicle
London, England 9 June 1763

150 Years Ago

The Irish Boys

-A letter just received from Lieut. Edward Breene, of the 35th Indiana (1st Irish Regiment), gives us some interesting items about the Irish Boys, which we have not seen the papers.

On the last day's fight in front of Murfreesboro, the 35th Indiana and the 19th Illinois (Irish,) were pitted against Claiborn's famous Irish Brigade. … After this severe and bloody encounter between the Irish Boys of the North and South was ended, the scene presented upon the field was one of sad and unusual interest. Old neighbors and friends from the Green Isle, who had accidentally cast their lots with the northern and southern portions of this country, met for the first time for years as – enemies. There many who had been friends in boyhood fired upon and killed each other, and lay side by side in death. A sergeant of the 35th, who was severely wounded, was taken to a temporary hospital in the vicinity, and he was deposited along side a rebel who was also severely wounded, and in this man he recognized an only brother, whom he had not seen for years!...

Dayton Daily Empire
Dayton, Ohio 27 Jan 1863

100 Years Ago

DIES SUDDENLY

Thomas Davis is Victim of Old Age – Installed First Heating Plant in Minnesota

Thomas Davis, pioneer resident of St. Paul, who installed the first heating plant in Minnesota, died at his home, 666 Laurel avenue, at 9 o'clock Wednesday night. He apparently had been in good health until a week ago, when he suddenly weakened. He was 69 years old.

Mr. Davis was born in Ireland. He was a Civil war veteran, serving on the river flotilla, and was in the Fenian raids in Canada.

He came back to St. Paul in 1869. For forty-three years he handled some of the largest heating contracts in the state.

He is survived by his widow and ten children, four daughters and six sons. They are Mrs. G. W. Griffin, Mrs. W. P. Fitzgibbon, Miss Alice and Miss Margaret Davis, operator at the fire alarm-signal station; Edward T., Samuel, George F., Robert E., and John J. Davis.

The funeral was held from St. Luke's church.

The Irish Standard
Minneapolis, Minnesota
7 June 1913

THE SPEED MANIA

The first crop of spring is a crop of automobile accidents. It is only a few days since the weather became fine enough so that automobile-traffic could be resumed and already several deaths and more accidents have been reported in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Thoroughfares that tempt an indulgence in speed and powerful engines ready to respond to the impulse of reckless drivers have been responsible for most of these tragedies. …

The Irish Standard
Minneapolis, Minnesota
26 Apr 1913

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a co-president of Midwest Ancetor Research, She is past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past education chair for the Irish Genealogical Society International. Sheila specializes in Irish-specific research topics. She traces her own family history to Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.

Write for *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories –some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors.

We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history. Most of our authors are members who enjoy writing and researching new topics. A few members only write occasionally to share family stories; we feature two family stories in this issue. We also welcome articles on topics unrelated to themes.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. If writing on the theme, please contact the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org in advance to be sure that your article is considered for the proper issue. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

The theme of the next issue (July 2013) is Occupational Records. If you are thinking of writing – or have already written on this topic – consider submitting something to us before the deadline of May 1. Articles on researching the occupations and careers of ancestors, understanding the terminology of professions and workplaces, description of repositories with information, or a story about your favorite ancestor's career – all are suggestions.

If you want to plan ahead a bit, the next issues of *The Septs* have themes of Repositories (October 2013) and Irish Estate Records (January 2014). See below for the deadlines for articles for these upcoming issues.

Theme: Repositories
Date of issue: October 2013
Date for submission: August 1, 2013

Theme: Estate Records
Date of issue: January 2014
Date for submission: November 1, 2013

If you have questions or seek more information on the topics, contact the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org .

Website: The Activities Tab

by Robert Zimmerman

In the January issue of *The Septs*, I discussed some of the aids listed under the "IGSI Offerings" menu tab on the IGSI website. The purpose of many of the offerings under that tab is to provide information or to provide guidance and assistance to our members in researching their Irish roots. In this issue, I wish to point out the menu items listed under the "Activities" tab on the Home Page. Many of the items under this tab are designed to provide information regarding activities that IGSI is sponsoring or providing either for members or for others interested in Irish genealogy.

Why don't you check out some of our offerings, many of which are available only to our members? From the main menu item, "Activities" you can access varied points of interest:

- Calendar. A listing of all current activities of IGSI in a monthly, weekly or yearly calendar format that can be printed from your web browser.

- Classes. A listing of the upcoming classes offered by some of the most knowledgeable IGSI instructors. These courses range from beginning Irish research to using DNA testing to prove lineage. Our courses are typically offered on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Minnesota Genealogical Society library.

- IGSI Events. A listing of those events which IGSI sponsors or co-sponsors, be they book sales, symposia or social gatherings.

- Irish Days. A listing of the days on which Irish researchers are present at the Minnesota Genealogical Society library to assist members with their Irish research.

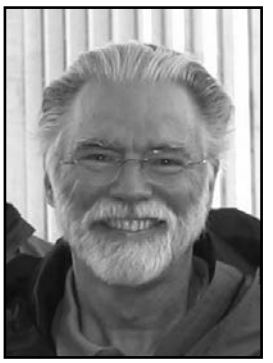
- Research Trips. Periodically, IGSI sponsors research trips to assist our members gain access to research material that is not readily available here in the Twin Cities. For example, in the past we have sponsored trips to Ireland and to Salt Lake City.

- Writing Groups. There is a writing group that meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month to help members who wish to put their family history in narrative form.

Some of the areas of our website have not been fully developed, and we will continue to work on those areas. Specifically, we have not completed the development of the Surname and Pedigree applications. They will be unavailable until we do complete the development and testing. We will continue to develop additional content for our site, as well as correct problems which are identified.

We are looking for suggestions of what additional content our members would like to see. If you have any suggestions, comments, or notice any problems, please contact us at webeditor@irishgenealogical.org.

Robert Zimmerman, our Web Editor, has been a member of IGSI since 2004. He was previously the IGSI Treasurer and is currently a member of the Board of Directors. He was infected with the genealogy bug from his Icelandic grandmother, who told him stories about his Icelandic ancestors. He has been actively looking into his Irish and Icelandic roots since he retired in 2005.



Family History Writing Competition

You can be one of this year's winners of the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) Writing Competition! This 5th annual competition is sponsored by the Yankee Genealogical Society, a branch of MGS in memory of Michael Clark.

Entries are due by July 15, 2013.

The Award winners will be announced at an event in 2013 which will be announced later. The winning entries will be published in Minnesota Genealogist. All entries will receive judges' comments.

See the MGS website for entry form and Rules for the Competition at www.mngs.org

Useful Irish Genealogical Websites

by Ann Eccles

Librarian Beth Mullinax maintains a list of websites relevant to Irish researchers. She shares some of these websites here. Use this selected list to check some new (or not-so-new) online Irish resources to assist Irish genealogists. Checking some of the sites you haven't visited for a while may reveal new features and sources on the site.

Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)
www.proni.gov.uk

General Register Office (GRO) Dublin
www.groireland.ie

National Archives of Ireland (NAI)
www.nationalarchives.ie

BDM Online
www.birthsdeathsmarriages.ie
If you know the exact date of an event, you can order certs online from this private company.

National Library of Ireland (NLI)
www.nli.ie

Sources: A National Library of Ireland database for Irish research
http://sources.nli.ie/
An online database of 180,000 catalogue records for Irish manuscripts and articles in Irish periodicals held both in the NLI and in other archives across Ireland.

Valuation Office
www.valoff.ie/Research.htm
This page describes research, archive and genealogical services available through the Valuations Office.

Landed Estates Database
www.landedestates.ie/LandedEstates/jsp/index.jsp
A searchable comprehensive and integrated resource guide to landed estates and historic houses in Connacht and Munster, c. 1700-1914.

The Irish Times
http://www.irishtimes.com/150/
A major Irish newspaper with much archived information.

The Irish Times - Ancestors Page
www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/research/assessment/
This is the place to start a search for Ancestors, Surnames, Placenames, or to use "Irish Ancestors Quick Search Wizard" for help in finding information on Irish ancestors.

Irish Newspaper Archive
http://irishnewspaperarchives.com/
This large online archive includes 23 Irish newspapers for years from the 1700s to present.

Findmypast.ie
www.findmypast.ie
This subscription database contains resources for researching Irish family history records: military service records, Irish Petty Sessions Court records, Freemen listings, Irish Who's Who, and more. Annual subscription rate is $69.95; six-months for $44.95.

Conferences

National Genealogical Society Family History Conference
May 8–11, 2013
Las Vegas, Nevada

Southern California Genealogy Jamboree
June 8–10, 2013
Burbank, California

Federation of Genealogical Societies
August 20–24, 2013
Fort Wayne, Indiana

American–Canadian Genealogical Society
Sept. 28, 2013
Manchester, New Hampshire

International Conferences

Genealogy Conference
June 8–9, 2013
University of Limerick
Castleroy, Limerick
Information: www.irisharc.org

Genealogy Conference
Exodus: Movement of People
September 6–8, 2013
Leicestershire, England
Information: www.exodus2013.co.uk

Genealogy Conference
Return to the Cradle of Irish Presbyterianism
September 16–21, 2013
County Antrim, Ireland

Genealogy Conference
Back to Our Past
October 18–20, 2013
Dublin, Ireland
Information: www.backtoourpast.com

2013 Research & Conferences

While IGSI is not planning a research trip to Ireland in 2013, there are other opportunities for IGSI members to participate in a research trip.

The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA) is planning two research trips to Ireland in October 2013. They allow members of the Irish Genealogical Society International to participate as a partner organization. Donna Moughty, a genealogist with an interest in Irish research, is also planning a research trip to Ireland in October.

The Irish Ancestral Research Association

TIARA's research trip to **Belfast, Northern Ireland, is from October 5–12.** It includes: seven nights' accommodation at Jury's Inn, Belfast; a full-Irish breakfast daily; a meet & greet dinner on Sunday evening; taxi service between the hotel & PRONI; a sight-seeing trip to Ulster American Folk Park in County Tyrone. Genealogical research advice and assistance is provided in Ireland as well as a pre-departure review and assessment of your research goals.

TIARA's research trip to **Dublin, Ireland, is from October 12–19.** A two-day extension option is available to stay and attend the Back to Our Past conference, October 19-21. The Dublin trip includes accommodations at the Trinity Capital Hotel; bus/cab transfer from Airport to hotel ; full Irish breakfast daily; a meet & greet dinner on Sunday; a sight-seeing trip to the Dublin seaside. Genealogical research advice and assistance is provided in Ireland as well as a pre-departure review and assessment of your research goals.

Donna Moughty

Donna Moughty's 2013 research trip to Dublin is also scheduled October 13-20. This trip includes: seven nights' accommodation at Buswell's Hotel, which is across the street from the National Library; Irish breakfast each day; on-site research assistance; two hours of pre-trip research assessment; Sunday dinner and Saturday banquet; and a ticket for Back to Our Past Conference.

Registration and deposit payment for any of these trips is due by May 31st. Further details and registration forms/information for these research trips can be found at the TIARA website <www.tiara.ie> or from <www.moughty.com/2013-dublin-research-trip/>.

Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) Conference

August 21 to 24, 2013 in Fort Wayne, Indiana

The Federation of Genealogical Societies' annual conference is being held in Fort Wayne, Indiana -- home of the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center – August 21 to 24, 2013. In addition to visiting and using the genealogy resources of the center, attend a national genealogy conference, where you can meet with genealogists from all over the country who come to gather for four days of workshops, special activities, and presentations by leading family history experts. It's an experience for all family historians. **Check the FGS conference website <www.fgsconference.org> for additional information on the conference, program, and registration details.**

Travel to FGS with MGS

For those who IGSI members who live in Minnesota or nearby Wisconsin, there is a special offer for getting to the FGS conference. The Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) again has organized some cost-saving advantages to attending this national genealogy conference -- group travel: a charter bus for travel to Fort Wayne from the Twin Cities and a reduced hotel rate at the Days Inn of Ft. Wayne. They have invited IGSI members to share the adventure.

The chartered bus will leave South St. Paul early morning of Tuesday, August 20, and return on Sunday, August 25. Bus tickets are priced at $175 round trip ($210 after August 1). **To reserve a bus ticket and box lunch (from Minnesota), visit the MGS website <www.mngs.org>.**

MGS also has arranged for a special rate from the Days Inn, 1181 West Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne - $59 per night. For the five nights of the conference, your total hotel bill will be $341.95, including tax. The MGS bus will provide occasional trips between the Days Inn and the conference site. You can take advantage of the special Days Inn rate even if you don't ride the chartered bus to Fort Wayne.

If you decide to participate, you are responsible for making your own conference and hotel reservations. To reserve a room at the Days Inn, call 260-489-6556 and mention the MGS block of rooms.

Irish Genealogical Society International Membership

❒ Renewal
❒ New

IGSI Member Who Suggested Membership

Indicate Membership Category

❒ General ($30) ❒ International ($40) ❒ Electronic ($25)

For Gift Membership 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 Choose one membership)

1 Year General Membership ($30 US)	$ _____
1 Year International Membership ($40 US)	$ _____
1 Year Electronic Membership ($25 US)	$ _____
Donation - US tax deductable (Thank You)	$ _____
Total	$ _____

Mail to
IGSI Membership
1185 Concord st. N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

❒ Check (Payable ti IGSI) Preferred ❒ Credit Card ❒ MC ❒ Visa

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Verification # _____
Limit 3 digits displayed
on the back side of card.

Irish Saturday Classes
May – August 2013

May 11, 2013 10:30-12
Hints and Tips for Irish Researchers
From the experience of the IGSI Research Committee -- Beth Mullinax and Audrey Leonard provide tips for Irish research. There will be time for a question and answer format for the participants.

June 8, 2013 1-2:30
Beginning Irish Research
Are you just beginning Irish research and don't know where to start? This class is for you. Come and join our instructors Beth Mullinax and Ann Eccles.

July 13, 2013 10:30-12
Favorite Irish Genealogical Websites
There is a wealth of information available on the World Wide Web, but the level of information is not consistent. Sheila Northrop provides an overview of websites which she finds most valuable for Irish research. These sites include general information, official government and special interest sites.

August 2013
NO Irish Saturday class.
Join us at the Irish Fair.

IGSI Research Options

The IGSI collection of Irish genealogical materials is housed at the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) library in South St. Paul, MN. There are different ways that IGSI members can utilize the collection in their research: those who live nearby or travel to the St. Paul area can do hands-on research in the building; any member can ask the IGSI researchers to help them in their Irish research.

In Person
IGSI members who come to the library to use its resources have free access to the Irish and any other collections in the building. Those who are not members of IGSI or another affiliate of the MGS pay a $10 fee per visit.

Irish Saturday is the second Saturday of each month – a day when IGSI members have access to the wealth of information in the collection, possible class on an Irish research topic, and Irish research volunteers who will help them onsite.

IGSI welcomes out-of-town members to visit and research at the MGS Library. (See the article below for information on making an appointment for onsite assistance.)

For a Fee
IGSI offers research assistance for a fee to members who live either near or far. Research volunteers check Irish resources available in the IGSI collection to find information on Irish ancestors or to identify next steps in Irish research. The fee is $15 per hour of research, with a one-hour minimum; there are additional charges for photocopies, etc. Check the IGSI website for more information on requesting fee-based research help.

Contact the IGSI Research Committee (Research@IrishGenealogical.org) for more information and assistance.

Take the next step to locating your Irish ancestors. Contact the IGSI librarian or the research committee.

Make an Appointment

Visit IGSI at the MGS Library

Irish researchers are not always scheduled and available at the Minnesota Genealogy Society's library.

If you are traveling from a distance to visit the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and plan to spend a day or more researching your Irish ancestors, please contact us at least a week in advance to ensure that an Irish research volunteer is onsite to help you, if needed.

Email: Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org
Phone: Beth Mullinax 763-574-1436

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.
1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. (IGSI)

Library and Offices located at the Minnesota Genealogical Library

IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days

Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Tues & Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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 Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

Volume 34, Number 3

The Septs

lúil (July) 2013

$10.00

OCCUPATIONAL RECORDS

2013 - 2014 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JULY 13, 2013
AUGUST 10, 2013
SEPTEMBER 14, 2013
OCTOBER 12, 2013
NOVEMBER 9, 2013
DECEMBER 14, 2013
JANUARY 11, 2014
FEBRUARY 8, 2014
MARCH 8, 2014
APRIL 12, 2014
MAY 10, 2014
JUNE 14, 2014

(These dates subject to change so check before you come.)

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

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 - A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Printed in the USA

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2013

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Visiting Ireland – in Person or Virtually

by Mary Wickersham

Summertime is the ideal time to visit Ireland. We anticipate great weather, scenic vistas, and the tourism industry geared up to assist us. The Ireland Reaching Out project <www.irelandxo.com/> is promoting family gatherings in mid-August 2013. Some of us (including me) will visit Ireland for vacation or research on other schedules. To all who have the opportunity to make the trip – have a great time soaking up the culture and checking those libraries and graveyards!

Several members have asked when IGSI will be organizing another trip to Ireland or Salt Lake City. It takes a lot of time and focus to make arrangements and coordinate such a complicated project. In the past, we've had the benefit of Diane Lovrencevic to organize trips to Salt Lake and Ireland. If you are willing to take on the challenge of coordinating a tour, please contact me to offer your skills for a 2014 or 2015 trip. For your convenience, *The Septs* will continue to include information from travel planners with whom we are familiar.

IGSI members continue their efforts to recruit new members, distributing membership flyers in Arizona, in Manchester, New Hampshire, at the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, in St. Paul at the Irish Symposium (University of St. Thomas), and in Madison, Wisconsin, at an Irish Workshop (Wisconsin Historical Society). If you have an opportunity to recruit members or pass information along to prospective members, please contact me (President@irishgenealogical.org) or Membership@irishgenealogical.org so we can send you a membership flyer via email for the event.

We occasionally hear from representatives of groups interested in having an Irish genealogy speaker visit their local society. IGSI has several members willing to give talks. We will be happy to put you in contact with them. Hopefully their travel plans and your group's schedule will coincide.

On March 24, about 30 members & family gathered at O'Gara's Pub in St. Paul for an informal social event. Many thanks to director and membership chair Kay Swanson for organizing this! We anticipate a 2014 event will be on the west side of the Twin Cities Metro area.

A Web Broadcasting committee has been working to develop options so those who can't attend classes in person can still receive the benefits of the in-library education sessions. Our committee has explored several technical aspects. Some options are daunting in terms of staffing (such as live filming) and technology. Therefore, we plan to keep it simple, with webinars likely to be our first use of the basic technology.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister Sheila Northrup. Currently the president of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSIs first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

What You Do for a Living

by Ann Eccles

It's been said that our work defines us. But how does research into occupations help us with a family tree? Well, it gives flesh and life to the ancestor and can help in identifying them in records. For me, understanding the work of some of my ancestors helped when I looked at the 1940 U.S. census and found problems in the listing of work for two of them.

One of my grandfather's brothers had worked in textile mills his entire life as a "dresser." In 1940, he is listed as a "presser" in a "Wabler Mill." Looking closely at the entry on *Ancestry.com*, I came to believe that the "ab" in Wabler was really "ool" – therefore, a Woolen Mill, which fits his history of work. (And I could find no business by the name of Wabler in the area.) One of the main jobs in a woolen or textile factory is that of *dresser;* again, this is an occupation he had listed in other sources.

In another instance in the same census, my grandfather's occupation was listed as "lighing watch line." Between a close look at the online entry and results of other research, which told me that he had worked for the WPA about that time, I realized he was *laying water lines*. Knowing the occupation history of my family helped clarify the interpretations/transcriptions of this census.

How often have we heard in answer to the question of "who are you?" such responses as: I'm a teacher; I sell insurance; I own my own business; I work for (name any big business or governmental division). So too, our ancestors' careers and occupations can offer information about them: a professional or business man's need for education or a farmer's love for land. A millworker – even an unskilled laborer – needed to work to support family while perhaps aspiring to a better life.

We know that – whatever their reason for leaving Ireland – most of our immigrant ancestors had a sense of adventure to have journeyed across the ocean to find a new life and country. If we know where to look, we can discover more information about them, or the type of work they did, or the company that employed them. Much of the occupation information in the 19th century describes the work of men as few women had careers at that time.

The articles in this issue give some direction to our search in both U.S. and Irish resources.

Sue Kratsch offers information about records in the U. S. for men who worked on railroads and canals, a popular occupation for Irish immigrants. Kathleen Strickland suggests starting with online resources, such as Ireland's *GenWeb* or a *FamilySearch* wiki, to learn more about the occupations held by our ancestors. (What exactly was a "pigmaker"?) David Rencher identifies print Irish resources to use in researching occupations both in Ireland and through the Family History Library.

Jay Fonkert explains how to use occupations when trying to identify the true ancestor among two or three men with the same name in the same town. Dwight Radford shares information on locating records of Church of Ireland clergy who may have been ancestors.

Judith Eccles Wight offers reviews of two new books on tracing Irish ancestors and a review of a new online resource on the same topic. These are great for those just starting research – and may even provide a new thought or tip for more experienced researchers. Gabrielle Ni Mheachair writes on the history and lore of the Claddagh ring. Audrey Leonard, our Research committee chair, offers some research tips. There's also 100 Years Ago and More and general news about Irish genealogy events and activities.

It's a full issue. Take a moment to look through the pages; I'm sure you'll find something of interest.

Ann Eccles is a retired librarian who has re-focused her research skills to family history and Irish genealogy. Ann has several Irish ancestral lines to trace as both of her parents descended from Irish families. She currently serves on the Board of Directors as Secretary of IGSI, is the editor of The Septs *and an Irish Saturday volunteer.*

Railroad, Canal, and Other Business and Employment Records: the Next Step

by Sue Hahney Kratsch

Perhaps you feel you've looked at every source – vital records, census, wills, land, probate, tax, military records, and even the courthouse "loose papers" -- and still can't find your family. If this describes you, take the next step: search for employment and business records.

Many of our ancestors were not farmers and did not own farm land. Some owned businesses; many more worked for others. "By 1880 more than half of the population were in non-farming occupations."[1] A farmer may have worked part-time at another occupation in either summer or winter, employed others, and traded with merchants who kept store accounts. The United States has a long history of businesses, employees, and their records.

Limitations of Employment Records

This article focuses on employment records in the U.S., with brief excursions to Ireland and Canada. Understanding the limitations of these records will help in your search:

- Business records were created to further an enterprise and not to document life events. Yet those created prior to the keeping of official vital records could provide a clue to an ancestor's residence, life, or even death.

- Before the twentieth century, married women were less likely than men to be employees. However, single women and widows were employed; and depending on the time period and prevailing laws, children as young as five are sometimes mentioned in the records. And married women were customers at stores.

- Employment records can be difficult to locate and to interpret. A few have been published; those which are available to the public may be in archival repositories but may not be indexed.

While the examples below are mainly from Minnesota, Illinois, and New York, the general principles apply to any location.

Why Use Employment Records

What kinds of information can you find in employment records? A few examples illustrate what a diligent search may reveal:

- a family's socio-economic status, reflected in wages and purchasing power. For an analysis of one family's condition, see Harold E. Hinds, Jr.'s account placing the family of John Dillon Hinds into a web of economic life in Essex County, New York.[2]

- an ancestor's associates. Those who worked and traded together may be related by blood or marriage or may have followed the same migration path. Researching the neighbors and associates of an ancestor can reveal otherwise unknown origins. The associates of John Dillon Hinds allow a likely placement of his origins in Co. Meath, Ireland.[3]

- the gaps in an ancestor's life. Massey Haskett emigrated from Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary, to New York in 1811.[4] In 1824 he applied for a grant of Crown Land in Upper Canada (now Ontario).[5] Where was he in between? The records of a glass factory in Woodstock, Ulster County, New York, reveal that he worked there as a teamster and had horses shoed by the company blacksmith in 1817[6]. He was still a Woodstock resident in 1820.[7] His work with horses in New York helps cement his identity: the petition for the grant of Canadian land says "that he was in the Cavelry… during the rebeling in Ireland," probably the Rebellion of 1798.

- the truth behind a family tradition. Descendants maintain that William H. Burt worked at the Hastings State Hospital, Dakota County, Minnesota. The Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) has employee records for some state hospitals, prisons, and home schools. Employee cards for Hastings indicate that W. H. Burt was a gardener who "Resigned June 30 [19]21 acct sickness of wife."[8]

- a family member. Records of the Chicago, Lake Shore & Eastern Railroad (CLS&E) suggest that an employee's mother was alive in March 1907:

  > J McCormick March 29, 1907 Resigned Did not make a trip said he had to go home, Mother sick.[9]

- a vital record. The death of an employee may be noted, sometimes naming a cause. Accidents and job-related deaths especially caught employers' attention. The CLS&E recorded:

  L M Powers Jan 12, 1907 Died – phneumonia [sic]
  A A Beam Aug. 11, 1907 Drowned in Lake Michigan

Records of Specific Industries

Certain industries attracted large numbers of Irish and other immigrants; among these were railroads and canals.

Railroads.

Many articles, books, and lectures attest to the genealogical value of railroad records. Railroads have undergone a complex process of mergers, takeovers, and name changes through many years. Due to the popularity of railroading, many lines have their own historical societies and web sites, often with a reference to personnel among the many technical aspects of railroading.

A table of current, defunct, and electric railways for each state, with a brief history,[10] may tell you the name of the railroad at the time of your ancestor's employment. A directory of the major and many obscure railroad collections was published in 1999.[11] Check older atlases for the routes;[12] records can potentially be found nearly anywhere along the line.

The **Illinois Central** Railroad's primary route was between Chicago and New Orleans. The Illinois Central Historical Society does not "have access to any personnel records."[13] Yet the Newberry Library in Chicago holds employee applications, 1910-1930, and the Champaign Division records "that were abandoned in the Champaign (IL) Depot."[14] The Champaign County Historical Society, the rescuer of the records, has a microfilm copy. Although Newberry currently restricts access to the employee applications "until processed", an index has been published.[15] The employee records of the Memphis to Louisville Division were recently deposited at the Glenn E. Martin Genealogy Research Center in Princeton, Caldwell County, Kentucky.[16]

The **Pullman Car Company** in Chicago references Pullman Workers on its web site. Scroll down to the Pullman Employee Records section for information on records at the Newberry Library and the South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society, which will conduct a free name search for those employed from about 1900 to 1945.[17]

The **Baltimore and Ohio** Railroad Museum is located in Baltimore's historic district which also includes the Irish Railroad Workers Museum. B&O employee records from 1905 to 1971 are searchable for a fee.[18]

Great Northern and **Northern Pacific** Railroads operated primarily between Minnesota and the states of Washington and Oregon. The web site of the Joint GN-NP Archive[19] has links to descriptions of employee records at the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) in St. Paul. Volunteers from the Irish Genealogical Society, International (IGSI) indexed Great Northern employee records from the 1890s; copies of the index are at the IGSI Library and MHS.

Railroad accidents were quite common, and reports can sometimes be found. A unique reprint of Report of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of Illinois lists deaths and injuries, 1883-1884, of employees, citizens, tramps, and children, including:

> Hennessy Frank, killed March 24, 1884, Illinois Central, 10 years old.[20]

The CLS&E reported wrecks and subsequent disciplinary actions:

> P F Cooney March 26, 1909 Discharged acct wreck at Hoopston [Hoopeston, Illinois].

MHS has conveniently placed online an index of Northern Pacific accidents, organized by place and year, with references to information in the archives. Coverage is from about 1900 to the 1970s.[21]

The **Railroad Retirement Board** holds files for those who retired from a railroad after 1935.[22] A 1987 article describes the possible contents of retirement files.[23]

Canals.

From about 1815 to 1850, the country experienced a canal-building frenzy. While many records of canal activity

exist, very few enumerate canal laborers. The work was let out to subcontractors who bid on the construction of sections of a canal. The subcontractors, often local residents, hired and paid the workers. Thus the central canal authority may not have records of these individuals. However, there are records of other types of canal workers.

Erie Canal employed many Irish laborers between 1817 and 1825. The New York State Archives holds numerous records relating to the canal, and its web site has a detailed *Guide to Canal Records*.[24] At least four groups of employee records are listed.

To find the Guide's descriptions, type one of these collection numbers in the Archives site search box: lock tenders (A1135); boat masters (A1137, A1138); weigh masters, inspectors, toll collectors (A1142); and canal repair men (A0013). The latter collection was used in a study of the wages of laborers and some skilled workers.[25] Other examples of collections containing names: canal damage awards (B0602), petitions and appeals (A1140), and scattered passenger lists (A1057, A1079). Many of these collections are both massive and unindexed.

A few Erie Canal records have been published. Despite its title, the booklet "Payments to People Involved in Building the Erie Canal, 1820-1821" primarily covers payments to: owners of property removed or damaged, local contractors, and just a few laborers such as Patrick Quin, who was paid for "labor in taking out slips".[26] Damage awards and other compensation from 1866 to 1870 have also been published.[27]

Illinois and Michigan Canal was constructed from 1836 to 1848, connected Lake Michigan to the Illinois River, and established the Irish presence in Chicago. Some of the Irish builders came from Canada and the earlier Rideau Canal; others were recent arrivals from Ireland. I & M Canal records at the Illinois State Archives in Springfield were reviewed in two earlier articles in *The Septs*.[28]

Other occupations.

A 2011 *Family Tree* article review records of coal miners, autoworkers, railroaders, and other blue-collar workers.[29] The St. Paul, Minnesota, Police Historical Society offers a research service, where an inquiry may yield an ancestor's record.[30]

Textile Mills.

The theme of the Winter 2013 issue of *American Ancestors's* "The Lives of New England Mill Workers," particularly in the textile mills of Lowell and Lawrence, Massachusetts, Pawtucket and Barrington, Rhode Island, and Manchester, New Hampshire. The author point out that the power loom was introduced in 1814 and supposedly "made textile mill work 'easy' enough for women and children…"[31] The articles in this issue discuss archival sources of records and reveal details of employees' lives and working conditions.

Finding Employment Records

The first step in locating employment records is to determine if there is a company archive or historical society. Check for a web site, which may have records, a link to the location of records, or a discouraging note on their unavailability. Records may be held by the company, if it still exists; a state, county, municipal, or local historical society; a genealogical society; a university archive; or in private hands. Research the company history to determine under what name an archive might have been established. The pertinent archive might be far from your ancestor's residence.

Articles in genealogical and historical periodicals can be located through the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI), available on *Ancestry.com* (although not the Library Edition) and *Heritage Quest Online*. Try a keyword search on terms, such as: "employees," "railroad," "canal," or a place name. For example, the keyword "employees" turns up articles on canal workers in Ireland[32] and iron workers in Ulster County, New York, many with Irish names.[33]

Books can be located through the *WorldCat* website, or a state equivalent such as *MNLink* for Minnesotans or *BadgerLink* for Wisconsin residents.[34]

PERSI and *WorldCat* are indexes by title, author, and keyword, not by terms or names within the publication. Successful searches depend on how well the title of the article or book reflects its contents from a genealogical perspective. The title *Report of the Railroad and*

Warehouse Commission of Illinois does not refer to accident reports and is an unlikely find without prior knowledge.

Major archives in or near the company's headquarters may yield the desired records:

> **The Minnesota Historical Society** online catalog may be searched by Subject Keywords such as: employee, personnel, payroll, employment records. "Personnel" yields records of the Northern Pacific Railway, 1909 to 1960s; the St. Paul Union Stockyards, 1886-1982; and several state hospitals. "Employee" brings up both the Depression-era Civil Works Administration records and a published name index.[35]
>
> **The New York State Archives** offers its valuable Historical Documents Inventory (HDI), a database of archival holdings across New York including county, local, and private libraries and museums.[36] Click Online Catalog and choose "HDI" from the Library pull-down menu. Try a search by surname or place name. For example, a search on "Woodstock" turns up account books from businesses in Woodstock, Ulster County, and New Woodstock, Madison County. Click "Details," then "Catalog Record" for the location of the item.

ArchiveGrid is an ambitious project to electronically "harvest finding aids" from archives in the U.S. and several other countries, including Ireland.[37] A work in progress, ArchiveGrid finds terms within the finding aids, those detailed descriptions which an archive prepares for its collections. The results of a broad search may be narrowed by clicking "Result Overview" and selecting from a variety of qualifiers, such as archive, place, or topic. Pre-defined topics, such as Transportation: Railroad, also help narrow the search.

This service appears to penetrate archival descriptions which *Google* does not index. However, it does not include the material available in New York's Historical Documents Inventory.

Interpreting the Records

The terminology in earlier occupational records is not necessarily familiar today. To understand your ancestor's role, you will need to learn the terms and then assess the meaning of the records. The CLS&E provides some examples (emphasis in bold is mine):

> J Troughton Jan 20, 1908 **Set back to firing** on account of an engine failure he had at Milford Jct. 1-13-08
>
> J Devall May 20, 1907 Dismissed for delay. Did not come when **call boy** called him.
>
> J B O'Farrell March 12, 1907 Dismissed for delaying **extra** 102 2nd time + being drunk on the Company premises

The terms "set back to firing," "call boy," and "extra" have specific meanings in railroading, as explained in several references.[38] Canals have their own set of terms; the New York State Archives Guide lists some common ones.

Irish and British Records

The Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) has published booklets on a number of occupations, including railway workers, inn and tavern license holders, merchant seamen, and general business record research.[39] While the primary focus is England, the booklets may include a section on Ireland and commonwealth countries.[40] Canadian railway research is well covered, with a good description of terminology and railway lore.[41]

The IGSI library holds books on several Irish occupations: the legal professions;[42] weavers and weaving;[43] millers and mills;[44] and members of the Royal Irish Constabulary.[45] A survey of Irish business sources in the National Library of Ireland and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) was published in 2010[46] and separately summarized for three groups of Irish counties.[47] The survey highlights the PRONI guides to business sources for the nine Ulster counties, as well as their online guides to business records.[48]

Despite the obstacles, employment records can be found and may yield the answer you have been seeking. Are you ready for the next step?

End Notes

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4 Bruce S. Elliott, *Irish Migrants in the Canadas: A New Approach* (Kingston, Ont.: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1988), p. 270 note 1, citing Donald M. Schlegel, *Passengers from Ireland* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1980), p. 22.

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7 1820 U.S. Census, Woodstock, Ulster Co., N.Y., p. 47 line 25.

8 Employee Card Files A-F, Hastings State Hospital; Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

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14 Newberry Library, Modern Manuscript Collection <http://www.newberry.org/catalogs-and-guides>

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16 *San Francisco Chronicle*, 4 April 2013 <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Railroad-museum-in-western-Ky-closes-4409278.php>

17 Pullman State Historic Site <http://www.pullman-museum.org/> and SSG&HS <http://www.ssghs.org/>

18 B&O Museum <http://www.borail.org/default.aspx>

19 Great Northern and Northern Pacific <http://www.gn-npjointarchive.org/default.aspx>

20 Paula G. Malak, *Extracts from Fourteenth Annual Report of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of Illinois* (Hazel Crest, Ill.: South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society, 1999) p. 42, also containing a detailed description of the lines.

21 Northern Pacific Railway Company Index of Accidents, Derailments, and Collisions <http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/lb00017/lb00017.pdf>

22 Railroad Retirement Board <http://www.rrb.gov/mep/genealogy.asp> will advise if a record is at the National Archives.

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25 Walter B. Smith, "Wage Rates on the Erie Canal, 1828-1881," *Journal of Economic History*, vol. 23 (Sept. 1962), p. 298.

26 *Tree Talks*, (Syracuse: Central New York Genealogical Society) 48:4 (December 2008) p. 46. Abstracted from *Laws of the State of NY in Relation to the Erie and Champlain Canals Together with the Annual Reports of the Canal Commissioners and Other Documents* (Albany: E and E Hosford, 1825) which contains some subsequent years.

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30 Saint Paul Police Historical Society, <http://www.spphs.com>

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34 *WorldCat* <http://www.worldcat.org>, *MNLink* <https://www.mnlinkgateway.org/>, and *BadgerLink* <http://www.badgerlink.net/>.

35 Thomas Vidriksen, "C.W.A. [Civil Works Administration] and S.E.R.A. [State Emergency Relief Administration] Employee Records Index, Personal record forms only, ca. 1930-1934," *Minnesota Genealogical Journal: 33* (March 2005) p. 3253.

36 *New York State Archives* <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/aindex.shtml>. This database replaces the county "Red Books" inventory.

37 *ArchiveGrid* <http://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/>

38 L. E. Roxbury, *Let's Operate a Railroad* (High Iron Publishers, 1957); Walter Licht, *Working for the Railroad* (Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 1983).

39 Eric D. Probert, *Company and Business Records for Family Historians* (Birmingham: Federation of Family History Societies, 1994)

40 FFHS Services <http://www.ffhsservices.com> where a few booklets are for sale.

41 Althea Douglas and J. Creighton Douglas, *Canadian Railway Records: A Guide for Genealogists* (Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1994).

42 Stephen Wade, *Tracing Your Legal Ancestors* (South Yorkshire, England: Pen & Sword, 2010) covers England, Ireland, and Scotland, and defines terminology.

43 Kevin J. James, *Handloom Weavers in Ulster's Linen Industry, 1815-1914* (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007).

44 William E. Hogg, *The Millers & the Mills of Ireland of about 1850* (Dublin: 2000). Lists of millers were derived from Valuation Office Mill Books, Griffith's Primary Valuation, and Ordnance Survey Parish Memoirs.

45 Jim Herlihy, *The Royal Irish Constabulary: a Complete Alphabetical List of Officers and Men, 1816-1922* (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 1999),

46 Margaret Ó hÓgartaigh and Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, *Business Archival Sources for the Local Historian* (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010); county guides p. 20.

47 Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh and Margaret Ó hÓgartaigh, "Business Records in Counties Tipperary, Clare, Limerick, Kerry, Cork and Waterford," *Tipperary Historical Journal* (2011) 14:130; "Business Records in Counties Meath and Westmeath," *Meath Archaeological and Historical Society* (2011) 12:266; "Business Records in Counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo," *Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society* (2012) 64:99.

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Sue Hahney Kratsch is a retired computer professional who has spent 35 years tracing her ancestors through New England, New York, and Illinois. Her articles have appeared in The Septs, *the* Minnesota Genealogist, *and* Tree Talks, *journal of the Central New York Genealogical Society. An IGSI member since 1984, she is currently president of the Yankee Genealogical Society.*

Occupations: A Look into the Lives of Your Ancestors

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

Knowing and understanding your ancestors' occupations paints a fuller picture of how they lived their lives and spent their days. Besides giving clues to a person's wealth or lack thereof, a job often dictated a person's social status.

Knowing an ancestor's occupation may be key to separating several possible forbears with the same name: children often followed in their parents' footsteps, offering clues to confirm that a cobbler ancestor named James Kelly was the son and grandson of Kellys who made their living as shoemakers—not the seafaring Kellys or the blacksmith Kellys.

What Kind of Job is That?

Perhaps your ancestor was a farmer, or a railroad worker, or a … pigmaker. The first two jobs are straightforward to understand, but what is a pigmaker? Did he raise livestock? The first step in researching occupations is to discover what the job encompassed. Googling the term "pigmaker" brings up only one small reference to the occupation—an abbreviated definition from Merriam-Webster. To find a specific definition of unfamiliar occupations related to past eras, consult the extensive lists on these websites:

- Hall Genealogical Website: Old Occupational Names <http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/>

- Family Tree Researcher: Dictionary of Old Occupations <http://www.familyresearcher.co.uk/glossary/Dictionary-of-Old-Occupations-Index.html>

Hall's definition of pigmaker: "1) Poured molten metal to make 'pigs' for distribution of raw metals 2) Pottery worker." Family Tree Researcher defines it as "Made pigs from smolten metal, used for transporting materials."

To find a definition of some of the more obscure trades, you have to be persistent. Check out "Cyndi's List, Occupations, General Resources" at <http://www.cyndislist.com/occupations/general/> where you can find a number of websites offering definitions of old occupations. Searching for the trade of "seinter" took me on a journey through many of those websites until I finally found it at the *Olive Tree* website, <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/misc/occupations.shtml> - a seinter is a girdlemaker.

What Did That Job Encompass?

Ireland GenWeb

While the Irish were mostly a rural people with small farms, many left home to work temporarily or permanently in the fields and cities of England. There is a fascinating article about the trades they pursued overseas at *County Mayo Beginnings*, an Ireland GenWeb site: "Occupations Held by the Irish in the England Census Records in the 19th Century." This article offers an explanation of trends in the broad categories of work done by Irish emigrants as well as the various trades they followed once in England. <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~irlmayo2/irish_occupations_england_census.html>

GENUKI

You gain insight into the kind of lives your ancestors led when you understand their trades and occupations in more depth. For sources offering detailed information, start with *GENUKI* website's page for "United Kingdom and Ireland Occupations," <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/Occupations.html>.

GENUKI breaks down occupations into broad categories and then suggests both written works and online sources that provide more information. For instance, if great-grandfather John O'Reilly was a railway worker, click on "Railwaymen" to see a list of informational sources. In this case, you'll find several links:

- Railway Ancestors Family History Service <http://www.railwayancestors.org.uk/>

- Industry: the Industrial Revolution and the Railway System <https://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/rschwart/ind_rev/index.html>

- The Railway Index, "Official and press reports of railwaymen involved in accidents and other situations including many individual photos" <http://web.archive.org/web/20101005215526/http://www.blacksheepindex.co.uk/RAILWAY.htm>

The listing also mentions a book with further information about jobs with the railroad, *Was Your Grandfather a Railway Man?*

Among the treasures in *GENUKI's* occupational listings are publications, occupational descriptions, and lists of names, such as:

- Publications
  - *The Book of Trades: Or Library of Useful Arts*
  - *Farmworkers: A Social and Economic History 1770-1980*
  - *My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman*

- Occupational descriptions
  - Steam Engine Maker's Society
  - Barmaids and Skinkers
  - Police History Resources

- Lists of names:
  - Blacksmiths Index
  - Finding Photographers
  - Mining Index

FamilySearch

FamilySearch wiki provides information on jobs, particularly those found in Ireland: check out "Ireland Occupations" <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Ireland_Occupations>

Use the call numbers listed on this website to access the library's extracted records, books, and more:

- Records of freemen (businessmen who had special privileges, such as the right to vote), which are useful because they may list age, birthplace, parentage, and occupation.

- Grenham, John. "Occupations." *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: The Complete Guide*. 3rd ed. Dublin, Ireland: Gill and Macmillan, 2006. (Family History Library book Ref 941.5 D27gj 2006).

- Catalog searches like "Ireland, [county] - occupations".

What Can You Learn About the Person Who Did the Job?

When I discovered that my great-great grandfather James O'Malley came from Ireland near Kilcar, I talked to a local historian in that part of Donegal. At the time of James' emigration, there had been a thriving industry in tweed manufacturing in the area. The owners of the factory hired young men who were leaving for America to peddle textiles abroad. This was true of many manufacturers eager to find a foothold in the American market. James, along with his brother and brother-in-law, had been a pack-peddler who sold Irish linen and lace door-to-door when he brought his family to Illinois.

The genealogy-based websites offered slim pickings about the trade of pack-peddler. However, a search on *Google* for "peddler occupation" led to a short but informative piece in *Wikipedia*. Even more gold came when googling "pack-peddler occupation"—an article "Pack-road to Yesterday" on the *American Heritage* website, <www.americanheritage.com>. The author's observations of pack-peddlers in America described how my own ancestor traveled on foot, looking for that up-and-coming town where he could settle and open a "respectable" business.

The path to discovering the history of

an ancestor has many a twist and turn. Sometimes you have to follow your nose to get "the rest of the story." When you find a bit of information, turn to the websites to flesh it out and learn where to find even more of the story. When one article or website leads to another, follow the trail!

Kathleen Strickland holds a degree in history from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and has been her family genealogist for many years. While studying history, she developed a flair for research that motivated her to follow up on the many family stories her mother and grandmother had passed along to her. She now provides research, ghost-writing and editing assistance through her personal and business support services company, the Get~it~Done Gurus.

Tracing Church of Ireland Clergy: First Steps

by Dwight Radford

The Church of Ireland is part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion, as is the Episcopal Church in America and the Anglican Church in Canada. This Anglican Communion is a "reformed catholic church" – reformed in the Protestant tradition of the sixteenth-century when the reformers objected to the doctrines, rituals and ecclesiastical structure of the Roman Catholic Church. They considered it contrary to scripture and the teachings of the primitive church. The Anglican tradition is "catholic" in the sense that it draws from a continuous tradition of faith back to apostolic times – based upon the scriptures and early tradition. For this reason, the Church of Ireland sees itself as a continuation of Celtic Christianity introduced anciently to Ireland by St. Patrick.

Historically, in its most narrow usage, "Protestant" referred strictly to members of the Church of Ireland. As the state religion from 1536 to 1870, it had certain privileges as well as responsibilities. This made their clergy important people in their communities and often countrywide. This article focuses on two selected sources from which to learn more about a Church of Ireland minister: the parish vestry minutes and the compilations of biographical information. Not every source will be discussed, for example, the records of Trinity College and the records of the Genealogical Office (GO), both in Dublin, are prime sources for exploring a minister further. The GO records are microfilmed and are at the FHL.

Background Context

Anglicanism came about differently than other Protestant denominations. This affected not only the history of the Anglican Communion, but also how Anglicanism was viewed and practiced in Ireland. King Henry VIII had severed links with Rome by 1534, at which time the Church in Ireland ceased to be part of the universal Catholic Church governed from Rome and legally came under the arm of the English establishment in Ireland. In essence, Henry VIII recreated "Catholicism without a Pope." This is important in understanding the relatively close relationships between Irish Anglicanism and the Roman Catholic Church. Following the death of Henry VIII and his successor Henry VI coming to the throne in 1547, the Church of Ireland, as well as the Church of England, gradually evolved into a more Protestant institution.

While it was established by law after the Reformation, the Church of Ireland was never the church for the majority of the population. The legal successor of the overall "Church *in* Ireland," it never constituted more than about 12% of the population in Ireland. Outside of Dublin, the Roman Catholic Church was the majority faith – except in Ulster where the majority faith was the Presbyterian Church. When the term "Irish Church" is used in history, it refers to this minority national church. The Anglican presence was particularly heavy in south Antrim, north Armagh and northwest Down. For population analysis, see Malcolm Macourt's work,

Counting the People of God? The Census of Population and The Church of Ireland (Dublin: Church of Ireland Publishing, 2008).

As a result of the Reformation the entire island transferred politically from Catholicism to Protestantism. The Church of Ireland maintained its influence and power as a minority faith through the force of the Government. Its development and place in Irish society was very different than national churches in other European countries which affected not only the church but also the ministers who served in the parishes. Unlike other national churches in England or on the continent, the Church of Ireland was poorly-funded, small, and on the edges of European Protestantism. However, some of the oldest church buildings in Ireland today belong to the Church of Ireland.

Its history and identity can be viewed in three distinct periods: the pre-Reformation Church (up to 1536); the Established Church (from the Reformation to the break with the state in 1870); and the disestablished minority denominational Church (to the present). An excellent guide for understanding the records generated by the church during these three periods is Raymond Refaussé's *Church of Ireland Records* (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2006). Up-to-date information about records and their location is provided on the website of the RCB Library.

Church of Ireland Dioceses by County

From Norman times the early Irish Church was divided into dioceses and parishes; the Church of Ireland largely inherited this structure at the Reformation. The archbishop of Armagh is the Primate of all-Ireland and considered the head of the Church. Today several dioceses and some parish groupings straddle the political border between Northern Ireland and the Republic. Since much about the clergy can be found in conjunction with the diocese in which they served, it's helpful to know which diocese served which counties or parts of counties.

County	Diocese
Antrim	Connor, Derry, Down, Dromore
Armagh	Armagh, Dromore
Carlow	Leighlin
Cavan	Ardagh, Kilmore, Meath
Clare	Killaloe and Kilfenora, Limerick
Cork	Ardfert and Aghadoe, and Ross, Cloyne
Derry	(see Londonderry)
Donegal	Clogher, Derry, Raphoe
Down	Connor, Down, Dromore, Newry & Mourne
Dublin	Dublin
Fermanagh	Clogher, Kilmore
Galway	Clonfert, Elphin, Killaloe and Kilenora, Kilmacduagh, Tuam
Kerry	Ardfert and Aghadoe
Kildare	Dublin, Kildare, Leighlin
Kilkenny	Leighlin, Ossory
Leitrim	Ardagh, Kilmore
Leix (Queens)	Dublin, Kildre, Leighlin, Ossory
Limerick	Cashel and Emly, Killaloe and Kilfenora, Limerick
Londonderry	Armagh, Connor, Derry
Longford	Ardagh, Meath
Louth	Armagh, Clogher, Drogheda
Mayo	Killala and Achonry, Tuam
Meath	Armagh, Kildare, Kilmore, Meath
Monaghan	Clogher
Offaly (Kings)	Clonfert, Kildare, Killaloe and Kilfenora, Meath, Ossory
Roscommon	Ardagh, Clonfert, Elphin, Tuam

County	Diocese
Sligo	Ardagh, Elphin, Killala and Achonry
Tipperary	Cashel and Emily, Killaloe and Kilfenora, Waterford and Lismore
Tyrone	Armagh, Clogher, Derry
Waterford	Waterford and Lismore
Westmeath	Ardagh, Meath
Wexford	Dublin, Ferns
Wicklow	Dublin, Ferns, Leighlin

Church of Ireland Clergy Research

The Representative Church Body Library (RCB Library) outside Dublin <www.library.ireland.anglican.org/> is the Church of Ireland's archival repository. It holds a wealth of information on the clergy and is one of the first places to begin the search for a minister. Secondary libraries of interest are the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) in Belfast <www.proni.gov.uk/> and the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City <www.familysearch.org>.

Vestry Minutes

While some are held locally, they are rapidly being gathered and preserved, as often they are the only early surviving parish records. Major collections of vestry minutes can be found at the RCB Library and the PRONI. The online PRONI *Guide to Church Records* indicates if the vestry minutes are still in local custody. The lists of parish registers on the RCB Library website represent what has been deposited at that archive on a county-by-county basis. An online inventory of vestry minutes deposited at the RCB Library and also arranged by county is on the *Progenealogist* website as "Church of Ireland Parish Registers and Vestry Minutes at the RCBL Library," which is part of their section "Irish Genealogy and Irish Immigrant Research" <http://www.progenealogists.com/ireland/churchireland.asp>.

The vestries were the committees responsible for the upkeep of churches and welfare of all the people within the parish boundaries irrespective of religion. These manuscript books, usually not indexed, are arranged chronologically. They are the business minutes of the parish and can include a wide range of data. The vestries were responsible for the upkeep and administration of the parishes; they levied taxes for general services, such as the upkeep of roads, street cleaning, relief of the poor, and security. The ministers were listed in the minutes like others involved in day-to-day business.

Although at times the vestry minutes doubled as registers of baptism, marriage and burial records, in the main they were exclusively devoted to the business of the vestry. Rarely, vestry minutes might include emigration lists, property owners, ratepayers, parish censuses, and business matters. Unfortunately, these books are generally ignored because they are handwritten manuscript pages.

Church of Ireland Clergy Biographical Information

The biographical clerical succession lists represent the largest body of information on clergy. These important sources organized on a diocesan basis are available in both manuscript and printed formats at the RCB Library.

If an ancestor was an ordained member of the clergy, very detailed information about him (or more recently her) may be available. Trinity College Dublin (the University of Dublin) was established in 1592 for the education of prominent Protestants including Church of Ireland ordinands; until the 1960s, many of its future clergy attended Trinity College where their biographical information was preserved in the College's records. See *Alumni Dublinenses*, edited by Burtchaell and Sadleir (Dublin, 1935).

Other sources which complement these books have been outlined in Raymond Refaussé's article "Sources for Church of Ireland Clergy," in *Genealogists' Magazine*, *27*, #6 (June 2002): 247-259. By far the most important sources are the "biographical clerical succession lists" organized on a diocesan basis, available in both manuscript and printed formats at the RCB Library. These represent the largest body of information on clergy.

The RCB Library has a four-volume manuscript index of ministers listed in all of the biographical succession lists. Among the data you may find in the lists is the names of the minister's parents, wife and children, where the minister was educated, and the places where he served. The massive work of compiling many of the Biographical Succession Lists was carried out by Canon James B. Leslie. Other compilers such as the Very Reverend Henry Swanzy either worked with Leslie or followed his lead. A couple of examples would be W. J. R. Wallace, *Clergy of Meath and Kildare* (Dublin: Columba Press, 2009) or an older work such as James B. Leslie, *Clogher Clergy and Parishes* (Enniskillen: Fermanagh Times, 1929). Because these Biographical Succession Lists are published books, they can be found in many libraries. Aside from the RCB Library, the FHL would be an excellent place as older works are microfilmed. Also do not neglect the Internet as resource.

Conclusion

This article is foundational in nature. Because of the education of the clergy and their status in the community, there should be some form of a biographical sketch on them. Sometimes entire genealogies can be found – which is the next step. However, the first step is to establish the foundation and then proceed from there.

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Volunteer to Help at the Irish Fair

August 9-11

A loyal cadre of Society members help staff an IGSI booth at the Irish Fair each August to answer simple questions about Irish genealogy and heritage. But additional member help is appreciated. Join the group and volunteer with IGSI this August. Help is also needed with the set-up and take-down of the booth on Friday afternoon and late Sunday afternoon.

If you can volunteer Friday late afternoon for set-up, or help greet people and answer questions for a couple of hours during the days on Saturday or Sunday. Please contact Kay Swanson at Membership@IrishGenealogical.org before August 1 to volunteer

Occupation Records for Genealogical Research in Ireland

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

Introduction

The records of Ireland for researching the occupation of an ancestor are amazingly rich. This, of course, is due to the fact that these records were considered private business or widely available public records and were not deposited in the Public Record Office of Ireland to meet the fate of destruction in 1922 when the office burned. Irish genealogists should therefore celebrate and exploit the richness of these records and learn all they can about the occupation of their ancestor and those with whom they associated.

Learning about Occupations

As customs, language and occupations change over the decades; the terms which describe certain occupations may obscure or change the meaning. While Irish genealogical research has many unique characteristics and methodology that varies from research elsewhere in the British Isles, the occupations do not. Thus, we can leverage the excellent work done primarily by English researchers. For example, if you find a reference that your ancestor was a *laterarius* and you don't know what that was, you may consult *A Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles and Occupations* by Colin Waters (Newbury, Berkshire: Countryside Books, 1999) to learn that he was a brick and/or tile maker. This work provides a simple explanation of the trade or occupation.

If you are looking for a more lengthy description, there a series of three small pamphlets produced by Wiltshire Family History Society entitled *The Book of Trades or Library of Useful Arts 1811*. A short extract from the description on *The Spinner*

> In many country villages the art of spinning is carried on by women and children in the open air. Spinning is applied to the reducing of silk, flax, hemp, wool, hair, &c. into thread.
>
> Spinning by hand is performed either with the distaff and spindle, or on the wheel; in the former case the person sites to her work; in the latter, she stands, or rather runs backwards and forwards.

Now back in print and also available as an eBook, *Byrne's Dictionary of Irish Local History* by Joseph Byrne (Douglas Village, Cork: Mercier Press, 2004) should be in every Irish genealogist's library. This volume is exceptional in providing information pertinent to the study of history in Ireland for bygone generations. Its value goes much beyond occupations, detailing a wealth of information about land, law, customs and the Irish idiosyncrasies of life. An example:

> grenadier. Originally a grenade-bearing soldier, grenadiers were elite troops usually selected for their height and excellent physical condition.

In one sentence, one may learn much about their ancestor if their occupation was described as a grenadier in the army.

The Society of Genealogists, London also produces a more lengthy explanation and guide to doing research in their research series "My Ancestor was…" Some of the volumes already produced in this series include:

My Ancestor was an Agricultural Labourer, by Ian W. Waller

My Ancestor was an Apprentice, by Stuart A. Raymond

My Ancestor was in the British Army, by Christopher T. and Michael J. Watts

My Ancestor was a Coalminer, by David Tonks

My Ancestor was a Lawyer, by Brian Books & Mark Herber

My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman, by Christopher T. and Michael J. Watts

My Ancestor was a Railway Worker, by Frank Hardy, FSG

My Ancestor worked in the Theatre, by Alan Ruston

To learn more about the volumes available or to order, visit the Society of Genealogists website at http://www.sog.org.uk/ .

An Approach to Sources

A very good starting point is the landmark work of the National Library, *Manuscript Sources for the History of the Irish Civilisation*, edited by Richard J. Hayes. Staff at the National Library worked tirelessly

to identify records pertaining to the people and history of Ireland that were held not only in their own collection, but elsewhere throughout the world. These efforts produced a number of unpublished manuscripts that are rich in genealogical and biographical details. This publication is arranged by person, subject, locality and time period. The best way to access the occupation records is to use the subject volumes. From the following list, one can easily see that there is a wealth of records and information related to various occupations.

Acting & Actors
Adventurers
Apothecaries
Apprentices
Archers
Army
- English
- Irish
- Scotch

Artists
Attainders
Ballast – Masters
Barbers
Baronage
Bell Ringers
Bishops
Black & Tans
Blacksmiths (Farriery & Farriers)
Booksellers
Botanists
Brewers
Carpenters
Chandlers
Churchwardens
Clerks of the Courts
- Crown & Peace
- Market
- Pells
- Recognisance
- Signet
- Tallies

Clocks & Watches
Coach Building
Coast Guards
Deacons
Dentists
Farm Labourers
Freemen
Freeholders
Engravers
Feltmakers
Fisherman
Gardners
Goldsmiths
Gunsmiths
Harpists
Falconers
Innkeepers/Hotels
Jewelry Makers
Landlords
Lawyers
Solicitors
Merchants
Metalworkers
Midwives
Millers
Ministers
Musicians
- Violin Makers

Organ Makers
Outlaws
Parish Clerks
Physicians
Plumbers
Poets
Poorlaw Workers
Rail Workers
Schoolmasters
Salters
Sergeants of Arms
Ship Builders
Silversmiths
Slaves
Spies: Informers
Stationers
Surgeons
Surveyors
Tailors
Tallow Chandlers
Tanners
Teachers
Tenants
Thrashers
Tinkers
Tobacconists
Tradesmen
Undertakers (Land)
Veterinarians
Watchmen
Weavers
Wig Makers
Wine Makers

Examples of the references in the above list of occupations that may be found in the *Manuscript Sources of the History of Irish Civilisation* are these. In the publication format, the archive where the manuscript is held is listed first. However, the National Library has copies of many of these.

Booksellers – Cambridge University Library Manuscript Add 2673. A chronological list of booksellers, engravers and printsellers of Dublin, contained in the 3 volume work by Sir J. T. Gilbert on the History of the City of Dublin, 1859. (NLI microfilm pos. 5360)

Clocks & Watches – National Museum, Ireland. Manuscript list of

watch and clockmakers in Ireland, 1687-1844. (NLI microfilm pos. 204)

Family History Library Collection

The Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City has a fair collection of materials for those researching occupations. It is instructional to understand how the materials are cataloged and classified in the collection as all libraries must deal with the same challenges of where to physically place the book and whether the institution's catalog includes "see references" to locate the material when it includes information from more than one area.

For example, the book *A Biographical Index of Deceased British and Irish Botanists*, compiled by James Britten, F.L.S., and George S. Boulger, F.L.S., F.G.S. 2d (London: Taylor and Francis, 1931) includes biographies on a number of Irishmen. The challenge for the library is where to physically place the book. The policy at the FHL is when a book's information pertains to more than one country within the British Isles, the book will physically reside in the English collection. Thus, this work has the English call number 942 U24b (Hint: "U" is the cut number for occupational works in the FHL) rather than the Ireland call number designation 941.5. The volume gives brief biographical sketches such as the following:

> Mahon, John (1870-1906): b. Dublin, 12 May 1870; d. London, 6 Apr. 1906. Kew gardener, 1891-7; to Zomba as forester, 1897-9. Curator Bot. Gard. Uganda until 1893. Kew Corr. Sent pl. to Kew. Papers in Journ. Kew Guild. 1898, 1903. Gard. Chron. 1906, i. 256 (portr.). Kew Bull. 1906, 394. Dissotis Mahoni Hook. f.

This method of cataloging must be carried to each level. For example, a work that may be published describing a worldwide biography of gunsmiths, would have to physically reside on a shelf in the FHL. But where? The FHL police states that "worldwide" works of this nature would be in the United States collection, thus you may not find a trade biography for workers in Ireland, but you may find it at the next highest jurisdiction or the one above that, the same as when dealing with localities.

Examples of Occupational Works

The trail to identify occupational works that will extend your research will take many turns and you may find the information in unexpected places along the way. The works vary in information as much as they vary in format and other content. Some have a general overview with only brief details about the individuals. Others go into great detail about the life's work of the individual. Among the following are some nice examples:

The Millers & The Mills of Ireland of About 1850, A list compiled *by William E. Hogg* (Dublin: Privately Published, 1998). This work was compiled using the records of the Valuation Office Mill Books. It is arranged by county and then lists by townland within that county, the name of the miller, the type of mill, the size of the water wheel, the number of stones, time to grind, and the valuation.

A Dictionary of Irish Artists by Walter George Strickland (Shannon: Irish University Press, reprint 1969). This work was first published in 1913 and gives nice details about the artists. For example:

> DIXON, THOMAS (fl. [flourished] 1740-1763.) *Engraver.* Son of Thomas Dixon of Cork Hill, hosier, and brother of Samuel and John Dixon (q.v.), After his father's death in 1758 he continued the business on Cork Hill, and at his house was published in 1763 his brother John's mezzotint of Lord Taaffe. He himself adventured as an engraver, and some etched landscapes by him published in 1760, T. Dixon del. et sc. Dublin, are known; and in the "Universal History," published by George Faulkner in 1744, is a plate of "The Tower of Babel," engraved by him. He married in 1756 Elizabeth Jones.

The Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society publishes a series of pamphlets on Irish Genealogical Sources. In this series, No. 8 is entitled *Weavers of Prosperous, County Kildare, Balbriggan, County Dublin & Tullamore, County Offaly in Memorials of 1826* by Sean Magee (Dublin: Dun Laoghaire Genealogical Society, 1998). The lists

of weavers from these three localities total 947 names.

There are a number of reports to Parliament that give meaningful details about specific occupations. Two examples of these are:

- Reports from Committees: Seventeen Volumes. Pawnbroking in Ireland. Session 15 November 1837 – 16 August 1828. (FHL microfilm 1,696,697)

  Carrickfergus William Reid
  Date of Registry – January 1822
  Tickets 16,787

  Carrickfergus Hugh Stewart
  Date of Registry – February 1830 Tickets 10,406

- Second Report of the Commissioners of Irish Education Inquiry. Dublin, 16 September 1826. (FHL microfilm 1,559,450) This lists all of the schoolmasters for Ireland for the stated time period.

  Appendix No. 11
  A List of Roman Catholic Day Schools, Towland of Crossboyne, Derrinoose Parish, County Armagh, Owen Murray, Roman Catholic, Pay £10. or £12.

  Appendix No. 22
  Parochial Returns, Townland Rankinstown, Ballyclugg Parish, Connor Diocese, William Hamilton, Presbyterian, Pay £10, Description of Schoolhouse – very bad.

When your research identifies an occupation for your ancestor, continue your investigation by learning details about that occupation for the time period in which your subject lived, even if it is a common occupation and you think you know what it involved. Tools and methods evolved through the decades and the work of each occupation changed with the evolution of these changes. With that background, there are numerous sources in the archives and libraries of Ireland and elsewhere that may contain biographical details about your ancestor.

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Irish Fair of Minnesota

August 9 - 11, 2013

The nation's largest free celebration of Irish culture – the Irish Fair of Minnesota – will take place Friday, August 9 through Sunday, August 11 on Harriet Island in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

This annual celebration offers you an opportunity to celebrate authentic Irish heritage through a multitude of activities. There's Irish food, a marketplace, cultural events and activities set along the banks of the Mississippi River.

The Irish Genealogical Society International will have a display area at the fair. The booth's location (Community Organizations) is currently identified as along the riverbank near the Marketplace. Stop by and say hello!

The headliner group for the music stages is Gaelic Storm. The musical line-up for the three stages includes Katie McMahon, The Screaming Orphans (from Donegal) and many well-known local groups: Wild Colonial Bhoys, the Belfast Cowboys, and more.

For more information on the Irish Fair itself, directions to the Fair, and the full schedule of events and activities, visit their website at <www.irishfair.com>.

More Than Just a Job: Occupation as a Key to Identity

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

When I started working on my family history, I didn't pay much attention to occupation. My parents were teachers, and all my known grandfathers and uncles were plain old farmers. I was disappointed, thinking I didn't have any really interesting ancestors like doctors, ship captains, clergymen or even factory workers. But, as I researched more families, I learned how important occupation can be to identifying an ancestor across census years or matching ancestors in different kinds of records.

Let me share one example. I was trying to learn more about a Holland-born family I found living in 1870 among my Dutch relatives in Hardin County, Iowa.[1] For starters, I was unsure of names. The head of household was 53 year-old Peter Kingma, or possibly Ringma. Peter was a "painter." Living with Peter were his 50 year-old wife Henncha (difficult to read, but indexed "Hinncha") and five individuals, aged 10-25, listed under an unfamiliar name that looked something like "Sourumia" (Ancestry index: "Sousrema"). All were born in Holland, but the name didn't sound Dutch to me. I speculated that the five younger individuals might be step-children. Among them were 16 year-old Adam and his 20 year-old sister Eve. Dutch? Really?

Oh yes, Adam's occupation was "painter apprentice."

I needed to find these people in another census. Since I knew most of the Netherlanders in this locale came to America in the late 1860s, I looked forward to 1880. The uncertainty over the 1870 names complicated the search. Using various combinations of first names, ages and birth places, I was not able to find any good candidates anywhere in Iowa in 1880.

About to give up, I decided to try a 50-state search for any man named Peter and born in Holland five years either side of 1817. (The birth place of most people from the Netherlands was recorded as "Holland" in the 1880 census). The Ancesty.com index rewarded me with 140 matches – a small enough number to browse. Among them was a Peter Kingma, age 63, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His wife's name was Hendrika, which made sense of the 1870 wife's difficult-to-read name.

Peter was a painter. But the name and occupation of his 24 year-old step-son clinched the link back to Iowa. Holland-born Adam Sunoma (indexed "Funoma") was a furniture varnisher. Eve was absent, but Adam and Eve's 19 year-old brother Harry was there – also a furniture varnisher.

First names and occupation were the key to the match. Searches in later censuses revealed the name to be Sonnema, which turns out to be a good Frisian name traceable in records from The Netherlands.

Occupation Information in the Census

Censuses are perhaps the most accessible source for determining an ancestor's occupation. The 1850 census was the first to ask for detailed information about occupation. It asked for a specific profession, occupation or trade, but only for males over age 15. The question was expanded to females in 1870, to report occupation of any individual, regardless of age, if working and contributing income to the family.

Researchers will make better sense of census information if they know something about how the Census Bureau instructed enumerators.[2] The 1850 instructions suggested specific categories like farmer, carpenter, tailor, boatman, sailor and others, and advised that, when convenient, the enumerator might substitute the name of the article that an individual produced. The 1860 instructions differentiated between farmers and farm laborers, and between a "master" tradesman and an "apprentice." Instructions became more detailed as industrialization and urbanization produced more specialized trades and professions. In 1870, the Bureau instructed enumerators to "call no man a 'factory hand'," but rather name the type of factory, and to call a man a "shoemaker" only if he made the entire shoe in a small shop. A stone mason was different from a brick mason. "Manufacturer" was to be reserved for proprietors of manufacturing establishments. Terms like "hatter" and "glover" were reserved for persons who actually made such articles, which were in turn sold by hat or glove "dealers."

By 1900, instructions for the occupation question became voluminous, reflecting the increasing specialization of factory labor and the growing importance of

women in the workforce. Terms like "carriage builder" were deemed inadequate because a carriage factory had many specialized jobs, such as blacksmith, joiner, painter, wheelwright and upholsterer. A married woman's gainful occupation was to be reported whether she performed the work outside or in the home. Enumerators were reminded that a woman managing a farm was just as much a farmer as a man.

The Bureau told enumerators to differentiate between day laborers and garden laborers, between coal miners and stone quarry workers, between fruit growers and nurserymen, between actors and theatrical managers, between stationary engineers and locomotive engineers, and between teamsters and draymen. Watchmaker was a different occupation than watch-repairer.

In 1930, the instructions reminded enumerators that unemployed persons can still have occupations, and added the category "unpaid family worker" (NP) to the question about class of worker. And, as trades and professions continued to specialize, the instructions differentiated between practical nurses and "trained" nurses (known today as "practical nurses") and between retail and wholesale merchants.

Using Occupation to Match and Separate Individuals

Many kinds of records use occupation as an identifier. In addition to censuses, vital records, obituaries, city directories, passenger records and military draft records all commonly provide information about occupation or workplace. The alert researcher takes advantage to make match and separate identities across time and geography. These examples illustrate how.

Christian Gerloff, wagon maker. Before 1891, passenger manifests usually recorded only name, age, country of origin and sometimes occupation. Occupation was the key to finding my great-great-grandfather's arrival record. The 1850 U. S. Census reported 30 year-old, German-born Christian Gerloff's occupation as wagon maker.[3] A search of indexes on Ancestry.com produced a 24 year-old Christian Gerloff arriving at Philadelphia from Bremen on the Brig Louise in 1843. His age and German origin were good fits, but his occupation sealed the match. He was a "wheel wright" – not exactly the same as a wagon maker, but close enough to make me confident that he was the right man.

Rev. Fawkner. When Ida Fawkner wrote a short family history, she described her grandfather as "Rev. Fawkner."[4] However, Hendricks County, Indiana, records gave no evidence of him being a practicing minister. John C. Fawkner was a tough nut to crack because he moved frequently, had four marriages, and spelled his name many different ways during his life. He most likely made his living mostly as a small farmer, but Ida's clue about a ministerial past helped me match a Kentucky man to the Indiana man. I found a record of "John C. Faulconer" receiving a Bourbon county license authorizing him to perform Methodist marriages;[5] he officiated at four marriages in Bourbon County from 1811 to 1813.[6] "John C. Faulkner" also performed at least two marriages in Garrard County, Kentucky, in 1816 and 1817.[7]

Bartholomew Lee, railroad porter. John Lee's occupation as a railroad porter helped me prove that John Lee living in Dorset, England, in 1861, was the same man as Bartholomew Lee living in Bristol in 1851.[8] Bartholomew was only 14 and living with his parents in 1851, but he was already employed as a porter.[9] Searches for Bartholomew in the 1861 Census of England turned up no good matches. I knew that he had married Eleanor Price in 1857; both were 21.[10] I had found Eleanor -- but with Bartholomew absent -- in Bristol in 1871 with children William, Mary A., Laurence and Charles, but could not find the family in the 1861 census. From later records, I knew Eleanor had been born in Bristol,[11] so I searched for an Eleanor or Ellen Lee, about age 25, born in Bristol.

The index returned an Ellen Lee, 24, living in Melcombe Regis, Dorset.[12] Ellen's husband was not Bartholomew, but John Lee. However, because the family had children named William and Charles, I took a closer look. I noticed two things: 1) "John" was a "porter" and 2) he lived at the same address with John Derrick, who was a "railway delivery porter." A birth registration for young Charles resolved the discrepancy between 1851 Bartholomew and 1861 John Lee: Charles was born January 1860 to Bartholomew Lee, a porter for the Great Western Railway, and his wife

"Eleanor Lee, formerly Price."[13]

Robert Tidball, shoemaker. The 1861 Canadian census enumerated the family of Robert Tidball, 50, a shoemaker, in Bosanquet, Ontario. He and wife Elizabeth had six England-born children: Richard, Caroline, Robert, John, Mary and Louisa, plus William Henry, born about 1858 in Canada.[14]

Who were these Tidballs? Baptisms of the first four children were recorded in the parish church of Cutcombe, Somerset, between 1842 and 1847.[15] The baptism records indicate the father, Robert, was a cordwainer (shoemaker) – the same trade he practiced at Bosanquet.

> Richard 20 April 1842 (Robert, cordwainer and innkeeper)
>
> Caroline 18 Jun 1843 (Robert, cordwainer and innkeeper)
>
> Elizabeth 14 Jul 1844 (Robert, cordwainer)
>
> Robert 7 Dec 1845 (Robert, cordwainer and innkeeper)
>
> John 7 Nov 1847 (Robert, cordwainer)

Occupation clinched the case: Robert Tidball of Bosanquet was Robert Tidball of Cutcombe.

Charles Hansen, bricklayer, son of a tailor. Occupation also led me to the parents of Charles Hansen of St. Paul, Minnesota. The Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul had a large Scandinavian population, so I knew I would have trouble sorting out all the Charles (or Carl) Hansens (or Hansons). The 1900 census reported that 45 year-old Charles was a bricklayer who had immigrated about 1880. His 79 year-old mother, Carrie, was living with the family.[16] The 1885 Minnesota census enumerated Charles Hansen, 34, and Fritz, 30, with likely parents Frederick Hansen and "Mrs. F." in St. Paul.[17] I was skeptical about a match because Charles should have been only about 30, and Mrs. Hansen's given name was not recorded.

The 1885 census did not ask about occupation, but occupation allowed me to follow Charles back year-by-year in city directories. The directory listed bricklayer Charles on Cayuga Street in 1901. At the same address was Carrie Hanson, "wid Frederick."[18] Working back to 1900 and earlier, Charles was variously listed as a bricklayer, mason or painter. In every year but one, the widow Carrie (sometimes "Caroline" or "Catherine") lived at the same address as Charles. Finally, in 1885-86, Frederick Hansen, a tailor; Fritz Hansen, a mason, and Charles Hanson, a mason, were all listed at 678 Broadway.[19]

I now was confident that the 34 year-old Charles in the 1885 census was bricklayer Charles in the 1900 census. A matching family lived in Christiana (Oslo), Norway, in 1875: Fredrik, born 1821; Karine, born 1821, Fritz, born 1851, and Carl, born 1854. Fredrik was a *skreddersvend* – a tailor's assistant.[20]

Two A. P. Overlands. Occupation can also help separate and keep straight individuals with the same name in the same place and time. Two men known as A. P. Overland in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, provide an example.

A 1951 obituary for Mathea Overland stated that she was "widow of the late A. P. Overland," and described A. P. as "the well known tailor in Fergus Falls."[21] Andreas. P. Overland, a tailor, died in Fergus Falls in 1923.[22]

Anxious to learn more, I searched for a naturalization record for A. P. Overland. The Ottertail County District Court granted U.S. citizenship to *A. P. Overland* 26 November 1897.[23] Two weeks later, on 7 December, the Court granted citizenship to *Andrew Overland*.[24] Did the court grant two sets of papers to the same man? If not, who was the second man?

A closer look revealed that "Anton P. Overland" was a witness for Andrew Overland in December. Two different Overland men apparently both had the initials "A. P." The 1895 and 1900 censuses captured both men in Otter Tail County – Andrew, a tailor, in Battle Lake, and Anton, a photographer, in Fergus Falls.[25] As I followed the men through their lives, occupation was the key to keeping them separate.

Genealogists use all sorts of identifiers -- middle initials, age, occupation, religion and more -- to match and separate individuals of the same or similar name. Because many kinds of records record occupational information, occupation is

one of the most useful identifiers. As you follow your ancestors through time and across geography, remember: occupation is more than a job; it is a key piece of evidence for establishing identity.

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Irish Genealogy Internet Book Reviews

by Judith Eccles Wight, AG

Using the Internet to trace one's ancestors has been on the radar for years. Compared to many other countries, online resources for Irish genealogy have not been as readily available. Significant strides have been made over the past few years. It's time to catch up with those resources. This article will review one free online guide and two books that discuss using the Internet for tracing Irish family history.

Nicola Morris, a professional genealogist in Ireland, wrote the free online research guide, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors on the Internet* <http://www.timeline.ie/book_shop/secure/Tracing_your_Irish_Ancestors_on_the_Internet.pdf>. Described as a beginners guide it lists eight steps a researcher should take in searching the internet. The guide also provides links to several free websites. The steps (or strategies) listed in the table of content include

- Living Relatives
- Civil Registration
- 1901 & 1911 Census
- Parish Registers
- Land Records
- Newspapers
- Burial and Testamentary Records
- Crime and Military Records

As a seasoned Irish genealogical researcher, the items discussed by Morris were not new. However, one thing she mentions about online church records was a revelation. According to Morris records of churches that straddle the border of two different counties may not be included on the rootsireland website <http://ifhf.rootsireland.ifhf.ie> for either county. This may help explain why some records sought by this researcher were not found although the counties in question are included in this web site. Readers of this article are encouraged to download and study Morris' guide.

The 5th edition of Peter Christian's book, *The Genealogist's Internet: The Essential Guide to Researching Your Family History Online*, was released last year. The emphasis of this 430 page book is Great Britain and Ireland. Chapter 2 discusses elementary research strategies including online lectures. The author neglects to mention the free Legacy Family Tree webinars. See <www.familytreewebinars.com>.

Christian then gets into the meat of his subject. Chapter 4 discusses technical details of digitization as well as problems that researchers encounter while doing online research such as name matching. Various online websites are reviewed including *FamilySearch* and several fee-based or subscription services (*Origins*, *ScotlandsPeople*, *Ancestry*, *findmypast*, *Genes Reunited*, *The Genealogist*, *Roots UK*, and *familyrelatives*).

Chapters 5 through 13 cover civil registration; census; church records; property, taxation and the law; occupations; the Armed Forces; and migration and colonies. Each chapter includes links to free web sites as well as fee-based or subscription websites. The pages covering occupations is impressive. References are made to several occupational related websites including mailing lists and forums hosted by *RootsWeb*.

Chapter 12 is about print sources. The author first discusses sources of digitized books that can be found online. The rest of the chapter is devoted to electoral records, directories, and newspapers.

Archives and libraries are covered in chapter 13 including gateways to these resources. Readers are given an overview of catalogs to and records of the National Archives at Kew, England, the National Archives of Scotland, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, the National Archives of Ireland (covered in one short paragraph), and UK and Ireland national libraries. Other archives and libraries are generically mentioned, such as county record offices and public and university libraries.

Chapter 14 is a discussion about resources for surnames, pedigrees and families that are found on the internet. It also includes limited information about genetics and DNA testing and resources for locating living people.

Additional chapters focus on geography (15), history (16), photographs (17), and discussion forums (18). Chapter 19 is about search engines and includes strategies for effective online research. Details about how to publish your family history online are included in chapter 20. Chapter 21, the world of family history, covers societies and organizations, courses, magazines and journals, online shops and more. The final chapter (21) discusses issues pertinent to genealogists such as how to use online information and copyright and privacy issues.

Because website addresses often change or are taken down, Christian provides updates to sites he references. Check <www.spub.co.uk/tgi5/links.php> for changes made to URLs mentioned in his book.

Although not Ireland specific, Christian's book should be studied by anyone researching their Irish ancestors. Members of my Irish families settled in Scotland, England, the United States, Canada and Australia. Other ancestors in my pedigree originated in Scotland and England. I will often refer to this book as I research these families.

Chris Paton's book, *Tracing Your Irish Family History on the Internet: A Guide for Family Historians*, hit the book stores this past April. Similar in content but directed specifically to Ireland Paton too discusses gateways, institutions and networks for Ireland including many not mentioned in *The Genealogist's Internet*. It also includes information about commercial (fee- and subscription-based) websites. The "networking and communication" section in the first chapter lists several social networking discussion platforms such as *Facebook* and blogs.

The main content of the book is divided into eight sections. Chapter 2, "Vital Records," has information about civil registration; parish registers; burials; wills and probate; biographical resources; newspapers; books and periodicals; and other resources. It is unfortunate that *Genealogy Bank* <www.genealogybank.com> was not included in the newspaper discussion since it has scanned images of eight different 20th-21st century Irish-American newspapers that contain information about people in Ireland as well as America.

Chapter 3, "Where They Lived," covers censuses and census substitutes, land records, maps and gazetteers, and photographs. The land records section includes websites for Griffith's valuation and its maps, the tithe applotment books and tithe defaulters lists, and deeds. Missing is the fact that both the *FamilySearch* website and that of the National Archives of Ireland has indexes to and images of the tithe books for the Republic of Ireland. Apparently these sources were not yet online and thus unknown to Paton as he was writing his book. In addition to Irish sources he also talks about some UK databases that include information about the Irish who settled there.

Occupations are discussed in chapter 4. The five headings are military, crime and punishment (both law enforcement and criminals), Merchant Navy, other professions, and the poor. It seems a little odd to discuss the poor as an occupation. Twelve different occupations are given cursory details under the other professions category.

Chapters 5 through 8, the most important in my opinion, cover websites for the provinces of Ulster, Munster, Connacht, and Leinster. The discussion of each province includes online information for the various counties found within these provinces. The databases listed are not always name oriented. Background information about various topics is supplied, such the Allihies Copper Mine Museum in County Cork. Local libraries and historical or genealogical societies are also identified and website addresses listed.

The last chapter deals with the Irish diaspora, emigrants and their descendants who went to the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South America and Europe. Paton also describes the Ireland Reaching Out project.

I was very impressed with both books, particularly Paton's. It was my reading material during a 14-hour plane ride to China and is highly recommended for people engaged in tracing their Irish ancestors. Both books can be purchased through *Amazon.com* and *BarnesandNoble.com*. E-reader editions are available from these websites.

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100 Years Ago and More

by Sheila Northrop

100 Years Ago
The Irish Standard 12 Jul 1913
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Armagh
The wife of a Lurgan weaver named James Lavery, who resides in Arthur street, recently gave birth to triplets – all girls. The mother and children are all doing well.

Cavan.
An alarming dynamite explosion took place recenty (sic) in the townland of Drumconlester, near Killeshandra, causing terrible injuries to one man and severely burning three others. Four men named Thomas O'Donnell, Michael Reilly, Michael Brady and John Mingan were engaged quarrying stones from a quarry, and beside where they were working they had a large jar of dynamite for the purpose of blasting stones. One of the men, it is stated, dropped a lighted match beside the jar, which immediately exploded, with the result that the contents struck the man in the face and eyes, while his clothing also took fire. In trying to save him the other three men had their cloting (sic) burned.

Donegal.
Remarkable evidence of the spirit of toleration and good feeling existing between Protestants and Catholics in Donegal was given at the annual meeting of the Dunfanaghy Board of Guardians, when John Irvine, a Protestant, was re-elected chairman for the tenth time. Mr. Irvine in thanking the Guardians, said if he wanted to talk of toleration he could go back for forty years, during which he lived amongst Catholics when none of his own religion were within miles of him. It was then that he felt the toleration of his Catholic neighbors. Even though he was competing with them in business, he found that he got more than his share of anything going.

Down.
An English company is contemplating the construction of an electric train scheme round the county Down coast connecting Warrenpoint with Newcastle, and also the electric lighting of Warrenpoint.

Winnipeg Free Press 15 Sep 1913
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

STARVATION AIDS CAPITAL AT DUBLIN

Hunger Attacks Ranks of Transport Workers, But No Sign of Breaking Strike.

London, Sept. 15. – Hunger has become the ally of organized capital in the fight against the Dublin transport workers. By the end of this week the spectre of starvation will be a grim reality in the foul slums of the city, where life at best is a hand-to-mouth struggle to keep body and soul together.

There is no sign of weakening, however, on the part of James Larkin's followers, despite a steady and ominous growth day by day of the employers' lockout.

Larkin, speaking at a labor meeting in Manchester yesterday, said he believed he had a divine mission to make men and women discontented. Since he went to Ireland in 1907, he had raised the flag of discontent from Belfast to Cork and brought a new hope and a new gospel to the working classes of Ireland.

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150 Years Ago
Burlington Hawk Eye 22 Sep 1863
Burlington, Iowa

MINGINS AND PATRICK

Mr. Mingins was a delegate to the Christian commission. There was a thousand of them. Any man who would work for the wounded soldiers could be a delegate. But he could not restrict himself to mere sympathy; he must throw off fine clothes and put on a flannel shirt and go to work…

All were grateful for aid. He had never met but one tough customer, and he was an old Irishman. – He had been distributing shirts and drawers, and coming to an old dirty Irishman, asked him what he was doing there. – 'Sure, and why shouldn't I be here?' said he; 'I've been twenty years in the British service; I fought five years in Mexico; by my sowl, I can showlder a muskit yit, and hit a rap for the ould flag!'

Mr. Mingins continued:
'You are a good fellow,' said I; 'here is a shirt and a pair of drawers for you.' He looked gloomy, and said, 'I don't want yer shirts and drawers." 'What,' I asked, 'not want them?' 'I don't want 'em,' said he; 'sure, I'm no object of charity!' I explained it, as I thought,

satisfactorily, but he looked up at last and said, 'Annyhow I won't have 'em'…

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200 Years Ago
London Times 29 Jul 1813
London, Middlesex, England

CORONER'S INQUEST. – On Tuesday an inquest was held on the body of Edward Clifford, who on the preceding morning was found murdered in a pool of water, in the brick-field, at the top of Sidmouth-street, Gray's-inn-road.

Heyman Robert, a barber, residing in Fitch-lane, stated, that on Sunday he sold the deceased the hat now produced for 4p. and gave him change for a lb note. The deceased's wife came in at the time, looked over the money, and then gave it to her husband, who put it in his pocket, and they both went away.

Charles Cooke, an officer belonging to the Police office, Hatton-garden, stated, that he, accompanied by other officers, went to the spot on Monday morning, where they met two little children of the deceased; the wife came shortly afterwards. On hearing from her that James Leary, who resides in George-court, Field-lane, was the last person seen with him, they went to his house…

Mary Clifford, wife of the deceased, and who was advanced in pregnancy, said, they had sold some land and a house, in Ireland, and that her husband came to England about three weeks ago. On their arrival in town, they went and slept four nights at the house of James Leary, after which they took a lodging in Church-street, St. Gile's.

The Jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against James Leary.

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a co-president of Midwest Ancetor Research, She is past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past education chair for the Irish Genealogical Society International. Sheila specializes in Irish-specific research topics. She traces her own family history to Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.

Research Hints

Audrey Leonard, IGSI Researcher

Last year was a busy year for research requests; the Research Committee completed 46 requests in 2012. Hopefully we were able to give our requesters new and interesting areas to research.

As more records are added to websites, the challenge of researching your ancestors can become easier, or far more difficult! For me, the surnames I am looking for are far too common and usually appear in every county in Ireland! This is when watching the various blogs and message boards can lead to surprises. Several years ago, I happened to read a message that included a reference to a James Martin, born about 1852 in Ontario, Canada. I quickly added a message that my paternal grandmother had a younger brother named James, born in 1852, and wondered if the person could give me any additional information.

My heart sank as I read his response; he said that his James Martin was the son of Patrick Martin and Catherine Murphy. Drat, wrong parents. I responded with a short message thanking him for his answer and explaining that I was looking for a James Martin born to Thomas Martin and Ellen Donnelly. Imagine my surprise when he responded that he was also a descendent of Patrick and Catherine Martin and that Patrick was the brother of my Thomas Martin! He had an enormous amount of information on the Martins: the Parish and Townland that they came from in County Armagh, Thomas and Patrick's parents and siblings, and much more. He very graciously sent me copies of his documentation, too.

Documentation is frequently a problem in genealogy. A word of warning, if you find information that "seems" to fit your research but it is labeled "International Birth Index" or "International Genealogical Index" or anything similar, take the information as a pointer in your research, but be sure to look for solid documentation to verify it. The Indexes are compilations of information taken from many sources, including family trees that have been put online. The information may or may not have been verified by the originator. It is your responsibility as the family genealogist to verify it and put a record of that verification in your files.

Happy Hunting!

Symbols of Ireland: the Claddagh Ring

by Gabrielle Ni Mheachair

The Old Claddagh Ring

Patrick B. Kelly

The Old Claddagh ring, sure it was my grandmother's,
She wore it a lifetime and gave it to me;
All through the long years, she wore it so proudly,
It was made where the Claddagh rolls down to the sea,
What tales it could tell of trials and hardships,
And of grand happy days when the whole world could sing—
So away with your sorrow, it will bring love tomorrow,
Everyone loves it, the Old Claddagh Ring.

With the crown and the crest to remind me of honour,
And clasping the heart that God's blessing would bring,
The circle of gold always kept us contented,
'Twas true love entwined in the old Claddagh ring,
As she knelt at her prayers and thought of her loved ones,
Her soft gentile smile, would charm a king;
And on her worn hand as she told me the story,
You could see the bright glint of the Old Claddagh ring.

It was her gift to me and it made me so happy,
With this on my finger my heart it would sing;
No king on his throne could be half so happy
As I am when I'm wearing my Old Claddagh ring.
When the angels above call me up to heaven
In the heart of the Claddagh their voices will sing
Saying "Away with your sorrow, you'll be with us tomorrow,
Be sure and bring with you the old Claddagh ring."

The fishing village of Claddagh is tucked neatly into a little nook on the west coast of Ireland. Like many a small village located within close proximity to a major city Claddagh has become the victim of urban sprawl leaving it undistinguishable from the rest of Galway City. However, some of the original charm remains. One has no trouble imagining the fishermen of bygone days when looking out over the Atlantic from Claddagh Quay or Claddagh Park.

Galway and Claddagh complement each other splendidly. Galway was an international shipping port dating back to before the coming of the Celts. It was frequented by many famous and infamous sailors, including Gráinne O Malley and Christopher Columbus himself. Large sea-going vessels sailed into Galway harbor, passing the simple fishing village of Claddagh on their way. While Galway boasts of its ancient and international port, Claddagh boasts of being Ireland's oldest and most traditional fishing village. Though unlikely to be the oldest or first fishing village on an island as large as Ireland, Claddagh has been a famous fishing village from ancient times.

Ancient fishing traditions were kept alive in this small village down to the turn of the twentieth century. Villagers lived in thatched cottages lining the pier. Along the shoreline upside-down currachs huddled together resting like a nest of black beetles, their new coats of tar drying in the sun. Larger fishing boats bobbed along the pier with damp, swollen ropes dangling loosely from their sides. Newly woven nets stretched from currach to currach, while old ones dried or waited for skilled hands to mend them. Gossiping women dressed in loose red skirts and crocheted black shawls gathered like flies along the road. They pretended not to worry about their men folk who raked the sea with nets to feed their hungry children playing on the beach. When the great Atlantic waves swept

laden boats ashore, the men leapt forward onto the strand thanking God for bringing them home safely. A fisherman's lot was exciting but deadly dangerous.

Claddagh is not just a village. It is its very own townland. In ancient Celtic times it had a chieftain who instilled such pride in his people that they became a fiercely independent fishing community. They guarded their traditions and avoided modernization of any kind. As a result of this insular attitude, Claddagh developed singular traditions that passed down from generation to generation: one of these traditions is the Claddagh ring.

The original Claddagh ring is described as a simple gold band molded to the shape of a heart held gently held between two hands capped with a crown. The heart is the symbol of love, the hands friendship, and the crown loyalty. Hence, the Claddagh ring offered to a friend or mate the virtues of love, friendship, and loyalty. It is no wonder this unique ring became a favorite wedding band for one who sincerely promised such virtues necessary for a lasting union.

Claddagh Lore

Many stories abound as to the origin of the design; some date from ancient times while others appear more modern. Readers may choose the version most fitting to their mindset.

It was the custom in ancient Ireland for each clan chieftain to make an annual visit to Tara, the seat of the High King of Ireland. Here the clans gathered to discuss defense of the island, laws, genealogies, grievances, customs, etc. The seating arrangements at Tara were clearly demarcated by clan shields or symbols hung along the walls. Each chieftain sat beneath his own symbol. Seating was arranged in order of importance from the head of the table to the opposite end. Lesser ranking chieftains sat at tables attached to the main one. Eventually, the symbols that decorated these shields became synonymous with particular clans. During and after the reign of Henry VIII such symbols were incorporated into the reigning chieftain's coat of arms. It is quite possible that at some point in history a variant form of the Claddagh was used by a reigning Claddagh chieftain.

In another popular story, a Claddagh chieftain fell in love with a common clan woman who may have joined the clan for a livelihood, safety, and a place to belong. Since an Irish Chieftain could not marry so lowly, the Claddagh chieftain pined away, dying of a broken heart. In his will he demanded that his tombstone bear the carving of his heart held within two hands and his crown on top. He wished to be remembered for the loyalty, love, and friendship he demonstrated towards his duty and his people.

The Claddagh men considered themselves to be the oldest and finest fishermen in all of Ireland. They were territorial about fishing rights and reacted violently to anyone who dared fish in their waters. In order to guarantee that they could recognize each other at sea the Claddagh fishermen painted symbols on the sails and bows of their boats. Ships, boats, or currachs without their symbol were pirated and scuttled.

A Claddagh chieftain commissioned a special ring for his bride to be. The resident goldsmith made him a Claddagh. The Chieftain presented the ring to his future wife saying,
"With this ring I give you my heart in love, my hands in friendship, and my crown in loyalty."
Shortly thereafter, the goldsmith was busy making copies for other soon-to-be-married couples of Claddagh. Many could not afford gold and were content with a ring made of brass, copper or tin as the sentiment remained unchanged regardless of the metal. Henceforth, this symbol became a treasured heirloom to all those who lived in Claddagh.

It is not beyond the realm of possibility that, through the ages, the Claddagh symbol evolved and moved from king, to sails, to the goldsmith's bench.

Claddagh Facts

The actual truth about the origin of the Claddagh ring is one of mystery. No one is sure where it originated. It could have been fashioned after an ancient symbol passed down through the generations or an artistic influence from another Irish town, some foreign place, or even the wild

imaginings of an Irish goldsmith. Was there a chieftain, painted sails, or even and ancient village tradition that dates back several centuries? Which or whether, facts prove that the ring was associated with Galway from the 1700s. There are surviving examples.

Most rings dating from the late 1700's were made in and around Galway. The oldest surviving Claddagh ring is held in the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. It is inscribed, "Dudley and Katherine, united 26 March 1706." Four other early versions exist from the early 1700's. One is attributed to the goldsmith, Richard Joyce (1690-1737). His ring bears the inscription NCM and MRC with the trade mark RI attributing the ring to Joyce. The others are attributed to Thomas Meade who lived at Kinsale from 1689 to 1730. George Robinson's and Austin French's marks are found on rings dating from 1770-1800. Thomas Dillon made a ring for Queen Victoria when she visited Ireland shortly after the famine in 1849. However, there appears to be an absence of original samples from the pre-famine, famine and post-famine years. John Kirwan, a Galway pawnbroker, explained this absence. He claimed that during and after the famine many Claddagh residents pawned their rings for the passage to America. Times were so bad he was forced to melt the rings and sell the gold.

Claddagh Traditions

It is considered bad luck to wear a Claddagh ring if you bought it yourself. Only someone promising to uphold the three virtues represented upon the ring may give it as a gift. There are three ways to wear this ring. If you are married, promised, or unavailable, the ring must be worn with the crown facing the tip of the finger and the heart protected by the hand. If the wearer is single, available, or looking, the ring is worn with the heart open facing the tip of the finger. This ring may not be worn on the ring finger of the left hand unless one is married; otherwise the wearer will never find a partner or a spouse.

Claddagh Today

Though the ancient origins of the Claddagh are questionable, it cannot be denied that the Claddagh ring pays homage to the people of that independent fishing village, their traditions, their lives, and their dreams. They will be remembered and honored wherever the Claddagh is worn.

However a new tradition has begun. It has become an international symbol of Ireland, a conversations piece. "I love your Claddagh!" "Who gave it to you?" "Did you know you're wearing it the wrong way?" "You have it on the wrong finger." "Let me tell you the history." When I see a person wearing a Claddagh ring, I feel like I am part of some great Irish clan.. The ring is our bond.

The tradition of the Claddagh ring is in full flight. Well may it soar.

Sources

McMahon, Sean. *The Story of the Claddagh Ring*. Blackrock, Cork: Mercier Press, 1999.

McCourt, Malachy. *The Claddagh Ring, Ireland's Cherished Symbol, Friendship, Loyalty and Love*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Running Press, 2003.

Gabrielle Ní Mheachair, a long-standing member of IGSI, is a native of Templemore, Co. Tipperary, Ireland. She moved to the U.S. as an adult and currently resides in St. Louis, Missouri, with her husband, Dr. Keith F. Woeltje, and three children, Maeve, John and Éile.

Gabrielle is an award-winning author of children's fiction in the Irish Language, and has written many historical and genealogical works. She is a regular guest speaker at the St. Louis Genealogical Society.

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Irish Saturday Classes

July –Dec 2013

July 13, 2013
10:30-12 • Sheila Northrop
Favorite Irish Genealogical Websites
There is a wealth of information available on the World Wide Web, but the level of information is not consistent. Sheila provides an overview of websites which she finds most valuable for Irish research. These sites include general information, official government and special interest sites.

August 10, 2013
No classes. Join us at the Irish Fair in St. Paul!

September 14, 2013
1-2:30 • Beth Vought
Griffith's Valuation—the Next Steps
You know how to use Griffth's; you've done some searches and found some names. Now what? Beth will review gathering information from Griffith's. Then she will explain how to map surnames to find promising "clusters" that can narrow your search to specific areas; how to find Townlands on the Ordnance Survey maps; and discuss other ways to use the information in Griffith's to help you find your ancestors.

October 12, 2013
10:30-12 • Beth Vought
Civil War Ancestors
Many Irish fought in the Civil War, on both sides; your ancestor may have been one of them. Beth presents some websites where you can begin your search, discuss the General Adjunct source, and explain how to order pension records.

November 9, 2013
1-2:30 • Tom Rice
Estate Records
For much of the 19th Century most Irish lived on land that was part of an estate. The records of these estates may list renters and leases along with various details about them and their lives. Find out how to identify the estate owner, where these records are and how access them.

December 14, 2013
No class. Happy Holidays!

Write for *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* centers on a theme and includes research articles and family stories –some solicited from specialists, others selected from articles sent to the editors.

We encourage IGSI members to share articles on family research, genealogy sources and resources, or general Irish culture and history. Most of our authors are members who enjoy writing and researching new topics. A few members are occasional contributors of family stories, research, or topics unrelated to themes.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1000 - 3000 words. If writing on the theme, please contact the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org in advance to be sure that your article is considered for the proper issue. General articles unrelated to the theme can be 750 – 2000 words.

The theme of the next issue (Oct 2013) is Repositories. If you are thinking of writing – or have already written on this topic – consider submitting something to us before the deadline of August 1. Articles on researching at repositories, and description of repositories with information are welcome.

The theme of the January 2014 issue of *The Septs* is Irish Estate Records. The deadline for articles for this issue is November 1, 2013.

If you have questions or seek more information on the topics, contact the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org .

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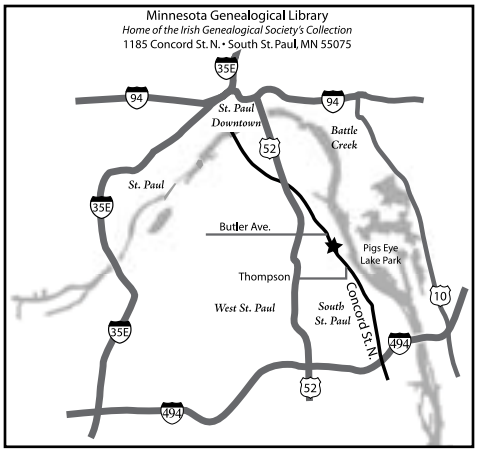
IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



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and Fridays
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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 Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org so we can try to have an Irish researcher available to meet you.

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Irish Genealogical Society International

2013 - 2014 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

NOVEMBER 9, 2013
DECEMBER 14, 2013
JANUARY 11, 2014
FEBRUARY 8, 2014
MARCH 8, 2014
APRIL 12, 2014
MAY 10, 2014
JUNE 14, 2014
JULY 12, 2014
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SEPTEMBER 13, 2014
OCTOBER 11, 2014

(These dates are 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, email Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org.

Classes are 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 or by sending 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 – A 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

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.

2013

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Write for *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* has at its core a specific theme with related research articles. Issues may also include articles on topics unrelated to the theme, e.g. family stories submitted by IGSI members.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1500 - 3000 words. If writing on a theme, please contact the Managing Editor of *The Septs* at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org in advance of deadline dates to ensure that your article is considered for the proper issue.

Members who wish to share family research stories, articles on genealogy sources and resources, or writings on general Irish culture and history should contact the Managing Editor of *The Septs* at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org. The recommended length for articles unrelated to the theme is 750 – 1500 words.

Themes of Upcoming Issues

2014 | January | Estate Records

This issue will feature articles about the content of Estate-related records, how to find your ancestor's estate, how to locate these records, or case studies using Estate records. Deadline for articles for the January issue is November 1, 2013.

2014 | April | 20th Century Irish History

This issue will include information on The Easter Uprising, the Irish Civil War, and other social and economic history of the new Irish Free State. Deadline for articles: February 1, 2014.

2014 | July | 20th Century Irish Records

This issue will feature information on the 1901 and 1911 censuses and the pension records. Deadline for articles: May 1, 2014.

2014 | October | Learning the Lay of the Land (Maps)

This issue could include articles on using maps and technology for learning more about Irish places, e.g. Google Earth and Internet maps, place name databases, even using GPS during a trip to Ireland. Deadline for articles: August 1, 2014.

Cover Photo: Registry of Deeds, Dublin Ireland, courtesy of Donna Moughty.

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Reflection and Planning

By Mary Wickersham

This should be an interesting issue, as I'm happy to have made research visits to a few repositories for Irish genealogy research in 2013. At the top of my list: IGSI's library in South St. Paul, Minnesota, the National Library of Ireland and the Property Valuation Office in Dublin, and the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast.

If you're lucky to be able to visit Ireland, there's never enough time for sightseeing, visiting relatives, and doing research. My sister, Sheila, her daughter, Laura (my niece), and I had to divide our time among so many enticing places to visit, and we couldn't get to them all. I'm sure this issue will help me build a wish list of the repositories to visit and the things to look for on the next trip.

We are thankful for the assistance, past, present and future, of relatives near and far who made the experiences visiting County Clare.

Our Aunt Margaret, a long-time IGSI member, visited County Clare in the late 1970s, carrying copies of family photographs; otherwise we would not know these cousins today.

The second cousins, and others they put us in touch with, gave tours of several places where our shared ancestors resided. This year, they pointed out land our great-grandfather was heir to, but let go because he had emigrated.

When we arrived unannounced at their thatched-roof cottage on an evening in early June, two elderly bachelor cousins had a peat fire burning on the hearth. You're not supposed to arrive unannounced, but the local cousins knew that these brothers would refuse a visit if asked, and so we let the brave cousins take the lead. My sister Sheila Northrop & her daughter Laura noted with some amusement that the cottage had a cable leading under the thatched roof to a big-screen television. The TV was not turned on while we were there – that would have put a damper on the experience.

If you've received help tracing your Irish family roots, perhaps you can take a few minutes, and share them with us for publication in *The Septs, Ginealas* (e-newsletter), our blog, or Facebook.

IGSI occasionally receives questions about when we'll next host a trip to Ireland. The trip in 2010 was very successful, but to offer another group opportunity to visit repositories in Ireland, we need a dedicated person to do the planning and make the contacts. If you are interested in coordinating an IGSI-sponsored trip to Ireland, please get in touch me via president@irishgenealogical.org.

Mark your calendar for November 14, when IGSI will again participate in Give to the Max Day, a 24-hour fundraising campaign. We need your support during this year's campaign for technology improvements, including website upgrades, new PC and printer for our office, and software for webcasting and enhanced email distribution. Although Give to the Max carries a Minnesota name, participation is not limited to Minnesotans. Watch for our e-mails for a reminder closer to the date – and thanks in advance.

Are you interested in serving on the IGSI Board? A new Board year starts in January. Our bylaws call for limited terms on the Board which ensures new directors, fresh leadership and ideas, different talents and experience. Please consider offering your service. Contact me at president@irishgenealogical.org to discuss this or other ideas you have for helping IGSI.

Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister Sheila Northrop. Currently the president of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSIs first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

Finding the New in the Old

By Ann Eccles

Repository, library, archives. For some people these words conjure images of old buildings and musty rooms – nothing of interest or relevance to the modern world. Not so with genealogists and family historians. Such places may have old records but they are relevant to our searches for discovering new connections in our families. They present us with new information and insights.

Local public libraries may be of the Carnegie era and traditional in appearance or they may be modern glass and steel buildings with nary a card catalog on the premises. Regardless, they have relevant information in the computers laden with databases and in local history books; they frequently provide the starting point for research.

Moving further afield, we search for new repositories – historical or genealogical societies, other libraries and courthouses within the local area and state – to reap pertinent records. For ancestors who moved from a distant state or country, it's a choice of traveling for research or turning to the Internet for help. I've done both. All of my Irish ancestors spent years in the New England area and I've done my share of visits to libraries, historical societies and town halls there. Not all of those records have been digitized or indexed online. So it was for me to discover – or hire a researcher to follow up on my leads. And a written request to vital records offices secured information as well.

While it's a wonderful pleasure to travel and enter the repositories one has heard and read so much about – it can be an expensive venture. It's best to plan one's time well and know where to look for the information being sought. So much is available on the Internet or through FamilySearch and its centers. Databases, online catalogs and microfilm do coexist in the world of the family history researcher with print records on repository shelves.

I can learn much about what a library has to offer for local information and history of the area by perusing its online catalog. Many Irish archives may have some databases available for online searching or provide listings of collections relevant to the area. Just checking the websites of the various archives or libraries allows me to plan my days. What hours are they open; in small towns it may be limited access. Knowing what is available in advance allows for planning days for research and days for touring in Ireland or a New England state.

We've all become so accustomed to turning on our computers, logging into a website with ancestral databases and finding information at the click of the mouse that we forget about older, still relevant searches of microfilm or print volumes. Just a couple of years ago I tracked down an ancestor through city directories (on microfilm) to learn his date of death. Then checked local newspapers (also on microfilm) where I found his obituary, with the names of his siblings and children. (It took a while but it was well worth the time.)

This issue includes helpful information and encouragement for your research in repositories and online resources.

Donna Moughty, who has led research trips to Ireland, provides a wonderful description of the major repositories for family history research in Dublin – how to best use their resources and how to prepare for your visit by using their websites. Kathleen Strickland offers help in navigating the PRONI (Public Records Office of Northern Ireland) website to find materials and prepare for a research visit to Belfast.

Eneclann director Fiona Fitzsimons presents an excellent article describing online Irish genealogy research websites. It's a great summary of the best that Ireland has to offer. Dwight Radford offers hints for using the Irish database resources on *FamilySearch*. Jay Fonkert reminds researchers of the thrills and advantages of doing research in U.S. courthouses. Mary Wickersham offers some reasons and benefits of storing passwords online. Sheila Northrop collected some interesting tidbits of news from years past in 100 Years Ago. And there's Society news.

We welcome Megan McLean who joins our editorial team this issue as the layout and design editor. We are very grateful for the superb work of Diane Lovrencevic who has provided the graphic inspiration and layout support for *The Septs* and many other IGSI projects for the past ten years.

Ann Eccles is a retired librarian who has re-focused her research skills to family history and Irish genealogy. Ann has several Irish ancestral lines to trace as both of her parents descended from Irish families. She currently serves on the Board of Directors as Secretary of IGSI, is the editor of The Septs *and an Irish Saturday volunteer.*

Researching in Dublin

by Donna Moughty

Dublin is a wonderful city to visit and a great place to research. It is a walking city (at intersections make sure you look left) and all of the major repositories are within a 15 - 30 minute walk.

Preparation is key to successful research... it's very important that you know the townland or parish where your ancestors resided. Before you leave, make sure you've checked all of the online resources so your research time in Dublin can be spent looking at resources that are not available in the U.S. *FamilySearch's* Indexes to Civil Registration <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1408347> will allow you to prioritize your requests at the General Register Office, and indexes to church records at *RootsIreland* <http://rootsireland.ie> or *IrishGenealogy.ie* <www.irishgenealogy.ie> will allow you to find your ancestors in the microfilms of original church records without having to spend hours reading through pages of difficult handwriting.

Here are the five major repositories in Dublin:

General Register Office (GRO)

Formerly located on Lower Abbey Street in the Irish Life Building, the General Register Office (GRO) <www.gro.ireland.ie/research/htm> recently moved to Werburgh St. in the Christ Church area. This repository holds civil birth, death and marriage records which began in Ireland in January of 1864 (1845 for Protestant marriages). Records for all of Ireland are available through 1921. Beginning in 1922, the records are only for the Republic of Ireland. Indexes for the Civil Registration records in Dublin are available for free on *FamilySearch* and you should do your homework prior to your arrival in Dublin. The indexes are for full year from 1864-1877 and for each quarter of the year from 1878. The information contained in the indexes includes the surname, given name, registration district, volume, and page number. It is not unusual to have multiple people of the same name, born in the same year and quarter in the same registration district. Unfortunately, there is not enough identifying information in the index to differentiate these individuals and so frequently you end up purchasing multiple certificates to find the correct individual.

The GRO is not the most user-friendly facility in Dublin as the maximum number of certificates they will allow you purchase on any day is five (€4 each). Additional certificates will be mailed to you, but not seeing the certificate prevents you from determining whether you have the correct one.

Research Strategy: Use the *FamilySearch* Indexes to Civil Registration to create a list of the certificates you need. (Make sure you have all of the information required to complete the request form, as you will be charged if you need to use the index at the GRO). If you have more than one possibility for an individual, rank them by your best guess. Submit your forms and pay for the certificates (cash — Euros only) and when you receive the certificates (usually within 15-30 minutes) review them to determine if they are the correct individual. If not, request the next possibility on your list. If you need more than five certificates, you may need to visit the GRO on more than one day. If you are traveling with non-genealogy family or friends, take them with you to the GRO and they can get five certificates as well.

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National Library of Ireland

The National Library of Ireland <www.nli.ie>, located on Kildare Street, contains the most comprehensive collection of materials on Ireland's history and heritage. The format of the material varies from books, microfilms and databases to original newspapers and manuscripts.

The first thing to know about the library is that it is a closed stack library. You will need to request the material you want to view and this requires a Reader's Ticket. To receive one, you must complete an online registration form and provide a photo ID (passport) when you arrive at the library. The number on your ticket is used to request material. The exception is the Roman Catholic parish registers which are available self-serve in the microfilm reading room on the mezzanine level.

Also on the mezzanine level is the Genealogy Advisory Service. It is staffed by professional genealogists and no appointment is necessary, although at busy times you may need to wait. The Service operates Monday – Wednesday from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm; Thursday-Friday from 9:30am - 4:45 pm; and on Saturday from 9:30 am - 12:45 pm. The Genealogy Advisory Service room also contains general genealogical reference books and computers with access to a number of library databases plus subscriptions (in-library use only) to *Origins.net*, *findmypast.ie* and *Irish Newspaper Archive*.

Research Strategy: To prevent wasting valuable research time, use the *Sources* database <http://sources.nli.ie> (accessible from the National Library Home Page) prior to your visit to develop a list of resources, including call numbers. The *Sources* database was developed and digitized from the *Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation*, a project started in the 1940 under the direction of the National Library Director, Richard J. Hayes. Be aware that not everything in this database is housed at the National Library. You are likely to find references to material at the National Archives, PRONI (the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland), various universities and county libraries.

Locality is critical to your search so use one of the many reference books that provide lists of resources by County. They may provide the call numbers as well. Two that I use are John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* – 4th edition and James Ryan's *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History*. If, for example, your ancestors are from the parish of Inishmagrath in Leitrim, Grenham lists the "Rentals of the Drumkeeran estate from 1845-1856" as NLI Ms 9465. You might also find a book on the history of the town or parish where your ancestors lived. It might not name them, but will give you background information on their life there. It's not likely you would find these books in the U.S. [I see how this was confusing, but I wanted to make the point that you need to check localities and they happen to also provide call numbers... does this make sense now?]

Among the main sources at the National Library are the microfilms of the Roman Catholic Parish Registers. You can download a PDF of the lists by Diocese <www.nli.ie/en/parish-register.aspx> from the Library website, which provides the microfilm numbers. If you have used one of the online databases and identified your ancestor, the date and parish information will help you find the original in the microfilms much more quickly.

Copy cards are available and can be used to print copies of microfilms, and make copies of books or other documents if they are in good condition. You may also use your camera to take pictures of documents in the copy room off the main reading room. If documents are fragile, always ask permission first.

National Archives of Ireland

The National Archives of Ireland <www.nationalarchives.ie>, formerly the Public Records Office, is located on Bishop Street and houses the state records of Ireland. It is open from 10 am - 5 pm Monday-Friday and requires a Readers Ticket. In addition to the records that survived the devastating fire at the Public Records Office in 1922, the Archives contain transcripts, abstracts and indexes to the destroyed records. In order to protect the originals, many of the records have been microfilmed and/or digitized over the last 10 years and can be viewed either online or on microfilm.

Over the past few years, a number of the collections from the Archives have been digitized and can be viewed online at their website. These include the 1901 and 1911 census, the Tithe Applotment Books, Wills and Testamentary Records (calendars for 1858-1920 and 1923-1982) and the Soldiers' Wills (those serving in the British Army primarily during World War I).

Collections that can be viewed at the National Archives include the Primary Valuation, including the extant field books; indexes to Will and Administrations; some of the surviving Church of Ireland parish registers (most pre-date 1870 when the Church of Ireland was disestablished as the State Church); Marriage License Bonds; Betham and Other Genealogical Abstracts; Incumbered and Landed Estate Court Records and some Estate Records.

The Genealogy Advisory Service also operates at the National Archives and is open from 10:00 am - 1:30 pm Monday-Friday.

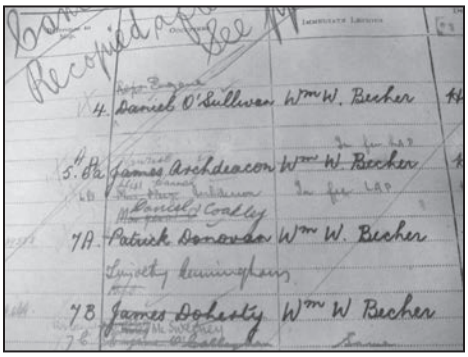
Research Strategy: As with the Library, check the various reference books and the Sources database for specific geographic calls to National Archives material. Have the locality references handy from Griffith's Valuation to check for extant

preliminary manuscript books. Check *A Guide to the National Archives of Ireland* (Online edition) for a description of the holdings.

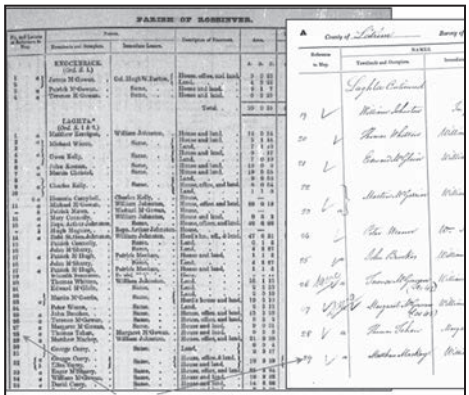
Copy cards are available and you may also use your camera to take pictures of documents. The people working the information desk are helpful when requesting documents, but they are not genealogists. There is always an Archivist on duty, and you can visit the office (across from the reading room) to discuss questions or ask about the availability of certain records.

The Valuation Office

The Valuation Office is located in the Irish Life Centre, plaza level, on Lower Abbey Street. Once you identify your ancestor in Griffith's Valuation, you can follow the property, in some cases into the 1970s. Since Griffith's was a tax list, it was important to know the identity of the current land occupier and landlord, so when changes occurred to the property, the information was written in the manuscript



books, crossing out the old information and writing in the new with the date indicated in the far right column. Some of these records have been microfilmed, but the key to reading them is the color-coding, which is lost in the microfilming. Each year was written in a different color, and when there were too many changes to easily read, the current information was written into a new book and the old book "cancelled." These books are referred to as the cancelled or revision books. Each change in the books indicates a life event such as death or emigration, which gives you a date reference to continue your research. For example, in the photo below, the change in given name from Matthew to James in 1870 indicated the year of death for Matthew.



Mathew Mackey #29

Research Strategy: Take your copy of Griffith's Valuation for each of your ancestors to the Valuation Office, and from that they will pull the appropriate books for the townland of your ancestor. These books have been bound together with the newest book of the series in the front. Begin with the oldest book, going to the last book in the binder. Check the index for the page of your townland, then look for the property number that matches the number in Griffith's. The original entry should be the same as Griffith's. Note any changes, then move forward to the next book in the binder and repeat the process. You can also view the original Ordnance Survey Maps (6" = 1 mile) and identify the location of the property. Cameras are allowed in this facility.

The Registry of Deeds

The Registry of Deeds is located on Henrietta Street in Dublin. It was created in 1708 to provide a voluntary system for the registration of deeds and conveyances. You will not find original deeds here, but a synopsis (called a memorial) written into the Registry Books. No photos, scanners or other devices are allowed in this facility, so you should be prepared to transcribe or abstract the material. If you wish to purchase a (non-certified) copy, the cost is €1 per page.

Most of the Irish genealogy "how to" books provide a discouraging picture of this facility… records are difficult to use, the majority of the records are for the land owning class and because registration was voluntary it's coverage is spotty. But like all repositories, there are exceptions… some landlords registered leases with their tenants, marriage settlements might cover those of more modest means and transactions of the merchant class are covered.

Research Strategy: One way to begin is to check the *Registry of Deeds Index Project,* <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~registryofdeeds/> a volunteer effort to create a database of the names in the indexes. This is an ongoing project coordinated out of Australia and you should check back on this index frequently. There are two ways to use the books at the Registry of Deeds... there is an index of Grantors and a Townland Index. Unless your ancestor is of the middle or upper class, you may not find him as a Grantor, so the second index, the Townland Index, may be a better way to check for entries by locality that may contain references to your family. When using the Townland Index be flexible on the spellings and

remember that many of these entries were made before the Ordnance Survey Name Books were created.

While the information above covers the major repositories, it is by no means a complete list of research options in Dublin. If your ancestors were members of the Church of Ireland or possibly Huguenots, The Representative Church Body Library is a short bus ride from downtown Dublin. For Dublin ancestors, the Dublin Public Library on Pearse Street houses the collections of *DublinHeritage.ie* and the records of the Dublin Corporation (which include some guild records) are at the Gilbert Library also on Pearse Street. There are many religious houses that have archives in Dublin, such as the Sisters of Mercy and Christian Brothers. Other religious denominations with facilities in Dublin include the Society of Friends and the Irish Jewish Museum. Finally there are archives from a number of fraternal organizations such as the Masons, and occupational archives for the Royal Irish Constabulary, the Garda, apothecaries, goldsmiths and brewers of Dublin. If your ancestor was a barrister, you should check the King's Inn Archives also on Henrietta Street. Your best resource for archives in Ireland is the *Directory of Irish Archives*, 5th edition (published in 2011) by Seamus Helferty and Raymond Refaussé. (This and other books mentioned in this article are listed on my website under Irish Research.)

Donna Moughty has been conducting family research for more than 20 years. She has taught and lectured on a variety of subjects including Irish research and computer topics at societies across the U.S. and in Ireland, in webinars, at national conferences and institutes. She is a member of Association of Professional Genealogists and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. Donna takes groups to Ireland each year to research. Check out her genealogy blog at www.moughty.com.

Save the Date

August 15-16, 2014

Irish Genealogical Society International & TIARA

Present

Celtic Connections Conference

Irish Genealogical Society International is partnering with TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association – www.tiara.ie) of Boston, MA, to hold a Celtic Conference at the La Cava Center at Bentley University in Waltham, MA. There will be many lectures on Irish Culture, History, Music, Genealogy and more. Don't miss this great opportunity to hear from Celtic experts. Space will be limited so you don't want to miss out. Check out www.celtic-connections.org for more information.

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Irish Family History – Research Online

by Fiona Fitzsimons

When I was first a professional genealogist, one of the most frequently asked questions was – "do **any** records survive for Irish family history research?" In the last ten years that particular question has been answered comprehensively, as tens of millions of Irish records have been indexed, digitised and published online. The effect has been to transform Irish genealogy. We now have greater access to Irish records than ever before. Even more importantly, online access has 'democratized' Irish family history research, and delivered control of your own research into your hands.

In fact so many Irish records are online that nowadays the most frequently asked question is "how do I make sense of it all?" What follows is an attempt to give you the information to answer this question in relation to your own research.

In preparing this short guide I've focused on the key online sources and catalogues to guide your research and, hopefully, produce a positive result. I've also provided key tips to help you to get the full benefit when searching online.

Key tip: Always check if the website you use to access online sources has a soundex or nameX system for their index. If not, then you may need to search for all variant spellings of personal and family names, and place-names. This is a particular problem when researching Irish names where family names tend to occur in clusters by region, and where the 'O' and 'Mac' prefixes to many Irish names were often dropped. To further complicate the issue, Irish was the first spoken language in many parts of Ireland late into the 19th century, and regional pronunciation of names can differ enormously. For example, the surnames MacConghail – pronounced Mac-kong-eel, or Gallagher – can trip up English speakers with a silent 'g'.

Online Catalogues

National Library of Ireland (NLI)

The first step in Irish family history research is knowing what records survive relevant to your research. The single most comprehensive guide to Irish historic documents is the aptly named 'Sources data-base', found on the National Library of Ireland's home-page <http://www.nli.ie>. The 'backbone' of this source guide is the 23 volume catalogue prepared between 1940 and 1970 by Richard J. Hayes, a former Director of the NLI, and published as *Hayes [Manuscript] Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation*. It's a comprehensive catalogue to all surviving original sources in all records repositories in Ireland, the United Kingdom, and internationally, as well as all scholarly articles on Irish history and culture published up to 1970.

On the NLI's homepage, you will also find the Library's own 'Main Catalogue,' which includes all manuscripts catalogued in the NLI since 1990, as well as the printed collections including journals, magazines and ephemera. The ephemera collection is particularly useful for tracing the details of daily life during key events or time-frames. You can find out what was happening on the streets of Dublin during the 1916 Rebellion, and see election posters from the provinces during the Land War or playbills for troupes of actors and travelling circuses that toured Ireland in the 19th century. The NLI's catalogue provides the kind of detail that allows you to transform your Irish family history research from a collection of dates of key events, to explore what kind of lives your Irish ancestors led, and what experiences were open to them. The astute family historian will be particularly interested in the Library's Visual collection, which provides a window to the past. The Visual collection includes prints, drawings, and the historic photographic collections – including the Lawrence and Tempest collections from the 1890s and early 1900s, as well as more than 35,000 glass plate images some of which date back to the 1850s. You'll find images here of an Ireland that has long since disappeared, but which would have been familiar to your ancestors.

You can search the *Sources* data-base and the Main catalogue by place-name, family name, key historical event, subject, and also by source, i.e. journal, manuscript or collection.

Key tip: The NLI's photographic collection includes views of towns, villages, landmarks

and scenes from daily life across the entire island of Ireland. For example, if you search using the key-words 'fishing', 'weaving' or 'market,' you'll find photos of people engaged in all these pursuits.

Online Sources of County Libraries and Archives

If you know your ancestors' county of origin in Ireland, then it's worth looking at the website maintained by that county library or archive to see what sources are available online. There's an enormous variance between what the different counties have put online, which can be explained by inconsistent funding to the local libraries and archives, but also is due to differing levels of activity by local study projects. I've focused on two counties that provide a model of excellence for what can be done to digitise and publish history and genealogy records online, even working to a tight budget.

Check out the Clare county library and archives <http://www.clarelibrary.ie/>. The Clare Local Studies Project (CLASP) was set up in 1995 by four staff members of Clare County Library to develop awareness and to increase access to sources for local studies in the county. The range of online publications specific to county Clare is so extensive that they are organized by theme – History, Folklore, Genealogy and Archaeology. Online sources provide coverage for the entire county: for example, graveyard inscriptions searchable by the graveyard or by the personal name of the deceased, and 19th century county directories for Clare; as well as more localized sources, including 'Reports and returns relating to evictions in the Kilrush (Poor Law) Union 1847-49'; 'Ennistymon (Poor Law) Union Minute Books 1839-1850'; and an '1866 Census of the parishes of Kilfenora and Kiltoraght.' Historically there has been a high rate of emigration from Clare; these online sources are invaluable resources for anyone tracing their origins in this most westerly of counties.

The Cork archivists have adopted a very different approach to digitisation, and have mainly used their limited funding to list the records collections. If you find a relevant source at the website of the Cork City and County Archives are available at <http://www.corkarchives.ie/>, you will still have to visit the archives or commission a researcher on your behalf to access the records. However, a look at their growing 'Digital archive' reveals such online sources as some cemetery records, a list of Freemen of Cork City 1710-1841, County and City Directories, and a list of Irish Volunteers. Please note: these are digital images of the sources only; they are not indexed, so you must read through all the records as you would a book. Nonetheless, there's a clear commitment from the Cork Archives to increase their online sources. If you have Cork ancestry, you should book-mark this site to keep track of what sources go online.

Key tip: You can find what records survive by county, and what sources are online, by googling the relevant county library or archive.

Online Sources to Identify Places in Ireland

Successful research hinges on being able to access records that are relevant to your ancestors. In order to identify what records are relevant, you need to be able to locate your ancestors' home-place in relation to the specific administrative districts for that area.

These are the administrative districts made by central and local government; by the Church of Ireland (the Established church up to 1869); denominational churches to trace parish records; and landlords' estate records. These different 'administrative districts' came into being at different times in history, for very different purposes. For example, civil parishes and RC (Roman Catholic) parishes often overlap but rarely share the same boundaries, and a civil parish can cross over county boundaries.

It doesn't help that place-names from the original Irish can sound very similar. We have a huge number of place-names that incorporate 'Bally', 'Knock' and 'Kill.' To avoid getting stuck, use any of the online place-names data-bases. The one that I use daily, because it delivers the best results, is the 'Search Place names' on <www.irishorigins.com>.

Key tip: Between 1826 and 1846, the Ordnance Survey completed a detailed survey of Ireland, and in the process established official place-names in Ireland. After 1846, many place-names that had been used for more than a thousand years were dropped from official usage, although they were still used by the local community. If you can't find a specific place-name on the *irishorigins* website, check the place-names data-base of Ireland <http://www.logainm.ie/>.

Online Sources by Website

These are the main websites providing access to online sources. I've distinguished between subscription websites and free sites, although this is not really a valid distinction. In every case a 'free' site is paid for and provided by the central government of the country, i.e. by the Irish tax-payer.

Ancestry.co.uk (€/$)

Currently, Ancestry's Irish collection is too small to warrant a separate '.ie' website, but hopefully this may change in the future. The main databases on Ancestry for Irish research are Irish casualties of WWI, which are also available elsewhere; and the names list of Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC), which includes their service numbers to help you search the hard copy of these records held in the U.K. National Archives in Kew.

The much-heralded Irish church records published online in August 2011 proved a damp squib, comprising approximately 300,000 RC records, or just 1½ % of all surviving RC church records.

However, the jewel in the crown of Irish sources on this website are the Famine Relief Papers, which mark a new departure for Ancestry, who partnered with the National Archives of Ireland to publish this source online. Although still not properly indexed by all names recorded, it provides a critical insight to this defining event that saw the emergence of modern Ireland.

Key tip: For Irish research, the critical sources are immigration records from Ireland to the major U.S ports ca. 1820s-1940s and U.S. Census returns, both of which can be used for 'reverse genealogy'.

Ask about Ireland

This free site was established by the former Library Council of Ireland for the digitisation and online publication of original material from local studies collections held in the county libraries. The only genealogical source on this site is "Griffith's Valuation", licensed from Origins.net. Unfortunately, although this is the same source it is presented in such a way as to obscure its use for genealogical research.

The accompanying maps date from 30 to 50 years after the original "Griffith's Valuation" was published. If you consider that between 1851 and 1881 the Irish population fell by over 3 million it is obvious that the landholding recorded in the maps on *AskaboutIreland* don't bear any relation to the information in the published "Griffith's Valuation". Also, the search function rather misleadingly lists the 'immediate lessor' as 'landlord', and it also gives only the year rather than the date of publication, further reducing its usefulness to the researcher.

FamilySearch

This is the key portal site for genealogy online, and it provides access to many of the worldwide genealogical records provided by the Church of Latter Day Saints.

It has a searchable database of the Irish Civil Registration indexes up to 1958. The civil records from 1920 are reasonably complete, although there are a greater number of omissions prior to that date. *FamilySearch* also contains approximately half a million records for Irish baptisms and marriages from ca. 1620 to 1898. These baptismal and church marriage records are very hit and miss. The version of the Tithe Applotment Books available on *FamilySearch* is the same one on the National Archives of Ireland's website.

More recently, LDS partnered with findmypast and Eneclann to digitise and index two key 19th century sources for Irish genealogy: the Irish Landed Estate Court Records 1849-85 and Ireland's Prison Registers 1790 to 1925. The LDS choice of partner in this case has proven significant; findmypast and Eneclann have left their signature on the project. The *FamilySearch* index to these records has been linked to digital images of the original documents. You can view the original images at a FamilySearch centre, or as a signed-in member of a supporting organization.

Although this website has many things in its favour, not least that it's free, it makes no effort to place the historical records in any context. This has the unfortunate side-effect of sometimes reducing the records to little more than a bewildering list of names.

findmypast.ie (€/$)

A subscription website, was first launched in 2011, now has 75 million+ Irish records, many of them not available on any other site.

Key sources for Irish research on this site include the aforementioned Irish prison registers 1790-1924 (3 million+ records), as well as the records of the Petty Sessions Courts (15 million+ records). The Petty Sessions were the lowest courts in the land, and the cases heard there were less serious and the outcomes not as calamitous for the convicted, as in other courts. Experience has shown that not everyone's Irish ancestor was a felon, but most everyone who lived in Ireland broke the civil law at one time or another. For example, if your ancestor's livestock broke out of a field and wandered onto the public way, you will find a record

of the case. Other frequent cases heard before the Petty Sessions courts include forgetting to buy a dog-license; being fined for being drunk and disorderly or drunk and in charge of a bicycle; not registering a child's birth within three months; a lock-in in a pub; and, my personal favorite, where a group of children made an ice-slide on a public path one snowy winter day when the schools were shut. It's a wonderful source and the drama of everyday life is present in every detail. This source contains a vast number of records (over 30 million), and *findmypast.ie* has rolled out publication in tranches of 3 to 4 million records at a time. Publication of the Petty Sessions records should be complete by late 2013.

Findmypast.ie is the only site that has the records of the "Landed Estate Court Rentals" – described by some professional genealogists as the 'secret-hero' of Irish genealogy. These are the records of estates that went bankrupt during or in the generation after the Famine. In order to facilitate sale of the land, so that the families could eventually free themselves from bankruptcy, the government set up the Incumbered Estates Courts. The 'Rentals' are actually sales brochures that list all tenants, the extent of the land or buildings they rented, and whether they held land by the year, or for a longer lease. Once sold, the original estate records of most of these estates were destroyed, and these rentals are often the only surviving records. To give you a sense of how useful this source can be, when Eneclann researched President Obama's Irish ancestors, the key record that unlocked his family history was a Landed Estate Court Rental for the sale of the Minchin estate that included the village of Moneygall. We found a record of a lease for lives dated 1st May 1800 "*for the lives of William Kearney and Joseph Kearney (brother to the said William…, and Joseph Kearney son of the said William Kearney, of whom the said Joseph Kearney son of the leasee William Kearney, is now [in 1851] the only surviving life…*". This information identified the relationship of father to son, and brother to brother, enabling us to bridge a gap in the parish registers, and link to an earlier generation.

One of the most anticipated releases of online sources on the *findmypast.ie* site was a full index of civil registration of Irish births and deaths 1864 to 1958, and marriages including non-RC marriages from 1845 to 1958. The staff at *findmypast* have started a 'clean-up' of the data provided by *FamilySearch*, and also introduced a 'reverse marriage look-up' to help identify a spouse. The initial response has been overwhelmingly positive, and there's more to come in 2013-14.

The Royal Hospital Kilmainham Pensioners' records 1783-1822 includes service records of Irish men that fought in the British army. The rate of enlistment in Ireland was significantly higher than in Britain, precisely because Ireland had no industrial base and fewer employment options for young men. You may surprise yourself at finding an Irish ancestor here. Intriguingly, I've also used this source to trace men whose first experience of America was as British soldiers during the Revolutionary Wars, and who years afterwards immigrated to America with their extended families.

Other critical sources essential for researching Irish family history include the definitive version of Griffith's Valuation, unfortunately not with the original maps.

Other databases on *findmypast.ie* include the most complete searchable database of pre-1858 Irish wills and testamentary records for Ireland; the largest collection of Irish directories online, with over 2 million records; Peter Byrne's *Irish Times* abstracts 1859-1901; Irish casualties of WWI; and Parish registers for all denominational churches in the civil parish of Annaclone, County Down.

If there is one problem with the *findmypast* website, it is that you need to search all variant spellings of names. This makes the site unwieldy, particularly when searching commonly occurring Irish names such as O'Neill that can be spelled in a huge variety of ways.

Key tip: *findmypast.ie* and its sister-sites *findmypast.com*, *findmypast.co.uk* and *findmypast.au* contain records for the USA, Britain, Australia and Ireland – in total more than 1.5 billion records. By searching across the common platform

on these sites, you can follow your Irish ancestors' journey as they left Ireland. The critical source is the U.S. Census returns.

Note bene: All records on the *findmypast.ie* and the *irishorigins* websites are published in partnership with the copyright holder, so that each time you search the index and click through to the digital image of the record, the cultural institution that holds copyright – usually the National Archives or the National Library of Ireland – receives a royalty payment or benefit.

National Archives of Ireland

This free site <www.genealogy.national-archives.ie/> is the National Archives of Ireland's genealogy portal. It showcases the Archive's commitment to providing the widest possible access to their records. The site contains four main record sets: the 1901 and 1911 Census, the Tithe Applotment Books 1823-38, Soldiers wills 1899-1922, and the annual Calendars of Wills and Administrations 1858 to 1922. You can search by index, and then click to see a digital image of the original document.

At present, the National Archives does not have a nameX or soundex system in place; for complete results you should search all variant spellings of personal and place names.

- **The 1901 and 1911 Census of Ireland.** You can search this database by name, occupation, county, and by district, including townland. There is also a feature to 'browse census' by county and D.E.D. (district electoral division) to view all the households in any area. This is particularly useful for tracing extended family in rural districts. Don't forget to examine the B1 forms, which provide detailed information on the living conditions of each household – for example, the number of rooms they occupied and a description of the building and its state of repair. For rural households, the B2 forms provide exquisite details about the number and type of outbuildings. Using these sources you can find out whether your ancestor had a stable, a coach-house, a dairy, piggery, cow or calf house, a laundry, forge or work-shop. This kind of detail will allow you to understand the actual conditions in which your ancestors lived.

- **Tithe Applotment Books 1823-37.** This is a tax record that lists occupiers of certain types of agricultural land. It covers rural areas only and is limited to the 26 counties corresponding to the present day Republic of Ireland, with fragments from counties Armagh, Down and Fermanagh - where parish boundaries cross county borders.

- **Soldiers' Wills.** This collection contains 9,000 'nuncupative' or informal wills – wills made or sometimes spoken to their closest relatives, friends and colleagues by soldiers that died in WWI.

Some townlands were mistakenly excluded from this online source during the digitisation project, although this is now being corrected. The missing townlands are predominantly from county Clare in the 1901 Census. If you can't find your ancestor in the 1901 and 1911 Census, but you know they were still in Ireland at that time, you will have to search the hard copy in the National Archives Reading Room.

There are also a tiny number of wills for soldiers who died during the Boer War (1899-1902). To date [September 2013] only wills up to 1917 have been scanned and indexed. Search fields include forename, surname, and service number. The scans are excellent, but there is a more complete index on the *findmypast* website.

- **Calendars of Wills and Administrations.** Published between 1858 and 1922, these annual volumes are a critical source, particularly after the introduction of the Land Acts Purchase Schemes in 1890. By this act, tenants bought out their tenancies from their former landlords so that, for the first time, the rural working classes had assets to pass to the next generation.

- Another key source in the National Archives, but not on the genealogy portal, is the **Ireland – Australia transportation records (1791-1853).** Between 1791 and 1853, transportation was a common punishment for those convicted of felonies in Irish courts. Records contain the convicted felon's name, age and sex, the trial date and place, the sentence, and references to any surviving documents relating to the case. The index is not yet linked to a digital copy of the original records, so at present you can only identify if a record survives for your ancestor, which you must then call up to read. The National Archives is currently working with an Irish company to digitise the original records and link them to the index.

Key tip: The National Archives of Ireland website is one to watch over the next few years, as they have partnered with Family Search, Eneclann and findmypast.ie to publish sources online including

- Nineteenth-century census survivals (1821-1851).
- Valuation Office House and Field Books (1848–1860).
- Census Search Forms for the 1841 and 1851 Censuses.
- The Diocesan and Prerogative will and grant books 1536-1858.

Irish Genealogy

This website <www.irishgenealogy.ie> sponsored by the Irish government is one of the very best free genealogy websites online, and its Irish! It has a searchable index to the RC parish records for the Dioceses of Cork & Ross (which includes almost all parishes in County Cork west of the Lee River); the RC parishes in Dublin City; and RC parishes in County Kerry. In addition it has the surviving Church of Ireland parish registers for the city of Dublin, and for counties Carlow and Kerry. This website has transformed research for Dublin City and for County Cork, traditionally the largest and most difficult of all the Irish counties for genealogical research.

The records available are a compilation of transcription projects carried out in the 1990s and a series of index/digitisation projects carried out between 2008 and 2012. In these latter digitisation projects, if you can find someone in the index you can 'click-through' to a digital image of the page on which the original record appears, so you can confirm the evidence for yourself. While the search engine picks up all variant spellings of names, it sometimes returns different results even when using the same search criteria.

Key tip: The reliability of the index varies. Where there is no image of a record found in the index, you need to examine the original parish register in situ, or on microfilm in the National Library, to verify its accuracy.

Irish Origins (€/$)

The jewel in the crown of this subscription website is that it has the definitive version of Griffith's Valuation *including the original maps.* This source is the backbone to Irish genealogy from the 1840s to the present day, but it also provides the key to tracing your ancestral landholding or family home-stead in Ireland.

If you can identify your ancestor in the *Irish Origins* version of Griffith's Valuation, click on the corresponding 'Map' button to see the contemporary map on which the Valuation Office marked up the corresponding landholding. You can then overlay a modern day Ordnance Survey map to identify the exact location, even where no house or building survives to the present day.

Another often-overlooked feature of this website is the 'Details' button, which will bring up personal details (the occupier and the person they are renting from, often a middle-man); location details (to establish the address relative to the different administrative districts it falls within); but, most importantly, publication details. The surveys that comprise Griffith's Valuation were printed within three months of completion. If you have found an ancestor in this source and know the date of publication, you know that it is relevant to within that short time-frame. For even greater accuracy, you can leaf through the individual book in which you found an ancestor. On the last page of the specific book is the date on which the survey of this district was completed. This can be critically important information if you are tracing an ancestor who left Ireland during or shortly after the Famine.

Another key composite source on the *Irish Origins* website is the commercial directories, which include 1 million+ names. In fact, the number of records and names is due to rise significantly in the next few years as Origins.net has brokered a deal with the Dublin City Library and Archives

to digitise and publish online up to 400 directories dating from between 1636 and 1900. If your Irish ancestors were from the urban artisan classes – manufacturers, merchants and shop-keepers – then these directories are a critical source for your research.

Origins.net maintains a sister site <http://www.britishorigins.com/>, which contains key sources, including the 1841, 1861 and 1871 Census for England and Wales. Lest you think I've gone off topic, consider that many 19th century Irish emigrants didn't sail directly to North America or the Antipodes. Instead, they settled temporarily in the industrial towns in England, Scotland and Wales to earn money for their passage overseas. If your immigrant ancestor is proving elusive, then it's worth searching these online census returns in case they 'stopped off' along the way.

Key tip: The digitised index features a 'NameX' search so that all variant spellings of personal and family names will be returned. For example, searching the 1871 Census for England and Wales for all Fitzsimons born in Ireland, I found 324 individuals. These include Fitzsim[m]on[s], Fitzsim[m]ond[s], Fitzsymons, and what surely must be typos - Fitzsumons, Fitzsomons and Fitzsiomons.

Military Archives

This next decade, 2013-2023, marks the centenary of the Irish Independence movement. For anyone tracing an ancestor's involvement in this historic struggle, there are two key sources now available on this free website <www.militaryarchives.ie>

- The Bureau of Military History is a collection of material including more than 1700 witness statements from the formation of the Irish Volunteers on 25th November 1913 to the 11th July 1921.

- A census of the Irish army taken in November 1922.

PRONI

The Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) is the official state archive for Northern Ireland and contains key sources for Irish family history. The PRONI website <www.proni.gov.uk> is free and provides access to critical records sets, including

- **Will Calendars.** This is an index to the entries for the three District Probate Registries of Armagh, Belfast and Londonderry from 1858 to 1919 and 1922 to 1943. Original images of the copy will books between 1858 and 1900 are available online.

- **Freeholders' Records.** These are lists of people entitled to vote at elections. A freeholder was a man who owned his land outright (in fee) or who held it by lease, which could be for one or more lives (for example, his own life or for the lives of usually two other people named in the lease). These records provide a range of information about land ownership and may contain all or some of the following: Name of freeholder, Address of freeholder, Location of freehold, Description of freehold, Name of landlord, Address of landlord, Value of freehold, Names of other lives, Date and place of freeholder's registration, Occupation of freeholder, Religion of freeholder. Some of the records survive in their original manuscript form, while some are transcripts available in print or type.

- **Valuation Office Cancelled Books** (also known as the Revision Books). These are scans of the original manuscript copies for counties Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone, from the time of the first revision ca. 1860-64 to ca. 1933. They are searchable by place-name – townland or parish – for rural areas, or by street or ward in Belfast and Derry city.

- **Belfast Directories 1819 to 1900.** These searchable street directories provide some coverage of Ulster province.

rootsireland.ie (€/$)

This excellent site is a subscription website that has partial and complete transcripts of mostly RC parish records for almost every county in Ireland, including Northern Ireland. Records for counties Clare, Carlow, Kerry, Cork and Dublin City are not published here. Some counties also

have transcripts of some Church of Ireland registers. It also contains the 1821 census fragment that survives for Co. Cavan. The database is maintained by the Irish Family History Foundation.

You must register with the website to be able to search. You can search by name and county, by father's and mother's names (including mother's maiden name where it was recorded), and by parish. As the records on this website were transcribed by trainees and volunteers, the quality of the index is erratic. The data-sets for each county are not always complete. However, the records are continually being updated, and if you're unsure of where in Ireland your family originated, this is where you should start your research. The search engine will bring up all variant spellings of names including with and without 'O's and 'Mac's, but it doesn't always pick up the diminutives of Christian names, so you will have to search separately for 'Katie' and 'Catherine'.

Key tip: The average price for each record is €5 which doesn't compare well with other subscription sites. However if you subscribe you can avail of 'bulk-savings'

Final key tip: When using any of these online sources, remember that the online index to records was made long after the original records and may contain errors and omissions. In fact, online publishers have identified this problem; many try to remedy this by providing a searchable index linked to a digital image of the primary source. So, if you identify a relevant name in the index, you can 'click through' to see the original document. It's a perfect solution for us 'doubting Thomas's' who won't believe we have the correct record until we can see the original for ourselves. It may justify the subscription charged for access to these online sources, as it's the next best thing to visiting the archives.

As Columbo used to say, 'One last thing'

There's no policing the Internet but it's worth reminding that, where possible, you should try to ensure that the online sources you access for your research are published with the agreement of the owner or copyright holder. In almost all instances that is one of the national cultural institutions, for whom their records are their only asset.

Where records are published online without their agreement, it undermines their ability to earn money towards conserving their historic collections or to release more records online for free. Your decision about which websites you use for research may directly influence whether more historic records are digitised and placed online in the future.

Fiona Fitzsimons is a director of Eneclann, a Trinity College Campus Company, and of findmypast Ireland.

She has built an international reputation as the Irish researcher for "Who Do You Think You Are," "Faces of America" and "Finding Our Roots."

In 2013, the Gathering commissioned her to present Tom Cruise with his Irish family history and, at the request of the White House, she gave a private presentation in Dublin to Michelle Obama and her daughters on the President's Irish family history.

Minnesota's Give to the MAX Day

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Contribute to IGSI's page at the website.

Your contribution will be used for technology upgrades – replacing a 10 year-old computer, funding improvements to the IGSI website, working toward online programs.

On November 14, visit www.giveMN.org to click and contribute.

PRONI: Official Archives of Northern Ireland

by Kathleen O'Malley Strickland

If you are researching family history in Ireland's old province of Ulster, and in the present country of Northern Ireland in particular, be sure to explore the website of PRONI, the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland <www.proni.gov.uk>. Among its assets are online indexes to the archival holdings, a collection of digitized records, and solid online advice to guide you in using the collection effectively.

PRONI was established by the Public Records Act (Northern Ireland) in 1923 after the partition of Ireland. PRONI is a division of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, which oversees the country's libraries, museums, and archives. Today, PRONI is headquartered in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in the city's Titanic Quarter.

The Collection

As the official archive for Northern Ireland, PRONI houses the following:

- Public Records Office
- Manuscripts library
- County record office for six Northern Ireland counties (Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone), and
- Archive for private records.

The records date from the 1600s and continue to the present time. Available records pertain not only to the six counties of Northern Ireland, but also the border counties of Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan in the Republic of Ireland.

Holdings include both private and official records, including:

- "Privately deposited archives" which contain business records, church records, emigrant letters, and landed estate archives donated by private individuals and institutions.
- "Public records" covering documents from official sources, such as:
    - o Documents from non-departmental public organizations (courts, local authorities, and so forth).
    - o Departmental records from 1921 to today.

Records that PRONI does not collect include:

- Records already in other places:
    - o Vital records.
    - o Adoption records.
    - o Northern Ireland's land registers.
- Records that were destroyed in the fire at Four Courts in Dublin in 1922:
    - o Census returns, 1821 – 1851.
    - o Original wills, administration bonds and marriage license bonds earlier than 1858.
    - o Church of Ireland parish records.
- Records intentionally destroyed by the government: census returns for all of Ireland, 1861 – 1891.

Searching Help

PRONI provides guidance all across its website, helping researchers immeasurably both in searching this archive in particular and in pursuing Irish genealogy in general. Genealogists and historians can find and download a broad range of guides specific to many aspects of Irish research, including explanations of the various archives and holdings within PRONI's scope. There are five series of leaflets (example of each):

- Your Family Tree ("Tracing Your Family Tree at PRONI: Useful Sources").
- Local History ("National Education Records").
- Emigration ("Emigration to USA").
- Historical Topics ("The Act of Union").
- General Information ("Counties in Ireland").

In addition to downloadable leaflets, the website provides online guides and indexes, such as:

- PRONI Guide to Church Records.
- Geographical Index (explains administrative divisions).
- Introductions to Significant Privately Deposited Archives.

Obtain archival records from PRONI in several ways:

- Visit the archives in Belfast and register to view the records, most of which are available only at the PRONI facility.
- Search remotely, then request copy/certification (fee plus cost of postage and packaging) from PRONI.
    - o PRONI staff will perform limited searches for a fee.
    - o Hire an independent researcher to go to the archive and search for you.
- Search those records that have been digitized and uploaded to the PRONI website.

Record Searches

Indexes to records can be searched online through PRONI's electronic catalog (eCatalogue):

- Lists more than a million entries referring to the collections.
- Searchable by words in text and/or title, date, and PRONI reference.

Some collections are digitized and available online:

- Searchable Will Calendar Index 1858 – 1943, including District Probate registries of Armagh, Belfast and Londonderry (digitized images up to 1900).
    - Results include abstract.
    - Some results include images of actual wills up to 1900. (To view, you may download free software DjVu, available on the PRONI website.)
- Indexed Ulster Covenant of 1912 (a declaration against the Home Rule Bill):
    - Just under half a million 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.
    - Fields to search:
        - Surname (recommended method)
        - Forename
        - Gender
        - Address
- Northern Ireland *street directories* 1819 - 1900: helpful for information prior to 1901 and 1911 census results.
- Pre-1840 Freeholders Registers and Poll Books:
    - Voters' lists including address, occupation, and religion.
    - Image of the original signature
- Londonderry Corporation (local government) records:
    - Minute books 1673 - 1901.
    - Freemen records 1675 – 1945 with details of finance, education and welfare.
    - Index of the Freemen of the City.
- Name search index searches:
    - Pre-1858 wills.
    - 1740 and 1766 religious census returns.
    - Pre-1920 coroner reports.
    - 1775 dissenters petitions.
- PRONI *imag*es (available on photo-sharing website Flickr).
- CAIN (Conflict Archive on the Internet) records from the early years of The Troubles, 1968 – 1980.
- Valuation Revision Books for Northern Ireland counties
    - Continuation of Griffiths Valuation.
    - From time of original survey to 1930.
    - Search by county, parish, or townland.

Test Drive

From the homepage, check out the listings in the right-hand column. To search the eCatalogue, click on the magnifying glass. The resulting page has a box in the right-hand column called "Further Information" with assistance in mastering the search process. The amount of material can be overwhelming, and the "hints" for each search include help for dealing with apostrophes, interpreting the results of a search, and how to browse a collection.

The learning curve for the eCatalogue and various online records can be steep—the methods and rules for searching vary according to collection, each having different requirements for making a search and varying ways that results are displayed. To really search effectively, it is crucial to explore the information about each collection, particularly the viewing and searching tips and hints. A search through street directories, for example, has a different process than a search through will calendars.

As with most archival quests, the more information you have to work with, the stronger your results will be. With time and patience, hunting through PRONI may be very rewarding—you might find the address of an ancestor who lived in Belfast, or understand the political leanings of a great-great grandfather who signed the Ulster Covenant of 1912 in an effort to defeat the Home Rule bill.

Kathleen Strickland holds a degree in history from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and has been her family genealogist for many years. While studying history, she developed a flair for research that motivated her to follow up on the many family stories her mother and grandmother had passed along to her. She now provides research, ghost-writing and editing assistance through her personal and business support services company, the Get~it~Done Gurus.

Online Irish Research at *FamilySearch*

by Dwight A. Radford

Most Americans find it easier to use the Family History Library (FHL) microfilm collection than to travel to Belfast or Dublin to visit archives. What few family historians realize is that they no longer have to rent as much film because several of the FHL's major Irish research collections are now online. The avenue to seeing these records is through the FHL's website at *FamilySearch* <www.familysearch.org>. *FamilySearch* is free and available to anybody who has access to a computer. At this writing there are eight Ireland collections online.

In this article I discuss the main *FamilySearch* databases for Ireland and explain some of the pluses and minuses in their use.

What Does an Online Collection Include?

Sometimes, determining what is in an online collection and what is not can be difficult but is essential to getting full value from it. Each *FamilySearch* collection has a link to "Learn More." As with any online collection, sometimes this helps and sometimes it does not. In the case of the "Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881," it would be a mistake to believe that all surviving church registers and civil birth records are in this database. Yet without checking "Learn More" to see its limitations, one might have an impression which was never meant to be conveyed.

Continuing with the "Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881" database example, "Learn More" offers a county chart which shows that all of the records on the database are civil birth records dating from 1864 through 1881. However, there is a space for future additions from 1620-1863. Knowing this limitation allows one to check for updates under the "Learn More" or to test the database (in case the database is more updated than the link).

Armed with this information, a researcher can utilize the civil birth collection successfully. Since I know not all births were registered, I often use the parent search as my main search feature. This works well if I know the mother's maiden name. I've used it leaving the maiden name blank. Sometimes the maiden name can be spelled many different ways, and the program does not always pick up all variations. This is an important point. By omitting the maiden name one can actually find the information being sought as all the options will appear and one can scan through them. Then all the registered children for that couple should appear. If I don't know a county for the search, that is also fine. I end up with a larger number of hits to sift through, but the odds of finding all the children of a couple increases.

With this particular database, we still have to look at the microfilm because the index does not provide all the information we want such as the name of the townland. The online database does provide the registration district and the county name, but not the name of the townland. Nor does it provide the father's occupation all of which are part of the full record.

Because one can successfully identify families in this database by using the parent search it is a database well worth your time to investigate.

The database, "Ireland Marriages, 1619-1898" provides another example. The "Learn More" link shows that it covers the civil registration time period of 1845-1870, the same period covered by the FHL microfilm collection. Note: only Protestant marriages were registered by the government from 1845-1863; all marriages were registered from 1864. If this limited time frame and the coverage fit your needs, this is a major database to use. Again, one still needs to consult the microfilm to get all of the information that was recorded.

Using an Index to Indexes

Sometimes we just need an index to an index. Prior to the appearance on *FamilySearch* of "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958," researchers had to plow through microfilm after microfilm. This database alleviates the drudgery which went with that task. In this case, all the indexes have been combined into one master database. However, it's not as simple as it sounds.

There is an extensive explanation under the "Learn More" click which explains what is included on the database. It explains that the index covers the registered births, marriages and deaths for all of Ireland for the pre-1922 period; the Republic of Ireland (1922-1958); and Northern Ireland (1922-1959).

There is a quirk to this database. It provides the same information as found on the microfilm indexes: name, reference (volume, page, quarter), and registration district. And nothing more. The way I get around this is to type in the registration district, if I know it. If I'm unsure, but know the county, I use the county as the identifying feature. Otherwise, many Irish names are just too common to know which one is the one I want.

Another index to indexes is "Ireland, Calendar to Wills and Administrations,

1858-1920." This is an index to the Yearly Calendars published beginning in 1858. The index itself does not provide the abstract in the original books. However, each entry is linked to the microfilmed copy of the calendar. This is an important database as it often mentions people who died abroad.

One Collection – Multiple Accesses

Many collections in Ireland are what I call hodgepodge collections – sources never meant for use by the general public as research material. When the Public Record Office in Dublin burned in 1922, otherwise obscure collections became important. One such collection is the advertisements for the Encumbered (Incumbered) Landed Estates Court. These were bankrupt estates throughout Ireland that went through the court. It has been estimated some 25% of the estates went bankrupt during and after the Potato Famine.

The advertisements, which included a description of the property being auctioned off and list of tenants on the estate, were subsequently bound at the National Archives of Ireland (NAI) in thick volumes with counties mixed. The NAI collection was microfilmed and is at the FHL. This collection comprises the database "Ireland, Landed Estate Court Files, 1850-1885." An excellent introduction to this collection can be found on *findmypast.ie* <www.findmypast.ie>, which partners with the FHL on this project. They are referenced on the database.

The Public Record Office in Northern Ireland (PRONI) also has a bound version of this same collection, which is also on microfilm at the FHL. The PRONI collections and the NAI collections are not arranged the same; the differences in the two collections have yet to be studied. The point is that the online collection at *FamilySearch* references only the NAI collection.

How Accurate Are Online Databases?

A valid question is: how much can we trust this online information? For the most part, when the collections are simply printed, the error margin is much less than with manuscript books. An example of a manuscript collection on a database is "Ireland, Tithe Applotment Books, 1814-1855." Here, we have to be careful. The names and spellings of townlands were not standardized prior to the early 1830s, which can hinder a search. Also, the search feature is not as sophisticated as with other databases.

I personally find this database cumbersome, so I seldom use it unless doing so in conjunction with another database. *ancestry.com* has its own version of the Tithe Applotment database, which I like even less. The spellings and misspellings of geographic place names can be maddening in the *Ancestry.com* database. With either database, proceed with caution; there are many factors that can produce doubtful search results.

Now for the quirk. The Tithe Applotment database is not a full head of household listing of all families in Ireland for its time period. The "Learn More" states that it is about 40% coverage of heads of families. (The validity of that figure is itself suspect.) Family historians researching some of the West Coast counties know how poor the coverage is as only a couple of people may be listed in a given townland. This is definitely a database which needs more explanation. Frankly, if I know the parish or a general cluster of parishes, I just pull the microfilm and judge the contents myself. I find this much quicker and more accurate.

Saying this, I have found the civil registration entries to be more or less accurate, even if the duplicate entries are annoying. It apparently was indexed several times, and all these are included. While the same entry may be listed two or three times in the database, not all entries have the same information. However annoying this may be, it does provide insight into the accuracy of the indexing process itself. Civil Registration like the Tithe Applotment is a manuscript source, complete with old handwriting and the errors which accompany that process.

Conclusion

This is not the end of any discussion on the *FamilySearch* databases. I use them on a daily basis as a professional genealogist and I'm grateful for them. However, as with all databases – and Irish records in general, there are always questions about the source. Ideally, a researcher needs a working knowledge of the record source itself to accurately judge online search results and the database itself. My personal theory is that if every Irish record were indexed online, I would still have the problem in knowing which Mary Kelly is the correct one. This is why we all need to have more information prior to approaching online databases.

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Remember the Courthouse? A Place of Genealogical Records

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

If you're new to genealogy, you may not have had the courthouse experience.

What experience, you say? The experience of searching indexes, climbing ladders and pulling down heavy, dusty record books. With so many records now available on the Internet, genealogists probably make fewer trips to the courthouse than they used to. That's fine, but your searches both online and at the courthouse will be more productive if you understand what you might find and how to access it.

You could call the courthouse the "record house" because it is a place of record for births, marriages, divorces, deaths, trials, property taxes, inheritance, land sales, and more. Your ancestors might have not enjoyed paying county taxes, but they understood the importance of entering records of important events into official records. These records allowed them to prove births, marriages, and property ownership.

Counties are political subdivisions of the state. The fifty states have 3,143 counties or county-equivalent jurisdictions. Louisiana has parishes and Alaska has boroughs instead of counties. Connecticut and Rhode Island counties, as well as some in Massachusetts, no longer have functioning governments. In these states, the cities or towns perform more local functions and are mostly self-governing. But, to complicate matters, some states (mostly Virginia) have a few dozen independent cities that are not part of any county.

Courthouses are important to genealogists because they perform a variety of state-supervised administrative functions including recording of vital records, welfare administration and tax administration. Because their record-keeping is state-supervised it is helpful to know what the law requires. This may require finding statutes for the time period in a law library or online.

Which courthouse? The first step in courthouse research is determining which courthouse to visit – whether virtually or in person. Except on maps, county boundaries are mostly invisible, but vitally important. If you have a name of a town or watershed, your first task is to find what county it is located in.

You can do this in a couple of ways. A good road atlas or state highway map usually has a place-name index that locates a town on the map. You can then look at the map and see in what county it lies. Alternatively, you can look up the place-name in an online encyclopedia like *Wikipedia*, in online maps such as *Google Maps* <www.maps.google.com> or an online gazetteer like the *Geographic Name Information Server* <http://geonames.usgs.gov/>.

County boundaries define the jurisdiction of a record-keeping governmental unit; that is, the boundaries determine which courthouse your ancestors had to travel to record vital events and other legal transactions.

But, this can be tricky. When states were organized, they were usually thinly populated and could support only a handful of counties. As states grew in population, they formed new, geographically smaller counties from the original large counties. So, even if your ancestor never moved, he may have lived in two or three different counties. Two convenient sources will help you figure out what happened.

- *The Red Book* (Ancestry, 2004) includes a table for each state identifying the dates a county was formed and the counties from which it was formed.
- *The Newberry Library Atlas of Historical County Boundaries* <http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/> displays county boundaries as they changed over time.

Learning about the Records

Perhaps the best overview of records found in courthouses is Christine Rose's book, *Courthouse Research for Family Historians*. It includes chapters on vital records, property records, estate records, and court records. Rose's book is especially helpful for understanding the kinds of indexes you will find at the courthouse.

For more in-depth articles on history and legal considerations, check out *The Source*. Most libraries with genealogy collections have copies of the print edition, but *The Source* is also available free online in *Ancestry.com's* Family History Wiki. A number of primers give guidance on using specific kinds of records; see the reading list at the end of this article.

Another place to learn about county government records is the *FamilySearch* Wiki – an online compendium of articles about various kinds of records, as well as countries and states. Starting from the opening "Search" page, click on "Wiki" to the right side at the top of the page. This will bring you to the "Research Wiki" page, where you can search by topic or place. A search for "Indiana" will return a list of articles about various kinds of Indiana records, as well as a general article about genealogy research

in Indiana. From this article, you can click on an individual county to bring up an article about research in that county.

Finding the Records

Before you go to the courthouse, learn what you can about what might be there. *The Red Book* might be your first stop. The articles for each state include short descriptions of vital records, land records and probate records, and other records created by county governments.

Also, check the Family History Library catalog to learn what indexes, transcriptions or microfilm copies might be available from that source. But, remember, many records have not been transcribed for publication or microfilmed. Some records are available only at the courthouse – or possibly in a courthouse annex. Older records may have been transferred to a state historical society or state archive.

USGenweb <www.usgenweb.org> sites for each county also often give information about records, as well as how to access them in each county.

Indexes. Unless you already know the volume and page number, or the date of an event, you will probably first consult an index. Indexes come in many styles and vary from county to county and over time. Take a few minutes to look through the entire index to make sure you understand how it is organized. A good guide to the most common types of indexes is Christine Rose's *Courthouse Indexes Illustrated*.

Indexes sometimes include a lot of information, but the most important information in an index is the original record volume and page number to which it points. Don't stop with the index; go to the original record if it still exists. Errors often creep into indexes, and the original record often includes more information than the index.

Courthouse Records Online

Many county records are now online in some form. Some are free; other collections are fee-based.

Family History Library. To find Family History Library microfilms of county records, click on "catalog" from the Search page. Chose a "place search" and enter the name of your county of interest – for example, "Indiana, Hendricks" – and click on "Search." The website will return a list of holdings relating to the county. The list will include many non-courthouse records, such as censuses, directories and church records. But you will also find categories, such as "Court Records," "Land and Property," "Probate Records," "Taxation," and "Vital Records." Click on one of these categories to get a list of holdings dealing with that topic, including both published transcriptions and microfilms of original records. Whenever possible, you want the original county office records.

One more click gives you a detailed description of each holding, including either a call number or microfilm number. Watch for a notation that *FamilySearch* has put images of a particular set of records online.

From the bottom of the *FamilySearch* search page, you can browse a list of online indexes and records for your state of interest.

US Genweb. Another free site, *US Genweb*, has easy links to individual states and then to counties. What you find there can vary widely because individual *Genweb* county sites are created and maintained by volunteers. The sites often include indexes or transcriptions of county records as well as information about county offices and how to request records.

Ancestry.com. *Ancestry* is a subscription service, but a library edition is available free in many libraries, including the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library and Research Center, home of the IGSI collection. You will find few images of original county records at *Ancestry*, but you may find indexes, especially of vital records and voter registration rolls.

However, *Ancestry* offers some valuable free resources accessible to non-subscribers. Among these is an online edition of *The Red Book*. A chapter on each state describes state and local records, including information about when the county was formed and the dates vital records, land records and court records (including probate) began. To access a digital version of *The Red Book*, click on the "Learning Center" tab on *Ancestry's* front page and select "Family History Wiki" from the drop-down box. At the Wiki, search for "Red Book."

Cyndi's List. Another free site worth a look is *Cyndi's List* <www.cyndislist.com>. Click on "Categories," click on the letter of the state you're interested in, and choose a county. You will find links to assorted websites that may help you with research in you county.

Tips for Visiting the Courthouse

Plan for a visit to a courthouse the same way you would for a visit to a library or an archive. Know which office has the records you want. Make sure you know the opening hours for the offices you will visit. You can usually find this information from the county government website. It doesn't hurt to call ahead; you might get better service if the clerks know you're coming.

Remember, the clerks are paid to handle county business. They are usually helpful, but neither their records nor their offices were created to serve genealogists. Each courthouse tends to have its own sets of rules. Some offices will turn you loose and let you search indexes and record volumes on your own; be prepared to climb ladders and sneeze from the dust. Especially in larger counties, you may have to ask clerks to fetch records for you.

Just like archives, courthouses have rules about photography, photocopying and scanning. Most records (except those with privacy limitations) are public records, but this only means you can view them. In many states, county offices charge for copies. In fact, your fees may be essential to their budgets.

Whatever you do, don't forget the courthouse! You can walk up the courthouse steps or visit it virtually online. But, we can dream of the day when everything is online. In the meantime, don't be afraid to order microfilm or plan a trip to the courthouse that served your ancestors.

Resources

Books

Rose, *Christine. Courthouse Indexes Illustrated.* San Jose: CR Publications, 2006.

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

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *The Red Book,* 3rd edition. The Red Book. Provo: Ancestry, 2004; searchable at *Ancestry.com*; digital version at <http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources>.

Szucs, Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking. *The Source.* Revised Edition. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1997; digital version at <http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Source:_A_Guidebook_to_American_Genealogy>.

Web Resources

FamilySearch Library Catalog. <https://www.familysearch.org/catalog-search>

FamilySearch Wiki. <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page>

US Genweb. <www.usgenweb.org>

Cyndi's List. <www.cyndislist.com>

The Newberry Library Atlas of Historical County Boundaries. <http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/>

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Simplify Access to Bookmarks and Passwords

by Mary Wickersham

I was fortunate to take a trip to Ireland recently for the first time in a few years. Although I have a new iPad, I'm still very PC-based with my regular website access. I wanted to make sure that I could access websites I might need while in Ireland.

There are some PC tips and tools that can save time and the aggravation of trying to remember which username and password you were given, or chose, for a given website.

Browser Bookmarks/ Favorites to provide username and pass-word hints

As newer and better genealogy websites entice me to join, I have a fast-growing problem remembering which username and password I set up for each website. I used to immediately bookmark or "mark favorite" each website in my browser, editing the name to include a coded password hint to myself.

At the recommendation my friend and IGSI member Tom Rice, I installed the free software Xmarks, which automatically synchronizes my browsers' bookmarks across computers and different types of browsers (Chrome, Safari, Mozilla and Internet Explorer). When using someone else's computer, I can log into Xmarks from PCs with those browsers installed, and see the password hints I made for myself.

Xmarks offers a paid version for the iPad, but the reviews in the iPhone Apps store are not very flattering, at least at this point.

The Problem

Things are getting out of control because I'm forgetting to consistently update my bookmarks. I'm reusing passwords, which is supposed to be risky. If one of the passwords gets hacked, the hacker would have easy access to several sites.

Recently, I had to have two of the sites re-send either my use name or password. After requesting the username or password be sent or reset, I had to wait for the provider's email.

Password Wallet

PC World Magazine recommends using the free software **KeePass Password Safe** as a way to build a "wallet" to hold my passwords under one shared password. When I need to access a username and password, I log into KeePass and copy, then paste, the information into the username and password fields of the website I need to access. I would have to keep copies on different computers, which seemed inconvenient, but there's an answer for that.

Portable Password Wallet

KeePass also offers **Password Safe Portable**, which allows me to store the password database on a thumb drive. When the thumb drive is plugged into a USB port, I can navigate to the KeyPass folder on the thumb drive, open up the KeePass Portable App, and use it on any computer.

What if I lose the thumb drive? Since the password database is encrypted, the password wallet can't be accessed without the master password I used to set up the file. Due to my propensity to mislay thumb drives, I'll use one I can connect to a lavaliere or keychain.

I plan to let you know how things go with using this – or tools I can use with the iPad – after I have more experience with it.

Mary Wickersham joined IGSI in 1999 with her sister Sheila Northrop. Currently the president of IGSI, Mary served as Secretary in the mid-2000s during which time she organized IGSI's first Internet connection and use of email. The sisters are co-Presidents of Midwest Ancestor research; they give talks on Irish genealogy and write for The Septs. *Mary is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues to chair its Research Committee.*

Photo Credits:

Ramsey County Courthouse, courtesy of Ramsey County, MN.

Courthouse on Grafton Street, by Jimmy Harris, *Flickr.com*

Anoka County Courthouse, by Jimmy Wayne, *Flickr.com*

100 Years Ago & More

Compiled by Sheila Northrop

250 Years Ago

Ireland

Cork, Nov. 24

Last Tuesday, was committed to the County Gaol, Florance Leary, on suspicion of setting fire to a Barn belonging to Mr. Charles McCarthy, on the lands of Sunderreen, in the County of Cork. Wednesday, Philip Sulivan of Bantry in the County of Cork, charged with breaking into the house of Mathias Sulivan of said place, and stealing thereont sundry articles, to the value of twenty pounds. Yesterday, Denis McCarthy, charged with advising and prompting Margaret McCarthy, his wife, to assault Catherine, the wife of Denis Murley, whose son, a child of 9 years old, was killed by said Margaret McCarthy with a blow of a stick made at his Mother. – To the City Gaol, last Thursday, Timothy Callaghan, on suspicion of stealing out of the house of Mr. Richard Robertson of Mallow-lane, a tea chest, a large silver table spoon, and three tea spoons. Last Tuesday, Mortough Heas, and Phllip Croneen, Sedan Chairmen, charged with violently assaulting and rudely using the wife of Mr. Thomas McDonnell, on the night of the 7th inst. in Corner's-lane, and robbing her of a black sattin Cardinal cloak.

Freeman's Journal

Dublin, Dublin November 29, 1763

200 Years Ago

Review of New Publications

… "Speaking Irish may be considered by every Englishman who travels in Ireland, as a declaration of being Catholic. The lowest Protestant would feel degraded by the supposition that he understood, much less spoke it. This singular and most unjust contempt of the Aborigines and their language is a convincing proof (were proof wanting) how very colonial, and how little national, a large portion of the people of Ireland is. Nothing affronts a poor or ragged Protestant more, than asking him any question as if he were a Catholick – indeed, if a little time is allowed him, he will himself tell what he is – like an English landlord or waiter in Wales, if he were asking a question about any neighbouring mountain or valley, will answer shortly and gruffly, that he knows nothing about them, and then takes care to inform you that he is an Englishman, and tells often the particular spot where he was born, lest it should be supposed that he was a borderer even. Nobody so low but he thinks others still lower."

Gentlemens Magazine and Historical Chronicle

London, Middlesex November 1, 1813

150 Years Ago

The "Irish Brigade."

A communication from Brig. Gen. Meagher, to the Yankee Secretary of War, urging that his command may be "temporarily relieved from duty in the field," is published in the Northern prints. From his figures, it appears that the three original regiments of the brigade (the 69th, 88th, and 63rd New York.) left the city of New York "fully 2,250 strong, including two batteries of three officers and 150 men each." These three regiments, says the General, now muster 91 officers and 531 enlisted men, all told. Total number of missing, 1,719.

Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville, Tennessee May 7, 1863

100 Years Ago

Germans for Ireland

The National German-American Alliance closed the business sessions of its biennial convention in St. Louis Tuesday afternoon after deciding to meet in 1915 in San Francisco. The convention in its closing session declared its sympathy with the movements for Irish home rule. The resolution to this effect was introduced by Congressman Richard Bartholdt, of St. Louis, who said the Irish Americans, had supported him in his efforts to safeguard the personal liberties of the American people and in assuring liberal immigration laws.

Kentucky Irish American

Louisville, Kentucky October 11, 1913

100 Years Ago

The Riddle of Bulwer Lytton.

His Place in Literature.

… In this letter from Lady Blessington to Lytton we have perhaps a hint, that the trouble was in the first place due to opposed temperaments:

My dearest Friend, - I have thought of you often during the last weeks, and not unfrequently of Mrs. Bulwer. I pity her exceedingly, because to understand her wrong-headedness one must be Irish. If you belonged to that country you would feel as I do the difficulty of conquering the violence inherent to all who owe birth to it, a violence originating in imagination so excitable and temper so irascible the poor Reason can but rarely govern its victims. You cold English cannot excuse the faults of us hot-headed Irish, we have many victims to atone for them. Still, I admit that, though

I should like an Irishwoman for my mother or sister, for Irishwomen are naturally chaste, I should be afraid to have one for my wife, for they are all cursed with fiery tempers. I have seasoned mine down since I have become old, but when young I was most, most impetuous. ….

London Daily Mail

London, Middlesex November 14, 1913

News from Ireland: Cavan

Forty thousand people attended the great Home Rule meeting which was held in Cavan on November 12, says the Ulster Herald. It was one of the most solemn and impressive demonstrations held in the present Nationalist campaign. The invasion of the town by 40,000 Ulster Home Rulers has stirred the south of the province to a depth that could hardly be realized in England. It was the greatest gathering of Home Rulers Cavan County has known during the last half century. The people came from all parts of Ulster, the small farmers and their sons and daughters, the young and old generation alike marching side by side from Armagh, from Monaghan, Fermanagh, Leitrim, and also from the three Leinster counties of Longford, Meath and Westmeath.

The Irish Standard

Minneapolis, MN December 13, 1913

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a co-president of Midwest Ancestor Research, She is past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past education chair for the Irish Genealogical Society International. Sheila specializes in Irish-specific research topics. She traces her own family history to Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.

IGSI Classes

October – December 2013

October 12, 2013 | Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm | Beth Vought

Civil War Ancestors

Many Irish fought in the Civil War on both sides; your ancestor may have been one of them. Beth presents some websites where you can begin your search, discusses the General Adjunct source, and explains how to order pension records.

November 9, 2013 | Time: 1:00 - 2:30 pm | Tom Rice

Estate Records

For much of the 19th century most Irish lived on land that was part of an estate. The records of these estates may list renters and leases along with various details about them and their lives. Find out how to identify the estate owner, where these records are, and how access them.

December 2013

No class. Happy Holidays!

Fees for the classes are $10 for IGSI members & $15 for non-members.
Preregistration is available on the IGSI website.

Bookstore Special Offer

The IGSI Bookstore is offering a bargain price on our overstock of Erin's Sons, Volumes I-IV, written by Terrence Punch.

- ***Erin's Sons – Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853, Volume I***
- ***Erin's Sons – Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853, Volume II***
- ***Erin's Sons – Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1711-1858, Volume III***
- ***Erin's Sons – Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada to 1863, Volume IV***

These volumes contain extracts of data from a wide range of sources, chiefly public records, newspapers, and cemetery records. Included are records of marriages and deaths and census records plus out-of-the-way records of ships passengers, runaways, deserters, and old soldiers.

A four-volume set will be sold for $95. IGSI will pay the sales tax and shipping if the order is received before December 1, 2013.

An order form is attached for your convenience.
Other items from our bookstore http://irishgenealogical.org/bookstore can be added to order.

For orders received by 12/1/13, IGSI will cover MN sales tax and provide free shipping.

Item #	Title	Price
IGSI Special	***Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Canada (Volumes I, II, III and IV)***	$95.00
	Total Price	

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclose your check for the total, payable to IGSI, to: **Irish Genealogical Society International**
1185 N. Concord, Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075-1185

Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Irish Genealogical Society International Membership

☐ Renewal
☐ New

IGSI Member Who Suggested Membership _____

Indicate Membership Category

☐ General ($30) ☐ International ($40) ☐ Electronic ($25)

For Gift Membership go to www.IrishGenealogical.org or write to IGSI at address below.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State/Province _____ Postal / Zip Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Surnames

Irish and Scots-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 may contact us.

	Surname	**Ireland County** (locale if known)	**Other County** (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 (Choose one membership)

1 Year General Membership ($30 US)	$ _____
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1 Year Electronic Membership ($25 US)	$ _____
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South St. Paul, MN 55075

http://www.IrishGenealogical.org

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Limit 3 digits displayed on the back side of card.

Website: The Research Tab

by Robert Zimmerman

To continue our discussion of some of the features of our website, I would like to discuss briefly the menu items listed under the "Research" tab on the Home Page. Many of the items under this tab are designed to provide links or search mechanisms that will lead a researcher to additional information regarding specific topics, areas and surnames.

Some of our website's offerings are available only to IGSI members. From the menu item, "Research", one can access such varied points of interest as:

- **Irish Counties.** This feature contains links to numerous repository websites in individual Irish counties. List is alphabetical by name of repository; county of location is indicated.
- **Genealogical Indexes.** IGSI has indexed and collected a number of records over the years. Some of these indexes are small and others are good sized. A search on a surname or a given name and surname yields limited results. Clicking on the results identifies the record in our library containing a reference to that particular name.
- **Maps.** Four maps which may be of assistance to Irish researchers.
- **Search Periodicals.** This feature allows members only to search through the IGSI collection of periodicals to locate a specific article or author. This is great for seeking information on articles from earlier issues of *The Septs*.
- **Surname Search.** Unfortunately, we still struggle with the problem that prevents the Surname Search function from working properly. When working correctly, this allows one to identify and connect with other IGSI members who are looking for the same surname.
- ***The Septs,*** our award winning journal. All published issues back to 1980 are available for members' perusal. This is an exclusive perk for our members (non-members must purchase copies). Members may also download a copy in the Adobe pdf format for offline reading.
- **Web Links.** This feature provides links to some marvelous resources related to Irish research and culture.

Some of the areas of our website have not been fully developed; we will continue to work on those areas. Specifically, we have not completed the development of the Surname and Pedigree applications. We do not have an estimate as to when they will be available. We will continue to develop additional content for the site and to correct those problems which we have identified. We are looking to learn what additional content members would like to see. If you have any suggestions, comments, or notice any problems, please contact us at webeditor@irishgenealogical.org.

New Library Hours in 2014

The Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) recently announced a change in the open hour of the library for 2014. Effective January 1, the MGS Library will be open:

Wednesdays	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Thursdays	10:00 am – 4 pm, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Saturdays	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Third Sunday of the month	1:00 – 4:00 pm

The library is closed Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays (except 3rd Sunday of the month).

Irish Saturdays

Since the IGSI collection is part of the library, these are the hours the collection is available to IGSI members. The change in hours does not affect Irish Saturdays.

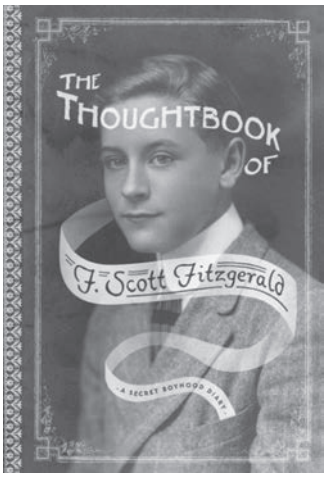
Remember, that the 2nd Saturday of every month is Irish Saturday when member volunteers are available to help with your research. If you are just starting to research your Irish ancestors or if you have a brick wall and need some help, talk with our Irish Saturday volunteers. Whether it's a discussion of your research, a second opinion or a new suggestion, or providing a bit of hands-on help – they are there to help.

Join Us for the Annual IGSI Members Meeting

Saturday, November 23

10 AM – Noon

Guest speaker: author **Dave Page** on F. Scott Fitzgerald



The Annual IGSI Members Meeting will convene at 10 AM on Saturday, November 23, in the 4th floor conference room at 1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul – just upstairs from the Library. It's a morning to meet with other IGSI members to share a cup of coffee. President Mary Wickersham will provide a summary of 2013 Society activity in the business section of the meeting. Our guest speaker will be Dave Page, an F. Scott Fitzgerald historian, who will discuss F. Scott Fitzgerald as an Irish Catholic writer and also talk about genealogy.

The University of Minnesota Press recently published Page's book, *F. Scott Fitzgerald: A Secret Boyhood Diary*. Page provides an extensive introduction and explanatory notes throughout the book to help the reader understand F. Scott Fitzgerald. He also offers insights to the diary's significance and includes a scholarly afterward as well. Dave Page teaches Fitzgerald's work at the Inver Grove Community College and he is part of the newly formed *Fitzgerald in St Paul* organization. Their mission is to keep Fitzgerald's legacy alive in his birthplace (St. Paul, MN).

Please come – and bring a friend. Join with members of IGSI to learn more about Society activities and to hear an interesting speaker. This is IGSI's annual meeting. There is no charge for IGSI members.

Meeting in the 4th floor conference room at 1185 Concord St. N., South St. Paul

Members: ***FREE***

Non-members: $10 for program

Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc.
1185 Concord St. N., Suite 218
South St. Paul, MN 55075

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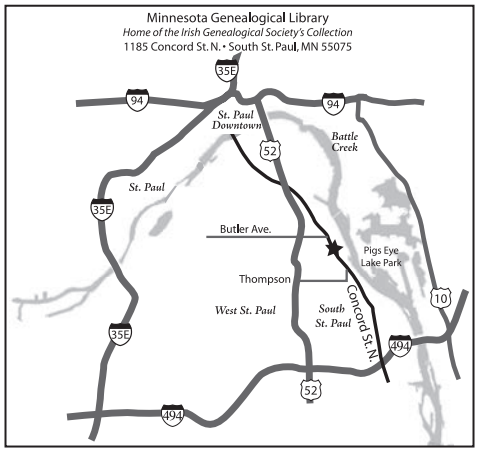
Library and Offices located at the Minnesota Genealogical Library

IGSI Classes, Quarterly Meetings and Irish Days



Daytime Hours
Wed, Thurs & Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Evening Hours
Thurs: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday
and Fridays
If traveling any distance, call first to check schedule.

Minnesota Genealogical Library
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 Librarian@IrishGenealogical.org so we can have an Irish researcher available to meet you.