

PLACENAMES AND FIELDNAMES OF
CULFEIGHTRIN



CAREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Front cover photograph: "June 1956. View of Murlough Bay and Murlough, with Francey Lamont and young Darragh." Taken by Michael J Murphy of the Irish Folklore Commission.

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"It is a pity that people like them will ever have to die. But still, they will not die – their tales and traditions are preserved and will live on to the pleasure and profit of future generations."

Michael J Murphy ¹

1 Almqvist, B. (1996: 365) Michael J Murphy (1913-1996). *Béaloideas*, 64/64: 362-365.

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The reach of Peace IV funding through the local action plan of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has been wide-ranging in terms of the different projects that it has been able to support. It is therefore a pleasure to introduce this book on behalf of the Peace IV Partnership to a wider audience, which I believe will be far-reaching also.

The subject-matter, 'place and field names', some of which date back to ancient times, and in some instances are extremely unusual, or even unique, in their respective locality, is of importance and worth preserving. Peace IV funding has enabled Carey Historical Society to publish the research they have undertaken over the past number of years. This project has been vitally important in

terms of both preserving the local and oral history, and providing a record of both land and field names which can be used to promote awareness and highlight the importance of these names. This project demonstrates how the physical geography and environmental features of these fields and landscape are manifested in their naming/identification; not to mention the associated stories and legends which have been passed down throughout the generations amongst families and farmers.

These stories and place names have shaped much of our modern environment, and projects like this ensure that this type of knowledge is not lost forever, and as such will become a talking point within the Parish of Culfeightrin. Place and Field names

are not exclusive to this area, and it is hoped that perhaps the expertise that has led the Carey group to the culmination of this publication, can be shared with others in the surrounding area and throughout the Borough, prompting others to look at their own unique landscape by further delving into the place and field names of their respective areas. The wider area is equally as rich in its landscape heritage and we hope that this publication will serve as an inspiration to others to preserve what is unique to their local area.

I would like to congratulate Carey Historical Society on this excellent piece of work, which is both informative and so thoughtfully considered, and will take this opportunity to wish them success for their future projects.

**Dermot Nicholl,
Chair, Peace IV Partnership.**

Townlands, Placenames, and Fieldnames are something I would describe as inherently Irish. Most of our townland names are of Gaelic origin but over the centuries have been anglicised and corrupted to their current form. With these changes over time, we have lost some of their meaning and we can only hazard a guess as to what the original meaning was. Each one tells us something in particular about that piece of land, regardless of size or location. It can tell us about the people of that area, it can tell us about the clan in that area, the fauna and/or the wildlife and, here in Ireland, with the significance of Christianity, it can refer to religious places or religious terminology.

With the dividing of land through the Rundale system (clachans or nucleated settlements) and then through the small agricultural farming methods, these townlands and holdings were divided up into fields and farms. Many of these fields would have been given names for

conversational purposes but in many cases the fields had unique meaning to the people who worked them and lived on them. With farming coming under increasing pressure, and with many young farmers starting to step away and look for other means of employment in the current world, we decided that we needed to record these names before they were lost for good. A lot of the fieldnames have already been lost to history, as have the many stories that would have went with them.

In 2017, Carey Historical Society launched this fieldname project. While our townlands and parishes are widely recorded but not often known, we decided that we would go more in-depth and record the actual fieldnames of the parish. Since 2017 we have worked with the local community in recording and digitising approximately two thirds, or more, of the parish of Culfeightrin. We worked with the local primary schools in artistically-led

projects that encouraged the children to learn about the areas in which we live, but also to learn a new craft in the art of wet felting. We held mapping workshops with the local farming community to encourage them to come to the parochial hall and not only share their fieldnames with us, but the stories that only they could tell us about the areas in which they live and work. Farming is a 24/7 job and it was here that we thought that we would have the most difficulty. It was of great encouragement to the Historical Society when, at our first mapping night, we had nearly triple the expected attendance. It just goes to show the attachment and pride that we have in the fields and townlands where we live.

After having workshops with both the children and farmers, we then held a series of workshops with the elderly groups in our area. We collected conversations and pictures that they kindly lent us for this publication. This was a fantastic resource for not just the Historical

Society but for future generations of the parish, and this is exactly what this publication is trying to do in recording these for future generations. Over the course of the pages of this book you will see maps that we have tried to fill in, to the best of our ability, with the information that we have kindly received from the people of that area. We have included pictures which were kindly loaned to us by families there and, where possible, we have contributed stories that were told to us or were common in local folklore. At all times we have tried to be honest and graceful in everything that we have published, and we think that we have put together a great resource for

historians, genealogists and for local educational purposes. But primarily, this book is for the people of Culfeightrin. This book is for you.

I would like to thank the funders who have enabled us to complete this significant piece of work.. The Heritage Lottery funded Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme (Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust) and the PEACE IV Understanding Our Area Programme with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Museum Services.

I want to finally say a few words of thanks to everyone who contributed and played a part in the publishing

of this book. The names are too numerous to mention individually but the people of the parish came in their abundance to help us put this together. I want to thank the volunteers of Carey Historical Society who, for two years, have collected, travelled and played a massive part in this extensive project. One name I would like to mention in particular is that of our editor in chief, Fionntán McCarry. While the project took many hands, it was through his dedication and due diligence that the book was put together in a readable format, ready for the public to peruse. I want to finish with this small quote by Alexander McCall:

"I had been thinking of how landscape moulds a language. It was impossible to imagine these hills giving forth anything but the soft syllables of Irish."

**Kevin McGowan,
Chairperson of the Carey Historical Society.**

III SECRETARY'S FOREWORD | Fionntán McCarry

Anyone who knows me can attest to my great love of using ten words where one would suffice, so I'll try and keep this short. The project started in two places: the first was me coping a shelf at home in 2013 and picking up an old photo off the floor with 'Murlough McCarrys' written on the back. My father knew his grandfather (Hugh), Hugh's sister Lizzie, and their parents, but no-one else. I was trained as a researcher and thought it pretty pointless that I couldn't recognise my own family, so we went up to Pat McCarry Sr in Murlough and he filled in the rest. That got me started on the family tree and Murlough. Then I saw an article from *The Glynn's* in 1982. In it, Chrissie Laverty (née McCloy, Benvan) had written a bit of a history on the Stewarts and included a line: "*All the hills and hollows at Benvan have beautiful Gaelic names that are really rare.*" I wondered what they were – and here we are now.

I've a few thanks and dedications to include

since I have the chance. Everyone that helped and gave up their time for us (we lost count a long time ago), the project partners - the Heritage Lottery funded Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme (Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust), and the PEACE IV Understanding Our Area programme team, the Society volunteers who did the work, and Maureen McCarry (née Close, Ballygalget) for letting us use Colliers' Hall as a HQ (Gerard also helped). Dr Pat McKay and Prof Gregory Toner (both formerly of the NI Placenames Project) are also due a thanks for helping out in translating the more difficult names.

A few that have since passed: Pat Dennis of Coolnagoppoge (née Hunter Ballyucan). I went up to her in August 2015 saying I had three internationally-renowned Casement scholars looking to come up for the centenary, but at that time I'd no money, venue, nor group behind me: "Why don't you form a Historical Society for Carey?" was Pat's

response (said in a way that convinced you it was the best idea you'd ever heard). Most of this book was written in Tom O'Neill's pub when I was supposed to be working, while John Duncan (Drumnakeel) was another we got a lot of stories from (and a fair few we left out). Brian McCaughan (Duncarbit) was a gentleman, he was a great help to us in the summer of 2016 when we were putting together the first Festival of Heritage in Bun na Margaí. Brian asked a few times if the fieldname project was making its way down the Glen. I said to him if he's moving to Carey he owes us a good forward, but that I'd like to do one on the townlands of Glenshesk Chapel at some point in the future. Hopefully we'll be able to do that in Brian's memory.

Pat McCarry Sr in Murlough put the first map together with me. He said a few times he wanted a sign up there of all the names so the tourists knew where they were, however it always took a backseat once the mackerel were out. I

would also like to think I'll still be in Murlough aged 85 and a half chasing dolphins in a glorified bathtub. Siobhán said she made him promise he'd go nowhere near that boat, old habits die hard!

Lastly is my late grandmother Margaret McCarry (née McErlaine of Breen, Glenshesk). I've hazy childhood memories

of her in Dublin showing me old family photos and telling me to pay attention to the books, so the importance of both has stuck with me since.

Thanks to everyone who helped out in whatever way you did, we got around as many people as we could in recent years. Thanks also to the committee of the Society,

many hands made light work. The following chapter explains the structure of the book, I'll only add here a reminder that it's a first draft (ergo mistakes will ensue). Fortunately, Kevin is our Complaints Officer so direct them all at him!

**Fionntán McCarry,
Drumahaman.**

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A shepherd and his flock. Pat McCarry Sr, Murlough.

CAREY & CULFEIGHTRIN, TOWNLANDS & FIELDNAMES

Carey

Carey (Cothraí) is thought to be an old tribal name along the lines of Offaly (named after the 5th Century Uí Failghe) or Meath (Mide), and was first recorded circa 700 in a list of churches founded by St Patrick. An alternative source of the name popular in the 1838 *Ordnance Survey Memoirs*, is as a combination of cath (battle) and rí (king), referring to the King of Ulster and Ballynaglogh.

The earlier form of Cothraí was Cothraighe,¹ which was also the slave name given to St Patrick. The Cothraighe have in turn been linked with the Gaulish (Celtic) tribe the Caturiges² (based in the Alps in south-east France). The origin story of the Gaels (Lebor Gabála Érenn - *The Book of the Taking of Ireland*) is that they are descended from the Scythians, Egyptians,

Greeks, Iberians, and Babylonians, while recent DNA studies has put the origins of the Gaels in the Middle East (Babylon is in Iraq) and the Ukrainian Steppe (Scythia). The likelihood of Carey being derived from an Alpine tribe is remote at best; the true origins of the name will probably never be uncovered.

Culfeightrin

There are two possible meanings of Culfeightrin, one infinitely more interesting than the other. The first part of the name – Cul – means corner or recess (Cúil); the second – feightrin – could refer either to an old saint (St Fechtany or St Fiachrius), or a corruption of eachtrannach (foreigner or stranger).

The parish name was first recorded circa 900, and the corner of the strangers was the form accepted by the NI Placenames project.³

There were never any clues as to who these foreigners were, except that 900 predates the first Norman invasion by two centuries. Whoever they were, had to be foreign to the Gaels, and to be settled long enough to be called so and the name to stick. The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of the 1830s make numerous mentions of what the Carey folk then called “Danes’ Houses”, while an old coal mine found in Tornaroan circa 1770, was also called a Danish mine. The Danes were the Vikings who raided, invaded and settled circa 790-900. They went to war with, and married into, numerous Gaelic clans around this time, including the McDonnells in the Scottish Isles.⁴ The Vikings burnt a monastery on Rathlin in 795, while a Viking grave was found in Church Bay in the 18th Century.⁵ The answer to the question is likely still lying below someone’s

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 1-9).

2 (1898) *Folk-Lore, A Quarterly Review of Myth, Tradition, Institution, and Custom*. Vol 9.

3 Mac Gabhann (1997: 108).

4 The famous Somhairle Buidhe Mac Domhnaill (Sorley Boy McDonnell) takes his first name from the old Icelandic name of Sumarlídi (summer-farer or warrior). The McDonnell septs (e.g. McAllister, McGill, McAfee) will also have Viking ancestors. McAuley translates as ‘son of Olaf’, while McLaughlin (Lochlann refers to Vikings or Viking territory) and Casement (son of Asmundr) are also of similar origins. Butler and Jolly are from Normandy in France, itself named after ‘Northmen’, the mainly Danish Vikings who conquered the area, then conquered England, then over here.

5 Williams, B. (1990: 50) *The Archaeology of Rathlin Island. Archaeology Ireland*, 4(2): 47-51.

field, but certainly some breed of people had to be the foreigners or strangers the parish has been named after. The forty townlands within the current Catholic parish of Culfeightrin were selected for inclusion in this book. Historically, the parish consisted of seventy-two townlands, from Glenshesk down to Ardaghmore, and over to Cushendun. However, in the 1890s, the other thirty-two townlands were reassigned to Ramoan and Cushendun parishes when the Catholic parishes were reorganised. The civil parish of Culfeightrin used by the NI Placenames Project in 1997 includes all seventy two townlands, while the Barony of Carey was bounded by the Bush and Dun rivers, both areas beyond our capabilities!

Townlands

Townlands reflect the old Gaelic form of land division, although, as 'townland' is an English word, the name came along at a much later

date. Cattle were the main source of wealth for Gaelic clans, and the land was organised around its value as a baile bó (cow land). Above the townland were the baile biadhthaigh (lands of a food-provider), which was the territory controlled by a clan or its septs (septs are the families following a clan, for example McAllisters were a sept of the McDonnells). A baile biadhthaigh was a group of townlands (maybe up to 16), organised so they provided a fair share of arable and pastoral land, turf, timber and fresh water.

Townlands were first mapped by the English in the early 17th Century to help the Plantation process at this time. This book is based on early editions of the Ordnance Survey, dating from the 1830s, when Ireland was mapped by the Royal Engineers for taxation and military planning purposes (the Antrim Coast Road was first called the Royal Military Way, while in the 1850s the Ordnance Survey was

run by the War Office, now the Ministry of Defence). Today, the most interesting archaeological survey of Carey remains that of the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1838, in which officers noted stories from whomever they met along the way. Most of the spellings of townland names used today came from these surveys, attempts by English speakers to phonetically record a language foreign to them. Brian Friel's play *Translations* is based on the early surveyors attempting to record townland names in Donegal.

The earliest map of Carey we used is the 1654 Down Survey, which measured every Irish townland to be forfeited to pay for Cromwell's invasion should he succeed, either to his soldiers as back-pay, or to repay investors. The 1654 map covered the same territory as old Culfeightrin parish, but records it as twenty-two townlands, rather than seventy-two. Of the

twenty-two townlands, eighteen of the townland names are still in modern-day use.

Fieldnames & Placenames

We used fieldnames and placenames as short-hand terms, but really we were collecting every name on the landscape we could get, be it bush, rock, hedge, laneway or whatever else. If the dog stood still for long enough, I'd have written its name down too. Usually in these sorts of projects you record everything, as you don't know what will be of value to those coming after you. We noticed a common view along the lines of *"We don't have any proper fieldnames, only our pet names for ourselves"*, meaning that the English ones didn't count. It is true to say that the Gaelic names could trace back 2000 years, and that the English names are more

than likely no older than the 1830s, but they are similar in most areas. For example, where the 'pet' name might be *The Wee Field*, the 'proper' fieldname is *Gortin* or *Park Vig*, both of which mean small field (Goirtín and Páirc Bheag)

The main difference appears to be that English names are more likely to reference a field's location relative to the farm house (First Field, Far Field), while Gaelic names are typically more descriptive of the landscape (An tAllt Dorcha – the dark steep glen). This could be a consequence of the move away from traditional form of common ground, based around clachans, towards modern farms with isolated farmhouses. Or, perhaps just representative of the fact that we don't need to know every inch of the land intimately to survive.

How the ground is used is fairly similar: The *Hay Field* or *Gartnahorn* (*Gort na hEorna - the field of the barley*). Likewise for first names and surnames you have *Machairín Dónaill* (*Dónall's little plain*), or *Dolly's Acre*; *Fearann Mhic Artúir* (*Mac Artúir's ploughland*), or *Sinclair's Mountain*.

A field without a name was mystifying to us, however it may be a sign of how farming has changed over time. If you are farming alone maybe the landscape has no need of a name. We asked a few people *"if there's no name how are you meant to know where to put the lambs?"*, and got two answers: *'that's the story of my childhood'*, and *'keep walking until the shouting stops'*.

ABOUT THE BOOK

"Irish placenames dry out when anglicised, like twigs snapped off from a tree."

Tim Robinson (2006) *Connemara: Listening to the Wind*

Initially this book was written to record the landscape names for future generations. Other books and articles offer names and translations, but not maps showing locations. A name will only survive if used, and it's hard to use a name if you don't know to where it refers. All but a handful of the places mentioned in this book are on private ground on working farms, so the maps should not be taken as invitations to trespass, particularly for dog-walkers.

The maps show locations for the names, as well as the townlands. They provide a reference point for the current landscape, although they cannot truly reflect the topography of the hills and valleys. Fieldnames have been translated as closely as possible, however for some there were multiple options. As so many places are named after families no longer living there, we have focused on that as well.

The book contains a chapter for each townland in the parish. The chapters follow a similar format, however the level of detail varies depending on the material available to our researchers. It's also important to remember that this is a work-in-progress, to be corrected and updated over time. To that end anyone with an interest should feel free to grab a pen and paper and help fill in the gaps for each chapter, particularly the family stories.

Chapter Elements

1. Origin of the townland name.
2. Townland map showing the locations of all the fieldnames.
3. A list (with translations) of all the names, followed by the stories behind the names where possible.

During the first phase we found quite a few fields named after families that once farmed them, so where possible, details of what happened to these families has been included.

4. Compile survey data 1669, 1734, 1803, 1831, 1861, 1901, 1911 and 2018 by surname
 - a. Ask people if they remember what happened to the surnames that are gone from 1911.
 - b. Try and get old family photos of the 1911 generation.

We had also hoped to replicate the format of some of the source data we were using: the 1838 *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* included names and townlands of those that gave the surveyor local stories (for example William Butler of Watertop), while the 1861 Griffith's Valuation shows who was resident in every house. While we have collected all this for the historical record, it was

easier not to publish it than comply with modern data protection law.

There are a few odd and strangulated references to present day people and place as a consequence.

Finally, parts of old maps are included to show landscape changes, usually old roads or mill races. Newspaper cuttings and old photographs provide detail on stories,

the people, and the landscape. As well as translations, stories of how the fields were named are included. A personal favourite is *The Shank Field* in Ballyreagh Lower, the site of the Belfast Coal & Iron Works circa 1905, run by a Latvian who went on to invent the iconic helmet of the First World War (who then sued the US government for not paying their bills).

Incorporated in the townland maps are all the archaeological sites recorded in the Historic Environment Map (HEM), which is freely available and searchable online by townland.¹ The HEM also includes case files from the late 1980s and early 1990s, when the then Archaeological Service of Northern Ireland attempted to locate sites mentioned in the 1838 *Ordnance Survey Memoirs*. Some of the sites in the area could pre-date the Egyptian pyramids up by to a thousand years, particularly the megalithic tombs.

Booleys, Clachans and Rundales: Booleys, clachans and rundales are all interrelated, with Coolnagoppoge the best known example of all three in Carey.

The clachan (small village) was a tightly packed cluster of houses, similar to a modern housing estate, except in a clachan there is usually a familial relationship between residents.

In Ireland, early farms were established in clachans on the most fertile ground, and as the population increased, livestock were moved to the mountain to graze in summer, reducing pressure on land close to the clachan. The Gaelic term was *buaile*, after *bó* (cow), mentioned in the Brehon Laws of the fifth century. Booley sites are typically two to five miles away from the clachans, depending on the number of people living on the land. The closer together they are, the more likely it is booleys were managed by women and children, but those further away required more men. The rundale was a system of joint landholding on shared farms, based around the clachan and booleys, with fields being rotated every few years. Clachans were mostly self-sufficient, apart from items such as salt or metal tools.

The majority of information on Irish rundales is from around 1700 to 1900, in isolated parts of the west it was still within living memory in the 1950s. The system roughly worked as follows, but each individual area had their own take:²

1. Each clachan had a King who led community decisions. The King drew lots when land was re-assigned during the twelve days of Christmas, and decided the number of animals allowed on the mountain each year. The King also collected rents for the landlord, and organised communal work, such as ploughing and sowing crops, lifting seaweed for fertiliser, and turf cutting.
2. The fertile ground around the clachan was divided out amongst the families every three years by drawing the lots, with the clachan following a crop rotation

¹ dfcgis.maps.arcgis.com

² Yager, T. (2002) What was Rundale and where did it come from? *Béaloides*, 70: 153-186.

plan (for example potatoes one year, oats the second, and left fallow the third). Large fields were separated into the long narrow strips that we now call dales, in which the pre-agreed crops were planted. The dales were only separated by drains, and returned to common grazing in winter. The best view of dales in Carey is above Crook Corner on the way to Murlough, as over to your right are the distinctive fields of Coolnagoppoge.

3. The basis for division was the colpa (collop), a unit of land measurement based on the quality of the land.³ One colpa was enough to graze one cow, or to support one family, and land was divided up according to individual family need.
4. To free up the dales for crops, cattle were sent to the mountains to graze from May 1st until the end of October. The entirety of the clachan would have gathered up and brought the necessary supplies along with the cattle.
5. A farming family would have been split between the clachan and the mountain, with booley huts, beside burns for fresh water, their accommodation on the mountain. The booley could a combination of a timber frame wrapped in willow, and thatched with rushes or grass, or cut into the bank and built with stones, timber, and sods.
6. Cattle would have been milked on the mountain, and butter made in the booleys, and collected weekly. In the OSM there are a few mentions of butter being found in the mountain bogs in Carey. Often only the milkmaid, typically a wife or daughter, along with children to herd the cattle, stayed on the mountain.
7. The cattle returned to the clachans before November, and the dales were common grazing land until St Patrick's Day.

The summer season was marked by two festivals, Bealtaine on 1st May, and Samhain from 31st October to 1st November. The latter has been lost now to Halloween, though the rituals have survived. Bonfires were lit for protection from the winter, while offerings of food and drink were left outside for the fairies. Places were set aside at the dinner table for the souls of departed family, while what we know as trick or treating was also part of Samhain. The main Bealtaine ritual was to light two bonfires, and drive the cattle between them to protect them from disease.

3 Collops are "the old style of reckoning for land, before the people got too bloodyfull smart and educated, and let the Government or anyone else do their thinking for them. A collop was the old count for the carrying power of land. The grazing of one cow, or two yearling heifers, or six sheep, or twelve goats, or six geese and a gander was one collop. The grazing of a horse was three collops. I tell you, that was a better style of reckoning than your acres and your yards. It told you the value of a farm. Not the size of it." Cross, E. (1972: 31) *The Tailor and Ansty*. Mercier Press: Cork.

4 Flaherty, E. (2015: 8) 'Rundale and 19th Century Irish Settlement: System, Space and Genealogy'. *Irish Geography*, 48(2), 3-38.

The rundale system started to collapse from the mid-nineteenth century, due to a combination of significant population increase, landlordism, private capital, and modern agricultural methods.⁴ Land was subdivided as the populations grew, smallholdings couldn't support families, and rent became unaffordable. Land also became scattered through, and across, generations. One deposition to the Land Commissions in 1840s Donegal was from a tailor who *"had his land in forty-two different places, and gave it up in despair, declaring that it would take a very keen man to find it."*⁵

Crannógs: thought to be built in two phases (420-650 and 720-930). Crannógs are artificial islands built from wood and stones in the middle of lakes. They were high status sites for local notables, used as a secure dwelling site, or place of refuge.

Cillíní (little burial grounds): these are unconsecrated burial grounds for children unbaptised at the time of their death. Sometimes they are incorporated into the body of disused churches (such as at Cross and Murlough), but can also be separate from any known church sites (Drumadoon and Drumnakeel). Others, such as the Friary at Bun na Margaí, were used to bury unidentified individuals, such as shipwrecked sailors or strangers.

Dúns (forts): with population increase and land disputes, farming settlements became fortified farmhouses on rocky outcrops or small hills, in use mainly from 500-1000. Some dúns were surrounded with ditches and wooden palisades, others were natural rocky outcrops levelled off at the top. Dúns were effective at protecting goods and livestock from wild animals, and small-scale raids, but they weren't much use against the larger Viking raids, leading to the development of the souterrain.

Souterrains: souterrains are underground passageways usually found near dúns or settlements. They could have been used as food stores, but more likely they were places of refuge from the Vikings and other attackers. Some of the longest souterrains in Ireland are over 300 feet long. There are stories of souterrains running the length of the Warren to Ballyvoy, and from the coast to the Carey River. Underneath Bun na Margaí Friary there are rumoured to be six souterrains arranged like the spokes of a bicycle wheel, and another series of souterrains has been suggested under Castle Culbert in Brackney.

5 Yager, T. (2002: 170).

Tombs:⁶ many of the megalithic tombs in Ireland are up to 6,000 years old, and are the earliest evidence of man-made structures still visible in the landscape. As tombs are pre-Christian, there are numerous different names and cultural interpretations of their origins (Druids' Temples, Giants' Graves). The construction of stone tombs began in the Neolithic age, c. 3800-2500 BC). Neolithic people were the first farmers (the Céide Fields in Mayo are small fields separated by dry stone walls dating to 3500-3000BC), rather than hunter-gatherers constantly on the move, so the origin of tombs is assumed to relate to the ties to the land that farming brings. There are four main types of tombs during this period: portal, court, passage, and wedge.

Megalithic tombs all share common features; an entrance leading to an inner chamber capped with large stones, and covered with the cairn (a circular pile of stones), kept in place with kerb stones round the outer edge. Often cairns disappeared over the following centuries, the stones taken for walls, roads, and buildings, with only the largest left behind. There are unclassified megaliths in the following townlands: Ballyreagh Lower & Upper, Barnish, Bighouse, Craigfad, Cross, Drumadoon, Glenmakeeran, Losset, Tirvillin, Torglass, and Twenty Acres.

1. **Portal Tombs (Ballyvennaght):** portal tombs usually consist of two large upright stones (the portals) with a large capstone balanced on top, and a third smaller stone at the opposite end to balance the capstone. The weights of capstones recorded in the North vary from 2.2 tonnes up to 50 tonnes, the size of the capstone is thought to represent the status of the individual or their family. Portal tombs are thought to be the earliest type of tomb due to their simple design. They are often found near streams, facing upstream, on a south facing slope with the entrance facing east. Typically they are found at lower altitudes, around 5 to 150 metres above sea level.
2. **Court Tombs (Ballyvennaght, Ballyvoy, Eglish, Glenmakeeran, Tirvillin):** thought to be contemporaneous to portal tombs, court tombs take their name from a horse-shoe shaped courtyard at the entrance, with between two and five chambers inside. Portal and court tombs are not generally found together in the landscape, with court tombs built between 100-250m above sea level, and *'on platforms, knolls, and small ridges with spectacular views of the surrounding countryside'*.⁷ They usually face east, with a close

6 Most of the information on megalithic tombs has been adapted from Welch, H. (2011) *Tomb Travel: A guide to Northern Ireland's megalithic monuments*. The Stationery Office: Norwich

7 Welch (2011: 47)

connection to the rising sun, and have been dated to between 3720-3560BC. Welsh believes court tombs could have been ceremonial or ritual sites, rather than tombs for burials, although many court tombs were re-used as burial sites in the early Bronze Age.

3. **Passage Tombs (Ballyvoy, Cross):** these tombs take their name from the passageway consisting of large upright stones or a dry stone wall that connected the entrance to the inner chamber. Most of the passage tombs in Ireland are in a line from Sligo to the Boyne Valley, with the last of them thought to have been built around 2500BC.
4. **Wedge Tombs (Ballyvennaght, Dunmakeltar):** these are the most common type of megalithic tombs in Ireland, and are thought to have been the most recent, as evidence of Bronze Age use is often found. Welsh commented that *'they marked the end of the megalithic tomb-building tradition'*.⁸ Wedge tombs are distinct due to their shape, wide at the front and narrower at the back. Many wedge tombs are found at higher altitudes in less fertile soil than the other tombs, however the reason why is still unknown. They were not communal burial sites, and are thought to be restricted only to a few high-status individuals.

Megalithic tomb building ended with the arrival of new Bronze Age people around 2500 BC. Bronze Age burials usually took the form of small cists sometimes covered with stone cairns or earthen mounds or underground graves.

Within two miles of the Vanishing Lake in Ballyvennaght there are three portal tombs, four court tombs, three passage tombs, and two wedge tombs. There are also another 12 unclassified megaliths, and 33 mostly Bronze Age burial sites. Harry Welsh commented that this *'suggests that Loughareema was part of a major sacred landscape throughout most of prehistory'*.⁹

There are many unexplored stories of how these ancient sites in Carey are linked with each other, and those further afield. One such story tells of a ring of standing stones around Knocklayde, while another tells of the standing stone at the Church of Ireland in Ballynaglogh being in a line with one at Armoy Round Tower. A third story mentions that a standing stone on Glenmakeeran mountain ties in with the other two sites. No doubt there are many stones and stories still to be found yet.

8 Welsh (2011: 69)

9 Welsh (2011: 34)

VII SOURCES

Old Maps

We used the 1st to 4th Editions of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, dating from 1830 to 1900. Some townland maps from the Antrim Estate (Glenarm McDonnells), dating from the 1840s, were sourced from the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) in Belfast. The 1654 Down Survey Map is available online from Trinity College, Dublin. The modern maps used for the townlands are 2010 orthophotography provided by the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme (Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust).

Family Names

These sources were used to compile lists of surnames for each townland. The 1669, 1803, and 1831 surveys do not include everyone living there at the time. In some cases the first two surveys had different townland boundaries or names to the later surveys.

1669 Hearth Money Rolls

The Hearth Tax was introduced into Ireland in 1662 and listed everyone who was able to pay a tax of two shillings on every hearth or fireplace they had.

1734 Religious Census

A survey listing residents by religion and townland.

1803 Agricultural Census

After Robert Emmet's failed rebellion, plans were drawn up to evacuate coastal areas in the event of the French successfully landing in support of another United Irishmen uprising. A survey was commissioned of all livestock, crops, wagons and horses, with the farmers' names included also.

1831 Tithe Applotment

This was a tax on agricultural land was to be paid to Church of Ireland clergy by leaseholders, regardless of their religious denomination. There was particular resentment amongst Catholics and Presbyterians, as they supported their own churches as well as paying the tithes. The Tithe Applotment Books were parish based surveys, organised by townland, recording names of leaseholders (tenant farmers), and other details relevant to calculating the tax burden. Culfeightrin was surveyed in 1831.

1861 Griffith's Valuation

The Griffith's Valuation survey included maps, allowing us to locate who owned or leased each field, and where they lived in 1861. However, similar to the Tithe Applotment, only leaseholder details were included, not all residents. The first survey was revised continually until 1933, showing the changes in households and land ownership over time.

1901 & 1911 Census

The censuses are a great resource, as they give details such as age, length of marriage, number of children, and occupation. They also list everyone resident in each house. However, unlike the Griffith's Valuation, there are no accompanying maps.

After we started our project, the General Register Office in Dublin made birth (1864-1916), marriage (1870-1941), and death (1878-1966) records freely available and searchable online at irishgenealogy.ie.

National Library of Ireland Images

- Pg 79 & 80. M34/35 Ballycastle Coal & Oil Works. Chimney: Belfast Coal & Iron. Mason Photographic Collection.
- Pg 148. L_CAB_04998 Fair Head, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim. The Lawrence Photographic Collection.
- Pg 188. EAS_0281 Murlough Bay, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim. Eason Photographic Collection.
- Pg 201. L_CAB_04994 Ballycastle, Co. Antrim. The Lawrence Photographic Collection.
- Pg 201. L_CAB_09257 Ballycastle, Co. Antrim. The Lawrence Photographic Collection.
- Pg 251. L_ROY_10131 Magherintemple, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim. The Lawrence Photographic Collection.
- Pg 281. L_ROY_03504 Rathlin Island, Co. Antrim. The Lawrence Photographic Collection.

National Museums NI Images

- Pg 111. HOYFM.WAG.1548. Ballyvennacht Standing Stone, Co Antrim. W.A. Green © National Museums NI. Collection Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.
- Pg 114. HOYFM.WAG.1547. Ballyvennacht Cromlech, Ballycastle. W.A.Green © National Museums NI. Collection Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.
- Pg 188. BELUM.Y.W.01.56.35. Murlough Bay from Drumnakill Point with weathered stone cross. Robert John Welch, (1859-1936) © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Museum.
- Pg 190. HOYFM.WAG.1945. Sheep Dipping, Co. Antrim. W.A. Green © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.
- Pg 198 & Pg 205. HOYFM.WAG.3885. Bonamargy Abbey, Ballycastle. W.A. Green © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.
- Pg 331. HOYFM.WAG.1093. Corrymeela, Ballycastle. W.A. Green © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.
- Pg 392. BELUM.Y.W.01.56.41. "At the Cottage, Murlough Bay." Robert John Welch, (1859-1936)© National Museums NI Collection Ulster Museum.
- Pg 393. BELUM.Y10030. Mary Clarke of Murlough Bay. F.J. Bigger © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Museum.
- Pg 456, Pg 460 & Pg 461. HOYFM.WAG.831. Fair Head from the Coal Mines. W.A. Green © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Folk & Transport Museum.
- Pg 462. BELUM.Y.W.01.56.13. Kelp gatherers at work near Fair Head, Co. Antrim. Robert John Welch, (1859-1936) © National Museums NI Collection Ulster Museum.

PLACENAMES AND FIELDNAMES OF
CULFEIGHTRIN

CHAPTERS 1 - 40

Daniel McCann (1850-1931) who emigrated to Oregon.
He was a brother of Johnny McCann.



Fieldnames

1. Garden of Carey;
2. Garden of Eden;
3. Guttery Brae;
4. Kiln Field;
5. Rough Brae;
6. The Field at McIlroy's House;
7. Upper Field.

The *Garden of Carey* and *Garden of Eden* are named because of their fertility, while the *Kiln Field* appears to have no trace of a kiln. The McIlroys used to live in the corner of the field that bears their name. Acravally is one of many townlands in Carey described as being of 'uncertain origin'. The original form is thought to be *Acra bhile*, 'acre of the sacred tree'. Though the modern townland is 31 acres, increased from 16 acres in the 1654 map, Mac Gabhann accepts the *Acra* element. The second element, *bhile*, is more troublesome, as the historical sources do not agree, 'vally' could be a corruption of *báille* (bailiff), the surname *Mailleach* (a sept of the MacGregor Clan), or *bealach* (road or track).¹ We were unable to find any local stories on the origin of the townland name to shed light on the mystery.



Families

- 1715:** McMichael.
1734:² McFarland, McIlrevie,³ McKain,⁴ Morison, Sharp.
1803:⁵ Clark.
1831: Black, McCann, Prendable.
1861: McCaig, McCann, McHenry, Watt.
1901: Anderson, McCann (& farm worker McCollum).
1911: Anderson, McCann.
2018: McVeigh.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 108-9).

2 Achrulla.

3 This was a name common around Southend in Kintyre.

4 Possibly later McCann.

5 Akervelley.

The family of Dougal McMichael lived in "Ekerveley" in the early 1700s, while a Robert McMichael later married Mary McCann of Acravally. The McMichael family headstone lies in Bun na Margái and reads as follows:

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF MARY MCMICHAEL
WHO DIED AUGUST THE 4TH 1714 AGED
NEALE MCMICHAEL DIED MARCH THE 16TH 1757
ALSO JOHN MCMICHAEL DIED MARCH THE 15
1753 AND MARY MCMICHAEL DIED OCTOBER
THE 27 1755 CHILDREN TO DOUGAL MCMICHAEL
OF EKERVELEYWHOSE AGE WAS 54 YEARS.

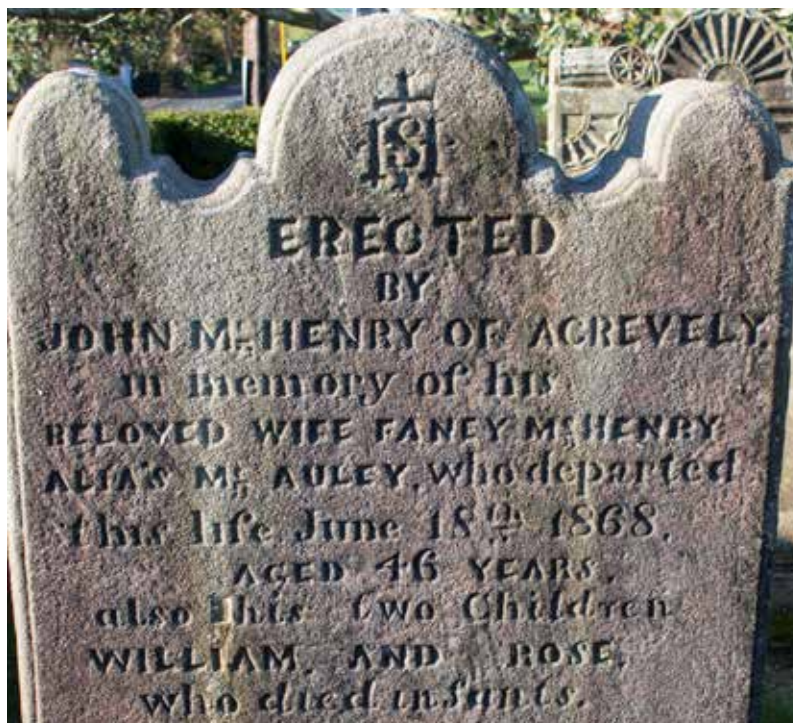


The McMichael Family headstone.

The McCann family were living in Culfeightrin since at least 1803, and in Acravally since at least 1861, and were related by marriage to McCormicks, Cassidys and McKeagues. Joseph

McCann emigrated to New Zealand. In 1914, he was murdered, along with his wife Lucy and baby son John, in a horrific attack at Ruahine. Joseph wasn't even 40 years of age. Daniel McCann also

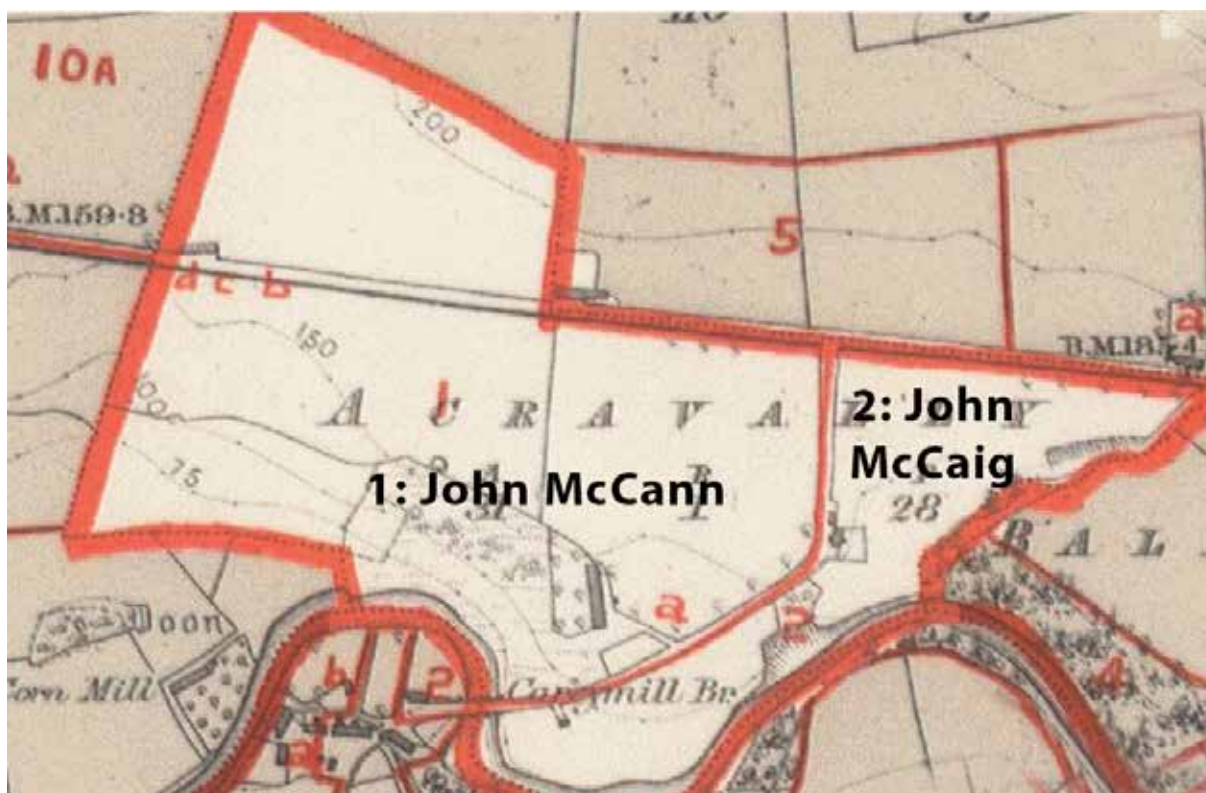
emigrated, to Oregon in the United States. He wrote a letter home from a town called Champoeg in 1876, and described his grandmother, likely McCormick, at the spinning wheel in Eglish.



Headstone in Barnish for the McHenry family, Acrevely, 1868.



McCann headstone in Barnish (1874-1940).



Acravally 1861. Living at the top of John McCann's land were Stewart Watt (house b), John McHenry (house c), and Bridget McCann (house d).

A letter from Champoeg:

Champoeg is now a ghost town. In the 1840s it was one of the most important settlements in the French Prairie in the north-western United States, but a flood led to its demise: *"Dear Uncle, in answer to your very kind and welcome letter which I received some time since I now hasten to answer without any further delay, and I do assure you dear uncle that you did not leave a stone unturned when you wrote me that touching letter. It made my heart swell even to the very brim when you came down so heavily upon me for being so careless by not corresponding more frequent with so good and kind a father & mother as I have got, but all I ask for is forgiveness for my past, and I do assure that I shall never never be guilty of the crime again. Tonight I sit in my own house writing you this letter. and how often do my thoughts wonder back to that dear old spot in English, where with my youthful laugh I would annoy poor Grandmother's head, or the noise of the old spinning wheel would hush me to sleep for night. Those things have all passed away like a dream and the chances are never will return any more. The chances are you and I may meet again perhaps before long who knows."* The letter goes on to describe Dan's life since the last letter home. He moved from California to Oregon, where he married into a French-Canadian farming family, and was running a farm of four hundred and fifty five acres.



Acra Valley 1923: (L-R) Dan McCann, Fred & Lizzie Kinney (née McMichael), Grace McCann (sitting), Mary Bolger (née McMichael), Michael Bolger, Johnny McCann.

Johnny McCann was the last of the family in Acra Valley, and died in 1940, aged 82. Johnny never married, and in his will he left £50 towards the debt of Barnish Primary School, money to provide an organ for the chapel, £20 per year

to pay an organist, and the sum of £1,000 for the education of boys to the priesthood. He served on the Ballycastle Rural District Council, and he left his farm to the church, although it was subsequently bought by his cousin, J.A.

McMichael. Dan McIlroy was a farm worker for Johnny McCann, and lived in the house in the field that bears his name, it's now a holiday home. A brother of Dan's worked in McGuile's Mill in the Warren.

21st December 1940, Ballymena Weekly Telegraph

FARMER'S DEATH

North Antrim has lost one of its most prominent and extensive farmers by the death of Mr John M'Cann, which occurred at his residence, Acra Valley, Ballycastle, on Friday morning. Mr M'Cann, who was in his eighty-second year, was a well-known and deservedly popular figure in the neighbourhood. For several years he was a member of Ballycastle Rural Boards, and proved himself a very worthy public representative.

Ballymena Weekly Telegraph, 21st December 1940.



Maggie Hunter (Losset) and Johnny McCann.

Pat McVeigh, of Broughanlea, bought the farm from the McMichael family in 1973. Pat also ran the shop at Barnish. He retired to the farm a few years later, where he lived until his death in 2013.

The other farm in the townland belonged to the McKeague family,

then the Anderson family. A headstone in Barnish is dedicated to John McKeague of Acravilla, his nephew Michael Anderson, and family. Michael's son was recorded as John Anderson in the 1901 Census, and as Seaghán Mac Giolla Aindréis in 1911, so he is thought to have joined the Fair Head

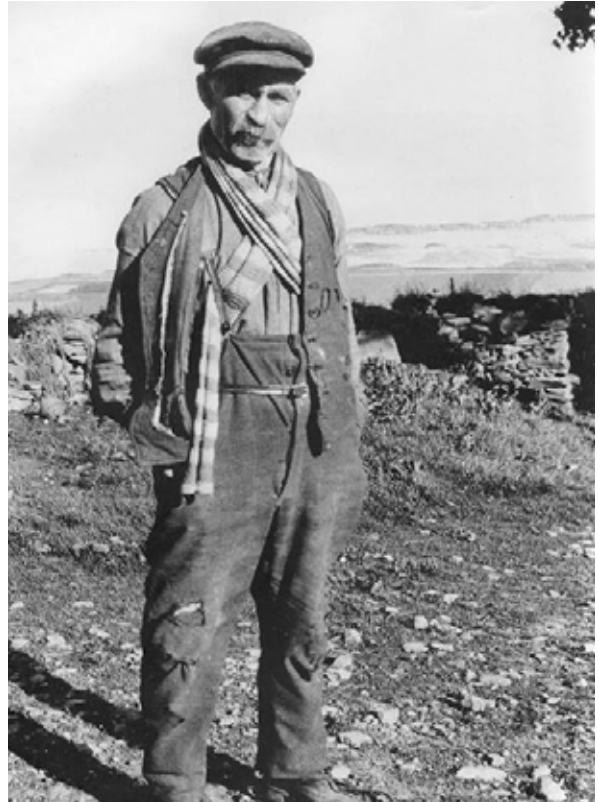
branch of the Gaelic League in the intervening years. The Andersons lived in Acravally from the turn of the twentieth century until the farm was bought by Jimmy McVeigh of Broughanlea, brother of Pat, in 1962. Jimmy had worked in the Doncaster coal mines for many years, and later in the Craigfad mine.



McKeague Acravally Barnish.



Johnny McCann, his sister Grace, and Rose McMichael.



Dan McIlroy, 1929.



Mary Anderson is the lady on the right. The house was below Jimmy McVeigh's where the bed and breakfast used to be.



Mick Anderson.



Rose Anderson (married Dan McLean of Barnish in 1910).



Jimmy McVeigh and thresher in the Upper Field.

Robert McCaughan.

Fieldnames

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Agan; | 18. Mathmagarn; |
| 2. Anderson's Field; | 19. McKeague's Field; |
| 3. Below Anderson's; | 20. McKillop's Lane; |
| 4. Big Dub Field; | 21. McKillop's or the Salt Box; |
| 5. Big Field; | 22. McNinch's Well; |
| 6. Big Skeogh; | 23. Middle Bog; |
| 7. Black Hill; | 24. Middle Mountain; |
| 8. Boiler Field; | 25. Park; |
| 9. Brae Face or Brefesh; | 26. Peter's; |
| 10. Cream of the Pan; | 27. Point Bog; |
| 11. Crook na Keelca; | 28. Pound Field; |
| 12. Dub Field; | 29. Sandy's Field; |
| 13. Far Brae; | 30. Skeogh; |
| 14. Hill Field; | 31. Tony's; |
| 15. Irish Acre; | 32. Upper Mountain; |
| 16. Kiln Field; | 33. Wee Dub Field; |
| 17. Long Field; | 34. Wee Field. |

The spelling of the townland across the records is consistent, so Baile na gCeard and 'the townland of the artificiers' are both reliable as the original form and English translation.¹ An artificer is a skilled craftsmen or inventor, possibly also a maker of weaponry. Ceard can also mean 'tinker',² John Duncan, of Drumnakeel, stated this was what the townland name meant. *Skeogh* is one of the various different spellings of sceitheog (the small hawthorn bush). It is a fairy tree that has seen at least six generations of the family who own the ground. *McKeague's Field* and *Anderson's Field* were named after the former owners, the Andersons being from Acravilla.



1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 115-6).
 2 A tinker is someone who makes a living travelling around the country repairing things, also working with copper.

Agan can be the corruption of several different words depending on what is being described, but in this case is likely to be *aigéann* (abyss, deep pool, sea or ocean),³ as there's a spring near the top of the field that never stops running. The 1850 map shows a kiln in *Crook na Keelca* (Cnoc na Chuilceach - chalky hill) where it juts into Losset, the kiln is still there today.

As well as the *Dub Field*, there were further dubs in *Agan* and *Tony's*. The four fields on the map called *Tony's* are now one field, named after Tony Mullen (if you're of a certain vintage you'd call it *Ned Mullen's*).

Most of the eastern half of the townland, where it meets Drumnakeel, is John Duncan's ground, however the only names we have are *McNinch's*

Well, Cream of the Pan, and *McKillop's/the Salt Box*. *McNinch's Well* has been used in living memory during the summers, however, the McNinchs left Ballynagard before the 1901 Census. The McKillops lived at the *Salt Box* for a time, Jimmy is the last McKillop remembered. John Mallon and wife were the last to live at the *Salt Box*.



Old wallsteads at McNinch's, the first was likely their house, the second an outhouse.

³ Mac Gabhann (1997:167).

The McKillop site is mentioned in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* as 'Ballynagard House': *in the 'holding of Alexander McDonnell, there stood a large and handsome mansion house erected there by the late Captain McDonnell, but it is now reduced to ruins and a very handsome cut stone bearing the arms of the Antrim family, which stood in the above house, now erected in front of a small lodge on the premises'.⁴*

The late Pat Dennis, of Coolnagoppoge, said the *Salt Box* was a hunting lodge that hosted shooting parties for the McDonnells. The story in Ballynagard was that there were once plans to build a castle there in the same style as Glenarm Castle, but a McDonnell drowned, or otherwise died, and the plans were

abandoned. There's a half circle of beech trees still standing where the coaches were turned. The two stories might meet somewhere in the middle, with the demise of the grand mansion mentioned in the OSM caused by the death of a McDonnell. The story, as John Duncan knew it, was that a McDonnell heiress had an illegitimate child, was disowned by the family, and was sent away to Ballynagard to raise the child. Pat Dennis had a similar story to John's.

John and Randal McDonnell of Ballynagard had leases for Coolnagoppoge, and possibly Glenmakeeran, in the 1700s, while an 1804 letter from the McGildowney Estate in Ballycastle speaks of "*McGildowny's financial responsibilities towards the Kirk*

family [as guardian for John McDonnell of Ballynagard]."⁵

Mathmagarn is the local pronunciation. From similar sounding placenames, Math may be Máthair (mother) or Magh (plain), while garn could be gCarn (carn). The other pronunciation noted was *Maghermagarron*, which could well be Machaire na nGearrán (plain of the young horses or geldings).

James Jolly held *Peter's*, named after Peter Jolly, in 1861, and lived in a small house there; *Park* was then in John McDonnell's holding. Peter Jolly is buried in old Ramoan graveyard in Ballycastle. The surname dates back to twelfth century Normandy, originally being Jolliffe.



A very handsome cut stone bearing the arms of the Antrim family.



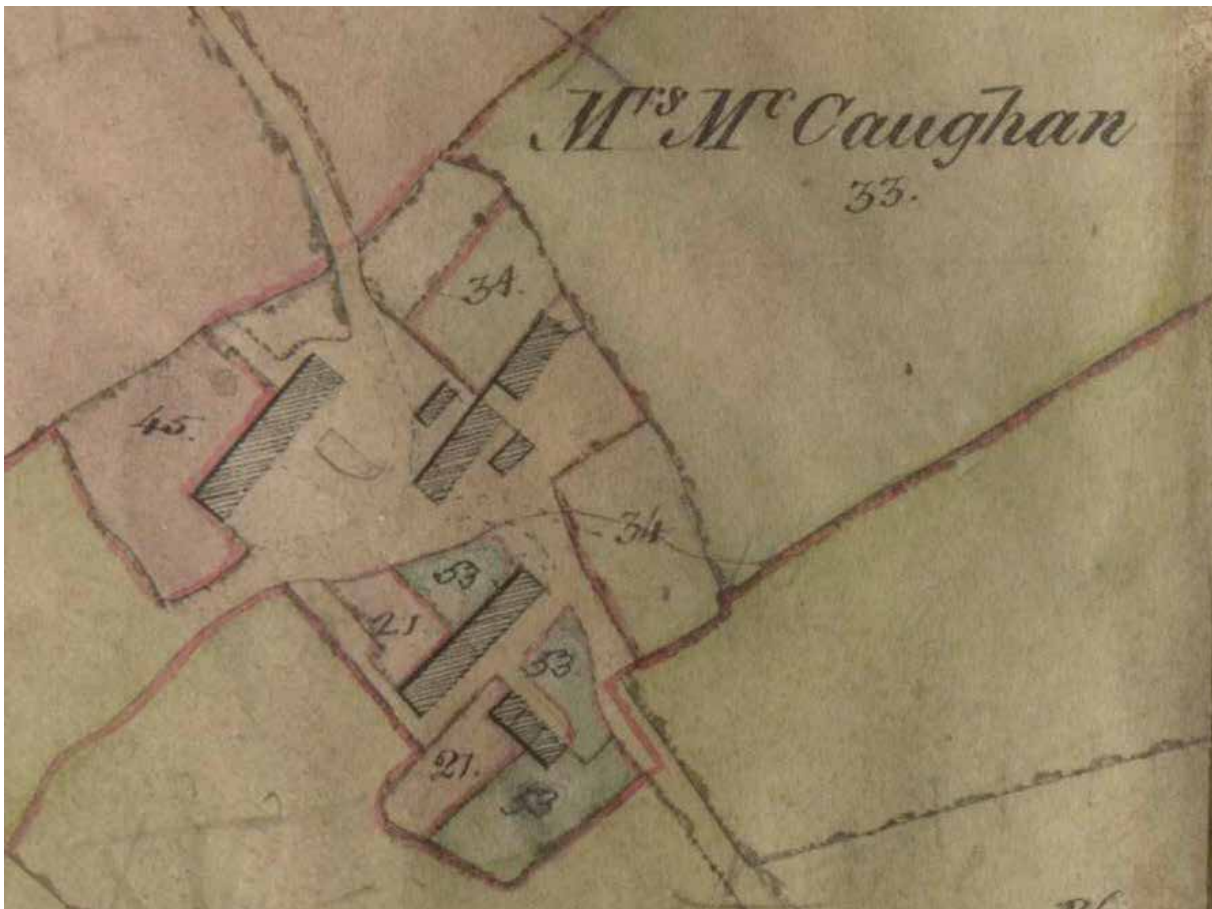
The remains of James Jolly's house of 1861, at the bottom of Peter's.

4 OSM pg 72.
5 D1375/3/4, PRONI.

Families

- 1669:** Camell, Jolly, McClaghlin, McDogell.
1734: Braine, Gilchreist, Kinnie, McAlester, McFarland, McMullan, O'Scallie, Robison, Sharp.
1803: Cerin, McAlister, McAninch, McCaghlin, McCambridg, McDonnell, McKeague.
1831: Brown, Craig, Jolly, Kerin, Kinny, McAlister, McCahan, McCambridge, McDonnell, McKeag, McNinch, Murphy, Rankin.

The earliest map we currently have for the townland is one from the Antrim Estate, dating from 1850.⁶



William McCaughan's yard in 1850: 21 is Alexander McAllister Jr; 34 is William McCaughan; 45 is Alexander McAllister Sr; 53 is Alexander Murphy. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/12/1.

The wallsteads in William McCaughan's yard are still called McCaughan's, McAllister's, and Murphy's, after the three families who lived there. It is not remembered when the McAllisters and Murphys left, although the Murphys are thought to have emigrated to Australia.

⁶ D2977/36/12/1, PRONI.



TM - Thomas Murphy, inscribed in the wallsteads that have been recently renovated.

There is a larger story about the McDonnells, however our research on this is not complete. Some of the clues from PRONI are "24 February 1809 Edmund McGildowney, Ballycastle, to Mr John McDonnell, Ballynagard [near Ballycastle]. Letter threatening distraint of goods for non-payment of rent. 'On Monday next I shall send bailiffs to distraint you and your tenants for the

rent and arrears due out of Ballynagard and as nothing can or will prevent my doing so, and that for the whole due, but your paying up or securing to be paid very shortly, every shilling [sentence incomplete]. You have gone more in arrear than the arrears you were returned in to me by Mr Hunter. As my orders to the bailiffs shall be to take first everything belonging to yourself that can be found on the premises, you had better lose no time in doing the only thing that can prevent being done what will be so ruinous to you and so unpleasant to your humble servant.'"⁷

"1803-1828 Correspondence and papers of Edmund McGildowney as a trustee for the marriage settlement of Lieutenant Alexander McDonnell

of the Antrim Militia and his wife, Mathilda, nee Kirk, and later as trustee for their son, John McDonnell of Ballynagard, Co Antrim, a minor until 1828."⁸

An 1821 letter from McGildowney to John McDonnell, details the rent due to the Earl of Antrim from John and his tenants. It includes the line "I think it would be wise in you to take the bailiff with you and to distraint any of the tenants you are afraid to lose by."⁹

On the same day, the Earl of Antrim issued eleven new leases to tenants in Ballynagard, mostly to the same names as those on the 1850 map. An 1854 lease of Ballynagard is from the Earl of Antrim to John McDonnell, inn-keeper, Port Glasgow, Scotland.¹⁰



McKillop's, 1850: the survey lists the ground under Archibald McDonnell, presumed to be Mary's husband. The lane at the top of the picture comes in from Carey Mill, while the one going to the right fords the river at the Cream of the Pan. It then splits into two, with one part coming out in Ballyvoy at the Camping Barn, and the second coming out above Drumnakeel Bridge on the main road via McKillop's Lane. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/12/1.



The old Cushendall road on the McKillop side of the river.

- 7 D1375/1/1, PRONI.
- 8 D1375/3/50, PRONI.
- 9 D1375/1/16, PRONI.
- 10 D2977/3A/2/6/14, PRONI.

Old Ballynagard Headstones

McAlister, 1852 (Bun na Margai)
 I.H.S.
 ERECTED
 To the memory of
 ALEXANDER
 MCALISTER
 late of Ballynagard
 Who departed this
 life on the 14th day of
 September Anno
 Domini
 1852 Aged 77 years.



McDonnell, 1826 (Barnish)
 I.H.S.
 Here lieth the Remains
 of John McDonnell
 of Ballynagard
 who departed this life
 6th December 1826
 Aged 74 years.



McCambridge, 1858 (Barnish)
 I.H.S.
 ERECTED BY JOHN
 McCAMBRIDGE
 of Ballynagard to
 the memory of his
 Son PATRICK who
 departed this life
 16th January 1858
 Aged 22 years.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.

Griffith's Valuation 1861:

Craig, Daragh, Jolly, Kearns,
 McAllister, McCahen, McCaig,
 McCambridge, McCormick,
 McDonnell, McIlvanny,
 McNinch, Murphy

The numbering in the 1861 map differs from that of the directory of names, so it was verified with an Antrim Estate map of the townland, dating from 1850. The 1861 map omits Alex McAllister Jr, between Patrick Cairns and Daniel McNinch. Felix McIlvanny and Patrick Daragh lived on John McDonnell's ground, while the mountain was shared between Mary McAllister, Alexander Murphy, Patrick Kearns, Daniel McNinch, Alexander McAllister, and Mary McCahen. James McCollum preceded Daniel McNinch in 1850.

1901 and 1911

Censuses:

1901: Craig, Darragh (& Mullen relations), Jolly (&

McDonnell relations),
McAlister, McCambridge,
McCaughan, McKeague,
McNeill.

1911: Jollie (& workers
Darragh & McNeill),
McCambridge,
McCaughan, McKague,
Mullen, Murphy.

2018: McBride,
McCaughan, McGowan,
McNeill, Jolly.

Everyone listed in the two Censuses were either farmers or farm workers, except for three people in 1901. Agnes McKeague was a dressmaker, while Esmay McDonnell (d.1904), and her daughter Mary Jolly, both widows, were listed as living on 'Income on Land'. The McNeills of 1901 were Charles, his wife Mary, and their daughter Mary Ann. Mary Ann married James McKillop, of Ballypatrick, in January 1918, which is where the name at the *Salt Box* originates from.

In 1911 the only Jollie was John and his wife Elizabeth (née McNaughton of the pub in Ballyvoy). The McKeagues moved to Carey Mill in the 1950s, while the last McCambridge died in 2018. *McKeague's Rodden* (from Rodán, 'little road') leads down to the former yard of the McKeague family.

Bonny Bonny

from Sam Henry's *Songs of the People*

This is a song about impressment (the press gang), a method of forced conscription used by the British Navy from the 17th to early 19th Centuries. It was recorded in 1909 by Peggy McGarry in Ballycastle, and Maud Houston in Coleraine. The *HMS Nightingale* was launched in 1805 and sold in 1815, and served in the Napoleonic Wars.

*Bonny, bonny was my seat in yon red rosy yard,
And bonny was my portion in the town of Ballynagard:
Shade and shelter was for me till I began to fail,
Ye all may guess now my distress lies near
the Nightingale.*

*While I go before these lords to let these nobles know
Our ship is in the ocean just waiting for to go,
Surely all will get the call tomorrow or next day,
And my town boys will seek convoy the day I go away.*

*Grief and woe that I must go to fight for England's king,
I neither know his friend or foe, and war's a cruel thing;
The Nightingale is near at hand, my time at home is brief,
And Carey's streams and mountain land I part with
bitter grief.*

*No more I'll walk the golden hills with Nancy by my side
Or dream along the sun-bright rills, or view my land with
pride:
We sail away at dawn of day, the sails are ready set,
When old Benmore I see no more, I'll sigh with
deep regret.*

*Now all must change and I must range across the
ocean wide;
Our ship she may in Biscay Bay lie low beneath the tide;
If I should die by cannon ball, or sink beneath the sea,
Good people all, a tear let fall and mourn for mine
and me.*

*If God should spare my graying hair and bring me
back again,
I'd love far more my Antrim shore, its dark blue hills
and rain,
Around its fires, my heart's desires, heaven grant till life
shall fail,
And take me far from cruel war and from the Nightingale.*

John Lawless:

The old Catholic Church in Ballycastle was located down Fair Hill Street, and in 1869, the current site on Moyle Road was obtained from the Boyd landlords to build a larger church. The foundation stone was laid in 1870, and the church dedicated in 1874. The spire was added nineteen years after the church was built, and was paid for by John Lawless from Ballynagard.

There were two different stories as to how John made his money. The first concerns the gold rush in the Klondike in the Yukon, north-western Canada (bordering Alaska). It was said John worked in the miners' canteen, and would brush up after each day. He collected the gold dust shaken off the miners' clothes and boots as he brushed, and at the end had amassed a fortune. He came home, lived happily ever after, and left his fortune to the church in his will. The second story is that during the American Civil War, the Confederacy had issued their own dollar, the 'greyback' to the Union's 'greenback'. Its purchasing power

was based on a Southern victory, so when the war swayed towards the Union the currency collapsed. In some entrepreneurial way, John was meant to have made his fortune on the fall of the Confederate dollar.

The first story is the more doubtful of the two, as the gold rush in the Canadian Klondike didn't start until 1896, five years after John had died. He was born in or around Ballynagard in 1808, went to school in Ballycastle, and emigrated to Canada, where he spent 40 years. He moved to Plantagenet township in Prescott County, south-eastern Ontario, on Canada's east coast. The area was settled by County Antrim Catholics from the 1820s to the 1850s. A lot of the surnames of the families are names common to Carey, while the area was also called the 'Darragh Settlement' in the early years. Brown, Darragh, Harrigan, Kain, McAllister, McAuley, McBride, McCormick, McCrank, McDonnell, McGill, McFall, McKinley, McPhee, Skelly, and Stewart are some of the surnames of the settlers.

There are definite links between current residents in Plantagenet and Carey, as confirmed by DNA tests performed to aid family tree research.

A history of Plantagenet describes Lawless as follows:

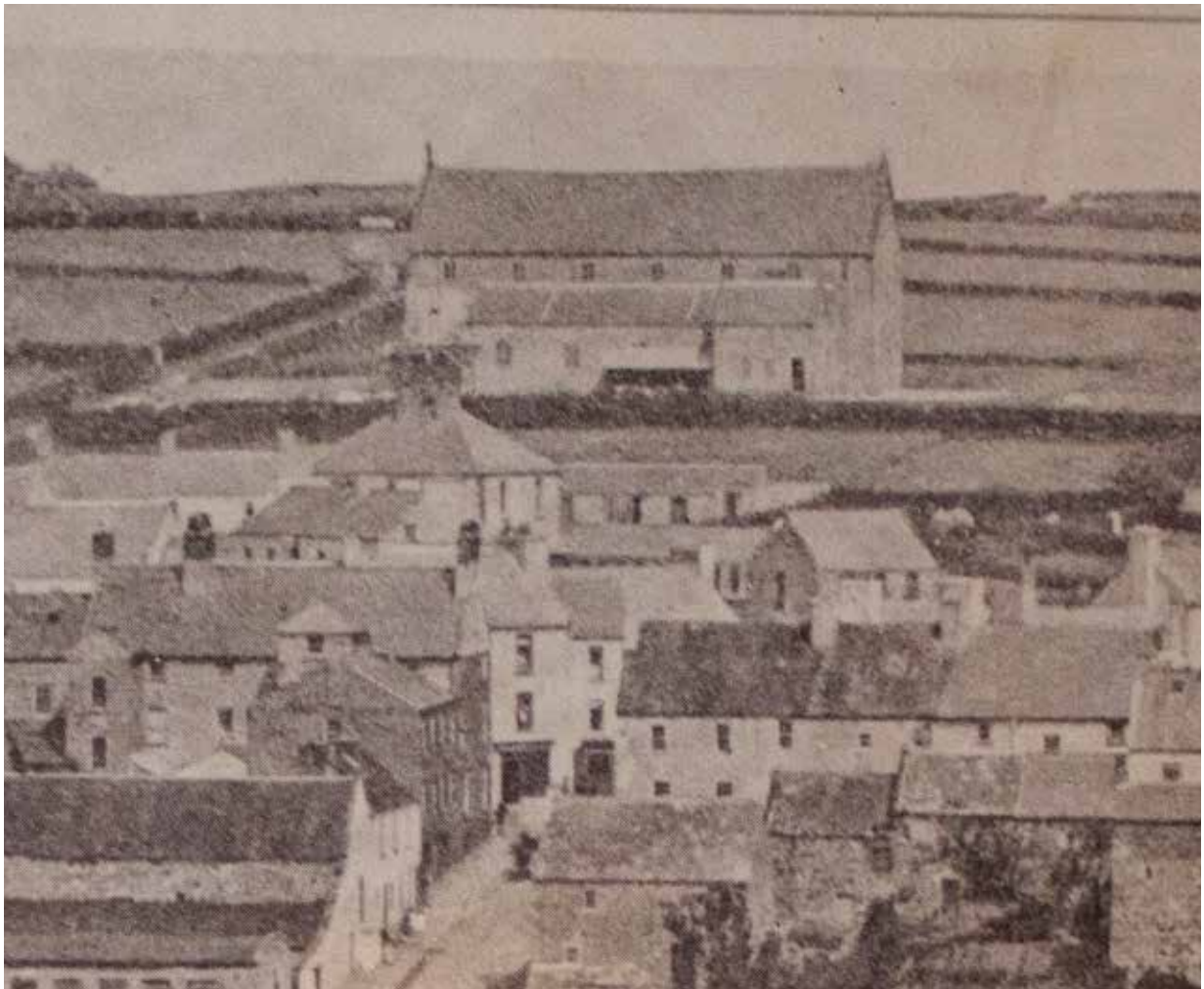
"Quite a prominent character here belonging to the past generation was John Lawless - from the County of Antrim. He came here when quite young, and built a store by the roadside, on the farm of Robert McAuley, where he carried on a profitable business for many years. He also supplemented this business by peddling through this section of country - thus becoming widely known - and as his peculiarities afforded amusement to many, and his penchant for trading was unsurpassed, his periodical visits were anticipated in many households with no little interest. He was something of a scholar, and it is said he possessed no little aptitude in the composition of rhyme, and many a story told in this manner, as well as song, which became

locally popular, was the offspring of his muse. But, however pleasant and profitable this country might be in which to live and earn money, John Lawless, like John Chinaman, preferred to die in his native land,

hence, in his declining years, he returned to Ireland, where he was laid to rest.”¹¹

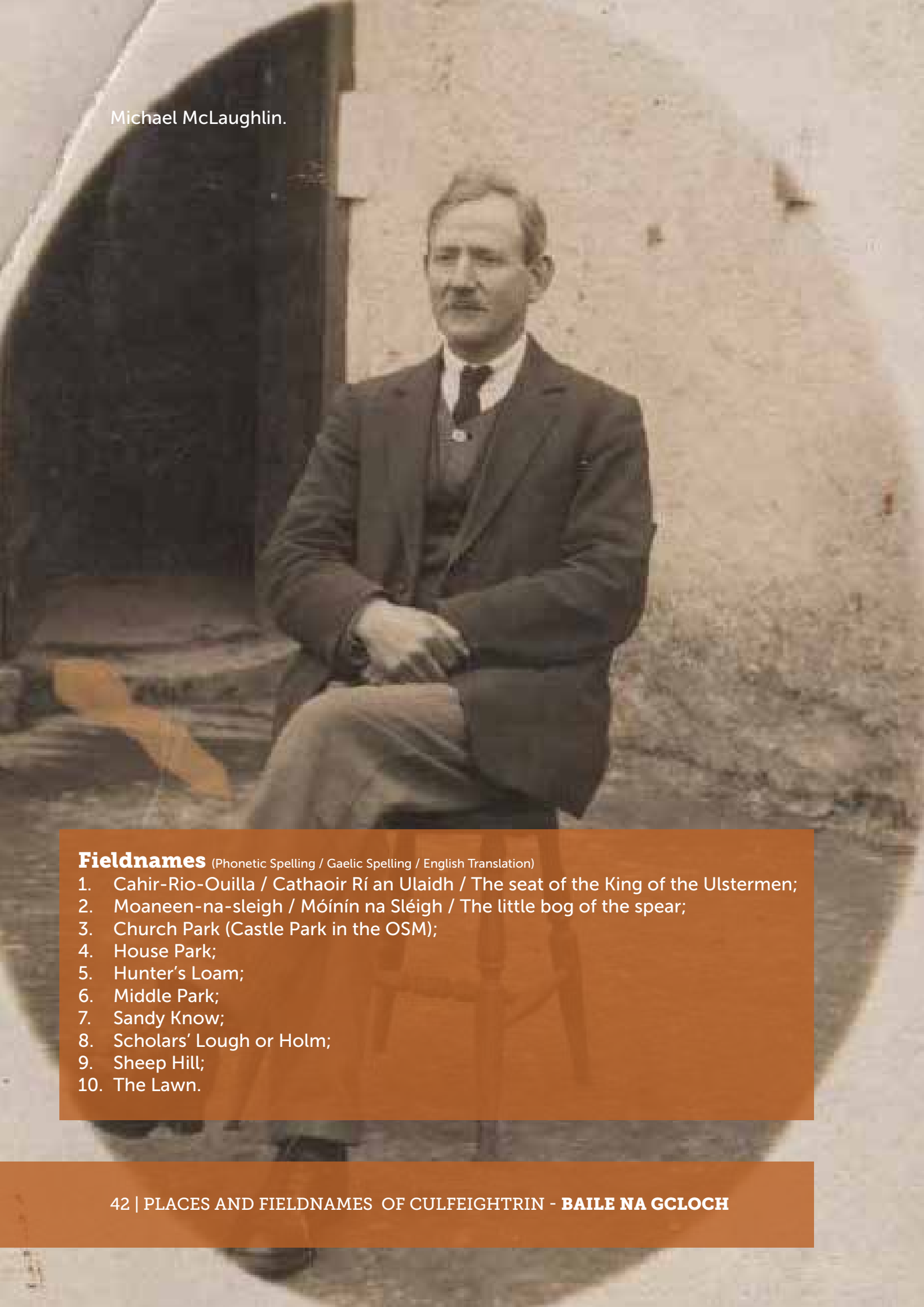
John moved back to Ballynagard, and donated £1,000 to help complete the steeple on the church

in Ballycastle. He died in March 1891, after a short illness, and was buried directly behind the steeple, in a coffin paid for by the priests and parishioners.



The church from the Fair Hill prior to the steeple being added.

11 Thomas, C. (1896: 647-649) *History of the Counties of Argenteuil, Quebec, and Precott, Ontario, from the earliest settlement to the present.* John Lovell & Son: Montreal.



Michael McLaughlin.

Fieldnames (Phonetic Spelling / Gaelic Spelling / English Translation)

1. Cahir-Rio-Ouilla / Cathaoir Rí an Ulaidh / The seat of the King of the Ulstermen;
2. Moaneen-na-sleigh / Móinín na Sléigh / The little bog of the spear;
3. Church Park (Castle Park in the OSM);
4. House Park;
5. Hunter's Loam;
6. Middle Park;
7. Sandy Know;
8. Scholars' Lough or Holm;
9. Sheep Hill;
10. The Lawn.

The earliest record of the name is c.1657, as 'Balleghlogh',¹ and is thought to refer to the quantity of standing stones to be found here in days gone by.² The two stones in the Church of Ireland are the best examples, but the *OS Memoirs* also stated that a large standing stone was removed from the townland by Hugh Boyd, around 1750, when he was building the harbour in Ballycastle.³ It was so large it required eight horses to slide it down the Warren, and was chained to another large stone from Gortconny as the foundation for the pier. This fulfilled one of the Black Nun's prophecies, the marriage of two ancient standing stones, then three or four miles apart, in Ballycastle harbour.



1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 116).
 2 OSM pg 55.
 3 The OSM also said a standing stone was removed from Barnish for the harbour.

Cathaoir Rí an Ulaidh & Móinín na Sléigh are mentioned in the *OS Memoirs*.⁴ The former was the seat of Conchobar Mac Neasa, King of Ulster in the Ulster Cycle of mythology. He ruled from Emain Macha (Navan fort in Armagh), and used his castle in Ballynaglogh as a summer retreat. Conchobar is one of the central characters in the three famous tales, *Deirdre an Bhróin* (Deirdre of the Sorrows), *Táin Bó Cúailnge* (the Cattle Raid of Cooley), and *Cath Ruis na Ríg* (the Battle of Ros na Ríg). In the 1830s all that was left of the castle was a mound of earth and sand, much the same as present,⁵ with stones thought to be dug out and reused. *Móinín na Sléigh* took its name from various old weapons found in the bog when cutting turf, with the weapons said to be those left behind after a fierce battle between King Conchobar's forces and a rival besieger. The current landowners (resident since at least 1861) know it by its English name, the *bog of the spears*. *Murray's Port* predates the 1861 maps, and is



The Church as it currently stands, 31st August 2018.



Church grounds, February 2019.

4 OSM pg 55-56.
5 SM7-ANT-009-007.

presumably named after a coalminer who kept a boat there, or the family of Murrays (perhaps that of the coalminer) who lived in the townland in

the 1820s.⁶ A coal mine is also marked on the 1st Edition OS map (c.1830) in the field above *Jenkin's Park*. *Hunter's Loam* is the only use of loam that

we found in the parish, it is an old Germanic word for a particular type of soil with a mixture of sand, silt, and clay.



West column.



East column.

Church of Ireland:

The two standing stones are about 22 yards apart. One stands near the church entrance and the other further east. The west column is 8.5 feet high, and the east column is a more irregular shape, and stands nearly 7 feet high. The oldest family in the townland believe that the stones predate the

Church and graveyard, and are aligned with other stones miles away. A story collected in Ballynagard is that the stone by the door lined up with an identical stone at Armoy Round Tower, and the standing stone on Glenmakeeran mountain is also said to tie in with this line of stones. A man named Alec McCollum was looking

after the Church at a time, and took it upon himself to dig out the stone by the door. He got down as deep as the stone sits above ground, then gave up as there appeared to be no end to it.

The following is a list of the clergy, almost all of it is Hugh A Boyd's work.⁷ From 1609 until 1831

⁶ Morgan (2006: 66).

⁷ Some details from Hugh A Boyd's lecture *'The Story of a Little Country Parish Church'*, 14th Sept 1958.

Clergy of Culfeightrin Parish^{8,9,10}

1614-1640: Rev Patrick Tallus (first recorded vicar according to Hugh A Boyd).

1640 or 1661-1679: Rev Daniel McNeale.

1679-1702: Rev Archibald McNeale.

1702-1705: Rev Duncan McArthur (from Layde).

1705-1730: Rev Edward Mathews.

1730-1731: Rev Francis Hutchinson.

c1731-1765: Rev Michael Harrison (from Lisburn, buried in Old Ramoan).

1765-1766: Rev Robert Hill (buried in Old Ramoan).

1766-1770: Rev Conway Benning (from Lisburn).

1770: Rev John Phipps (or Phibbs).

1770-1777: Rev William Sturrick (from London).

1777-1790: Rev Charles McDaniel Stewart.

1790-1793: Rev Alexander Macaulay.

1792-1837: Rev Charles Montgomery Hill.

1837-1849: Rev Thomas Hincks (buried in Billy, though a plot was reserved in Culfeightrin).

1850-1865: Rev Charles Seaver-Courtenay (from Harrymount, Co. Down, buried in Culfeightrin).

1865-1874: Rev Thomas Richard Wrightson (Dublin).

1874-1879: Rev John Bolton Greer.

1879-1903: Rev Henry Roper Taylor (Trory, Co. Fermanagh, the Rectory in Broughanlea was built in his time).

1903-1943: Rev Frederick William Davis (Downpatrick, he extensively renovated the church).

1943-1951: Rev Robert Haldane White (Dundonald).

1951: Rev JR Brady.

Post 1950s: Canon Marshall, The Venerable DBE Perrin, Rev JN Goulden, The Venerable WA Duncan, Rev P Thompson, Rev D Palmer, Rev D Ferguson.

the parish was joined with Ramoan, Glenarm, Loughgiel, Ballyrashane, and Ballywillan. Between 1831 and the 1940s it was an independent parish, and since then it has been combined with Ramoan. The predecessor to the

current church was possibly founded in 1728, with the silver paten (communion plate) still used in service inscribed *"This server, chalice and flagon, given to ye Church of Culfaightrin, by Mr Charles Mcneile,*

the first landwaiter of Ballycastle, October the 5th 1728." A landwaiter was the Surveyor of Customs. Hugh A Boyd thought that Charles was one of the McNeiles of Dún an Aonaigh,¹¹ which was the McDonnell castle

8 Boyd, H A. (1950) The Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor, VI. *Londonderry Sentinel*, July 29.

9 Boyd, H A. (1950) The Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor, VII. *Londonderry Sentinel*, Aug 5.

10 Boyd, H A (1950) The Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor, VIII. *Londonderry Sentinel*, Aug 1.

11 Boyd, H A (1945) History of a North Antrim Mansion. *Belfast Telegraph*, Oct 26.

at the back of Silvercliffs in Ballycastle.

The current church was consecrated on 31st August 1831, described as *'a neat edifice in the later English style, erected in 1830 on the site of the ancient structure by a loan of £600 from The Board of First Fruits'*.^{12,13}

The petition to the Bishop to consecrate the new church was signed by Charles Hill (Rector), John H Campbell and Charles Jolly (churchwardens), Hector McNeile, Daniel Thompson, Hugh Mullan, John Duncan, R Casement, and Patric McConrron.¹⁴

The Reverend Hill is an interesting character; he lived in Glenmakeeran at the Garden Field. Hugh A Boyd told a story, written by a Miss J M Caldwell of Ballycastle in 1912,¹⁵ that Rev. Hill had a dispute with a 'leading' parishioner, and it was decided it could only be resolved by fighting a duel.

Both the Reverend and his challenger were Freemasons, and in an attempt to stop two

brethren shooting each other, a third local Mason took the Master's red cloak out of the Lodge. On the morning of the duel, the interloper hid in the whin bushes while the ground was paced out, and the duellists placed opposite one another. Just as the signal was about to be given, the interloper jumped out with the Master's cloak and threw it over the Reverend. The interloper put it to the challenger that he could not shoot a fellow Mason: *'the appeal could not be resisted, and their deadly purpose having thus been defeated, the combatants, according to custom, shook hands and returned home the best of friends.'* The duel was said to have happened on a *'lonely heathery waste a few miles from the town of Ballycastle'*, so it would appear to be at Glenmakeeran.

Miss Caldwell also mentioned the Reverend Hill's son Hugh, who was the leading local smuggler of poitin and other goods at the time. He captained a lugger and sailed to Donegal

and Scotland. After many years of evading the customs cutter from Carrickfergus, he was eventually seized while at anchor in Ballycastle, and Hugh and the crew were sentenced to transportation. The writer didn't know if the sentence was ever carried out, but Hugh's boat was sent to Greenock as a prize. Our research showed Hugh and his crew were sent to America, and his descendants are still in New York today.

Another story about Reverend Hill was that he did not receive a salary from the Church, but was given a bull and a boar, and made his living from passing sows and cows. Our researchers are inclined to believe this, as the story has survived the 181 years since the Reverend left the parish.

12 Lewis, S. (1840: 441) *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* Vol I. S Lewis & Co: London.

13 The Board of First Fruits was a Col institution established in 1711 which taxed clerical incomes (which were in turn paid by tithes) to raise funds for church repairs.

14 Boyd, H A (1950) The Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor, IX. *Londonderry Sentinel*, Aug 19.

15 Boyd, H A (1950: IX), referencing Miss JM Caldwell, 'Old Ulster Memories', in *Blackwood's Magazine*, No MCLXIV, Oct 1912.

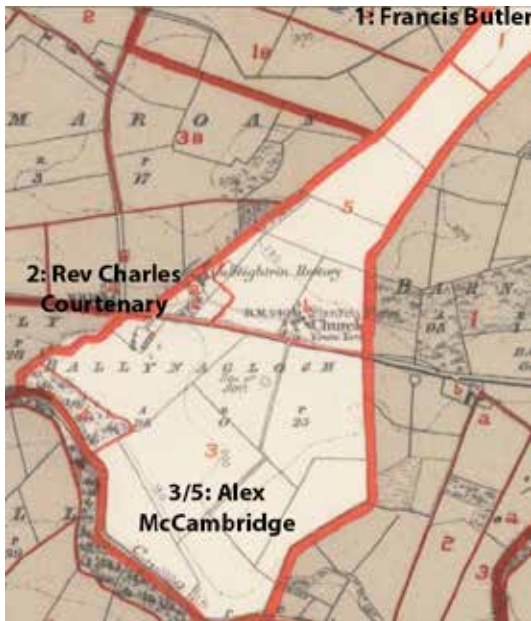
Families

- 1669:** Curteonse, Dunduffe, Karmichael, McAllin, McCloy, O'Hayle, Smith.
1734: McCurdie, McIldonie, McLiellie, O'Scallie.
1803: Cassidy, McCarry, McCurry, McDuffee, McKeague, McKinly, Scally.
1831: McIldowney, McLaughlin, Murray.
1861: Butler, Courtenay, McCambridge.
1901: Butler, Boyd, Harrigan, Feeny, McCambridge (with workers Campbell, Lynn, & McCollam).
1911: Butler, Dunbar, McCambridge, McCormick, McLaughlin, Tulton.
2018: McCambridge.

The McIldonie (1734) and McIldowney (1831) are the McGildowneys who bought Clare Park (Ballycastle) from the Boyds around 1750. The McGildowneys were thought to have come from Scotland with

the McDonnells in the 1500s.¹⁶ The *OS Memoirs* mentions them as one of the McDonnell septs involved in burning the English garrison out of Bun na Margái Friary in 1584.¹⁷ Presumably the McGildowneys lived

at *The Lawn*, but our researchers were unable to find exact details of where they lived. There is, however, an 1834 survey of McGildowney's former farm in Ballynaglogh held in PRONI.¹⁸



Griffith's Valuation 1861:

Francis Butler held the ground from *Jenkins' Park* to *Murray's Port*, while Alex McCambridge held the ground below *Jenkins' Park*. Although the Butler house is now a sheep house above *Blackpark* (Ballyvoy), Alex McCambridge's descendants are still in the same farm. The Reverend Charles Courtenay bought *The Lawn* from Charles McLaughlin in 1851, to be used as a rectory or glebe house,¹⁹ and Alex McCambridge rented *The Lawn* farm from the Reverend in 1861. The *Lawn* was owned by Reverend Courtenay personally, so was sold when he left the parish in 1865.

¹⁶ Boyd, H A (1945) History of a North Antrim Mansion. Belfast Telegraph, October 26.

¹⁷ OSM pg 64.

¹⁸ D1375/3/47, PRONI.

¹⁹ Boyd, H A (1950) Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor X - Londonderry Sentinel, August 26.



Newspaper cutting of the Lawn for sale in 1865.

The people listed in the two Censuses were all farmers or farm workers, except for the coalminers, John Boyd and James Harrigan in 1901, and in 1911, the National School teacher Michael McLaughlin, and

carpenter James Butler. The 1911 Census lists nine separate houses in the townland, there were 3 houses in *The Lawn* at one point, but the bulk of them must have been in Alex McCambridge's yard.

1901: The Harrigans had moved to Broughanlea by 1911; the Feenys were from Scotland and had only moved to County Antrim in the last 2 years. The father, Bartley, is not on the 1901 Census, so it is presumed they had returned to Scotland by 1911. It appears the Boyds must also have emigrated, as they cannot be found in the 1911 Irish Census.

We were given some details on Michael McLaughlin, the National School teacher, from a great-nephew of

his living in London. Michael was born in Glendermot parish, Derry City in 1881, he attended teacher training college in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, and qualified in 1904. He was the secretary of the Fair Head branch of the Gaelic League around 1905, and was living in Barnish when he married Catherine Dillon, of Ballyreagh Upper, in September 1907. In June 1908, they were living in Glenmakeeran, and then Ballynaglogh in June 1910. After retiring, Michael and Catherine moved to London, to live with one of their sons. Catherine died in London in 1941, and Michael moved to Dublin to live with another son, Hugh, where he died in 1957.



Michael McLaughlin is the school teacher on the far right. The school is thought to be either Carey or Ballycastle.

14th December 1907, Irish News & Belfast Morning News

Ballycastle Branch.

The Ballycastle branch of the Gaelic League opened its language class in the M'Alister Memorial Hall on

Wednesday evening last. There was a very large attendance present, and over 60 joined the Irish class.

Mr Louis J Walsh, BA, solicitor, Ballycastle, who is always found working hard in the cause of the language and history of our country, has taken charge of the seniors, while Mr M'Laughlin, N.T., Ballyreagh; Miss M'Gravey, and Mr John Macauley are looking well after the juniors. There is always an Irish dancing class in connection with the branch.

Everything looks favourable for a very successful season, and those who have not joined the class as yet, should do so at once, when such a good chance is available of learning the ancient tongue.



Michael McLaughlin.

Newspaper cutting from the Irish News, dated 14th December 1907. We don't believe the school photo was taken at Ballyreagh.

Old Ballynaglogh Headstones

McLaughlin, 1832 (Barnish)

This Monument Erected by CHARLES McLAUGHLIN
To Perpetuate the Memory of his brother
DENIS McLAUGHLIN
Late of Ballynaglogh, who
departed this Life on
the 10th October 1832 Aged 53 Years.



Clarke, 1856 (Barnish)

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF DANIEL CLARKE, BALLYCASTLE
BORN 1876 DIED 1884
Also his mother ELLEN CLARKE
BORN 1846 DIED 1902
And his father JOHN CLARKE
BORN 1837 DIED 1903
Also his brother
JOHN CLARKE (BENMORE)
DIED 24th May 1934 Aged 67 Years
And his wife ISABELLA
DIED 22nd March 1923 Aged 63 years.
JOHN CLARKE, BALLINAGLOUGH
DIED 24th March 1856 AGED 25 YEARS
R.I.P



John Clarke (Benmore) was a founding member of the Feis na nGleann, and self-published author, who moved to Glenarm to take on the Antrim Arms Hotel. He wrote the following in memory of his wife Isabella in his book *"Blossoms in the Shade"* (1924).

Isabella's Grave

Culfeightrin. 18th Nov 1923

*The dripping rain fell softly
On her grave last Sunday night,
As I knelt beside her ashes
In the twinkling candle light.
The night winds sobbed and murmured
Above, a starless dome,
And she beyond the darkness
In God's bright heavenly home.*

*The dripping rain fell softly
On the verdant grass around,
A little prayer beside her grave
Not a footfall, nor a sound.
Twas lonely in the candle light
And she so far away,
With many a memory fleeting on
While lonely there I pray.*

*The dripping rain fell softly
And here I am alone,
And she above with Mary
Her dust in this wee home.
And thoughts return a year ago
Of talks through many a night,
A cosy little cottage home
Not far from Sanctuary light.*

*The dripping rain fell softly
And watered fresh the flowers,
That decked her tiny resting place
'Mong Carey's shaded bowers.
And as I pray I hear her voice
As on nights one year ago,
Just a cottage near the Sanctuary
Sure it's there I'd like to go.*

*The dripping rain fell softly
The night winds murmured low,
The sea waves sang a lonely dirge
Where the Margie waters flow.
And here I am beside her grave
This dark November night,
And the holy Angels watching there
In the gleam of the Sanctuary light.*



John Clarke.



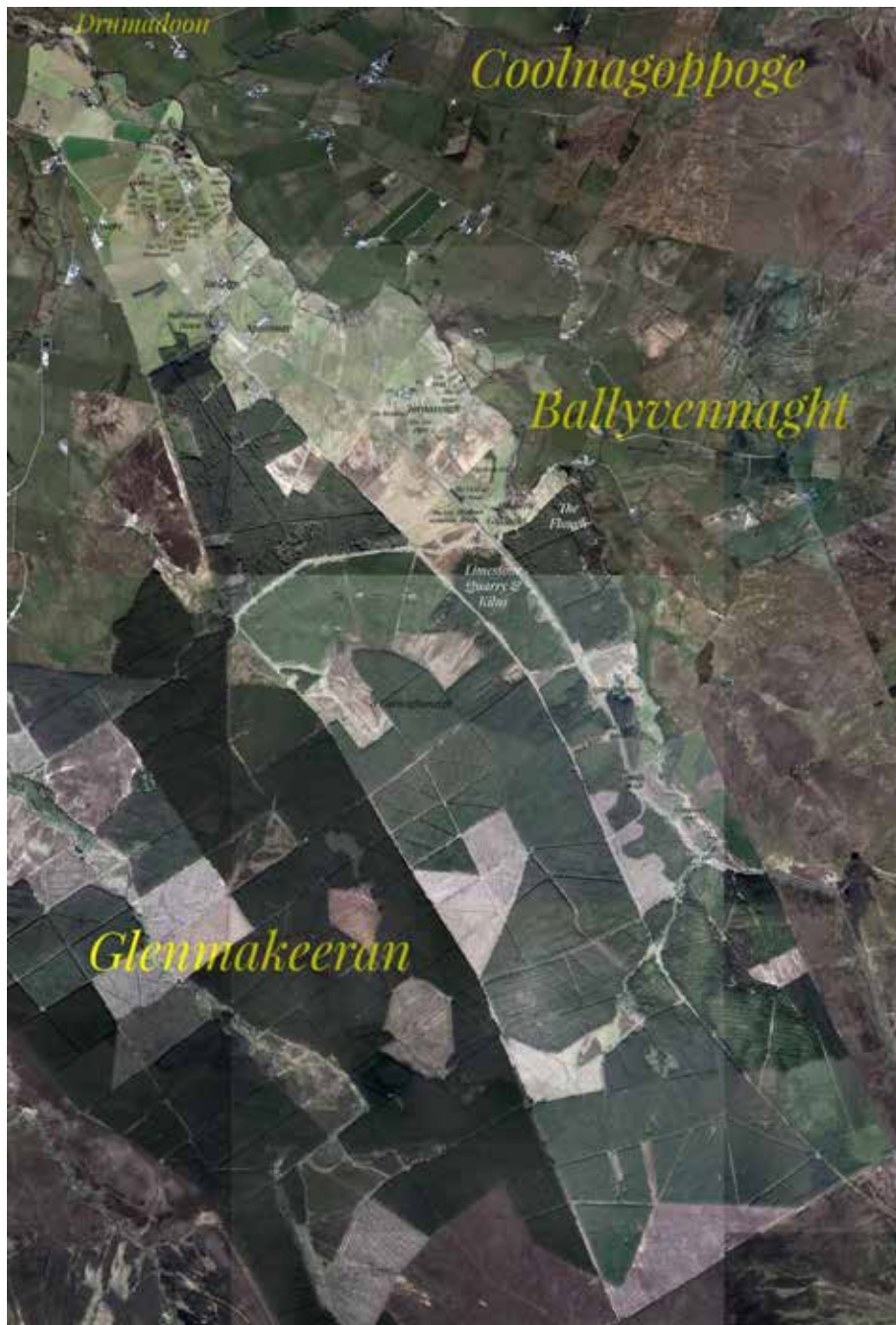
Isabella Clarke.

John Kane.

Fieldnames (Phonetic Spelling / Gaelic Spelling / English Translation)

1. Aganmore / Aigeán Mór / Great hollow;
2. Achashimmer / Achadh na Simhne / Field of the bulrushes;
3. Altadreen / Allt an Draighin / Steep glen of the blackthorns;
4. Altheela / Allt Shíle / Síle's steep glen;
5. Brumeine / Brú Mín / Small fort or palace;
6. Carnicaneigh - Carneighaneigh / Carnach Chinn Eich / Cairn of the horse's head;
7. Corratavey / Corr an tSamhaidh / Rounded hill of the sorrell;
8. Crookmuir / Cnoc Mhór / Big hill;
9. Dromine / Droimín / Small ridge;
10. Goolucks / Gualainn / Shoulder (of a hill);
11. Magheralogh / Machaire an Locha / Plain of the lake;
12. Pol na Heck / Poll na hEitre / Water hole;
13. The Flough / Fliuch / Wet marsh;
14. Tornaveagh / Tor na bhFéitheacha / Height of the swampy strips;
15. Tormore / Tor Mór / Great steep rocky height;
16. Torteige / Tor Taidgh / Tadhg's Tower;
17. Lower Brae;
18. Low Field;
19. Osborne's or Kane's Mill;
20. The Barley Field;
21. The Braes;
22. The Braes at the River;
23. The Dipper Field;
24. The Far Field;
25. The Field at the Road;
26. The Hill;
27. The Holme;
28. The Horse Field;
29. The Meadow;
30. The Meadows;
31. The Rabbit Holes;
32. The Rough Brae;
33. The Sand Pits;
34. The Silo Field;
35. The Wee Field;
36. The Wee Mountain;
37. Upper Brae.

The 1654 map divides Ballypatricke into two quarterlands, Magheriloughy, and Drumnesole (now in Glenmakeeran). Records from the 1660s name other quarterlands, Dromine and Brumeine, however, we did not find anyone during the course of this research who knew of these two names. According to Mac Gabhann,¹ it was rare for saints' names to be used after baile in placenames, and it was more likely to be a personal name, possibly linked to an old family of McDonnells.²



1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 118).
2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 118).

Achashimmer (or *Agnashimmer*) is the name of the area by the current entrance to the forest car park. There were also old shepherds' houses close to the car park roundabout, and another old shepherd's house further up between the Bush Burn and Atheela bridges.

Carnach Chinn Eich was described as follows in the OS Memoirs: "On the summit of that lofty mountain in the townland of Ballypatrick locally called Carnicaneigh there stands an ancient cairn of stones which gave name to the mountain. It consisted of about 100 cart-loads of stones of various sizes, and seemed to have been originally circular shape and 13 yards in diameter, but now disfigured to a great extent and is

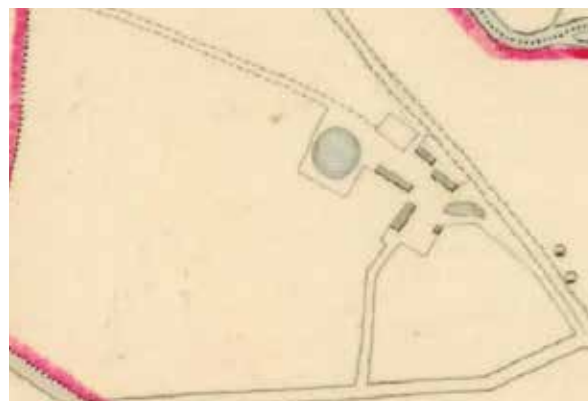
the seat of a sapper's trigonometrical station. The stones composing this cairn evidently appear to have been conveyed a considerable distance, as there is neither quarry nor landstones to be found at present near the place. On the ruins of the cairn stands a spring which is said to flow all seasons of the year, though its site stands 1000 feet above the sea...On the north east side of the above hill stands a small rock, on the surface of which are engraven several letters, marks and figures, but don't seem to be of great antiquity, though it is frequently visited by strangers. Informants John Butler, John Martin and others. 22nd January 1839."³

Another site mentioned was the Ballypatrick Loughs, assumed to be

somewhere in the forest, but we were unable to locate them. The only lakes marked on the old maps are around Tom O'Neill's yard (the O'Neill family married into the McAuley family). "In Ballypatrick and holding of Denis McCauley, and at some depth beneath the surface, were found in 1834 an ancient earthen urn containing calcined bones and ashes. In the same farm stands a cave, but now closed up. In the above townland also stands a small lake occupying about half a rood [1/8A] of ground and about 6 fathoms [36ft] in depth, and affords large quantities of trout and eel. The trout found here are so large as to weigh from 1 to 6lbs. Such weight and quantity of fish found here is considered remarkable as it is a stagnant sheet of



Part of Achadh na Simhne looking up towards the main road.



The lakes at O'Neills, 1st Ed OS.

3 OSM pg 83.

water, having no rivulet conveying water either to or from it. Within a few perches [c50ft] of the latter stood a smaller lake, which is now drained and the site growing vegetables. In the bottom of this lake were cut 3 feet in depth of solid black turf, though another tract of bog existed in its neighbourhood. These were called the Ballypatrick loughs."⁴

Another location marked was the site of an archaeological find. An urn was found, and the William Butler mentioned was from Watertop so we have presumed this site is now part of the forest. "In Ballypatrick, and about 3 feet beneath the surface of a bog, were found, 1836, an ancient earthen urn lettered on the outside and containing a brass implement much resembling a chisel, but

teethed in the edge. It was about a foot long and had a circular ring handle on the top which was of brass also. It was subsequently given to James McCord of Ballycastle, watchmaker. The urn was quite decayed and fell into dust shortly after being lifted. Information obtained from William Butler, John McCormick and others. 11th January 1839."⁵

Osborne's/Kane's Mill(s):

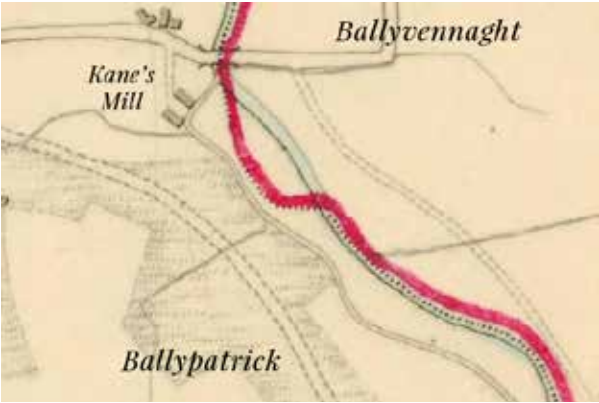
It was recorded in the OS Memoirs (c.1838) as a flax mill, on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map (c.1860) as a corn mill, and was originally built by the McDonnell landlords. The mill once belonged to the Duncan family. Hugh Osborne, a roadsman from Loughguile, originally from Tyrone, came as a wheelwright to the mill. He married a Duncan daughter, and these Osbornes later bought the Darragh farm in Drumadoon. John McConnell added that the mill "was bought by John Kane, of Ballypatrick, when he married Annie McLean, of Barnish, in the 1950s. I remember it being run by both Osborne and Kane as a scutch mill."



The Mill Race, March 2018.

4 OSM pg 73.
5 OSM pg 82.

The mill was already built in 1821, as the McDonnells had a clause in a lease for Coolnagoppoge, dated 1821, stating that corn was to be ground at Ballypatrick Mill.⁶ An earlier lease for Coolnagoppoge to John McDonnell of Ballynagard, dating from 1710, has a covenant to grind corn, although Ballypatrick is not specified. A badly damaged 1780 lease for Coolangoppoge,⁷ binding the tenants, William O'Shale, Dunkin Darragh, and John McCarry to the 'Mill of Ca...', is most likely referring to the Carey Mill.



The two mill buildings in the 1st Ed OS (c.1830).



The mill and mill race in the 3rd Ed OS (c.1900).



Kane's Mill March 2018. This is where the water wheel would have stood.

6 Pat Dennis' work on the clachan project, Glens of Antrim Historical Society.
 7 D2977/3A/2/37/2.



The mill buildings, November 2018.

31st August 1864, Belfast Morning News

**SCUTCHERS – WANTED
IMMEDIATELY,**
at Ballypatrick Mills, near Ballycastle.
Eight first-class SCUTCHERS. Wages, 18s
to 29s per week. **JAMES M'AULEY.**
Ballypatrick, 29th August 1864. 491

1864 advertisement for McAuley's Mills, Ballypatrick.

COUNTY OF ANTRIM
TO ROAD CONTRACTORS, &c.

SEALED TENDERS AND
PROPOSALS for the under-
mentioned WORKS will be received
at the GRAND JURY SECRE-
TARY'S OFFICE, County Court-House, until the
day previous to the first day on which the Grand Jury
shall meet for Fiscal Business at the approaching As-
sises, viz.:—

COUNTY AT LARGE.
BARONY OF CAREY.

No. 1.—To build a bridge on the road from Ballycastle
to Cushendall, between the post road at Bally-
patrick and the Ballyvanaght road, in the
townland of Ballypatrick, at Lord Antrim's
mill. — *Not to exceed £200.*

*1852 tender for building the Mill Brae bridge.
Belfast News-Letter, 9 August.*

Families

- 1669:** Askelly, McCormuck, McKill, Millyar, O’Grogan, O’Lavery.
- 1734:** Black,⁸ McAuley, McCormick, McDonnell, McDougall, McIlroy, McLeane, McLeaze, O’Lunchan, O’Scalley, O’Sculinan.
- 1803:** Butler, McCarry, McClean, McCormick, McGugan, McHendry, Nickil.
- 1831:** Boyd, Butler, McAulay, McClean, McCormick, McGildowny, McGugan, McGuigan, McKendry, McKeown, McLaughlin, McMullan, Scally, Stewart.
- 1861:** Butler, Kilpatrick, McAuley, McCarry, McCall, McCambridge, McCluskey, McCollum, McHenry, McKinley, O’Neill, Stewart.
- 1901:** Butler (& McHenry worker), Cartan; Dallan,⁹ McAuley (& Kane niece), McCormack, McFadden (& McElhern mother-in-law, McMullen nephew), McHenry (& McAlister worker), McHenry (& McLister relative), McHenry; McKinley (& McCart workers), McKinley, O’Neill (& workers Hill and McAlister), Osborne (& McCormack worker).
- 1911:** Adair; Black (& Duncan sister); Kane; McCarry; McCormack (& Hill sister and brother-in-law); McHenry (& McLister niece); McHenry (& Gore niece); McHenry; McKillop; McKinlay (& McNeill worker); McKinlay; O’Neill (& Black and Humphrys workers); Osborne (& McNeill worker); Scullion.
- 2018:** Hegarty, Hill, Kane, McAfee, McAllister, McAuley, McCormick, McKinley, McNeill, Molloy, Murphy, O’Neill, O’Rawe.

Very little is known about the surnames before 1861. Of the 1831 list, Charles McLoughlin and Michael Scally lived at Aghnashimmer, while there are three McGoogan/McGugan headstones in Ballynaglogh. The available information on the McDonnells creates more questions than it answers.

Ballypatrick McDonnells:

The *OS Memoirs* has the following snippet: “*The above townland was the seat of a branch of the Antrim family. The principal person last resident here was Randal*

Dubh McDonnell. The house is now defaced. Informants Dennis McCauly and many others. 7th December 1838.”¹⁰ Three more pieces of information on the Ballypatrick McDonnells were found; they appear to have left

the townland by 1803, as Francis McDonnell is living in Ballypatrick in the 1734 register.

Reverend Hill wrote that “*Mrs M’Donnell of Ballypatrick was the wife of Randal M’Donnell, who died*

8 First name Marmiduke.
9 Should be Ann Dillon, died 1901, aged 88.
10 OSM pg 73.

there in 1775, and who was lineally descended from a Scottish chieftain of the same name in Benbecula.¹¹ Benbecula (Beinn nam Fadhla) is an island in the Outer Hebrides, with Randal Dubh of Ballypatrick descended from Ranald MacDonald who died c1636: "Ranald married, first, Mary, daughter of Ranald Macdonald of Smerbie, son of James MacDonald of Dunnyveg and the Glens. By her he had Angus Mor, from whom the Macdonalds of Ballypatrick, in the Barony of Carey, in the County of Antrim."¹² James MacDonald, of Dunnyveg and the Glens, is the older brother of the better known Somhairle Buidhe. Dùn Naomhaig is on the coast of Islay near Lagavulin, facing the Glens, and was the naval base for the McDonnells.

Rev. Hill also included a letter describing how: "Mrs M'Donnell of Ballypatrick had many manuscript papers relating to the M'Donnells in Ireland and the Highlands. She had the greatest regard for these

documents, and would not willingly permit them to remain long out of her possession. She was supposed to have had the best information respecting the Clan Donnell. I have lately read the statement contained in the Dublin University Magazine, of February, 1848, respecting the sons of Sir Allaster M'Coll Kittagh, which information was derived from Mrs M'Donnell of Ballypatrick, through Aeneas M'Donnell with whom I was also acquainted...The M'Donnells of Ballypatrick were of the Clan Ranald family; and Aeneas was a very respectable and intelligent man, and claimed to be descended from Saurly Buy, the father of the first Earl of Antrim, which claim, I understand, was intimately acknowledged by members of the Antrim family."¹³ One of the statements collected by Aeneas McDonnell was the following interesting take on Somhairle Buidhe: "Mrs MacDonnell, of Belapattrick, always maintained that about the time the battle of Ora

was fought, he [referring to Somhairle Buidhe] was in England; and hearing of the success of his brother in conquering the Macquillans, he got the charter of the estate in his own name; and so by that means became the lord of all..."¹⁴

PRONI hold a document from 1738, described as "Deposition made by Malcolm McNeal, Rathlin Island, master of the brig Antrim, on behalf of James McDonnell, Ballypatrick, owner of the Antrim, protesting against Robert Miller, Coleraine, Robert Byrntt, sovereign, of Belfast, William Chorley, waterbailiff of Belfast and Richard Finley, a town sergeant of Belfast, relating to the arrest of the 'Antrim' on its entry into Belfast Lough, for an alleged debt at the suit of Robert Miller against Francis McDonnell of Ballypatrick, son of James McDonnell."¹⁵ A 1742 lease for the quarterland of Ballypatrick was from the Earl of Antrim to Randal McDonnell.¹⁶

11 Hill (1873: 115) *An Historical Account of the MacDonnells of Antrim*. Archer & Sons: Belfast

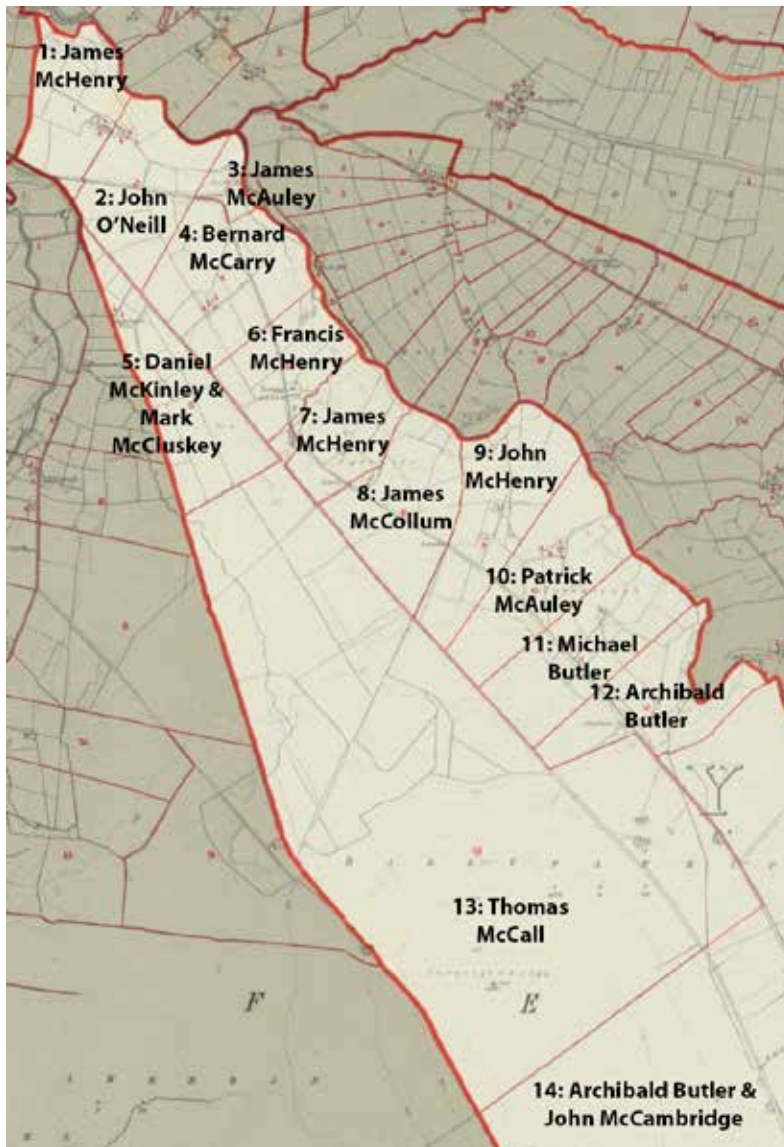
12 McDonald, A. & McDonald, A (1904: 277) *The Clan Donald, Vol III*. The Northern Counties Publishing Company, Ltd: Inverness.

13 Hill, G. (1873: 115).

14 Reeves, W. (1848: 221) *Dublin University Magazine, Volume XXXI. January to June*. James McGlashan: Dublin.

15 D354/1011, PRONI.

16 D2977/3A/2/8/1, PRONI.

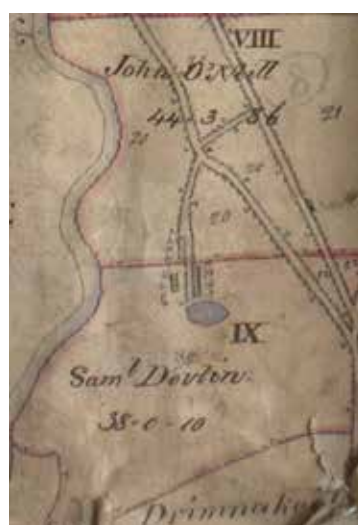


Farm 2, John O'Neill: the O'Neill family are still on this farm today. The first John O'Neill is shown on the 1843 map, and he is Tom O'Neill's great-great-grandfather. John's father was Henry O'Neill, of Ligadaughtan (Torr), who married Bridget McAuley, of Ballypatrick. When Bridget's unmarried sisters were getting older, Bridget sent her son Duncan to run the farm, however he only lasted a week before returning home. His younger brother, John, was sent to run the farm instead. Mary McAuley, one of the aunts, was living on the farm in 1861.

John O'Neill (1831-1906) was the assistant county surveyor for Antrim, he married Sarah Kearney, sister of Carey parish priest Thomas Kearney. Their son, Thomas (b.1868) was a civil engineer, who drew up the plans for the forestry cottages in Ballypatrick, the 1901 extension to the graveyard in Bun na Margai, and was involved in the plans for Barnish Primary School in the 1930s. He also designed the Cross and Passion Convent in Ballycastle, ending up in court in 1935 when the nuns

Griffith's Valuation 1861:

Farm 1, James McHenry: Hugh Kilpatrick was living in a house on the farm in James McHenry's time. Before James, the owner was Samuel Devlin. Samuel is not listed in 1831, but he is on the 1843 townland map.¹⁷ There is also an undated hand drawn map of Sam Devlin's farm in existence.



Devlin & O'Neill farms, 1843. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/24/2.

17 D2977/36/24/2, PRONI.

offered him prayers in lieu of payment. Thomas J's three sons, Dermot, John, and James (Tom O'Neill's father) are in the Craigfad School photograph of 1925.

Canon James Kearney O'Neill (1857-1922) went to Maynooth in 1875, and was ordained in Randalstown in 1880. In 1906 he was appointed parish priest in the Sacred Heart Parish in Belfast, which is between New Lodge and Ardoyne. He founded the Order of the Knights of St Columbanus in 1915, and was buried in Barnish in 1922. The Knights still have an anniversary mass for him in Barnish every year.¹⁸



Canon JK O'Neill.



Carey House shortly after being built, probably Thomas O'Neill standing in the hat.



Ballypatrick O'Neills – James on the left and his father Thomas in the middle.

18 Pers Comms James Kearney O'Neill (Ballypatrick).

Farm 3, James McAuley:

James had the corn and flax mills from before 1843; we don't know what happened, except that the flax mill passed to the Duncans, Osbornes, and lastly Kanes. It's not known if they are the same McAuley family that married into the O'Neills, although popular belief is that Bridget was the only McAuley to have children.



McAuley's farm 1843. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/24/2.

Farm 4, Bernard McCarry:

James McAuley held this ground in 1843. Nothing is known about who the Ballypatrick McCarrys were, except that they are not thought to be the same family as the Murlough McCarrys. PRONI holds the lease of Bernard McCarry dated 10th January 1857, giving him 54 acres for a term of 31 years, and 'Covenants for proper cultivation and not to sell any spirituous liquors'.¹⁹



McHenry's Torteige.

Farm 6: Francis McHenry:

The story in this chapter, 'A Night in Torteige in 1843', relates to the McHenry family.



McHenry's Fleshers, Anne Street Ballycastle. These McHenrys were nicknamed 'The Princes' and lived before Tornaveagh.

¹⁹ D2977/3A/2/8/2.

Farm 8: James McCollum: James McCollum, also spelt McCollam & McCallum, died in December 1896, aged 88. Rose McCollum, of Ballypatrick, with an

address in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, is on the list of donations accepted by Father McDonnell in 1870 for the church in Barnish. The McCollums were rumoured to have been evicted from

Ballypatrick, despite paying their rent. You can still see the wallstead opposite the entrance to the forestry cottages on the main road. The family is still resident in Carey through the female line.



Patrick McCollum.

ANNUAL LETTING OF LANDS for Grazing, Hay and Meadow Cutting, and Cropping at BALLYPATRICK.
I HAVE received instructions from Alexander M'Donald, Esq., J.P., to Let by Auction, for the Season, on **FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY**, at One o'clock, the Entire Lands of that Farm of Land at Ballypatrick, as occupied by the late James M'Collum, comprising about 30 Irish acres for Grazing, Upland Hay and Meadow Cutting, Oat and Green Cropping, in suitable lots.
 Terms—Credit till 1st November, 1897, on approved bills. Purchasers to pay 5 per cent. auction fees at sale.
WM. B. BLACK, Auctioneer.

1897 auction of McCollum's farm.
Coleraine Chronicle, 20 February.

MR. WM. B. BLACK'S SALES.

MONDAY, 28th AUG., at 11 Forenoon—48 Acres Farm, Entire Stock, Crop and Implements, at Ballypatrick, 4 miles from Ballycastle, on the Cushendall road; vendor Mr. James M'Collum. 695

1882 auction at McCollum's.
Northern Constitution, 19 August.



The remains of the McCollum home.

Farm 13, Thomas McCall:

Tom McCall's ground is now part of the forest. In 1861 Tom had 503 acres in Ballypatrick, and 1,902 acres in Glenmakeeran. By the time he died in 1899, he had extended that to around 3,454 acres, taking over the mountain farms of Archibald Butler and John McCambridge in Ballypatrick. Tom lived in Ballypatrick House. When Tom died, Alexander Black of Ballyucan bought his farm, see 'From McCall's Mountain to Ballypatrick Forest' later in this chapter. Tom's headstone is in the Presbyterian Church in Ballycastle, a tall headstone on the left in front of the door.

Censuses:

In 1901 the population was 49 people, by 1911 that had increased to 63. Two of the new surnames include the Ballyvennacht Adairs and Duncarbit McCarrys.

Adair: John Adair and his wife, Annie, had moved from Ballyvennacht sometime after 1905. They were married in 1886, she was a Harkin, of Ann Street, Ballycastle, while the Adairs originated from Slipin. Their daughter, Annie, was born in Ballyvennacht in 1902, and son, John, in Turryvranan in 1905. John Senior died in Ballyvennacht in December 1917, predeceased by his wife. Their son, Johnny, later married Rose McAuley.

McCarry: James McCarry, of Duncarbit, married Margaret McMullen, of Glendun, in 1877. They had a family of four or five, and were living in Duncarbit at the time of the 1901 Census. However, by 1911, Margaret was widowed, and living in Ballypatrick with her children.

MR. E. F. M'CAMBRIDGE'S SALE.

Very Superior Farm of Land
FOR SALE
AT
Ballypatrick, near Ballycastle.

I AM favoured with instructions from Mr. PATRICK ADAIR, who is going abroad, to Sell by Public Auction, on the Premises, on **WEDNESDAY, 19th OCTOBER, 1910,** at the hour of Twelve o'clock, all that superior Farm of Land, now in his possession, containing 51a 3r 10p, Statute Measure, or thereabouts, and held as a Judicial Tenancy under the Earl of Antrim, at the Yearly Rent of £8 5s 0d.

The Farm is situate in the Townland of Ballypatrick, about 5 miles from Ballycastle, on the leading road to Cushendall, and is very easy of access, the County Road running through it.

The greater portion of the Land is arable and in good condition, very sure for Green Crops and Flax; the remainder is good healthy Grazing. The whole Farm is well watered, fenced, and thoroughly drained.

The Dwelling-house is comfortable and in good repair. There are suitable Offices attached. Possession can be given on 1st November.

Terms—£20 per cent. Deposit, with 2½ per cent. Auction Fees at Sale.

THOS. S. M'ALLISTER, Solicitor,
Ballymena.
E. F. M'CAMBRIDGE, Auctioneer,
Ballycastle. 1910

1910 auction notice for Patrick Adair.
Coleraine Chronicle, 15 October.



Rose Adair (née McAuley).



Bob and Jim's Shop. This was opposite the Glenmakeeran Road end. L-R - Bob McAllister, Don McLean, Jim McAllister, Red Jimmy McAuley.



Bob McAllister, Tom O'Neill, Jim McAllister, Red Jimmy McAuley (both photos taken by Don McLean of Glenmakeeran).



John Kane (Tornaveagh).



Mary Kane (daughter), John Kane, his wife Margaret Keenan (Glendun m.1915).



*The 1947 'Big Snow' clearance with brand new shovels (thought to be taken in Ballypatrick):
 Standing: Bob McAllister, John McAuley, Jim McAllister (Bob and Jim's sweet shop), Michael John Hill, Jim Hill;
 Middle: Willie & Jamie Davidson; Kneeling: John McAuley Sr., John Quinn, Hugh Duncan (Drumnakeel), Jimmy McAuley (son of John Sr.).*

A Night in Torteige in 1843:

The Ballyvennaght and Barnish chapters give a fuller story of Father Walsh and the Irish Schools in Carey. The McHenry's in Torteige get a mention in one of the many letters on the topic.²⁰ In this instance, Francis Brennan, a school inspector exposing the fraud he started, explains why the report on John McKendry's school in Drumadoon shouldn't be trusted:

"...believe me, no Irish school has been taught by John M'Kendry there or elsewhere, as that young man cannot read two verses of Irish after each other; neither can he speak or even understand the language. It is true John McIlhatton, on whose authority you rely for the existence of this school, had accompanied me to Thorteig, to the house of John M'Kendry's mother, distant from Drumadoon 1½ miles. This young man lives with his mother. On our entering the house, he sent his brother, Pat M'Kendry, for a bottle of strong new made poteen. Mr M'Ilhatton and I drank freely of it, and felt the effects of its spirit. After finishing this, Pat went for another, which we also helped to finish. We spent that night in M'Kendry's in merriment, singing and drinking, and a very pleasing singer Mr M'Ilhatton is. Next morning we took our breakfast and share of a pint of good poteen, which was the only scholar we wanted. That, Sir, can be proved by four or five respectable evidences, amongst whom was a respectable young woman named Magoogan, a Protestant, and bearer of the Rev Mr Hincks. This pastime of drinking and singing he has journalised to you as if he were employed in hearing scholars spelling and reading, and asking them spiritual questions."

The John McIlhatton mentioned was also a school inspector, he was accused of going on the beer and faking the school reports:

"...and also bring with you the letters of the Rev Mr Simms, one of your own ministers, who honestly stated to you what liquor was drunk by M'Ilhatton during the month he was in the Glens, fabricating and writing that journal which you now appeal to for truth. There you can receive a true account from the teachers and publicans of Ballycastle, of what spirits he drank his share of during the days of his journalising. – I am, Rev Sir, yours truly,

FRANCIS BRENNAN,
Late Inspector of Irish Schools, Glens of Antrim.
Belfast, Dec 19th 1843."

20 1843 – The Home Mission – *The Vindicator*, December 23.

One of the Irish teachers, Michael Butler, provided more information on Francis Brennan in 1846,²¹ when in court for the case on Father Walsh (Michael had been taught Irish by Patrick McHenry).²² John McIlhatton inspected Butler's school four or five times a year, and the scene is that Michael has just been handed the Inspector's Report on his school:

- Mr O'Hagan:** "What is the name on that return?"
- Butler:** (The witness, after some hesitation): "It's my own name."
- O'Hagan:** "Well, are you afraid of your own name?"
- Butler:** "No, I am not; but this is not one of my lists." (Laughter)
- O'Hagan:** "How many scholars are on that list?"
- Butler:** "Seventeen; but I never had any of the name." (Laughter)
- O'Hagan:** "How have they got there then?"
- Butler:** "Oh! that's one of Brennan's cards." (Laughter)
- O'Hagan:** "You never had seventeen scholars then?"
- Butler:** "No, I never had more than eight at the most."
- O'Hagan:** "Who put the names there, if you never had more than eight?"
- Butler:** "It must have been Brennan." (Laughter)
- O'Hagan:** "Was he not your inspector?"
- Butler:** "No; Brennan never inspected a school of mine." (Laughter)
- O'Hagan:** "Did you never see him inspecting a school?"
- Butler:** "Yes; he came once; it was to a neighbour's school. He was to inspect it; but he got so drunk that he could not stir." (Great laughter)
- Mr Vance:** "This Brennan did not inspect your school at all, then, though he made that return for you?"
- Butler:** "He never inspected any school for me."
- Mr Tomb:** "What became of Mr Brennan? Is he an inspector still?"
- Butler:** "No, he is cast out." (Laughter)
- Mr Holmes:** "Only think of an inspector for the Home Mission being dead drunk in the nineteenth century!" (Laughter)
- Butler:** "He was not long an inspector – they cut him off and he went over to the priests." (Great laughter)
- Mr Tomb:** "Have you seen him here?"
- Butler:** "Yes, I have seen him in the Court."
- Mr Tomb:** "Is he here still, can you point him out?"
- Butler:** (pointing to a man who was standing at the side of Father Walsh, the defendant): "Yes there he is." (and the man bowed, in acknowledgement of his being really Brennan, amid considerable laughter in the Court, and some expressions of surprise).

21 1846 – The Priest's Curse. *The Banner of Ulster*, March 24.

22 1846 – Extraordinary Case: A Priest's Curse – *Northern Whig*, March 21.

From McCall's Mountain to Ballypatrick Forest:

The maps of Ballypatrick and Glenmakeeran from the 1840s show Tom McCall holding most of the mountains. He was from Sanquhar (Seann Cathair: old fort) in Dumfries & Galloway, roughly halfway between Stranraer and Edinburgh. His death certificate shows he was 74 years of age when he died in April 1899, meaning he was just eighteen when he arrived in Carey. There was never any mention of an uncle of the same name, just that Tom was the youngest son of William McCall, and that the McCalls were extensive hill farmers and the 'most eminent of Cheviot breeders'.²³ Tom was predeceased by his wife Margaret Little by 9 years. Ballypatrick House was auctioned in May 1899, and the livestock in August and September.

17th May 1899, Northern Constitution

MR. H. A. M'ALISTER'S SALES
IMPORTANT EXECUTORS' SALE BY AUCTION
of
HORSES, CATTLE, FARMING IMPLEMENTS, HAY, AND VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

I HAVE been instructed by the Executors of the late Thomas M'Call, Esq., to Sell by Auction, at BALLYPATRICK HOUSE, on WEDNESDAY, 17th MAY, 1899, the undermentioned Effects:—

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE
DINING ROOM— Splendid Mahogany Table, Mahogany Suite, comprising 2 Easy and 6 other Chairs, Couch, Massive Polished Mahogany Sideboard, Sofa in Hairweb; 2 Occasional Tables, Carpet, Fender and Irons, Fire Screen, Cabinet, Lamps, Pictures, &c.
HALL— Hall Stand, Table, Barometer, Hall Chairs, Oilcloth, &c.
BEDROOMS— The contents of Four Bedrooms, including Massive Solid Mahogany Bedstead, Splendid Polished Mahogany Wardrobe, 3 compartments, Mahogany Washstand, with Marble Top; Mahogany Dressing Table, a large number of Deal Dressing Tables, Washstands and Towel Rails, Toilet Glasses, Carpets, All-Wool Blankets, Linens, Iron and other Bedsteads, Feather Beds and Pillows, Bedroom Chairs, Fenders, Large Clothes' Press, &c.
SCULLERY AND KITCHEN— A large assortment of Kitchen and Dairy Utensils, Dinner Service, Beautiful China Breakfast and Tea Service, 4 dozen very handsome E.P. Dessert and Table Spoons and Forks, Toast Racks, E.P. Tea and Coffee Pot, Cake Basket, &c.

OUTSIDE EFFECTS
1 useful Dun Farming Mare, 1 very good Driving Pony, about 14 hands; 6 good Milch Cows, 3 splendid Black Calves, 1 splendid Red Calf, 4 very nice Two-year-old Heifers, 1 good One-year-old Heifer, 4 Bulls, year-olds; 1 good Two-year-old Bullock; Pony, Trap and Harness; Croydon and Harness, 2 Carts, 2 Sets Cart Harness, Single Plough, Drill Plough, Drill Harrow, Iron Harrow, Barn Fanners, Reaping Machine, Weighbridge and Weights, Turnip Cutter, Rakes, Spades, &c.; 1 Pike Upland Hay, 1 Pike Meadow Hay, 2 Stacks Turf, 1 Ton Potatoes, 4 Bags Oats; also a large assortment of articles too numerous to particularize.

Terms— Household Furniture and Effects, cash, and 5 per cent auction fees, Outside Effects, 4 months' credit on approved bills for sums of £2 or upwards; under £2, cash, with 2½ per cent fees.

Order of Sale— Stock and Outside Effects, 11 o'clock sharp, Furniture, &c, 12 o'clock.
HUGH A. M'ALISTER, Auctioneer,
Ballycastle.

1266

May 1899 auction at Ballypatrick House.

COUNTY ANTRIM.
IMPORTANT EXECUTORS' CLEARANCE SALE.
1,504
BLACKFACED AND OTHER SHEEP.

I have been instructed by the Executors of the late **THOMAS M'CALL, Esq.**, to Sell by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, 6th September, 1899, at TWELVE o'clock noon, at BALLYPATRICK HOUSE, near Ballycastle,

THE Entire STOCK of **AGNASHIMER, BALLYPATRICK, and GLENMAKEERIN MOUNTAINS**, consisting of
742 Blackfaced Ewes, from 1 to 5 years old.
190 Blackfaced Wethers, year and two years old.
500 Blackfaced Lambs.
10 Blackfaced Rams.
37 Half-bred Ewes and Wethers.
25 Cross-bred Lambs.

1,504

The late Mr. M'Call, being a thorough judge of sheep, and having the best of soil, had a well-known reputation for keeping nothing but the best class. Consequently this Sale affords a rare opportunity of procuring a well-bred, clean, healthy stock.

The Sheep will be sold in suitable lots.
Ballypatrick House is four miles from Ballycastle, on the leading road to Larne.

A large quantity of **SHEEP PENS** will be disposed of at the end of the Sale.

Terms—Prompt cash, and 2½ per cent. Auction Fees.

HUGH A. M'ALISTER,
Auctioneer,
Ballycastle.

1899 Sale of Tom McCall's sheep.
Northern Whig, 28 August.

23 1910 – Death of Mr George McCall, of Dumfries – *Coleraine Chronicle*, October 15.

The next known owner of Ballypatrick House was Alexander Black, of Ballyucan, at some point between 1901 and 1907. Alexander was a Justice of the Peace, member of the Ballycastle Rural District Council, and a magistrate in Ballycastle. In June 1907, Alexander said his holding was 'three thousand six hundred acres, of which about two acres are arable.'²⁴ In the 1861 map this covers all of McCall's land in Glenmakeeran (1,902 acres), and Ballypatrick (503 acres), as well as that of Archibald Butler & John McCambridge in Ballypatrick (1,140 acres) (3,545 acres total). McCall took on the lease for the 1,140 acres in Ballypatrick in 1874.²⁵ It is understood there was an attempt by neighbouring farmers to have McCall's mountain returned to shared grazing. The first newspaper article, dated December 1907, is titled "Earl of Antrim's Estate. No Ranches in North Antrim":

"Messrs P & J Boyle, solicitors, Ballymoney, have been negotiating between Lord Antrim and his tenants in the Ballycastle district, and the agreement has been approved by a large

number of the tenants... The question of grazing rights on the adjoining mountains is a vexed question with the tenants in the quarterlands of Glenmakeirnan and Ballypatrick, and a large number of them have instructed Mr Louis J Walsh, solicitor, Ballycastle, to oppose the sale until the matter of the mountains has been satisfactorily adjusted. It appears that the mountain was jointly occupied by the tenants in conjunction with their holdings, but that they were dispossessed of it. These men, therefore, now feel that there is no use getting rid of landlordism unless they get rid of its effects also. They want to get decent sized holdings, upon which they can live and rear their families in reasonable peace and comfort, and are averse to the creation of the ranch system in this part of Antrim. They only want back the lands which their fathers owned, whilst at the same time willing to pay for it, so as not to interfere unjustly with vested interests.

Mr Walsh has accordingly written the Estates Commissioners, putting

the facts before them, and offering, on behalf of his clients, to buy out on the terms which Lord Antrim has proposed as regards price &c., but asking that the grazing rights on the mountain be divided amongst them at the present rent, and that they may be allowed to buy it in this way along with their farms. Unless this is done he asks the Commissioners to refuse to sanction the sale. The upshot of the whole affair is awaited with considerable interest in the district."²⁶

On New Year's Day 1908, "a meeting was held in the Parochial Hall, Culfeightrin, of those tenants in the townlands of Glenmakeeran and Ballypatrick, who have refused to consider Lord Antrim's terms of sale unless the Glenmakeernan and Ballypatrick Mountain be divided amongst them, so as to give them decent-sized holdings. The following tenants were present or represented: - Messrs Alexander Butler, Denis Magill, Patrick M'Kinley, John Caseby, John M'Lean, Patrick M'Lean, William M'Cormick, John M'Alister, Mrs

24 1907 – The Glens of Antrim, Congested Districts Commission at Cushendall. *Larne Times*, June 1.

25 D2977/3A/2/8/10, PRONI.

26 1907 – Earl of Antrim's Estate. *Irish News*, December 13.

Harrigan, and Mrs M'Cormick, all of Glenmakeeran; John Butler, Daniel M'Kinley, Wm Devlin, Mrs M'Kinley, Ballypatrick." Louis Walsh stated that the sale should go through the Estate Commissioners, who "were not likely to be as tender of the feelings of the ranchers as the landlord, and he (Mr Walsh) thought it was hardly likely that they would sanction a sale in which up to 4,000 acres of fine grazing would be left in the hands of one party, whilst the other tenants had to eke out a precarious livelihood on small patches of reclaimed land on the face of a mountain."²⁷

The next mention of the case was found in September 1909, when Joe Devlin asked the following question of Augustine Birrell in Westminster.²⁸

LORD ANTRIM'S BALLYCASTLE ESTATE.
 The following appears in 'the Parliamentary papers:—
 Mr. DEVLIN asked the Chief Secretary what progress had been made with the sale of Lord Antrim's Ballycastle estate; if the Estates Commissioners were aware that a body of tenants in the townlands of Glenmakeeran and Ballypatrick on that estate had refused to sign the purchase agreements on the ground that their holdings were uneconomic, the land being in reality overcut bog high up a mountain side; if he was aware that there was a tract of mountain grazing adjoining the holdings which, if divided among the tenants, would improve their position, and that this mountain formerly belonged to the tenants or their predecessors, and was taken by the landlord to make a ranch for a Scotch planter; and would the Estates Commissioners inquire into the demands and grievances of these tenants and into the whole circumstances of the estate before they sanctioned the sale or gave the landlord a bonus.
 Mr. BIRRELL—The purchase agreements in the case of this estate were not lodged with the Estates Commissioners until October 1908, and the property cannot be dealt with for some considerable time to come. When the estate is being inspected due inquiry will be made with regard to the matters referred to by the honourable member.

Lord Antrim's Estate, Ballypatrick.
Ballymena Weekly Telegraph, 11 September 1909.

In the end Alexander Black bought McCall's mountain as one plot. The gamekeepers on Ballypatrick mountain

at this time were also named Black, they were James and John, and were Scottish Presbyterians (and not Alexander's brother and nephew in Ballyucan).

Trespass on Ballypatrick Mountain:

The following article was carried in the *Ballymena Weekly Telegraph* on 4th March 1911. "This monthly court of petty sessions was held on Monday last, before Messrs J P O'Kane, JP (Chairman); Roger Casement, JP; M M'Kinley, JP; John Darragh, JP; and Dr Dunlop, JP. John Black, Glenmackeeran, summoned David Stevenson, Cushendall, for trespassing on Ballypatrick Mountain in pursuit of game. Mr T M Greer, solicitor, appeared for the complainant, and the defendant did not appear.

James Black deposed to seeing a man at about ten o'clock on the morning of 24th January on Ballypatrick Mountain. He was near the kennel convenient to witness' residence at the time. Witness went to the house and informed his son, and they both set out in pursuit. His son was the first to overtake defendant. Witness asked him if he had any authority to be on the mountain, and he replied that he had not. When he asked him for his name he said, "Don't you know me?" Witness replied that he did not, and defendant said, "Then you will not get my name," and although he urged him to give it he would not do so. He afterwards went in the direction of Cushendall new line. He had a gun with him, and was carrying a hare.

27 1908 – Antrim Estate, Purchase Negotiations Blocked. *Coleraine Chronicle*, January 11.
 28 HC Deb 06 September 1909 vol 10 c1069W.

John Black, gamekeeper, son of the last witness, said when he asked defendant for his name he said, "It would be a very foolish thing of me to tell you my name." (Laughter). In consequence of inquiries which he made he found his way to defendant's father's house, and asked to see him. He was told by a brother that he was unwell and could not be seen. Some time afterwards that same day he met defendant on the street in Cushendall. He was wearing the same clothes as these which he had on him on the mountain, and he said he did not remember having been there, but subsequently admitted that he had been there. He understood defendant was a medical student, and had been some time at college.

Mr Greer – It was perhaps in the interest of science that he was on the mountain. (Laughter)

The Chairman – He was studying anatomy. (Laughter)

Mr Greer, addressing their Worships, asked them to take into consideration that defendant was not the ordinary class of poacher. The class of poacher that usually came before them was that of a poor man, who was perhaps tempted to earn a half-crown for shooting game. The defendant had been learning an honourable profession, and was four or five years at college, and taking this into consideration he thought it only intensified his guilt. He asked, therefore, that a full penalty be imposed.

After consultation, the Chairman said the only question in dispute between the magistrates was whether they should impose a full penalty. They had by majority decided to impose a fine of

£5, one-third of the amount to go to the complainant."

In the late 1940s, the Blacks sold the 3,616 acres to Lord Glentoran, who then sold it on to the Ministry of Agriculture for forestry. Questions were asked at Stormont as to why a former Minister of Agriculture was competing against the Ministry at auction, but the Ministry assured Eddie McAteer (then MP for Mid-Derry) that it was all above board.²⁹ The Forestry Service were planting 100 acres a year in the 1950s, the only photograph from these years is of DP Black, John McCallion, and Jimmy McVeigh of Acravilla.

The old road to Cushendun still runs through the forest, from the beginning of the Glenmakeeran Road, straight on through Tormore and the Forestry Houses, and over the mountain. It comes through the top of Craigagh Wood, running down to the Glendun Road.



1950's Ballypatrick Forestry work. DP Black, John McCallion, Jimmy McVeigh.

Miss Cassie Kane.

Fieldnames (Phonetic Spelling / Gaelic Spelling / English Translation)

1. Buley / Buaille / Cattle-fold or summer pasture;
2. Casnatinny / Cosán an tSionnaigh / The fox's path;
3. Crockbrack / Cnoc breac / Speckled hill;
4. Drumanail / Droim an Aoil / Limestone ridge;
5. Fas na Sillagh / Fás na Saileach / Overgrown with willows;
6. Gobb (Colliery) / An Gob / The point;
7. Gob Rodden / Gob Rodán / Path to the point;
8. Gribbin / Grabán / Rocky ground;
9. Louby/the Loub / An Lúbaigh / The twisting or tricky place;
10. Muroe (Rock) / Maigh Rua / Reddish-brown plain;
11. Sheogue / Sióg / A fairy/stripe;
12. The Skerriaghs/Skerrigs / Na Sceirí / The reefs;
13. Barn Field;
14. Brick Field;
15. Butler's Port;
16. Freestone Point;
17. Gobb Oul Stage;
18. Gobb Saltpans;
19. Long Field Next McDonnells';
20. Low Face;
21. McNeill's Field;
22. Nancy's Rock;
23. Oul House Field;
24. Park Ditch (or Boyd's Ditch);
25. Road Field;
26. Sailor's Grave;
27. Sandhole Field;
28. Shank Field;
29. Skeogh Field;
30. Stable Field;
31. The Long Linn²;
32. The Priest's Field;
33. Upper Face;
34. Wee Meadow.

1 Linn means pool or pond.

The earliest recorded use of Ballyreagh was in 1621, with a 1662 reference being to the 'town of Ballereogh'. The division into two townlands is first found in 1734, as 'Ballyreaghs'. Mac Gabhann wrote that the 'original meaning [of Riabhach] in placenames is often obscure', but it translates to 'brindled, drab, fallow, grey, streaked, or striped'.² It is presumed that the townland name refers to the colour of the mountain. The Bó Riabhach is one of the oldest cattle breeds in Ireland, dating back to the fifth century, if not earlier. The coat of the Bó Riabhach is a pattern of light and dark brown stripes. In the tale an tSean-Bhó Riabhach, the cow was boasting that the cold weather of March could not kill it, so March borrowed 3 days from April, sent in the roughest weather it could, and killed and skinned the cow. The old name for the first 3 days in April is Laethanta na Riabhaiche (the brindled days).

Two place names along the shoreline that we couldn't locate, although they were recorded in Danny Morgan's book, were *Nancy's Rock*, and *Butler's Port*. The *Muroe* is a rock on the shoreline, so if the translation is correct as per Murrow in Donegal, then it either refers to the colour of the ground between the shore and the clifftop, or is a variant of *muir* (sea).

The *Road Field* was used as a hurling field in the 1960s, while the current pitch at Barnish was being developed. *McNeill's Field* is named after the family of Henry Andy McNeill, who came



2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 119).

from *Crookbrack*. Delargy from Glenballyemon is the last person remembered mining coal from the *Gob Colliery*.

The Salt Pans are recorded in the 1654 Down Survey. In 2013 archaeologists from Ulster University searched for them, finding one small building that would have housed the pan itself, with a larger

complex thought to be buried in the braes. The bucket pot cut into the rocks is still in situ, but only fills at the last hour of high tide. No mention of the Ballyreagh pans were found in records or maps after the eighteenth century. The Ballyreagh and Tornaroan salt pans were thought to be part of the many schemes of Randal McDonnell, first Earl of Antrim, to

re-establish supremacy in the Glens after the Flight of the Earls and the Plantation.³ It was estimated that the salt works were in use for around 70 years during the eighteenth century, confirmed by Randal McDonnell granting a lease for the Ballyreagh Salt Pans in 1720⁴ to the McGwire brothers that *Maguire's Strand* is named after.

Pat McBride's fieldname list: The late Pat McBride recorded a list of fieldnames that was published in *Where the Curlew Flies* by his cousin Paddy McBride of Watertop. The following are the fieldnames we were unable to locate.

Fieldnames (Phonetic Spelling / Gaelic Spelling / English Translation)

1. Alt / Ailt / Steep sided glen;
2. Buley / buaile / Cattle-fold/summer pasture;
3. Carrickilbore / Carraig Chill Bóthair / Rock of the church/graveyard at the road;
4. Cree / Críoch / Boundary;
5. Crook / Cnoc / Hill;
6. Crookaskre / Cnoc Éasca/Eascra / Hill of the wet bog/rocky ridge;
7. Crookmore / Cnoc Mór / Big Hill;
8. Cloughabanes / Cloch an Bán / White rock;
9. Ferisky / Fearann Uisce / District of water (wet ground);
10. Falcrose / Fál Croise / Hedge or enclosure of the cross;
11. Gortentober / Gort an Tobair / Well Field;
12. Lacknakelly / Leac na Calliagh / Flagstone of the old women;
13. Lackivea / Leac an Bheithe / Flagstone of the birch tree;
14. Maghalouey / Macha Leamhaí / Cattle field/milking place of the elms;
15. Merrich / Méaróg/Méarógach / A pebble/pebbly place (can also refer to a conspicuous stone/standing stone);
16. Moniribbich / Mónaidh Ribeach / Tattered or pock-marked bog;
17. Skeleofthey / Scáil Fothair / Wooded hollow in shadow;
18. Ualareagh / Úlla Riabach / Striped round hillocks.

³ <https://saltarch.wordpress.com/2014/09/23/reflecting-on-the-salt-works-excavation-at-ballycastle-bay/>.

⁴ D2977/3A/2/36/2A, PRONI.

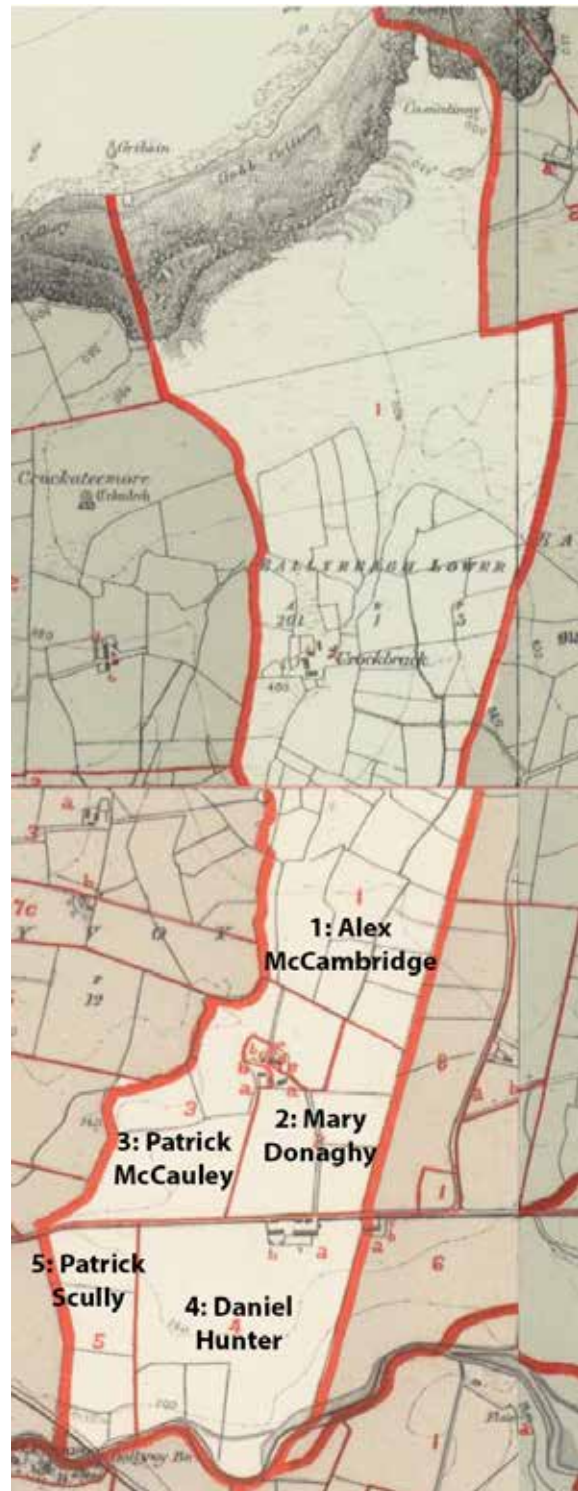


Bucket Pot.



Salt Pans 1654.

The *Shank Field* was the site of the short-lived Belfast Coal & Iron Works, incorporating a coal mine and brick making factory, with bricks stamped 'BC&I'. It was founded in September 1906, and liquidated in July 1908, and there are more details later in this chapter.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: Michael McCormick and Patrick McCrank were living at *Crookbrack*, while Patrick McCauley, James McIntyre, Margaret McGlarry, and Margaret Scally all lived beside *Drumanil*. Daniel Hunter lived above *The Long Linn*, and Daniel McCormick lived in the old Kane house next door. Alex McCambridge did not live in the townland, he only rented the land and an office. Patrick Scully had rented his nineteen acres from Alex; later, all of Alex's land was owned by Patrick McKinley of Glenmakeeran, who auctioned it in 1897.

Families⁵

- 1669:** Darrogh, Hunter, McCulley, Mcffarland, McGreer, McWear.
1734: Campbell, Darrogh, McAlester, McCollum, McCormick, McCrank, McFarland, McKeage, McKessek, McLeilie, McNeil, McNinch, McWilliam, O'Donnell, O'Drean, O'Quin, Willson.
1803: Black, Buy, Linn, McCaryish, McCormick, McGarry, McGugin, McKeague, McKeernon, McMullan, Quin, Whiteford, Wotson.
1831: Black, McBride, McDonnell, McKinlay, O'Neill, Scally, Sharp, Walsh.
1861: Donaghy, Hunter, McCormick, McCrank, McGlarry, McIntyre, Scally.
1901: Butler, Hunter (& nieces McCouaig and Kane; worker McFaul & McCoy), Lynn, McBride.
1911: Butler, Hunter (& nephew McCouaig, nieces McCouaig & Kane⁶), McBride.
2018: McBride, McCouaig, McVeigh.

DROWNING ACCIDENT AT BALLYCASTLE.

On Friday last five or six boys were fishing on the rocks at a place called the "Gobbs," about half-way between Ballycastle and Fairhead. It appears the tide was coming in at the time, and a man passing by warned the lads to be careful. With the usual heedlessness of youth, they took no notice of the friendly caution, and shortly afterwards two large waves broke over the rocks and washed them off into deep water. They all managed to save themselves except one, a lad named Archibald Linn, aged about twelve years, the son of a farmer, at Ballyvoy. There was no one within reach at the time save his companions, who were too frightened, or were unable to render him any assistance. His body was recovered on Saturday morning quite close to the shore, in about ten feet of water.

An inquest was held on Monday, at the father's residence by Dr. R. J. Camac, coroner for the district. The evidence of the lad's brother, who accompanied him, went to show that when standing on the rock a heavy swell came upon him and suddenly washed him off the rock. Dr. O'Connor stated that death resulted from drowning. Several slight contusions and scratches were on the limbs and other parts of the body, but were not sufficient to cause death. The jury brought in a verdict according to the medical testimony. Much sympathy is expressed for the relations of the deceased.

*Drowning Accident at the Gobbs.
Northern Constitution, 25 May 1889.*

IMPORTANT SALE OF LARGE AND VALUABLE FARM OF LAND IN THE TOWNLAND OF BALLYREAGH, NEAR BALLYCASTLE.

I HAVE received instructions from Mr. Patrick M'Kinley, of Glenmakeeran, to Sell by Public Auction on the Premises, on MONDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1897, at Eleven o'clock, all that Farm of Land and Premises, with the Buildings thereon, situate in the townland of Ballyreagh (or Crookbrack), containing 138a Or 13p, statute measure, or thereabouts, held by Vendor under Miss Boyd, at the yearly judicial rent of £34.

Particular attention is directed to this very desirable Farm, which is situate on the leading road from Ballycastle to Fairhead, about 3 miles distant from the former. It is one of the best Grazing Farms in the district; is well watered and fenced, and in good condition. A considerable portion is arable.

Immediate possession will be given.

After the Sale of the Farm I will Offer—6 Heifers, supposed to be in calf; 4 six-quarter-old Bullocks and Heifers; 1 fine two-year-old Bull.

Terms—For farm, £20 per cent. deposit at sale, remainder on completion of purchase. For stock, credit to 1st September, 1898, on approved security. Fees at sale.

E. F. M'CAMBRIDGE, Auctioneer.

*Auction of Patrick McKinley's ground.
Coleraine Chronicle, 27 November 1897.*

⁵ The surveys of 1669 to 1803 combined the two Ballyreaghs.

⁶ These are recorded as McKeague and Keane in the census, but must be McCouaig & Kane.



McIlroy, 1848-1880 (Barnish) the family do not appear in records until 1911 at Ballyreagh Upper (they were relations of the McKinleys at Lisnacilly).

1901 and 1911

Censuses: Of the new surnames appearing in the 1901 Census, the McBride siblings John, Alex, and Kate were

from Cross, and were the children of Patrick McBride and Grace Butler. Both John and Alex are in the first hurling team photo from the 1904 Feis.

Margaret Lynn was by then 80 years of age and unmarried, passing away the following year.

The photo below is of Cassie Kane with her nieces (daughters of Jamie Kane of Layde), outside her house at McCouaigs. John McConnell shared a memory "Cassie had a 'High Nelli' which she rode to Mass every morning - she would freewheel down the brae and straight out across the Diamond looking neither left or right - maybe there was divine intervention at play seeing the mission she was on. But then the only vehicle on the road at that time was Blackmore's lorry driven by Charlie McHenry out on the morning run collecting the creamery cans."



Miss Cassie Kane.



Thought to be a going away party for Eileen McMullan before she left for Australia. Taken in McCouaig's, Ballyreagh.

Standing: Seamus Kane (Ballyvennaght), Dolly McCaughan, PJ & Eileen McMullan, Mary McCouaig, Mrs McCouaig, Patsy McLean (Glenmakeeran)
Sitting: Lizzie McMullan (née Black of Carvadoon), Maggie O'Hara, James Joseph McCouaig, Dan McMullan (Coolnagoppagh).



Also the going away party
Standing: Eileen McMullan, Marie McCouaig (née Kane)
Sitting: Mickey McMullan, John McGill, Patsy McLean, Jim McDonnell, Neil McKeague, Andy McKinley.

Belfast Coal & Iron Works:

In 1903, it was reported to a Royal Commission and the Geological Survey of Ireland, that the mines were 'practically exhausted'. However, in 1904, 'a South African mining magnate, Mr G L Braude',⁷ was on holiday in Ballycastle and concluded 'there was still an immense deposit of coal and ironstone awaiting development.'⁸ 'Mr Brodie' is the name remembered locally. The

deposits were confirmed independently by Scottish mining experts, with the Belfast Coal & Iron Works (BC&I), formed in September 1906, with £500,000 of working capital.⁹ James Bryce, the then Chief Secretary for Ireland, was one of Mr Braude's guests visiting Ballyreagh that month.¹⁰ The previous September when the find was first announced, ground was surveyed to extend the railway from Station Road in Ballycastle down to

the seafront, and on up the Warren to Ballyreagh. Negotiations had already got underway to buy the buildings that needed to be demolished to make way for the new line.¹¹

The BC&I planned to establish a power plant in Ballyreagh to power the Broughanlea mines, and it was estimated over a thousand men would be employed in Ballyreagh once it was up and running. The machinery on site was able to

7 1907 – Discoveries of Silica Sand. *Peterhead Sentinel*, October 12.

8 1907 – Irish Mining Industries I. *Irish Times*, September 14.

9 1906 – Antrim Coal and Iron Mines. *Irish Independent*, September 12.

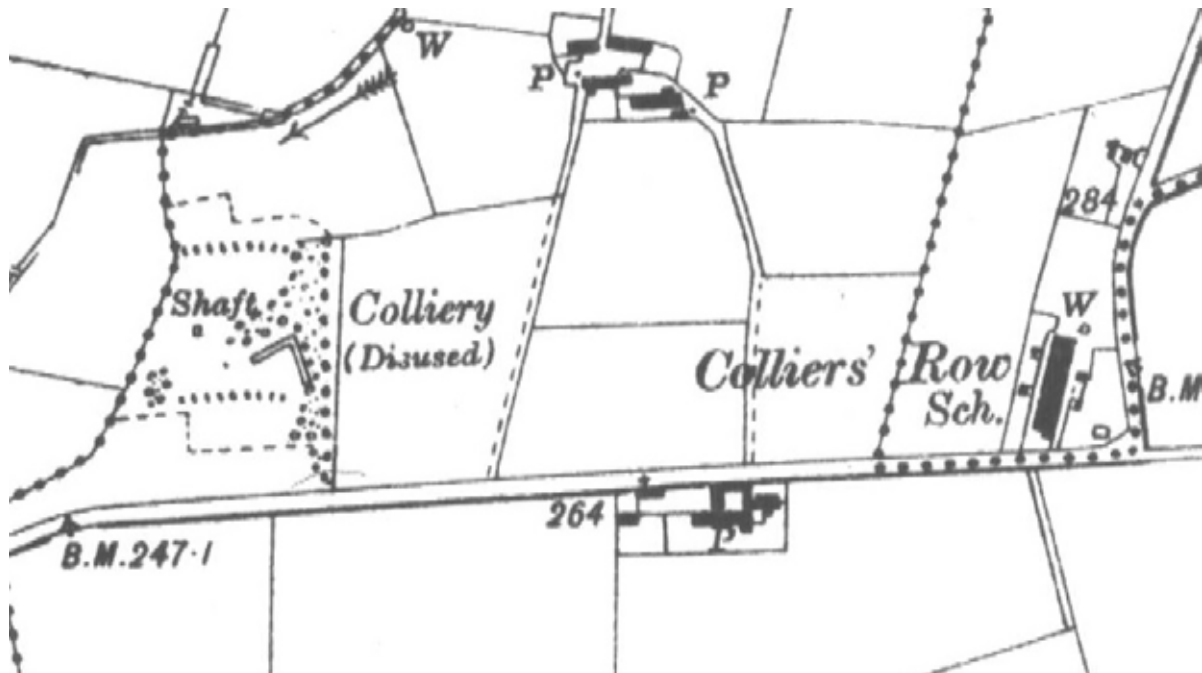
10 1906 – The Chief Secretary's Tour, Visit to North Antrim Coalfields. *Belfast News Letter*, September 3.

11 1905 – Ballycastle Coal Fields, Important Development. New Pit to be Sunk and Railway Made. *Coleraine Chronicle*, September 30.

produce a maximum of 2,000 tons of coal daily,¹² with around 1,000 tons a day the expected rate of production.¹³ The brick-making plant had a capacity of 70-80,000 fireclay bricks per week, with 90,000 tons of ganister rock

(the sandstone used in brick making) lying on the Ballyreagh fields awaiting milling in May 1907.¹⁴ By September, the expected production increase led to the owner of Ballycastle Pier serving notice to the Board of Trade for a new 350ft

long concrete breakwater and extended pier, while the iron mines at Carrickmore were being reopened.¹⁵ In November the BC&I was in the process of completing blast furnaces for the production of pig iron.¹⁶



The Colliery as per the 4th Edition of the Ordnance Survey.



Ballycastle Coal & Oil Works. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.

- 12 1906 – The Ballycastle Mines. *Coleraine Chronicle*, November 17.
 13 1908 – Coals from Ballycastle. *Irish Times*, March 17.
 14 1907 – Antrim's Minerals, Their Profitable Working. *Irish Independent*, May 10.
 15 1907 – Irish Mining Industries I. *Irish Times*, September 14.
 16 1907 – Antrim's Valuable Mines. *Newry Reporter*, November 19.



Reproduced by permission of the National Library of Ireland.

“Asked as to working capital, Mr Braude stated that there was no intention to seek for further assistance from the public. The company had an ample supply of capital, and they looked forward to the future with complete confidence.”¹⁷

Within a month of their first delivery of coal to Belfast, in March 1908, the Iron Works was put up for sale. There were court proceedings brought in Belfast on the 30 March 1908 by an Ethel Pardo Kirk on a share issue,¹⁸ with a later report on the case describing ‘Leopold Jonne Braude’ as ‘apparently a Belgian’, and an ‘uncertified bankrupt in England.’¹⁹ When Father McCann drowned in Broughanlea the previous October, included in the

list of floral tributes was that of J Leopold Braude, followed on the next line by that of Mrs Pardo Kirk, both of Ballycastle.²⁰

The settling of the share issue held up the sale of the company throughout May and early June,²¹ with the final winding up order issued on 15 June 1908. Despite this, the company seems to have continued work in the Broughanlea mines, as the secretary, George Phillips of Aberdeen, only left Ballycastle in February 1909.²² In addition, the company manager, Kirkwood Hugh McNeill, was taken to court by Matthew McKinley (JP in Ballycastle) the preceding week for unpaid wages.²³ This court case evidences that BC&I left the Ballyreagh site and

moved to Broughanlea by 20 February 1908, until mining stopped on 14 April. George Phillips was also involved in the Presbyterian Church Choir while he was in Ballycastle, and took part in the Ballycastle Catholic Debating Society.

John Leopold Brodie was born in Riga (Latvia) in 1873 as Leopold Janne Braude, and is described as an entrepreneur, businessman, and inventor. He is said to have made a fortune in the gold and diamond mines in South Africa, but he had been declared bankrupt in London on 2 March 1904, and again on 12 April 1912. He appears to be one of those men who tried everything until he struck it rich, with Ballyreagh

17 1907 – Irish Mining Industries I. *Irish Times*, September 14.

18 1908 – Mining at Ballycastle. *Irish Times*, March 31.

19 1908 – Belfast Company Sued. The Ballycastle Mines. *Ballymena Weekly Telegraph*, April 4.

20 1907 – Manifestations of Sorrow. *Coleraine Chronicle*, October 19.

21 1908 – Belfast Coal and Iron Company. *Irish Times*, June 4.

22 1909 – Ballycastle & District Notes. *Coleraine Chronicle*, February 6.

23 1909 – The Ballycastle Mine. Manager Sued for Wages. *Coleraine Chronicle*, January 30.



Tracks in the foreground for the carts.



Pithead, from Danny McGill's Moyle Memories. The operator can be seen at the top of the winding gantry, which controlled the carts ascending and descending the mine shaft.

another attempt along the way. Mentions of him outside of Ballyreagh are sporadic, and usually follow a similar pattern – first as the next big thing, the next a failure, and so on.

In 1911, John Brodie was described as a 'Salt King' in the USA. He raised £1 million to buy the US rights of a new saltproducing process, with the expected income being £400,000 a year.²⁴ In 1913, the United Salt and Power Company was formed in the US, with capital of £250,000, to purchase patents relating to the 'Brodie process for the manufacture of salt and electrical power'.²⁵

He then invented the Brodie steel helmet for British soldiers in August 1915. The Brodie helmet is the iconic image of the Allied soldier in WW1, over 7.5 million were produced, and they were used in combat until the late 1940s. Brodie was taken to court in 1919 for £5,000, over his involvement in the failed Bristol International Exhibition of 1914.²⁶ The last newspaper report found about Brodie before his death in 1945, was a 1932 claim against the US government for "£38,425, representing the royalty of 6d on each of 1,537,000 Brodie patented steel helmets bought by the USA

government from the British government."²⁷

The story told locally of why BC&I collapsed, is that the miners heard the surveyor was coming to Ballyreagh, so had prepared the mine shaft with the best ore from other mines. However, there was no suggestion of fraud in any newspaper reports. Testimonials to the quality of their products were glowing, their prices undercut rivals, the first shipments had already landed in Belfast, the pits were independently verified, and Mr Braude said they had all the money they needed. There's a bit more to this story yet!

24 1911 – Salt Kings will reap £400,000 a year in Royalties. *Dundee Evening Telegraph*, March 1.

25 1913 – To-day's Money and Markets, City Notes. *Pall Mall Gazette*, July 23.

26 1919 – The 1914 Bristol Exhibition, Action over Finances. *Western Daily Press*, February 28.

27 1932 – Final London Hearing. Claims Against USA, War Inventions She Used. *Leeds Mercury*, August 12.

19 July 1905 - Belfast Telegraph
COUNTY ANTRIM COAL FIELD
NEW SEAMS FOUND AT BALLYCASTLE
A LUCKY DISCOVERY

Some two years ago the coalmines at Ballycastle, County Antrim, were closed up, the syndicate then working the mines having apparently come to the conclusion that the cost of working was not justified by the returns, and in addition it was considered that the deposit was exhausted. We learn that prospectors have just discovered convenient to the site of the old workings another considerable coal area, and borings which have been made at several places indicate that the find is one of immense value. The site of the new coal bed is convenient to what is known locally as 'Colliery Lot', and is situated nearly in a direct line two-thirds of a mile inland from the present disused mine, and quite close to the car route by which approach Fair Head. To satisfy themselves that the find was not an elusive one, and that it would justify the financial expenditure necessary for the installation of pumping machinery and ventilation plant etc, extensive borings were made, and these disclosed the presence of a large coal seam ranging from three feet to two. Already arrangements have been completed to work the undertaking, and a number of English gentlemen prominently identified with the English coal mining are on the spot giving the arrangements their personal attention. The actual raising of the coal it is expected will be commenced in a few weeks.

The coal at the newly discovered deposit, like that of the old mine, is what is known as bituminous coal. The discovery is a piece of good luck for the Ballycastle district, and will be much welcomed, for the closing down of the old mine seriously affected the trade and prosperity of the district. It is rarely that extensive coal measures are discovered by borings put down through the superincumbent rocks in Co Antrim, and the prospectors are to be therefore congratulated upon the good luck that has attended their efforts.

1905 - County Antrim Coal Fields - Belfast Telegraph, July 19.

BALLYCASTLE COALFIELDS.

REJOICING IN BALLYCASTLE

At Discovery of Main Coal.

After the news was received in Ballycastle that the North Antrim Mining Syndicate had struck the main coal the people thought that some demonstration should be made to celebrate the occasion. Accordingly, a committee was formed to consider the matter, as a result of which was Thursday night's demonstration. The A.O.H. Band and the Independent Orange Band started from the Diamond, headed by forty torches and a great crowd of people, and proceeded to South Hill, the residence of Mr. L. J. Braude, the managing director of the North Antrim Mining Syndicate, where fires were lit and fireworks put off. The procession, with the torches and fires, looked most beautiful. When the large crowd assembled round South Hill Mr. Braude came forward and met the committee.

Mr. Daniel M'Kinley, E.D.C., chairman of committee, said—Mr. Braude, ladies, and gentlemen, on behalf of the people of Ballycastle and vicinity I beg to congratulate you, as managing director of the North Antrim Mining Syndicate, for the success that you have made in sinking shafts, and your enterprise, energy, and skill. You have only been here for about 15 months, and during that time you have wrought hard day and night, pushing on the work of opening up the ancient collieries of Ballycastle, and now that you have struck on the main seam of coal, we have, as a slight token of honour, to give you and your brother directors, got up these illuminations as a mark of respect for your enterprise. I am also glad to say that you have knocked the bottom out of the Geological Survey of Antrim, as they said that the coal in North Antrim was exhausted. Mr. Braude has now shown that there is an everlasting supply of very superior coal, now that he has tapped a five feet six inch seam, not to mention the other minerals, such as iron stone, fire-clay, &c. In conclusion, Mr. M'Kinley said he had once more to congratulate him on his success, and to wish him every prosperity in the Ballycastle collieries and their development. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Mathew M'Kinley also spoke, and said he was speaking for the inhabitants of Ballycastle. No one could better testify to Mr. Braude's hard work than he (the speaker). He has been at the post of duty day after day for the last twelve months, and now that his efforts are crowned with success, the people of Ballycastle congratulate him with all their hearts.

Mr. Braude thanked them all very much for their congratulations. The mystery of the boring and sinking is well known to them all. They had a very difficult task to perform, and they succeeded without the loss of a life or a limb, and they all should be thankful to that power who watched over them day and night. He thanked them for their congratulations, and said that Ballycastle had great prosperity before it. He could not claim all the success to himself. The men worked with might and main, and added very considerably to the success of the undertaking. He then asked for three cheers for the Ballycastle coal fields, which was loudly responded to.

The hands and people afterwards dispersed after a very enjoyable evening.

1906 - Ballycastle Coalfields - Irish News, July 7.

NEW ELDORADO FOUND IN IRELAND

Immense Seams of Coal, Iron Ore and Fire Clay Discovered in North Antrim—Rich Find Made by a South African Mining Expert on a Holiday Tour.

1906 - New Eldorado Found In Ireland - Augusta Chronicle (GA), Dec 23.

23 December 1906 - Augusta Chronicle (GA)

Dublin, Dec 22 -

Economists have attributed much of Ireland's poverty to her comparative dearth of mineral products. A discovery has been made at Ballycastle in North Antrim, which indicates that nature has been far kinder to the 'ever green isle' in this respect, than had been generally supposed. Immense seams of coal, iron ore and fire clay have been found and a company with £2,500,000 capital has been formed to work the mines. Their operation must exercise great influence in accelerating the progress of industrial development in that part of the country at least. It means a big boom.

The story of the discovery is an uncommonly interesting one. Back in the eighteenth century coal mines had been worked in the neighbourhood, but it was supposed that the deposits had been exhausted. Two years ago Mr Braude, an eminent mining expert who had made a fortune in South Africa, chanced to visit the region on a holiday tour.

Going over the ground his keen eyes observed signs that appealed to him far more strongly than the beauty of the landscape. In consequence he communicated with the Geological and Survey Department of Ireland, and received the report of Prof Hull, who declared that his investigations had convinced him that the earlier workings had practically exhausted the entire coal deposit.

Had Mr Braude been satisfied with the report of the government expert, Ireland's new Eldorado would have remained undiscovered for perhaps another century. But Mr Braude's South African experience had not imbued him with a very high opinion of the value of departmental employees' researches. He engaged Prof Cole, one of the most eminent of Irish geologists, to make a fresh survey.

The result entirely confirmed Mr Braude's own judgement. After going carefully over the ground, testing the thickness of the seams revealed by the borings, he

gave it as his opinion that at least 55,000,000 tons of coal of excellent quality were accessible there.

The borings for coal also revealed the existence of large quantities of black-band iron stone. The actual discovery of the stone did not create much surprise, but people opened their eyes in astonishment when Prof Cole declared there were at the lowest estimate 155,000,000 tons of it. Analysis tests showed that the stone is one of the richest ores in the world, being superior even to the best of the famed Spanish ores. The average of the latter is 60 per cent of peroxide of iron, while the Irish find, according to the analysts' figures, yields slightly over 81 per cent.

Another discovery no less remarkable soon followed. This was an enormous deposit of fire-clay, a substance whose existence was hitherto unknown in Ireland, of first class quality.

It is expected that when the complete coal mining appliances are running 1,000,000 tons will be raised each year. The iron stone deposits will be worked for all they are worth and an up-to-date fire-clay brick plant will be put down. The combined operations will furnish employment to something like 1,000 men.

BALLYCASTLE COAL FIELDS.
TESTIMONIAL ON THE
BALLYCASTLE HOUSEHOLD COAL.
THE MARINE HOTEL, LIMITED,
BALLYCASTLE, COUNTY ANTRIM
MAY 1ST., 1907.

Messrs. Belfast Coal and Iron, Limited.

DEAR SIRS,—Having tried the BALLYVOY COAL in the above Hotel, I wish to state that I find same to be **A GOOD DRAWING-ROOM COAL**, and I have every intention of further supplying the Hotel with same.

Yours truly,
 (Signed) (Miss) L. SCHWIND,
 Manageress.

The Company is now prepared to supply their famous Irish CANNEL GAS COAL, producing 32 Illuminating Candle Power.

1907 - Ballyvoy Coal - Irish Independent, May 11.

BALLYCASTLE COAL FIELDS.
BELFAST COAL AND IRON, LIMITED
 (Proprietors of the Ballycastle Coal and Iron Mines),
BALLYCASTLE, COUNTY ANTRIM,
 ARE PREPARED TO SUPPLY THEIR FAMOUS
BALLYVOY SILICA FIRECLAY
 PACKED IN BAGS.

For the purpose of giving all users of Fireclay an opportunity of testing it a FREE SAMPLE OF OUR BALLYVOY SILICA FIRECLAY may be had during this week only by applying to our Agents, Messrs. T. DIXON & SONS, MERCHANTS, 112 and 113, CORPORATION STREET, Belfast.

Our BALLYVOY SILICA FIRECLAY has recently been reported on by John Clark, Ph.D., F.C.S., F.I.C., of Messrs. Wallace & Clark, City Analysts and Gas Examiners, 127, Bath Street, Glasgow.

Dr. Clark reports that he is of opinion that our Fireclay is suitable for the manufacture of SILICEOUS FIREBRICKS OF GOOD QUALITY.

Also Messrs. E. R. Tatlock & Thompson, City Analysts, Gas Examiners, 156, Bath Street, Glasgow, report that they are of opinion that our Fireclay is well suited for making SILICA FIREBRICKS OF A HIGHLY REFRACTORY CHARACTER.

Also Mr. Stephenson MacAdam, F.I.C., F.C.S., Analytical and Consulting Chemist and Assayer, 55, York Place, Edinburgh, reports that he is of opinion that our Fireclay will produce a GOOD QUALITY OF FIREBRICK.

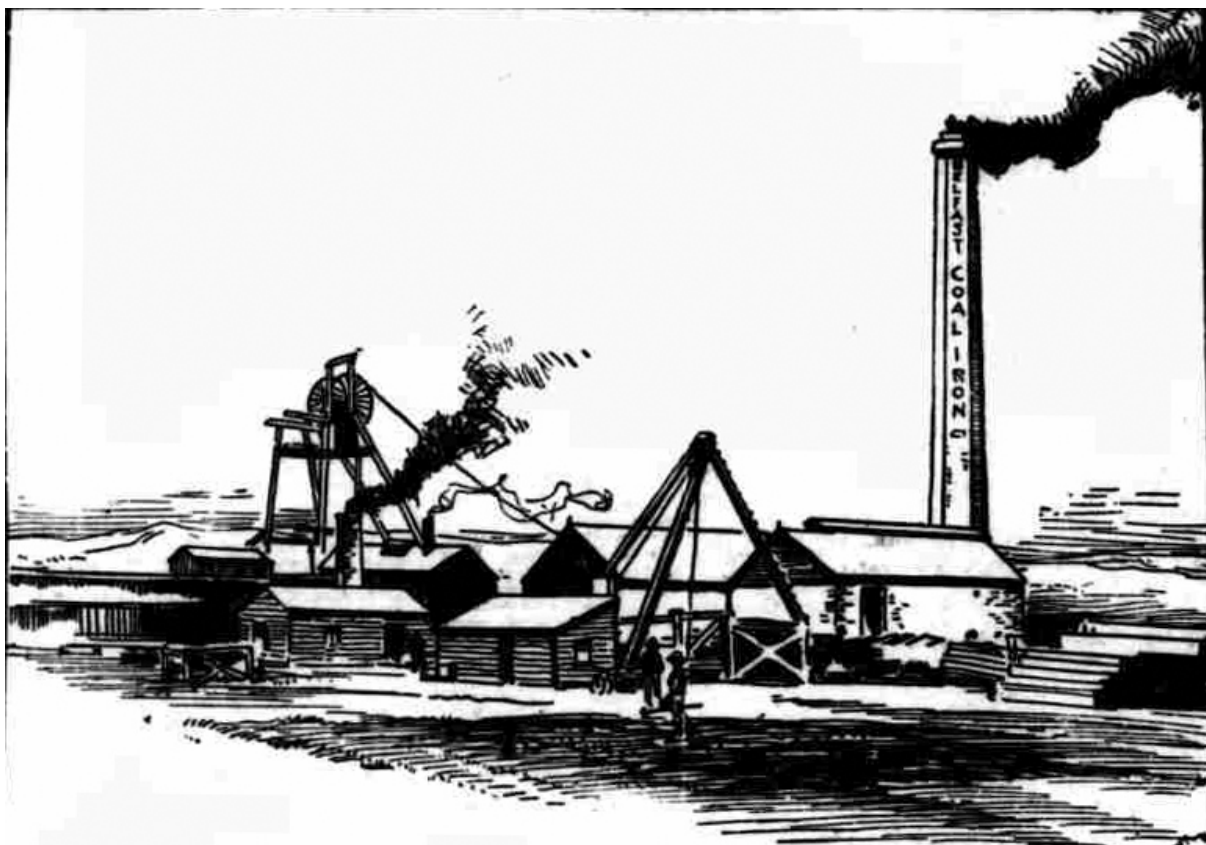
Ballyvoy Fireclay Advert – Northern Whig, June 20.

2 July 1907, Irish Independent - An Irish Coal Mine

Business brought me to Ballycastle, and curiosity led me to the coal mine. It was my intention to descend the mine in search of a new sensation, but the fates were against me. Mr Brodie, the managing director, and Mr M'Neill, the overseer of the mine, were both on the spot, and an influential resident of Ballycastle assured me that either of these gentlemen would grant my request with pleasure. But important developments in reference to the installation of new machinery were on foot that day. Mr Brodie and Mr M'Neill were buzzing about from engine house to shaft, from shaft to pump, and from pump to coal house. It was difficult to follow them, and impossible to speak to them. I determined to wait for less bustling time. While waiting I saw enough to slake my thirst for information as to the daylight arrangements of the mine, and to damp my ardour to become acquainted with its underground economy.

And when I say damp I use the word in its literal sense. Several times I saw the iron cage in which the miners are lowered to their work come to the surface, and go down again. Every time that it came in sight its gabled roof was pouring water, as if it had been pelted with tropical torrents.

The main shaft is some 300 feet in depth. The opening is rectangular in shape, and measures 8 feet by 10. The sides of the shaft are closely timbered up, to prevent the possibility of collapse. Half of the shaft accommodates the cage already in position. The other half is intended to accommodate a second cage, to be erected as soon as the output of the mine increases sufficiently to necessitate this addition. The cage is suspended from a steel rope, which passes over a large wheel, 12 or 15 feet in diameter. The wheel is supported on a platform at a considerable elevation above the ground. The steel rope passes from the wheel to a large drum of even greater diameter, placed close to the engine-house. Signals from both the top and the bottom of the shaft direct the man in charge of the engine. At a moment's



Ballycastle Coal Mine.—Buildings and plant at the pit mouth.

An Irish Coal Mine - Irish Independent, July 2.

notice he sets the engine going. The steel rope is unwound from the drum when it is desired to lower the cage, while by a reverse movement of the engine the rope is wound up on the drum and the cage is raised.

The weight of the men who use the cage is a small item in comparison with the weight of the truckfuls of mingled coal, stone, and mud which the miners tear from the dark recesses of the mine...When the trucks are taken from the cage they are placed on a line of rails elevated several yards from the ground...The coal is thrown on one side, and the mud and stones on the other. As the respective heaps become enlarged, the railway is extended...

Some days before my visit a cargo of coal from the mine had been shipped from Ballycastle to Liverpool. There still remained behind sufficient coal to stock an extensive coal yard for the winter season, and I was informed that another cargo was about to be shipped very shortly. The quality of the coal is described as 'canvel', or gas producing. Canvel coal, owing to its scarcity, is extremely dear, and the high prices which had prevailed in recent years have induced many gas companies to substitute oil for coal in the manufacture of gas.

Work at the mine goes on continuously day and night for six days of the week. The day is divided into three shifts of eight hours each...at present the number of men working on each shift is from 15-20...

...a large amount of costly machinery has been installed with a view to the prosecution of the new industry. It includes furnaces, crushing mills, and an ingenious contrivance, resembling a miniature dredger, in which the buckets of the dredger as replaced by moulds for shaping the bricks.

The exact situation of the mine is at Ballyvoy, two miles to the east of Ballycastle, and a mile inland from Fair Head. All around are fields of corn, flax, and roots, as well as grass; for the farmers of North Antrim are firm believers in a mixed system of tillage and grazing as the most profitable form of agriculture, and big and little they all go in for a regular rotation of crops.

Of the future of the concern it is impossible for one not an expert to speak. That the coal is there in plenty is certain; that the money and energy to work the deposit have hitherto been available is equally certain; that they will continue to be available seems plain from the extensions that are still being made. To these circumstances, if success is at all possible, it ought to be assured.

18 January 1908, Kalgoorlie Miner (Western Australia) COAL MINING IN IRELAND A BRIGHT FUTURE

Mr Thomas Graham, 16 Moran Street, Boulder City, sent us, as the result of a recent holiday trip to Ireland, an interesting description of coalmining operations that are in progress about three miles from Ballycastle, in the County Antrim. Mr Graham visited the mine and thus refers to his experiences: - When I arrived I found the usual notices posted up in large letters, "No admittance except on business." When I got with a short distance of the engine house I saw a gentleman apparently giving some orders to a man in the garb of a workman, and I at once concluded that

this was the engineer or manager, so I went up to him when he was disengaged and asked for the manager. He told me he was the man I wished to see. I then told him that I did not know much about coalmining, but that I had been interested in goldmining on and off for 40 years. He said he would be very pleased to show me around and give me all the information I desired. They have two seams of coal, one 4ft 6in, and the other 2ft 6in, and between the two seams there is a bed or strata of fireclay 16ft thick all over the property. This is a most valuable adjunct to the mine. Until a few months

ago they regarded this clay as a nuisance, putting them to great expense in removing it. However, after a lot of it had been brought to the surface the happy thought occurred to Mr Poulston, the resident engineer, to have the stuff analysed. The results were so astonishing in the richness of the qualities essential for the very best fireclay that the company could scarcely believe it to be correct, and in order to dispel all doubt on the subject samples of the clay were sent to all the leading analysts in the United Kingdom.

Mr Poulton informs me there is no silica fireclay

existent in Scotland, and that the beds of silica fireclay which have been worked for the past 30 years in England are nearly exhausted, hence the very few silica bricks are manufactured in Scotland, the bulk being imported from Wales and Sheffield. The value of fireclay goods imported annually into Ireland is estimated at from £500,000 to £600,000. The few firebricks manufactured in Scotland are made from flint brought from England, combined with expensive secret processes, and they cost 90/ to 105/ per 1000. One can hardly overestimate the value of this new industry which will soon be in full blast at the Belfast Coal and Iron Co.'s mine at Ballyvoy, near Ballycastle. They have the clay in unlimited quantity and the machinery to manufacture it, as well as the coal to burn it, all on the ground. They are preparing to manufacture sanitary pipes, tiles, etc. They have powerful engines to drive the machinery for grinding and mixing the clay and moulding it into the different articles required. Sheds for drying, and kilns for burning, are in course of construction. They are probably finished now, as it is over three months since I was there.

Mr Poulton pointed out to me smoke issuing from

what appeared to be heaps of mullock in the distance. This he informed me was ironstone, which was being roasted prior to sending it away to England or Scotland to have a bulk sample tested before erecting furnaces on the ground to treat it. I received a *Coleraine Chronicle* a few days ago which reports that the Belfast Coal and Iron Company, Limited, are erecting blast furnaces at their Ballyvoy pits for the production of pig iron from their seam of ironstone, an analysis of which has been made with very satisfactory results, and that this recent addition to the industrial establishment at Ballycastle will be in full working order at a very early date.

The high quality of the ironstone has enabled the company to arrange for its exportation on a large scale to the United Kingdom and abroad.

The history in brief of this mining field is as follows:
- Centuries ago, long before written records, the rude dwellers on the northern shores of Ireland discovered the existence of extensive coalfields on the verge of the Atlantic, which extended far inland.

That those mines were industriously worked is evidence today by the primitive tools found in the old tunnels, or drives as we would call them. Flint-topped tools are

still to be found, which now crumble to dust on being touched by the human hand. Written history gives little or no record of the mines till about two centuries ago. A virile gentleman worked them with marvellous results. Thousands of tons of coal were exported annually, and other industrial concerns sprang up and flourished into considerable magnitude, but with the death of the principle projector of those industries, the spirit of enterprise seemed to die out, and the mines were shut down again. However it was only recently that efforts were made to resuscitate the mining industry.

In 1904 Mr G Braude, a gentleman of considerable mining experience in South Africa, happened, in a holiday tour, to visit Ballycastle, and became interested in the peculiar geological features of the place. Although he knew of Professor Hull's unfavourable report, he decided to make independent investigations on his own account, with the result that he arrived at the conclusion that there was still an immense deposit of coal and ironstone which only required skilful development. A small syndicate was formed and mining rights acquired over an area of 10,000

Irish acres for 60 years, extending from Fairhead on the coast to Knocklayde and stretching out a good distance inland. As work proceeded further capital was necessary, which was easily obtained by the flotation of the Belfast Coal and Iron Co Ltd, with a subscribed capital of £500,000. Instead of starting operations right on the edge of the sea, as the

old time miners had done, the shaft is a considerable distance inland in order to ensure complete immunity from percolation from the Atlantic. They have a splendid first-motion winding engine, with very large drums, capable of hauling a large quantity of stuff. They are busy sinking a second shaft, which, when complete, will afford greater facilities

for development work. This shaft had to be sunk a considerable distance in a coarse drift sand requiring the most skilful of miners to manipulate it. They were nearly through the drift at the date of my visit. Thus the success of the youngest coal mine in Britain, and yet perhaps one of the oldest in the world, is assured.

**29 February 1908 –
Northern Constitution
Ballycastle Notes**

Belfast Coal and Iron, Ltd.
(Proprietors Ballycastle Coal Fields),
NOW OFFER
GOOD HOUSEHOLD COAL,
DELIVERED IN BALLYCASTLE—
Best Screened 20/- per Ton.
Best Unscreened 19/- do.
SPECIAL TERMS FOR QUANTITIES
AND CONTRACTS.
ORDERS PUT ON RAIL WITH UTMOST
DESPATCH.
— ALSO —
FIRST-CLASS BUILDING BRICK
Delivered at Works, Ballyvoy,
at 26/- per Thousand.
Also FACING BRICKS, FIRE BRICKS,
SANITARY PIPES, FLUE LININGS,
TILES, &c., all of the finest quality.
Enquiries and orders to be addressed to the
Company's Office, Ballycastle.
G. H. SCARLETT, Secretary
Belfast Coal & Iron, Ltd.
1906

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)
Messrs J Ferguson & Sons, Linenhall Street, Ballymena, have received instructions from Messrs the Belfast Coal & Iron, Limited, for erecting a large electric power and lighting plant at their mines in Ballycastle. The steam driven dynamo will be at the pit head, and the power lines will be carried overhead for a distance of 11/2 miles to the coast line, where they are opening up the mines on the cliff face, and using electric motors for pumping and general work at the pits. The electricity will be generated at a pressure of 900 volts. It is intended later to use a waterfall that exists some distance from the mines, and where there are 400 feet of fall. This will be used for generating electric power, and carried overhead to the works. The company are making great preparations to cope with their fire brick and tile makings.

1908 - BC&I Advert – Coleraine Chronicle, Feb 29.

21st March 1908 - Ballymena Weekly Telegraph
BALLYCASTLE COAL MINES
ARRIVAL OF FIRST CARGO IN BELFAST

The arrival of the *SS Glentow* with the first cargo of Ballycastle coal in Belfast on St Patrick's Day may have been nothing more than a happy coincidence, but those interested in the progress of local industries may be forgiven if they see something more than a happy coincidence, and hail the advent of the *Glentow* on such an auspicious morning as an augury of brighter and better things in store. That coal seams of good dimensions existed along the bare coast-line of Fair Head has been known for a century and more, but no commercial enterprise strong enough to make the venture a success had, up to two or three years ago, been attempted. Now, thanks mainly to the stimulation energy of Mr AM Kirker, JP, the Ballycastle Coal & Iron, Limited, owners of the coal fields at Ballycastle, are in position to enter the field and to bid for, with every hope of ultimate success, a portion of the trade

and attendant wealth at present finding its way into cross-Channel coffers.

All this is very gratifying to the promoters, but the success of the company need not wholly depend upon the output of coal, for, in addition, there is an extensive deposit of excellent clay eminently suitable for the manufacture of fireclay goods. This has been taken full advantage of, and in the course of a couple of weeks fireclay wares will be placed on the market which are sure to find a ready sale. The distance between Ballycastle and Belfast can be covered in some five hours by steamer, and in three hours by rail. The want of suitable berthage for large steamers is, of course, a drawback, but this no doubt will be remedied in time. Those who have put the coal to a test declare it quite up to the standard of other imports, and in price the local product may be safely left to those at the head of affairs to settle satisfactorily.

BELFAST COAL AND IRON,
LIMITED,
PROPRIETORS BALLYCASTLE COAL
FIELDS.

THE BELFAST COAL AND IRON,
LIMITED, beg to intimate that they
have appointed
Mr. ALEXANDER M'ALISTER
AND
Messrs. SHARPE & M'KINLEY,
BALLYCASTLE.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF
THEIR COAL,

And they are now in a position to Supply
GOOD HOUSEHOLD COAL
In Large or Small Quantities.

In future all applications for Coal must come
through either of the above Agents.
Ballycastle, 20th February, 1908. 2061

The *Glentow's* cargo is consigned to Mr James Weatherup, sen (Carrickfergus), who is acting as agent pro. tem., and this will be followed by others, many inquiries being already to hand. Altogether things look rosy for the future of the Ballycastle Coal Mines, Limited, whose local office is at 56 Waring Street, Belfast. [The Ballyreagh coal was 5s cheaper per ton than the English coal, and 4s per ton cheaper than the Scottish coal.]

1908 - Ballyreagh Coal Agents - Coleraine Chronicle, March 14.



First cargo of Ballycastle coal being discharged at Queen's Quay, Belfast, from the **S.S. Glentow.**

(Before Mr. Justice Barton).
**COMPANIES ACTS AND BELFAST
 COAL AND IRON, LTD.**
 Mr. Megaw (instructed by Mr. Daniel
 McLaughlin) applied on behalf of Messrs.
 H. Kennedy and Son, Coleraine, for an
 order for the winding up of the Belfast
 Coal and Iron, Ltd. Messrs. Kennedy are
 creditors of the company for £169 2s 1d,
 and had found it impossible to obtain pay-
 ment. The company was registered on
 8th September, 1906, and had its offices
 at Ballycastle.
 Mr. Bates, K.C., on behalf of Messrs.
 Whitworth, of Wolverhampton, judgment
 creditors for over £200, supported the ap-
 plication.
 There was no appearance on behalf of the
 company.
 Mr. Justice Barton granted the applica-
 tion.

1908 - BC&I Winding Up Order - Irish News, June 16.

19th April 1908 Belfast News Letter
FOR SALE
BELFAST COAL AND IRON, LIMITED
 SALE BY TENDER AS A GOING CONCERN, IN ONE LOT
 (EXCLUSIVE OF BOOK DEBTS).
 TENDERS are invited for the Purchase of the Business of the above-named
 Company, carried on at
BALLYCASTLE COAL FIELD,
 BALLYCASTLE, COUNTY ANTRIM
 CONSISTING OF MINES OF COAL AND FIRECLAY AND
 BRICKWORKS, with the Fixed and Loose Plant, Machinery, and Utensils
 thereto belonging.
 The Premises consist of—
 (1) The Premises held under an Indenture of Lease, dated the 2nd day of
 May, 1906, for a term of 69 years from the date thereof, comprising—
 All those Fields or Parcels of Land on which the Bath Pit Lodge is situate,
 containing 1 acre and 19 perches, or thereabouts, and the Plot known as the
 White Mine Yard. Also that Parcel of Land, containing 14 acres, lying to the
 east of the Golf Links (with the provisions in said Lease contained, with liberty
 to maintain and work a Tramway or Railway upon adjoining lands, and full and
 exclusive liberty and license to search for, dig, mine, and work all Mines, Pits,
 Veins, and Seams of Coal under the surface of the lands between Downmurry
 Abbey, Ballycastle, on the west and Fairhead on the east, and extending there-
 into unless inland, containing by estimation 9,139 acres Statute measure.
 Also like liberty and license to search for, dig, mine, and work all Mines, Veins,
 and Seams of Limestone, Ironstone, Blue-clay, and Fireclay under the
 surface of the Townlands with the Concessions for Working and Mining
 contained in said Lease, subject to the Provisions and Conditions, and also
 subject to the several respective Rents and Royalties in said Lease contained.
 (2) All that Holding in the Townland of Ballyvaugh, containing 3 acres, 2
 roods, and 30 perches, held as a Judicial Tenancy, at the yearly rent of
 £1 6s 6d.
 The said Lease and Documents of Title, Conditions of Sale, and Map of the
 Premises may be inspected by intending Purchasers at the Office of the
 undersigned.
 Ten Stock of Coal, Fireclay, and Bricks are to be taken over by the Purchaser at
 a valuation.
 Tenders, subject to Conditions of Sale, will be received by the Vendor up to and
 including the 12th day of May, 1908.
 THOMAS R. BURNS, C.A., Trustee and Vendor, 13, Donegall Square North,
 Belfast
 J.C. WHITE & CO., Solicitors,
 45, Arthur Street, Belfast
 2968

1908 - BC&I For Sale - Belfast
 Newsletter, April 29.

WHEATLEY KIRK, PRICE & CO.'S SALES.

THURSDAY, 21st APRIL, 1910.

TO COLLIERY OWNERS, BRIQUETTE AND BRICK MAKERS, ENGINEERS, MACHINERY MERCHANTS, AND OTHERS.

Wheatley Kirk. Price & Co.

HAVE been instructed to sell by Public Auction, in the lots of the Catalogue, upon the two Premises, the BALLYVOY and WHITE MINES, BALLYCASTLE, Co. ANTRIM, IRELAND, on the above date at 11-30 a.m., prompt, the whole of the

Modern COLLIERY PLANT,

BRIQUETTE and BRICKMAKING MACHINERY,

which has all been supplied since 1906, including two Lancashire Boilers, 30 ft. x 8 ft., for 100 lbs. pressure; two Vertical Boilers, 13 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.; pair Winding Engines, 20 in. cylinder x 50 in. stroke, with two 12 ft. drums; pair ditto, 20 in. x 48 in.; four Horizontal Steam Engines, from 12 in. to 16 in. cylinders; complete Briquetting Plant, by Johnson (unused), with Heater, Mixer, and Pitch Cracker; Steam and Hand Winches; Johnson's 9 in. Stiff Plastic Brickmaking Machine; Whittaker's Horizontal Plastic ditto; two Tile Presses, Bucket Conveyer 84 ft. long; Clay Mixer; 5 ft. Mortar Mill; Sanitary Pipe-making Machine, four Brick Kilns, Pulsometer, Tangye and Worthington Pit and Feed Pumps, up to 12 in.; Pit Weighbridges, two Pit Head Gears and Cages, eleven Timber Buildings, from 24 ft. x 36 ft. to 60 ft. x 33 ft.; Wire and Hemp Ropes, Repair Plant, Electric Light Plant, Piping up to 10 in.; Loose Tools, Stores, Furniture, and other Effects.

CATALOGUES (gratis) may be had on application to the Auctioneers, 46, Watling Street, London, E.C.; Albert Square, Manchester; and 26, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 54-55.

1910 - Ballyvoy Mine Equipment For Sale - Ballymena Observer, April 15.

FINAL LONDON HEARING.

CLAIMS AGAINST U.S.A.

War Inventions She Used.

(From Our London Staff.)
FLEET STREET, Thursday.

1932 - Claims against USA - Leeds Mercury, Aug 12.

(1908. No. 525.)

**HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE IN IRELAND.
CHANCERY DIVISION.**

Hon. Mr. JUSTICE BARTON.

In the Matter of the COMPANIES ACTS, 1862 and 1867, and in the Matter of BELFAST COAL AND IRON, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE BARTON has fixed MONDAY, the 20th day of July, 1908, at ELEVEN o'clock in the forenoon, at his Chambers, FOUR COURTS, Dublin, as the time and place for the appointment of an Official Liquidator of the above-named Company.

Dated this 3rd day of July, 1908.

H. A. COSGROVE, Chief Clerk.
DANIEL MACLAUGHLIN, Solicitor, 13, Bachelors' Walk, Dublin, and Coleraine.

1908 - BC&I Liquidator Notice - Northern Whig, July 10.

John Hill, Dessie Butler, Pat McBride (Ballyreagh Lower), Randal McDonnell, out shooting rabbits.



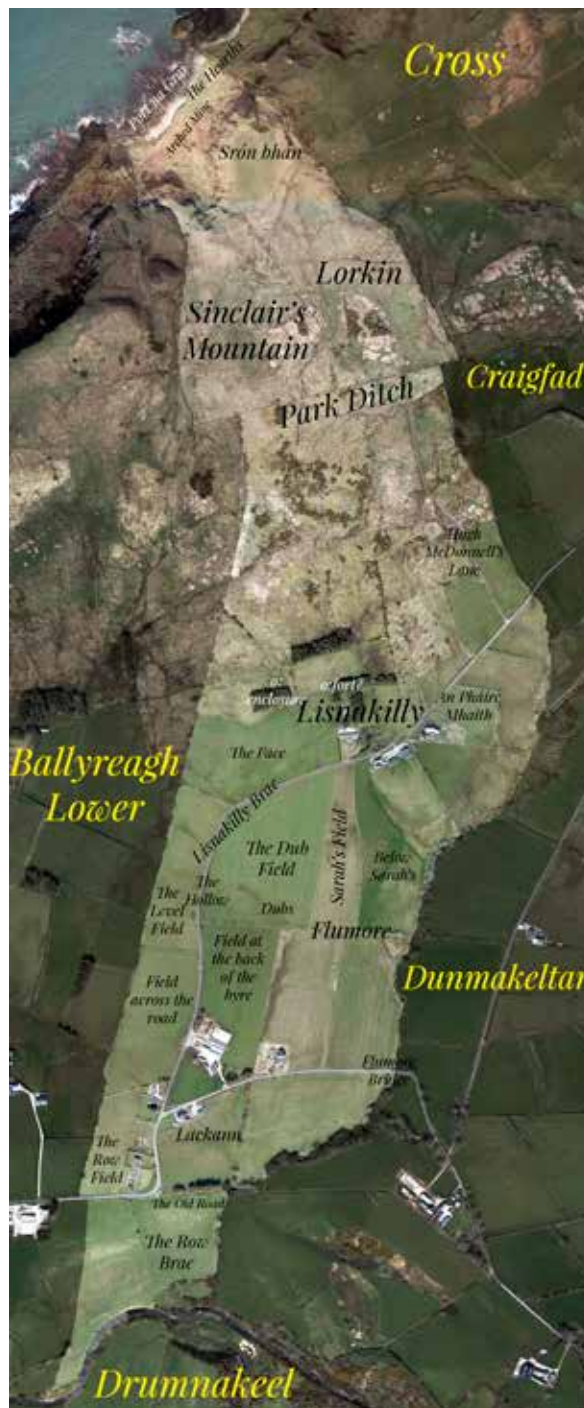
Fieldnames (Local or written form / Original form / English Translation)

1. An Pháirc Mhaith / An Pháirc Mhaith / The good field;
2. Flumore / Fluích Mór / Big wet patch;
3. Gortalorkin / Gort an Lorcáin / Lorcán's Field;
4. Lackann / Leacan / Side of a face (hill-side);
5. Lisnacilly / Lios na gCailleach / Fort of the hags;
6. Portnagree Colliery / Port na Graí / Port of the Horses;
7. Sronban / Srón bhán / White nose;
8. Arched Mine;
9. Below Sarah's;
10. Collier's Row (or the Row);
11. Field across the road;
12. Field at the back of the byre;
13. Flumore Bridge;
14. Hugh McDonnell's Lane;
15. Kelp Kilns;
16. Lisnacilly Brae;
17. Park Ditch (or Boyd's Ditch);
18. Sarah's Field;
19. The Dub Field;
20. The Face;
21. The Falls;
22. The Hearths;
23. The Level Field;
24. The Old Road;
25. The Row Brae;
26. The Row Field.

In 1855, Lisnacilly was said to refer to 'a small scattered farm village, close to which on the NW side stands an old fort. The village was formerly occupied by old women whose sons worked in the collieries north of it.'¹The earliest reference our research found was as 'Lisnokilly' in 1826.² The OSM described enclosures and a disfigured fort at Lisnacilly, however the archaeologists couldn't find anything on site.³

In 1993, the late Pat McBride of Ballyreagh Lower showed archaeologists the location of an 'ancient enclosure' then on the mountain grazing of John McKinlay.⁴ It was thought the house was post-medieval, but unlikely to be a booley house.⁵ Pat also revealed the location of what his father had told him was 'the giant's grave'. It is hidden in the plantation below the enclosure, however no remains could be found.⁶ At the time of the OSM the grave was "enclosed on either side by 2 stones of large size, which stand 3 and a half feet above the surface and nearly 6 and a half feet in length each. There was a stone at each end of the grave but are now removed from the place. The grave was 8 feet long and 2 and a half feet wide."⁷

The *Hollow* is a fairy haunt, while *Sarah's Field* and *Below Sarah's* are named after Sarah Hunter. There are also *Kelp Kilns* at the top of the townland.



1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 194).

2 1826 – Sale To-morrow, In the Matter of Hugh Boyd, a Lunatic. *Belfast Commercial Chronicle*, December 18.

3 SM7-ANT-005-029, SM7-ANT-005-030, SM7-ANT-005-005.

4 OSM pg 72.

5 SM7-ANT-005-031.

6 SM7-ANT-005-032.

7 OSM pg 72.

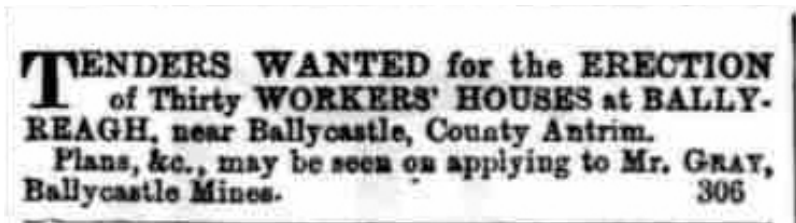


View of the Park Ditch from Hugh McDonnell's Lane.

Park Ditch (or *Boyd's Ditch*)⁸ is a dry stone wall running from Tornaroan to Murlough. The story behind this name is that Boyd was going to evict everyone living between the wall and the sea, and turn the land into a deer park for shooting. Although the wall was built the park never came to pass.

Colliers' Row: There was a tender out in 1868 for 30 miners' houses. Mr Gray in the Ballycastle Mines had the plans, which almost certainly refer to *Colliers' Row*. The

only new buildings in the townland between the 2nd and 3rd Ordnance Surveys (1862 and 1900) are those at *Colliers' Row*. The Row was also used as tightly packed houses for poor families, one family living at the back of the house and another at the front. At this time there were 20 fireplaces and 10 chimneys. In later years John Catton lived there, as well as Clarkes from Murlough and Dillons (a family of coal miners). Henry McHenry had a shop and petrol filling station at the bottom end, close to the road.



Tender for Miners' Houses. *Belfast Morning News*, 27 April 1868.



The Boatyard at the Row.

8 Name from the late Pat McBride (Ballyreagh Lower).

The Boat Yard at The Row 1972

Japan can build her tankers,
And the Yanks atomic subs,
The West can build you curraghs,
And Arklow sailing hulls.

But for boats of wood and putty,
Crooked keels and bulging sides,
No one can, I don't deny,
Beat the Builders of the Row.

Pat McBride's chief designer,
Drawing board upon his knee,
Calmly states, 'At last I've found it!
A boat to beat the cruel sea.

And McBride who should know better.
Orders given but not obeyed
Caulking holes with red lead putty
At the Row he never shaved.

Dan McCouaig for scarfs is famous
Fitting to an inch or so,
He along with many others
Served his time up at the Row.

Sawman is the man from Murlough,
Nailing is also his trade,
But I fear she'll be lopsided
With the ribs McCarry made.

Amongst the best wood butchers,
And there's plenty that I know
Darragh's just as good as any
Of the Birsies at the Row.

Duncan is the star apprentice,
Working through his second year
Thirst for knowledge keeps him coming
To the Boatyard at the Row.

Gerard Butler lately started,
And I think he'll make the grade,
Works well, but argues better,
With the brass hats at the Row.

Now kind friends at your discretion,
Say a prayer or maybe two,
For all poor Sailors doomed to sail in,
See-through Sampans* from the Row.

ANON

**A sampan is a small wooden rowing boat used in South East Asia.*

"Pat (Feasog) McBride) and three of his near-neighbours, Pat McCarry, Dan McCouaig, and John Darragh had issued themselves a challenge. They would build a motor boat. None of them had any qualifications except they were self-styled handymen. First they looked for a larch tree with a natural curve for

the bow and after some searching they found one in a small plantation at Ballyverdagh. They felled it, brought it to the sawmill, and sawed it into the shape of the keel. They were fortunate enough that part of the old Miners Row was vacant and an ideal spot for boat-building. With much thought the keel

was laid; it was three years before the boat was completed because they only worked in the winter nights as it was a place to spend the time and have a bit of craic while they worked. I used to call in to see how they were getting on. Every man seemed to be allotted a particular job, with instructions from the

skipper. Pat was termed the skipper, as he had always a great interest in boats and the sea. I think if he had a choice in his younger days he would have gone 'down to the sea in ships', as boats seemed to be his pet subject. Many a night they went to work and never did any, as everything had to be discussed before they started work, sometimes running into the small hours of the morning. After many nights of trial and error the boat was completed, painted green and white with a diesel engine fitted. She was ready for launching and they called it the 'Benmore'. They launched her for a trial run at Ballycastle harbour with a bottle of stout across the bow, and landed in Rathlin Island. After some jollification in the pub they set sail

for Murlough Bay where an anchor had been prepared for the boat. That's where she spent every summer, being used for fishing and pleasure trips. It was reckoned to be one of the best boats of that type on the north coast. The boat is now in the same shed where she was built. It is difficult to say if it will be put to sea again with the same crew. With their youthful years declined they don't seem to have the same interest in adventure and it's about five years since her last trip. One night when they were building the boat, they came into work and there was a poem lying on the bench. No-one knew who composed it. I have unearthed it from one of the crew – it is called "The Boat Yard at The Row 1972". Every summer if the weather was good

they would take a trip over to the Mull of Kintyre to Southend and the Island of Sanda. They became friendly with the local people, particularly with the owner of Sanda, Jim Russell." From *Where the Curlew Flies* by the late Paddy Top McBride.

Pat in Murlough says that there was some sort of farm or fishing grant new at the time so Feasog set up a boat-building company and this was to be the first off the conveyor belt. The furthest it travelled was to Southend with the two Pats, Kevin McBride, John McGill, Jack McAllister and John Darragh. Jim Russell looked after the boat on Sanda and Jim McMullan from Southend took them all up to Oban (£1 a head B&B). "Young McBride might remember better!"



The Boatyard at the Row.

The 1861 Valuation marks down a site to Sheppard, Berril, and Company, they were a major mining company, possibly based in *the Row*. Sheppard is likely Edward Sheppard, who operated out of Carrickmore Port in the 1850s. The iron mines were in Cross, later called *McGildowney's Black Band*.

The Hearths are split between Ballyreagh Upper and Cross, and were used for burning the iron ore taken from the mine in Cross. In 1892, John Butler, of Ballyreagh Lower, and James Butler, of Ballynaglogh, took Hugh McGildowney (Clare Park, Ballycastle) to court for damages caused to their ground and stock by McGildowney's operations at *The Hearths*:

*"Mr M'Gildowney within the last four and a half years had commenced mining operations. He took iron or iron stone from works at the top of the cliff near Fair Head, and spread them on the hearths on [the Butlers'] farm...Where the mineral was spread out was a place on [the Butlers'] farm called hearths. It was burned there and exported to Scotland. The refuse from the burning operation was spread out along the cliff, and was deteriorating to their farm. After a time it gets heated and ignites, and a most poisonous and pestilent vapour arises therefrom, which destroyed plaintiff's cattle, and he was obliged to take them off the farm."*⁹

TWO OWNERS OF COASTING VESSELS, SHIP-BROKERS, &c.
VESSELS WANTED, by the Ballycastle Iron Mines, to carry Iron Ore to the Clyde.
Freights liberal, and despatched quick. 100 Tons Loaded in about Four Hours.
Apply to Mr. EDMUND SHEPPARD, Ballycastle Quay. 2540

Vessels Wanted by Ballycastle Iron Mines. Belfast News-Letter, 6 Jul 1860.

FREIGHTS.
VESSELS Loaded with IRONSTONE at Carrickmore, near Fairhead, Ballycastle, for Ardrossan and Bowling.
Liberal Freights and quick despatch given.
Apply at the Works, or to Mr. E. SHEPPARD, Ballycastle; GEORGE BIRRELL, 45, Union Street, Glasgow; JOHN KIRKHOPE, Ardrossan.
Glasgow, 23rd July, 1861. 506

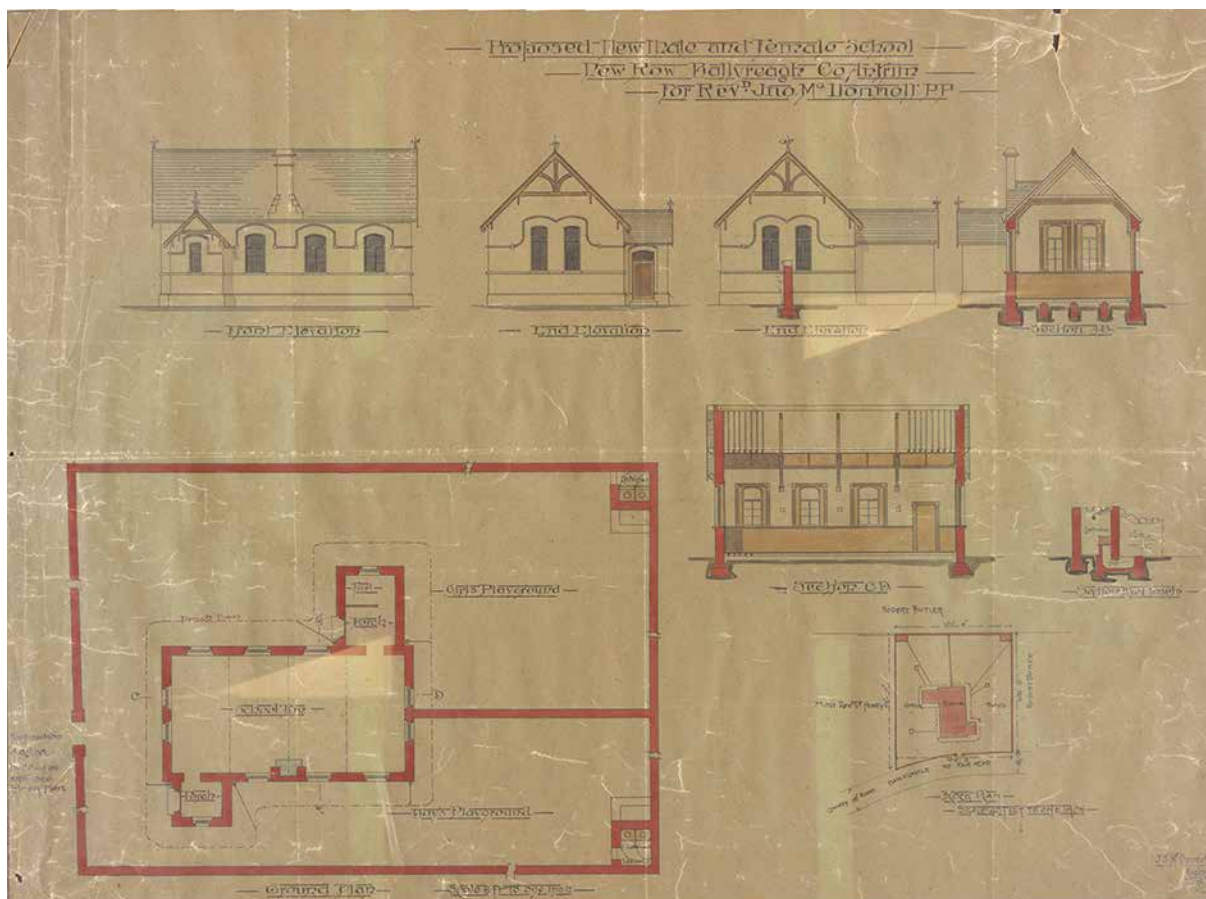
Sheppard advert. Belfast Morning News, 3 Aug 1861.

Freights for Ardrossan and Bowling.
VESSELS may LOAD IRONSTONE at the BALLYCASTLE MINES, for ARDROSSAN and BOWLING, at liberal freights and with quick despatch. After discharging are guaranteed Cargoes of Pig Iron for Fleetwood, Morecambe, or Runcorn, also at liberal freights.
Apply, in Glasgow, to Mr. GEO. BIRRELL, 45, Union Street; Ardrossan, to Mr. JOHN KIRKHOPE; to Mr. E. SHEPPARD, Ballycastle Quay; or, at the Works, near Fairhead. 897

Sheppard advert. Belfast Morning News, 28 Aug 1861.

IN CHANCERY.
In the matter of Catherine Emily Boyd, and Sir Harley Hugh Boyd, Baronet, minors.
TO BE LET, FOR SUCH TERM AS MAY be agreed upon, from the 20th day of May, 1872, the Collieries of Ballycastle, extending from the ancient Church of Bouymargy, to Fair Head, Eastward, about four miles (Irish), and from the Sea Coast, three miles (Irish), into the country, Southward, together with the Iron Stone (Black Band) under the two quarterlands of Ballyreaghs, containing 419 acres, Statute measure, or thereabouts, and comprised within the said coal field.
For further particulars, apply to
Messrs. TYRRELL & STANUELL.

Mines to Let. Belfast News-Letter, 4 Nov 1871.



Plans for the Row School, 1901. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2403/B/2/4/2.

The Row School:

After Craighfad School was destroyed during a storm in 1894, Father McDonnell rented two houses in the Row, and the school moved there. The agreement with the landlord was that rent

would be a penny per year until a new school was built, at which point the houses were to be returned to the landlord. Father McDonnell had purchased a site between the Row and the site belonging to the current school bus driver,

to build the new Row School, however Father McDonnell passed away before construction started. As a result the school continued in the Row until replaced by Barnish in 1935. The list of principals is as follows:

The Row School Principals

- 1901:** Robert Cummings.¹⁰
- 1903-04:** DK Maguire.
- 1905-11:** Michael McLaughlin of Ballynaglough.
- 1912-1923:** Thomas O'Grady.
- 1924-31:** Gerard Ramsden (Principal) and Miss Mary McCaughan (Assistant).
- 1932-1935:** Patrick J McHenry (Principal) and Mary McCaughan (Assistant).

10 1901 – Death of Rev John M'Donnell, P.P., Culfeightrin – *Coleraine Chronicle*, April 27.

In the Inspection Book the list of teachers starts from 1903, with Mary McDonnell listed as the junior teacher/assistant. All the Inspector's Reports make similar comments about the school building being unsuitable, teachers trying their best, children needing to pay more attention, speak louder and more clearly when giving answers, and not talk amongst themselves (the children these reports talk about are now the grandparents of grandparents).

Mr Ross' Inspector's Report, 2 August 1918: *"The work is carried on under very great difficulties owing to utterly bad accommodation and irregular attendance. The principal is highly qualified and both teachers work hard...there should be more frequent revision in History."*

FG Beamish's Inspector's Report, 27 July 1922: *"The teachers work hard in the most miserable housing conditions. The children*

are bright and well-disposed."

Beamish's 1925 report is much the same. The teachers are commended and the children could work harder, while the building is *"a most unsuitable apartment (or two) of a low terrace of cottages formerly occupied by miners or labourers, almost uninhabitable. The desks are bad, in keeping with the accommodation."*



Craigfad School photo 1925.

Back Row: Miss (Dolly) McCaughan (Brackney), P McLaughlin, Willie Gillan (Losset), M J Hill, P McCambridge, John O'Neill (Ballypatrick), D McCambridge, H Osborne, Hector McLean (Barnish), D Harrigan, Master Ramsden.

2nd Row: M McKiernan, C McLean, Annie Davidson, A McAuley, M Jollie, M Hill, M Stewart, Catherine Davidson, E McLean, R McGarry.

3rd Row: J McKeague, A Gillan, Dermot O'Neill (Ballypatrick), M Duncan, C McBride, N Dillon, Annie McLean (Barnish), Margaret McLean (Barnish), Pat Murphy, John Murphy.

Front Row: J McAuley, J McAllister, C Jollie, S McLean, Paddy Davidson, John Kane, J Gillan, A Osborne, JK O'Neill (Ballypatrick), DP Osborne, B Harrigan.



School catchment area c1930 (out of shot, 2 McKinleys at Tormore; 1 Ryan & 4 McAllisters in Glenmakeeran).



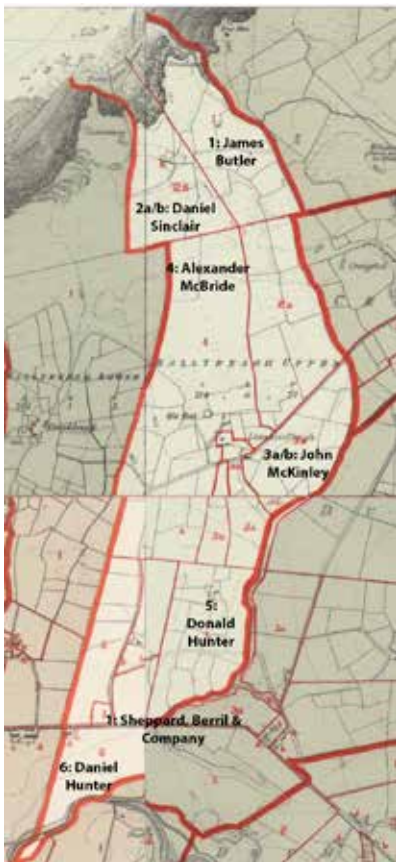
Row School photo 1931.

Back Row: Maggie McLean (Barnish), Mary Duncan (Drumnakeel), Seamus McBride (Ballyreagh Lower), Joe Glenfield (Ballyvoy – Blackpark), Dan McNeill (Cross – Coolalough), Barney Harrigan (Broughanlea), Mary Campbell (Broughanlea), Paddy McCarry (Broughanlea), Sean McLean (Barnish), John McHenry (Ballyreagh Upper – The Row), John McAuley (Ballyvennacht – Carvadoon), Grace McBride (Ballyreagh Lower); **2nd Row:** Mary McKinley (Ballypatrick), Bernadette Campbell (Broughanlea), Kathleen & Ellen McNeill (Coolanlough), Greta McAuley (Carvadoon), Annie McCarry (Broughanlea), Maggie Duncan (Drumnakeel), May Cadigan (Drumaroan), Mary McAllister (Drumnakeel), Peggy Kane (Ballypatrick), Patricia Ryan (Ballypatrick), Master Ramsden (Ballyvoy); **3rd Row:** Pat Glenfield (Blackpark), John Duncan (Drumnakeel), Pat McAuley, Maureen Davidson, Rose McNeill, Mary McHenry, Teresa McKiernan (Broughanlea), Mary McVeigh (Broughanlea), Mary McBride (Ballyreagh Lower), Mary Rooney (Broughanlea), Dan McKinley (Ballypatrick), Patsy Campbell, (Broughanlea), Alex McNeill (Coolalough); **Front Row:** Dan McAllister (Glenmakeeran), James McNeill (Coolanlough), Henry McHenry (Dunmakeltar), Dan Duncan (Drumnakeel), Pdraig Ramsden (Ballyvoy), John McBride (Ballyreagh Lower), James McAllister (Glenmakeeran), Lawrence McHenry (Dunmakeltar), Paddy McKinley (Ballypatrick), Dan Kane (Ballypatrick).

Families

- 1669:** Darrogh, Hunter, McCulley, Mcffarland, McGreer, McWean.
1803: Black, Buy, Linn, McCaryish, McCormick, McGarry, McGugin, McKeague, McKeernon, McMullan, Quin, Whiteford, Watson.
1831: Darragh, Hunter, McFall, McKernan, Scally, Sinclair.
1861: Davis, Dillon, Lynn, Hunter, McBride, McDonnell, McGlarry, McKinley, Sinclair.
1901: Butler, Clarke, Dillon, McDonnell, McKinley, O'Connor.
1911: Dillon, Jamieson, McDonnell, McKinley (& McIlroy sister and brother-in-law).
2018: Butler, Hill, Mathers, McDonnell, O'Rawe, Stewart.

The early Darraghs were probably the family of Dan Darragh of Lisnakilly. They were evicted, and eventually moved to Ballycastle. Dan was a National School teacher who joined the Fenians and died in Portland Prison in England in 1870



1861 Griffith's Valuation.

(his alias in the English court records was William Pherson Thompson). When his remains were brought home for burial his grave was the third in the new chapel on Moyle Road in Ballycastle, with the cross erected over it in 1903. We have very little information on these Darraghs, other than a brief mention that Dan had a half-brother named John McBride from his mother's first marriage.¹¹

The 1861 map doesn't

quite match the survey list, but appears to be reliable.

The Sinclairs lived in Lisnacilly. Daniel Sinclair died in 1882, aged 74, leaving a daughter Bridget, who was married into the McKinley family. Daniel's son, John Sinclair, married Mary McCambridge of Laney, near Glenann, in 1872, however he died in 1880, before his father. John's son, Daniel, was left his grandfather's



The wallstead on Lorkin at the top of Hugh McDonnell's Lane. Both it and the wallstead on Sinclair's Mountain are marked on the 1832 map.

11 1865 – Alleged Fenianism in Ballycastle – *Northern Whig*, November 16.

property, but was only 7, so Robert and Alexander Hunter were appointed executors and trustees of Daniel Sinclair's will. They disagreed as to how to administer the will, so in 1884, Robert applied

to have it administered by the courts.¹² By 1885, Alexander Hunter is selling his 46 acres.¹³ In 1886, young Daniel Sinclair applies to have his grandfather's 18 acres sold off immediately,¹⁴

resulting in an auction in March 1889.¹⁵ The Sinclairs are thought to be in Belfast. John Hunter of Cross later bought Henry Butler's ground in 1895.¹⁶

AUCTION OF FARM OF LAND AT BALLYREAGH UPPER.

I HAVE received instructions from Mr. Alexander Hunter, jun., to Sell by Auction, on the Premises, on WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH, 1885, at TWELVE o'clock, noon, his Interest and Tenant-Right in that Farm of Land and Premises, as now in his possession, situate at Ballyreagh Upper, and containing 46a 3r 10p, statute or thereabouts; 23 acres of which are held by lease along with another portion of land, for an unexpired term of 4 years from 1st November last, under Sir Frederick Boyd, Bart., at the yearly rent of £6. The other part contains 23a 3r 10p, statute or thereabouts, and is held for a judicial term under the same landlord, at the yearly rent of £8 5s.

The land is of good quality, the greater part has been used as a Grazing Farm, for mixed stock for a number of years past, for which it is well adapted, being well sheltered, and supplied with water. About 20 acres are suited for cultivation. There is a Cartaker's dwelling, with suitable Offices.

Alexander Hunter's auction.
Northern Constitution, 7 March 1885.

FARM OF LAND FOR SALE.

To be Sold by Public Auction at the COURT-HOUSE, BALLYCASTLE, on TUESDAY, the 12th day of March, 1889, at the hour of One o'clock, p.m., all that Farm of Land, with slated House thereon, situate at BALLYREAGH, within 3 miles of Ballycastle, on the leading road to Fairhead, as formerly in the occupation of Daniel Sinclair, deceased, containing 30a 2r, statute measure, or thereabouts, and held from the Representatives of Sir Frederick Boyd, Bart., under yearly tenancy, at the yearly rent of £7 10s.

The lands are sufficiently watered and fenced, and are in a fair state of cultivation.

The sale will be subject to the approval of the Recorder of Belfast County Court Judge and Chairman of Antrim.

Terms—Purchaser to pay a deposit of £25 per cent. and Auctioneer's Commission, on being declared, and remainder on getting possession.

For further particulars as to title, conditions of sale, &c., apply to

ALEX. O'RORKE & SON, Solicitors, Ballymena, having carriage of sale; or to
E. F. M'CAMBRIDGE, Auctioneer, Ballycastle.

376

Auction of Sinclair's ground. Northern Constitution, 9 March 1889.

12 1884 – Ballymena Quarter Sessions – *Coleraine Chronicle*, October 25.
13 1885 – Auction of Farm of Land at Ballyreagh Upper – *Coleraine Chronicle*, March 7.
14 1886 – Administration Suit. Butler v Hunter. *Ballymena Observer*, October 30.
15 1889 – Farm of Land for Sale. *Coleraine Constitution*, March 9.
16 1895 – High Price for Land near Ballycastle – *Northern Whig*, September 30.

HIGH PRICE FOR LAND NEAR BALLYCASTLE.—
 A few days ago Mr. Edmund F. M'Cambridge, auctioneer, set up for sale the farm of land the property of the late Henry Butler, Ballycastle, in the townland of Ballyreagh Upper, near Ballycastle, containing 35a. 1r. 35p., at the yearly judicial rent of £6. After a very spirited bidding Mr. John Hunter, Cross, Ballyvoy, was declared the purchaser at the very high price of £195, or nearly thirty-three years' purchase.

Sale of the Butler farm. Northern Whig, 30 September 1895.

MR. W. B. BLACK'S SALES.

LANDS FOR CROPPING AND GRAZING.

TWO be Sold by Auction by order of the Trustees of Mr. Daniel Sinclair (deceased), at the Premises, LISNAKILLY, on **MONDAY, 12th APRIL**, at 12 o'clock, noon. About 16 acres Lands for Cropping and Grazing for this season.

Terms—Cash, and 5 per cent. auction fees.

2721 WM. B. BLACK, Auctioneer.

Sinclair auction. Northern Constitution, 10 April 1886.

1901 & 1911 Censuses

1901: The surnames to disappear from 1861 were Hunter, McBride, and Sinclair, while new names were Clarke, Dillon, and O'Connor. Five Dillons were coalminers (in one family John Sr, John Jr, and Daniel; in a second Thomas Sr & Thomas Jr), Mary McDonnell was a dressmaker, John O'Connor a shopkeeper, and John Clarke a carpenter.

1911: The only new surname was John Jamieson & family, who were in Cross in 1901.

In later years the Mcllroys lived at Lisnacilly. They held dances every Sunday night, with Paddy Mcllroy providing music from a gramophone.



Hugh McDonnell, Sammy Doyle (travelled for work), Paddy Hill, Dan McNeill, Randal McDonnell, James Hunter out binding corn.



John Hill, Dessie Butler, Pat McBride (Ballyreagh Lower), Randal McDonnell, out shooting rabbits.



Sean Butler (Craigfad), Randal McDonnell, Dessie Butler.



Randal McDonnell, Jimmy Hill, Margaret & Jamie McDonnell.

Old Ballyreagh Headstones

(1) Whiteford 1809 (Bun na Margai)

Here Lieth the body of
Archd Whiteford
of Gortalorkan
who departed this
Life the 8th Novr
1809 Aged 49 years.



(2) Skalley 1816 (Bun na Margai)

To the memory of
James Skalley of
Lisnakelly who died
in 1816 Aged 65



(3) McDonnell 1827 (Barnish)

ERECTED BY
ALLEN MCDONNELL of Ballyreagh
in memory of his Son John. Who
departed this life 3rd March 1827.
Aged 27 years.



(4) Hunter 1838 (Barnish)

(5) Hunter 1866 (Bun na Margai)

(6) Sinclair 1865 - 1992 (Barnish)

(7) Dillon 1914-1922 (Barnish)

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY
FOR THE SOULS OF
JOHN DILLON BALLYREAGH
WHO DIED 18th MARCH 1914
AGED 66 YEARS
HIS WIFE ELLEN WHO DIED
26th JUNE 1922 AGED 65 YEARS

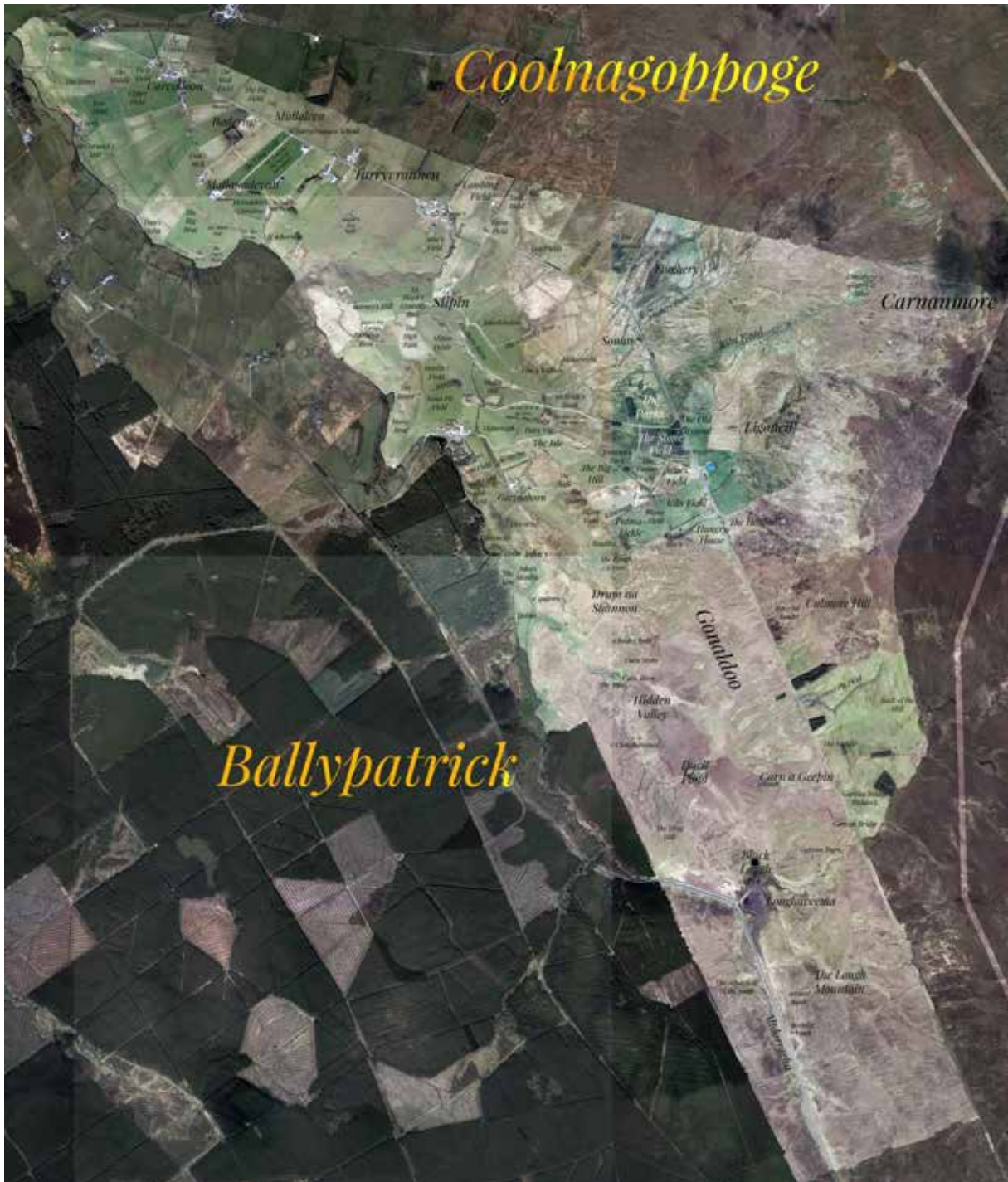
(8) McIlroy 1946-1964 (Barnish)



Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Altdorragha / An tAllt Dorcha / The dark steep glen;
2. Bouliha / Buaille / Summer milking place;
3. Carn na Geepin / Carn na gCeapán / Cairn of the little stumps;
4. Carvadoon / Ceathrú an Dúin / Quarterland of the fort;
5. Clough-a-nanca / Cloch an Ansa / Stone of the dearest beloved;
6. Cloughnacarra / Cloch an Chairthe / The standing stone;
7. Cnocindubh / Cnocán Dubh / Little black hill;
8. Culmore Hill / Cúl Mór / The big corner or back;
9. Doonasoch / Dún Easach/Easóg / Fort of the small waterfall/weasels;
10. Flugherly / Fliucdhoire / Wet oak wood;
11. Garadoo / Garrdha Dubh / Black or dark garden;
12. Gartnahorn / Gort na hEorna / Field of the barley;
13. Garvan / Gharbheanaigh or Garbhanaí / Rough bog or rough place;
14. Gonaldoo / Gualainn Dubh / Dark or black shoulder;
15. Kinareich / Ceann an Reithe / Ram's head;
16. Lig-a-horney / Log na hEorna / Hollow of the barley;
17. Limavullion / Léim an Mhuilinn / Leap of the mill;
18. Ligoneil / Log an Aoil / Hollow of the lime;
19. Loughaveema / Loch an Mhadhma / Bursting out lough;
20. Malnadevan / Mala an Duibhéin / Hill slope of the cormorant;
21. Malacrevin / Mhala Craobhán / Brow of the small bushes;
22. Malareagh / Mhala Riabhach / Brindled brow or slope;
23. Mullaleen / Mullach Lín / Hilltop of flax;
24. Pairc Vig / Páirc Bheag / Small field;
25. Patmacarmac;
26. Patmakickle or Parca na Kigal / Páirc an tSeagail / Field of the rye;
27. Patnaheich / Páirc na hÁithe / Field of the kiln;
28. Rodding or Roderin / Roideán / Place of reddish mud or bog mire;
29. Slipin / Sliabh Pionna / Mountain pen;
30. Souan / Subhán / Slips (young pigs);
31. Turryvranan / Tuar Uí Bhranáin / O'Brennan's cattle-field;
32. Adair's Wee Garden;
33. Agnes' Field;
34. Barney's Brae;
35. Barney's Hill;
36. Black Lough;
37. Black's Gravelly Brae;
38. Black's Meadow;
39. Bridie's Meadow;
40. Cara Burn;

(Continued on page 86)



The OSM recorded the local tradition that the townland took its name after a mass rock,¹ however the first record of the name Ballebennacht in 1635² predates both Cromwell’s invasion and the introduction of the Penal Laws in 1695. Holding a secret mass, then naming a townland after it (to be included in the English records) seems unlikely. It is more likely that ‘blessing’ refers to the many tombs found in the mountain bogs.

1 OSM pg 75.
2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 120).

Fieldnames (Continued)

41. Cara Stone;
42. Corn Field;
43. Dan's Holm;
44. Dan's Well;
45. Drove Road;
46. Drum na Shannon;
47. Duck Pond;
48. Duncan's Park;
49. Front Field;
50. Gravel Pit Field;
51. Hill Field;
52. Holm;
53. Horse Brae;
54. Hungry House;
55. Jane's;
56. Jane's Field;
57. Jean's;
58. John's;
59. John's Meadow;
60. Kiln Field;
61. Kiln Road;
62. Lambing Field;
63. Low Field;
64. Magpie's Nest Field;
65. Malt's Hill;
66. Martin's Field;
67. McBride's Bank;
68. McCormick's Mill;
70. McFadden's Garadoo;
71. McFadden's Wee Garden;
72. Mill Brae;
73. Neal's Carry;
74. Paddy Roe's;
75. Sand Pit;
76. Sand Pit Field;
77. Sarah Brown's House;
78. Serpent's Pool;
79. Slipin Fields;
80. Stony Field;
81. The Acre;
82. The Back of the Hill;
83. The Big Brae;
84. The Big Field;
85. The Big Hill;
86. The Black Slap;
87. The Braes;
88. The Corner Field;
89. The Cow's House;
90. The Drag Hill;
91. The Fank;
92. The field behind the trees;
93. The Field Out The Back
Of McFadden's;
94. The First Field;
95. The Gravelly Brae;
96. The Greens;
97. The High Park;
98. The Hollow;
99. The Isle;
100. The Long Field;
101. The Lough Mountain;
102. The Middle;
103. The Mountain;
104. The Old Ground;
105. The other side of the road;
106. The Parks;
107. The Rock;
108. The Rough Grass;
109. The Still House;
110. The Stone Field;
111. The Stripes;
112. The Tip's Brae;
113. The Two Fields;
114. The wee field at the trees;
115. The Wee Scroge;³
116. The Well Field;
117. Threnchy;
118. Threnchy Rise;
119. Upper Field;
120. Wee Corner;
121. Yard Field.

3 Possibly from Scrog, meaning a channel for water to run.

The four quarterlands of Baile Bheannacht recorded in the 1654 map are Coolnegoppoge, Downs (possibly Carvadoon), Rodding (possibly Roderin), and Mallendugan (Malnadevin). Rodding is split into two, on either side of Mallendugan, while further into the mountain bog is a quarterland of Ballypatrick called Magherology (assumed to be The Lough Mountain now).

The Doons of Carvadoon:

The doon above the Mill Brae, from which Carvadoon takes its name, was mentioned in the OSM. Then on Patrick Butler's ground, it was *'the ruins of an oval fort 23 by 16 yards on the top and enclosed round, or rather faced on the outside, with stones of large size'*. A cave found inside had by then been dug out and *'Danes' pipes were the only antiques found in the cave'*.⁴

McCormick's Mill:

This is below the braes in Carvadoon on the river, although its founding is unclear. There is no mention of it in the OS Memoirs, but it is on the 1st Edition OS map. From the depositions in

the *Miller of the Glens* court case of 1846, we know it was built in the mid-1830s by the Casements, with the Casement tenants bound by clauses in their leases to use the mill. A letter from the McGildowney estate in 1803 talks about *'an attempt by Mr Casement to get Dr McDonnell's tenants to use Casement's corn mill in preference to McGildowney's'*.⁵ It's thought that the Casement mill in 1803 was in Cushendun (there appears to be a corn mill recorded in the 1st Edition OS, beside the current hurling field). The *Miller of the Glens* case describes how, before *McCormick's Mill* was built, the Casement tenants had to trek over the Grange of Inispollan to grind their corn. There was also a corn drying kiln on site at *McCormick's Mill*. Research suggests the McGildowney mill mentioned in the 1803 letter was at Carey Mill, but some of the McDonnell tenants were bound to grind their corn in the Ballypatrick Mill (Osborne's/Kane's Mill).

Turryvranen National School:

The school appears in the 2nd Ed OS (c.1860) and

the *Griffith's Valuation* of 1861, where it is marked on the modern map. No building is present in the 1830s, and it had vanished by the 4th Ed OS (c.1930). The only reference found to the school was from the 1846 court cases involving Father Walsh, when William Simpson from Comber stated he taught at Turryvranen. Simpson said that the school was run by the Presbyterian General Assembly, which casts doubt on whether it ever existed at all.

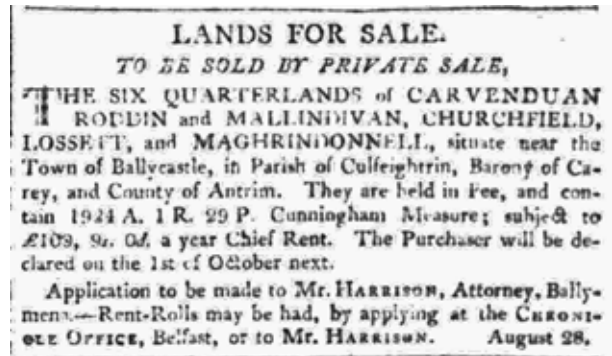
Mass Rocks & Standing Stones:

The OSM recorded the following in the holding of Angus McCambridge, *'in a secluded valley east of the old road leading from Ballycastle to Cushendall, there stands one of the ancient Roman Catholic altars...the place above mentioned is a natural pile of projecting rock at the base of which is a sort of table of the same rock'*.⁶ Also found in the bog on this holding between 1810 and 1820 were ancient wooden meddars or vessels containing old butter. On Daniel Stewart's holding was an *'ancient stone column 3 feet 3 inches high, 2 and a half feet broad and 2 feet*

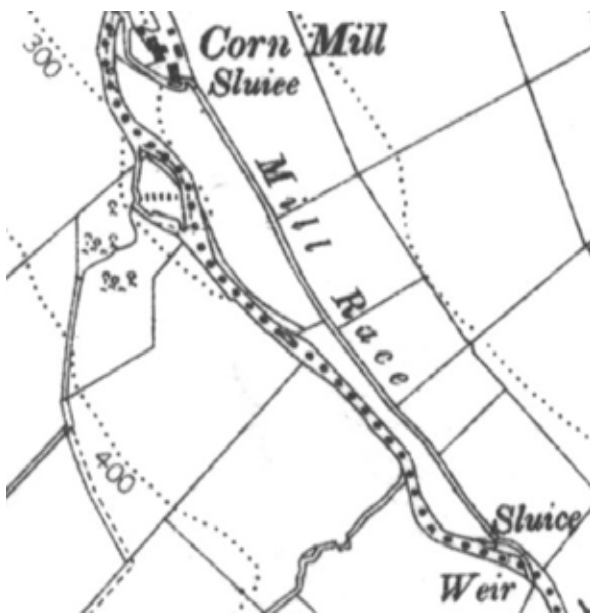
4 OSM pg 73.
5 D1375/3/3, PRONI.
6 OSM pg 75.



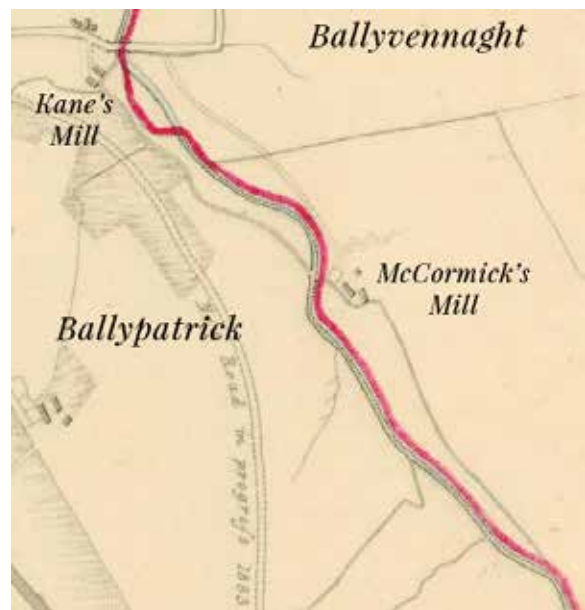
Doons of Carvadoon, 1st Ed OS (c.1830).



Lands for Sale, Carvenduan (1809). The Harrisons were related to the Casements through marriage, this is presumably when Roger Casement of Ballymena bought the ground. Belfast Commercial Chronicle, 13 September 1809.



The Mill Race, 3rd Ed OS (c.1903).



McCormick's Mill, 1st Ed OS (c.1830).



The Mill Buildings, March 2018.

thick.⁷ Unfortunately, Stewart had moved before 1861, so the exact location of his farm is not known. There is a similar sized stone in *Slipin* though, between *Turryvranen* and *Flugherly burns*. Angus McCambridge was possibly around *Slipin* too.

Slipin:

Barney's Brae and *Barney's Hill* are named after Barney McCormick.

Watertop:

The Sand Pit and *Malt's Hill* are mentioned in the OS Memoirs, '[in] the holding of Francis McAuley, and situated at the top of a sandy hill, there stands another standing stone 2 and a half feet high, 1 and a half feet broad, and six

*inches thick, called the Malts...[in] the holding of William Butler, and about 1 foot beneath the surface of a sand quarry, were discovered in 1833, an ancient vault enclosed and covered by flat stones, and containing a skull and other human bones, but in a very decayed state. The vault was about 6 feet long, 2 feet broad, and 2 feet deep.*⁸ It was speculated that given the 'district and sandy nature of the ridge the stone may mark the site of a Bronze Age cemetery'⁹ (c.2,500-300 BC).

Drum na Shannon is where the Ordnance Survey maps record the name 'Water Top'. The River Shannon takes its name from Sionann, the granddaughter of Lir

(father of the Children of Lir). *John's* and *John's Meadow* are named after John McNeill, while *Agnes' Field* is named after John's sister. The only suggestion for *Patnaheich* was Páirc na hÁith (field of the kiln), but there's no tradition of a kiln there so this seems unlikely. *Patmakickle*, *Patmacarmac*, and *Patnaheich* are all pronounced with a soft t.

There are four booley huts, and traces of four other structures, between *Drum na Shannon* and the *Cara Stone*.¹⁰ The *Cara Stone* is a standing stone, and has been variously recorded as *Clogh na h-Uaighe*¹¹ (stone of the grave), *Cloughnacooa*,¹² and *Cloughnacarha* (the stone of lamentation).¹³



HOYFM.WAG.1548 Ballyvennaght Standing Stone © National Museums NI.



Cara Stone.

7 OSM pg 82.

8 OSM pg 82.

9 SM7-ANT-009-096-01.

10 SM7-ANT-009-146.

11 Nic Néill, Íde. (1906) Some Standing Stones in County Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 12: 175-8.

12 O'Laverty (1887: 495).

13 OSM pg 82.



Wallsteads at John McNeill's.



Wallsteads at John McNeill's.



View over John's Meadow and The Acre down to the Holms.



Wallsteads at John McNeill's.



Old quarry gantry past McNeill's.



The fank house past McNeill's.



Old dipper at the fank.

Cloughananca is a double portal tomb described as a 'magnificent and very rare monument'.¹⁴ The location and size of the stones suggest it was built for a person of high status. It is built on the

pre-peat surface, with the bog growing around it. The OSM records it as a druid's altar, then on the holding of Henry Butler: "It is altogether a perfect and extraordinary erection, and must

astonish all who visit the place, how 2 stones of the size and weight of those now described could be conveyed to or placed in their present position."¹⁵



HOYFM.WAG.1547 Ballyvennaght Cromlech © National Museums NI.

Cloughananca c.1900 & 2018.

The tomb at *Carn a Geepin* is another portal tomb, though not as large as *Cloughananca* it does look down over it.¹⁶ We believe this is

what the OSM described as the giant's grave on Henry Butler's mountain.¹⁷ When *Loughaveema* was recorded as a placename around 1855,

it was said that the "The local sound of the name cannot be expressed by any combination of English letters. The above [*Loughaveema*] is the

14 SM7-ANT-009-021-01.
15 OSM pg 83.
16 SM7-ANT-009-022-01.
17 OSM pg 84.



Turf banks above the tombs.



Loughaveema before and after the rains.



The draining pot as of July 2018.

*nearest approximation.*¹⁸ The water drains out below the bog, and comes out further down the mountain. The *Serpent's Pool* was mentioned in a newspaper cutting in the 1920s, by the description it is probably the *Black Lough*, "Just beyond the lough [Loughaveema] the little lakelet, the *Serpent's Pool*, much dreaded by farmers passing at night, was pointed out."¹⁹

The cairn at the Lough was excavated in the 1950s, uncovering 2 cists, one of which contained a small Early Bronze Age food vessel. Close by, a Neolithic site was found, dating from 3,800-2,500 BC, revealing several hearths, a cobbled area, worked flint, pottery and Tievbulliagh stone (porcellanite).²⁰ Like *Cloughananca*, the turf banks grew over the settlement site, and the cairn is thought to

have been built on the pre-peat ground. In *The Lough Mountain* is a 'well-preserved' court tomb,²¹ as well as the 'poorly preserved remains of a wedge tomb'.²² There is also the 'poorly preserved remains of a portal tomb comprising traces of a long cairn'²³ below Culmore Hill.

The *Drove Road* is the old road to Cushendun, used to drive livestock to market or to the boolies.

18 Mac Gabhann (1997: 195).

19 1923 – Around Murlough Bay. A Delightful Day with the Naturalists. *Northern Whig*, June 5.

20 SM7-ANT-009-049-01.

21 SM7-ANT-009-117-01.

22 SM7-ANT-009-023-01.

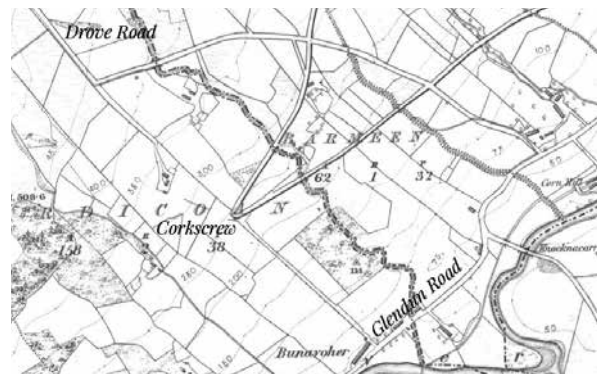
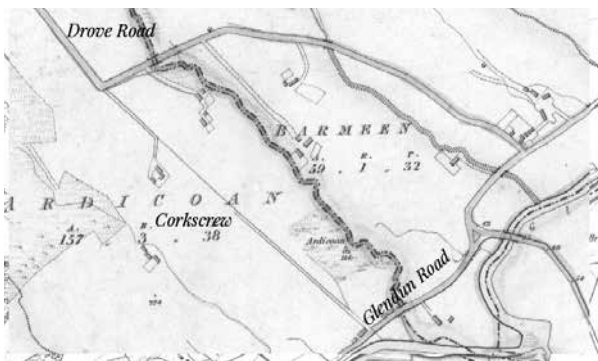
23 SM7-ANT-009-020-01.

It comes in above the lower hairpin at the Corkscrew, and turns towards Cushendun to meet the Glendun Road.

Drove roads in general could be anywhere between 40 to 90 feet wide, much larger than the usual single track pony trails, in order to accommodate larger herds. The wide grassy verges on either side were used for grazing while en route, and are called the Long Acre. Drove roads in Scotland

could be up to 400 miles in length, with the drives lasting weeks or months. Droving started to die out in the mid-1800s, a combination of changes to farming practices, travel by ship and rail, and development along the old routes. The biggest droves would have been impressive, as not only were cattle and sheep driven, but all types of livestock, thousands at a time. This would include turkeys and geese, needing their feet protected by special

boots. *The Hungry House* is the last house on the Carey side of the Drove Road; it is almost 4 miles from the *Hungry House* to the Glendun Road. On the 1st Ed OS map there are hungry houses marked on the Glendun side of the old road starting at Drumnasool (Glenmakeeran), and leading through Ballypatrick. It comes in at Craigagh Wood, and the shortcut past the wood was part of it.



The end of the Drove Road from the 1st and 2nd Ed OS (before and after the building of the coast road).



The Drove Road, November 2018.



Bridge over the Drove Road at Inispollan (Cushendun), December 2018.



*Hungry Houses at Craigagh Wood,
1st Ed OS (c.1830).*



*Paddy Roe's, an old shepherd's house near the
Hungry House in Ballyvenagh.*

Limestone Quarry below Carnanmore:

This is a much more substantial site than it appears from the map. Photos 12a and 12b are of the main pit, 12c of a second smaller cut. 12d is the main working area, 12e an old kiln, and 12f is of an artificial ramp, possibly for loading carts or an old kiln.



12A



12B



12C



12D



12E



12F

Unlocated Names: (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

The place names listed below were known to the late Paddy McBride (Watertop) and mentioned in his book, *Where the Curlew Flies*. However, our research was unable to find their exact location. We could assume the Garvan Burn runs through *Glen a Garvan*, and *Gualainn Dubh* might be what Paddy McNeill called *Gonaldoo*.

- 1 Boscad Ban / Boscóid Bán / White bushing.
- 2 Cnoc Reagh / Cnoc Riabhach / Brindled (stripy) hill.
- 3 Glen a Garvan / Gleann a Gharbheanaigh / Glen of the rough bog.
- 4 Gualainn Dubh / Gualainn Dubh / Dark or black shoulder.
- 5 Lig na Varduan / Log na bhárdán / Hollow of the little poet.
- 6 Lig na Veagh / Log na Bheitheach / Hollow planted with birches.
- 7 Lig na Vola / Log na Feola / Hollow of the meat.
- 8 Mona Mor / Móna Mhór / Big bogland.
- 9 Pairc na cashiol / Pairc na Caisil / Field of the stone fort.
- 10 Pairc na Ciognach / Pairc na Caonach / Mossy field.
- 11 Pairc na durracht / Pairc na Dairach / Field planted full of oaks.
- 12 Suick Cam / Samhach Cam / Crooked place of sorrel.

Families

- 1669: Clarke, McConnell, McCormuck, McGee, Miller, O'Boyle, O'Skelley, Skilly.
- 1734: Carvedan (Carvadoon): Clark, McCormick, McCurdie, McFarrie, O'Connel, O'Durnan, O'Scallig, O'Scally. Roden (Roderin): Clark, McCormick, McIlbride, McMullan. Mallendeven: Clark, Gillbride, McCormick, McNeill, O'Kallie. Torarane (Turryvranen): Buttler, McAuley, McCormick, McIlurney, McKinley, McShanoge.
- 1803: Butler, Clark, Darragh, Donnaghy, Duffin, Hill, McAulay, McCormick, McDonnell, McGorry, McMullan, McNeill, Scally, Stewart.
- 1831: Black, Butler, Clark, Darragh, Donaghy, Douglas, Duffin, Jamison, Laverty, McAulay, McCambridge, McCormick, McCarry, McDonnell, McGarry, McIntyre, McLaughlin, McNeill, McQuilkin, Stuart.
- 1861: Black, Boreland, Boyd, Butler, Clarke, Donagh, Duncan, Jameson, Kane, Laverty, McCambridge, McCauley, McCormack, McDonnell, McGarry, McLoughlin, McMullen, McNeill.
- 1901: Adair; Black; Black (& McCormack in-laws); Browne; Butler (& McAuley, McHenery workers); Cattan; Clarke; Duncan (& McCrank worker); Jamieson (& McCormack niece); Kane; Laverty; Laverty (& McGonigal niece, Wilson boarders); McAuley; McAuley (& Boreland brother-in-law); McCambridge (& McAuley worker); McCambridge (& O'Mullan visitor); McCormack; McGarry; McGill; McLaughlin; McMullan; McNeill; McNeill (& McGill visitor).

1911: Adair; Black (& McCormack mother-in-law, Jamieson relative, McNeill worker); Black (& McNeill in-law); Browne; Butler (& McAlister, McAuley workers); Duncan (& McMullan worker); Jamieson (& McCormack niece); Kane; Lavery (& McGill in-law, grandson; McNaul worker); McAuley (& Borland brother-in-law); McCambridge (& McGill niece); McCambridge (& O'Neill worker); McCormack; McFadden (& Bakewell niece); McGarry; McLaughlin; McMullan; McMullan (& O'Mullan grandson); McNeill; McNeill (& Corbitt, McCormack workers); McNeill (& Dorlan nephew); McNeill (& McAuley mother-in-law); Mulholland (& Lavery mother-in-law, O'Toole niece).

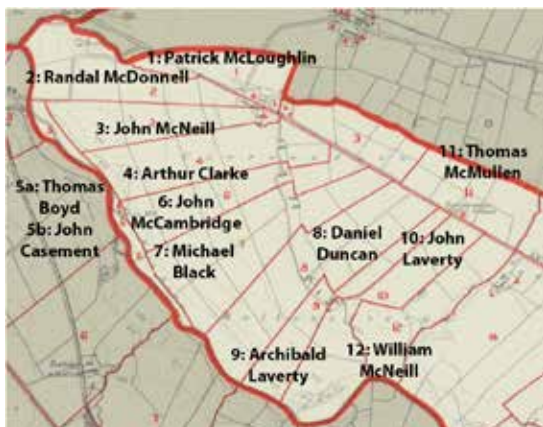
2018: Black, Kane, Lynn, McBride, McGill, McNeill, Mulholland, Murphy, O'Connor, Squires, Watson.

There were 51 households in 1841, 34 in 1901, and 29 in 1911.

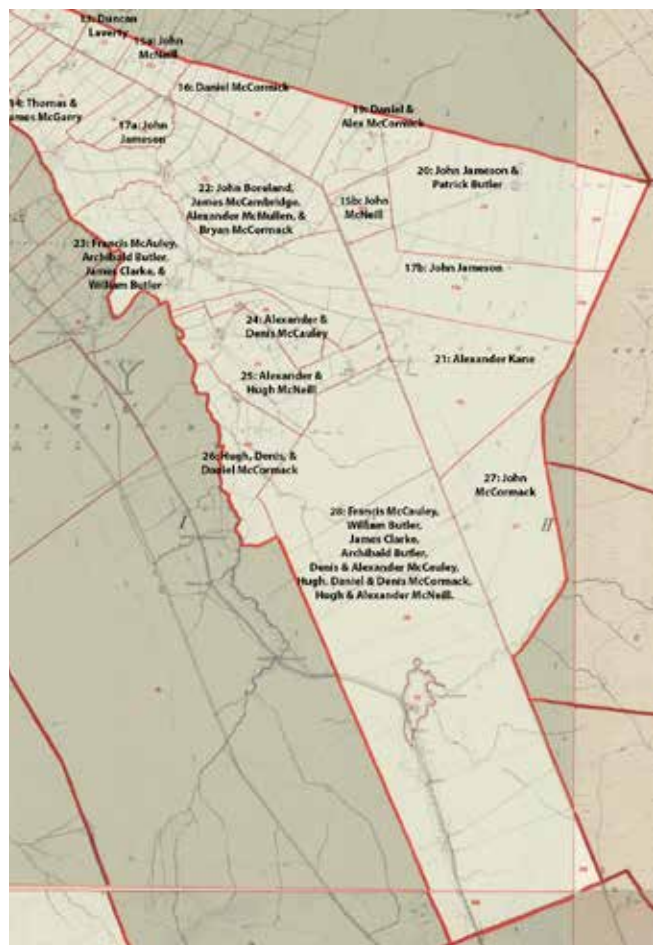
Townland of Ballyvennaght which contains Slieve Pin Clachan

Year	Population	Houses
1841	256	51
1851	237	41
1861	214	41
1871	215	38
1881	202	36
1891	186	33
1901	152	34
1911	120	29
1926	102	25

Population list from the Clachan Project.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.

Carvadoon:

Patrick McCormick is a miller in 1877, so he must have worked McCormick's Mill. His wife was Mary Lynn, and they had at least six children. Patrick died sometime before 1901, and a tragedy struck in 1908, when their son Daniel was killed by a

traction engine. He and his brother Neal were taking the engine and stonecrusher to the quarry in Ballypatrick, when Daniel went under a wheel and died instantly.²⁴ Neal is remembered as a quiet man who lived at the mill. He died during the snowy winter of 1963,

and JJ McCambridge of Ballynaglogh had to collect the coffin with his tractor. All trace of the lane to the mill is now gone. Seven daughters of one generation of McCormicks emigrated to Australia.



Aerial view of McNeills' farm, Carvadoon.



John McNeill, Mary Jane McNeill (née McMullan), Mary Josephine McNeill (m. Duncan), c.1900.



John McNeill and children, Carvadoon c.1913.

24 1908 – Ballycastle Fatality. *Irish News & Belfast Morning News*, October 26.

Malnadevin: John McFadden had a shop here in the 1920s,²⁵ the same family as *McFadden's Garadoo*. The Lavertys married into the Mulholland and McGill families. The cutting from the *Irish News* on the right describes the passing of Denis Duncan in 1906 aged 40.

Turryvranen: The McGarrys that once lived here all emigrated to New Zealand, and were remembered leaving on the horse and cart.

Watertop: William Butler was 99 when he died in April 1900, either he or his father were recorded in the OSM as having the original documents from 1512 in regard to Duncan McCormick of Dunmacalter founding Bun na Margaí Friary.²⁶ William only had one son, John, a bachelor who died in 1917. William was survived by his three daughters; Ann married James McNeill of Watertop in 1870, another daughter married a Patrick McCambridge, while Grace married Patrick McBride of Cross in 1872. In 1919 Patrick and Grace's son Daniel McBride bought Watertop after the death of John, Grace's brother. Daniel is grandfather to the current Watertop McBrides.

AN ANTRIM NATIONALIST.
Funeral of the Late Denis Duncan, Malnadevin, Ballycastle.
 On Friday last the remains of Mr. Denis Duncan were removed from his late residence, for interment in Culfieghtrin Catholic Burying-ground. His death, at an early age, terminates the career of a practical Catholic and a sterling Nationalist. Denis Duncan was known far beyond the confines of his native parish. Frequently in the columns of the *Irish News* and other journals his trenchant and exposed some abuse or vindicated National principles, and regularly were his subscriptions to the National Fund acknowledged. His career was full of promise, and Nationality in North Antrim will suffer by his early demise. Twenty years ago he stood behind John Dillon in Ballycastle. At that time Nationality was not as popular nor was it the force it is to-day. Denis Duncan is sincerely mourned in North Antrim, and his memory and example will long be an incentive to sterling Nationalists in the district.



Joseph, Paddy, & Kevin McBride; Barney & Alec McNeill (all Watertop).



Daniel McBride who bought Watertop, taken at Colliers' Hall.



Two of Daniel's sons as youngsters.



The above Paddy and son.



Anad the donkey and friend (Paddy's grandson).

25 1928 – 'Went In To Have A Sleep', Ballycastle Breaking and Entering Charge – *Belfast News Letter*, May 29.
 26 OSM pg 66-67.

MR. E. F. McCAMBRIDGE'S SALE.
VALUABLE
FARM OF LAND,
 WITH
DWELLING-HOUSE AND OUT-OFFICES.
 SITUATE IN THE TOWNLAND OF
BALLYVENNAUGHT, Near BALLYCASTLE
TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION.
ANTRIM COUNTY COURT—EQUITY SIDE.
DIVISION OF BALLYMENA.
 By **ARTHUR CLARKE,** .. Deceased.
DENNIS M'KINLEY, .. Plaintiff.
JAMES CLARKE, .. Defendant.
PURSUANT to the Decree in this suit, all that
 Farm of Land and Premises, formerly in
 the possession of the said Arthur Clarke, deceased,
 containing 56 acres, Statute Measure, or there-
 abouts, with the Houses and Buildings thereon,
 together with share of Mountain Grazing un-
 divided, and held under the Trustees of the Es-
 tate of Reverend Robert Casement, deceased,
 under a Contract of Tenancy from year to year,
 at the Yearly Rent of £16, will be set up for Sale
 by Public Auction, at the M'BORLEY BOY
 HALL, in the Town of Ballycastle, on TUES-
 DAY, the 27th day of JANUARY, 1903, at Twelve
 o'clock, noon, by E. F. McCAMBRIDGE, Auctioneer.
 For Abstract of Title, Conditions of Sale, and
 further particulars, apply to the undermentioned
 Solicitor up to date of Sale.
 The purchase will be subject to the approval of
 the Landlord and of the said Judge. One-fourth
 of the purchase-money shall be paid to the Auc-
 tioneer as a deposit at time of Sale.
 Dated this 6th day of January, 1903.
HENRY R. E. DISNEY, Registrar
 of said Division of said Court.
R. C. MARTIN, Solicitor having
 carriage of Sale, Ballymoney.
E. F. McCAMBRIDGE, Auctioneer,
 Ballycastle.
 163



Paddy Lynn, Jimmy Kane (Seamus' father), Seamus Kane, unknown, cousin McLoughlin, Phonsie Kane.

The Clarkes also lived at Watertop. It appears they lived behind what is now the farm museum. Arthur Clarke died in 1889, aged 65, leaving behind his widow Bridget (née McCambridge of Brockaghs, Glendun, married 1873), sons James & John, and daughter Lizzie. Their farm was auctioned in 1903 and they had left before the 1911 Census.

*Auction of the Clarke farm.
 Coleraine Chronicle, 17 January
 1903.*

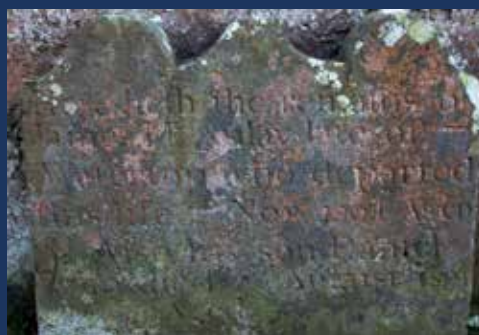
Old Ballyvennaght Headstones

McNeile, 1811 (Bun na Margai)

THE BURYING
 PLACE OF BRYAN MC NE
 ILE OF SLAVEBIN N FAMI
 LEY HERE LIETH THE BO
 DY OF ROE MCNEILE WH
 O DIED THE 13TH APRIL
 1811 AGED 44 YEARS.

McAuley, 1804-1821 (Bun na Margai)

Here lieth the remains of
 James McAuley late of -
 Watertop who departed
 thei life 9D Novr 1804 Aged
 53 Also his son Daniel
 who died 7TH August 1821
 Aged 30



Old Ballyvennaght Headstones

07

Butler (Bun na Margáí)
ERECTED BY
JOHN & JANE HAMILTON,
CUSHENDALL.
IN MEMORY OF THEIR GRANDFATHER
WILLIAM BUTLER,
OF WATERTOP
& HIS WIFE CATHERINE BLACK & THEIR FAMILY
NAMELY
ROSE WIFE OF ARCHD HAMILTON,
OF CUSHENDALL.
WHO DIED 27TH NOV 1854.
ARCHD WHO DIED 20TH MAY 1861.
HUGH WHO DIED 9TH JULY 1872.



McDonnell, 1853-1867 (Barnish)

IHS
SACRED
TO THE MEMORY
OF RANDAL M'DONNELL
LATE OF CARVADOON
WHO DIED 6TH DECR 1867
AGED 72 YEARS
ALSO HIS DAUGHTER
HARRIET WHO DIED
13TH SEPTEMBER 1853
AGED 20 YEARS



McAuley, 1822 (Barnish)

IHS
The First Stone Erected
in this yard, the burying
place of Arthur McAuley
Late of Carvadoon
Who departed this life
4th Octr 1822 Aged 75 years



Old Ballyvennaght Headstones

McCambridge, 1844-1923 (Barnish)

ERECTED

BY JOHN McCAMBRIDGE BLYVENAGHT,
TO THE MEMORY OF HIS FATHER ENES Mc
CAMBRIDGE WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE
10TH OF MAY 1844 AGED 84 YEARS.
ALSO HIS MOTHER MARGT McCAMBRIDGE
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 14TH OF FEBRY,
1840 AGED 78 YEARS.
ALSO HIS BROTHER JAMES McCAMBRIDGE
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON THE 26TH OF
OCTOBER 1870 AGED 52 YEARS.
THE ABOVE NAMED JOHN McCAMBRIDGE,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON THE 27TH OF
APRIL 1886, AGED 76 YEARS.
AND HIS WIFE ROSE McCAMBRIDGE,
DIED 29TH APRIL 1923,
AGED 77 YEARS



PHOTO 24: Duncan, 1864-1928 (Barnish)

IHS

SACRED

TO THE MEMORY
OF RANDAL M'DONNELL
LATE OF CARVADOON
WHO DIED 6TH DECR 1867
AGED 72 YEARS
ALSO HIS DAUGHTER
HARRIET WHO DIED
13TH SEPTEMBER 1853
AGED 20 YEARS



Old Ballyvennaght Headstones

McFadden, 1891-1953 (Barnish)

IHS
OF
YOUR CHARITY
PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF
ENEAS McFADDEN
BALLYVENAUGHT,
DIED 8TH SEPT 1881, AGED 65 YEARS.
HIS WIFE MARGARET
DIED 4TH FEBY 1893, AGED 64 YEARS.
THEIR DAUGHTER MARY,
DIED 27TH JAN 1893, AGED 33 YEARS.
AND THEIR SONS DENIS
DIED 8TH APRIL 1936, AGED 75 YEARS.
PATRICK,
DIED 21ST May 1943, AGED 77 YEARS.
JOHN
DIED 4TH MAY, 1946, AGED 86 YEARS.
KATE, WIFE OF ABOVE,
DIED 24TH DEC 1953,
AGED 86 YEARS.



Jamison, 1874-1925 (Barnish)

IHS
OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF
JOHN JAMISON
TURIVRENON
WHO DIED 28TH OCTOBER 1874
AGED 76 YEARS.
HIS WIFE ANN JAMISON
WHO DIED 21ST JULY 1893
ALSO THEIR DAUGHTER MARY,
WHO DIED 20TH NOVEMBER 1912.
THEIR SON DENIS,
WHO DIED 20TH JANUARY 1913.
AND THEIR DAUGHTER CATHERINE
WHO DIED 11TH OCTOBER 1925.



Old Ballyvennaght Headstones

McGarry, 1844-1883 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED
IN MEMORY OF JAMES Mc
GARRY, LATE OF TORIVRANAN
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE 8th
JUNE 1844 AGED 62 YEARS
ALSO HIS SON JOHN
11th DECr 1835; AGED 12
YEARS



Clark, 1856-1859 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED
BY ARTHUR CLARK of
Watertop in memory of
his Brother PETER who
Departed this life
the 13th January 1856
Aged 18 years
ALSO his Father JAMES
CLARK who departed this
life the 16th September 1859
Aged 64 years



The Curse of Culfeightrin:²⁷

*'My curse and God's curse
on Charles M'Loughlin,
Hugh Shields, and John
M'Cay, and on all who will
work with, and hold any
communication with, the
accursed teachers of the
Irish Bible.'*²⁸

The scandal of
Father Walsh and the
Presbyterian Home
Missions is detailed in
the Barnish chapter,
but it impacted other
townlands. This story
concerns a miller,
Charles McLoughlin,

taking Father Walsh to
court in March 1846. The
case was alternatively
called *'The Miller of the
Glens'*,²⁹ or *'A Priest-
Hunt in the Nineteenth
Century'*.³⁰ From *The
Banner of Ulster* report
on the court proceedings
of March 24 1846³¹ we

²⁷ It is almost certain this story is about McCormick's Mill (prior to the McCormicks, when it was Charles McLoughlin's mill). An Archibald Laverty stated in court that he was McCormick's neighbour, and the only Archibald Lavertys in Carey in 1831 and 1861 were in Malnadevin. William Butler stated that farmers with leases from the Casement family were required to use McLoughlin's Mill, and Carvadoon mill belonged to the Casement family, and with Carvadoon described as 'Mr Casement's Lot' in the 1831 survey.

“THE PRIEST’S CURSE.”

Charles M Loughlin, corn-miller, of Clontariff, parish of Culfeightrin, plaintiff; Rev. Luke Walsh, P.P. of Culfeightrin, defendant.

“The Priest’s Curse.” *The Banner of Ulster*, 24 March 1846.

know that McLoughlin was not originally from Carey, but had arrived in the parish around 1832, and in 1843 he (a Catholic) became ‘*what is called an Irish Scripture-reader, or teacher, in the employment of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in this country*’.³² According to the prosecution’s case, in November 1843 Fr Walsh and another curate:

‘...overtook the plaintiff on the road, and read him a long lecture, in which he prohibited him from reading or teaching the Irish Scriptures to any person in his parish. Finding, however, that persuasion would not do... he said that, if M’Loughlin did not quit reading and teaching from the Irish Scriptures, he would “put man, woman, and child from speaking to him”, that “not one would walk on the same side of the road with him”, that “he would not get a hand’s turn to do”, and that “he would leave his mill as dry as the road”.’

The excommunication was issued from the altar after Mass on 18 August 1844: ‘*...a bell was rung, the candles upon the altar were extinguished, and a book was shut. The congregation, I am told, were agitated and terrified to such a degree, that women not only screamed, but were obliged to be carried out of the chapel.*’

Some parishioners then attempted to mediate with Father Walsh, who: ‘*was led to understand, by some of those to whom he spoke, that as some of them were farmers who held leases under the Casement family, by clauses in which they were bound under a penalty to take their corn to plaintiff’s mill to have it ground. The excommunication and curse against him would do them serious injury.*’

After the curse was issued: ‘*Not one dared to bring his corn there to be ground, and it was consequently left idle;*

and, as the persons in the neighbourhood would not deal with him, nor hold any intercourse, he was obliged to go to Ballycastle to buy anything he required. When he endeavoured to deal with any of his neighbours at fair or market, his conversation was shunned as if he had been a leper; and, upon one occasion, when he endeavoured to purchase corn from a neighbour in Ballycastle, the terrified man, on his approach, fled from his cart, and left his corn at the mercy of everyone, rather than have any communication with the accursed man!’

The following were given as those who had stopped using McLoughlin’s mill after the curse: ‘*John M’Carry, James M’Carry, Brian M’Carry, James M’Kendry, Andrew M’Cambridge, Daniel M’Cambridge, John M’Cambridge, Patrick M’Cambridge, William M’Loughlin, Neal M’Loughlin, and John M’Neill.*’

28 1846 – Extraordinary Case – A Priest’s Curse. *The Banner of Ulster*, March 24.
 29 1860 – The Miller of the Glens. *Belfast News-Letter*, May 7.
 30 1846 – A Priest-Hunt in the Nineteenth Century. *The Vindicator*, March 25.
 31 1846 – The Priest’s Curse. *The Banner of Ulster*, March 24.
 32 1846 – The Priest’s Curse. *The Banner of Ulster*, March 24.

Archibald Laverty, William Butler, and Michael Butler were called as witnesses, all giving an account roughly similar to the above. Michael Butler said he was warned off teaching the Irish language by Father Walsh, and gave the following explanation as to why he bought corn for Charles McLoughlin:

"Because the people would not be speaking to him. The boy would not sell corn to Charles M'Loughlin. Patrick M'Carry was the boy's name."

The next witness was Charles Collins, 'a Protestant', who said he went to the Mass where McLaughlin was cursed because his neighbour, Charles McAllister: "...said it would be worthwhile to go to hear the dressing that the priest would give the Irish teachers (Laughter)." Collins said he used to keep a síbín (shebeen) but gave it up. When asked about the síbín, Collins said he 'believed' there may have been others, and that he had 'heard' that Father Walsh had ordered them all shut down. Collins was being suitably evasive in court.

John Butler was the next witness, no relation to William Butler, and added the names of John Donaghan and John McIntosh to the list of the accursed. William Simpson was the last prosecution witness, he was from Comber, and said he was a teacher in Turryvrannen School, which was run by the Presbyterian General Assembly.

McLaughlin won his case and received £70 damages, with 6d costs. The following article was published in the *Dublin Evening Packet* on the 24th March 1846:

"Elsewhere will be found an abridged report of the case of Charles McLoughlin against the Rev Luke Walsh, PP, which was tried last week at Carrickfergus, before Mr Justice Burton and a Jury of the county of Antrim, the plaintiff being the miller, and the defendant the priest of the parish of Culfeightrin. It was an action of slander brought by the miller against the priest for cursing him, and all who should grind corn at his mill.

...the miller is the plaintiff Charles McLoughlin. At his mill the people must

either grind the scanty produce of their mountain patches of tillage, or, throwing every man his sack on the back of his Highland pony, traverse some fifteen or twenty miles of mountain to the Grange of Drumtullagh, or, by Glenmakeeran, to that of Innispollan. To save them from the necessity of doing this, the mill of Culfeightrin was built, and they were bound by their leases not to grind their corn elsewhere.

In the autumn of 1844, before the harvest was gathered, the priest uttered God's curse and his own against the miller and all who should grind corn at his mill. God's curse separates the soul from God; and if God should curse any one, Christ would have died for him in vain. Mr Walsh assumes the power to denounce, not merely his own curse, but God's curse on such as he thinks deserving of it. He threatened it against such as should suffer McLaughlin to grind their corn. His people believe the priest has the power he claims, a belief not confined to the simple and ignorant inhabitants of these wild glens, the descendants of squatters

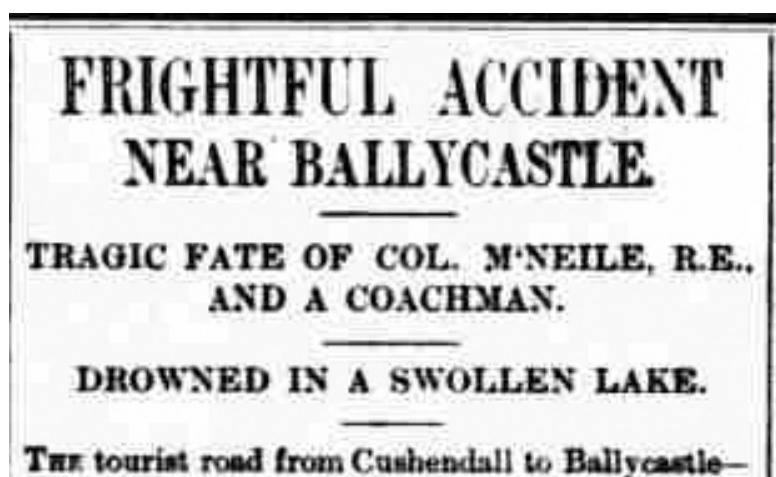
from the neighbouring Highlands of Scotland. Under the influence of this superstition they shrunk, naturally enough, from encountering eternal torture for the convenience of grinding their corn at the mill established by law; for to them, at all events, a place infected by the plague would not have seemed half so contaminated as were McLoughlin's mill stores after the priest had cursed them. They could not take it elsewhere, because of the restriction on their leases; so, how to eat bread without a malison upon it? The 'blockheads' (Mr Nelson, instructed by his client, the priest, called them so) could not tell, till that priest told them to sell their corn and buy meal. In consequence of this advice or command, they carried their corn to Cushendun or Ballycastle, getting meal as best they could from Coleraine, Glenarm, or Carrickfergus. McLoughlin's mill was consequently thrown idle, and for the damage he sustained from this ecclesiastical denunciation, he brought his action, and has received 70/.

...This brings us to the

spiritual offence for which McLoughlin underwent – as far as his priest could impose it – the merciless sentence of everlasting perdition. He read the Scriptures in the Irish tongue. He taught others to read them – to make them the foundation of their hopes for eternity, and the lamp and guide to their path and courage through times. He taught them from these Scriptures, to render good from evil – to pray for those that persecuted them, and to bless those that cursed them. He told them how the Saviour, who announced this sublime doctrine of infinite forgiveness, acted on it in his life and exemplified it by his death. His latest prayer was, 'Father forgive them, they know not what they do'. McLoughlin read these things to the people in their native Gaelic. The dialect, strong and imaginative, impressed it deeply in their warm and unsophisticated hearts. They listened to him in the recesses and coverts of their barren but beautiful habitation; and for this the Rev Luke Walsh – the professing servant of that blessed Saviour, claiming to be his anointed priest – said from the altar, his simple flock astonished

and aghast before him, 'My curse and God's curse on Charles McLoughlin, the accursed teacher of the Irish Bible.' Beside the priest lay the Gospel, God's good tidings, and the book of His gracious promises. It was placed there, the emblem of the Book of Life, wherein the names of the redeemed are written. Behind him stood the lighted candles, the emblems of the Holy Ghost, whose spirit is unquenchable. At his left hand lay the bell, the emblem of God's call to judgement. He took it up, he rang it. The judgement was pronounced – the curse was uttered – the book was shut – McLoughlin's name was razed from the Book of Life, as the priest pretended. He was shut out from God's promises, and the door of the Gospel was closed against him.

Such was the scene enacted in the wild seclusion of these remote glens towards the end of August, 1844, when Heaven's bounty was growing yellow amid the heath around them.⁴³³



Coleraine Chronicle, 8th October 1898

Colonel McNeile and the Vanishing Lake (1898):

The following story about Loughaveema is remembered well. Colonel John McNeile was a son of the Reverend Hugh McNeile of Colliers' Hall. He drowned in the flooded lough in 1898, along with coachman David McNeill, when the horse spooked going through deep water. The *Coleraine Chronicle* report on the incident includes the only eye-witness account, from Patrick McHenry of Ballypatrick.³⁴

'The tourist road from Cushendall to Ballycastle – where, during the summer months, light-hearted tourists and tripping merry-makers are daily whirled briskly along – was on Friday the scene of death agonies,

brief but terrible, for Col John Magee M'Neile, RE, of Ealing, London, and a coachman, David M'Neill, who had for a long period been in the employment of the well-known Captain Daniel M'Neill, JP, of Cushendun. There was but one eye-witness of the never-to-be forgotten spectacle, and his tale when first told sounded like a narration of some horrible nightmare or the fantasy of a disordered imagination. Many refused to believe that the description given by residents of the surrounding neighbourhood of a mere roadside driving accident was even a possible statement of fact. The utter desolation of the particular spot which was the scene of the tragedy prevented a confirmation by telegram

of the rumours which had spread over North Antrim, and in the period of suspense the hope sprang up that full investigation would dispel the horror, and find the supposed victims alive and well. But it was all true – terrible, agonising, but real!'

The report goes on to describe the lough waters that 'sink into a subterranean channel, and gush out of a limestone rock fully two miles distant. During the season of heavy rains the Lough assumes large proportions, being fed by several mountain streams, and often becomes a regular lake.' Patrick McHenry watched the accident happen, but was unable to do anything about it. His account at the inquest is as follows. Another tragic element was that the mail car passed by unhindered between the accident happening and help arriving.

"Patrick M'Henry, surfaceman, in reply to Sergeant Doohan (Ballycastle), stated: I live at Ballypatrick. I recollect Friday last, 30th September. I was working near Ballyvennaght Lough

34 1898 – Frightful Accident Near Ballycastle. *Coleraine Chronicle*, October 8.

on that date, about half past one o'clock. When there I saw a wagonette and pair coming from the direction of Cushendun, which I knew to be those of Captain Daniel M'Neile, of Cushendun House. I knew David M'Neill, coachman to Captain M'Neile. There was a gentleman in the wagonette...The road at the Lough was covered with water, which was supposed to be four feet deep in some places. I saw the horses being driven into the water on the road. After they entered the water first the horses stopped. He (the coachman) then drove on till he crossed the bridge... There is no doubt that the coachman was driving. After they crossed the bridge the horses were prancing, which caused the water to spatter up

about them more so than if they had gone quietly through. They were then in the deepest part of the water. The horses, when in the deepest part of the water, turned on the road and took a leap into the lough on the southern side of the road, taking men, carriage, and all down with them out of sight at once. As the horses took the leap David gave a loud scream, and called to us for help. After they went down both men came to the surface of the water again, and commenced to swim. The coachman swam towards the road for about two yards, till he sank again. He did not rise again... The gentleman, whom I afterwards learned was Colonel M'Neile, swam and faced for the edge of the lough furthest from the road about 50 yards.

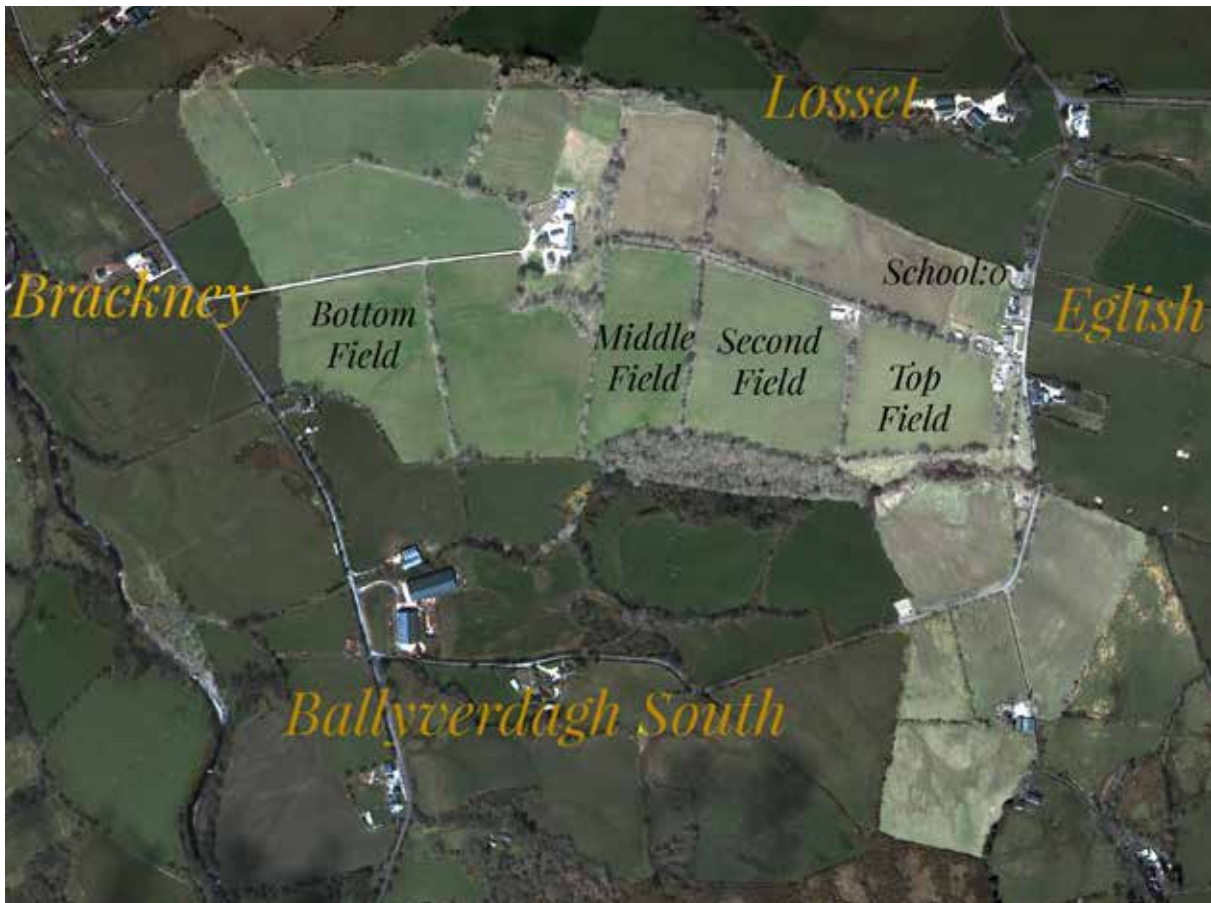
I ran round the bank for which he was swimming, in order to give assistance. I could not swim myself. I had nothing in my hand at the time. If I had a rope or anything else I could have saved his life. He sank when about four yards from the bank, and never rose again. The water was so muddy I could not see him when he sank. At the place where Colonel M'Neile went down there was from 16 to 20 feet of water. He had on an outside coat, which was spread out on the water when he was swimming. At the time the horses jumped over the side of the road there was no person but the other man and I at the place...Being a man who could not swim, I could render no more assistance than I did."



The lough in full flood.



Torr Sports Early 1950s - Alex McBride (Watertop/Australia), Annie McCarry and Dan McBride.



The townland name is thought to be derived from bairéadach (black guillemots), although it was described as a *'somewhat unusual'* name. It could originate from bárdach (warden), although the former is the most likely.¹ The townland appears to have split into North and South between the 1803 and 1831 Surveys.

Ballyverdagh School (1836-1935):

The school was the seventh National School to be built in Ireland, and was officially closed just short of its centenary on 16 September 1935. In 1973 it was removed block by block to the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum in Cultra. An

old booklet on the school's history provided background information. After the National School system was established in 1831, children were to be educated by their clergy. The original applicants for Ballyverdagh were from Presbyterian, Church of Ireland and Catholic congregations.

Local tradition claims that the school land originally belonged to Mr John H Campbell, the school's first patron. Work began in 1836, but the contractor failed to fulfil his obligation. Local volunteers carried materials to the site, and completed the building in 1837.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 114).

The construction was overseen by James McMichael of Churchfield, who was a fine stonemason. Aid from the Commissioners amounted to £92 13s 4d, and local contributions totalled £62 19s 5d. In 1850 the enclosing wall was built at a cost of £55 8s 5d. The schoolhouse was a simple rectangular block, both rooms measuring 30 feet by 20 feet, while the façade is built of coursed basalt with rusticated sandstone quoins, sills and eaves. The gables and the rear wall were constructed of rubble, plastered, and limewashed. There are attractive gothic windows, perhaps reflecting clerical influence in the design, in both the front and rear walls. Each room was heated by an open fire, and was renovated in 1896/97. For most of the building's active

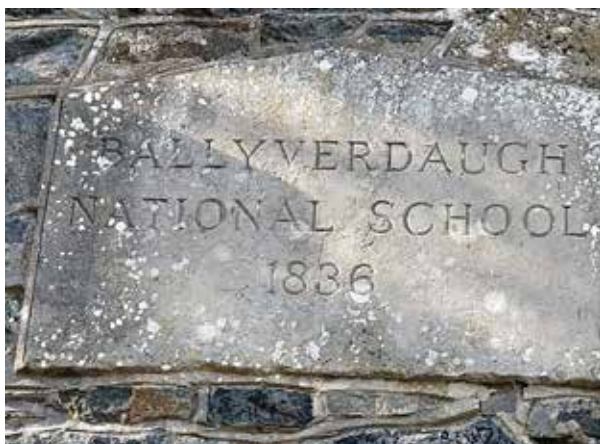
life classes were taught upstairs by one teacher, despite efforts to have the boys' school downstairs and girls' above.

Hugh Dowey was the male school's first teacher in 1838, with Hugh Lafferty substituting. Dowey trained in Dublin, probably one of the first intake of students in Marlborough Street Training College. Teachers at Ballyverdagh were unable to supplement their income to any great extent, in 1855 only one pound in fees was recorded in, with the largest supplementary amount being £10 in 1861.

Margaret Stewart was appointed mistress of the female school on 1 February 1838, but resigned in November, and the female school closed. At least six

attempts were made to reopen it. Hugh Dowey resigned in 1848 and was replaced by Thomas Henry from County Derry, but living in Churchfield. He regularly failed to please the inspectors, and was admonished severely on several occasions, being fined £1 10s for the backward and unsatisfactory state of the school. In 1875 he was fined £2 for erasing absence marks, and threatened with disqualification. His daughter, Marion McMichael, wife of the stonemason James, was appointed as his assistant and served until her death in 1877, following the birth of her son John. She was only 20 years old.

Mary Black was then appointed as assistant, but resigned in 1879 on her appointment to a convent school in



Inscribed stone on the school showing the founding year.



The school as it currently stands in Cultra.

Belfast. Thomas Henry retired in 1881, was denied his pension, and died in 1902. Thomas' brother Andrew became principal until his retirement in 1889, he lived in Carey Mill on the old lane into Ballynagard. A Miss Eliza Henry acted as temporary work mistress from 1886 to 1888.

Reverend Thomas Kearney, parish priest of Ramoan, became manager in 1888. He tried to reopen the girls' school, appointing Esther McCurdy, aged 22, as teacher. She had worked as a monitor in Crumlin Road School in Belfast. A native of Rathlin, she was a fluent Gaelic speaker. By 1889 she was deemed to be qualified by the Commissioners, and the girls' school was removed from the suspended list. Later, in 1889, the male numbers dropped and the school continued upstairs with one teacher. According to the 1901 Census Esther boarded with Thomas Henry. Danny Gillan of Losset said Esther stayed in a wooden prefab opposite the back lane into Casement's from Monday to Friday,



School catchment area c.1930 (names in red on the map are for pupils of Craigfad School).

going home to Rathlin on weekends. Miss McCurdy retired in 1925, and was succeeded by Mrs Osborne, then Miss G O'Neill (1926-9), Miss K O'Boyle (1931), and Miss Sally McGrath (1932). Sally was from Coalisland, and boarded in Boyle's house in Drumaroan, riding her bicycle to Ballyverdagh. She later became principal of Ballyucan, and lived in the teacher's house there.²

On 16 September 1935 Ballyverdagh school closed, and pupils were transferred to Barnish.

In *The Northern Whig* newspaper, on 13 January 1928, a Mr J Pettigrew stated that the schools in Craigfad, Ballyverdagh and Ballyucan "were unfit for pigs to live in let alone children!" The Barnish School register for 17 September 1935³ lists all the children that transferred from Ballyverdagh on the first day of Barnish School, although no girls are mentioned:

William McCambridge (Ballynagard).
Joseph Chamberlain (Brackney).
John Butler (Glenmakeeran).
Patrick McCormick (Churchfield).
Frank McCormick (Churchfield).
William Anderson (Ballynaglogh).
Patrick Butler (Glenmakeeran).
John Quinn (Drumnakeel).
Archie McCormick (Churchfield).
Patrick Murphy (Losset).
Alex Butler (Carey Mill).
John McCarry (Ballyverdagh).
Daniel McCormick (Churchfield).
Alexander Butler (Glenmakeeran).
John Butler (Carey Mill).
Michael Quinn (Drumnakeel).
John Murphy (Losset).

2 Pers Comms Eileen Fisher (Dunmakeltar).
3 SCH1182/1/1 in PRONI.

BALLYVERDAGH NATIONAL SCHOOL 1904



Ballyverdagh School 1904.

Back Row: 1-2: James & John McAuley (Carey Mill); 3: Mary McCaughan (Brackney), 4-7: Mary, Catherine, Edward & James Hill (Drumnakeel), 8: Dan McAllister, 9: Miss Esther McCurdy.

Middle Row Standing: 1: Sarah Hill (Drumnakeel), 2-3: Joseph & Sarah Gillan (Farranmacarter), 4: Pat McCormick, 5: Robert McCaughan (Ballynagard), 6-8: James, Michael & Annie Quinn (Eglis), 9: John McCormick, 10: John Mooney (Ballyverdagh North), 11-12: Charles & Mary Jane McCaughan (Ballynagard), 13: Annie McAuley (Carey Mill), 14: Agnes McCrank (Drumnakeel).

Front Row Sitting: 1. John McCormick, 2. Rosetta Gillan (Farranmacarter), 3. Hugh McCaughan (Brackney), 4-5: Pat & Catherine Quinn (Eglis), 6: Hugh McConnell (Drumnakeel), 7: Rose McCaughan (Brackney), 8: Dan McCormick, 9: Nellie Shearer.



Possibly the last school photo, c.1930.

Back Row: Mary Rogers (Ballyverdagh) in the centre with the necklace.

Middle Row: John and Pat Murphy, Patricia McNeill, rest unknown.

Front Row: Unknown, John McCormick (Churchfield) Johnnie Butler, George and Dan McAllister.

There was also a second school in the townland, one caught up in the wider story of Fr Walsh and the Presbyterian Home Missions. We have assumed Robert McMichael mentioned as the teacher was from Churchfield.

Ballyverida Irish School 1842⁴

Inspection list of the Ballyverida Irish school, for the period ending the 27th of Nov, 1842 – Robert M'Michel, master.

The space under this heading should be filled by teachers.

The space under this heading should be filled by inspector.

No.	Names of Scholars	Residence	Age	Progress	Remarks
1	Hugh Quinn	Eagle Hill	41	Translator	A forgery
2	J Thompson	Ballyveley	36	Reading	A Protestant – do
3	I M'Calister	Ballynagard	29	ditto	do
4	M M'Calister	ditto	23	ditto	do
5	R M'Curdy	Knockbrack	49	ditto	do
6	R M'Cauhan	Eglish	35	Translator	do
7	Alex Millar	Brackney	22	Reading	do
8	Jas Stewart	Craigbawn	28	ditto	Not within miles of the place
9	J Wilkinson	Ballyverida	40	ditto	Forgery
10	J Wilkinson	ditto	37	Spelling	do
11	A Thompson	Ballyveley	34	Reading	Protestant – forgery
12	Cicily Corry	Terrin	21	Translator	ditto ditto
13	Jane Corry	ditto	23	ditto	ditto ditto
14	Thom Bleney	ditto	28	ditto	No such person in the place
15	Pat Bleney	ditto	23	ditto	No such person
16	Jas Dornan	Eglish	23	ditto	ditto
17	John Laverty	ditto	16	Spelling	ditto
18	John Brown	Craigfad	21	Reading	ditto
19	John Christy	Craigfad	21	Spelling	ditto
20	Jas M'Neile	Ballynagard	19	Reading	ditto
21	A Daragh	ditto	22	ditto	ditto
22	M M'Cahan	Eglish	23	ditto	ditto

I, with sorrow and regret, admit, that the entire of the above names are fictitious as scholars, as I never taught one of them a lesson.

ROBERT M'MICHEL

Witness - **LUKE WALSH AND DANIEL M'NEILL.**

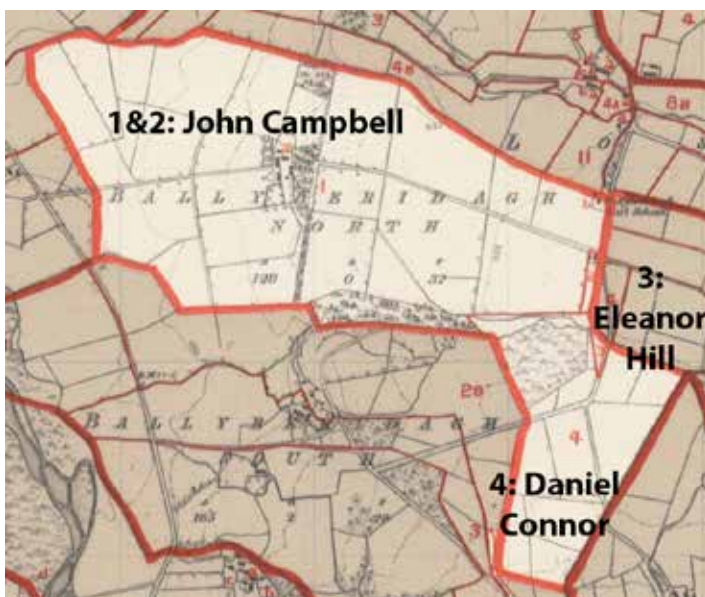
No such scholars ever appeared to me,

FRANCIS BRENNAN, late Inspector.

4 1843 – Horrible Frauds and Deception of the Home Mission – Awful and Astounding Disclosures. *The Vindicator*, December 6.

Families⁵

- 1669:** McCaghan, McCahan, McDowny, McVaring, Nivian.
1734: Hanna, McAlester, McCagen, McCavish, McDuffie, McGugan, McNinch, Sharp.
1803: Ferguson, Campbell,⁶ McAlaster, McCaghan, McCaghin, McDuffee, McMichael, Moore.
1831: Campbell, McCaughan, McIntosh.
1861: Campbell, Connor, Hill.
1901: Boyd (& Mooney worker), Campbell, McAllister, McCormick, Mooney (& McCormick visitor), Murphy, Nevin (& Fulton son), Quinn.
1911: Campbell, Mooney, Morgan.
2018: Gillan, Kerins, Laverty, McBride.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



McMichael, 1833 (Barnish).

Campbells of Ballyverdagh:

The Campbell family plot can be found in Ballynaglogh, with the earliest record of them in the townland being in 1803. By 1901 the only remaining Campbells were two elderly spinster

sisters, Mary, aged 79 and Anne, aged 71. They were sisters of Robert, and another sister, Margaret, had died in 1876.⁷ Their father was John H Campbell, and John's widow Sarah died in September 1879 aged 81⁸ years. John and Sarah had

at least four daughters, as the fourth daughter, Sally, married Samuel Boyce in September 1860. Samuel was a police inspector from Brookhall, Coleraine, based in Oulart in Wexford. The only other family member found was John Jr,⁹

⁵ In 1669, 1734 & 1803 there is only one Ballyverdagh.

⁶ Spelt Gamble.

⁷ 1876 - Deaths – *Coleraine Chronicle*, June 17.

⁸ 1879 – Deaths – *Northern Constitution*, September 13.

⁹ 1885 – Another Row at Ballyverdaugh – *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 4.

brother of Robert and the four sisters. Robert had a prize Clydesdale by the name of 'Prince Patrick', described as a "superb horse...a clear bay, 16 hands high. He is two years old, wonderfully well developed, and calculated yet to take high rank amongst those of his sire and dam in the Stud Book."¹⁰

Robert's machinery and farm equipment were put up for auction in August 1886,¹¹ research suggests he died in April 1888 in an accident. In November 1888, Robert's farm was auctioned in Ballycastle. It was bought by James Boyd, JP, of Grottery Villa, Ballycastle,¹² which is thought to be between the Duncan Plant yard and Sheskburn. Boyd had returned from America



Torr Sports Early 1950s - Alex McBride (Watertop/Australia), Annie McCarry and Dan McBride.

between 1885 and 1888, as his two eldest children were born there, but the youngest was born in Ireland. Boyd then died in October 1902, and the Campbell farm was again for sale. From what we understand, Denis McAllister of Ballyverdagh South bought the Campbell farm from the Boyd executors in 1904, moved north and sold his previous farm.¹³ Denis passed away in the summer of 1907,¹⁴ with the Mooneys the next family in the farm that we know of. Hugh Osborne of Anne Street, Ballycastle, lived on the farm after the Mooneys, followed by Dan McBride of Watertop, after he married Annie McCarry of Colliers' Hall.



Campbell, 1843 (Ballynaglogh).

COUNTY OF ANTRIM.
SALE OF FREEHOLD LANDS AND RESIDENCE NEAR BALLYCASTLE. THE PROPERTY OF THE LATE ROBERT CAMPBELL, ESQ.

To be Sold by Public AUCTION, at the ANTRIM ARMS HOTEL, Ballycastle, on the 27th day of November, 1888, at the hour of ONE o'clock,

LOT 1. PART of the LANDS of BALLYVERDAGH, with the DWELLING-HOUSE and OFFICES thereon, containing 65a. Or. 39p. Statute measure, held for ever subject to the yearly rent of £4.

LOT 2. Other PART of said LANDS on the East of Lot One, containing 34a. Or. 20p. Statute measure, with the COTTAGE thereon, held for ever free of rent.

LOT 3. Other PART of said LANDS of BALLYVERDAGH, lying to the South of Lot Two, containing 24a. lr. 24p. Statute measure, free of rent, but subject to the use by Ellen Hill for her life of the COTTAGE and GARDEN attached, as now in her occupation.

The Dwelling-house and Offices on Lot One are commodious and suitable for a Gentleman's Residence. All the Lots were in occupation of Mr. Campbell at his death, and are situate within two miles of Ballycastle (a railway station and market town), in a most peaceable district, and in the midst of the finest scenery, and altogether form a most desirable estate. A Map of the different Lots can be seen at the Antrim Arms Hotel, Ballycastle; or at the Office of the undersigned in Ballymena.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to

ALEXANDER CARUTH, Solicitor, Flixton Place, Ballymena.
SAMUEL HOOD, Auctioneer, Ballymena.

Auction of Campbell farm. Northern Whig, 9 November 1888.

10 1884 - Coleraine and Ballymoney Farming Society. Annual Display of Male Animals - *Coleraine Chronicle*, May 10.

11 1886 - Important Auction at Ballyverdagh - *Northern Constitution*, August 21.

12 1888 - The Value of Land near Ballycastle - *Coleraine Chronicle*, December 1.

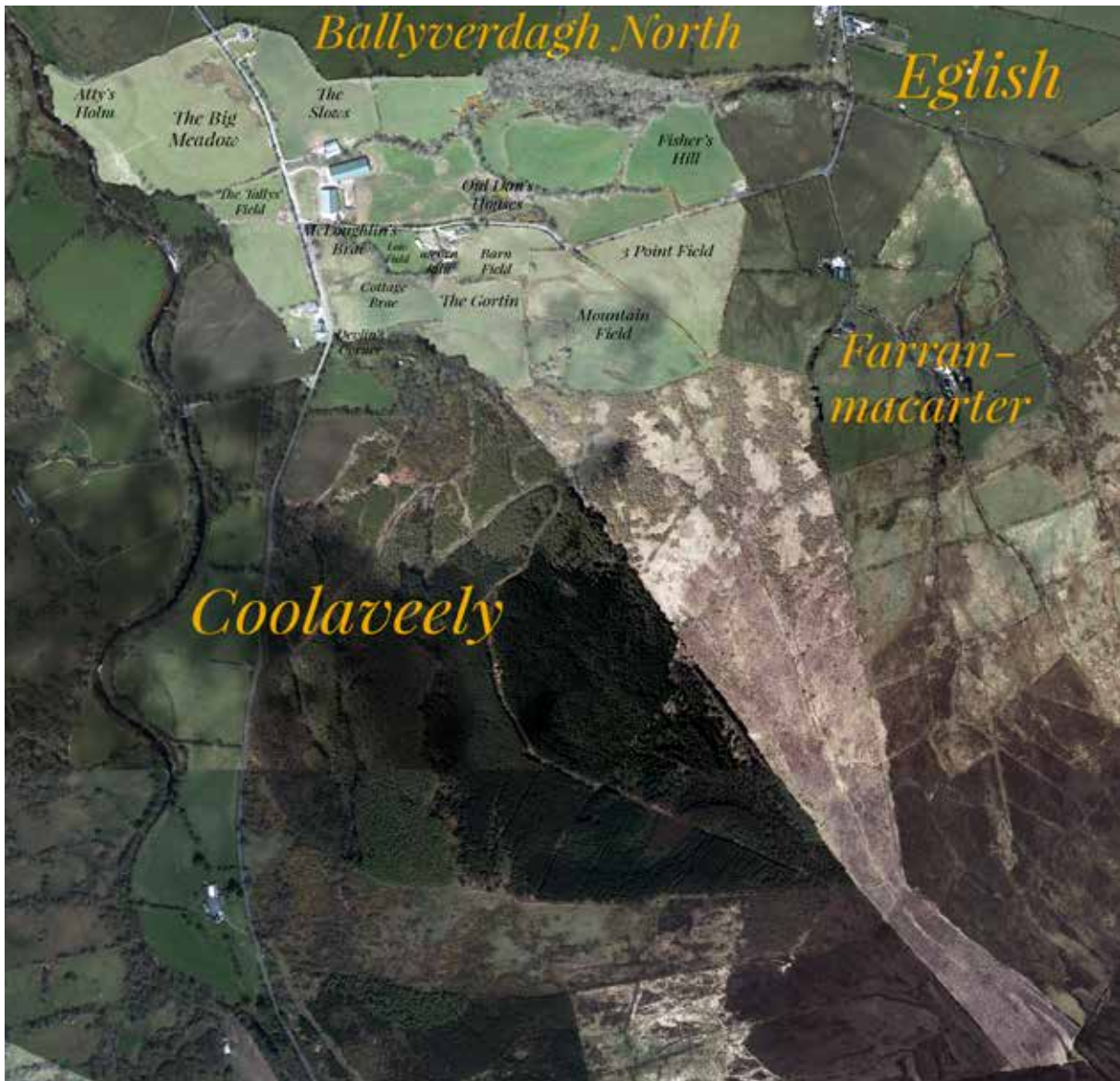
13 1904 - Ballyverdagh South. Auction of Valuable Farm of Land - *Coleraine Chronicle*, January 16.

14 1907 - In the Goods of Denis McAllister, late of Ballyverdagh - *Coleraine Chronicle*, September 28.

Dennis McAlister
Ballyverdaugh.

Fieldnames

1. Three Point Field;
2. Atty's Holm;
3. Barn Field;
4. Cottage Brae;
5. Devlin's Corner;
6. Fishers' Hill;
7. Halleys;
8. Low Field;
9. McLoughlin's Brae;
10. Mountain Field;
11. Oul Dan's Houses;
12. The Big Meadow;
13. The Gortin;
14. The Slows;
15. The Tally's Field.



When the Bertucelli family first moved to Ballycastle to make ice-cream, their cows were kept in The Tally's Field; Tally's was short for 'Italians'. The Gortin (Goirtín) just means the 'little tilled field'. The Historic Environment Map marks a corn kiln at Junior's, while booley

houses were mentioned in the OSM:

"On the heights of Ballyberidagh South and mountainous hills of different other townlands throughout the parish are still to be seen numerous ruins and traces of ancient houses of various sizes, but chiefly of small

size. The walls of these ancient erections are in almost all cases from 3 to 5 feet thick and chiefly composed of very large, rude, and undressed stones, many of which stand on their ends, and in height from 1 to 3 feet above the surface, and in some instances a quantity of clay or other soil

substituted in lieu of grout or lime and sand mortar in the erections of the walls. In other instances a quantity of clay or other soil substituted in lieu of grout or lime and sand mortar in the erection of the walls. In other instances 2 or 3 rows of large stones laid close together constitutes the wall, without any mixture of soil or other mortar whatever. In other cases 1 row of stones constitutes the whole thickness of the walls. Some of the houses are square, some are oblong, some are oval and others nearly circular. On the whole, they are strong walls, but of rude erection and no apparent statute involved in the shape of the houses.

These houses are frequently to be found in little clusters together, both on the now barren hills and also along the rivers and rivulets passing through the secluded glens and ravines. Here will also be traced small enclosures or gardens where former cultivation is still quite perceptible on the face of the surface, though now absorbed by heather or swelling of the moss or other soil. Contiguous to those ancient buildings will be found in various instances

detached standing stones from 1 to 2 or 3 feet above the surface.

Local conjecture as regards those ancient dwellings is quite opposite and unsettled. Many call them bolia houses, as being erected for the summer dwellings by the local inhabitants who, in the latter seasons of the year, repaired with their cattle to mountain grazing and there remained themselves in care of them during the season and sheltered themselves and produce of their cattle in the above temporary habitations.

Others ascribe their erection and occupation to the Danes and other strangers who in ancient times so frequently infested different parts of the kingdom. Others ascribe their foundation and original occupation to the ancient Irish at periods when the lowlands were under general wood and likewise the seat of wolves and other ferocious animals, and consequently the terror of a defenceless people whose lives, and that of their cattle also, must have fallen victim to the ferocity of the aforesaid animals if they built or resided in low or woody grounds. Besides,

there was no field for cultivation in the latter places until the woods became a subject for destruction.

This latter conjecture as regard the highland habitation is greatly assisted and corroborated by the still visible traces of ancient cultivation frequent on the sides and summits of lofty and now barren hills and mountains. Such traces are not unfrequently discovered some feet beneath the surface of moors and bogs.

Here too are found the ruins of houses, fences, fire hearths, ashes, articles of household, graves and graveyards, and even headstones of no ordinary size, also cairns and enclosed vaults, all which prove to a demonstration that the mountains and other heights were not only the seats of ancient natives' habitations and agriculture, but also their chosen retreats for safety, in death as well as in life. Informants Daniel McKinlay, John McCormick, Edward O'Connor, Neal Thompson and many others. 24th and 25th December 1838." ¹

1 OSM pg 78.

Families²

- 1669:** McCaghan, McCahan, McDowny, McVaring, Nivian.
1734: Hanna, McAlester, McCagen, McCavish, McDuffie, McGugan, McNinch, Sharp.
1803: Ferguson, Gamble, McAlaster, McCaghan, McCaghin, McDuffee, McMichael, Moore.
1831: Campbell, McCahan, McCook, McMichael.
1861: McAllister, McCahan.
1901: McAlister (*& workers Laverty, McAuley*), McCaughan.
1911: Jamieson (*& workers McCollam, Murphy*), Laverty (*& boarder Hackett*), McCaughan.
2018: Devlin, Laverty, McHenry, McLoughlin.

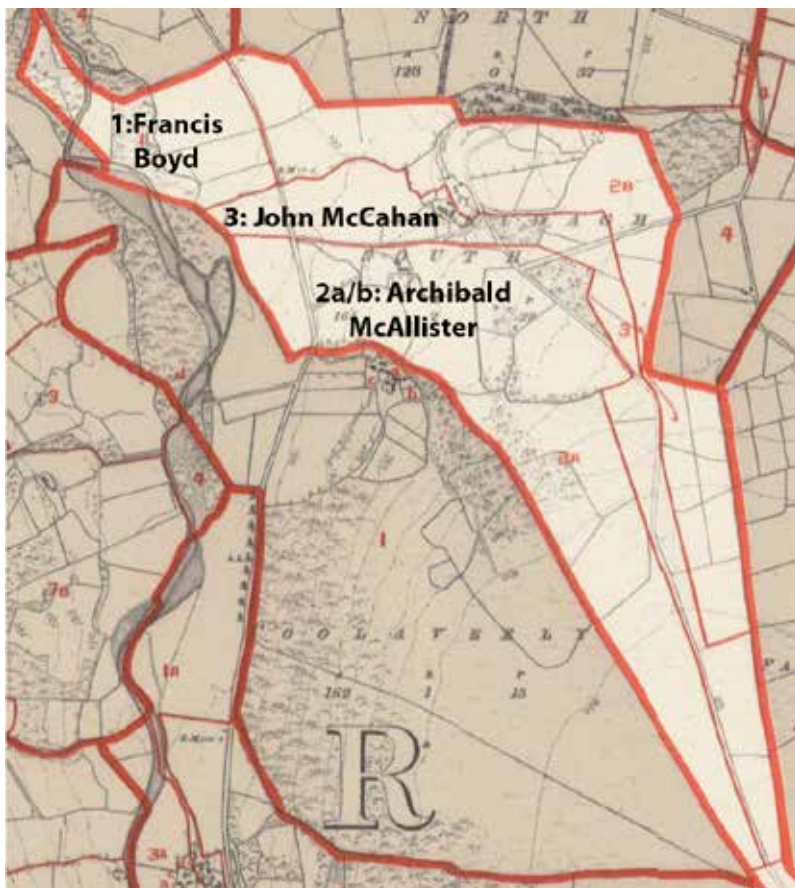
McAlester 1734-McAllister

1901: They sold up around 1904, and bought the Campbell farm in Ballyverdagh North. The headstone in Bun na Margái is inscribed as follows:

ERECTED
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 DENNIS MCALISTER
 BALLYVERDAUGH
 DIED 18TH JANUARY, 1907,
 AGED 81 YEARS.
 HIS WIFE MARY MCALISTER,
 DIED 28TH FEBRUARY 1909,
 AGED 65 YEARS
 AND THEIR SON JAMES,
 DIED 22ND DECEMBER 1901,
 AGED 44 YEARS.
 AND THEIR DAUGHTER
 MARGARET JAMISON
 ALSO THEIR SON-IN-LAW
 ALEX. JAMISON



2 From 1669 to 1803 both Ballyverdagh's were surveyed as one.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



McAllister auction. Coleraine Chronicle, 16 January 1904.

There were Protestant McAllisters in Ballyverdagh North in 1901, Hugh, his wife Ellen, and sons Hugh Jr and Archibald. The McAllisters living in Ballyverdagh South were Catholics. Denis had a threshing mill powered by the burn on his ground in 1903, "Mr Denis M'Allister utilises one small tributary brooklet for operating a threshing mill and for churning, pulping, &c, at Ballyverdaugh. This is all the power that is made use of along the

whole stream. The Carey River has four corn and three flax mills along its course, but with its tributary streams this is not one-fourth, and probably not one-eighth, of its full power, the fall everywhere is so good."³

When Denis auctioned his farm in 1904 the notice stated that "The Threshing Machine and Churning Machine are driven by a substantial iron water-wheel, all recently erected by Kennedy, Coleraine. The water supply is more than ample, and there is a large dam near the farmyard."

Lavertys: The 1911 census shows Michael (55), wife Anne Jane (57), daughter Maggie Jane (22), and son Daniel (18). There are another two children not resident (sons Patrick and James), while Mary Hackett, a National School Teacher from Monaghan, was boarding with them. In 1901 the Lavertys had moved across the river to Kilrobert (Ramoan). By 1911 James had emigrated to Invercargill in New Zealand to work as a shepherd for

Patterson & Son. He enlisted in the New Zealand Rifle Brigade in January 1917, married April 3, and shipped out three weeks later. He was killed on 30 March 1918, however it was mid-June before the news reached Invercargill.

McCaughans: The McCahan homestead in 1861 is part of the wallsteads now called Oul Dan's Houses. The McCaughans attended the Church of Ireland, and in 1911 the family consisted of Daniel, wife Lizzie, and young sons John and William. The headstone in Ballynaglogh is inscribed as follows:

ERECTED
By JOHN McCAUGHAN
of BALLYVARIDAUGH
in memory of his son
DANIEL who departed this life
8th JULY 1850 Aged 26 years.

John McCaughan auctioned his land in 1885, as he was emigrating to America. He appears to be the same John involved in the following bizarre court case.

**AUCTION SALE OF
FARM OF LAND, STOCK, CROP,
IMPLEMENTS & HOUSEHOLD FURNI-
TURE, AT
BALLYVERDAGH SOUTH.**

I HAVE received instructions from Mr. JOHN McCAUGHAN (who is going to emigrate), to Sell by Auction, at the Premises, on **MONDAY, the 10th AUGUST** next, at 12 o'clock, noon, his interest in that Farm of Land and Premises, as now in his possession, containing 23a 3r 39p, Statute, or thereabouts, and held by lease under JOHN CASHMERE, Esq., J.P. (who has granted permission to sell), for an unexpired term of 12 years, from 1st November next, at the yearly rent of £18 sterling.

The Premises are situate at Ballyverdagh South, within 2 miles of the market town of Ballycastle, on the Glenshesk road. The Land is all arable, of good quality, well fenced, drained, watered, and in the highest state of cultivation. There is a Dwelling-house with suitable Offices attached.

Immediately after the Farm is disposed of will be sold the following Stock, Crop, Implements and Household Furniture:—5 head of Cattle, 1 good Farming Mare, about 4 acres Prime Standing Oats, 1 acre Beans, 1 acre Barley, 1 acre Potatoes (champions and skorries), 1 good Swede Turnips, Plough, Brake, Harrow, Cart and Harness, Ladder, Wheelbarrow, and smaller Implements, together with the entire Household Furniture, &c.

Terms for Farm—£20 Deposit at Sale, balance on getting possession. For Stock and Crop—3 Months' Credit on Approved Security for all sums of £2 and upwards; below that amount, Cash. Purchasers to pay 2½ per cent. Auction Fees at Sale.

WM. B. BLACK, Auct.

ASSAULT AND THREATENING LANGUAGE.

John M'Cabon, Ballyverdaugh, summoned a half-demented creature named Mary Darragh for assaulting him with a stone, and using threatening language. Darragh is employed by Denis M'Allister, neighbour to the complainant.

Mr. O'Boke appeared for M'Cabon.

Complainant proved the assault with the stone, and stated that defendant had threatened to knock out his brains, and afterwards to make him collect them from among his feet. (Laughter.) The unpleasantness was caused by his (witness's) hens trespassing on Denis M'Allister's field. Upon another occasion she warned him that he had only a short time to live; and that she would burn his house over his head some night when she was sure they were all in bed.

Defendant—You old rascal, did you not strike me across the mouth with a dead duck?—Never.

M'Allister, the defendant's employer, offered to send the woman away to her brothers in Scotland; and

The magistrates, considering this a satisfactory arrangement, and one which would rid complainant of any further annoyance, adjourned the case for a month.

ANOTHER ROW AT BALLYVERDAUGH.

Left: Sale of McCaughan's farm.
Coleraine Chronicle, 1 August 1885.

Above: 1885 Ballyverdagh court case.
Coleraine Chronicle, 7 July.

Ballyvoy postman
Jimmy McKinley.

Fieldnames (Local or written form / Original form / English Translation)

1. Ballinamonagh / Baile na Móna / Townland of the bog;
2. Cruckateemore / Cnoc an Tí Mhóir / Hill of the big house;
3. Drumaneil / Droim an Aoil / Ridge of lime;
4. Gribbin / Grabán / Rocky ground;
5. Griffin Colliery / Gairfean / Rough ground;
6. Pollard Colliery / An Poll Ard / The high hole;
7. Shillandy / Sileán Dubh / Small dark channel (drain);
8. The Fank / An Fang / Sheep pen;
9. Ballyvoy Coalyard;
10. Ballyvoy Pier/McGildowney's Pier/Iron Stage;
11. Ballyvoy Port;
12. Hens' Field;
13. Low Home;
14. Nancy's Rock;
15. Park Ditch;
16. Roaring Mountain Field;
17. Steele's;
18. Steele's Holm;
19. The Bog;
20. The Braes;
21. The Brick Field;
22. The First Field;
23. The Hill;
24. The Planting;
25. The Second Field;
26. The Style Field;
27. The Top Field;
28. The Two Fields;
29. The Very Low Holm;
30. Waxy's Field;
31. Wee Holm;
32. Well Field.

The earliest recorded use of Ballyvoy was c.1657, with the original name thought to be *Baile Bhuí*. Other possibilities could be *Baile Aoidh Bhuí* (yellow Aodh's townland), *Baile Bhoithe* (townland of the hut), or *Baile Mhaí* (the townland of the plain).¹

On *Cnoc an Tí Mhóir* is a passage tomb consisting of a circle of over forty basalt boulders. Stones that once made up the cairn covering the tomb have since been removed, probably to build local structures.² The lower court tomb is around 27 feet long by 6 feet wide, with a small fore-chamber leading into a larger chamber. The OSM described the tomb, called 'Krock-a-thievoir' on the holding of Andrew Sharp, as 'generally thought to have been a temple for druidical worship'. The court tomb was called a druid's altar and giant's grave, 'but the altar and columns are now blasted and removed from the place and stones enclosing the grave also undergoing a similar fate'.³ There is also



1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 122-3).
 2 SM7-ANT-005-004.
 3 OSM pg 71.

said to be a 'supposed druidical house' 300 yards south of the court tomb, and a fort 80 yards south of the druid's house.⁴ If they existed, both would be in the field above the *Well Field*, however there was no trace of the druid's house

on the archaeological site visit.⁵ The cashel on the boundary with Ballyreagh Lower is marked as a fort on old maps, but it is over 500 yards southeast of the supposed site of the druid's house and adjacent fort.



Cnoc an Tí Mhóir and the Park Ditch.



Before the Pier, 1st Ed OS (c.1830).



The Pier on the 3rd Ed OS (c.1900).



Ballyvoy Pier c.1900. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.

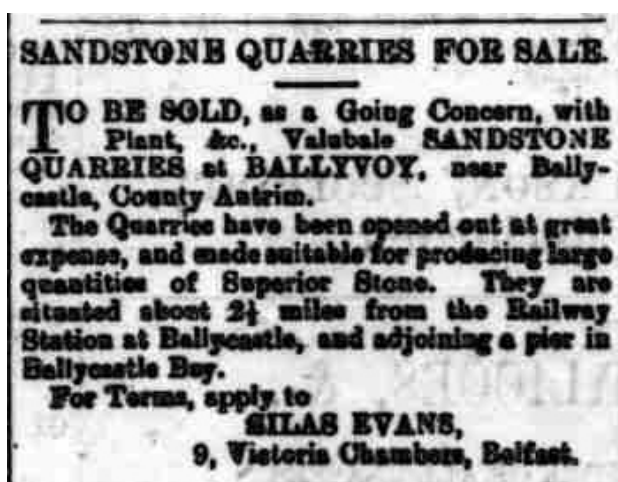


The last of the pier, February 2019.

4 OSM pg 71.
5 SM7-ANT-005-035.



1873 advert for Ballyvoy Sandstone.
Coleraine Chronicle, 21 Jun.



Quarries for sale. Coleraine Chronicle, 2 August 1884.

The pier is thought to have been built by the Scottish firm Merry & Cunningham around 1860. However, there is also an earlier 1854 reference to the involvement of Robert Latta from Miller Street, Glasgow, on behalf of Backhouse's Bank in Darlington. Robert was an iron merchant involved in the North of Ireland Iron & Mining Company based in Ballycastle at the time. The pier is also called the Iron Stage or *McGildowney's Pier*, and there was a sandstone quarry beside it at one point.

Drumaneil is possibly *Droim an Aoil* (ridge of lime), *Shillandy* is unknown. The 'Shillan' element has been translated as *sileán* (a variant of *silteán*^{6,7}, meaning small drain, channel or rivulet), and as *sióláin*⁸ (seed-basket). *Sileán Dubh* (the small dark channel) could be the original form of it.

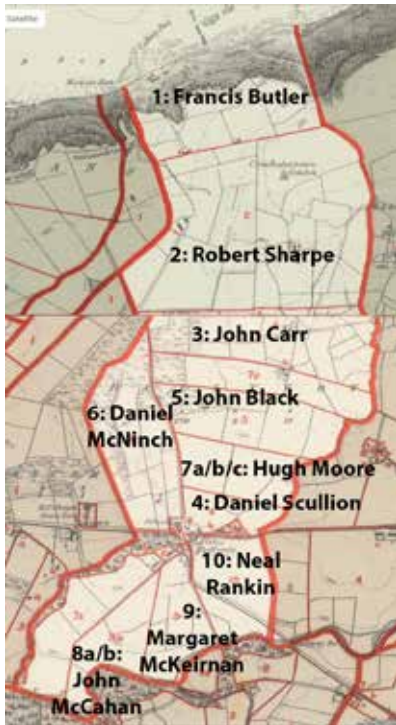
Families

- 1734:** Brown, Byes, Darrogh, McDonnell, McGugan, McKindley, McMullan, O'Donnel, O'Haran, Walch, Whitefield, Wilson.
- 1803:** Car, Dallan, Darragh, McAninch, McBride, McCrank, McKeernon, McKinly, McMullan, Robin, Sharp.
- 1831:** Carr, Cassidy, Darragh, Lynn, McAninch, McCahan, McCrank, McGown, McKearnan, McMullan, McNeile, McQuilkin, Murray, Rankin, Robinson, Sharp, Sinclair.
- 1861:** Black, Butler, McBride, Carr, Cassidy, Coyle, McAllister, McCahan, McCrank, McKeirnan, McNinch, Moore, Rankin, Scullion, Sharpe.
- 1901:** Butler (*& relative Carry*), Campbell, Delargy, Dunbar, Hill (*& McCollum in laws*), Kane, Lynn, MacAulay (*& daughter Moore*), McAlister, McElheran, McHenry, McKillop, McNaughton (*& McDonnell worker*), McNeill.
- 1911:** Delargy, Dunbar, Huggins (*& mother-in-law McElheran*), Lynn (*& worker McTall*), McAllister, McBride (*& uncle McGonigal, worker Mitchell*), McElheran, McHenry, McNaughton (*& niece McGuckian, worker McGee*), McNeill, McPherson.
- 2018:** Butler, Huggins, Hunter, Lynn, McAllister, McAuley, McCallion, McCambridge, McKay, McNeill, McQuilken.

6 Shillanavogy/Sileán an Bhogaigh is below Stemish (Northern Ireland Place-Name Project).

7 Barnashillane/Barr na Sileán is in Cork (logainm).

8 Rathshillane/Ráth Sióláin in Wexford (logainm).



Griffith's Valuation 1861.

Families of 1861:

This first half reads from the sea down to the main road at Hunter's. Patrick Scullion lived at the *Ballyvoy Coalyard*. At the *Park Ditch* were several small houses where James Sharpe, Catherine Butler, and Hugh McBride lived. On Robert Sharpe's ground, about halfway between the tombs and the *Well Field*, were Daniel Coyle, Neal Sharpe, and Daniel Cassidy. John Carr lived in the *Well Field*, with Mary Carr at the bottom of the *Hens' Field*. The strip of fields across the townland at *Ballinamonagh* also has

a few wallsteads, but the reference number was not included on the original survey lists. Other than the school, there was only one house on the left hand side of the Blackpark Road as seen on the map. It belonged to Daniel McNinch, and he held all the fields on that side.

Neal Rankin lived where Hunter's Bar is presently, and an Edmund McAllister had a house beside him. John McCahan lived opposite Hunter's, and Margaret McKeirnan where the Camping Barn is presently. Margaret also owned the pound opposite Hunter's.



1882 auction notice for the Sharpe Farm. *Coleraine Chronicle*, 16 September.

The Sharpes recorded in 1861 appear to have died or left before 1901. The death of James Sharpe is recorded at his mother's residence in Ballyvoy on March 10 1874. He was aged 49, and his address was given as '*German Town, America*'.⁹ Robert Sharpe's death was recorded on August 29 1878,¹⁰ and in September 1882 his farm was up for auction.¹¹

Everyone listed in the two Censuses were farmers or farm workers, with the following exceptions. In 1901, Mary Ann McHenry (Post Mistress); Rose McHenry (National School Teacher); Daniel Hill (Stone Quarry Man); Archie McNaughton (Publican); Alexander McKillop (Blacksmith); John MacAulay (Police Pensioner); Bessie Moore (Seamstress); James and Patrick Delargy (Shoemakers); Grace McElheran (Grocer). John Henry Cullen (Ballyucan School teacher) was a brother-in-law of the McHenry sisters.

In 1911 Neil McNaughton was the publican; James McBride, Felix McGonigal, James Mitchell, and

9 1874– Deaths – *Coleraine Chronicle*, March 31.
 10 1878– Deaths – *Belfast Telegraph*, August 31.
 11 1882– Sharpe Farm Sale – *Coleraine Chronicle*, September 16.

David McPherson were blacksmiths; Robert Huggins was a police pensioner from Cavan; Mary Ann McHenry was still the postmistress, and her sister Rose the teacher; Patrick and Robert Lynn were stonemasons, and James Delargy was the shoemaker.

The pound opposite Hunter's became McBride's forge. It was established in 1902, and was in operation until 1954, it is currently

derelict. The sounds from the forge were enticing to the local children. On their way to the Row School pupils would stop to watch the work. If that left them late for school the usual punishment was meted out! Cart wheels were made here, three rims at a time using turf in the fire. It took two hours to heat the fire to the right temperature. Drill ploughs, tongs, hinges, latches hearth bars, turf spades, and gaffs from old pitch forks were made here. Three legged pots

were also repaired.

Alec (Waxy) Butler was a well-known local cobbler, his mother was a Ballypatrick McHenry. Alex lived in a house where the current car park for Hunter's Bar is. The Post Office was run by Mrs Huggins (née McElheran), then for many years by her granddaughter Grace Huggins. They sold confectionary as well as postal services.



Joe & Frank McCarry (Murlough), and Waxy Butler in 1916.



Jackson and Bill Huggins at a ploughing match.



Johnny Butler at the ploughing in Magherindonnell.



Mrs Huggins at Ballyvoy Post Office, the building is still standing.



Jimmy McKinley on the left, Ballyvoy post-man.

Coleraine Chronicle, 30 May 1891. Ballycastle Petty Sessions

Monday, 25th May, 1891. Before Mr John Casement, JP (Chairman), Dr James M'Ilroy, JP; Mr JC Rutherford, RM; Mr Moore Smith, JP; and Mr Hugh M'Gildowney, JP. District-Inspector Rutledge was also present.

CHARGE OF BEING ON LICENSED PREMISES AT PROHIBITED HOURS

The Queen, at the prosecution of District-Inspector Rutledge, charged John M'Fall, Ballyreagh; Archy M'Cambridge, Ballyclough; James M'Donnell, Dunacalter; Daniel Hunter, Ballyreagh; Michael M'Lane, do; Robert Butler, do; Neal Hunter, do; John Black, Ballypatrick; James M'Crank, Tervillian; John Lamont, Cross; Alexander M'Kinley, Ballyreagh; Edward Dornan, Drumadoan; and James Hunter, Goodlands, with being on the licensed premises of Isabella M'Laughlin, Ballyvoy, at prohibited hours on the night of 7th May last. James Hunter was further charged with assaulting Constable Costello on the night of 7th May. Daniel Hunter and John Black were charged with giving false names at same time and place.

Mr John Boyle, solicitor, Ballymoney, appeared for the defendants.

District-Inspector Rutledge having stated the case.

Constable Costello was examined, and, in reply to the District-Inspector, he stated – I remember the night of the 7th May. I was one of the constables who visited the licensed premises of Isabella M'Laughlin, at Ballyvoy. I arrived outside her premises that night about two minutes to ten o'clock. I remained there in concealment for twenty-two minutes. I then went in and saw a number of men on the premises. It was then after hours. I told them I would take their names. I took M'Cambridge's name, and also the names of James M'Donnell, Michael M'Lane, Edward Dornan, and Daniel Hunter. The last mentioned gave me a false name, as did also John Black, who, I am told, has absconded. After taking their names the light was put out, and I asked for a light. On it being produced I only observed M'Cambridge and M'Lane on the premises. When the door was closed I heard them outside planning an attack, and shouting that they would do for the bloody police. Some persons outside attacked the house, front and rere. Nine panes of glass were broken in the front, and the sash of a window. One pane of glass was broken in a side window. The doors of front and rere were also injured. A 14lb weight was also thrown. When I was outside I heard persons calling for the police, thinking they were inside. I heard them shout they would wreck the house if the police were not put out. We were concealed outside. I afterwards followed some persons up the road to Mrs Hunter's house. I saw two of them putting off their coats in the house; I looked in the window at the time. Danl Hunter was one of them, but he had given me his name as James Murphy in the public house. Michael M'Lane was the name of the other man who entered Hunter's house. I told M'Lane I wanted to speak to him outside. I had a conversation with him. He accompanied Constable Halligan and me down the road. I heard a party coming down the road. James M'Donnell, Neal Hunter, and James Hunter were the party. There were two others who ran away. James Hunter assaulted me, when I stopped him on the road. I struck a match, by the light of which I identified him. He struck me on the breast.

Cross-examined by Mr Boyle – It took us from nine o'clock till two minutes to ten o'clock to reach Ballyvoy. I lay in ambush at a stone wall convenient to the public-house, which was then open. I had a view of the house from the place. I remained I

ambush twenty-two minutes. I remarked to Constable Halligan that I would go into the public-house at five minutes past ten o'clock. It was a stormy, wet night. The men conducted themselves badly, as I found out afterwards. I gave them plenty of time after ten o'clock to clear out. When I entered I found parties in the hall. I can identify a number of them. The others who were on the premises, and who are not now before the court, I hope yet to be able to identify. I saw M'Fall in the house that night. I afterwards identified Hunter as being on the premises. The light was blown out, but I cannot say who did so. I told Constable Halligan to let no person out. I observed Daniel Hunter going out. I charge him with giving a false name. The other men crushed their way out also. When I lit the candle Hunter said he gave me his right name, but he had given me the name of Murphy. They all appeared to be Murphys there that night (Laughter). When I went up to Hunter's house the door was closed; at that time it might be about a quarter past eleven o'clock. Michael M'Lane was in Hunter's house. There were about six men on the road at the time Hunter struck me. When I entered the licensed premises some of the parties remarked that they did not know it was after ten o'clock. I spoke to Miss M'Laughlin, who said she could not get them out. My reason for remaining in ambush was because I wanted to give them time to clear out of the public house.

Constable Halligan gave corroborative evidence. He identified a number of the parties before the court who were on the licensed premises after ten o'clock on the night in question.

Isabella M'Laughlin said she is the owner of the public house at Ballyvoy. I remember the night of the 7th May. A number of men were drinking in my house at ten o'clock. I went to the bar and locked it. I told M'Cambridge, M'Donnell, Hunter, and M'Lane to go out, as it was time to leave. They went out of the bar, but I cannot say where they went to. I cannot say whether they left my house or not. I afterwards went into the kitchen and sat down on a chair. I told my servant to take in the tumblers for fear of them being broken. I cannot say whether the parties who were on my premises were noisy or not.

To Mr Boyle – I observed M'Cambridge take out his watch and heard him say they had ten minutes yet.

To District-Inspector Rutledge – God forbid I would ask them to stay after ten o'clock (Laughter)

Bella Macnaghten gave similar evidence.

Rose Darragh was next examined by the District-Inspector, and stated she was a servant girl in the employment of Isabella M'Laughlin, Ballyvoy. Remembered the night of the 7th May. Was attending persons that night in the public house before ten o'clock. Went in to clear the glasses from the table, and told them it was ten o'clock. John Black pulled out his watch and said it was twenty-five minutes to ten, according to Glasgow time (Laughter). I was shoved out of the room. Robert Butler, Michael M'Lane, Alex M'Kinley, James M'Crank, John Black, and John Lamont were the persons I told to leave. I cannot say I saw James Hunter. I heard the windows broken, and some person saying they did not regard the police. I called to James Hunter that I knew his voice, and that I would send for the Sergeant.

Archibald Macnaghten was also examined for the prosecution.

Mr Boyle examined Neal Hunter, Archy M'Cambridge, Daniel Hunter, and Edward Dornan for the defence.

Their Worship retired for consultation. After a few minutes' absence they returned, and the chairman said – For being on the licensed premises at illegal hours the majority of the magistrates consider the case proved, and fine each of the defendants £1 and costs; and in the case of James Hunter for assaulting Constable Costello it is dismissed, as is also the charge against Daniel Hunter and John Black for giving false names.

The fines were paid, and the defendants, who all appeared to be respectable young men, left the court.

By March 1896 Isabella had passed away unmarried, so the license was transferred to Archibald McNaughton.²² Archibald then transferred his license to his son Neil in 1909²³ or 1910.²⁴ Neal held the license until his death on January 29 1934.²⁵ The McGuckians ran the pub next, followed by Bob Hunter.

6-DAY LICENCE.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A
TRANSFER OF A SPIRIT LICENCE
FROM ISABELLA M'LAUGHLIN
(NOW DECEASED) TO ARCHIBALD
M'NAUGHTON.**

COUNTY OF ANTRIM, TO WIT.

I ARCHIBALD M'NAUGHTON, of Ballyvoy, in the County of Antrim, hereby give Notice that I intend to apply at the Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Ballymoney, in the said County, on the 17th day of April next, for the Magistrates' Certificate for a Transfer of a Licence to Sell Beer, Cider, Spirits, &c., to be consumed on the Premises, at the House situate on the left-hand side of the road leading from Ballycastle to Cushendall, in the Townland of Ballyvoy, in the Parish of Culfieghtrin, Barony of Carey, and County of Antrim, the said Premises being at present Licensed in the name of the said Isabella M'Laughlin (now deceased), and that my place of abode is at the said House, in the said Townland of Ballyvoy, and in the Parish, Barony, and County aforesaid.

Dated this 25th day of March, 1896.

his
Signed, ARCHIBALD X M'NAUGHTON,
mark Applicant.

Witness present—JOHN BOYLE, Solicitor.
P. & J. BOYLE, Solicitors for
Applicant, Ballymoney.

To John Casement, Esq., and Moore Smith, Esq.,
Justices of the Peace for said County, to the
Clerk of the Peace for said County, and to the
District-Inspector of the Constabulary of the
nearest Police Station.

*Transfer of the license from Isabella
McLaughlin to Archibald McNaughton in
1896. Coleraine Chronicle, 28 Mar.*

SIX-DAY LICENCE.

Notice of Application for a Transfer of a
Spirit Licence from Archibald M'Naughton
to Neal M'Naughton.

I NEAL M'NAUGHTON, of Ballyvoy, in the County of Antrim, hereby give Notice that I intend to apply at the Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Ballymoney, in the said County, on the 22nd day of January next, for the Magistrates' Certificate for a Transfer of a Licence to sell Beer, Cider, Spirits, &c., to be consumed on the premises, at the house and premises situate on the left-hand side of the road leading from Ballycastle to Cushendall, in the townland of Ballyvoy, in the Parish of Culfieghtrin, Barony of Carey, and County of Antrim, the said premises being at present licensed in the name of the said Archibald M'Naughton, and that my place of abode is at the said house in the said townland of Ballyvoy, in the Parish, Barony, and County aforesaid.

Dated this 14th day of December, 1909.
(Signed),

NEAL M'NAUGHTON,
Applicant.

P. & J. BOYLE, Solicitors for
Applicant, Ballymoney.

To John Darragh, Esq., of Drumadoon,
Ballyvoy; Roger Casement, Esq., of
Churchfield; Alexander Black, Esq., of
Ballypatrick, Ballyvoy, Ballycastle, Jus-
tices of the Peace for said County; to
the Clerk of the Peace for said County;
and to the District Inspector of the
Constabulary of the nearest Police
Station. 4

*Transfer of the license from Archibald to
his son Neal in 1910. Coleraine Chronicle,
8 Oct.*

22 1896– Notice of Application for a Transfer of a Spirit License – *Coleraine Chronicle*, March 28.

23 1909– Licensing Transfer – *Ballymena Weekly Telegraph*, October 30.

24 1910– Notice of Application for Confirmation of a Transfer of a Spirit License – *Coleraine Chronicle*, October 8.

25 1934– Deaths – *Belfast News-Letter*, January 31.



McNaughtons', photo from the *Bicentenary Parish* book by Cahal Dallat. It's the only one of the pub in the McNoughton's time we have seen.



McGuckians', the delivery lorry is for Patzenhofer lager, popular in the 1930s.



Outside the bar in the 1950s - Bob Hunter, JK O'Neill (Ballypatrick), John and Sean Butler (Craigfad), Austin Black, Theresa McBride (Cross, née Molloy).



Inside the bar in the late 1960s: Annie Hunter, Robbie Murphy, Esmée Jolly, Frankie McCarry, Martin & Robert Hunter in behind the bar, Paddy McKay (Connacter) on the chair, Teddy Hunter and Frankie Stewart.

The Ballyvoy Larceny Case:

This occurred in the pub in August 1896, while Archibald McNoughton was the landlord,²⁶ in August 1896. The case is notable because it took another four years before it was resolved. James Butler of Coolnagoppoge, while

home from America, visited the pub, where he had a gold watch stolen off the chain. Archibald McCollam of Drumnakeel was charged with stealing it. The only witness to the theft was Daniel McGill, who worked for Patrick McCann of Acravally. McCollam was tried in January 1897,

and found not guilty "Prisoner (turning to leave the dock) – Thanks, my lord; I deserve all I got. (Laughter)."²⁷ On 5 August 1900 the witness Daniel McGill was arrested for drunkenness in Ballycastle, and the Constables found the gold watch in his pocket.²⁸ By this stage

26 1896– Alleged Larceny of a Gold Watch – *Northern Constitution*, December 5.

27 1897– Alleged Larceny of a Gold Watch – *Irish News & Belfast Morning News*, January 5.

28 1900– The Ballyvoy Larceny Case – *Coleraine Chronicle*, September 1.

McGill was working for Mrs Tillie Thompson of Drumahaman, and James Butler had returned to America. The trial *"created the greatest interest locally, and the Court-house was crowded during the hearing."*

Mary Ann Butler described the watch in court as similar to James Butler's *"the engraving on both sides, the bird on the back, and the mark like a wheel inside the outer case."* Robert Butler of Ballyreagh testified that he was in the pub with James Butler when the watch was originally stolen. He remembered Daniel McGill leaving the pub shortly before James realised the watch was missing, but he said that *"I do not recollect that M'Gill spoke to either of us while in the public-*

house, but sometimes people's heads are thick after the Lammas Fair (Laughter)."

McGill was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and the watch was handed over to John Butler. The proceedings closed with the Chairman, John Sharpe, addressing Archibald McCollam, the original suspect: *"M'Collam, you have been badly treated in this transaction all through – that is but a poor remark on my part; but you leave the Court today without a stain on your character."*

Life in Ballyvoy:

There was always music around Ballyvoy, horseshoe throwing, and pitch and toss in front of the old schoolhouse. Hurling was practised across the Diamond

before a match. The walls on both sides of the road were social gathering places. Master Ramsden lived opposite the school house. He taught in the Row School, and was an evacuee from Belfast during the war.

The Huggins family sold the field at Ballyvoy to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, and new houses were built. Mick McAuley got the first house, then Joe and Susan Butler, Mrs Hickland, the McConnell family and Kate and Dan Black from Slipin. The second phase of tenants came from The Row in Ballyreagh: Paddy Mulholland, Hughie McBride, Mary Hanna, Hughie and Patricia McNeill, Henry McHenry, Josie McKay, and John Birt.



Men at Ballyvoy. Some of the names were Danny Jamieson (man standing second in from the right with the paper), Bob Hunter (or a brother – kneeling 3rd in from the left), Patsy McLean, Mickey Quinn, and Alex Butler.

WANTED, FOR 1st APRIL, A TRAINED, Classed Teacher (L.C.) for Ballyvoy National School. £22 endowment. There is a good opening for a steady, painstaking Mac, competent to teach Music vocally and instrumentally. 3283
 Apply, at once, with copies of testimonials, to the Rev. J. B. GREER, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim.

1879 advertisement in the Belfast News-Letter.

Ballyvoy National School:

Initially very little was known about the school, only that there was once a Protestant school which closed when Barnish Primary opened. However, a series of legal documents dating from 1934 gave most of the information on the history of the school.²⁹

The last will and testament of Edmund McGildowney of Clare Park, Ballycastle, dated 2 July 1832, left £200 for his nephew Charles McGildowney to pay the schoolmaster in Ballyvoy to instruct the children in "reading, writing & arithmetic...without any distinction as to their religious creeds." The will created an annuity

(charged on the Estate) covering the teacher's salary, paid by the McGildowney Charity via the Commissioners for Charitable Donations and Bequests in Ireland. This was continued by successive McGildowneys until the Ministry of Education tried to close the school in 1934.

Most of the legal correspondence from 1934 concerned ownership of the school. The McGildowneys regarded it as an Estate School built by them, although they could not recall exactly when. There was also an issue with the status of the endowment after the McGildowney Estate was sold in 1930, and the annuity was redeemed, and subsequently paid by

the Ministry of Finance as Charity Commissioners.³⁰ It appears that the school building pre-dated Edmund McGildowney's death in 1834, and was possibly built after Edmund was granted two quarterlands of Ballyvoy in 1818.

On the closure of the school the Reverend Davis asked the Ministry of Education what to do with the building and received the following reply "*the Ministry has no information regarding the ownership of the premises...your responsibility as Manager ceased on the withdrawal of recognition of the school...the Ministry is not in a position to advise as to the use which may be made of the premises... you should obtain legal*

29 1934 (90) In the High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland, Chancery Division. In the Matter of a Charity known as Ballyvoy Public Elementary School, created by the Will of Edmund McGildowney, late of Ballycastle, in the County of Antrim, deceased.

30 Letter from from John Bristow, solicitor in Belfast, to A Hunter, McGildowney Estate Office. 10 June 1933.

advice in regard to the matter". I would have thought that asking the Ministry of Education about the status of a school would count as 'seeking legal advice' but every day is a school day after all.

In February 1878, the Reverend J.B. Greer (Culfeightrin Church of Ireland) applied to the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, for aid in salary and books for the school. The application was accepted by the Commissioners, who recognised it as a National School from 1 March 1878.³¹

John McGildowney³² was the patron of the school, which had an endowment of £21 a year. It was first established 'very many years before this' according to the McGildowney solicitor John Bristow in 1934, although he could not confirm the date, except that it pre-dated Edmund McGildowney's death in 1834. H.M. McGildowney was the successor to John McGildowney as patron of the school, up until his death in 1923.

The first school manager was the Reverend J.B. Greer, followed by Dr G.M. O'Connor (1879), Rev. H. Taylor (1885), and Rev. F.W. Davis from 1904 to June 1933. In June 1933 the Ministry of Education removed the grants, and told Reverend Davis the school was no longer required. Reverend Davis informed them that over the previous 30 years the school had only been attended by Protestant pupils, and used for occasional Church of Ireland services, parish events, and meetings. Ballyvoy Public Elementary School was officially closed on 30 June 1933 by the Ministry of Education.

Reverend Greer's original 1878 grant application was for supplies and the teacher's salary. It recorded the teacher as a Matthew Devinney, aged 26, with an average of 40 pupils, and described the school as "*a very neat substantial building and in first rate condition. It contains only one large well ventilated room, lighted by six windows, there are a number of good desks and forms, Teacher's bookcase,*

Blackboard etc." The Inspector's Report from 29 March 1878 states Matthew Devinney was trained in Belfast Model School, and previously taught in Woodburn National School (possibly Carrickfergus). The Inspector's Report also says that Father Thomas Kearney (Carey parish priest 1848-1892) was the manager in Craigfad School (29 pupils), and Robert Campbell was managing Ballyverdagh School (61 pupils). The correspondence of Dr O'Connor and Reverend Taylor as school managers provides a list

March-November 1880:

Charles Sinclair.

January-June 1881:

Hugh Murphy.

July 1881-June 1882:

John Stewart.

1882-1889:

Miss Elizabeth Todd.

1889- 1890:

Jane Caldwell.

October 1890:

Miss Webb.

1897:

Mrs C Stewart.

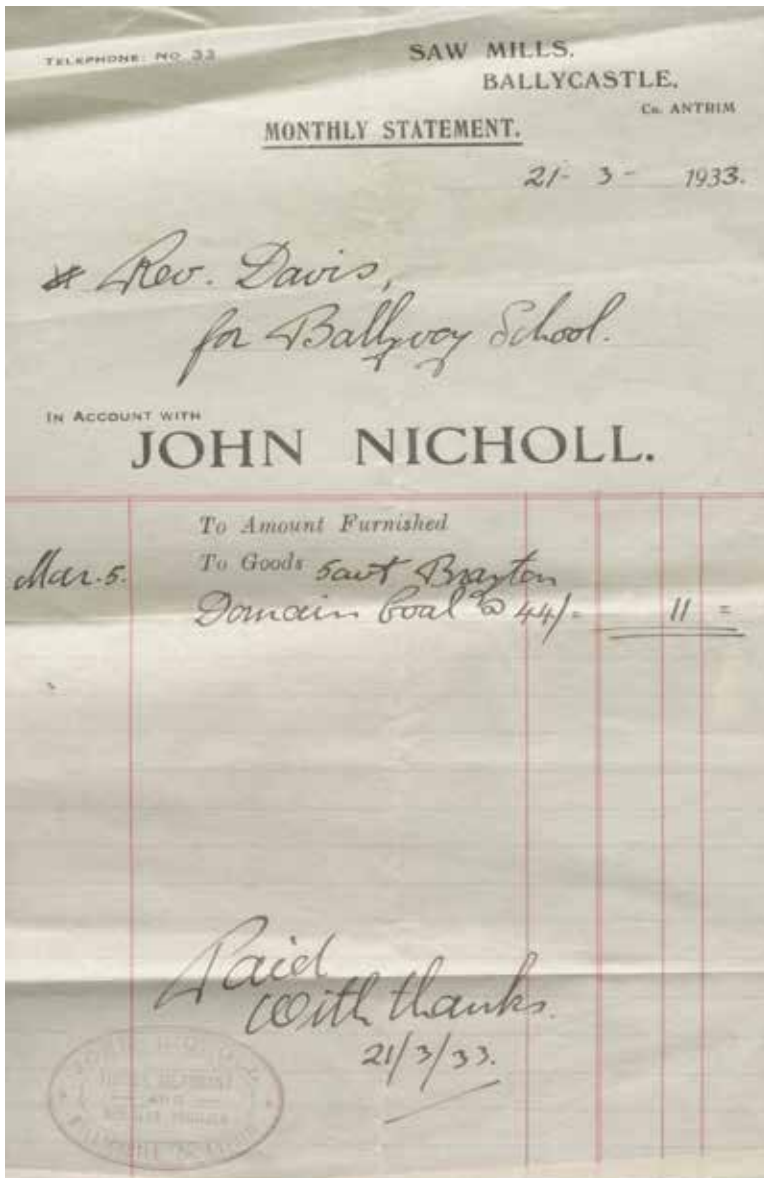
(followed by Miss E.W. Retalic).

1900-1907: (at least)

Miss E. McDonald.

31 There are reams of letters from Culfeightrin Rectory in regard to the school from 1875 to 1877 in a file in PRONI (FIN 18/2/288) however I couldn't make much sense of the handwriting. I think it all refers to the National School application.

32 The original Charles McGildowney that left the money for the school died in 1842, succeeded by John McGildowney, who died in 1887 and was succeeded by Charles McGildowney, who died in 1917 and was succeeded by Hugh McCalmont McGildowney. When Hugh and his wife died in 1923 and 1926 respectively their estate was left to their son Hugh Cameron McGildowney in 1928.



1933 invoice from John Nicholl (the sawmill in Ballycastle Diamond where the Co-op is now) to Rev. Davis in Ballyvoy School.

of teachers in the school: According to Dr O'Connor, the teacher that preceded Charles Sinclair, a Mr Campbell, left the school without notice "after having refused to pay several persons to whom he owed money even when

he had received his salary from the Education Board".³³ Joseph Campbell of 16 Gosford Street, Belfast, had written to the Charitable Commissioners on 20 May 1880, stating he had recently been appointed to a school in

Roscommon, but couldn't afford to take up the post until he had been paid for his employment in Ballyvoy.

Blackpark Boat Builders:

From John McConnell: "Hector McLean - Paddy McCambridge - Pat McBride (Ballyreagh) - and others built a boat up at Paddy McCambridge's of Blackpark in the very early fifties and it was called the Onagh after the baby Onagh McCambridge. I recall it being built and was in the shed a few times when it was being worked on. One of my memories is of a creamery can with a tube coming out the top which was used to produce the steam to shape the ribs - how's that for hi-tech? The Onagh was a big boat and after launching was moored off the Old Stage from which she was unfortunately lost in a storm. The Onagh was taken on a Sunday outing to Campbeltown but on the way back the engine failed and anxious time was spent adrift before the crew got her into Murlough the following morning. Boats passed

33 letter dated 29th May 1880.

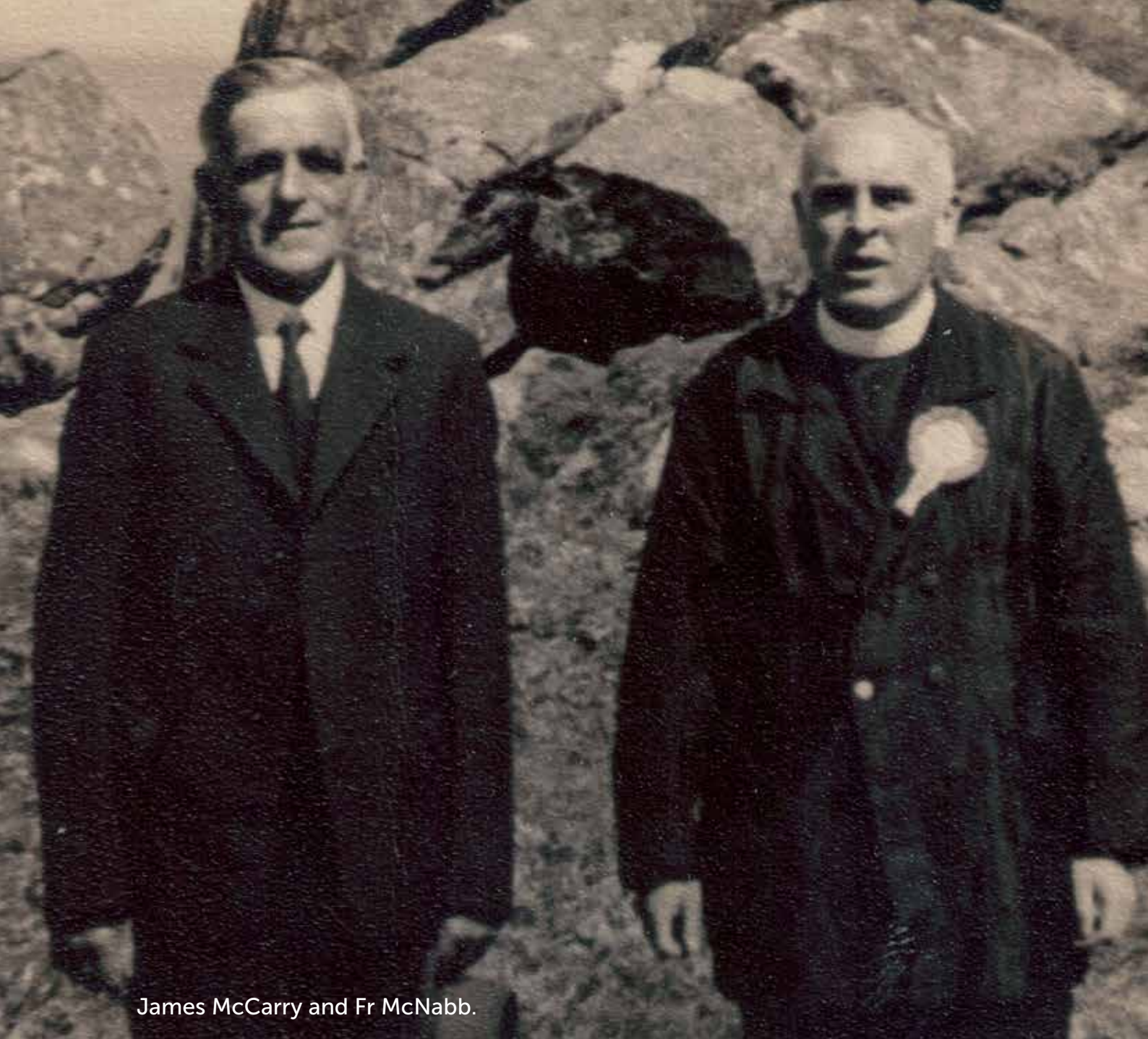
in the night and the story was told of some of the crew burning their shirts dipped in fuel in an effort to attract attention but to no avail. Dan McBride's name was mentioned as the mechanic on board. No sat nav then! Hector and others had previously cut their teeth building a small rowing boat which was also kept in a shed on the Fairhead side of the Old Stage and was used to get out to the Onagh off shore. I don't recall it having a name but was described as like a cork in the water and easy to pull."

RIBAND PROCESSIONS.—An investigation had been held at Ballycastle, on the 11th inst. into a charge against a number of persons for walking in procession at the funeral of a man named Hunter at Ballyvoy, near this town on the 1st Dec. A number of witnesses were examined, amongst them Father Walsh, a Priest of Culfreightron. The Rev. Gentleman made oath as to the illegality of the procession, and that he had refused to give them the rites of his church, but refused to identify any of the persons composing that procession. Through the activity of Serjeant Foster, of the constabulary, (and who has been but a short time stationed here,) three of the ring-leaders (Loughnan, M'Ilfedrick, and M'Garry,) have been convicted. The Rev. Father above named offered to the bench that, if they would give up the prosecution, he would bail them that they would never again transgress the law—which the bench indignantly refused; they afterwards gave in bail to stand their trial at the Quarter Sessions, Father Walsh being one of their securities. Nightly meetings of the pisintry take place frequently in this part of the North. What will Sir Frederick Stoven say to this?—*Belfast Guardian.*

A cutting from the Clonmel Herald in 1836 on the Ribbonmen, mentioning Fr Walsh amongst others. They were a secret society of Catholic tenant farmers and rural workers in the 19th Century, set up to prevent evictions by landlords, and the collection of the tithes.



Ballyvoy, February 2019.



James McCarry and Fr McNabb.

Fieldnames

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Barnish Holm; | 11. The Long Field; |
| 2. Church Field; | 12. The Priest's Drum; |
| 3. Crook-a-navirk; | 13. The Priest's Garden; |
| 4. Fairy Steps; | 14. The Priest's Field; |
| 5. Heenan's; | 15. The Priest's Holm; |
| 6. Hill Field; | 16. The Priest's Lane; |
| 7. Middle Barnish; | 17. The Whins; |
| 8. Middle Field; | 18. Two Fields; |
| 9. Móinín na Sléigh; | 19. Upper Barnish; |
| 10. School Field; | 20. Wishing Well Chair. |

The first record of the townland name was in the 1734 survey,¹ and most likely refers to the path of the road cut through the fields at the top of *Upper Barnish*.

Several sites in Barnish are mentioned in the OSM. On *Crookanavirk* (Cnoc an Amhairc - lookout hill) in the holding of Alexander Rankin were the ruins of a small fort, with four small standing stones in the centre.² It's believed the site is a barrow, or a destroyed cist, small stone built coffins from the Bronze Age around 2000 - 500 BC.³ At the top of *Upper Barnish* is a mound where another cist was found.⁴ The OSM described it as a disfigured fort on a high hill, 'an eminence on the road leading from *Ballycastle* to *Cushendall*', on Alex Hunter's land. It was from here, in the 1750s, that Colonel Boyd took a large standing stone for the harbour in *Ballycastle*,⁵ together with a stone from *Carnsaggart* in *Ramoan* (fulfilling one of *Julia McQuillan's* prophesies). The fort in *Upper Barnish* is also called a fairy fort, while near to *Móinín na Sléigh* are the *Fairy Steps*.

It was thought more vaults and graves existed a short distance to the south of the townland, however no traces have been found.⁶ A souterrain above the hurling field in *The Priest's Drum* was discovered around 2010, during the pitch development. It is approximately one yard wide by one yard high, and about 27 feet long. It follows a



northeasterly direction towards the main pitch, with a small square hole to crawl through into a chamber at the end. The walls comprise various sizes of round stones, while the roof consists of long rectangular stones running crossways. The local story is that the face of *The Priest's Drum* as it meets *The Priest's Holm* has several more tunnel entrances, currently hidden from view.

On a slope in *The Priest's Holm*, just above the river, was a bullán stone.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 123-4.)
 2 OSM pg 76.
 3 SM7-ANT-009-153.
 4 SM7-ANT-009-009.
 5 OSM pg 50.
 6 SM7-ANT-009-122.

This is a stone with a cup shaped hollow, made naturally or by hand, the usage is unknown. The OSM states it might be a font from a nearby church, though it may also have been a grinding stone. In more recent times, it was known as the *Wishing Well Chair*. It now lies in a field nearby. *The Priest's Garden* was the patch of ground behind the old hall, now storing machinery. Sean McLean used to have an orchard where the chapel car park is presently, and kept bees for honey (there'll be one or two reading this who grew up raiding the orchard). Part of the river is called *Méabh's Plum*; it is very deep and popular for fishing (plum is

thought to mean 'a deep pool in a river or stream').⁷ *Heenan's* is named after Jamie Butler, nicknamed Heenan from Bushmills, who had the ground at one time. *The Two Fields* are so named as they are grazed together.

A final story from the OSM is the 'Giantesses or Female Cannibals'; *"In Barnish and holding of Alexander Hunter, and immediately adjoining the road leading from Ballycastle to Cushendall, there stands an ancient house to have been the residence of 3 giantesses, who, for a series of time, were in the habit of killing and devouring such persons as they caught travelling an ancient line*

*of road passing that way between Cushendall and Ballycastle. However, the cannibals were at length killed by 3 Scottish chieftains who, after landing at some part about Cushendun, heard concerning the dangerous characters they had to meet with in the above old road, but the Highland dirks put a speedy end to the long-dreaded and destructive females above mentioned."*⁸ It is believed the giantesses' house is one of the outhouses beside the old hall, as there were no other houses on the road in Barnish at this time except for those sited at the outhouses and the filling station.



The Wishing Well Chair.

7 Northern Ireland Place-name Project – Plumbridge, County Tyrone.
8 OSM pg 50.

Families

- 1734:** Campbell, McMichael, O'Doran.
1803: Hunter, McLoughlin, McNeill.
1831: Hunter, Lynd, McKinlay, McLaughlin, McNeile, Rankin.
1861: Hunter, McNeill, McFee, Rankin.
1901: Jamison, McAfee, Fr McDonnell (& Fr MacShane, worker Delargy); McLean (& nephew McHenry, workers Duffy & McKiernan).
1911: Butler, Fr Eardley (& worker Collins), Hill, Jamison, McAfee, McLean (& worker Davison, visitor McCormick).
2018: Brennan, Duff, Fr Boyle, Jamieson, McNeill, Murphy.

There's an undated headstone in Barnish inscribed: *"Erected by Mary Gillin, Barnish Cottage, in memory of her mother"*, if anyone has any details on the family, get in touch. It's tucked in the bottom left hand corner as you go in the gate, with a large stone cross inscribed at the top.

There were only three farms in the townland in 1861, belonging to John Hunter, Archibald McFee (McAfee), and Alexander Rankin. Archibald McFee lived in the house between the 65s on the hurling field, their roses are still growing at Jamieson's. Coming down *The Priest's Lane* into the hall and hurling field, John Hunter's former house is on the left. In later years the Hill and McAuley families lived there.

The rest of the townland in 1861 belonged to Alexander Rankin. The Rankin family also ran the pub in Ballyvoy until 1885. The Barnish farms of 85 and 19 acres were auctioned in December 1884 by Margaret Rankin, before her death the following year.⁹ Their family plot is in Ballynaglogh, inscribed *"Erected by Alex' Rankin, of Barnish, to perpetuate the memory of his wife Mary Ann, who departed this life, the 1st day of Feb, 1847, aged 64 years."*



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



Rankin family plot.

9 1884 – Important Sale By Auction – *Northern Constitution*, December 13.



Pat McVeigh's shop in the 1950s.

In 1901 Daniel Jamison had a grocery shop, John McDonnell and John MacShane were priests, while Dan McLean and Annie McAfee were farmers. In 1911 Daniel Jamison was a shoe-maker, Father Eardley was the parish priest, and the Butlers, Hills, Annie McAfee, and the McLeans were all farming. Jamieson's shop, which also sold religious goods, continued until the 1950s.

From June 1934 until 1964 a youth hostel existed in premises opposite the chapel,

owned by the McLean family. A petrol station and shop was opened by Pat McVeigh of Broughanlea in 1954 on land bought from the McLeans. The site has been in use almost constantly since then.

Barnish School:¹⁰ tenders for building Barnish Primary were issued in November 1933 by Father McAuley,¹¹ and the school opened on 17 September 1935. Father McAuley was the manager, 44 children were present on the first day, and an average of

65 pupils was maintained from 1935 to 1940. All of the records from the school construction are in the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland.

Teachers and assistants in the 1930 and 1940s were Mary McCaughan, Margaret Cummings, and Mary and Margaret McErlain. Patrick McHenry was principal in Craigfad prior to Barnish. Dolly McCaughan from Brackney was a teaching assistant in Barnish before Miss Clare Hughes of Portrush, who preceded Nanny Hunter.

¹⁰ Staff list for the 1930s and 1940s is taken from the Inspector's Suggestion Book, SCH1182/5/1 in PRONI.

¹¹ 1933 – Contracts to Building Contractors – *Northern Whig*, November 8.

List of School Principals:

- 1935-38:** Patrick McHenry.
1938-48: Thomas McKeith (left for St Matthew's parish in Belfast).
1948-1965: Patrick O'Cleary (he got a set of golf clubs as a leaving present. Played the organ in the chapel while he lived at Ballyvoy).
1965-1970: Mr Joseph McMichael (from Randalstown).
1970-1988: Mr Eugene O'Kane (followed by Mrs Mary McKinley).
2000-present: Mrs Catherine Wisener-Clarke.



The newly opened Barnish Primary School, 1935.

M ^c Bride	Grace	"	12-9
M ^c Bride	Seamus	"	9-5
M ^c Bride	Mary	"	5-10
Glenfield	Mary	Blackpark	11-0
Glenfield	Joe	"	10-5
Glenfield	Patrick	"	8-2
M ^c Carley	Patrick	Lealysart	8-6
M ^c Keon	Maggie	Barnish	12-6
M ^c Lean	Sean	"	10-5
Jameson	Budget	Ballynaglogh	12-11
Madigan	Mary	Barnish	10-5
M ^c Leigh	Mary	Broughanlea	6-5

Part of the register of children transferred from Craigfad School at the Row. D1375/3/35/8 PRONI.



1935 school photo.

Top Row: Unknown, Dan McVeigh (Broughanlea), Eddy Hill (Ballyreagh Upper), Paddy McCormick (Churchfield), unknown, John Quinn (Ballyvoy), Sonny McCambridge (Broughanlea);
2nd Row: Dan McCormick (Churchfield), Jeff Duncan (Drumnakeel), unknown, Joe Campbell (Broughanlea), Paddy Murphy (Losset), Hugh Duncan (Drumnakeel), Charlie McKiernan (Broughanlea);
3rd Row: Mary T Hickland (Barnish), Annie McCormick, Mary McCarry (Losset), Annie Butler (Glenmakeeran), Mary McKinley (Ballypatrick), Kathleen McKeague (Drumadoon), Frances McCarry (Losset), Maureen Davidson (Drumnakeel), Mary O'Rawe (Ballyreagh Upper), Theresa Campbell (Broughanlea), Theresa McKiernan?
4th Row: Charlie Duncan (Drumnakeel), Joe Butler (Ballynaglogh), Danny Hickland (Barnish), Mickey Quinn (Ballyvoy), Archie McCormick (Churchfield), Pat McVeigh (Broughanlea), Willie Davidson (Drumnakeel), PJ Butler (Glenmakeeran).



1940 school photo.

Top Row: Paddy McKiernan (Drumaridly), Micky Quinn (Drumnakeel), John Murphy (Losset), Alex Butler (Glenmakeeran), JJ McCambridge (Ballynaglogh), Danny Kerr (Tornaroan), Dan Rankin (The Warren), Jimmy McVeigh (Broughanlea); **2nd Row:** Alex O'Rawe (Ballyreagh Upper), Brigid McCloy (Drumaridly), Mary McCambridge (Ballynaglogh), Sarah Gillan (Losset), Bessie Duncan (Drumnakeel), Kathleen Gillan (Losset), Mary McCarry (Losset), Kathleen & Brigid Davidson (Drumaridly), Barney O'Rawe (Ballyreagh Upper); **3rd Row:** Francis Black, Mary McCloy (Drumaridly), Rosena Butler (Glenmakeeran), Kathleen McCarry (Losset), Marie McAuley (Drumaridly), Mary Gillan (Losset), Denis Butler (Glenmakeeran); **Front Row:** Paddy Hill (Ballyreagh Upper), George Clarke (Losset), John Hickland (Ballyvoy), Harry O'Rawe (Ballyreagh Upper), John Rankin (Drumaridly), John McAuley (Magherindonnell), Robbie Murphy (Losset), Patsy McCormick (Churchfield), Seamus Black (Ballypatrick).

St Patrick's Church - Priests in Barnish:

1789-1828: Patrick Brennan (buried in church nave).
1828-1847: Luke Walsh (buried in sanctuary).
1847-1848: Patrick Starkey.
1848-1892: Thomas Kearney (buried in graveyard).
1893-1901: John McDonnell (buried in graveyard).
1901-1902: Bernard Falloona.
1902-1906: Patrick Magill.
1906-1916: John Eardley.
1916-1933: James Small.
1933-1946: Thomas McAuley.
1946-1963: Austin McNabb.
1963-1966: Patrick McCarthy (buried in graveyard).
1966-1973: Joseph Moloney.
1973-1979: Patrick Meenan (buried in graveyard).
1979-1991: Matthew Dillon.
1991-2001: Edward Coyle.
2001-2010: James O'Kane.
2010-2017: Raymond Fulton .
2017-: Con Boyle.



1948 school photo.

Top Row: Gerald Butler, PJ Gillan, Danny Boy Jamieson, John McCormick, James Quinn, Dennis Butler, James McCloy, Jack McCaughan, Gerald McConnell (Ballyvoy), Danny McCouaig (Ballyreagh), Vinny McCaughan (Ballynagard); **2nd Row:** Fr McNabb, John McAuley, Hugh Osborne, Paddy Gillan (Losset), James Hill, Mick McAuley, Frances McCormick, Frank Kerrigan, Pat Quinn, Conor O'Cleary, Malachy Hill, Seamus McKinley, Master O'Cleary; **3rd Row:** Padraig McLean (Glenmakeeran), Maureen Kerrigan, Eithne McLean, Annie McCambridge, Anna McCormick, Roisin McCouaig, Mary McCambridge, Maria McCouaig, Sally McCormick, Josie McCormick, Jean McKinley, Peggy Rankin, Mary Kerr, Betty McCloy; **4th Row:** Joseph Campbell, Rosie McCaughan, Mary Boyle, Kathleen McAuley, Eilish Black, Margaret Black, Mary Phil Jamieson, Bridget McCormick, Mary Davidson, Monnie? Hill, Eilish Jamieson, Margaret Davidson, Mary McLean, Mary B McCaughan, Mary R McBride, Philomena McKinley, Margaret Mullan, Margaret McAuley, Kathleen McCouaig, Mary McAuley; **Front Row:** Danny Gillan (Losset), John & Dermot McConnell (Ballyvoy), Raymond McBride, Margaret McKinley, Sheila McCouaig, Kathleen Hill, Vonda Black, Ena McCambridge, Sheila Hill, Patricia Boyle, Rosie McAuley, Kathleen Black, Eileen McKinley, Robert McCaughan, Bernard Herrigan, Don McLean, AP McCambridge.



James McCarry (Murlough), and Father Austin McNabb. Likely taken at the first Casement Sunday in 1953.

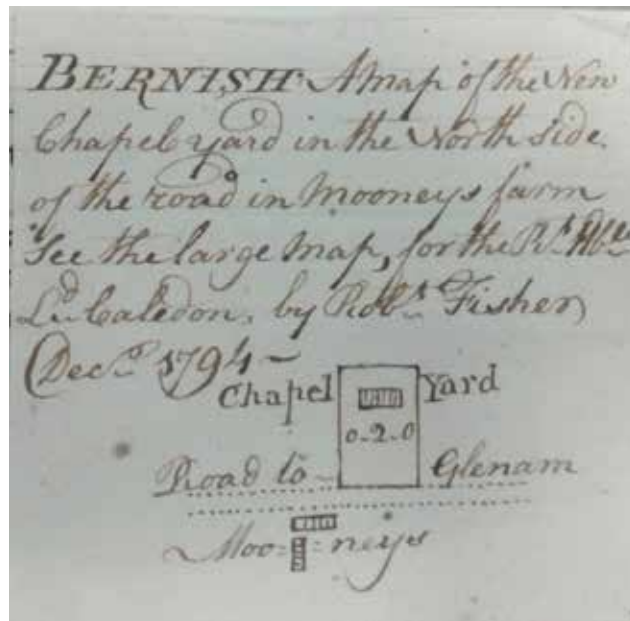


Father James Small (later Canon), pictured in Murlough early 1920s.

Father Brennan was the Culfeightrin parish priest from 1789 to 1828; St. Patrick's Church was founded, around 1800. He was said to have given Mass once a month at the Quay in Ballycastle, as it was then part of Carey Parish, before the course of the rivers were diverted. The graveyard opened in 1808, Father Walsh added the nave and transepts to the church in 1833, while the altar was installed by Father Kearney.¹²

Prior to 1800 there was possibly a barn church on site, down the lane between the two houses beside the filling station, is said to be where *'In Father Brennan's time Mass was celebrated in the shelter of a bush'*.¹³ Danny Jamieson once pointed out the stump of an old tree where mass was held, about halfway between the road and the end of the field. It appears to be the same site as the bush mentioned in the OSM.

Before Father Brennan the parish priest was Father John McNeile, not much is known about him



Site plan of the church, 1794. This is the only mention found of Mooney's in Barnish, and we were unable to find Robert Fisher's larger map referred to.

apart from the following story. He is presumed to be the *'Fr McNeill, Curate to Fr McMullan, buried Bonamargy 1795'*, as Father Michael McMullan was a Carey parish priest before Father Brennan.¹⁴

Our research uncovered a PRONI document, dated 16 January 1790, declaring the suspension of Reverend McNeile by Hugh MacMullan, Bishop of Down and Connor (1779-1794).¹⁵ This is accompanied by an anonymous letter, signed 'the parishioners of Culfeightrin', but thought

to be in the handwriting of John McGildowney of Clare Park.¹⁶ The addressee is unknown, the letter just states 'Rev, Sir', but presumably it was for Father Brennan:

"It is given out that you intend to give tomorrow at prayers a vindication of the Rev. Mr McNeile's conduct in regard to sundry charges that I think indelicate to mention, and at the same time to enquire into the attempt made some years ago to burn the said Mr McNeile's house.

12 O'Laverty (1887: 497).

13 O'Laverty (1887: 497); SM7-ANT-009-173.

14 From Fr Coyle's Parish Notes.

15 D1375/3/35/6.

16 D1375/3/35/5.

As a friend, and a man that is much hurt at the disgrace brought on his religion in this part of the country by the said Mr McNeile and some other priests, I would advise you not to add to the disgrace by becoming the advocate of a man who has acted as he has. The charges against him I am unwilling to name, as his removal is all the injury I wish to be done him; but if he attempts to go into the charges, he will have himself to blame for the consequences that must ensue. Before I conclude, I must ask you by what authority you interfere, or are you volunteering this business - a business that can never be properly gone into but by those who are both competent to administer oaths and determine upon the evidence; neither of which, I presume, you will venture to pretend to.

But if you will, contrary to this advice, go into the business, when you come to that part of it of calling upon people to clear themselves of the attempt made to burn the house, I beg to suggest that the whores and strumpets who from time to time inhabited it, should be the first called upon, as they

were most likely to do so diabolical an act in a fit of jealousy, or on being dismissed. Therefore, call Rose O'Neile, Miss Buller, alias the green lady, Mary Ford, Jane McGugan, Margaret O'Dullinand and Mary Stewart; and if they can't inform you of the attempt made to burn the house, they can at least tell you what will make your hair stand on end."

There is another letter of complaint from John McGildowney to the Bishop of Down and Connor, then Patrick MacMullan, in 1822.¹⁷ Father McCann of Armoy married one of McGildowney's servants named Patrick McKeage to a "young woman which connects him to a family which I must forbear to describe, and that would be the last I would allow anyone I had a regard for to be concerned with." McGildowney writes that neither McKeage, nor any of his servants, are parishioners of anyone other than Father Brennan in Culfeightrin, and that "many people here thought themselves well off when Priest O'Neill [presumably John McNeile] was removed from this. But if half of

what he said be true [referring to Capt Smyth's report on Fr McCann], they got out of the frying-pan into the fire."

Father Walsh and the Presbyterian Home Missions:

In 1844, Father Luke Walsh, parish priest between 1828 and 1847, published a booklet together with Father John Fitzsimons, the parish priest of Cushendall.¹⁸

This is the same case that encompassed the Night in Torteige (Ballypatrick) and the Miller of the Glens (Ballyvennaght). The whole case was described by *The Vindicator* as one that "we sincerely believe it to be, under all the circumstances of the case, without a parallel in the history of controversy."¹⁹ Our research found forty newspaper reports on this story alone, dating from 1842 to 1860. It is summarised below, with additional information on individual schools in the relevant townland chapters. Fathers Walsh and Fitzsimons travelled as far as Glasgow to give lectures on the subject,²⁰ and were also accused of hiring assassins in Edinburgh.²¹

17 D1375/3/35/19.

18 1844 - *The Vindicator*, May 18.

19 1842 - *The Vindicator*, August 3.

20 1844 - The Irish Home Mission Exposed, Public Meeting in the Trades' Hall, Glasgow. *The Vindicator*, September 14.

21 1844 - Public Dinner to the Rev Messrs Walsh and Fitzsimons. *The Vindicator*, November 13.

Publications.

Just Published, Price Eightpence,

THE HOME MISSION UNMASKED; OR, A FULL AND COMPLETE EXPOSURE OF THE FRAUDS, DECEPTIONS, AND FALSE HOODS PRACTISED BY THE AGENTS

OF THE

**Home Mission of the General Assembly of the
Presbyterian Church in Ireland.**

In a series of Letters, by the Rev. L. WALSH, P.P. of
Culfeightrin, County Antrim; Rev. JOHN FITZSI-
MONS, P.P., Cushendall, and others; addressed to the
Presbyterians of Ireland.

This Pamphlet is very neatly got up, and contains 184
pages, 12mo.

All orders for the Work, addressed to the *Vindicator*
Office, shall be particularly attended to. (313)

*An original advertisement for Father Walsh's outing of the Home
Missions. Published in the Vindicator, 18 May, 1844.*

The Presbyterians had printed Bibles in Gaelic, and set up Gaelscoils in the Glens attempting to convert Catholics by proselytising in their native tongue, "In 1836 the Church of Scotland received the Presbyterian Synod of Ulster into its communion. A leading minister from the Synod (Rev Dr Henry Cook from Maghera) addressed the Assembly in celebration and, in a speech sprinkled with Irish words and phrases, shared a key aim of the Synod: to share the gospel with those who 'speak exclusively

or generally in the native Irish tongue".²² Reverend Cook went as far as appealing for Gaelic speaking Ministers in Scotland to come to Ireland to preach.

Twenty-nine schools in the Glens, with over 600 pupils, were recorded in the Presbyterian reports, which also stated "they also rejoice in the abiding and advancing prosperity of Irish instruction in that part of the country." The Carey schools with pupil lists are Drumadon, Murlough, Ballyverdagh, and Churchtown (either Churchfield or

Coolaveely). However, there were also schools in Ballypatrick (32 pupils), Slipin (17 pupils), Turryvranen (23 pupils), Glenmakeeran (22 pupils), Gortin (17 pupils), Malnadevin (25 pupils), and Ballyucan (16 pupils).²³ However Father Walsh and Father Fitzsimmons alleged the returns were fraudulent, because the schools and most of the pupils never existed. From the altar in Barnish, Father Walsh threatened the teachers, either confess to the fraud or be excommunicated. He also publicly named and shamed the fraudsters, and made them sign confessions which were published in the newspapers. One of those shamed was Hugh Shields (or Sheals) of Ballyucan, another was described by Father Walsh as a 'renegade Catholic'. It is possible that some of the schools may have existed, but that once the priest publicly spoke against them, no-one felt they could respond. One report on the court proceedings stated that "Father Walsh threatened to put every man, woman, and child

²² <http://www.presbyterianhistoryireland.com/history/presbyterians-and-the-irish-language/>.

²³ O'Laverty, J. (1887: 511) *An Historical Account of the Diocese of Down & Connor*. Moat Brothers: Belfast.

from speaking to Michael Butler if he would not quit reading and teaching the Irish language."²⁴ Michael Butler of Ballypatrick said in court that the Schools' Inspector, Francis Brennan, got drunk while in Carey, exaggerated the extent of the schools, and split the money with the teachers. The court case with Charles McLoughlin (see Ballyvennaght chapter) gives great insight into life in Carey at the time. Father Walsh also gave a deposition to the Land Commission in 1844, describing life in the parish.

THE REV. LUKE WALSH AND THE HOME MISSION.

We this day present our readers with the reply of the Rev. the Parish Priest of Culfeightrin, to Dr. Edgar's most unfortunate apology for the Home Mission. When our readers shall have perused it, we have no doubt they will agree with us in pronouncing it one of the best literary productions that ever gave importance to the columns of a public journal. For wit, pointed humour, eloquence, and argument, we remember nothing like it except the letters of Junius. The people of Culfeightria ought to be proud of their pastor. He has done a service to the cause of true religion in Ulster, we may say in Ireland, which will connect his name with his country's ecclesiastical history.

A glowing editorial from the Vindicator, dated 12 October 1844 praising Fr. Walsh's work.

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. THOMAS KEARNEY, P.P., CULFEIGHTRIN, BALLYCASTLE.—Our obituary column to-day contains the announcement of the death of one of the oldest clergymen of the Roman Catholic diocese, the Very Rev. Thomas Kearney, P.P., Culfeightrin. Father Kearney was born of respectable parents in the parish of Balee, County Down, in February, 1815. He received his early classical education in that seminary of learning in Downpatrick, presided over by the Rev. Mr. Nelson. After a brilliant and distinguished course in St. Malachy's College, Belfast, and afterwards at Maynooth, Father Kearney was ordained priest on the 3rd February, the year 1839, in the College Chapel, by Dr. Healey, Bishop of Kildare. His first mission was St. Patrick's, Belfast. Here, in company with the late bishop, and the late Professor Crolly, of Maynooth, Father Kearney laboured with earnestness, energy, and ardent zeal. From the curacy of St. Patrick's he was promoted to the pastoral charge of Coleraine on the 17th March, 1844. In the year 1848 he was appointed parish priest of Culfeightrin, where for more than forty years he laboured quietly, faithfully, and zealously until the summons of death reached him at the post of duty.

Obituary for Fr. Kearney. Coleraine Chronicle, 27 February 1892.

5th October 1870, *Belfast Morning News*
SUBSCRIPTION TAKEN UP IN NEW YORK for the Repairs
of CAREY CHAPEL, County of Antrim Ireland

Names	Residence	Former Residence	\$ c.
Daniel Miller	Philadelphia	Brackney	5 00
Dan M'Keernan	do.,	Ballyvoy	5 00
John Duncan	do.,	Gate	5 00
Archibald Black	do.,	Craigfad	5 00
Patrick Kelly	do.,	...	2 50
James M'Mullan	do.,	Coolnagoppoge	5 00
Mrs M'Ilhatten	do.,	Loughgiel	2 00
Archibald M'Auley	do.,	...	1 00
Mrs M'Carry	do.,	...	1 00
Jane M'Carry	do.,	...	1 00
Mrs M'Cambridge	do.,	...	1 00
Mr PK Connor	do.,	South of Ireland	2 00
John M'Donnell	do.,	Torr	2 00
Mr Griffing	do.,	...	2 00
Neil Leese	do.,	Coolalough	5 00
Pat McKeernan	do.,	Turnaroan	5 00
Isabella McKeernan	Manayunk	do.,	2 00
James McKeernan	Philadelphia	do.,	5 00
Mrs Boyle	Manayunk	Drumaridley	2 00
Henry M'Lean	Philadelphia	Drumadoon	10 00
Jane M'Lean	do.,	do.,	5 00
Hugh Doran	do.,	...	3 00
Dan M'Henry	Greenpoint	Ballypatrick	25 00
James M'Ilroy	do.,	Drumadoon	10 00
Ezekial Butler	do.,	Ballypatrick	10 00
Daniel Scally	do.,	Ballycastle	10 00
Ann Butler	do.,	Ballypatrick	5 00
John Clarke	do.,	Watertop	5 00
Ann Dixon	do.,	Lossit	5 00
Daniel Miller	do.,	Quay	2 00
Pat M'Allister	do.,	Armoy	2 06

Names	Residence	Former Residence	\$ c.
Sarah M'Allister	do.,	Glenmakeerin	2 00
Mary M'Allister	do.,	do.,	2 00
Mary M'Cormick	do.,	Ballypatrick	2 00
Sarah M'Cormick	do.,	do.,	2 00
Bridget M'Cormick	do.,	do.,	1 00
Pat M'Laughlin	do.,	Carvadoon	1 00
Jane Scally	do.,	Coolnagoppag	2 00
John Curran	do.,	Co Kerry	1 00
John Davidson	do.,	Ballyreagh	1 00
Rose M'Neill	do.,	West Torr	1 00
John M'Mullan	do.,	Glenshesk	1 00
Mrs J M'Mullan	do.,	do.,	1 00
Mary M'Allister	do.,	Acravilla	1 00
John O'Hara	do.,	Torr	1 00
John M'Auley	do.,	Glenshesk	1 00
Bridget Hunter	New York	Dunicalter	5 00
Patrick Fohay	South Brooklyn	Ennis, Co Clare	5 00
Francis Bestie	do.,	Co Longford	5 00
Rose M'Collum	Greenpoint	Ballypatrick	1 00
Jane Butler	do.,	do.,	2 00
Cash	5 00
Cash	5 00
James Starkey	South Brooklyn	Dunicalter	25 00
John M'Donnell	New York	Ballyreagh	25 00
Total			248 50

Gold was then worth \$6 89-100 per one pound sterling; \$248 50c., £36 0s 2d.

Subscribers will please take notice that the above amount was forwarded by me (per draft on the Royal Bank of Ireland) to the Rev THOMAS KEARNEY, PP, and received by him on the 2nd August, 1869.

Respectfully,
JOHN M'DONNELL
New York, Sept 12, 1870

Founding of the Parochial House

In Father Coyle's time, short histories of the parish were published on the back of the bulletins, the following is about the parochial house:

"The priests of this parish, Parish Priests as well as Curates, lived in rented houses or rooms in different parts of the parish until Fr McDonnell erected the Parochial House in 1895/96. Fr Walsh lived where Cornelius Boyle now lives [Drumaroan]. Fr Kearney lived where Dan Jamieson now lives. Fr McDonnell lived in the lawn where Mrs Butler lives. Fr Moore while CC here lived in McKinley's on the hill. Fr Storey lived part of his time here at a house in the Quay...[Fr McDonnell] was anxious to procure the required ground in the field above the road on a level with the Church, but as that was not available he was offered the plot on which the Parochial House now stands, which he purchased from James McLean for £40...On Monday 7th October 1895 the first stone of the Parochial House was laid."

J.J. McDonnell of Belfast was the architect, while Mr McMichael was the contractor. In total the building cost around £1700, *"In a letter dated 8th October 1897, the Bishop, Most Rev Dr Henry, gave permission to Fr McDonnell to go on a public appeal to all the parishes of the Diocese to raise funds to pay off the heavy debt contracted in erecting the new Parochial House, in enlarging the cemetery, and in renovating and enlarging the Church."* Father McDonnell from Ballybrack, Cushendall, extended the graveyard by an acre and enclosed it with a wall, as well as buying the various Priest's Fields. The report on his funeral in April 1901 mentions that he had *"purchased sites of new parochial schools. He had plans prepared, the stones, sand, and lime laid down, and everything ready to commence the work"*.²⁵ However, the only plans found were for The Row School in Ballyreagh Upper.

The old hall at the back of the Parochial House was used as a school while Barnish Primary was being built, with Father Matthew

Dillon responsible for the current hall in 1982.

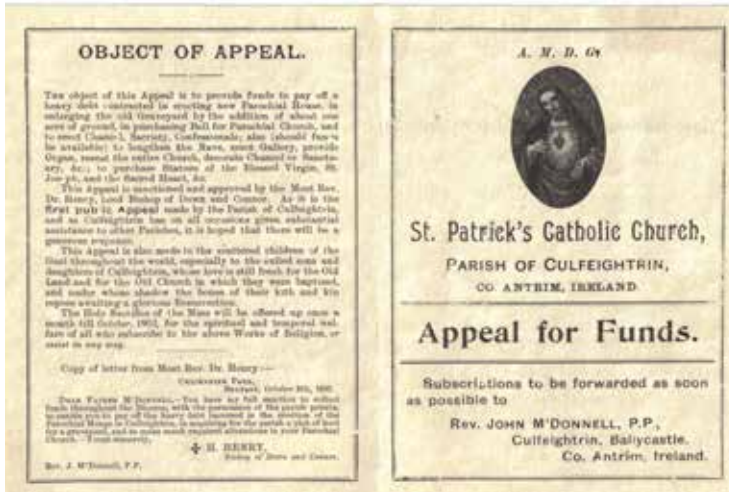
The stone built into the altar is inscribed as follows in Latin:

*Fr Bonaventure Boylan
ordinis Sti. Francisci me
feri fecit Anno Dominii
1725.*

It was originally in the Friary in Bun na Margai, but was taken to the Friars' refuge in Ardagh (Glenshesk) around the 1530s, after the Dissolution of the Monasteries by the King of England, Henry VIII. Cahal Dallat included the story of how it came to be in Barnish in his bicentennial history of the parish:

"Fr John Conway, PP, Ramoan, was attending an old woman, who was sick, in Ardaghmore, Glenshesk, when he noticed a square stone propping up the window. The old woman said she had found it near the river, and Fr Conway examined the stone and found that there was an inscription on it... the old woman gave the stone to Fr Conway. He requested Peter Dallat (this writer's father) install

25 1901 – Death of Rev John M'Donnell, P.P., Culfeightrin. *Coleraine Chronicle*, April 27.



John McDonnell's appeal for funds.



John McDonnell's appeal for funds.

it in the Sacred Heart altar in St Patrick's and St Brigid's Church, Ballycastle. When the Cross and Passion Convent in Ballycastle due to open, Canon Bernard Murphy, PP, was anxious to purchase an altar stone for the Convent chapel when Peter Dallat told him that the stone from Bunamargy was on the Sacred Heart altar. The Canon told him that he must be daft, but having put it there, Peter insisted that the Canon should have another look. The stone was transferred to Cross and Passion Convent, and when the convent closed, the altar stone from Bunamargy was given to Fr Coyle, PP Culfeightrin, for his church which he was currently renovating (1996).²⁶



Presumed to be Father Eardley after his renovations of 1909.



St Patrick's, February 2019.

Early Years of the Faughs:

The history of the hurling club has been well told in the centenary book, so below are the two earliest team photographs.



1910 minor team, with Father Eardley and the Shield of the Heroes. The two men standing on either side are Hugh McCarry (Murlough) and Pat Moore. There are more faces than there were names in the centenary book, so I only recognise my own – Frank McCarry is standing to the right of Fr Eardley, and Joe McCarry is second from the right on the bottom step. To his right is a member of the Hunter family.



1904: First hurling team photo from the 1904 Feisna nGleann.

Back Row: Alexander and John McBride (Cross), Alexander McKinley (Ballyreagh Upper), Dan McCarry (Murlough), John McDonnell (Ballyreagh Upper), Dan Lamont, John Lynn (Ballyvoy); **Middle Row:** James McAllister (Glenmakeeran), Hugh McCormack (Ballyvennaght), Paddy Butler, James McCarry (Murlough), Paddy Lynn (Ballyvoy), Dan Gillan (Losset), Neil McNaughton (Ballyvoy); **Front Row:** Patrick McCarry (Murlough), Frank Black, Patrick Moore (Co Kerry).



Ellen Jamieson's 100th birthday in 1971. Ellen and family are in the 1901 and 1911 Censuses for Barnish.

Hurling in the Glens

(published in the Emmet Review, 1976)

North Antrim league match against the Brian Boru's, Glendun,
on the 17th July 1906

Ye gallant Gaels of Antrim Glens,
Whose hearts are true as steel,
Who patronised on Sunday last,
The hurling at Loughgiel,
Just give me your attention,
And you will hear without delay,
How the Carey Faugh-a-ballach,
From the Brians ran away.

The Hurling League it has been formed,
In Antrim's lovely glens,
For to promote, our Irish sports,
And revive our ancient games,
A match it has been ordered,
Upon the hurling field,
With the Carey boys against Glendun,
For the Glens of Antrim Shield.

At three o'clock it was arranged,
The ball should be thrown in.
The Carey boys appeared in time,
Their struggle to begin,
But Glendun boys had no such luck,
For coming on the way,
Their brake broke down and this mistake,
Had caused them much delay.

Hundreds did assemble,
All eager for the fun,
And anxiously they awaited,
On the boys from Cushendun.
An hour had passed, and then at last,
News came to the field,
That the Glendun boys had just arrived,
To fight, but not to yield.

Carey team then claimed the points,
Though they had not struck a ball,
Then the match it was awarded them,
By a man from Cushendall.
Carey being well supported,
By the "Swallow" and the "Brute", a-crying
Faugh-a-ballach! clear the way!
'Til you see us Carey shoot.

The Glendun boys came on the field
Though it was past the time.
They boldly marched to centre field,
And fell out into line
With their cammons on their shoulders,
They looked a gallant band,
Four square they stood to all their foes,
True Sons of Ireland.

Unto the Carey team then spoke,
Young Captain Bob McKay,
"I am sorry we have kept you waiting
But your mettle now we'll try,
Throw in the ball, we will rise or fall,
'Tis all to us the same,
And like true Irish sportsmen,
We will play this hurling game."

Then Captain Moore stood up and said,
"We will not break the rules.
If we have not the hearts of hurlers,
We haven't the brains of fools.
We won the match, and gained the points,
Already here today."
Then he turned and fled as his namesake
did,
From Derry Walls, away.

Here's a health to thy boys of Cushendun,
And likewise sweet Cushlake,
There's not a heart in all their team,
Was ever known to quake,
Their courage true, none can subdue,
It is plain for to be seen,
In the hurling field to none they yield,
In their stripes of red and green.



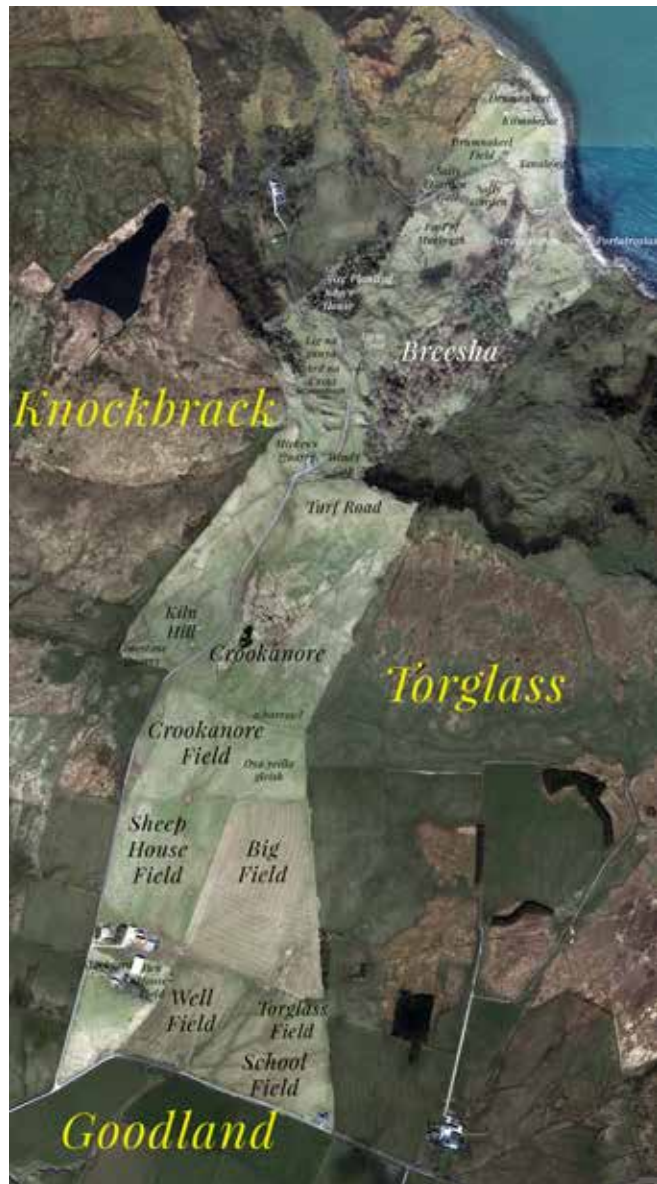
Dan McCarry Snr.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English Translation)

1. Ard-na-cross / Ard na gCros / The height of the cross;
2. Breesha / Brí Sí / Brae of the fairy mound;
3. Casnalough / Cosán an Locha / Lough path;
4. Crookanore / Cnoc an Óir/Cnocán odhar / The hill of gold/the pale hill;
5. Oya yeilla gleish / Uaigh Galach Ghlas / Green champion's grave;
6. Drumnakeel / Droim na Cille / Ridge of the church or graveyard;
7. Killemoiloge / Cill Molouag / The Church of St Moluag;
8. Lig-na-cross / Log na gCros / Hollow of the cross;
9. Lignagunya / Log na gCuinneog / Hollow of the churns;
10. Portatrostán / Port an Trostán / Port of the staff;
11. Sally Garden / Saileach / Garden of the willows;
12. Scroagalaran / Scrog an Lobhráin / Channel of the fetid place;
13. Tanalong / Tanaí Long / Shallow/dangerous water for ships;
14. Torglass Field / Tor Glas / Green, steep, rocky height;
15. Big field;
16. John's House;
17. Foot of Murlough;
18. Kiln Hill;
19. Limestone Quarry;
20. Mickey's Quarry;
21. School field;
22. Sheep house field;
23. The Cross;
24. The Windy Gap;
25. Turf Road;
26. Wee Planting;
27. Well field.

Big House is one of the quarterlands of Ballyucan, along with Knockbrack, Goodland, and Tor Glas. Ballyucan is of 'uncertain origin' but possible versions are Baile úcaire (the townland of the thistles), and Baile Eochagáin (Eochagán's townland).¹ None of the four modern townland names would be used to describe the area, usually just Ballyucan (above the Torr Road), Murlough (below the cliff), and Benvan (Bhinn Bhán - the white peak). The 1654 Down Survey map overleaf shows the extent of Ballyucan, the town itself is in Goodland (see the Goodland chapter for the Magee Village).

The McGee of 1669 must be the Magees from Islay mentioned in the Goodland chapter. The McNeills of 1734 are the family of Lachlan McNeill of Ballyucan, who married Jane Ismay MacNaghten of Benvardin in the early 1700s. Jane's mother was a Stafford, this is mentioned later in this chapter. One son was Neill McNeill of

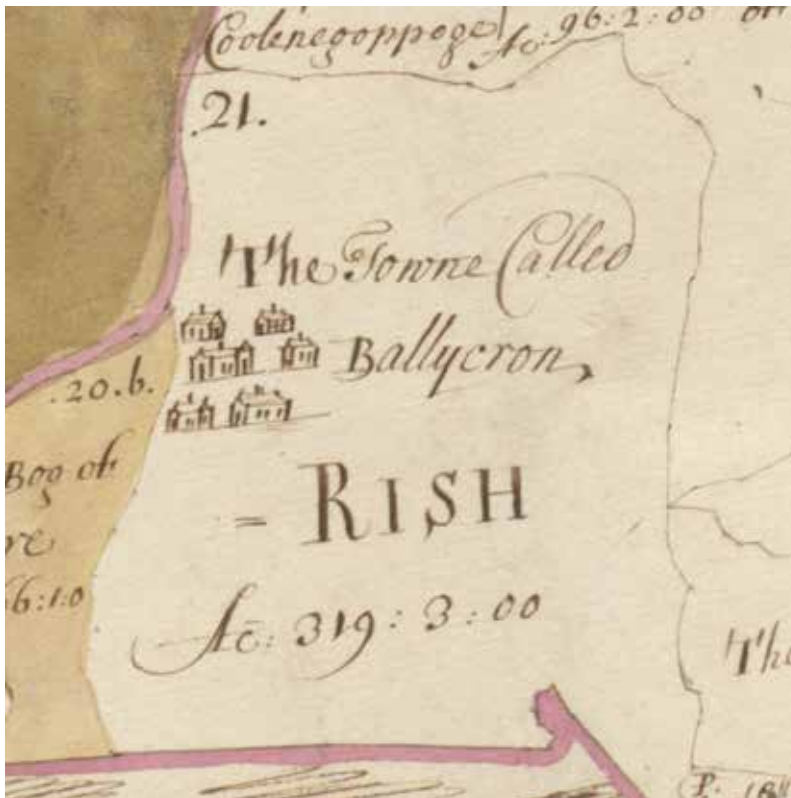


Families

- 1669:**² Askelly, McBreed, McCreig, McGee, McKenna, McMullard.
- 1734:**³ Buttler, Darragh, Kerr, McAuley, McCollum, McCormick, McNeill, O'Lunchan, O'Scallie, O'Sheal, O'Vickan.
- 1803:**⁴ Black, Hagin, McCormick, McDonnell, McNeill, O'Neill, Scally.
- 1831:** Clark, McCambridge, Scully.
- 1861:** Black, Connor, McFarland.
- 1901:** Black (& nephew Christie, worker McNeill).
- 1911:** Black.
- 2018:** Black, McCarry.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 172).
3 Ballyucan.

2 Ballyiquan.
4 Ballyyokin.



'The Towne called Ballycron', Down Survey 1654.

13 LAMBS BY AUCTION.
 TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, in Lots to suit Purchasers, at BALLYUCAN, near BALLYCASTLE, on WEDNESDAY, 19th instant, at TWELVE o'clock, Noon.



SEVENTY first-rate LEICESTER SEWE LAMBS, all bred from Ewes of the best description, purchased at Ballinasloe, in 1845, and pure bred Leicester Rams from England, which obtained the First Prize, for several years, at the Ballycastle Farming Society's Cattle Show.

Also, **SEVENTY CHEVIOT EWE LAMBS**, bred from superior Cheviot Ewes, imported from Scotland.

The above are well worth the attention of Stock Farmers desirous to improve their flocks.

ANGUS MARTIN.
 Ballyucan, near Ballycastle,
 7th August, 1846. (732)

Coleraine Chronicle, 1846.

Cushendun, another was Dr Alexander McNeill of Drumadoon, and their nephew was Neill Buidhe McNeile of Colliers' Hall. Lachlan's will, dated 1732, asked that he be buried in the 'Abby of Margi'. Everything was to go his son Neill, after Lachlan's widow had died, unless she remarried, 'then I desire my son Neal to take out of her hands all my effects together with my house and furniture, and to pay her yearly the just sum of £15 together with one room and closet in my house of Ballyucan'. Lachlan awarded his daughter Aleen some of the best furniture 'as she and her mother may agree', and his second best horse, we presume Jane got the best horse, unless she remarried. His last request was that at least 1,000 sheep should be kept in Ballyucan to pay the rent so they must have had most of the four quarterlands. Lachlan's father, Neill Buidhe McNeill, was from Tirfeargus (Argyll) and Losset (Islay), and settled in Antrim, probably Cushendun, around 1676.

One name missing from the list is Angus Martin, who was living in

Ballyucan in the 1840s. He was an agent for the McGildowneys. A man Martin was remembered in Benvan. May McCloy (née Stewart) *'did say that a man whose surname was Martin lived at Big House & was hired by*

a McDonnell as bailiff... apparently he was a nasty character'. He must have lived below the *Sheep House Field*, as this is the only house on the 1832 map other than the Blacks. In 1876 Robert Morrow of Glenmakeeran

said that Martin was back in Scotland, near Campbeltown, and in his eighties.⁵

Old Ballyucan Headstones

O'Scally 1824 (Bun na Margai)

MICHEAL O SCALLY'S
Burying Ground of
Ballyucan. Here lieth
the body of his daughter
MARGRET O SCALLY
who departed this life
on the 27th May 1824
Aged 17 years.



McCambridge 1825 (Barnish)

ERECTED
To the Memory of John M'
CAMBRIDG, late of Ballyucan,
who departed this life the 9
December 1825, Aged 76 years.
Also his wife BRIDGET M'CAM
BRIDG died the 19 Dec 1825
Aged 73 years there Son
ARCHIBALD Also died on the
16th March 1825 Aged 51 years
JAMES McCAMBRIDG
died 1st NOVEMBER 1888
Aged 58 years



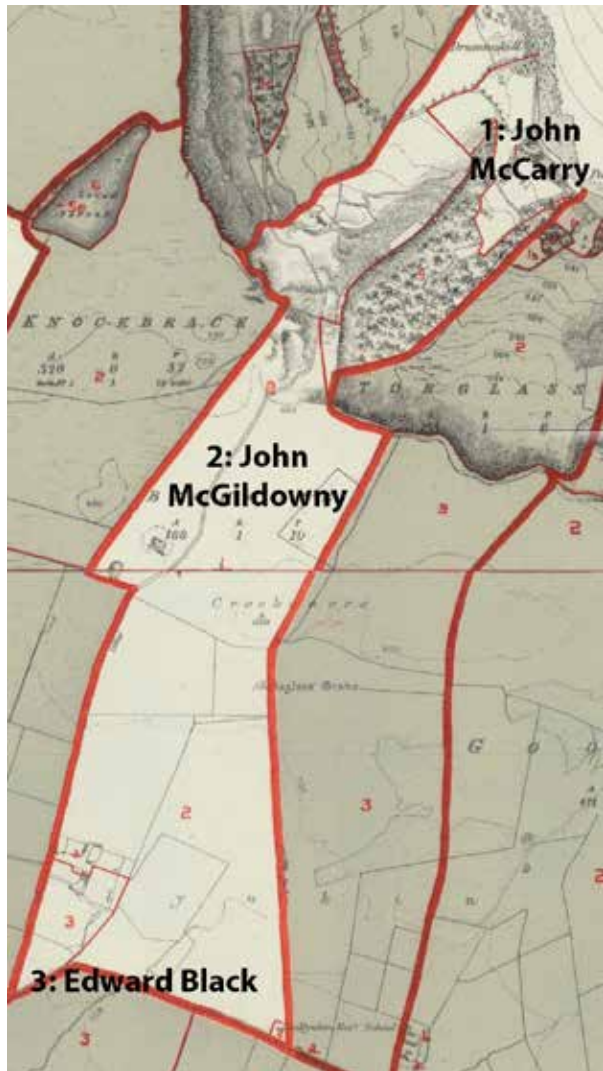
Martin 1861 (Ballynaglogh)

ERECTED
BY ENEAS MARTIN OF
Ballyucan to the memory of
his beloved wife
CATHRINE MARTIN who
departed this life in the year
of our Lord in 1861
Aged 58 years.

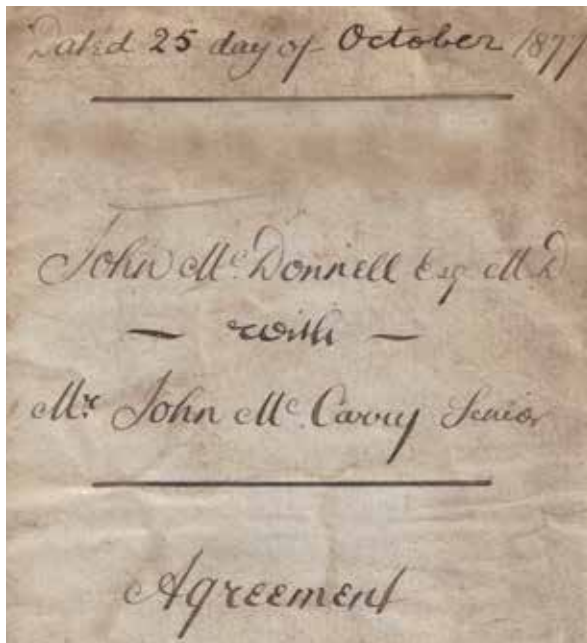


1861: Archibald McFarland and Patrick Connor lived in Pat McCarry Senior's yard. After McGildowny gave up the lease around 1876, John McCarry took the ground on an annual basis. The Breesha plantation was then held by the McDonnell landlords.

Some of the sites identifiable from the OSM (1838) show that McCambridges had the ground before John McGildowny. We do not have any information on them, other than an old story of boxing between McCarrys and McCambridges if they ever met in Ballycastle during the Lammass Fair.



Big House Farms, 1861 Griffith's Valuation.



John McCarry's lease of Big House, 1877.



1903, Pat McCarry, Joseph Warwick Bigger, Hugh McCarry.



1903, the small boy on left Frank McCarry, Fr Patrick Magill in the background. The two younger men working on the left are Hugh and Pat McCarry, the older man standing up and younger man to his right are Murlough Clarkes, the small boy on the right is Joseph Warwick Bigger.



Dan McCarry (Murlough & Ballylig) and the 1929 Cross.

Ard-na-cross is marked on the 1903 OS, and mentioned in geological surveys in the 1920s⁶ and 1950s, however Pat McCarry Sr had not heard of it. It might be the original name of the current cross site; the OSM records that there used to be an ancient stone cross there until

strangers pushed it down the hill and it was lost.⁷ It is thought the 1903 cross was related to the Gaelic Revival in the Glens, and that it was put up the same summer the hurling club was founded, with F.J. Bigger, founder of the Feis na nGlenn, involved. It was replaced in 1929 by a stone cross

made by McAfees of Ballymoney, erected for the centenary of the Catholic Emancipation. It was inscribed:

i ndíl cúimne
Rev Patrick Magill,
F.J. Bigger, Patrick
McCarry,
Roger Casement.

The stone cross lasted until 1957, when the top was blown off in revenge for some 'national activities' at the RAF station in Torr. The stone cross lay broken until the base was removed in 2001, and finally replaced by McCarrys in 2015 with a replica of the 1903 edition.

Breasha is the main planting in the middle of Murlough of the McDonnell landlords from Cill Mhór (Cushendall). Its true name is a mystery; *Brí Sí* is more of a guess, although Lizzie McCarry (Pat, Gerard, and Frankie's aunt) used to tell stories about fairies in the planting. *Cnoc an Óir* is the hill opposite the top lime kiln, although pale is a better description than gold. The OSM describes a cross 'sunk in a hard whinstone' on *Cnoc an Óir*: 'the stone on which it is cut was removed from its original berth some years back,

6 Wright, WB (1924: 72) *The Geology of the Ballycastle Coalfield, Co Antrim. Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Ireland*. The Stationery Office: Dublin.

7 OSM pg 58.

*in consequence of which the cross is now seen lying on its side.*⁸ No sign of the cross can be found today, so it has either been removed, destroyed, or perhaps, is now face down. There is also thought to be a small barrow (raised earth over a grave) below *Cnoc an Óir*.⁹

Oya yeilla gleish is described in the OSM, as a giant's grave then in the holding of Archibald McCambridge. An Englishman called Worthington was ploughing the field, and intended to take the grave with him. A McCormick leading the plough told him not to, and the Englishman replied that *'if the Devil, much less the green champion or any other giant, was in that grave, he would tare it up by the plough'*.¹⁰ The plough hit the grave, the horses fell, Worthington went mad and started eating the horse dung, and McCormick was struck blind. Pat McCarray Sr said that he was told a similar story by his father Frank when he was a young boy; the lesson

being to stay out of the road of the Green Champion's Grave. The site is also marked in the 1861 maps as "Gillaglass' Grave", referring to the *gall óglaigh* (foreign warriors) hired from Scotland by the local Gaelic clans up until the seventeenth century. The *gall óglaigh* would have been giants of the time, usually around a foot taller than the average man, but not as big as the Ballyucan giants of children's stories who threw stones at the giant of Tor. The *Mearógáí* (finger stones) in West Torr were said to be the stones thrown back from Torr by a giant that wasn't quite giant enough to reach Ballyucan.¹¹ *Oya yeilla gleish* measures approximately 35 feet long by 9 feet wide, and, despite the above stories, it's rather unimaginatively described by the archaeologists as *'too damaged to classify'*.¹²

The origins of the church at *Droim na Cille* are not known, except for a mention in the 1615 Ledger Book of Down & Connor as being *'usurped a long time'* by St Fiachra's

in Churchfield. It's possible that St Mologe is an alternate spelling of St Moluag, a noble of the Dál nAraide in the sixth century, who was educated in Bangor under St Comgall. St Moluag was a contemporary of St Columba of the Dál Riata, and became an Apostle of the Picts and the Patron Saint of Argyll. It is said that St Moluag founded over 100 monasteries and three colleges in Pictland and is buried on the Isle of Lismore, off the coast of Appin in Western Scotland. The derivations of St Moluag include Luan, Moloag, Molluog and Murlach, all names which have been variously attributed to *Kilmologe* over the years. There are also numerous Kilmoluags (and all the various spellings) on Skye, Mull, and other parts of Scotland, with a similar story regarding a St Moloac, or St Moloc of Mortlach. However, this version doesn't match with the local story of St Mologe¹³ being buried at the north end of the church, the stone said to be his headstone was there until the 1950s.

8 OSM pg 58.

9 SM7-ANT-009-178.

10 OSM pg 56.

11 OSM pg 77.

12 SM7-ANT-009-018.

13 Forbes, A. (1923: 224-5) *Placenames of Skye and Adjacent Islands*. Alexander Gardner Ltd: Paisley.



The square stone said to be St Mologe's headstone is to the right between Frankie McCarry and Arthur Devlin.

Frances Duncan (née McCarry) remembered having to kneel and pray as a child, at a mound of earth she was told was an old church. She didn't believe it was a church until a party of Carey folk excavated the site between the 1959 and 1960 Casement Sundays. The church as it currently looks is what they revealed once the clay was stripped away, however, the digging soon stopped when it was discovered that the ground was also a cillín (trans: little graveyard, used for burying

unbaptised babies). Surrounding the church is the old graveyard, of which the OSM records that *'the most visible now in the place are the graves of strangers, also of stillborn and unbaptised children, as the latter classes only are buried in the place for a series of past years'*.¹⁴ On the west entrance to *Droim na Cille* were said to be two caves in the rocks, however these cannot be found today. The OSM presumed the caves had some connection to the graveyard, as *'Where small fertile spots occur*

among the rocks are also to be found some traces of ancient graves'.¹⁵ When Casement sat under the lone tree it was one of three at the church, best guess being that it's over 160 years old. The font is still in situ, although the ancient cross vanished in living memory. Emigrants leaving after the Famine were said to have taken a handful of soil from the church before heading to the steamers in Derry and onto the United States, while the McCormicks held the cure using earth from the church.

14 OSM pg 57.
15 OSM pg 57.



The three trees at Drumnakeel, there is a distinctive kink in the one closest to the church. This photo is 110-120 years old, and it had already developed at this stage. Courtesy of National Library of Ireland.



Drumnakeel Cross in situ c.1900.
BELUM.Y.W.01.56.35 Murlough Bay from Drumnakill Point
with weathered stone cross © National Museums NI.

Pat McCarry Sr remembered the remnants of an old slipway on the rocks at *Tanalong*. Above the *Scroagaloran* is a wallstead for which no information can be found (lobhráin can refer to the smell of stagnant water). The 1832 OS Map seems to show an extensive garden around it, and there remains part of a stone wall significantly grander than one needed to keep sheep out.

The *Foot of Murlough* is the single limestone rock above the first turn in the road below the *North Gate*. The drills above the *Foot of Murlough* can be seen from the *North Gate*, under the shadows cast by the rising sun. The *Wee Planting* is a hotchpotch of trees first planted by Hugh McCarry Sr (Pat Sr's grandfather), and the wallstead within it is his father John's first residence. It's not known who *Mickey's Quarry* is named after, though it is a small dolerite quarry where flints and Neolithic pottery were found in the 1930s.¹⁶ Pat Sr remembered Grays of Antrim removing timber from *Breeshá*, with the aid of a big steam engine anchored at *Mickey's Quarry*. A wire rope ran down the hollow into the planting, and two Clydesdales were used to pull up the trees to meet the rope. Pat was of the era of cutting down trees in *Breeshá* with two-man saws. I said to him once

I'd one of the saws in the garage if he wanted a look, "I've seen enough in my time" was the reply.

Tor Glas Field and the *School Field* were knocked into one by Pat in years gone by. There is thought to be an old photograph of 40 men thinning turnips in the *School Field* that we were unable to find. In the corner of the *School Field* is the former Ballyucan National School, which closed in the mid-1970s. There are a few stories about the pupils making a general nuisance of themselves over the years, they're all harmless, but when you're a small child they sound more of a big deal. The *School Field* was the site of the lunchtime hurling matches, one day a gale was blowing, so a decision was made to pretend the bell couldn't be heard in the teeth of the wind. The Master made another few attempts to call the boys in and then gave up. After about an hour, the ringleader said "I suppose we'll have to go in and face the music." The Master's car usually got some attention. The boys realised they'd taken things too far on one occasion, when the car went down the road after school with the exhaust glowing red hot from a spud they'd stuck in the end of it, 'if the teacher was from the Town we hated him'.

Black:

Most of the Blacks' ground is in Knockbrack, with only the *Hen House Field* and the *Stackyard* named in Big House. The first Black we found living in Big House was Edmond in 1861, while a John Black had land somewhere in Goodland in 1831, and Brine Black lived in Knockbrack in 1803.

The original 'big house' is said to be in the yard of Edmond Black of 1861, and was possibly that of the Magee brothers



The cross in 1923 with Nora Stendall, daughter of the President of the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club.



The church in 1960 after being dug out. On the left of the church are the musicians James, Francis Jr, and Francis McPeake Sr. The man in white with the camera beside the flag should be Patsy Hill of Ballycastle.

(see Goodland chapter), or one of their sept, Henry Stafford. Stafford's story is outlined in the OSM.¹⁷ He was ordered back to Scotland for his involvement with the Hearts of Steel, the Protestant land agitators of the early 1770s. Stafford was

found to be hiding weapons in the house, and was tried and sentenced to death in Carrickfergus, however, on the intervention of Colonel Boyd of Ballycastle, the sentence was commuted to banishment. The OSM mentions Stafford having an extensive mansion house, at that time in the holding of Michael Scally. The mansion was in ruins by the 1830s but the two and half feet thick walls were still standing, and the local memory was it had been thatched with heather. It's possible that Stafford's mansion is the ruin at the bottom of Breesha

mentioned earlier, however, as we don't know which part of Big House belonged to Michael Scally in the 1830s, it's hard to be sure. The OSM mentions a partially removed souterrain below a dwelling on Michael Scally's holding, no trace of one was found at Scally's house in Goodland, but it may well refer to another site somewhere in Ballyucan.¹⁸ The OSM also records two standing stones opposite Dr McDonnell's plantation,¹⁹ one is built into the boundary fence below the *Hen House Field*, but the second has never been located.²⁰



Sheep dipping at Black's yard c.1900. HOYFM.WAG.1945 Sheep Dipping, Co. Antrim © National Museums NI.

Ballyucan School:

John Henry Cullen was the teacher as early as 1884,²¹ and in 1893 Mr and Mrs Cullen, along with Miss McHenry, took the Coleraine Teachers' Association on a jolly to Murlough, with Mr Cullen providing the music on the fiddle.²²

Ballyucan School (along with Rathlin) was described in 1901 as being under 'Protestant management',²³ presumably this is what led to 'The Ballyucan School Affair' scandal of 1914. Master Patrick Moore appears to have replaced John Cullen by 1904.²⁴ Moore was involved

18 SM7-ANT-009-106. 19 OSM pg 52.

20 SM7-ANT-009-128.

21 Morgan (2006: 107).

22 1893 – Excursion of the Coleraine Teachers' Association – *National Teacher & Irish Education Journal*, June 30.

23 1901 – Ballycastle School Attendance Committee – *Coleraine Chronicle*, June 22.

24 1904 – Educational Conference at Ballycastle – *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 9.

in founding the hurling club in Carey, and in 1907 refereed a match between McQuillans of Ballycastle and Brian Boru's of Cushendun, in Ballyucan in the North Antrim League.²⁵ Pat was the North Antrim Chairman at the time, Father Magill was also a Carey referee at the time. Pat Moore also acted as the time-keeper for one of Ballycastle weightlifter Anthony McKinley's world record attempts.²⁶ In 1909 a Mr English and Miss McKeivitt were the Ballyucan teachers.²⁷ In 1928 the school, along with Ballyverdagh, was described as '*unfit for pigs to live in let alone children*', and it was recommended that it be replaced with two new schools at Drumadoon and Drumnakeel.²⁸ Conditions cannot have been as bad as the Inspector thought, as the school survived until the mid-1970s. The list of teachers was given as follows: Sally Osborne (née McGrath),

Mary McDonnell (née McErlain) (Principal in Feb 1944), Kathleen McCarry (Murlough), John Duffin (Ballycastle), and two male teachers named McCambridge and Whyte.²⁹ Our researchers were only able to find three school photos, so if anyone reading this has any others you know what to do. The 1921 photograph is courtesy of a member of the Hunter family from Ballyucan; the only identifiable children were Bob and Tina Hunter. Bob is the boy standing in front of the teacher, while Tina is four girls to his left. Their brother James might be the boy last on the right in the front row. In the 1924 photo, the female teacher is Miss McDonnell. The only children identified are John Hunter of Ballyucan, third boy on the left in the back row; his sister Tina standing in front of them; and their brother Bob standing beside the male teacher to Tina's left. The boy



Ballyucan School c.1921 - This photo is courtesy of a member of the Hunter family from Ballyucan, the only identifiable children were Bob and Tina Hunter. Bob is the boy standing in front of the teacher, while Tina is four girls to his left. Their brother James might be the boy last on the right in the front row.



Ballyucan School c.1924 - The female teacher is Miss McDonnell. The only children identified are John Hunter of Ballyucan, third boy on the left in the back row; his sister Tina standing in front of them; and their brother Bob standing beside the male teacher to Tina's left. The boy standing in front of Miss McDonnell might be Willie Gillan of Losset, who often stayed with his Stewart cousins in Benvan. The last boy on the right of the front row might be a McKeague of Drumadoon.

25 1907 – North Antrim GAA – *Irish News & Belfast Morning News*, June 7.

26 1908 – Ballycastle & District Notes – *Coleraine Chronicle*, November 21.

27 1909 – His Lordship Most Rev Dr Tohill At Culfeightrin. Confirmation Conferred – *Irish News & Belfast Morning News*, September 7.

28 1928 – New Schools for North Antrim – *Northern Whig*, January 13.

29 Morgan (2006: 107).

standing in front of Miss McDonnell might be Willie Gillan of Losset, who often stayed with his Stewart cousins in Benvan. The last boy on the right of the front row might be a McKeague of Drumadoon.



Ballyucan School c.1939.

Back Row: Paddy McFall (Ballyucan), Seamus Kane (Ballyvennaght), John Butler (Ballyreagh), John McDonnell (Dunmakelter), Hugh McCarry (Murlough), Ronnie Duncan (Ballyucan), Paddy Lynn (Ballyvennaght), Dessie Butler (Ballyreagh), Frankie McCarry (Murlough); **2nd Row:** Maureen Kane (Ballyvennaght), Jeannie & Kathleen Black (Ballyvennaght), Briege Duncan (Ballyucan), Eileen Fisher (Dunmakeltar), Mary Lynn (Ballyvennaght), Mary McMullan (Ballyvennaght), Josie McNeill (Ballyvennaght); **3rd Row:** Phonsie Kane (Ballyvennaght), Mary Butler (Craigfad), Kathleen McCarry (Murlough), Rita Butler (Ballyreagh), Monica McCarry (Murlough), Vera Dillon (Ballypatrick), Annie Black (Ballyvennaght), Alex Lynn (Ballyvennaght), DP Black (Ballyvennaght); **Front Row:** Pat McCarry (Murlough), Sean Butler (Craigfad), Patrick McNeill (Ballyvennaght), John McNeill (Ballyvoy).

The Ballyucan School Affair (1914):

The allegation made was that the Carey parish priest, Father Eardley, forced the school out of the management of William Dobbs McDonnell, the landlord in Murlough at the time, and forced Master Moore out along with him. Peter Kerr-Smiley would go on to be the Unionist candidate for North Antrim in the 1918 UK General Election, with Pat McCarry of Murlough the (old) Sinn Féin candidate: "A remarkable case of alleged Nationalist intolerance, not in the South or West of Ireland, but in the centre of Ulster, will be mentioned by Mr Kerr-Smiley in the House of Commons tomorrow. The honourable member will ask Mr Birrell whether in the recent past Mr MacDonnell, patron of Ballyucan National School, in the County of Antrim, retired from its management in favour of the parish priest of Culfeightrin, and in consequence of threats that the school would be boycotted by that cleric if the patron persisted in managing it, though the school, an attached endowment, and a residence and farm for the teacher, were provided by the

MacDonnell family; if the new manager superceded the existing teacher, thereby compelling him to emigrate; and if the Commissioners of National Education have taken any, and if so what, steps to prevent the repetition of such an injustice in the future."³⁰

The response to Kerr-Smiley's question from Birrell was as follows: "The Commissioners of National Education inform me that Mr W.D M'Donnell, who was joint manager, but not patron, of the Ballyucan School, resigned in March, 1909, and the parish priest of Culfeightrin was recognised in April, 1909, as manager on the nomination of the Misses M'Donnell, who were the patrons. The Commissioners are not aware of any such threats as those referred to. The teacher resigned from 31st March, 1909 – that is, before the parish priest was recognised as manager."³¹

Birrell's answer brought the following response from 'One That Knows': "I have read with astonishment the reply which the Chief Secretary gave to Mr Kerr-Smiley regarding the above affair. Here is a plain unvarnished history of

the case. The school was founded and endowed by the Macdonnells. A Roman Catholic teacher was always retained, but the clerics demanded the management when there was little prospect of this being granted, a rival school under priestly control was threatened. Eventually, yielding to pressure, the patronesses appointed the parish priest manager. The last teacher, Mr Moore, was passed by when the school came under sacerdotal control, and a teacher was appointed as if Mr Moore were dead. At that time it was a law of the Board that on a change of manager, appointments lapsed by a change of law, managers are obliged to reappoint teachers in office on the occasion of their advent to power. Mr Moore was obliged to emigrate. A number of his co-parishioners accompanied him to Coleraine. Along the way some of them waxed eloquent about the sacerdotal domination that compelled a Roman Catholic teacher to leave his native land for the dreadful crime of having taught under a lay manager. They also discussed the propriety of organising a society to resist priest-rule,

30 1914 – Our London Letter – *Belfast News Letter*, April 8.

31 1914 – Management of a County Antrim School – *Belfast News Letter*, April 16.

but nothing came of the suggestion. The innocence of the Education Office is very touching. It would appear that by 'resignation' the Tyrone House officials mean dismissal."³²

At this point William Dobbs McDonnell stepped in to correct all of the above: "As former lay manager of the Ballyucan National School, will you allow me to correct two statements in the 'plain unvarnished history of the case' given by your correspondent who subscribes himself 'One That Knows'. (1) It was not to my certain knowledge the 'threat of a rival school under priestly control' or 'prepure' of any kind that induces the patronages of the school to appoint the parish priest manager; (2) it was not, to the best of my belief, 'the dreadful crime of having taught under a lay manager' that prevent the re-appointment of Mr Moore on his appointment lapsing owing to the change of management."³³ After this there is no more correspondence on the case, leaving questions unanswered. William

Dobbs' sisters were the last of the McDonnell landlords in Murlough, and sold up during the Land Purchases in the 1930s.

Casement Sundays:

I couldn't go past Murlough without mentioning Casement Sundays. Anyone under a certain age will find this hard to believe, but in the 1950s and 1960s Casement Sunday was the biggest day of the year in Carey, with the reports and photographs often on the front page of the Irish News. I've enough on them to write another book, but the short version is as follows:

In 1995 Frankie McCarry (Murlough & Dunmakeltar) wrote the following on the founding of the annual commemoration on the first Sunday of August at 3pm: "At the beginning of the year 1953, a few of us associated with the Carey Faughs GAC decided that in order to promote the idea of Irish Nationalism in our area, we would, rightly or wrongly, light a bonfire on Croc an Óir at the top of Murlough. Among

that group was the late Eamonn McKeague, Seamus McBride, Dan Kane and myself. With the help of Seamus McBride's tractor, a large quantity of firewood was hauled up from Breeshie Plantation, down in Murlough. At around 9 o'clock on the evening of March 17th, in the presence of 50 or 60 people, the bonfire was lit. The late Pearse Dempsey was among the crowd and was persuaded to say a few words. At a meeting afterwards it was decided to form a branch of Conradh na Gaedhilge, and under that branch to honour our Irish patriot, Roger Casement, who was executed by the British for his part in the Rising in Dublin at Easter, 1916. So was laid the foundation of the first Casement Commemoration at Murlough in August 1953, and it has been held every year since."

In 1953, the first year of commemorations, the speakers were: An Taoiseach Éamon de Valera (keynote), Father Austin McNabb (Culfeightrin Parish Priest), Frank Aiken (Minister for External Affairs), Eddie

32 1914 – The Ballyucan School Affair – *Belfast News Letter*, May 5.

33 1914 – The Ballyucan School Affair – *Belfast News Letter*, May 9.

McAteer M.P. (Mid-Derry), Seán McBride (son of John McBride, executed in 1916), Dr Herbert Mackey, Cahir Healy M.P., Vincent O'Donoghue (then G.A.A. President), Sergeant Seán Kavanagh (from Casement's Irish Brigade in Germany). The president of the Gaelic League was also in attendance.

Thousands were in attendance from all over the Glens, however Belfast Republicans cut the microphone cable during de Valera's speech, as they held him responsible for the deaths of Republicans in the 1940s. For the first fifteen years the commemorations were generally a Nationalist event, with wreaths laid every year by Seán Stinson of the Antrim G.A.A., and Jim McCaughan (Glenshesk) or Séamus Clarke (publican on

Anne Street, Ballycastle, now O'Connor's) on behalf of the Casement Commemoration Committee (intermittently wreaths were laid on behalf of the Old IRA, Feis na nGleann, Gaelic League, and many others). The Ballycastle A.O.H. led the parade in 1958, while speakers in the early years included Dr Roger McHugh (National University, Dublin), Norah Connolly-O'Brien (James Connolly's daughter), Cahal O'Shannon, Eoin O'Mahony, Siobhán McKenna, Dinny McCullough, Eddie McAteer (Nationalist M.P.), Seán McCarthy T.D. (Lord Mayor of Cork), Prof Liam O Buachalla (Cathorleach Seanad Eireann), Alf Murray (G.A.A. President), Rory Brugha (Cathal Brugha's son), Roddy Connolly (James Connolly's son), Gerry Fitt M.P., Austin Currie M.P., Florence Monteith-

Lynch (Captain Monteith's daughter), Fiona Plunkett (Joseph Plunkett's sister), Paddy Kennedy M.P., and Julian Cayo-Evans (Free Wales Army).

Once the Troubles started, the speeches became less about Casement, and more about current politics, such as civil rights, the Provisional IRA split, and internment. The best example of this was in 1972. Casement Sunday was advertised as normal by the local Casement Commemoration Committee and Antrim G.A.A., but by Monday the *Irish News* reported on the news from Casement Park in Belfast. The British Army had occupied the pitch, and on the Sunday there was a 90 minute riot outside the ground. As you can probably tell, there's a much longer story starting that'll have to wait for another time!



Fr. McNabb, 2, Frank Aiken, Eddie McAteer, Éamon de Valera, Seán McBride, Dr Herbert Mackey, 8, 9, 10, 11.



1960 - The McPeake Trio, Belfast (James, Francis, & Francis Senior). They played the Lament of Aughrim, which Francis Senior had played in F.J. Bigger's house in 1910 at the request of Casement.



1962 - Dinny McCullough, Eddie McAteer, Siobhan McKenna, Seamus Clarke, Sean Stinson.



1964.



1969 – Bernadette Devlin M.P. giving the oration.



1966 - Sean Redmond of the Connolly Association and N.I. Civil Rights Association giving the oration. Betty Sinclair (NICRA) first on the left, P.J. O'Cleirigh far right with Séamus Clarke over his shoulder.

The Nave c.1900.

Fieldnames & Placenames

1. Circus Ring;
2. Dún Domhnaill Gorm;
3. Dún Raithní;
4. Friary;
5. Ice house;
6. Lach Aird na gCurach;
7. Miners' Path;
8. School House Field;
9. The Black Rock;
10. The Holm;
11. The House Field;
12. The Warren.



The first element of the name, bun, is common to placenames, referring to the end or foot of a landscape feature, usually a hill or river. The second (Margy) has a number of possible variations. The late Cahal Dallat wrote that it was likely to be derived from margadh (market), with the first reference to this ('the Abbey called Market town') dated 1568.

However Mac Gabhann argues that it is unlikely that margadh would be used in a topographical sense, putting forward a form of marg (boundary) as the origin of the name.¹

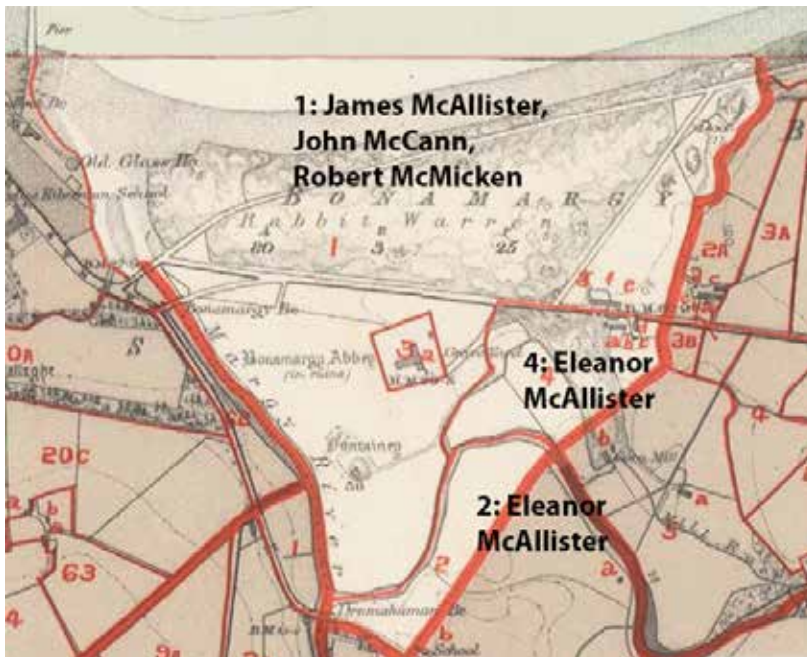
In 1861 what is now the golf course was split between James McAllister, John McCann, and Robert McMicken (who lived in Churchfield at the time).

All the houses then in the townland were on The Warren, between the Carrickmore Road end and Broughanlea. All the residents in the two Censuses were either farmers or domestic helpers, except for Daniel McKay in 1901, who was a basket maker, and Ellen McAlister in 1911, who was a seamstress.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 125-127).

Families

- 1669:** McAlister, McCleere, McCreest, McCurdy.
1734: Dimond, Erwin, O'Mullan, Trimell.
1803: McAlare, McAlester, McCaigh, McGile.
1831: Boyd, McAlister, McCay.
1861: Darragh, McAllister, McCann, McMicken, McMullen, Mullen.
1901: McAlister, Kelly, Law, McKay, Quigg.
1911: McAlister, Law.
2018: Boyle, Edwards, Gault, McAlister, Williams.



1861 Griffith's Valuation.

a straight line from the Margái Bridge to the car park at *The Black Rock*.⁴ *The Warren* is the most commonly used name for the area, recorded on the 1861 map as the Rabbit Warren.

Loughardigoragh is recorded on the 1654 map as a patch of ground between the townland of Bun na Margái and the sea: 'A Mossy Bog of Coragh'. It's likely to be some variant of Lach Aird na gCurach (lough of the high marsh). The English military reports from the sixteenth century describe the bay as more of a mudflat than today, mentioning the shallow harbour, which slowed the landing of supplies and reinforcements. Often men had to row out in smaller boats or wade out to meet larger ships.⁵

Fieldnames & Placenames:

The *Circus Ring* was the site of circus tents during the late nineteenth century, thought to be the circular green closest to the clubhouse. When the club first opened in 1890/1 the *Circus Ring*, by then disused, was mentioned as 'a most

unique hazard' on the new course.² The coastguard commander A.M. Causton was the driving force behind the opening of the course, and the club was one of the eight founder members of the Golfing Union of Ireland in 1891.³ The *Miners' Path* was a shortcut across the golf course, following

2 1891 - Golf. Ballycastle. *Belfast Newsletter*, Aug 27.

3 Andrews, J., Page, M. & Sheehan, T. (1990) *Ballycastle Golf Club 1890-1990*. Impact Printing: Ballycastle.

4 Danny Morgan.

5 1882 - Gleanings in Ramoan V. *Northern Whig*, May 20.

Bun na Margáí may also have been the old name for the harbour area of Ballycastle: "Margietown was always known among the Irish as Bun-na-Mairge, from the circumstance of its position at the mouth of the river. The Irish name still survives, but in comparatively modern days it has been incorrectly applied to the ruins of an old abbey which stood at a considerable distance from the original mouth of the Margie, and in the adjoining parish of Culfeightrin. In 1738 a new mouth was made for the river at a point

*much nearer the abbey, and since that date the name of the old town has perhaps been somewhat more appropriately transferred to it."*⁶

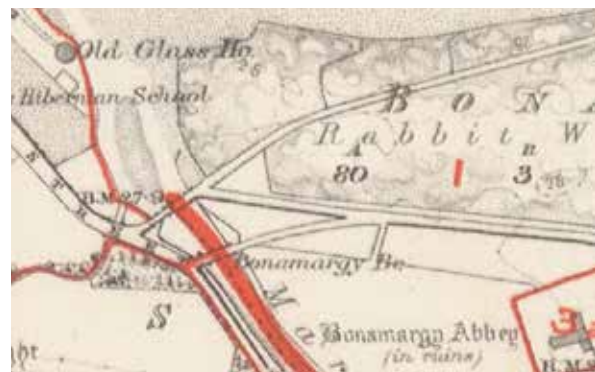
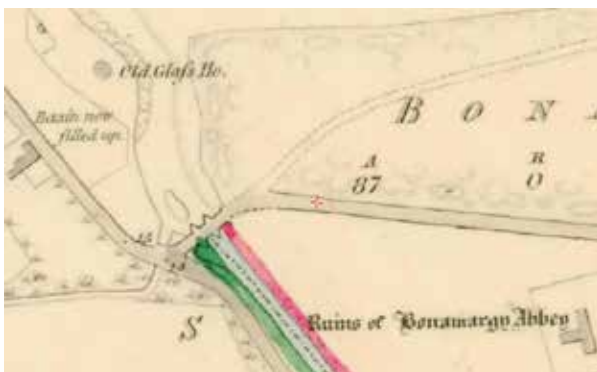
Boyd diverted the Margáí and Tow rivers when he was building Ballycastle harbour in 1738.⁷ O'Laverty wrote that the original course of the 'Shesk' (Glenshesk River) was east of *Dún Raithní*, and through part of the graveyard at the Friary.⁸ It's possible he meant that the Carey River continued northwest out of Broughanlea, as opposed to the current southwesterly course. This

would also fit with the story that there was once a burn running along the northern wall of the Friary Refectory, over which the Friars had their lavatory.

There is also an *ice house* recorded in the HEM in the south of the townland in the *School House Field*, referring to Drumahaman School. Usually man-made, ice houses were the predecessors of the refrigerator. Winter snow or ice would be stored inside and insulated with straw or sawdust, if stored properly lasting until the following winter.



Both photos c.1900, from the Lawrence Collection, National Library of Ireland, Dublin.



Bridges over the Margáí: c.1832 on the left, 1861 on the right.

6 1882 – Gleanings in Ramoan V. *Northern Whig*, May 20.
 7 Mac Gabhann (1997: 127).
 8 O'Laverty (1887: 418).

The OSM recorded that in 1810 Samuel Reid, who at the time was farming the ground, carted a great part of *Dún Raithní* (fort of ferns or bracken) away to spread on his fields.⁹ The Reverend George Hill also wrote that part of *Dún Raithní* was removed to fill in the inner dock, now the tennis courts, in Ballycastle:

*"A dirge for Dun-Rainey, the old fairy mound
That stood, oh how long, on the brink of the river;
So lonely, and yet so attractive – flower-crowned –
It seemed as if destined to stand there for ever!
But the rule desecrators have come with their spades,
And they toss it about us the commonest clay;
Untouched by its beauty, unawed by its shades,
They are carting our dear old Dun-Rainey away!*

*Could they think with what care it was piled long ago,
How religion had moulded its beautiful form –
How affection had watched for the verdure to grow,
And lingered around it in sunshine and storm!
Of all selfish sins it is surely the worst
To wield 'gainst Dun-Rainey spade, pickaxe, or plough;
Higher hopes had its brave Pagan builders at first
Than the Christians who wantonly scatter it now."¹⁰*



**CARRIG-USNACH, BUN-NA-MAIRGIE, AND DUN-RAINEY, BALLYCASTLE, CO. ANTRIM.
*From a drawing by John Vinycomb.***

Dún Raithní.

9 OSM pg 76.

10 Hill, G. (1895: 5) Dun-Rainey; Or, a Protest against the Destruction of sepulchral mounds in Ulster. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 2(1): 4-6.

Dún Dómhnall

Gorm:

The Reverend George Hill gave an extensive description of *Dún Dómhnall Gorm* in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* of 1859, it is above the car park at *The Black Rock*:¹¹

"On the road leading from Ballycastle to Fairhead, the way-farer, after having passed the ruins of Bun-na-Mairge, comes upon a place known in local phrase at The Dúns. These round green mounds, three in number, have hitherto been entirely overlooked by tourists; although, irrespective of their archaeological attractions, they offer perhaps the most favourable position in the whole district for obtaining a view of the magnificent scenery around...The position of Dun-Donnell Gorm differs widely from those occupied by other castellated piles on the coast. It is farther removed from the sea, and was originally designed not so much as a place of strength as to afford the necessary facilities for a family residence (and) occupied the three Dúns already mentioned, which stand just at the point where

the headland rises from the level plain formed by the expanding of Glenshesk near the sea... The first, on which the castle stood, is twelve perches in length and about seven broad. The second is twenty perches in circumference; and the third about twenty-five...The largest of the three consists principally of rock with a deep covering of soil; it stands nearest the sea, and is more inaccessible than the others. On its broad summit there formerly existed the remains of a building which was known traditionally as MacDonnell's House. Forty years ago a high dyke enclosed the summit all around. About three or four years since a new road was made, which passes close by these Dúns. Whilst constructing it, the workmen laid bare a remarkable grave, which probably had been the last resting-place of some ancient lord who held the castle. We quote the following interesting account of this grave from the letter of a lady resident in the immediate neighbourhood:-

'There was a mound over the grave some ten or twelve feet higher than the ground around

it. This the road-men required to level; and when they had cut about seven feet from the top they came upon a sand-stone pavement, the stones rudely, yet neatly enough dressed, but fitting perfectly to each other; below these was a vault, the side of which were paved in the same manner; it was six-and-a-half feet long, three feet wide, and two-and-a-half in depth; in it there was nothing found but bones, which were very brittle, and exceedingly large. As the whole affair had been pulled down, both the pavement and the bones lay upon the warren for many weeks, but were afterwards buried together. The other remains were found in the same tomb, beneath a large stone; they consisted to two querns, two hatchets, and a skene or sharp sword. One of the querns was broken, and the road-maker carried the other to his own house, where it was so much in the way that he sunk it in the floor of his kitchen. One of the hatchets was about six inches in length, the other scarcely so long; they were not of iron, but some composition resembling copper; they were dim, but not rusted. The sword was

of the same metal; it was at least a foot-and-a-half long, the little branches forming the hilt curving upwards and taking the shape of a fish's fin. The workmen also discovered near the tomb the entrance of a subterranean passage running into one of the mounds.'

One curious feature of these Dúns may be mentioned as contributing to their peculiarly beautiful appearance. Their sides are adorned with terraces similar to those which mark the mountain vineyards of the East, and throughout southern Europe. Indeed, their whole character impresses one with the belief that the Dúns were designed by their occupants as a family residence during peace. The two mounds adjoining that on which the castle stood were intended, no doubt, here, as in other places where similar remains exist, for the accommodation of household-men or guards, and also for the occasional entertainment of guests." ¹²

There were numerous Dómhnall Gorm Mac Domhnaills, but this appears likely to be a son of Séamas Mac Domhnaill of Dún Libshe (Dunluce), elder brother of Somhairle Buidhe. Dómhnall Gorm possessed the barony of Carey, granted to him at Dunluce Castle in a patent dated September 18 1584. He died in the Battle of Árd na Rí in Mayo in 1586.¹³ He and his brother Alasdair Carrach, who had been granted the barony of Glenarm, were hired as gall óglaigh by the Mac Philbín and de Búrca in their rebellion against the English. However, their camp was attacked at night, and the two brothers and their armies killed. Dómhnall Gorm had a son Dómhnall Óg, who then had a daughter, but further details are unknown. In addition to Dómhnall Óg, Dómhnall Gorm of Carey also had an uncle, two cousins, and two nephews of the same name.

The Friary:

The 1898 *Ulster Journal of Archaeology* Special

Edition on the history of the Friary has already been republished, there are a few more details to cover.

It is commonly accepted that Clann Mhic Uighilín (the McQuillans) founded the Friary in the 1480s for the Franciscan First Order, and then passed it on to the Third Order in 1500. There is a debate over this, it's thought the McQuillans of the Route weren't yet this far east, and the land belonged to the Mac Eoin Bissets of the Glens¹⁴ (the McDonnells married into the Bissets and took possession of the Glens). In addition, the earliest references to a religious building in the vicinity were from the fourteenth century,¹⁵ although this could mean that the McQuillans or Bissets repaired an existing religious building.

The OSM records two alternative stories on the founding of the Friary. The first attributes it to Félim na mBocht Mac Cormaic, as atonement for killing a neighbour,¹⁶ the second attributes it to Duncan McCormick

12 Hill (1859: 257-8).

13 McDonald, A. & McDonald, A (1904: 377-378) *The Clan Donald*, Vol III. The Northern Counties Publishing Company, Ltd: Inverness.

14 Pers Comms Thomas McErlan.

15 Mac Gabhann (1997: 127).

16 OSM pg 64-65.



The Nave c.1940, shortly after the Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society renovations, so it is presumed they also removed the altar. Its current whereabouts are unknown.



HOYFM.WAG.3885 Bonamargy Abbey, Ballycastle © National Museums NI. The nave c.1900. At this time the roof was still on the McDonnell Chapel, the altar in situ below the east window, while the graves can be seen within the body of the nave. The headstones were moved to the side of the nave by the Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society in the early 1930s, while they also took the slate roof off the McDonnell Vault.

of Dunmaceltar.¹⁷ William Butler of Watertop told the OSM he held a lease for Bun na Margai dated 1512, regarding Duncan McCormick who would build the Friary in 1555. This story was also separately recorded in the *Dublin Penny Journal* of 1833, where the Redshanks taking shelter in the Friary in 1550 were burnt out by the English. The Friary was then rebuilt five years later by 'Duncan, chief of the sept McCormic' and dedicated to Christ and St Francis.¹⁸ Lastly, Bell and McNeill wrote that the Friary took over the role of Culfeightrin Church from St Fiachra's in Churchfield, after the 1621 renovations, until a combination of Penal Laws of the 1720s and the collapse of the western gable in 1770.¹⁹ It was then replaced around 1800 by the present Catholic Church in Barnish.

In 1873 Reverend George Hill also made reference to an older McDonnell burial vault below the Friary (i.e not the 1621 vault), and that it was in this older vault that Somhairle Buidhe was originally buried, along with his children.²⁰



The Nave during dry weather in 2011. We know from letters that the Belfast Society laid some headstones flat and buried them, so it's presumed the scorch marks on the grass are these old headstones.

17 OSM pg 66-67.

18 M'Skimin, S. (1833) Abbey of Bona-Marga. *The Dublin Penny Journal*, 1(41): 321-322.

19 Bell, J. & McNeill, T. (2002: 116) Bonamargy Friary, County Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 61: 98-116.

20 Hill, G. (1873: 182-3) *An Historical Account of the MacDonnells of Antrim: including notices of some other septs, Irish and Scottish*. Archer & Sons, Belfast.

Burning of Bun na Margáí (1584):

The date of the battle in the English records is Sunday 1st January 1584. The newly appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland, John Perrot, renewed English attempts to expel Clann Domhnaill (the McDonnells) from the Glens in 1583. The concern of the English administration in Dublin was that Ulster was fast becoming a new Scotland. The English garrisoned Bun na Margáí and Dún an Aonaigh that year, and were attacked by Clann Domhnaill and their septs.

The Bun na Margáí company was led by Captain Christopher Carlyle, and Captain William Warren, with around 47 men under their command. Another two companies led by William Stanley²¹ were camped outside the Friary. About 11pm that night *'came certayne troupes of Skottes on foote, and aboute VI horsemen with them'*. The local forces were camped at Dún na Mallacht, commanded by Dómhnall Gorm. On their attack they lit a fire

in behind Dún Raitne, out of sight of the English forces, and heated the arrow heads red hot. The bowmen fired into the thatched roof of the Nave from the top of the dún, while the cavalry charged with burning torches. The OSM recorded that the more popular story locally was that arrows were fired from the other side of the Margáí to prevent an English counterattack.²² The Friary was surrounded, and any Englishmen escaping the fire were met with swords and daggers. The English reported that the McDonnell standard bearer was killed in the first skirmish, and only three or four English were killed, around 20 injured, and that the McDonnells retreated after an hour. The local story recorded in the OSM states there were several cart loads of the English dead piled up in the east side of the graveyard.²³ There was another story of an Englishman escaping with a pot on his head, and the swords bouncing off it. The noise caused much confusion in the dark, but the McDonnells gathered themselves and liberated

the pot before he got to the Margáí.

The Catastrophe of the Falcon, 1867:

This is the earliest report we could find of a burial in the Friary, apart from a few lines on the Earl of Antrim's death in 1855: *"As many of the friends of those females who lost their lives, being passengers in the unfortunate Falcon steamer, will be anxious to hear about the bodies of the two females washed ashore near Ballycastle a few days ago, I wish to state, for their information, that the bodies have been identified as those of Mrs M'Lean and Mrs Montgomery, late joint stewardesses of the above ship, by Mrs M'Lean's son, who arrived in Ballycastle from Glasgow on Friday. They were sisters and widows. The bodies were both deposited on Friday evening, in one grave in the old burying-ground of Bonamargy, which is about half a mile from Ballycastle. A large number of the inhabitants of the town accompanied their remains to the above*

21 William Stanley commanded Guy Fawkes in the English campaign in Holland, during the Dutch Revolt of 1585-7, then jumped ship to join the Spanish in the year of the Armada.

22 OSM pg 76.

23 OSM pg 64.

place, and one of them – Mr Archibald Coyle – kindly volunteered to allow them to be deposited in his burying-ground. It is considered that it was the life-belts worn by the deceased which caused them to drift before the wind to these shores, as no other bodies have been found on the northern coast. Mrs M'Lean's hands were clasped on her breast, and her eyes had an upward stare. Both she and Mrs Montgomery were fine-looking women, and were in the prime of life, the former being about forty years of age, and Mrs Montgomery about two years older. Mrs M'Lean leaves a son, and Mrs Montgomery two daughters, to lament the untimely end of their parents."²⁴

The New Burial Ground:

It first became an issue around 1898 that the graveyard was full and unsanitary, so a new extension was proposed. Thomas J. O'Neill of Ballypatrick was the engineer in charge, with plots set aside for the three Christian faiths, plus those washed ashore or religion unknown.²⁵ There was a brief row in 1901 when Father Conway of Ramoan requested that no Catholic burials should take place without Church approval, which was refused by the Local Government Board.²⁶ This dragged on into the following year, when it became public that the Protestant chaplain, Reverend I.P. Barnes had the same objection, and that he hadn't consecrated their portion

of the burial ground.²⁷ The Catholic section was consecrated in June 1902 by Bishop Henry of Down & Connor,²⁸ but the resolution of the issue was not clear in the records. In March 1903 two Catholics, James Butler and his son, and his Protestant wife Rachel were killed at Ballycastle Limeworks on Mill Street, after a retaining wall collapsed on their house. The coffins were conveyed from Ballycastle Workhouse but the Priest refused to conduct 'any service whatsoever'. Reverend Thomas Cox of Ramoan conducted Rachel's funeral, and the three coffins were placed in the one grave.²⁹



The lines are the original paths, which the trees still follow. The current path goes through the middle of the Catholic and Presbyterian plots. In the Protestant section were plots 1-168; in the Presbyterian section were plots 169-245; 'Others' were 246-255; and the Catholic section plots 256-494. The first 21 plots in the Protestant section, in the southern corner, were allotted to military in 1911, while the war graves in the 'Others' section has 13 deceased in 10 graves. The 'Others' section was unconsecrated ground, set aside for stillborn babies and unknowns. However, stillborn babies or unbaptised children were buried in other parts of the graveyard up until the 1950s. As the ground was allocated for Workhouse burials, it's not known how many plots were taken up, as records are not known to exist. The only headstones are British military ones, except for that of Alexander Hamill (1929). A collection was taken up locally to bury him, with the surplus going towards

the headstone, and the lady who washed his corpse.³⁰ The headstone was thought to be missing, until it was discovered to have fallen over and been buried under the cut grass in 2018.

24 1867 – The Catastrophe of the Falcon – *Belfast Morning News*, January 21.

25 1900 – Ballycastle – *Ballymena Observer*, February 2.

26 1901 – Catholic Burials in Bonamargy. Curious Action of the L.G.B. – *Irish News & Belfast Morning News*, December 16.

27 1902 – Rural District Council – *Northern Constitution*, March 15.

28 1902 – Ballycastle & District Notes – *Coleraine Chronicle*, June 21.

29 1903 – The Ballycastle Disaster – *Belfast News Letter*, March 4.

30 Dickie Duffin in 1987, recorded in Morgan (2006: 123).

The Warren Sports:

Similar to the Casement Sundays in Murlough, the Warren Sports was once one of the biggest days of the year in the parish, although it's now long forgotten. The following partial newspaper cutting from 1895 shows the extent of the sports days:³¹

BALLYCASTLE REGATTA AND ATHLETIC SPORTS

OFFICERS OF REGATTA - President, HM M'Gildowney, JP (member of Royal St George Yacht Club); Vice-Presidents, John Casement, JP; James M'llroy, JP, MB; JB Johnston, JP (member of Ulster Yacht Club); E Gage, JP; GF Downing Fullerton; John S Hutchinson; Commander Causton, RN; Moore Smith, JP; Alexander M'Neill, JP; Commander Casement; Commodore Lieutenant H Catfield, RN; Umpire, Mr Paris, RN; Starter, Wm Wright, late Chief Officer RN; Hon Treasurer, William Taylor; Hon Secretary, Alex Boyd; Aquatic Committee, T Humphreys, JP O'Kane, William Tayler, and Alexander Boyd.

ATHLETICS - Judges, WB Black, Daniel M'Kinley, HA M'Alister, J Reid IAAA; Referee, JP O'Kane; Executive Committee, WB Black, Daniel M'Kinley, HA M'Alister, EF M'Cambridge, JP, H Moore, D Ewing, and JP O'Kane; Timekeeper, William Madden, ICA; Starter and Handicapper, J Henderson (Official Handicapper Ulster Branch ICA and IAAA); Telegraph Stewards, WGB Hayes and J M'Kinley; Competitors' Attendants, S M'Caughan, Paris, RN, John Nicholl, and PM Verdon; Hon Treasurer, Wm Taylor; Hon Secretary, JP O'Kane.

BEAUTIFUL weather favoured the annual regatta and athletic sports at Ballycastle on Tuesday last, and the fixture proved more attractive than ever... Very large numbers watched with interest the regatta part of the proceedings and the scene in the bay was one of animation, neat little sailing crafts stretching on the rounds towards Fair Head and Rathlin harmonising with the beauties of the coast line. However it was when the athletics commenced that there was the largest concentration of forces at the Warren. A bigger crowd has not previously been seen on the ground...The customary big traffic was experienced on the Ballycastle Railway – in fact, we should say the crush was greater than ever...The spectacle of trippers of both sexes swarming like bees on the open coal and lime waggons which supplemented the ordinary vehicles was very engrossing to the rustics in the fields who gazed in open-mouthed astonishment as the heavily-laden trains rushed towards Ballycastle...A large number of the excursionists availed themselves of the grand sea trip from Portrush to Ballycastle by the SS Melmore (Captain Mitchell), the energetic agent, Captain Fred H Watt, having very thoughtfully arranged for the provision of that acceptable means of transit to the regatta...Ballycastle itself wore its gayest garb for the day, bunting being liberally displayed, and the pleasant

31 1895 – Ballycastle Regatta and Athletic Sports - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 6.

avenue leading to the quay looked its very best. During the progress of the regatta and sports the band of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, under Mr John Le Grove, conductor, performed a popular programme of music. There was a great demand on the hotel accommodation of the town, which, however, proved quite equal to the task of 'dining' the visitors. In the Antrim Arms and Boyd Arms Mr R Hunter's staff served luncheons and dinners innumerable, and Mr J M'Michael's 'Royal' was an equally favoured resort, while at the Marine a select business was conducted under the superintendence of Miss Dilley (manageress), and Miss Walker. The officials of the regatta and sports did their very best for the success of their undertaking, and they have reason to congratulate themselves on the result...At the close of the athletics the prizes – a handsome collection – were presented to the successful competitors by the lady of the manor, Miss Boyd, who discharged that duty with much grace.

REGATTA COMPETITIONS - yacht race (under 5 tons); open boat sailing (under 27ft); open boat sailing (under 24ft); open boat sailing (under 17ft); single rowing race (under 17ft); double rowing race (under 22ft);

ATHLETICS - one, two, three and four mile bicycle races; 100yd, 300yd, 440yd, half mile, one mile flat race; 440yd hurdle race.



Warren Sports 1948.



Warren Sports 1948.



Two of the sports from Danny McGill's Moyle Memories.



Two of the sports from Danny McGill's Moyle Memories.



Fred Daly on the golf course, 1952. James McMichael (Ballycastle) behind his left shoulder, Kenneth Ramsay (Ballycastle) far right. Fred was from Portrush, and he was the only Irish winner of the British Open (1947) until Pádraig Harrington in 2007.



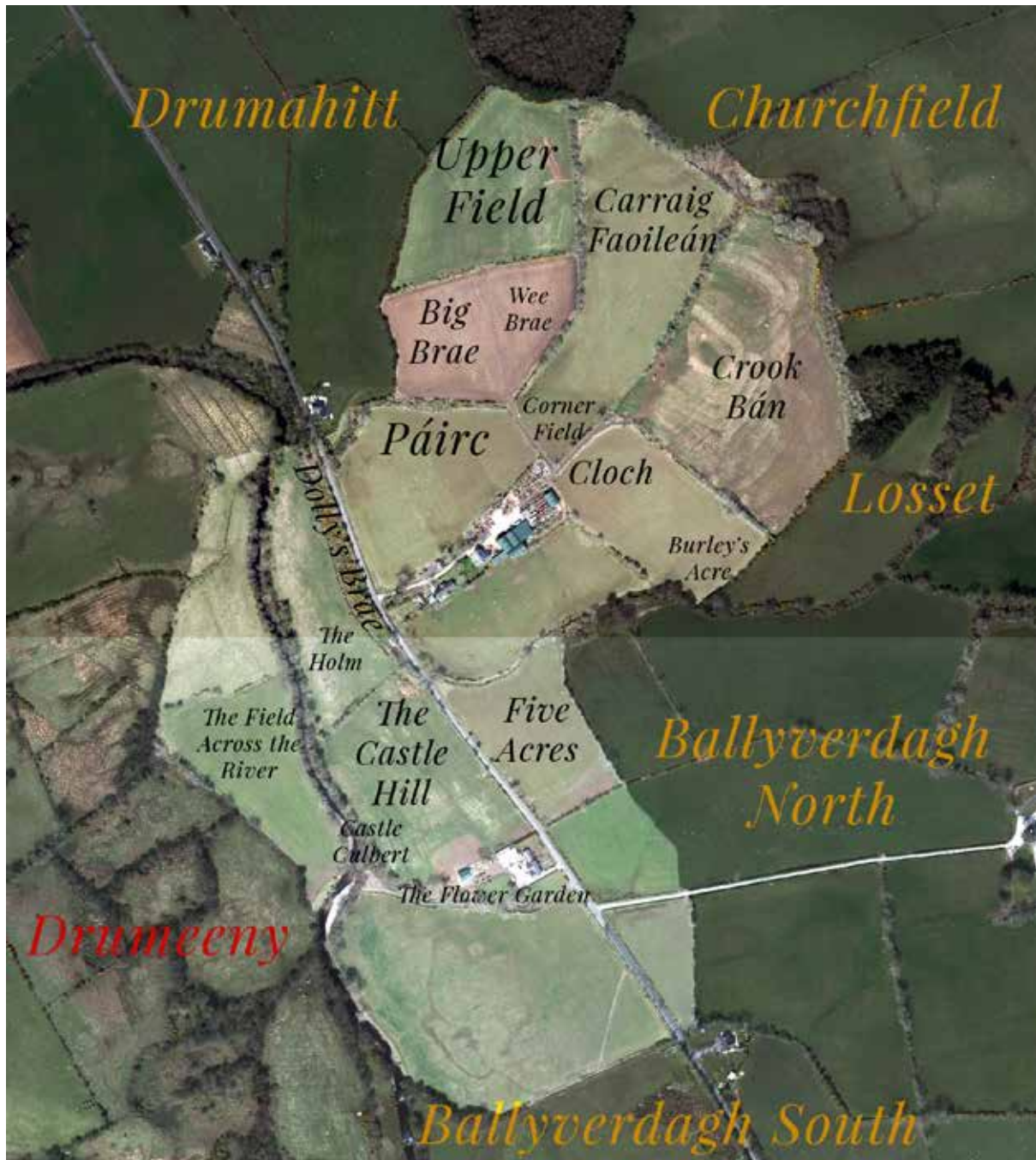
The old border crossing, built by the Dallat brothers of the town c.1905.

Margaret & Mary Millar.

Fieldnames & Stories

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Big Brae; | 9. Five Acres; |
| 2. Burley's Acre; | 10. Pairc; |
| 3. Carraig Faoileán; | 11. The Castle Hill; |
| 4. Castle Culbert; | 12. The Field Across The River; |
| 5. Cloch; | 13. The Flower Garden; |
| 6. Corner Field; | 14. The Holm; |
| 7. Crook Bán; | 15. Upper Field; |
| 8. Dolly's Brae; | 16. Wee Brae. |

Mac Gabhann states that the first recorded use of Brackney was in 1696,¹ and it usually translates as breac (speckled).² Breac also means trout, so it's possible that it relates to the river. Locally it is thought to refer to the white stones scattered through some of the fields.



1 PRONI - (1696) "D2977/3A/2/1/16: Lease, John O'Neill of Edenduffcarrick and Hugh McCollum of Dunluce, to John McIlbride, yeoman, of the 2 quarters of Magherintemple, Brackney and Losset, for 14 years. Rent £16, 6d per pound receivers fees and 2 good fat 3 year old unshorn mutton per year or 4/- in lieu. Tenant to build 16 perches of ditch and plant 16 trees per year."

2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 127-8).

Clay was taken from the burn at *Burley's Acre* to build Boyd's glasshouse at the seafront in Ballycastle. *Carraig Faoileán* is thought to be the seagull's rock. The *bán* element of *Crook Bán* (Cnoc Bán) can mean white or lea ground (unploughed, fallow or grassy ground).³ It might just refer to the big white stone in the middle of the field, shown on the map. *Dolly's Brae* is named after Dolly McCaughan, who is in the Craigfad School photo of 1925.

The Castle Hill is mentioned in the OSM as *Castle Culbert*, after a Culbert McKeown who either founded the castle or resided there.⁴ It is situated on the bank of the Glenshesk River, towards the southwest corner of the field,⁵ and was in ruins by the 1830s, although local memory was that a large double bust of cut freestone was found while digging it out. It was said that *Castle Culbert* was once the second of three castles, occupied by three brothers, in a line down Gleann Seisc from Dún

an Aonaigh (Ballycastle) to Dún Carbaid. On the sight of invading forces one castle would raise a flag, signalling the other two to send assistance. A castle-building McKeown is thought to refer to the Mac Eoin Bysets of the Glens. The OSM also records that the castles were later occupied by five McAllister brothers, along with another two castles at Ceann Bán and Breen.⁶ The Mac Alasdairs were a sept of Clann Domhnaill, with Ceann Bán granted to them in the seventeenth century.

The Flower Garden is the name given in the OSM to the dún south of *Castle Culbert*. It was said to be '*formerly ornamented with shrubberies, flowers and gravel walks, and usually called the flower garden, and supposed to have been planted as above by the inhabitants of Culbert Castle for their pleasure grounds. Several of the rose bushes remained on it to a late period*'.⁷ Now it is just described as '*the poorly preserved remains of a raised rath*'.⁸

A paved road apparently ran directly from *Castle Culbert* to St Fiachra's in Churchfield. It may have followed the route the McCaughans used to take to Mass in Barnish, along the hedge between *Carraig Faoileán* and *Crook Bán*, and over a stone style into Churchfield at the top of *Carraig Faoileán*.

The OSM mentions that in the holding of Patt Millar, '*beneath the surface of a small hill about a quarter of a mile south west of Culfeightrin old church*', a large quantity of human bones were found. It was thought this was the site of an ancient battle or graveyard. An ancient cross was found, which was put on the gable of Patt Millar's shed.⁹ This is the field between *Five Acres* and *Cloch*, with the cross preserved by the McCaughans. There's also a bullán stone nearby, assumed to be from the church site, while archaeologists in the early 1980s were told there had formerly been a building in the field. The combination of the cross, bullán, and

3 Logainm.ie.
4 OSM pg 54.
5 SM7-ANT-009-087.
6 OSM pg 68-69.
7 OSM pg 54-55.
8 SM7-ANT-009-035.
9 OSM pg 54.

bones suggests that there may have been a church there,¹⁰ although across the river in Drumeenya (Ramoan) are another two churches, Kille Enan and Cloughneingobban.¹¹

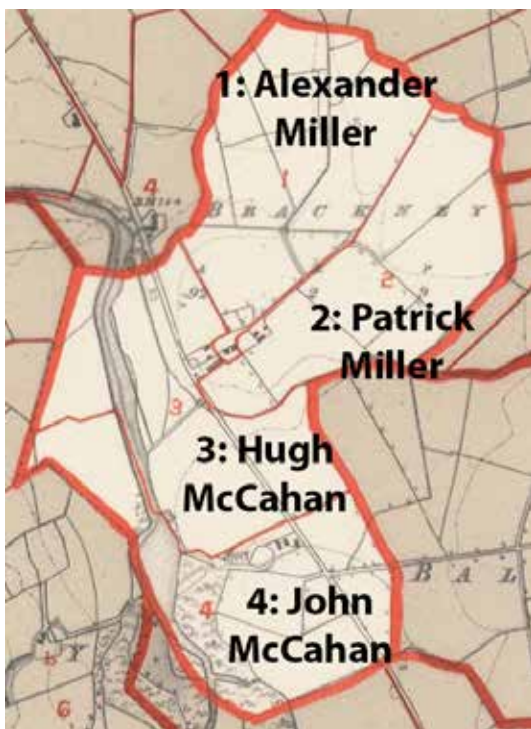
The OSM also records a school in 1838: "Brackney, Master Hugh Laverty, Roman Catholic; pay school, annual

income 17 pounds; school-house held in outhouse; number of pupils by the Protestant return: 9 Established Church, 4 Presbyterians, 17 Roman Catholics, 13 males, 17 females; by the Roman Catholic return: 9 Established Church, 4 Presbyterians, 17 Roman Catholics, 13 males, 17 females; associations

none".¹² Nothing is known about this school, it's not recorded on any maps, and in 1861 the only buildings in the townland were in the two present day farmyards. Brackney is too far away from Ballyverdagh for the surveyor to have gotten the two confused, so it's presumed to be true.

Families

- 1734:** Brown, McBride, McGillday, O'Quin.
- 1803:** McCaghen, McMichael, Miller.
- 1831:** McCahan, McKearnan, Mullan.
- 1861:** McCahan, McHenry, Miller.
- 1901:** McAuley, McCaughan, Millar.
- 1911:** McCaughan, Millar.
- 2018:** McAuley, McCaughan.



1901 & 1911 Censuses:

All residents in the two Censuses were farmers, except for James Millar, a carpenter in 1901, and his sister Maggie, a seamstress. Two unmarried sisters were the last of the Millars. The McCaughans were originally in Drumeenya, until the Millar land was passed onto them, as John McCaughan had married Rose Millar in 1899. The eighth station of the cross in the church in Barnish was donated by the Millar sisters.

10 SM7-ANT-009-044.

11 OSM pg 109-110.

12 OSM pg 85.



Millars of the 1911 Census - John Millar.



Millars of the 1911 Census - James, Margaret & Mary Millar, Daniel Laverty.

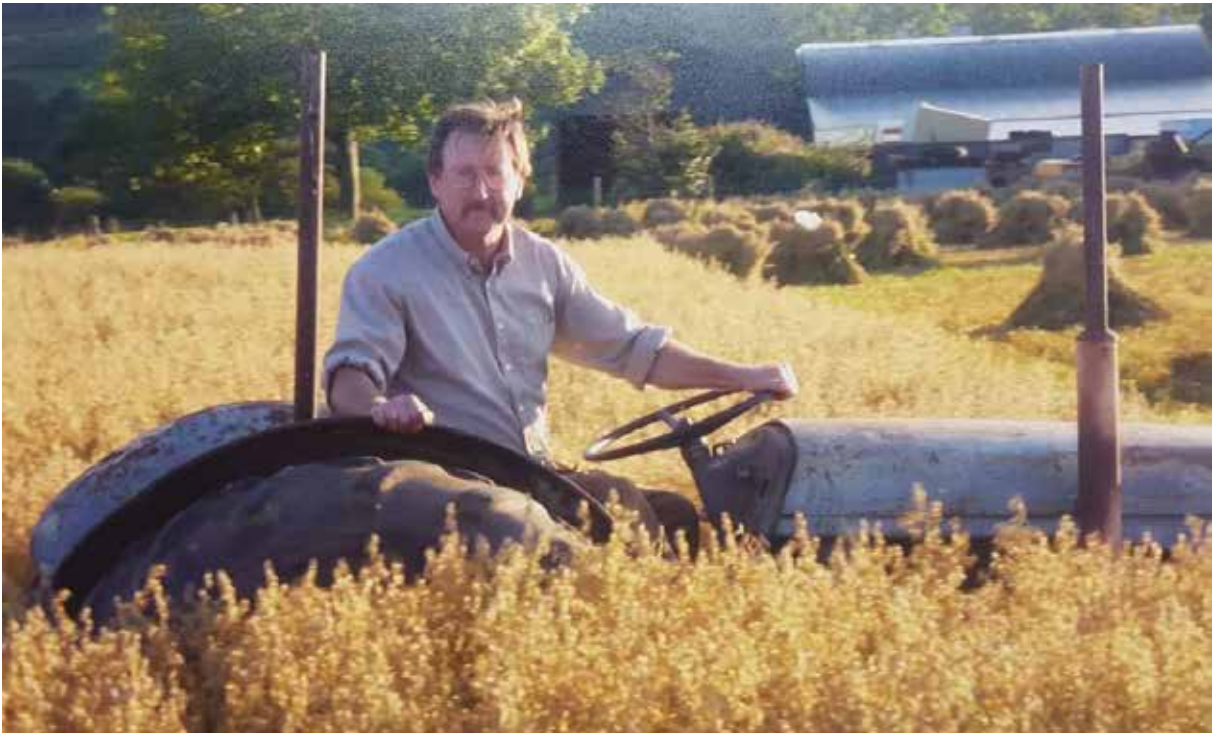


*Millars of the 1911 Census -
Mary and Margaret Millar.*



*The old Millar headstone in Bun na Margai
1788*

*A BURYING PLACE FOR
DANIEL MILLAR OF
BRACKNEY AND BROTHERS.*



The late Declan McCaughan, great-great-nephew of the Millars (photo from Brian McCaughan, Duncarbit).

Charles McVeigh.

Fieldnames

1. Broughanlea Cross;
2. Cardy's Field;
3. Cardy's Garden;
4. Ceann Bán Field;
5. Colliers' Hall Park;
6. Fairy Raft;
7. Irish Acre;
8. Lower Planting;
9. McGuiles' or Kyle's Mill;
10. Orchard Field;
11. Pinky's Field;
12. Rectory Field;
13. The Holms (or the Meadows);
14. The Meadow;
15. Upper Field;
16. Upper Planting;
17. Well Field.

An alternate form of the townland name is Bruach an Lao (the bank of the calf),¹ however there are no stories nor written records that indicate the source of the townland name. Bruach can mean ‘a brink, edge, a river bank, border, boundary, shore or coastline’;² while Mac Gabhann thought Lao may refer to the river, as the River Lagan in Belfast was originally called Lao. The townland doesn’t feature on the 1654 map, with the ground subsumed by a combination of Bun na Margái and Tuar na Ruán. A townland called Crosalista is situated between Acravally and Drumahaman, roughly over the southern part of Broughanlea above the river. Mac Gabhann translated the name as Cros Alastair (Alastair’s cross),³ which may be related to the Broughanlea Cross, or the graveyard in the *Upper Planting* close to where it was found. The cross has been in situ on the roadside since at least 1841.⁴



1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 128-9).
 2 Northern Ireland Place-Name Project on Broughgammon.
 3 Mac Gabhann (1997: 109).
 4 1851 – Extract from the Diary of my Excursion in Antrim – *Coleraine Chronicle*, June 21.

Cardy's Field and *Cardy's Garden* are named after an elderly lady that once lived there; Danny Morgan recorded her name as Fanny Kerdy. It is thought in *Colliers' Hall* that she was 'some relation of Eamon McKeague in the Harbour Bar'.

Colliers' Hall Park is one of the former hurling fields, in use through the 1920s up until the 1950s, with the annual ploughing matches also held here during this period. Supposedly Mary MacSwiney⁵ was to hold a rally in the field, in support of the 1924 UK General Election Sinn Féin candidate Patrick McCormick of Cushendun. The only attendees were said to

be four R.U.C. men and 'a Unionist who wanted to see Miss MacSwiney'.^{6,7}

In the boundary fence of *Colliers' Hall Park*, opposite the house, is the *Broughanlea Cross*. H.C. Lawlor wrote the following on the perceived origins of the cross in 1937: "It is exactly opposite the gate of *Colliers' Hall*, but apparently was removed to its present position about 1790 from the now obliterated churchyard at *Magherintemple*, the site of the original parish church of *Culfeightrin*, half a mile to the South. Recently the cross, which was almost prone on its face, was restored to a vertical position and cleaned. An inspection of the front of the cross now discloses that it bears a well-defined pastoral staff of a bishop as well as a *Tau* or Egyptian cross. The *Tripartite Life of St Patrick* tells us that the Saint 'founded a church at *Cuil-Ectrann* over which he placed *Bishop Fiachrius*', *Cuil-Ectrann* being the old name for modern *Culfeightrin*. No other

bishop finds mention in connection with this church in any calendar or *Lives of Saints*, so that we are faced with the extreme probability, if not certainty, that this crude and manifestly very ancient cross was erected in the 5th or early 6th century to commemorate *St Fiachrius*. Had the cross been lettered we should have said that this could not be that case. The presence of the Egyptian or *Tau* cross is of extreme importance when considered with *Dr Ryan's* contention that the early Irish church as established by *Saint Patrick* was a daughter church of the Egyptian or Alexandrian, and followed the rule of *St Pachomius*."⁸

On This Day/February 25 1926

Junior hurling in Antrim

SUNDAY was a gala day in junior hurling circles in Ballycastle. One of the camogie teams representing St Brigid's Cross and Passion College, Ballycastle, met a team of Carey girls at Collier's Hall Park, and the meeting was the occasion of a very spirited and strenuous struggle.

The college girls had a better idea of the game and came off victorious by 12 points to nil. The various duels caused great excitement among the juvenile section of the crowd who were there in force (especially those in the college colours), and the game was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Mr Ramsden, P.E.T. Carey, refereed.

After this match, St Kevin's, Ballycastle met the team attached to Craigfad Public Elementary School and defeated them after a very fine exposition of the game by six points to nil. Mr James Hill had charge of the game.

The standard of hurling displayed by the youngsters may well be said to have amazed the onlookers who followed the course of the game with great interest to the final whistle in a torrent of rain which failed to damp the efforts of the boys for a moment.

It was evident that the display gave a guarantee of the future of the grand old game in the district.

Cutting from the Irish News.

- 5 Mary was the sister of Terence MacSwiney (Lord Mayor of Cork who died on hunger strike in Brixton Prison in 1920), and she became the leader of Sinn Féin in 1927 after de Valera rejected abstentionism and broke away to form Fianna Fáil.
- 6 1924 - No Audiences. Republicans' Ludicrous Ballycastle Campaign. *Ballymena Observer*, October 31.
- 7 1924 - Republicanism Rejected. Farcical Incidents in Ballycastle District - *Northern Whig*, October 28.
- 8 Lawlor, H.C. (1937) Some Primitive Crosses in Counties Antrim and Down. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 6(123): 294-297.



Broughanlea Cross as depicted by HC Lawlor in 1937.

Alternatively the two symbols are a hammer and pincers, two of the Instruments of the Passion,⁹ the hammer was used to nail Jesus to the cross, and the pincers used to remove the nails. Such symbols were common to Late Middle Ages artwork, between the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries, but could easily predate that. The OSM records the less grandiose story that the cross was removed from a local smithy,

where it was advertising the smith's trade by representing his hammer and tongs.¹⁰

The Fairy Rath was mentioned in the OSM, in the holding of John Black. It was by then in ruins, except for a few large stones thought to be the outside wall, and was '*considered to be the haunt of fairies and to be illuminated occasionally by night*'.¹¹ The *Corn Mill* below the *Fairy Rath* is marked on

the 1861 map, but there was no proprietor at the time. Edmund Black held the ground incorporating *The Meadows* (or *the Holms*), however the corn mill is not listed in his tenancy. There's only one building marked in Edmund's holding, so he was definitely living at the mill building. The mill is only remembered now as wallsteads that were once between the *Fairy Rath* and the river, that are now completely gone.

McGuile's (or *Mckyle's*) *Mill* was a corn and flax mill. In 1861 it was in Robert Kyle's holding, Robert lived in the house below the mill, but the mill was in John McDonnell's name, leased from the Boyd Estate. In 1911 Robert Kyle's son or grandson (also named Robert) is listed as the mill owner. The name of the mill was remembered as *McGuile's*, while the photo overleaf, thought to be from the 1940s, calls it *Mckyle's*.

Hugh A. Boyd wrote about the McGuiles from *The Glynn's* Vol. 8, based on an old Ballycastle account book dating to the 1750s: "*The name John McGuile, ancestor of the McGuile or Kyle family of the Warren,*



The Fairy Rath.



The corn mill in the Holms (2nd Ed Ordnance Survey c.1860).

9 SM7-ANT-009-005.

10 OSM pg 55.

11 OSM pg 52.



McGuile's Mill Race from the 1st Ed. Ordnance Survey 1832.



McKYLE'S Mill, c.1940.

Ballycastle, is mentioned as a miller. The last male representative of this family—Robert Kyle—miller, died on 1st February 1951.¹²

John McConnell remembers McGuile's Mill: "Again my father looked after them for Charlie Jollie and I was

always interested in their operation. The corn mill was used for crushing corn for animal feed and my father produced oaten meal for those that wanted it. That was great stuff for "gruel" - oaten meal porridge - oaten bread - and maley crushie - that was oaten meal fried on the pan in the

gravy from home cured bacon - what flavour. Bob McGuile ran these mills until they were taken over by Charlie Jollie. Patsy McLaughlin had them at the end but they were a dying business. Lint was on its way out and the wee Fergie with a crusher on the back took care of the animal feed in your own loanin. End of an era. These mills were located where McListers "new" house is at the warren."

The OSM gives the following description of the graveyard thought to be in the south-eastern corner of Colliers' Hall Park: "In Broughanlea and the holding of Archy McKinley, and on the banks of the Carey or Margey river and contiguous to the place in which the aforesaid cross was found, there stands the supposed remains of an ancient graveyard in which the shapes of raised graves of different sizes are still visible; but as the place has undergone no alteration or tillage, consequently no bones have been discovered."¹³

A few archaeologists interested in the field

12 Boyd, Hugh A. An Old Ballycastle Account Book: Trade & Commerce in the area in the Eighteenth Century by Hugh Alexander Boyd. *Glynns*, Vol. 8.

13 OSM pg 55.

Placenames of the Coastline¹⁵

1. Bath Lodge;
2. Bath Rock;
3. Carraig Uisnigh;
4. Cave Rock;
5. Cill Chreige;
6. Crab's Hole;
7. Devil's Churn;
8. Fluke Bed;
9. Meehan's Bow;
10. Port an Bhata;
11. Port Gainimh;
12. Poll na gCaorach;
13. Salt Pans Colliery;
14. The Scarf Rock;
15. White Mine.



The Bath Lodge c.1887.

have stopped in Colliers' Hall over the years, with one saying she thought there was a church there. There are no signs of a graveyard or church there now, although the large stones tipped into the planting there a long time ago might be a clue.

The OSM also mentions several sites in the Warren that are as yet unlocated, but thought to be on the golf course close to the Bun na Margai boundary. The first site contained a find of decayed earthen urns and human bones in sandy soil, the second was a standing stone in a moat, beside the sea-shore on James Sharp's

land.¹⁴ It is suspected that this may have something to do with Dún Domhnall Gorm in Bun na Margai. By 1861, the Sharps held no ground in either Bonamargy or Broughanlea, although Neal Sharp lived on the Warren.

The *Bath Lodge* is thought to be an old farmhouse pre-dating the coal mines of the eighteenth century.¹⁶ At one time this was the mine manager's house, and has been advertised as a holiday home since at least 1826.¹⁷ Also of interest is another holiday let advertisement, this one for 'Craig Darragh

Cottage', adjoining the *Bath Lodge*, marketed by Archibald Darragh in 1834.¹⁸ In 1829 a Mrs Conyngham of *Bath Lodge* looked after the few surviving sailors who made it ashore, after the ship they were travelling in from Liverpool to Vyborg, Russia was grounded at Fair Head.¹⁹ The house must have acted as the Culfeightrin Rectory for a period, as Mary Hill, wife of Reverend Charles Hill, is recorded as passing away there in 1835.²⁰ Charles passed away there in 1837,²¹ and the following year a daughter of Reverend Thomas Hincks was born in the house.²²

14 OSM pg 76.

15 Most of these names are from Danny Morgan's book and from the older maps, very few are still in everyday use.

16 Morgan (2006: 14).

17 1826 - *Belfast Commercial Chronicle*, April 29.

18 1834 - *Belfast Commercial Chronicle*, June 9.

19 1829 - *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, Sept 7.

20 1835 - *Northern Whig*, Dec 21.

21 1837 - *John Bull*, July 3.

22 1838 - *Dublin Morning Register*, Dec 3.

The *Bath Rock* sits above a natural pool where locals would bathe, while the *Crab's Hole* was a shallower part of the popular bathing site deemed suitable for poor swimmers and children.²³

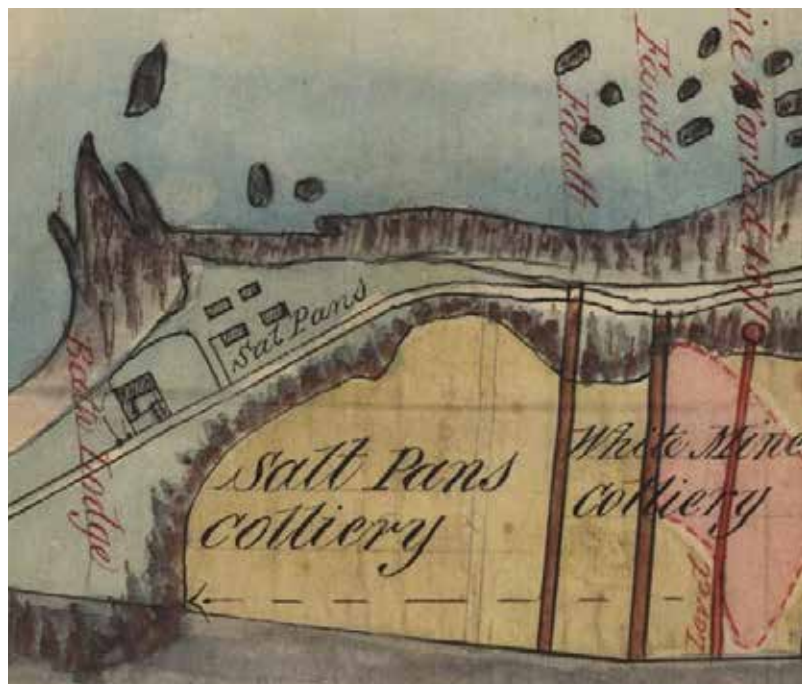
Carraig Uisnigh (Rock of the Sons of Uisneach) is another site in Carey integral to the Ulster Cycle of storytelling. *Cill Chreige* (burial ground of the rock) is the name of the house below *Pinky's Field*, however the source of the name is unknown. The *Devil's Churn*, a hole in the rock from which the sea enters from below, is probably the best known of all the names on the Broughanlea coast, except for *Pans Rock*. Danny Morgan recorded that a 'small fever hospital was established in the former saltworks with provision for 11 patients in 1823. A local story was that the fever bodies of fever victims were thrown into the devil's churn'.²⁴ At *Meehan's Bow*, two Meehan brothers who lived nearby (probably at Maguire Strand in Drumaroan) struck a reef, capsized, and drowned

within sight of the family home. *Port an Bhata* (boat port) is recorded variously in old maps as 'Port Watty', while *Port Gainimh* (sandy port) is another name seen only on the maps (as Portginniff). *The Scarf Rock* (Scairbh means reef) was once a popular fishing spot.

Coal Mines:

The four mines across the road from the *Bath Lodge*, in the *Salt Pans Colliery*, are the *Engine Pit* (out of use by 1784), *Sliding shaft* (worked in 1749),

the *Airshaft* (1760).²⁵ There was an aqueduct from the *Carey River* to the *Salt Pans Colliery*, powering a waterwheel at the *Engine Pit*, which in turn pumped seawater out of the shaft. The aqueduct was five yards wide, over a mile long, and thought to follow the townland boundary with *Bun na Margai*.²⁶ The main coal seam at the *Salt Pans Colliery* 'lays below sea level about 40 fathoms', or 240 feet.²⁷



Robert McCartney's 1885 map of the coal mines.

Gurdon shaft (1750), and

23 Morgan (2006: 25).

24 Morgan (2006).

25 1923 - Old Map of the Ballycastle Coalfields, *Northern Whig*, June 5.

26 Morgan (2006: 31-32).

27 British Geological Survey map MP105.

The Ballycastle Colliery Company Ltd went into liquidation in January 1902, with the lease to the Broughanlea mines (for 49 years starting on the 7th June 1897), and all plant and equipment auctioned in the one lot.²⁸ In early 1903 mining restarted at the *Bath Lodge Pit* under the North Antrim Mining Company. However, a miner named Thomas Dillon from Poor Row, Ballycastle, was killed there in December when the roof fell in on him.²⁹ At *Poll na gCaorach* (pool of the sheep, or sheep hole), the coal seams were called *Hawk's Nest* and *Splint Coal*.³⁰ The *White Mine* was named after the white sandstone which lies beneath the seam, *Billy's Shank* was the name of the airway, and *Main Coal* the name of the seam. *Billy's Shank* comes out below the roadway, facing *Port an Bhata*, and is one of the few remaining features of the coal field that can still be seen.

At the Pans Rocks: the salt pan is still in situ, behind the recently repaired sea wall that can be seen from the *Pans Rocks*. The whole pan was excavated by archaeologists from



Looking over the Rooney's house at the Salt Pans c.1940.



Salt pans from an 1817 map.

Ulster University, and summarised in their blog.³¹

The site in Broughanlea is thought to have been in use only from c.1750 to 1823, and the 'iron evaporation pan' is the only known surviving one in Ireland. It operates much the same as boiling a saucepan of water; below the heavy iron sheet (shaped more like a shallow frying pan, except

it's over 5m²) was a coal fire, on top was sea water, boiled off leaving the salt behind. The only part you can still see today is the bucket pot, which is a square cut into the rocks on the shore. It filled up with seawater at high tide, and was drawn up by horse pulley (it can be seen from the road below the new sea wall around the pan).

28 1902 - In Liquidation. Ballycastle (County Antrim) Colliery Co Ltd – *Belfast News-Letter*, January 21.
 29 1903 - Fatal Accident at Ballycastle Colliery. *Coleraine Chronicle*, Dec 12.
 30 Danny Morgan.
 31 <https://saltarch.wordpress.com/2015/06/05/ballycastle-salt-pans-excavation/>.



Pans Rocks' diving competitions, organised by the Rooney family. Photos from Danny McGill's Moyle Memories, likely 1930s or 1940s.

SWIMMING

BALLYCASTLE GALA

A gala, under I.A.S.A. rules, took place at the Pans Rocks bathing-place, Ballycastle. The officials were:—Judges—Captain Cowdy, Dr. H. Stevenson, Mr. B. Boyle, and Capt. Hamilton; timekeepers—Dr. D. Boylan and Mr. G. H. Scarlett, J.P.; starter—Mr. D. R. Wigram. Hon. secretary, Mr. M. Rooney. Details:—

25 yards, girls under 16 years (local)—1, Florence Ekin; 2, B. Boylan; 3, M. Boylan. 25 yards, boys under 16 (local)—1, P. Scally. 25 yards, girls under 16 (visitors)—1, A. Jones; 2, M. Brown. 25 yards, boys under 16 (visitors)—1, B. Bothwell.

50 yards, ladies (open)—1, D. Brown; 2, E. Brown; 3, M. Williams. 50 yards, men (open)—1, H. Ivory; 2, J. Lawrence; 3, J. Scally.

Dead man's float—1, D. Pili; 2, J. Scally; 3, B. Irwin.

Diving, girls under 16—1, M. Brown; 2, L. Hamilton; 3, A. Casement. Boys under 16—1, H. Williams; 2, P. Scally.

Relay race—English schools' team easily beat Irish schools' team.

Biggest splash—1, J. Scally; 2, P. Bothwell; 3, M. Cowdy.

100 yards, ladies—1, D. Brown; 2, E. Brown; 3, A. Jones. 100 yards, men—1, H. Ivory; 2, B. Irwin.

Diving, high and fancy, ladies—1, G. Brown; 2, E. Brown. Diving, high and fancy, men—1, J. Scally; 2, B. Birkett; 3, J. Birkett.

Most original way of entering water—1, Miss E. Brown; 2, Miss de Batho.

Pillow-fight—1, R. H. Ramsay.
Mrs. Brown distributed the prizes.



Pans Rocks' diving competitions, organised by the Rooney family. Photos from Danny McGill's Moyle Memories, likely 1930s or 1940s.



T. Corey's photograph showing some of the features of the site.

Belfast News Letter report on the Pans Rocks swimming competitions from August 1935.

Travel books were a bit different back in the day. This is an account of landing at the Pans Rocks in the early 1840s by Mr & Mrs S.C. Hall, in their book *'Ireland: Its Scenery, Character, etc'*.

"Soon after rounding the promontory [Fair Head] we reached a comparatively level coast, and here we landed at a little settlement called 'the Salt-pans', where the ruins of an old factory still exist. In attempting to land, however, we ran considerable risk; and although we accomplished our purpose, it was certainly at the peril of our lives - a danger of which we remained ignorant of until it was past. The sea appeared so calm in this little creek that we imagined that to 'go on shore' was a very easy matter; the opinions of the boatmen were divided, and we adopted a course which we cannot recommend to others. It seems that along this coast every sixth or seventh wave is called a 'dead wave'; its predecessors and successors proceed quietly enough, but when the dead wave comes on it does so silently and stealthily until it touches the shore, when it dashes into a huge mass of foam. Our boatmen had landed one of us upon a shelving rock, which in a few seconds afterwards was covered by five or six feet of water; the retreating wave carried the boat out with frightful rapidity, and bore it within an inch of one of the sunken rocks; if we had touched it, we must inevitably have gone down. The boatmen were pale with terror; fortunately, we were ignorant, until some time afterwards, of the mercy that had been vouchsafed to us. We escaped with only a thorough wetting, for which a remedy was speedily provided by the hospitable clergyman, who resides at the Salt-pans, and who, having been a witness of our danger, had for a few moments considered our fate as certain."



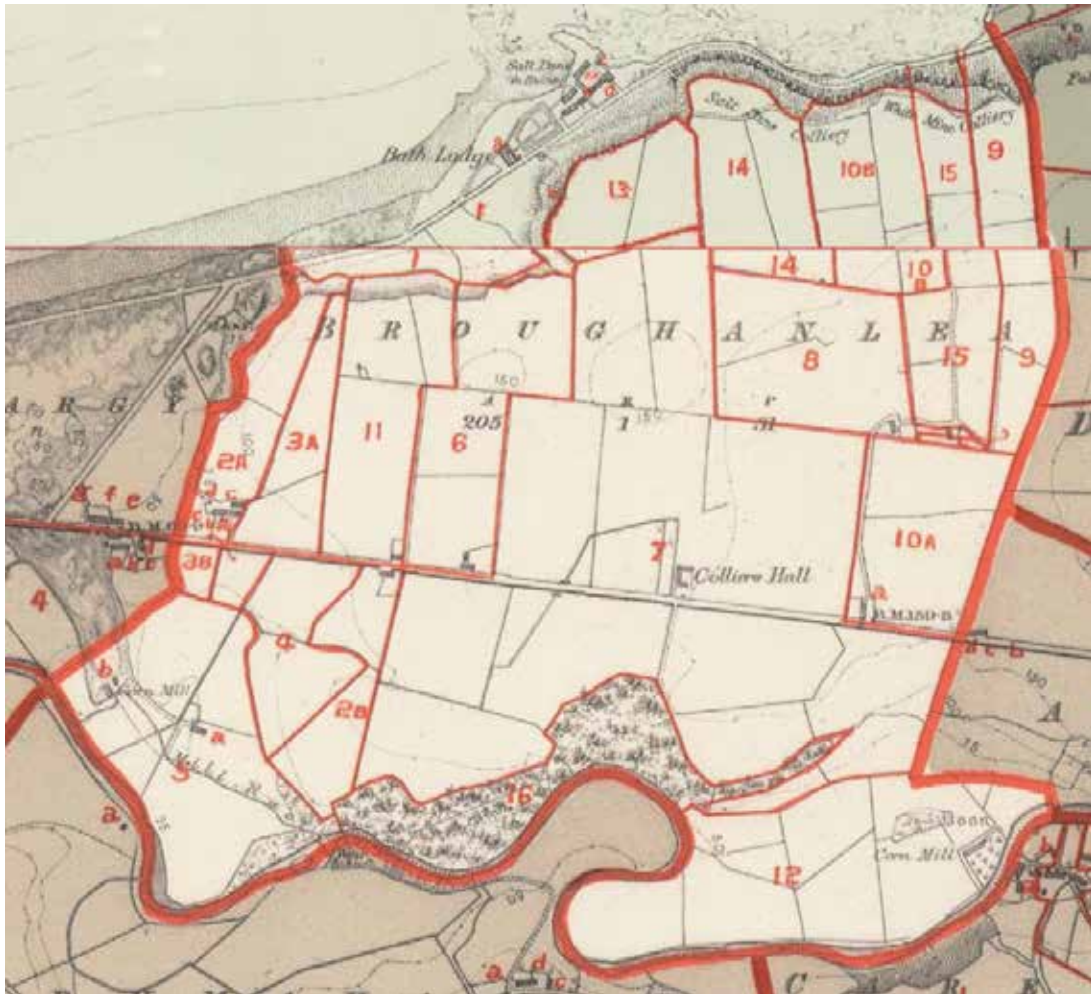
The Salt Pan in closer detail (T. Corey).



1945 - George Henry on the old bridge at the Pans Rocks, taken by J.J. McAfee (Ballycastle).



Coming ashore at the Pans, 1843.



1861 Griffith's Valuation.

Griffith's Valuation 1861:

- 1: John Hollywood;
- 2a/b: John McKinley;
- 3a/b: Francis McCaig;
- 4: James McAllister;
- 5: Robert Kyle;
- 6: Anne Caul;
- 7: Edmund McNeill;
- 8: Patrick McCauley;
- 9: Charles Darragh;
- 10a/b: William O'Mullen;
- 11: William McCormack;
- 12: Edmund Black;
- 13: Edmund McNeill;
- 14: Daniel & Neal Darragh. The 'old salt pans' and the coal mines were held by the Boyd landlords.

Families³²

- 1669:**³³ Sharpe, Stewart.
- 1734:** Horan, McCormick, McNeal, Sharp, Slaughter.
- 1803:** Cawel, Cook, Jameson, McKinly, Mullan, Scally, Wotson.
- 1831:** Black, Boyd, Call, Darragh, Kyle, McAlister, McCay, McCook. McKeag, McKinlay, McNeile, Mullan, Quinn, Sharp, Wilson.
- 1861:** Black, Caul, Darragh, Hollywood, Kyle, McCaig, McCormack. McKinley, McNeill, O'Mullen, Sharpe.
- 1901:** Andrews (*& boarder Horne*), Black, Cumings (*& worker Duffin*), Darragh, Ferris, Kerrigan (*& McAuley in-laws*), Kirkpatrick (*& adopted son Campbell*), Kyle (*& worker Mullen, visitor McAlister*), Laverty (*& daughter and grandson Dornan*), McBride, McCluskey, McFall, McMullan, McMullan (*& niece Boreland*), Mooney (*& Kennedy father-in-law*), O'Mullan (*& nephew Hutchinson, cousins Wray*), Smith (*& workers McCollan, McKitrick, Mitchell*), Smyth, Taylor (*& worker McManus, visitor MacDonald*).
- 1911:** Davis (*& worker McMullen*), Ferris, Harrigan, Howard (*& worker Reid*), Kelly, Kirkpatrick (*& boarder Campbell*), Kyle (*& worker McCollam, relative McAlister*), Laverty, McKay, McBride, McClelland, McClure (*& worker Gerrard, visitor Boyd, and boarders Dickson, King, McEhatton, & Reith*), McClusky, McFall, McMullan, O'Mullan (*& worker McCollam, relatives Rea and Hutchinson*), Simpson, Smith (*& worker Heskey, friend Delan*).
- 2018:** Gray, Kennedy, Hill, McAuley, McCann, McCarry, McVeigh, Nolan, O'Halloran, Scrimgeour, Sheehan.

BALLYCASTLE COLLIERY,
House and Demesne, in the County of Antrim, Ireland,
TO be LET for such Term as may be agreed on,
 by John Campbell, Ezekiel Davis Boyd, Jun. and
 James Stewart Moore, Esqrs. Trustees and Executors of the
 late Hugh Boyd, Esq.
 'Immediate Possession of the Colliery will be given, and
 the Tenant will be accommodated with all the Implements
 and Materials on hand at a Valuation. Possession will be
 given of the House at May next, and any Part of the
 Demesne that may be required will be Set along with it.
 The House and Offices have been lately put into the most
 complete Repair, and contain every Accommodation for a
 large Family. Also, to be Let, the Mills and Rabbit-
 Burrows on the Ballycastle Estate.
 Proposals, in Writing, to be sent to the Trustees; or to
 Alexander McNeill, of Colliers-Hall, near Ballycastle, until
 the 1st of March, when the Tenants will be declared.
 December 17, 1795.

McNeiles of Colliers' Hall. Newcastle Courant, 30 January 1796.

McNeiles of Colliers' Hall:

The name *Colliers' Hall* might be derived from miners' cottages on the farm dating to Hugh Boyd's time.³⁵ The *Colliers' Hall* McNeills can trace their descent back to Torquill MacNeill, born c.1380, chief of the Mac Néills of Tavnish and Gigha. *Colliers' Hall* was built around 1734, the first known resident was Alexander McNeile, a Justice of the Peace,

32 There is a Morrison headstone in Bun na Margai dated 1805, as well as Willson (d1825), and Cooke (c1881). In Ballynaglogh headstones are Call, Kelly, McBride, O'Mullen, and Smith.

33 1669 is Salt Panns, assumed to be Broughanlea and not Tornaroan.

34 There is a Neale McNeile of Colliers' Hall buried in Bun na Margai, as well as an Archibald McKinley (d.1818).

35 1925 – Old Crosses near Ballycastle – *Northern Whig*, January 15.

and High Sheriff of Country Antrim.³⁶ One of Alexander's sons, John, was a founding member of the Northern Bank, while another son, Hugh, became the Dean of Ripon in Liverpool (depending on what side of the Reformation you were on Hugh was either loved or hated). Alexander had moved to Ballycastle in the late eighteenth century, building a house near

Boyd's Manor House,³⁷ but they kept *Colliers' Hall*. In 1861 Edmund McNeill held *Colliers' Hall* and the adjoining farm, leased from Reverend Hugh M'Neile. He might be 'Long Eddie', named on account of being 6'7", who took on his grandfather's land agency business in the 1850s. *Colliers' Hall* then ends up in the Casement family of Churchfield around 1870.³⁸ Moore Smith of

Toome married Elizabeth Casement in 1853, and he is the head of household in the two Censuses. After Smith died in 1917, the Casements sold the house and farm to Hugh McCarry of Murlough. Frank McCarry ran greyhounds out of *Colliers' Hall* in the 1950s: the Murlough Blue Boy, Broughanlea Bouncer & Broughanlea Dancer.



Roger Casement and family, *Colliers' Hall* c.1880.



Hugh McCarry and family, c.1930, wife Margaret Small (Kilkeel), son Paddy, daughter Annie.



Gerard McCarry, Frank McCarry Sr, small boy Ciaran Doherty, John Doherty Sr in the hat, Frankie McCarry, c.1960. The other four men are thought to be Healys of Cushendun, and maybe a Kinney.



Paddy McCarry leading the horse c.1935.

36 There was an administration bond, now destroyed, of Charles McNeill of Brughanlea, dated 1739 (Ulster Historical Foundation, 4-98-008 McNeill).

37 Strawbridge, R. The Mc Neills of Cushendun and the Mc Neiles of Ballycastle. *Glynns*.

38 *Colliers' Hall* McNeiles married Millers of Whitehall (Ballycastle), who married Casements.

Broughanlea McVeighs:

Charlie McVeigh was born in Cregganboy, Kenban in 1881. In 1906 he left for California, where he worked felling trees. He remembered seeing the aftermath of the San Francisco earthquake after he arrived. After 15 years he bought a farm in California, but then sold it and bought the farm in Broughanlea in 1921. The original McVeigh home is at the bottom

of the *Well Field* beside the main road. With his wife Mary (née Christie), they had a daughter, Mary, who helped look after the family. Their five sons all played hurling for Carey, Alec, Charlie, Dan, Jimmy, and Pat. Pat said they worked and hurled, that was their life. They practiced at *Colliers' Hall Park* when they were very young.

Danny Morgan wrote that: "Another forge was

located at Dan McVeigh's house in Broughanlea. A family called Hutchinson previously lived there and earlier there were the McMullans who were Blacksmiths".³⁹ There is what's thought to be a masonic symbol on the old gate at the McVeigh's first house, possibly left behind by the McMullan blacksmiths.

A William O'Mullan⁴⁰ is recorded in what would become the first McVeigh



Charles McVeigh, Eureka, California. Eureka is in north-west California, and is the largest coastal city between San Francisco and Portland, Oregon. It's also called the capital of the Redwood Empire, and was one of the principle centres of lumber industry for the west coast of the United States.



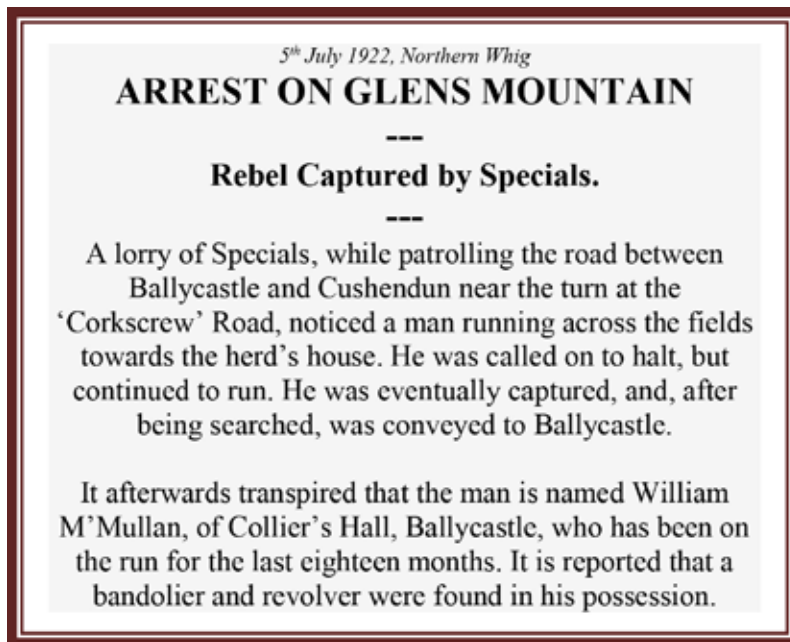
Dan, Pat, and Charlie McVeigh.



Masonic symbol on the gate at McVeigh's.

39 Morgan (2006).

40 An O'Mullen headstone is in Ballynangloagh and Bun na Margai.



William McMullan, Broughanlea in July 1922.232

house in the *Well Field* in 1861. His name is recorded again in 1911, living with Hutchinson relations. William was a Gaelic-speaking member of the Church of Ireland, while nearby was another Church of Ireland family of McMullans.⁴¹ The 1911 Census records William McMullan as a wood carrier and toy maker. He worked for Stephen Clarke of Murlough, in his shop on Anne Street, Ballycastle (An Tuirne Beag, now Wyseners'). William was also known in the Bureau of Military History files as Liam, the O/C of the local IRA battalion during the War of Independence. In an interview Liam said that Stephen Clarke took him to a Sinn Féin meeting

in Dublin in 1912, where the speakers included Tom Clarke, Arthur Griffith, Casement, Cathal O'Shannon, and Seán Mac Diarmada. After the Anglo-Irish Treaty, Liam joined the Free State Army, becoming a captain in the Engineering Corps, then was arrested again in January 1923 for bringing his service Webley on a visit home.

The Broughanlea Parliament:

John Watt, the Singing Farmer, shared memories of his uncle, who used to live on the Warren in the 1960s. Dr Alex Watt lived at 32 Islandview, then owned by Hugh A. Boyd, and a young John stayed there often. Dr Watt was from Loughguile, and

left school aged 13 to become a farmer. Aged 22 he returned to night school in Dalriada Hall so he could apply to Queen's University to study medicine. He was frustrated at the state of medicine, so studied public health, and worked in Wolverhampton, where he knew Enoch Powell. When the National Health Service was established he became medical officer for North Antrim, based in Ballymoney, and visited schools promoting good health. When Jack McClelland swam from Rathlin to Ballycastle in 1959, Dr Watt was in an accompanying boat.

Dr Watt lived in the Warren for about 20 years. Willie Dillon from County Mayo lived next door, he was a butcher in the town. His son David produced the film 'Lit by Love and Sunshine', a nostalgic film about Ballycastle in the 1950s and 60s. The neighbours Johnny Scally, a painter and decorator from Ballyucan, and Dr Watt used to have heated debates with Willie Dillon and Hugh McCollam (who worked on the golf course) on the grass in the summer evenings. They called themselves 'The Broughanlea

Parliament', passing many happy evenings this way. Danny McAlister from across the road joined in too. Another neighbour was Colonel Grove, who had at least one daughter.

Once Dr Alex promised Father McNabb, the parish priest, that his nephew John from Loughguile would cut the grass and trim shrubs in the graveyard. John duly spent a whole day making the

graveyard look perfect. Later Father McNabb came to see Dr Watt and said 'the graveyard is looking awful, I thought you knew somebody who could cut it?' Dr Watt was surprised, saying to Father McNabb that John had spent all day working on it. They went up the road to discover John had cut the grass in the Church of Ireland, the Reverend Perrin was delighted!

Old Broughanlea Headstones

O'Mullan, 1800 (Bun na Margai)

THE
BURYING GRO
UND OF WILLIAM
O MULLAN LATE
OF BROUGHINLEA
JULY 4TH 1800.



Morrison, 1805 (Bun na Margai)

TO MARK
THE GROUND
OF ALEXANDER
MORRISON, LATE
OF BROUGHINLEA
1805



McKinley, 1818-1879 (Bun na Margai)

ARCHIBALD MCKINLEY
OF COLLIERSHALL
DIED 12TH MAY, 1818, AGED 58 YEARS
HIS WIFE ANN,
DIED 23RD MAR. 1846, AGED 86 YEARS
THEIR DAUGHTER BRIDGET
DIED 9TH DECR, 1847, AGED 52 YEARS
JOHN MCKINLEY
OF DRIMARUAN,
DIED 4TH JAN, 1876, AGED 72 YEARS.
HIS WIFE ANN
DIED 18TH MARCH, 1870.



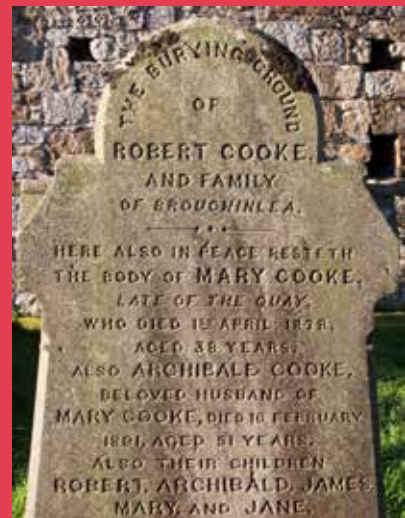
O'Mullan, 1819 (Bun na Margái)

A Burying Place
For Robert O Mullan
and Family of Broughanlea:
Broughanlea: Feby 18th 1819



Cooke, 1878-1881 (Bun na Margái)

THE BURYING GROUND OF
ROBERT COOKE
AND FAMILY
OF BROUGHANLEA.
HERE ALSO IN PEACE RESTETH
THE BODY OF MARY COOKE,
LATE OF THE QUAY,
WHO DIED 1ST APRIL, 1878,
AGED 38 YEARS.
ALSO ARCHIBALE COOKE,
BELOVED HUSBAND OF
MARY COOKE, DIED 16TH FEBRUARY
1881, AGED 51 YEARS.
ALSO THEIR CHILDREN
ROBERT, ARCHIBALD, JAMES,
MARY AND JANE.



McMullan, 1878-1910 (Bun na Margái)

ERECTED IN MEMORY OF
DENIS MCMULLAN
WHO DIED 14TH JULY 1878 AGED 23 YEARS.
ALSO HIS FATHER JAMES MCMULLAN,
WHO DIED 20TH FEBRUARY 1889 AGED 86
YEARS
ALSO HIS MOTHER MARGARET MCMULLAN,
WHO DIED 21ST JUNE 1891, AGED 80 YEARS
ALSO HIS BROTHER WILLIAM MCMULLAN
WHO DIED 8TH DEC 1908, AGED 40 YEARS.
AND ANNIE BORELAND,
WHO DIED 21ST JANUARY 1902, AGED 23 YEARS
ELLEN MCMULLAN
BROUGHANLEA
DIED 31ST DECEMBER 1910



McKinley, 1845-1848 (Barnish)

IHS
 THIS STONE
 ERECTED
 BY ARCHD MCKINLEY
 of Broughanlea here lieth the
 Remains of this mother in law
 MARY MORRISON Who departed
 this life the 7th of June 1845
 Aged 65 years
 Also his Son PATRICK who
 departed this life the
 4th of April 1848
 Aged 3 years

**Darraugh, 1854-1859 (Barnish)**

IHS
 ERECTED
 BY JAMES DARRAUGH
 of Broughanlea in memory
 of his Son JOHN who departed
 this life 13th August 1859
 Aged 15 years
 And his daughter MARY ANN
 who died 6th December 1854
 Aged 8 years
 ALSO
 HIS WIFE MARGARET (PEGGY)
 HE ALSO RESTS HERE
 R.I.P.



Clarke, 1875-1912 (Barnish)
 In memory of ENEAS CLARKE
 late of BROUCHANLEA WHO
 departed this life 19 of MARCH 1875
 AND HIS SON DANIEL
 WHO DIED 21ST JUNE, 1886
 AGED 48 YEARS
 ALSO HIS SON JAMES CLARKE,
 BALLYCASTLE
 WHO DIED 28TH JUNE 1908
 AGED 68 YEARS.
 AND HIS WIFE MARGARET
 DIED 9TH APRIL 1912, AGED 81 YEARS.



Laverty, 1877-1947 (Barnish)

ERECTED
BY MARY LAVERTY
BROUGHINLEA
IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER
DENIS LAVERTY
WHO DIED 10TH MAY 1877
AGED 50 YEARS
ALSO HER MOTHER ANN
WHO DIED 30TH MARCH 1904
AGED 80 YEARS
AND HER BROTHER JAMES
WHO DIED 10TH MAY 1889
AGED 22 YEARS
MARY DORNAN (LAVERTY)
WHO DIED 28TH DEC 1946
AND HER SON
DENIS DORNAN
WHO DIED 1ST MARCH 1947



Call, 1835 (Ballynaglogh)

ERECTED
BY DENNIS CALL JUNIOR
of Broughinlea To the
Memory of his mother
MARY CALL Who died
JUNE 1835
Aged 56 years



O'Mullan, 1869-1909 (Ballynaglogh)

ERECTED
BY
WILLIAM O'MULLAN
OF BROUGHINLEA IN MEMORY
OF HIS WIFE ANNE
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
1ST MARCH AD 1869
AGED 78 YEARS
SAID WILLIAM O'MULLAN
DEPARTED THIS LIFE
14TH OCTOBER 1873
AGED 89 YEARS
HIS DAUGHTER ANNE
DIED 12TH JULY 1882, AGED 58 YEARS
HIS SON JAMES
DIED 28TH FEB 1909 AGED 83 YEARS

**Kelly, 1903 (Ballynaglogh)**

ERECTED
By LIZZIE KIMBERLY, U.S.A
IN BELOVED MEMORY OF HER FATHER
JOHN KELLY, BROUGHINLEA
DIED 24TH AUGUST 1903.
HER MOTHER ESTHER
DIED 9TH JANUARY 1903
HER HUSBAND ALBERT KIMBERLY
U.S.A DIED FEBRUARY 1925
THE ABOVE LIZZIE KIMBERLY
DIED IN U.S.A JULY 1925



The family plots of the Kyles of the Warren Mill (1897-1951) and the McBrides (they lived at the top of The Meadow) are also in Ballynaglogh.

Peggy, Dan and Sam Matthews.

Fieldnames

1. Big Field;
2. Hollow Field;
3. Lugagh;
4. McDonnell's;
5. Sally's Field;
6. Sandy Avenue;
7. Stile Field;
8. The Planting.



The townland name is surprisingly old for an English name, first recorded in 1734. Prior to this, it was mentioned in an Earl of Antrim estate lease from 1709 as *'the accustomed Mill of Carey'*.¹ It was a corn mill with a kiln, sited in the Matthews' yard, and later used as a flax mill.

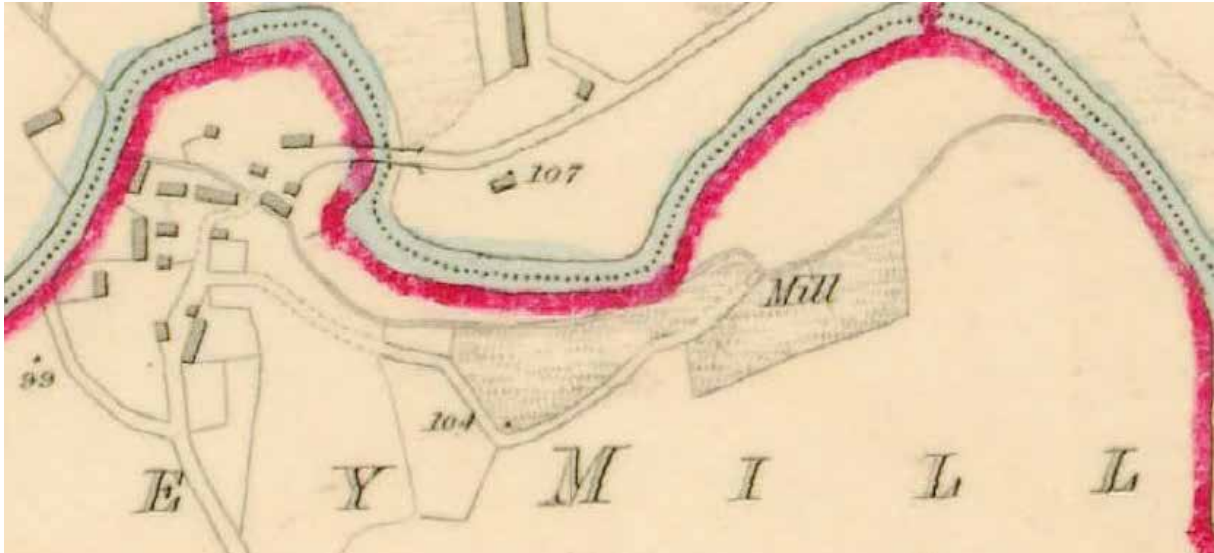
Sally's Field is named after Sally McAuley (née McKeague). Paddy McBride of Watertop organised show-jumping in *Sally's Field* one year when the ploughing match was on. The ploughing matches were often held in the *Big Field*, and recently in the *Stile*

Field, while spuds, corn, and barley were grown in the *Big Field* over the years. *Lugagh* could mean Log Ach (field in the hollow). *Sandy Avenue* is the old road that runs along the townland boundary between Carey Mill and Magherindonnell. It runs past *McDonnell's*, and into Ballynagard, where it goes through McKillop's, and out at Ballyvoy or Drumnakeel (if you follow it far enough you get to Cushendall).

The old mill building at Matthews' was used as a creamery for farmers, from as far away as Torr (Torr was further away in those days of course).

The building still stands, but has been plastered and renovated to such an extent very little of the original is visible. There's a tin plate in the roof, and holes in the ground, since filled in, that would have been for beams or struts. The wheel is buried at the entrance; it was made of metal and very heavy. The mill race ran in front of the house, but is now concreted over. The river was diverted to allow this to happen. There was also a ford behind the mill and an Orange Hall in the yard near the road, with 1883 inscribed on the stonework.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 130).



The mill in the 1st Ed OS (c.1830). It is not known why it's not in the Matthews' yard, unless this is the original Carey Mill and the other is a newer mill.



The mill race in the 3rd Ed OS (c.1900). The 'Carey Mill (disused)' refers to the Broughanlea mill.



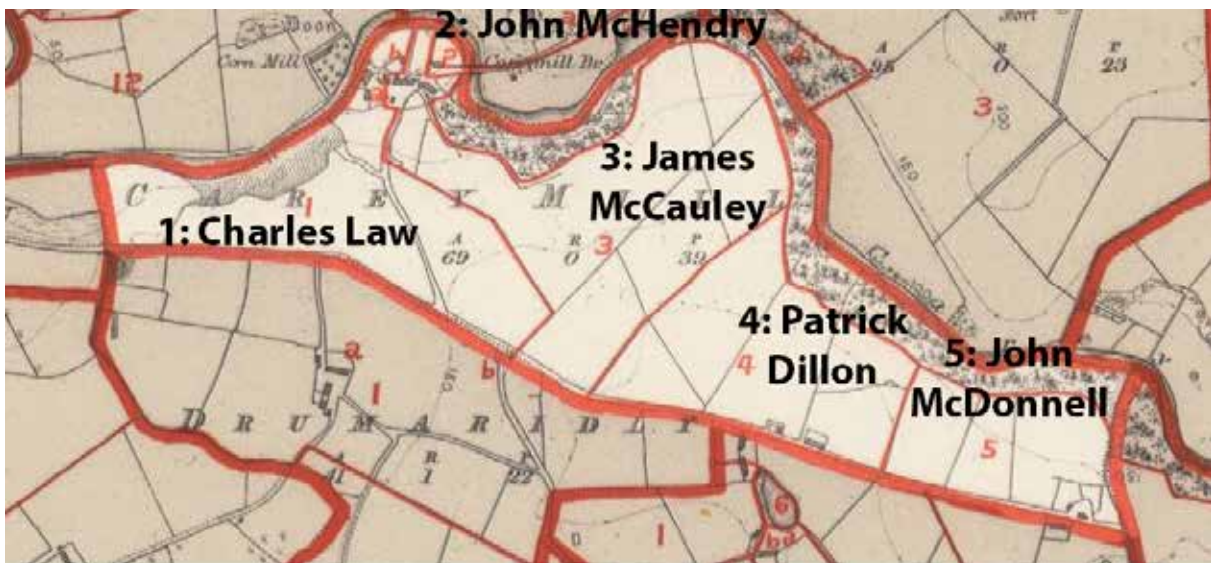
Old mill building in the Matthews' yard.



Mill race tunnel below the road.

Families

- 1803:** Law, McCrob, O'Neill.
1831: Black, Dillon, Law, McDonnell.
1861: Dillon, Law, McCauley, McHendry.
1901: Henry, Matthews (& orphans Jeffery & Spotwood), McAuley, McCauley.
1911²: Henry, Matthews (& granddaughter McCloy & boarders Meaney), McAuley, McCauley (& worker McMullan), Stewart.
2018: Matthews, McBride, McGlynn, McKeague, McVeigh.



1861 Griffith's Valuation.

1861 Griffith's Valuation:

The last patch of relatively rough ground was held by John McDonnell, with Mary McDonnell residing in the small house there; with the wallsteads still called *McDonnell's*. 3b was the corn mill and kiln, held in fee by John McGildowny. It was common for the Earl of Antrim's leases in other townlands in Carey to have a covenant that all corn must be ground at the 'accustomed Mill of Carey'. McGildowny is likely to have leased the mill from the Earl of Antrim.

Year	Population	Houses
1841	62	8
1851	36	6
1861	26	5
1871	22	4
1881	12	3
1891	29	4
1901	21	4
1911	32	5
1926	24	5

Population figures from the Glens of Antrim Historical Society's clachan project. Current figures are 5 houses and 16 residents.

² To add some confusion, the McCauleys listed in 1901 (the widow Sarah and family) become McAuley in 1911, while the McAuleys listed in 1901 (Michael the carpenter and family) become McCauley in 1911.

In subsequent years Miss Mary Law had the farm, its stock, machinery and household furniture all up for auction in early 1887. It's presumed she was the last of the Laws in the townland.³ The Dillon farm of 1861 was sold to Andrew Henry in 1878,⁴ with the Henrys then selling to John McKeague Sr of Ballynagard in 1960. There was a Father Michael Henry in the family, who went on to be a priest in England. Andrew Henry was a school teacher from Derry, and moved to Antrim from Offaly between 1879 and 1885. He is thought to be a brother of Master Thomas

Henry in Churchfield. The Matthews have been in Carey Mill since at least 1886 themselves.⁵ Andrew Henry may also have bought out the Laws around 1878, as Dan Matthews later bought Henry's farm. In 1901 Mick McCauley was a carpenter, his wife Mary was from Scotland, and the older children were born there, so they could not have returned to Antrim until at least 1899. By 1911 Alexander Stewart and family had moved in. His occupation is listed as an 'Overseer Steam Roller'.

Sally McAuley's house had a brown door, John

and Joe Butler of Ballyvoy lived there with their mother. There was a shop next to the house that sold household essentials. A pet parrot sat outside that had been bought after a sea journey. It had learned foul language on the crossing, and also shouted at customers (Ma Shop!). The shop was a precursor to McVeigh's at Barnish, and probably ran from the 1920s to the 1940s, selling paraffin, diesel, tea, tallow, sugar and other necessities. There was an orchard, with what were called American apples, which were delicious. Many a raid went on as a decoy was sent into the shop.



The house at the far end is either the Matthews' or that of the late Pate McVeigh in Acravilla.



Sally McAuley's house, later Butler's.

3 1887 – Mr Wm B Black's Sales – *Coleraine Chronicle*, February 26.
 4 1893 – Ballymena Equity Sessions. Dillon v Henry – *Larne Times*, October 21.
 5 1886 – Little Nut Gatherers and the School-Master. *Coleraine Constitution*, October 2.



1883 inscribed brick, thought to be the Orange Hall.



Peggy, Dan and Sam Matthews.



Sam (driving) and Dan Matthews (tipping hat), and Jim McAuley (Drumaridly).



McKeague's first tractor, John McKeague Sr driving and John McAuley (Drumaridly) in the background. Probably taken in September 1950.



Threshing at Acravally - Dan McVeigh (Broughanlea) and Jamie Davidson (Drumnakeel) on McKeague's thresher. John McKeague Sr and Jr in the foreground. The McKeagues bought their own thresher in the 1940s or 50s for contract work, at a stage having seven binders and two threshers on the go.



Cutting corn at Dan McBride's in Ballyverdagh. John McKeague Sr in the Ford 5000.



Ploughing Match in Matthews' field. John McCormick (Churchfield) in the hat, John McKeague Sr, Hector Cassley (Armoy Glen) in the hat, Alec Dobbin leading the horses.



John Sr on the plough, Hector Cassley in the hat, Alec Dobbin leading the horses.

Old Carey Mill Headstones

Law, 1824-1919 (Bun na Margai)

ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF
JAMES LAW, LATE OF CAREY MILLTOWN
WHO DIED 19TH NOVR 1824
AGED 77 YEARS.

ALSO HIS SON FRANCIS, LATE OF
STRANOCUM,
WHO DIED 6TH APRIL 1871,
AGED 81 YEARS.

ALSO HIS WIFE MARY ANNE,
WHO DIED 12TH AUGUST 1880
AGED 74 YEARS.

ALSO THEIR SON JOHN,
WHO DIED 21ST FEBY 1851,
AGED 7 YEARS.

ALSO THEIR DAUGHTER MARGARET,
WHO DIED 4TH MARCH 1909
AGED 72 YEARS.

ALSO THEIR SON JAMES,
WHO DIED 14TH JUNE 1909
AGED 80 YEARS

SAND THEIR SON FRANCIS
WHO DIED 9TH JANY. 1919
AGED 79 YEARS

W. SMYTH
COLERAINE



Law, 1842-1886 (Ballynaglogh)

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHARLES LAW
OF CAREYMILL, WHO DIED IN MARCH 1871
AND OF HIS SONS

JOHN, WHO DIED IN OCTOBER 1842

ROBERT, WHO DIED IN JANUARY 1875

AND JAMES, WHO DIED IN JANUARY 1886



Black, 1827 (Barnish)

JOHN BLACK of
Carey Mill departed
this life the 18th October
1827 his Age was 73



McAulay, 1829 (Barnish)

In Memory of
 CATHRINE
 wife of James McAulay
 of Carymill who departed
 this life 26th June 1829
 Aged 44 years

**Henry, 1894-1960 (Barnish)**

OF
 YOUR CHARITY
 PRAY
 FOR THE SOUL OF
 ANDREW HENRY, N.T.
 MAGHERA
 WHO DIED 9TH JANUARY 1912
 AGED 80 YEARS
 ALSO HIS SONS, HUGH
 DIED 19TH OCT 1894 AGED 27 YEARS
 PATRICK
 DIED 29TH MAY 1910, AGED 44 YEARS
 AND HIS BELOVED WIFE ELLEN
 DIED 16TH SEP 1924 AGED 88 YEARS
 HIS DAUGHTER ELIZABETH
 DIED 16TH AUG 1942, AGED 82 YEARS
 HIS SON JOHN
 DIED 16TH AUG 1942, AGED 65 YEARS
 HIS SON JAMES
 DIED 10TH OCT 1957
 AGED 81 YEARS



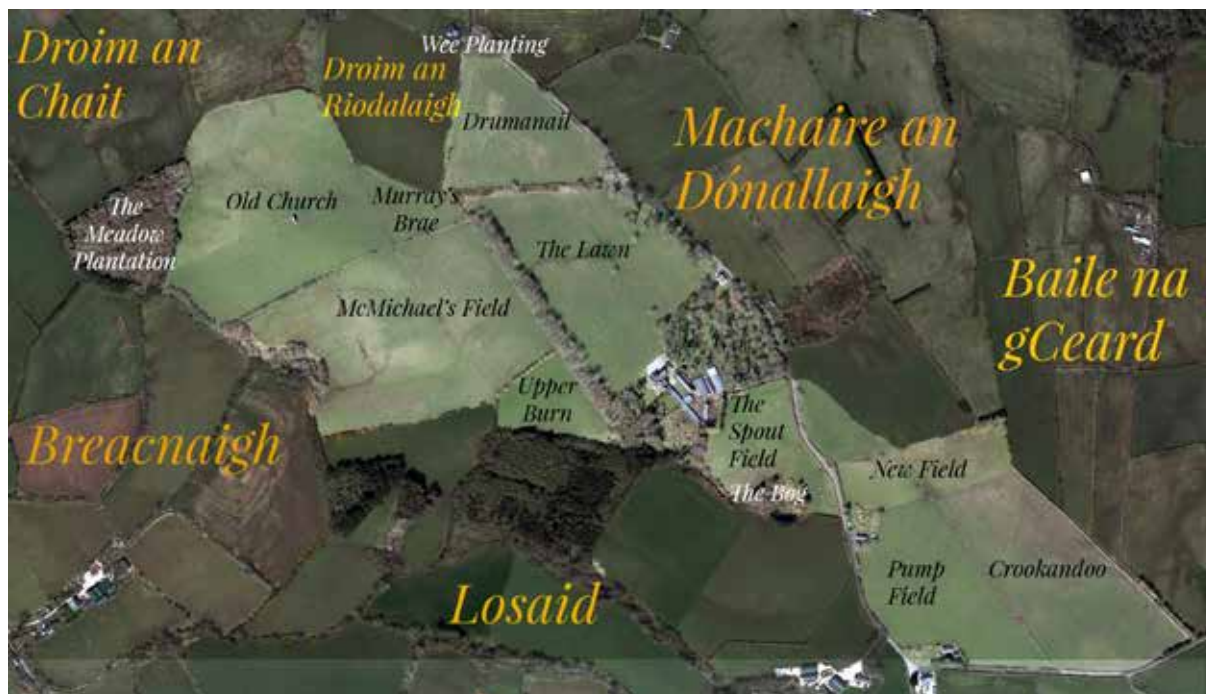
AND MARGARET, WIFE OF ABOVE
 JAMES, DIED 4TH JUNE 1960
 AGED 65 YEARS

On Whose Souls Sweet JESUS
 Have Mercy

Ellen McCormick.

Fieldnames

1. Crookandoo;
2. Drumanail;
3. McMichael's Field;
4. Murray's Brae;
5. New Field;
6. Old Church;
7. Pump Field;
8. The Bog;
9. The Gate Lodge;
10. The Lawn;
11. The Meadow Plantation;
12. The Spout Field;
13. Upper Burn.



The first recorded townland name was 'Magheritemple' around 1657, with Churchfield not found until 1734.¹ Machaire is usually translated as 'plain', but it can also be used to describe 'flat or low-lying country, a riding or playing field, a racecourse, a battle-field'. Teampaill is derived from the Latin 'templum' (church or churchyard), and is mainly associated with post-twelfth century churches.²

Crookandoo (Cnocán

Dubh – little dark hill) describes a hill or slope in shadow, in this case facing north away from the sun. Alternatively it could be because it's all black sand around there.³ *Drumanail* is possibly Droim an Aoil (ridge of lime). The *New Field* was split from *Crookandoo* by Patrick Casement, while *Old Church* refers to the field in which the old Culfeightrin Church sits. The current Church predates the Reformation, with the original possibly from the fifth century. Hugh A. Boyd thought

that the old church had not been used since the Reformation.⁴ It has been variously recorded as St Fechtany's, or St Fiachrius,⁵ with the latter the Latin name for St Fiacre. His festival is on the 28th of September.⁶ The OSM records that few burials were held there in the century prior, 'save stillborn and unbaptised children occasionally interred in the body of the edifice'. As well as graves and bones being found while working the land, lettered headstones were also sometimes

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 131).

2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 131).

3 Pers Comms Ciaran McCaughan (Ballynagard).

4 Boyd, Hugh A. (1950) The Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor, IX. *The Londonderry Sentinel*, August 19.

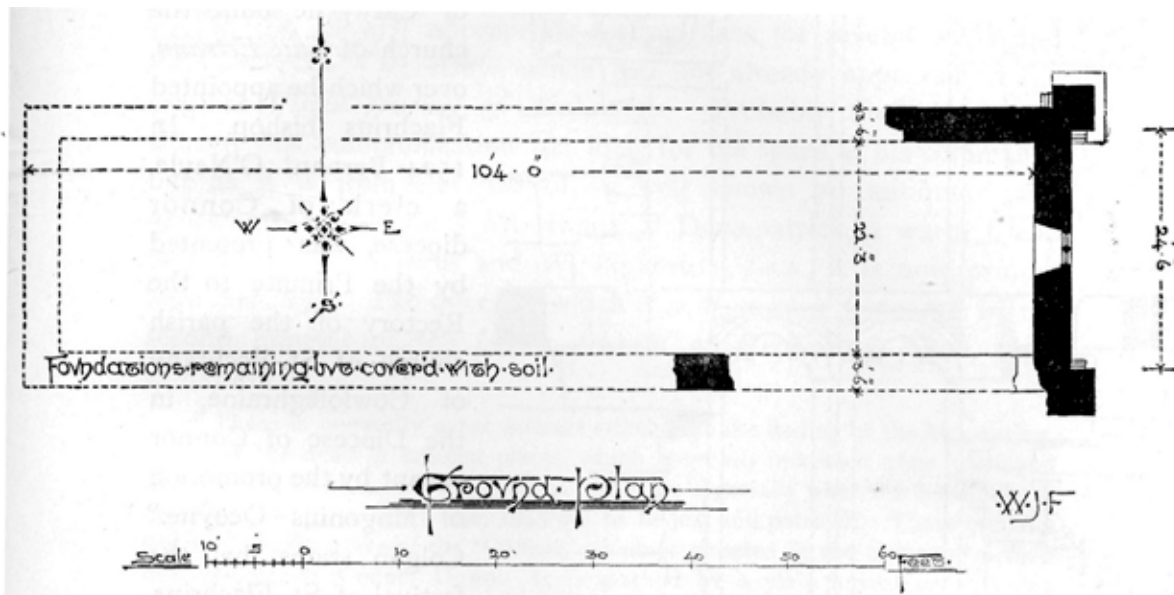
5 Reeves (1847: 79).

6 O'Hanlon, J. (1875: 528) *Lives of Irish Saints, with Special Festivals, and the Commemorations of Holy Persons*. James Duffy & Sons: Dublin.

uncovered. There was also the rumour that there are tombs in a vault below the church itself, said to be engraved with foreign languages.⁷ At the top of *Murray's Brae* into

Drumaridly are two stone pillars for the gate on the lane from St Fiachra's Church to Bun na Margai Friary. The *Pump Field* is also known locally as *Master Henry's*, who was

the teacher or principal in Ballyverdagh National School, said to live in the south end of the field. The *Spout Field* refers to an old water source for the Casements.



Ground plan of the church c.1898.⁸



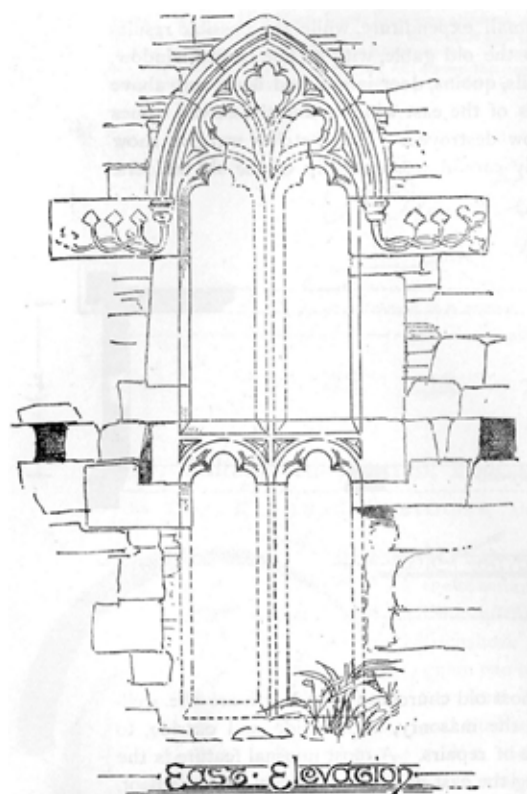
Sketch of the chancel gable c.1898.⁸

7 OSM pg 70-71.

8 Bigger, FJ. & Fennell, WJ. (1898) Culfeightrin Church, Diocese of Connor. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 2(IV): 178-180.



The chancel gable 2018. The remaining gable is thought to be a reinforcement of the original building, as the ground is sandy and full of springs.



Sketch of the east window c.1898.⁸

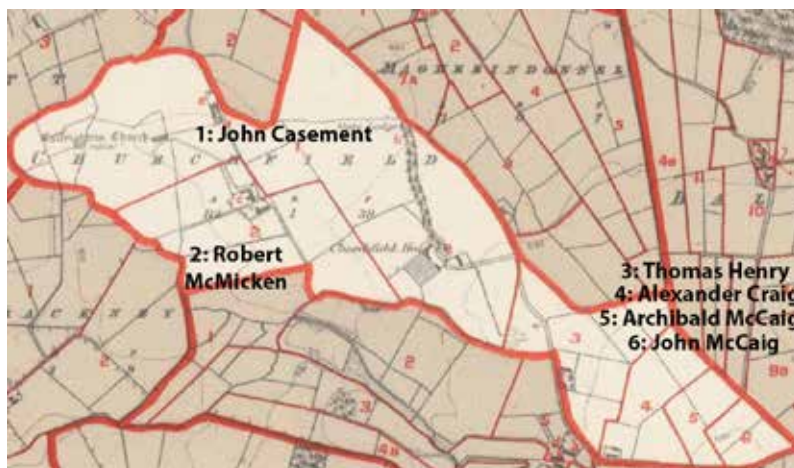
Families

- 1734:** Colman, Harrison, McAlester, McBride, McConely, McNeil, McNinch.
- 1803:** McAulay, McCambridg, McCormick.
- 1831:** Boyle, Burns, Casement, Craig, Darragh, McCormick, McKeag.
- 1861:** Casement, Chesnut, Craig, Henry, McCaig, McMicken, McVeagh, Puck, Wills.
- 1901:** Casement (& workers Brooks, Carlyle and McCollam), Henry (& grandson McMichael, McCurdy lodger), McLees (& Marshall boarder), Simpson (& daughter McCloey), Winter.
- 1911:** Casement (& workers Davison, McLoughlin, Winter; visitor Hogan), McAlister, McCormick, Simpson (& McCloy relatives).
- 2018:** Casement, Graham, Lee.

1861 Griffith's Valuation:

Robert McMichael (McMicken) held the field that bears his name. At the north end of *Murray's Brae* were two small dwellings, then held by Bridget Puck and John Chesnut. Thomas Henry lived at the top of the *Pump Field*, while Alexander Craig was at the bottom end. Archibald and John McCaig were of Ballynagard. The McVeighs are buried in Ballynaglogh (James, John, Margaret, Alexander, and Ellen), although it is uncertain which house belonged to them.

1901: Roger Casement was a land agent, and his son Frank a medical student. Denis McLees must have been the coachman to the Casements. *Master Henry* should be Thomas Henry, then a retired National School teacher, as it is presumed Thomas is a brother of Andrew Henry in Carey Mill; both were teachers from Derry. Thomas' grandson John McMichael was living with him, as well as another National School teacher, Essie McCurdy. She is still remembered locally, and was from Rathlin. Thomas



1861 Griffith's Valuation.

Henry died in May 1902. The Winter family was the widowed mother Catherine, her son Patrick, and daughter Catherine. Patrick was born in the United States in 1875, and his sister in Antrim in 1884. This suggests that the father died in the US between these dates, and his wife returned to her own family with the children. In 1911 Patrick McCormick was a cattle tender, and Archey Simpson a coachman.

McMichaels of Churchfield:

McMichaels' Field is one of the reasons we went into so much detail about families, otherwise it's just a name on a map that doesn't mean much. We had a family tree sent to us from New York by a grandson (plus a few greats) of the Robert

McMichael named in the Griffith's Valuation. Robert married Mary McCann of Acravally, and their daughter Ellen married Dan McCormick of Glenmakeeran. Part of Glenmakeeran is named after Ellen. Dan and Ellen's son Dan emigrated to New York around 1922. Another son of Robert, James, had five children. James' only boy was James A. McMichael of the Royal Hotel and the chemist in Ballycastle. A daughter Margaret married the publican and veterinarian Randal McDonnell of Castle Street (grandparents of Tom O'Neill in Ballypatrick), while another daughter Ellen (Nellie) was engaged to Patrick McCarry of Murlough, before he was shot by the Specials in 1921.



Robert McMichael's wife, Mary McCann from Acravalley.



Robert and Mary's daughter Ellen (married Dan McCormick, Glenmakeeran).



James McMichael Sr c.1886.



Robert and Mary's sons James, Dan, and John. James was widowed twice, and his third wife was Margaret McHenry of Ballypatrick (pictured on the right).



James and Margaret McMichael and family, Margaret (married Randal McDonnell, Castle Street), Lizzie, Nellie, Kate, and James A.

Casements of Magherintemple:

Originally from the Isle of Man, the Casements first arrived in the townland in the late eighteenth century, when Mary Casement of Ballinderry married Hugh Harrison of Churchfield. Prior to this the farm was held by the Stewarts of Ballintoy, who leased it to Hugh's father the Reverend Michael Harrison, Rector of Culfeightrin. Hugh's

son, also named Michael, led the founding of the Church of Ireland in Cushendun in 1839. When Hugh died in the early nineteenth century the lease was eventually passed to Mary's brother Roger, a solicitor in Ballymena. This Roger was married twice; from his first marriage he had 10 sons and four daughters, including Hugh, grandfather of the famous Roger Casement; from his second marriage he

had four sons and three daughters, including John who inherited Churchfield (passing it on to his son Roger). The latter Roger Casement had five sons born in the 1880s; Jack, Frank, Hugh, Robert, and Edgar, with Edgar the only one not to serve in the First World War. Roger and family stayed at Colliers' Hall while the house in Churchfield was being renovated in the 1880s.



Roger Casement in the background, son Edgar on the left, (the former Sir) Roger Casement in the foreground.



Frank Casement in his Irish international rugby uniform (he gained three caps in the 1906 Four Nations).



Roger Casement of Magherintemple.

Churchfield House, Offices, Garden and Farm, NEAR BALLYCASTLE.

CONTAINING 17A. IR. 7P. IRISH PLANTATION MEASURE.

THE House consists of Parlour, Drawing-room, Kitchen, Pantries, and Cellar, five Bed-rooms, Nursery, Store-room, and Servants' apartments. The Yard is spacious and enclosed with a wall; the Garden and Farm in good order, well watered, and very productive.

Proposals in writing will be received by **HUGH CASEMENT, Esq** Belfast; **THOMAS CASEMENT, Solicitor, Ballymena;** and the Rev. **ROBERT CASEMENT,** on the premises, the Trustees of the Estate of the late **ROGER CASEMENT, Esq.** in the Barony of Carey; and also by **ALEX. MILLER, Esq.** of Ballycastle, Agent for said Estate. The family Pew in the Parish Church, half-a-mite from the house, may be used by the Tenant (224)

1842 notice described the grounds as they were then.¹⁰



The above Roger on the steps of the house c.1900 Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland..



The original Gaelic format of *Coolaveely* is still unknown, with several different possible versions. *Cúil Uí Bhaothalaigh* is based on the presumed original name for the neighbouring Ballyveely (Ramoan), a reference to the old surname *Ó Baothalaigh*.¹ *Cool* can mean either *cúil* (corner, recess or nook), or *cúl* (back – to the back of a lough or hill). The *veely* element also has several different possible meanings: *míle* (soldier), *maoil* (bare rounded summit or hilltop),² or *mínleach* (tract of grassland in a mountain).³ *Míle* could refer to the various battles in Gleann Seisc between Clann Domhnaill (the McDonnells), Clann Mhic Uigilín (McQuillans), and



the Uí Néill (O'Neills) during the sixteenth century. *Béal Átha na Fóla* (the mouth of the bloody ford) is one of the placenames in Ballyveely, referring to the Battle

of Gleann Seisc of July 1559, when the loss of life between Clann Domhnaill and Clann Mhic Uighilín was so great the river was said to run red with blood.⁴

Families

1734⁵: Black, Brown, McAuley, McBride, McCollum, McComb, McCormick, McGee, McKewan, McNogher, O'Cahan, O'Laverty, O'Nogher, Scallie.

1803: McAylay, McCook.

1831: Kelly, McCahan, McCook.

1861: Jameson, Kelly, McCahan.

1901: Jamison (& Sherdon worker), McCaughan.

1911: Jamieson (& McCurdy worker), McCaughan.

2018: None.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 232-233).

2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 233).

3 Mac Gabhann (1997: 132).

4 OSM pg 79.

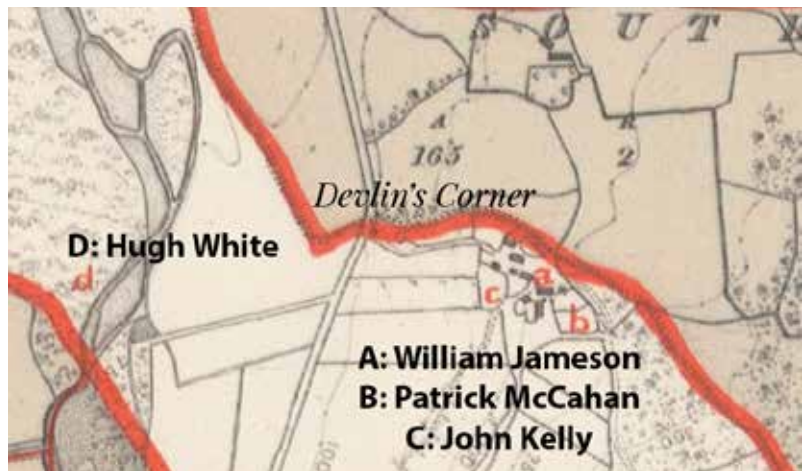
5 Cullyvieley. This must take in parts of other townlands as there are too many names listed.

1861 Griffith's Valuation:

In 1861 the whole of the 162 acre townland was shared between the Jamesons, Kellys, and McCahans. Hugh White had 35 perches, slightly less than a quarter of an acre, he is presumed to be Hugh White of Ballyveely. Hugh had 17 acres and a caretaker's house there, so we presume he was the school caretaker. William Jameson worked for the Campbells in Ballyverdagh North.⁶

1901 and 1911 Censuses:

There were only two families resident in 1901: in one house lived William Jamison, his



1861 Griffith's Valuation

wife Ellen, and their son Alexander, along with a worker James Sherdon. In the other house was the widowed Jane McCaughan, her sons Archy, Patrick, and James, and her daughter Rosetta. They were all farmers or farm workers, except for James, who was a shoemaker. In 1911 the

residents of the first house were John Jamieson, his mother Ellen, wife Letitia, adopted son James, and a worker Henry McCurdy. Siblings Archibald, Patrick, and Mary Anne McCaughan still lived in the second house.

The McAuleys (1734 & 1803) are buried in Bun na Margai

DANIEL MC
AULEY OF CULLAVEELY
EELY AND FAMILY
BURYING PLACE HE
AR LYS HIS DAUGH
TER JANE WHO DY
ED THE 7TH AUGUST
1780 AGED 37 YEARS

A BURYING
PLACE FOR
JOHN MCAULEY
OF CULLAVEELY
AND FAMILY
1804
ALSO WILLIAM KELLY
AND FAMILY



6 1885– Another Row at Ballyverdaugh – *Coleraine Chronicle*, April 7.

**The McCooks (1803 & 1831) are buried in Bun na Margai,
with the stone inscribed:**

ERECTED

To the Memory DANIEL McCook
Late of Coolaveeley who departed
This life 21st Novr 1835 Aged 70 Also
His wife BARBRA who departed
This life 3rd March 1811 Aged 41 Also
His Daughter MARY who departed
This life 4th May 1821 Aged 27 Also
His daughter Jane who departed
This life 3rd March 1844 Aged 42.

Jamieson 1902-1942, Ballynaglogh

ERECTED

BY

JOHN JAMIESON

COOLAVELEY

IN MEMORY OF

HIS FATHER

WILLIAM JAMIESON

WHO DIED 10TH OCTR 1902,
AHED 72 YEARS.

HIS MOTHER ELLEN JAMIESON,
WHO DIED 2ND AUGT 1925,
THE ABOVE JOHN JAMIESON,
WHO DIED 7TH OCTR 1941,
AND HIS SON JAMES ARTHUR
WHO DIED 26TH FEBY 1942.



McCaughan 1888-1916, Barnish

ERECTED BY HIS FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF

PATRICK McCAUGHAN

COOLAVELEY

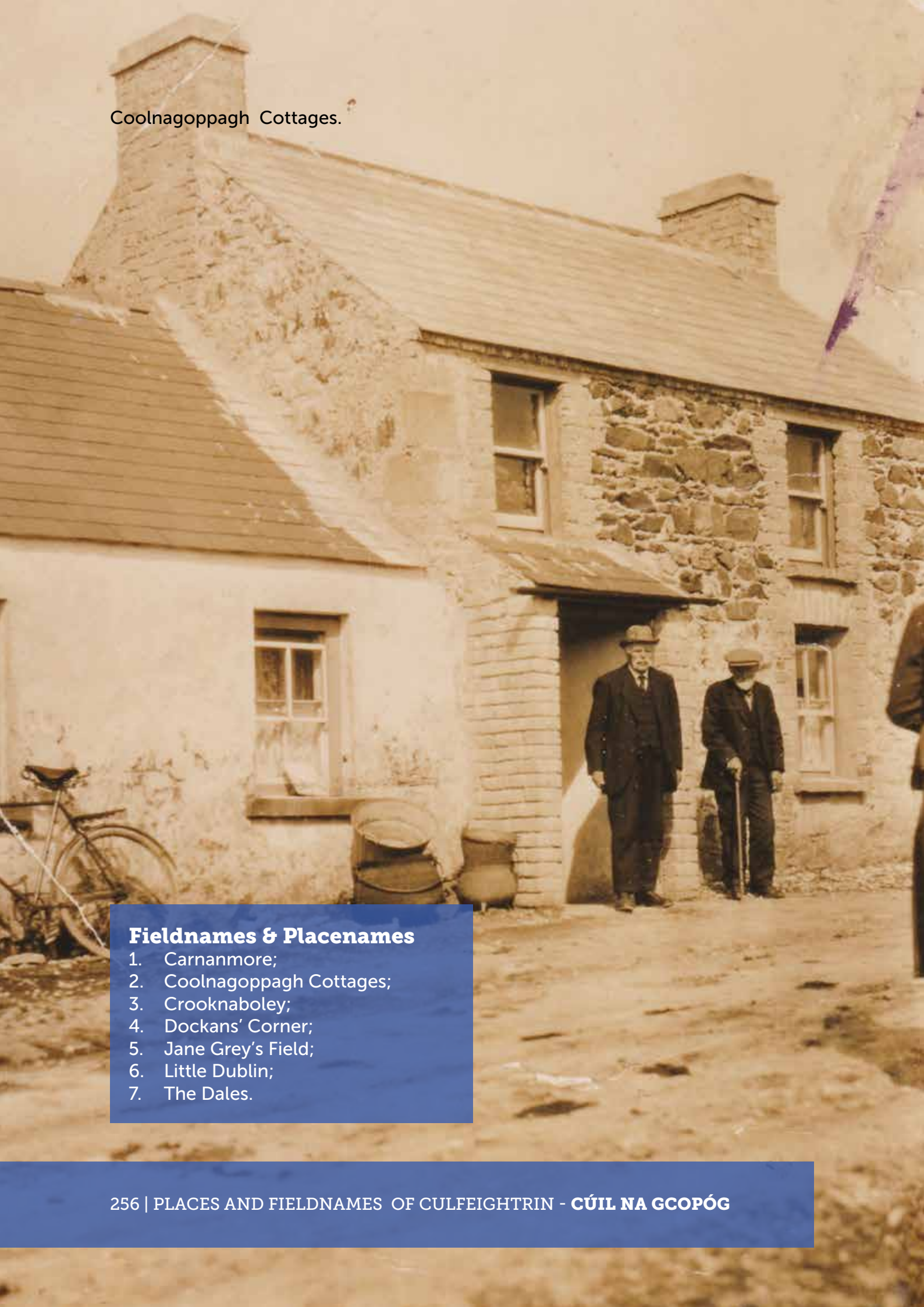
WHO DIED 7TH DECEMBER 1888
AGED 63 YEARS

HIS WIFE JANE McCAUGHAN,
DIED 14TH MARCH, 1906, AGED 62 YEARS.

THEIR SON DANIEL McCAUGHAN
DIED 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1900, AGED 18 YEARS
THEIR SON JOHN McCAUGHAN, D. M. P.
DIED 29TH DECEMBER, 1916, AGED 56 YEARS.



Coolnagoppagh Cottages.



Fieldnames & Placenames

1. Carnanmore;
2. Coolnagoppagh Cottages;
3. Crooknaboley;
4. Dockans' Corner;
5. Jane Grey's Field;
6. Little Dublin;
7. The Dales.



Copóg translates to large leaf or dock, and is a common placename element throughout Ireland. The townland name itself, *Cúil na gCopóg* is also found in Carlow, Kerry, Kilkenny, and Waterford.¹ The earliest record of the name is on the 1654

map, as a quarterland of Ballyvennaght.

If tombs were built for high status people, then *Carnanmore* must be for the most important person of all. It's not often you can look down on Fair Head, and for it to be small in the distance.

On the 1832 map it is recorded as *Carnlea*. By 1861 it has changed to *Carnanmore*. Estyn Evans described the engravings on the cairn as similar to those found at Knowth, the passage grave at Brú na Bóinne in Meath.²



View up towards Carnanmore on the Coolnagoppoge side.



Face on view of the cairn.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 133-4).

2 Estyn Evans, E. (1945: 19) *Field Archaeology in the Ballycastle District. Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 8.14-32.



View from below Carnanmore. Ballyvennacht left of the fence, Coolnagoppoge on the right.



Engravings on the roof slab in 1945.³



Pockmarks and an Ordnance Survey marker on the capstone.

Dockans' Corner is in the clachan, and was always known to be covered in weeds, while the clachan was called *Little Dublin*, as it contained 32 houses. The 1849 map shows it as Dublin, with a note marking the '*Boundary of the city and commons*'.

Crooknaboley (Cnoc na buaile – hill of the summer pasture) refers to the ancient farming practice of booleying, or living with the

livestock during summer grazing. Along the burn from Crooknaboley to Ballyvennacht are a group of rectangular booley houses.⁴ Those marked on the map can still be seen in the ground, but there are the ruins of many more. *The Dales* are the long narrow fields from the rundale system, which ties in with the clachan and the booleys.

Summary of Pat Dennis' work for the Clachan Project:

The following is a summary of the work done by Carnanmore for the Glens of Antrim Historical Society's clachan project, which ran from 2004-2007.

Other clachans identified in Carey were at Carey Mill, Drumnakeel, Crookincarragh, Coolanlough, Craigfad,

³ Estyn Evans (1945: 33).

⁴ Williams, B. & Robinson, P. (1983: 29) The Excavation of Bronze Age Cists and a Medieval Booley House at Glenmakeeran, County Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 46: 29-40.



1849 survey of the townland cropped on the clachan. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D/2977/3A/2/13/1.

and Slipin. All the known booley sites are marked on all the individual townland maps:

“Coolnagoppoge is a clachan in the lower reaches of the townland of the same name. The clachan is settled on a windswept scarp at a height of about 500ft. Visible below in a northwest direction at a distance of five miles is the town of Ballycastle, and behind the clachan towards the east, the land

slopes gently towards the mountain of Carnanmore, and then rises steeply to a height of 1250ft.

In the Ordnance Survey Memoir of 1831 Lieutenant T. C. Robe remarked that while there was no town in the parish of Culfeightrin, and no village deserving of the name, Coolnagoppoge was the largest group of cabins. Census figures for 1841 list the number of houses as 30 with a population of 144 people.

By 1871 the numbers of houses had decreased to 16 with a population of 74 people – almost halved in 30 years. There may be a number of varied reasons for the decline in the population – famine, ill health etc. but also it could have been due to the policy of the landlord – The Earl of Antrim.

A description of the lower class houses, typical of Coolnagoppoge, is given in 1835 by Lt R K Dawson: ‘...the houses are all one storey, thatched and built of stone – The houses in the remote and mountainous districts are not nearly so clean and comfortable and seldom consist of more than one apartment. Meal and potatoes with a little fish form the only articles of food. In the mountainous districts, very little meal is used. Tea is becoming an indispensable article, particularly with the older persons. Turf, which is very abundant, is the only fuel.’”

The earliest lease found for the townland is from 1710, for John McDonnell of Ballynagard (of the McDonnells at McKillop’s), for one quarterland for 31 years.⁵ He had to plant 40 trees a year for ten

years, or pay a fine of 4d for every tree not planted. Randal McDonnell of Ballynagard renewed the lease in 1742, with a covenant to grind corn (presumed to be in the Carey mill), and another "to build a good house containing 20 feet in

front, 16 feet in depth, one storey high, 9 feet in side wall. Failure to erect or keep in repair to pay additional rent of 20/= yearly".⁶ Randal had another lease in 1746 with the following instructions: "1 acre to be enclosed yearly for 10 years and

planted with quick sets or build a double stone ditch 4 feet in height and keep in good repair or forfeit lease. 5 trees to be planted yearly for 10 years or pay 4d for every tree not planted."⁷



Part of a badly damaged 1780 lease from the Earl of Antrim to William O'Shale, Dunkin Darragh, and John McCarry. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D/2977/3A/2/37/2.

The 1781 leases distribute the townland to four groups of tenants: (1) Archibald Black, Denis O'Hara, John Robeson;⁸ (2) William O'Shale, Dunkin Darragh;⁹ (3) Robert, John, Charles, and John Dunkin Jr; (4) Alex McDonnell, J McIlldowney, Hugh Duncan.

The 1817 lease still shows the townland in four quarters, (A) Arch

McCurdy and partners; (B) John McCambridge and partners; (C) John Dunkin and partners; (D) James Dunkan and partners.

The main crops grown were oats, corn, potatoes, and flax (there are dubs close to the clachan). Subsistence was almost impossible on the smallholdings, as the average holding in the 1820s was eight acres or

less, therefore tenants were often in rent arrears. In October 1847 the Earl of Antrim issued eviction orders to every tenant in the townland, to return their houses and ground to him.¹¹ Previously, letters from the McGildowney estate dating from 1803 had mentioned prior "subpoenas served on the tenants of Coolnagoppoge by Dr McDonnell".¹² The

6 D2977/3A/2/13/2.
8 D2977/3A/2/13/4.
10 D2977/3A/2/13/6.
12 D1375/3/3.

7 D2977/3A/2/13/3.
9 D2977/3A/2/13/5.
11 D2977/3A/2/13/14A-F.

following month, November 1847, nine leases were surrendered to the Earl.¹³

The eviction order wasn't necessarily to remove all the tenants, but allowed the landlord to reorganise the townland at will. Tenants at this time had only two choices, either comply with the landlord, or move elsewhere. In 1849 it was agreed that if arrears were paid tenants would be issued new farms and leases when the whole townland was reorganised. If the tenant did not pay their arrears they would become a

'tenant at will', allowed to use the land, but without the security of a lease. Each tenant would be assigned a dale, while the eastern fields and mountain grazing were reorganised (it is presumed the townland map from 1849 is post-agreement). A 1738 lease from the Earl of Antrim to Reverend Archibald Stewart of Ballintoy for the quarterlands of Torr, Glenmakeeran, and the half townland of Ballypatrick specifies that the ground is *'Not to be held in common or rundale'*.¹⁴

In the Griffith's Valuation of 1861 the

Year	Population	Houses
1841	144	30
1851	140	28
1861	90	19
1871	74	16
1881	40	12
1891	41	13
1901	40	11
1911	64	15
1926	63	12

Census data from from 1841-1926 compiled by Carnanmore for the Clachan Project.



1849 map of Coolnagoppoge. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/20/6.



The clachan as of February 2019.



The layout of the clachan in 1853. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/24/4.

13 D2977/3A/2/13/15A-I.
14 D2977/3A/2/1/36A, PRONI.

whole townland is listed as a single holding between the tenants. Pat Dennis thought this meant that no-one could pay the rent, and that everyone was a tenant at will, as the only other townland in Carey listed as a single holding in 1861 was Coolaveely. It could also represent the rundale system, with the townland held in commons. The 1861 Valuation lists a house held by 'Jas Sheil & Partners', so the rundale system seems more likely. Although acreage was shared, the rateable value of the land is listed individually, with John M'Cambridge, and then James Sheil having the highest rent.

Without a lease, and with no legal rights to the land, it was easy for tenants to be evicted by the Earl of Antrim. The population figures on the preceding page were compiled from census data for the clachan project, and show how the population of the townland was almost halved over 30 years.

The 4 cottages at the top of the Mill Brae are the Coolnagoppagh Cottages. The bottom one was occupied by Lizzie Campbell, then McMullans; the second cottage was occupied by Rose McAuley, who married John Adair; third was McAuley - Rose's mother, then Bonar John; and last was Black's, then Morrison's.

Families

- 1669:** McCormuck, O'Skelly.
- 1734:** Buttler, Duncan, Hunter, McConaghie, McCormick, McKeskie, O'Scallie, O'Sheal.
- 1803:** Black, Clark, Connel, Darragh, Dunkin, Harran, McCarry, McGlarry, McHendry, McLaughlin, McLean, McMuhall, O'Sheals, Robinson, Scally, Sheals.
- 1831:** Black, Butler, Clark, Connolly, Duncan, McCarry, McDonnell, McGlarry, McLaughlin, McMullan, McNeill, Scally, Sheills.
- 1861:** Butler, Clarke, Connolly, Duncan, McCambridge, McCay, McCarry, McMullen, Scally, Sheil.
- 1901:** Butler (*& McMichael servant*), Clarke, Connolly, Duncan (*& McCarry worker*), McLaughlin, McMullan, McMullan (*& Donaghy, Grant workers*), McMullan (*& Scally worker*), Scally, Shields.
- 1911:** Black, Buttler (*& Black worker*), Campbell, Catten, Connolly, Duncan (*& Black worker*), McAuley, McAuley (*& McClarty worker*), McAuley (*& McLaughlin father-in-law*), McMullan, McMullan (*& Donaghy worker*), McMullan (*& Scally uncle*), Scally, Shiels.
- 2018:** Blaney, Dennis, Edwards, Kane, McKay, McManus, Murphy.



Taken at the Coolnagoppagh Cottages. James McMullan on the left, probably his father Denis on the right.



Margaret McKeown (née Clarke), sister of Patrick.



Patrick Clarke, son of Eneas.



Sisters Cassie and Jane McLean with their mother Jane (née Black).

Old Coolnagoppoge Headstones

Dunkin, 1800 (Bun na Margai)

JOHN DUNKIN'S
BURYING PLACE OF
CULNAGOPAG AND
FAMILY.

HERE LIE THE BO-
DY OF HIS WIFE MARGA
RET DUNKIN WHO DE
PARTED THIS LIFE THE
11TH DAY OF JUNE 1800
AGED 38 YEARS



Black, 1811 (Bun na Margai)

To the memory of
Archd Black late of
Culnagoppag who died
1818 Aged 84
ROSE MCCam
bridge his Wife Who
Departed this life Apr
the 6th 1811. Aged 72 years.



Duncan, 1816 (Bun na Margai)

This is James Duncan's Burying
Place of Cullnagoppag
Here lieth the Body of
His Son James who Dep
arted this life April
1816 Aged 7 years.



Dougherty, 1823 (Barnish)

This is To the
Memory of MARGARET
DOUGHERTY wife to
THOMAS M'GLARY of
Coolnagoppage, who de-
parted this life
Decr the 1st 1823.
This is erected by his
son Hugh.

**McMullan, 1827 (Barnish)**

Eneas M'Mullon's Burying
Ground of Culnagoppag
Here lieth the Remains of
His Son Dinis, who departed
this life 31 July 1827 aged
16 years.

**Sheals, 1844-1849 (Barnish)**

IHS
ERECTED
BY JAMES SHEALS of
Coolnagopagh to the memory
of his Son WILLIAM who
departed this life 20th Sepr 1844
Aged 19 years
Also his Wife NANCY who
departed this life
on the 25th of March 1849
Aged 56 years.

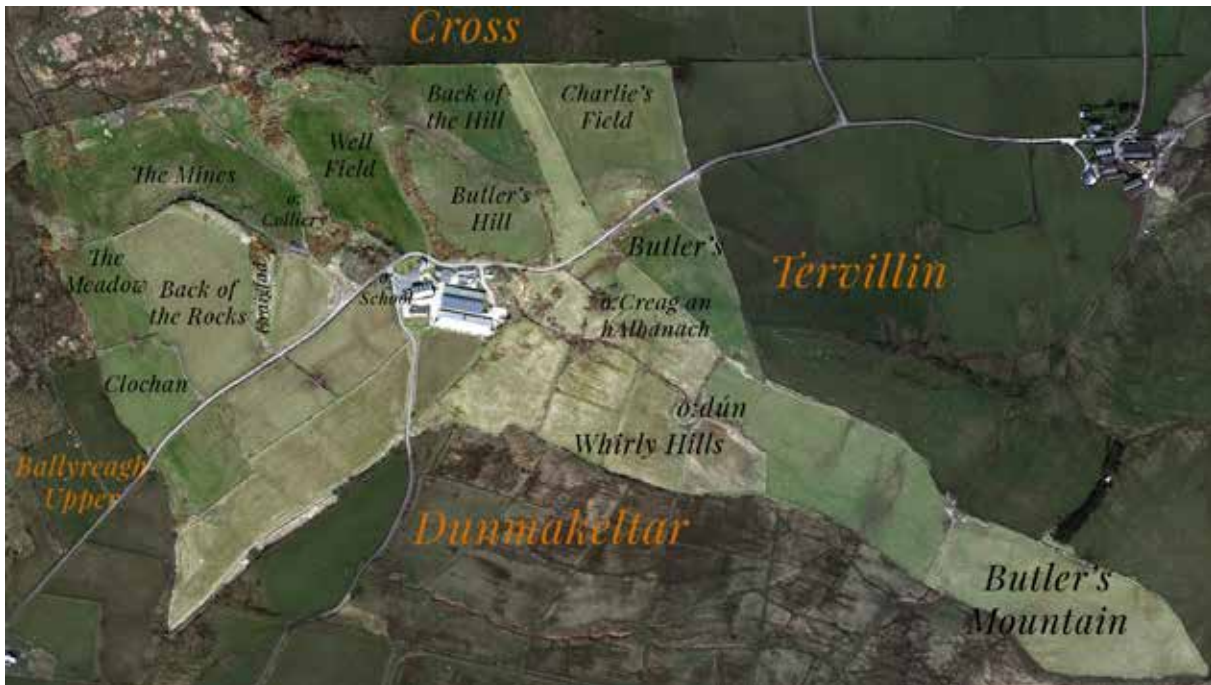




Fieldnames

1. Back of the Hill;
2. Back of the Rocks;
3. Butler's Hill;
4. Charlie's Field;
5. Clochan;
6. Creag an hAlbanach;
7. Craigfad Colliery;
8. Craigfad School;
9. The Meadow;
10. The Mines;
11. Well Field;
12. Whirly Hills.

MEMORY OF
AMIESON,
DIED
MARCH 1884
YEARS.
MARGARET HIS WIFE



First recorded in 1734, the site of *Craigfadda* was described around 1855 as 'a long ridge of rock with steep sides, and very narrow at the summit. The direction of the ridge is nearly north and south, and is almost crescent like in shape'.¹

Charlie's Field is named after Charlie McAuley of Ballypatrick, who drained it with a digger in the mid-1990s. *Creag an hAlbanach* (rock of the Scotsman) is a basalt outcrop, with a suspected enclosure or fort on top.² Its origins

are unknown, except what is suggested by the name. To the southwest of *Creag an hAlbanach* is a standing stone, thought to be related to the higher dún, the ruin of a tomb, or another megalithic structure.³ The second fort, further to the southwest, is a much larger and better preserved structure, almost circular in shape, and measuring around 27 yards in diameter. There are the remains of two rectangular structures on the summit, the first seven by five yards, and the second, nine by five

and a half yards.⁴ The OSM describe the two forts as follows: "In *Craigfadda* and holding of *Duncan McGrath*, and on the summit of a rocky eminence, there stands the ruins of an oval fort 14 by 11 yards. It was enclosed by a parapet of earth and stones, the greater part of which are now removed. At the south west side of the hill on which the fort was situated, and within a few feet of its base, there stands close together on a line 3 stone columns that formed part of the same ancient erection.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 135-6).
 2 SM7-ANT-005-013.
 3 SM7-ANT-005-025-01.
 4 SM7-ANT-005-014.

They vary from 3 to 5 and a half feet high, 2 and a half feet thick and on the whole 7 and a half feet in length. About 200 yards to the south east of the above fort, and in the holding of John Black, there stands the ruins of another

fort that approach to circular shape, 20 yards in diameter and enclosed by a moat and parapet of earth and stones, both of which are now greatly disfigured. The moat averages 15 feet wide and the parapet from 5 to 10 feet high and from 8 to

15 feet thick at the base. In the middle of the area stood some building 24 by 12 feet and enclosed by a wall or parapet of earth and stones, but at present nearly destroyed. Informant Duncan McGrath."⁵



Dún Mór (Cross) from Creag an hAlbanach.



View of Creag an hAlbanach from the dún.



The outline of the foundations of a square building in the dún.

5 OSM pg 59.

Craigfad School:

Either destroyed in a storm, or the roof was blown off in December 1894, after which Father McDonnell rented two houses in the Row in Ballyreagh, although the school was always

called Craigfad after the move. There's no building marked on the school site in Craigfad in the 1st Ed. OS (c.1830), but the school is marked and named in the 2nd Ed. OS (c.1860). It was already a National School by 1861,

but the early details are still unknown.

Craigfad Mines:

The *Belfast Telegraph* had an article on the mines in 1959 giving the following details on the operations in Craigfad:

9th November 1959, *Belfast Telegraph* Coal mined at Ballycastle cheaper than English fuel

EIGHT MEN WORKING IN A LITTLE COAL MINE high above the sea at Fair Head, Ballycastle, are digging out 15 to 20 tons of good quality house coal a day and selling it at the pit-head at £6 a ton.

The mine, started four years ago, is the latest venture in coal mining in the area, which has been going on for centuries.

Many men have speculated and lost money trying to win coal around Ballycastle, but this mine, owned and operated by the Earl of Antrim, is providing a highly successful operation, and recently has been able to place Ballycastle coal on the open market.

A Belfast firm is now taking orders for this locally-mined coal, and is selling it at a lower price than similar quality coal imported from England and Scotland.

The Ballycastle coal field was once estimated to contain 49,000,000 tons.

Historians say that coal was first mined around Ballycastle in the thirteenth century, when people in England were still gathering it at the sea shore. Around 1760, some 60 locally owned ships were loading Ballycastle coal for Dublin and further afield.

Throughout the area, there are abandoned mine shafts and tunnels dotted among the hills and cliffs – monuments to the men who had hoped to win fortunes and failed.

But the little mine at Craigfad is very much a going concern. Besides the new Belfast contract, they also supply coal to a local Ballycastle merchant, and the slack goes to a cement works near Larne. The mine, reached by a twisting lane, is about 400 feet from the sea.

Three small buildings stand near the coal tip, a mound of rubble down which a narrow railway track runs into the main mine gallery.

The gallery at present runs for 600 feet into the earth, and reaches a point 178 feet below the mine head. From this main gallery branches run left and right, some of them extending for 300 feet.

LITTLE HEAD-ROOM

There is barely headroom at the start of the gallery, and this reduces considerably when the shaft takes a sudden dip down a two-in-one slope before returning to a level of about three-in-one. The miners are following a seam about four and a half feet thick, which is very thick compared to some in the Scottish mines, sometimes only 18 inches thick.

Along the side of the gallery run the power lines, a large canvas duct to supply fresh air, and pipes from the water pumps at the bottom of the mine.

There is some seepage from the red sandstone rock above, and the pumps deal with about 220 gallons of water an hour, which collects at the bottom of the shaft.

At the coal face electric drills are used to cut $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch holes some four and a half feet into the coal. Usually about six holes are drilled and then packed with gelignite, complete with detonators. The charges are exploded electrically, and the coal blasted clear is then loaded into tubs and hauled to the surface by a steel cable. An electric motor supplies the power needed to haul a tub and its eight cwt of coal the 600 feet to the surface.

EXPERIENCE

Only two of the eight men working in the mine have had previous experience.

James McVeigh, a coal face worker from the nearby village of Ballyvoy, worked in English coal fields, while 32-year-old Archie McCormick, of Drumahammond, Ballycastle, worked in Scotland and in a nearby mine operated by Mr James Delargy.

In charge of the mine is Mr William Main, who came over from Lanark three years ago. The coal, he says, compares very well with English and Scottish house coal.

"It gives very good heat," he says, "and there's no waste as it burns into a white ash."

"The work at first was very chancy, and we weren't too sure about the seam."

But now it's running regularly, and for the last 18 months we have been doing very well, with little or no trouble."

"If we wanted to go into this on a bigger scale, we might have to employ experienced miners from Scotland, and arrange a bigger distribution area. As it is, we will sell coal to anyone who comes up to the mine at £6 a ton for house coal, and £4 a ton for slack."

The type of mining carried on at the moment is rather elementary, with no expensive coal cutting machinery.

But if demand increased, the mine could easily yield much more. It possesses a number of great advantages. There is plenty of fresh air, and there are no pockets of coal gas.

In fact, the miners are permitted to smoke while at the coal face, and the light they carry in their safety helmets are carbide lamps, producing a long narrow unprotected flame.

The sandstone above the seam provides a very solid roof, and there have been no falls since the mine was opened.

Below the coal there is an eighteen inch thick seam of damp fireclay, which provides a good material for stopping up the blasting holes after the gelignite has been inserted.

Like most mines, it is damp underfoot, and the fireclay quickly mashes into a thick mud along the galleries and shafts.

When the tubs have clanked and creaked up to the mine head, the coal is tipped over a screening plant to separate the lumps from the slack. After weighing and bagging, it is ready for sale.

One of the most enthusiastic advocates of this coal is Mr Joseph Laverty, of the Royal Hotel, Ballycastle.

GREATER HEAT

"It gives a longer lasting and greater heat than middle grade English coal," he says, "and there are no cinders. I've been using it since the mine opened up four years, and I've even been able to use it in an anthracite stove."

So after years of frustration and fruitless work, it look like the Ballycastle coalfield may finally be coming into its own.

7th February 1974, News Letter **In Ballycastle there's a vein of sympathy for the miners**

On Monday the National Union of Miners' strike ballot revealed that 81 per cent of the miners were in favour of taking strike action to fight their 'special' case. As recently as 1967 Northern Ireland had its own coal mines and its own coal miners. What would they have done to-day? What are they doing now? And can they sympathise or identify with the problems of their former counterparts in England, Scotland and Wales? CHRIS MOORE reports from Ballycastle...

The last productive coal mine in Northern Ireland closed on July 28, 1967.

And although the coal ran out in 1967 – not all the miners followed suit. Many stayed behind to work the land they had once disembowelled.

On the outskirts of Ballycastle – which has an association with mining which stretches back to the 1750s – lies the village of Ballyvoy, slumbering in the hinterland of Fair Head.

A sign at the village petrol station cum-grocery store warns motorists that it is the last filling station before the mountain road which leads around the rugged coastline to Cushendun.

REMAINS

Nearby are the remains of the mines which provided work for about 50 miners between the thirties and sixties. The last of these mines – at Craighfad – closed in 1967, putting between 12 and 15 men out of work.

Tracing some of these men in Ballyvoy was not difficult. Three of them live in comfortable cottages in the same street, and all have great sympathy with the miners across the Channel.

John Butler worked Craighfad for 13 years, and he firmly believes that the National Union of Miners' is quite right to press for 'special' treatment inside Ted Heath's Phase Three pay restrictions.

The dangerous nature of the work, the overall conditions and the possibilities of ill-health induced by mineshaft work are factors worthy of 'special' considerations according to John.

The average pay packet for a miner near Ballycastle was £17-£20 per week.

This is £8 or so lower than the lowest paid miners are getting in England, Scotland and Wales at the moment, and only half the average wage of all miners.

Still, John still feels that the NUM is taking the right stand. *"We worked seven eight-hour shifts in the week,"* he pointed out. *"There was no such thing as a productivity agreement – we didn't even have a union."*

In spite of this handicap, in terms of the negotiation of wage structures, bonus schemes and everything else that union membership brings, John found that the mines paid better than his subsequent forms of employment.

In an ironic sense, he can pinpoint another of the attractions mining held for him.

"It was steady work," he commented. *"I've worked on building sites in Ballycastle and you could be laid off for a few days waiting for materials to arrive or if the weather was bad. The mining was not like that – it was not affected by the weather or lack of materials to work with."*

John is temporarily out of work because of illness. But he has an affection for mining which is reflected in his attitude to the job he has held for 13 years. He would also return to mining if the opportunity was ever to arise again.

But in the Ballycastle area that is unlikely. For the coal there never ran true. The adit mining would be sufficient to mine the pockets of coal, but not to go too deep enough to find a viable quantity.

DRIED UP

Volcanic action disrupted the coal seams and it meant that the mines could follow a seam into a hillside for up to half a mile and then suddenly find the seam had dried up. To re-locate the seam would be necessary to go down another 40 or 50 feet and this is where it becomes less practical.

The coal mined at Craigfad was sold in the surrounding area for domestic use. But the Delargy family also mined in the area for coal to fire their lime burning kilns.

Hugh McNeill, one of John Butler's neighbours, worked at the Black Park mine until its closure in the early part of the sixties. He returned to mining some time later at Craigfad.

"I would go as far as to say the miner is not getting half paid," he said, "If you go down a mine you take the chance of not coming out again. It is dirty unhealthy work which deserves more money in the pay packet."

Even Hugh, who spent some time out of work after the closure of the Craigfad, had to admit that financially he was better off in the mines than doing agricultural work on the surface.

BLACK PARK

James Delargy, of Cushendall, recalls the days when he operated the mine at Blackpark, when between 10 and 20 men were getting 'twice as much for working the mines than for working on the land'.

The mine at Blackpark was opened in the early thirties and produced coal to fire the kilns for the next three decades.

"Like Craigfad, we were producing up to 100 tons of coal per week at the peak of production," said James.

What about the mines to-day?

James commented: *"It is a dangerous job and I think the miners are worth more money."*



Leaving the mine at the end of the shift are four coal-face workers, Jim McVeigh, Jim Butler, Archie McCormick and John Murphy. They have walked 600 feet up the shaft from the workings. Belfast Telegraph, 9 November 1959.



Preparing to blast
Archie McCormick drills a hole in the coal face before blasting. Belfast Telegraph, 9 November 1959.

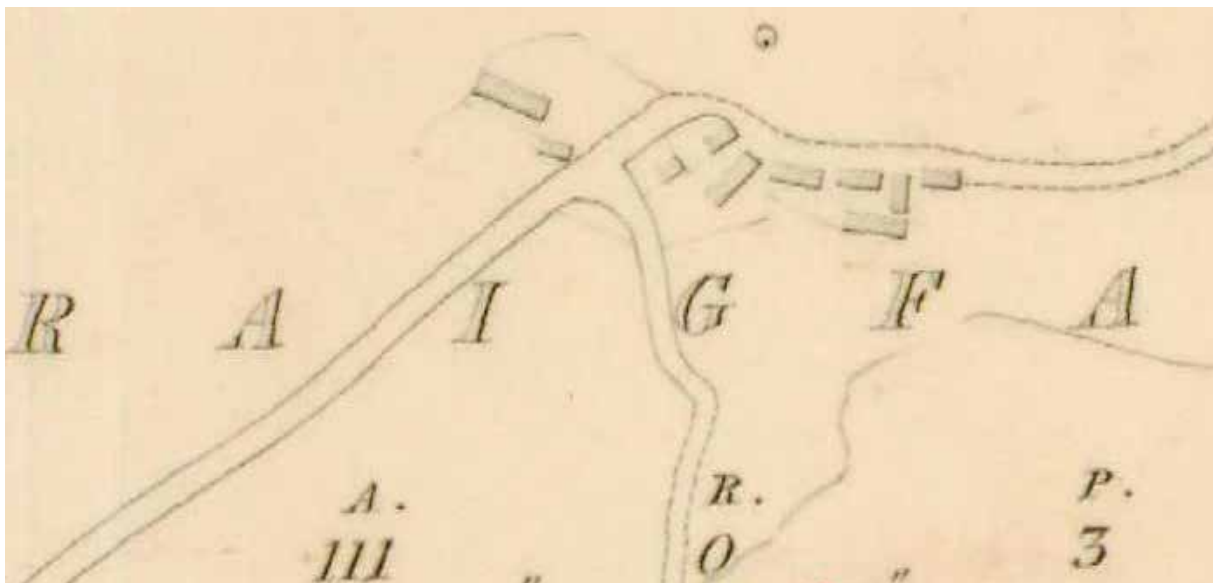


Jamie Butler in the Craigfad Mine.

Families

- 1734:** Darragh, Darrogh, Forbis, Hall, Himond, Hunter, McCarks, O'Dalen.
1803: Butler, Jameson, Linn, McGraw, McHendry, McHenry, McKeague, Sharp.
1831: Black, Cassidy, Hunter, Jamison, McCormick, McGraw, McKeag, McKendry, McMichael, McMullan, O'Neill.
1861: Butler, McCaig, McCraig, McGrath, Quinn.
1901: Butler (*& Scally worker*), Butler (*& McAlister worker*), McClements.
1911: Butler (*& Dokerty nephew*), Butler (*& McAlister worker*), McClements.
2018: Butler, McClements.

Pat Dennis' population figures from the clachan project evidence 11 houses and 62 people in Craigfad in 1841. The houses were all in the current two farmyards at the clachan.



All the houses in Craigfad c.1830 (1st Ed. OS).

Townland of Craigfad

Year	Population	Houses
1841	62	11
1851	46	7
1861	27	7
1871	38	9
1881	18	5
1891	20	4
1901	14	3
1911	12	3
1926	12	3

Population change of the townland from 1841-1926, compiled by Carnanmore for the Clachan Project.

1803 survey:

William Sharp Senior and Junior are named in the 1803 survey, while John Sharp is buried in Bun na Margai, and John McKeague in Barnish:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF JOHN
SHARP LATE OF CRAIGFAD
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
THE 14TH OF MRH 1820 AGED
55 YEARS ALSO HIS WIFE
KATHARINE SHARP WHO
DIED IN 1817 AGED 50

Here lieth the remains
of Alex r Jamison late
of Craigfad who dep
arted this life the 26th
day of May 1827 Aged
67 years.

1831 survey:

Henry Jamieson and Stewart McCormick from this survey are both buried in Barnish:

Jamieson, 1874-1884 (Barnish)

IN MEMORY OF
HENRY JAMIESON
OF CRAIGFAD
WHO DIED 18TH MARCH 1884
AGED 75 YEARS.
AND MARGARET HIS WIFE
WHO DIED 7TH OCTOBER 1874
AGED 65 YEARS.

McCormick, 1830-1831 (Barnish)

IHS
To mark the burying Ground
of Stewart McCormick
of Craigfad and family
Here lie the remains of his
daughter Ann who died
in 1830 Aged 7 years and
Mary died in 1831
Aged 5 weeks



Alexander Jamison.



McCormick, 1830-1831.



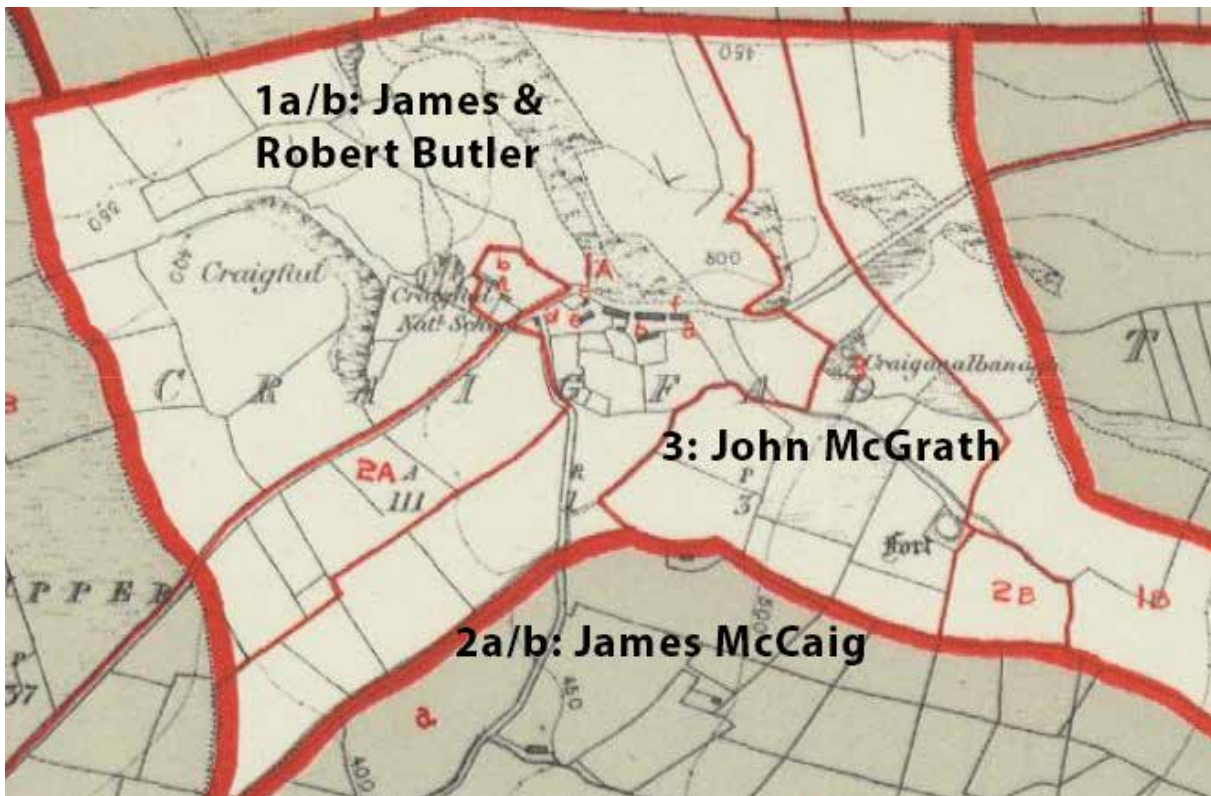
Jamieson, 1874-1884.

McKeag, 1833 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED
TO the Memory of
JOHN McKeag late of
Craigfad, who departed
this life on the 26th July 1833
Aged 72 years.



John Black is mentioned in the OSM as having the ground later held by John McGrath in 1861. The 'Mr O'Neill' in the 1831 survey was involved in the coal mines, and was either Patrick, or his brother Alexander. The only detail we found was the following court case from 1829, and we presume this is the same "Mr O'Neill or Colliery Lot" under which Tirvillin is named in the 1831 survey.



THURSDAY, AUG. 13.
Patrick Butler, Plaintiff; Patrick Charles O'Neill, Esq. and others, Defendants.
 This was an action of trespass with force and arms.—Damages laid at £500.
 Mr. GILMORE stated the case. He described the expulsion of plaintiff, and his family of nine young children, from their home at Craighad, a portion of the Ballycastle Colliery lands, in the month of March, as well worthy the sympathy of the Jury; and, with his usual ability, pointed out the serious injury his client had sustained by the summary manner he had been evicted from his house and farm by the defendants.
 For the plaintiff, his brother-in-law, brother, Mr. Alexander M'Neill, and Mr. Patrick M'Duffy, were severally examined, from whose testimony it was elicited, that plaintiff had previously purchased a farm and comfortable dwelling from Mr. M'Gildowney, at Coolnayogag, not half-a-mile distant, having agreed to give up the quiet and peaceable possession of his holding in Craighad to Mr. O'Neill: That he expressed himself in terms of gratitude to Mr. O'Neill for permitting him to hold said farm and house for three weeks free of rent, to enable him to remove to his new purchase: That he had accordingly removed all but an old chaff bed, a stool, and a few potatoes, and had collected a force to resist the delivery of that possession which he had formerly promised.
 Mr. PERRIN, leading Counsel for defendant, in a clear and perspicuous statement, reviewed all the bearings of the case, and shewed the evil tendency of encouraging such persons as Butler and his confederates in impeding, by combinations and intimidations, the prosecution of extensive works, such as the Collieries of defendant, or permitting the Colliers, of whom plaintiff had been one, to rule the modes of the establishment. Mr. Perrin concluded a luminous display of legal arguments to show that the plaintiff's tenancy was at an end, and that he had, by his own act, if there were no other reason, disentitled himself to any the smallest compensation.
 Mr. HOLMES took objections to part of the plaintiff's evidence, of which the Learned Judge took a note for argument in the Court of King's Bench next Term.
 The Jury found for plaintiff—£20 damages, subject to the objections.
 For plaintiff—Messrs. Gilmore, Hall, and Tomb. For defendant—Messrs. Perrin, Holmes, and Brady.

Griffith's Valuation 1861:

The houses in 1A were: (a) James Butler, (b) Robert Butler, (c) John M'Grath, (d) School, (e) Anne Quinn, (f) Archibald Butler. 2Aa was James M'Caig, and 2Ab was Margaret M'Craig, opposite the Craighad Road end.

The McGraths of Craighad were said to have taken in the Darraghs of Lisnakilly (Ballyreagh Upper), after they were evicted around the time of the famine. They were the family of Dan Darragh who died in 1870.⁶

Eviction Case in Craighad, 1829. Belfast Commercial Chronicle.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Agha / Achadh / Field;
2. Benmore / Bhinn Mhór / Great peak or cliff;
3. Benuewien / Bhinn Uaine / Verdant peak;
4. Benvore / Bhinn Mhór / Great peak or cliff;
5. Binnagapple / Bhinn an gCapall / Peak of the horses;
6. Bonavue/Bonavow / Bun an Bhoith / Foot of the hut/monastic cell;
7. Broughhor / Bruach Chorr / Pointed bank;
8. Buaille / Buaille / Milking place for cattle;
9. Buaille Rodden / Buaille Rodán / Small path to the milking place for cattle;
10. Carraig Beg / Charraig Bheag / Small rock;
11. Carrickavadder / Carraig an Mheadair / Rock of the vessel or churn;
12. Carrickavatagh / Carraig an Bhata / Rock of the boat;
13. Carrickmore / Charraig Mhór / Big rock;
14. Casnalough / Cosán an Locha / Path of the lough;
15. Clochan / Clochán / Stepping-stones, causeway; old stone structure;
16. Cloghanavirk / Cloch an Amhairc / Sight or lookout rock;
17. Cloghaniffrin / Cloch an Aifrin / Mass rock;
18. Cloughandoo / Cloch an Dubh / Black rock;
19. Cloughantober / Cloch an Tobair / Rock of the spring well;
20. Coolanlough / Cúl an Locha / Back of the lake;
21. Craiglamuck / Creag Lom Muc / Rocky bare hill for pigs;
22. Craignagatt / Creag na gCat / Rock of the cats;
23. Crookancarragh / Cnocán Carrach / Rocky hillock;
24. Crookapatata / Cnoc an Práta / Hill of the potatoes;
25. Cruan / Cruán / Solid or hard ground;
26. Crunya / Cruinne / Round place;
27. Culdafdm or Culdaft / Cúil Dabhcha / Back of the deep pool;
28. Culkiram / Cúil Chaorthainn / Corner of the rowan tree;
29. Doon / Dún / Fort;
30. Doonbeg / Dún Beag / Little fort;
31. Doonmore / Dún Mór / Big fort;
32. Drimadonial / Droim Uí Domhnaill / Ridge of the McDonnells;
33. Drumahurie / Droim an Chaoraigh / Ridge of the sheep;
34. Dunard / Dún Ard / High fort;
35. Elan Varny (Aileen Varny) / Oileán Bhearna / Island in the gap;
36. Fargan Ard / Fargán Ard / High ledge;
37. Farrangadoo / Fargán Dubh / Dark ledge;
38. Fhirleith / (Cosán an) Fhir Léith / Grey Man ('s Path);
39. Fyannachs / Fíonach / Plain overgrown with brush wood;
40. Gobcurrach / Gob Currach / Marshy point;
41. Illanagairde / Oileán na gCeard / Island of the artificiers;
42. Kielk / Caológ / Riverside field;
43. Killowen / Cill Eoghain / Eoghan's Church;

(Continued on P280)



The cross, from which the townland takes its name, is thought to be on the hill above *The Calf Parks*, near *Loch na Crannóige*. It is likely related to the nearby *Cill Eoghain*, although in the OSM, the cross used for mass on the crannóg is the source of the townland name.¹

In early maps from the 1600s, the whole of the townland is called Dún Ard, most likely after what is now called Dún Mór. By 1734 the map

shows the townland split into three: Dún Ard (to Loch Dubh), Cross (to Loch na Crannóige), and Coolalough (to Lough Fadden in Knockbrack).

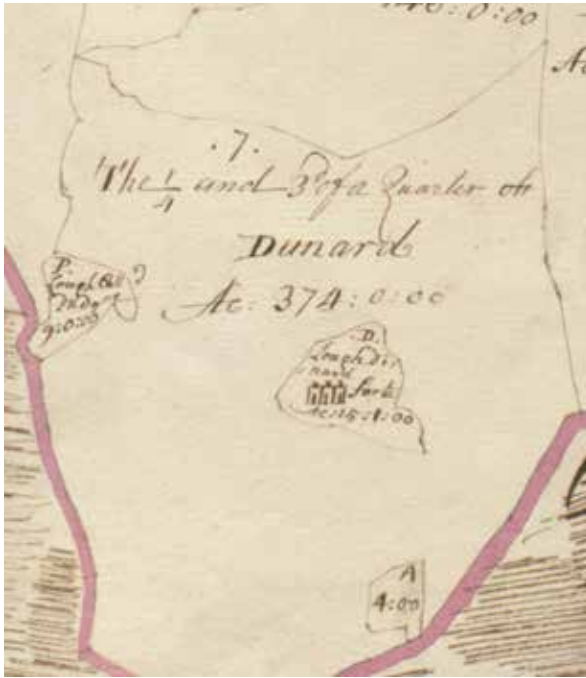
At *Alec Beggy's Hollow* is a ridge of rock you can see on the horizon called *Elan Varny* (or *Aileann Varney*). *Varny* could be *Bhearna*, meaning gap.

Achadh is a small patch of grass in the middle of the boulder field, while *Benuewian* is a sheep path which zig

zags down the braes below. Branching off the *Benuewian* path to the east is the *Buaile Rodán*. *Buaile* is a flat area below *Benuewian*, where cows were kept. *Benvore* are the black braes below the cliff. *Bhinn an gCapall* is the place where a stallion came ashore after a boat sank (it sired many horses in Carey). The *Birch Tree Mine* marks the end of the coal fields on that side of Fair Head, beginning at *Broughanlea*. The *Flood Rock* and *Cloughandoo* are two of the rocks on

1 OSM pg 81.

44. Killaleenan / Cill an Líonáin / Church of the ravine;
45. Lacbuie / Leac Bhuí / Yellow flat rock;
46. Lacbwyeea / Leac Bhuí / Yellow flat rock;
47. Lacknagran / Leac na Grán/na gCrann / Flat stone of the grain/trees;
48. Lacknakielt / Leac na Caoilte / Flag stone of the narrows;
49. Lacknatraw / Leac na Trá / Flat stone of the beach;
50. Leac Glarra Bhuí (or Glaclarbhui) / Leac Glárach Bhuí / Flat stone of the yellow mud;
51. Losset / Losaid / A kneading trough;
52. Loughdoo / Loch Dubh / Black lake;
53. Lough na Crannagh / Loch na Crannóige / Lake of the dwelling;
54. Malavore / Mhala Mhór / Big brow or slope;
55. Malawee / Mhala Bhuí / Yellow brow or slope;
56. Portnalub / Port na Lúb / Port of the twists or bends;
57. Portnanooany / Port an Uamhain / Port of the cave;
58. Portnapartin / Port na bPartán / Port of the crabs;
59. Scrule Dubh/Skreeldubh / Sceall Dubh / Black shale;
60. Skerifaughey / Sceíri Fachaire / Reef of the shelving land;
61. The Face of Tirvrua (or Turvrea) / Tír Ruaigh / Reddish-brown land ;
62. Toberdoney / Tobar Domhnaigh / Sunday or church well;
63. Alec Beggy's Hollow;
64. Birch Tree Mine;
65. Boat Port;
66. Conn's House;
67. Danny's Acre;
68. Dessie's Field;
69. Dickson's;
70. Doonmore Field;
71. Druid's Temple;
72. Fall Point;
73. Fank Hill;
74. Hunter's Fiannocks;
75. Hunter's House;
76. Hunter's Mountain;
77. Kiln Field;
78. Lamont's Malavore;
79. Lower Fall;
80. McGildowney's Black Band;
81. Nelson Colliery;
82. Pinnacle;
83. The Bible Rock;
84. The Broad Rock;
85. The Bridge Field;
86. The Calf Parks;
87. The Crubbin's Back;
88. The Dales;
89. The Doctor's Rock;
90. The Ebb Rock;
91. The Flood Rock;
92. The Grey Man;
93. The Grey Man's Path;
94. The Grey Man's Well;
95. The Hairy Bank;
96. The Hearths;
97. The Horse Rodden;
98. The Ladies' Chair;
99. The Leap;
100. The Loanin Field;
101. The Mother of the Lough;
102. Treasure Island;
103. Upper Fall;
104. Wee Hell.



Dún Ard, 1654. It also names Lough Fadden the 'Lough Call'd Padyne', and Loch na Crannóige 'Lough Dinard'.

the shore at the mine. The *Broad Rock* (or *The Ebb Rock*) is a big flat rock to the left of the *Grey Man's Path*.

Carrickmore is the name of the largest rock in the sea, *Carrickbeag* the small rock at the north end of it. *Carrickavadder* is the name of the rock beside the port.

Cill an Líonáin is said to be the remains of an old church, later used as a cillín.² Thirty yards from a gateway, a chalice is buried.



Carrickmore c.1900, two stone kelp pits can be seen in the Hearths. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.



Cill an Líonáin.

Cill Eoghain is marked on the 1861 map in the nearby farmyard. Archaeologists asked the late Séamus McBride about it in 1993. Séamus said he knew the story of the church and graveyard, but not of the souterrain that was supposedly with it. A new barn had been put up in the yard, and no traces of burials, nor a church site had ever been found.³ The church site is believed to be on the hill behind the yard, on the same level as the cross.



Cill Eoghain in the 2nd Ed. OS.

The OSM described the site in the 1830s as 'under tillage and occupied as a kitchen garden'. No signs of the church remained, except for the last of the 'foundation walls which are grown over with soil'. The Cross was said to be at the site, along with a stone font. However by 1838 both had disappeared.⁴ A cist, or burial chamber, was said to be 150 yards east of *Cill Eoghain* on a rocky eminence. However it could not be found by archaeologists in the early 1990s, and was assumed to have been destroyed.⁵ Séamus was asked if knew of the cist. However it wasn't a story he was aware of. At the time of the OSM *Cill Eoghain* and the cist were on the ground of Patrick and John Jameson.



Cill Eoghain in the 3rd Ed. OS.

Cnocán Carrach is the name of the clachan, and likely refers to the rocky hillock just to the south of the houses. Twelve generations of McBrides are said to have lived in the clachan.

Crockapatata is laboured ground behind a small hill, said to be the best site for growing potatoes. Similarly *Dessie's Field* is so named because Dessie Butler had the field for potatoes.



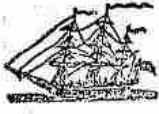
Patrick McBride & family, Cnocán Carrach.

3 SM7-ANT-005-009.

4 OSM pg 67.

5 SM7-ANT-005-028.

'The George' was shipwrecked on the rocks at *Culdafum* in 1839, loaded with coal. The story remembered at *Dún* was that at *Culdaft* McGildowney's boat ran aground. The fog came down one Sunday morning and it struck the rock, but the four crew survived. At low tide the rock is visible.



AUCTION,
FOR WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at FAIRHEAD, near BALLYCASTLE, ON WEDNESDAY, the 16th inst. at ELEVEN o'clock, THE MATERIALS OF THE SCHOONER GEORGE,
Captain HAYES, Master,
Wrecked on the night of the 7th inst. on her voyage from Ballina to Belfast, consisting of ANCHORS, CHAINS, HAWSERS, SPARS, &c.—Terms Cash.
14th Jan. 1839. 1/2 (126)

1839 Schooner George auction. *Belfast Telegraph*.

SHIPWRECKS.

LOSS OF THE SCHOONER GEORGE OF BELFAST.—
This vessel, bound from Ballina, in the West of Ireland, for Belfast, went on shore at Ballycastle colliery (a short distance from where the unfortunate brig *Minerva*, of Liverpool, was lost, with the Captain and 12 of the hands, a few years ago,) on Monday night, the 8th inst. The crew were saved, except a young man named Mackay, belonging to Cushleak, who perished with cold, after getting on shore. Next morning, after the vessel's going on shore, she was in pieces. The coast about the place for some distance presented a singular scene; the cargo, consisting of beef and pork, the casks being all staved, was washed on shore in large quantities, and much of it could have been saved had there been any person to look after it. The country people carried off the entire, and are now actually engaged in carting the beef and pork from market to market, disposing of it. Some idea of the destruction of property in this case may be formed from the fact, that several individuals have each sold nearly £30 worth of the cargo, which, when entire, was considered to be value for about £2,000.—*Belfast News-Letter*.

Loss of the George. *Newry Telegraph*.

The *Druid's Temple* is a round cairn with probably a tomb at its centre.⁶ The cairn is 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards in diameter, while the tomb is just short of three yards long. Part of the stone circle still remains. In the 1880s it was written that, within living memory, the cairn and tomb were still complete, but as it was '*the favourite retreat of badgers... country sportsmen came with their dogs to hunt, and the 'sport' resulted in the overturning of the capstone and the comparative destruction of the monument*'.⁷ Another story is that a curious coal miner decided to use dynamite to see what was inside.

Dún is where the Butlers lived, while above it *Dún Mór* is a fortified dwelling dated to between the sixth and eighth centuries, and later reoccupied in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. It was most recently excavated in autumn 2015 by Queen's University Belfast archaeologists.



Butler's house at Doon.

6 SM7-ANT-005-006.
7 SM7-ANT-005-006.

The Bible Rock looks like an open book, and was named by Ballycastle boatmen. *The Crubbin's Back* is a rock just off the shoreline; *crúibín* means claw or talon, usually referring to a portion of land in that shape.

The Hairy Banks either takes its name from the bog cotton, or from hair or roots that were found there when cutting turf. The Hunters lived opposite *The Loanin Field*, and *Hunter's Fiannocks*, *Hunter's House*, and *Hunter's Mountain* (behind the house) are all named after them.

Leac na Trá (flagstone of the beach) refers to a

few rocks, where dulse can be found at low tide.⁸ The OSM records that the crannog on *Loch na Crannóige* was founded by a chieftain of Clann Domhnaill (the McDonnells), who also had his dwelling on Fair Head. This story could be the source of the name *Droim Uí Domhnaill*. Crannóige is derived from the method of construction (crann means tree in English), as tree trunks were driven into the lake bed and backfilled. The crannóg was used for mass during the Penal Codes, with *Cloch an Amhairc* (or *Cloch an Aifrinn*) said to be where locals were on the lookout for English soldiers during mass.⁹

Both names can be used interchangeably, with the former being a lookout for the latter mass rock. If a stone is called a mass rock, but is not well-hidden in a hollow, then it is likely the lookout for the mass rock. Alexander McHenry performed an archaeological excavation on the crannóg in 1886, recording his finds as “a rounded flint – probably a hammer or muller, a worked flint flake, and some decayed fragments of charred bones of ox and sheep.”¹⁰ There are approximately 1,200 crannógs in Ireland, mostly built between 400AD and 1000AD, and used for local kings or lords, prosperous farmers, or monastic communities.



Loch na Crannóige in the 1930s.



'June 1956. Finn McCool's Stone on cliff-heads. Francey Lamont and boy named Darragh in picture.'
National Folklore Collection, University College Dublin (UCD).

8 Mac Gabhann (1997: 193).

9 OSM pg 81.

10 M'Henry, A. (1886) Crannog of Lough na Cranagh, Fair Head, Co Antrim, by Alexander M'Henry, MRIA. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, 16: 462.

The Reverend O'Laverty wrote that *Oileán na gCeard* is so named as it was used for military purposes, and sometimes crannógs were used by craftsmen to work in isolation. *The Face of Turvrea* is said to be a site of a major battle, so these names tie together. Another name for *Oileán na gCeard* is *Friendship Island*: if a courting couple had doubts about their relationship they would spend a weekend together on the island. If they were still talking on Monday morning they were said to be ready to get married.

There's a rock on the top of the cliff called *The Doctor's Rock*, after a Dr Whiteford who did a challenge there. *The Mother of the Lough* was

the name given to the clump on the northern shore of the loch, in the Irish Folklore Commission photographs from June 1956. Francie Lamont (pronounced Lammon) of Coolalough was the tour guide for the day, so it is presumed the name came from Francie. That name was not known locally though, as the clump was always called *Treasure Island*, after the stepping stones out to it from the shore. *Lamont's Malavore* takes its name from Francie.

McGildowney's Black Band was a seam of ironstone quarried in the second half of the nineteenth century, and the cause of the court case between the Butlers and McGildowney in Ballyreagh Upper in 1892.

The first advertisement found for the ironstone band was in 1854, but all the equipment, 'furnaces and iron works, and their requisite buildings, and also of coke ovens', were already on site.¹¹ One of the contacts given was Messrs Latta of Glasgow. In 1856 Edward Sheppard, manager of the Iron Mines, issued notices in all the newspapers that Messrs Latta & Co had no connection with the mines. It is thought Robert Latta was a partner in the mining company, but had become bankrupt in 1856. Whatever he was at he was in some bother, as he was jailed in Glasgow from September 1861 to May 1862, and offered everything he owned to his creditors to avoid more jail time.^{12 13}



Francie Lamont June 1956.
National Folklore Collection, University College
Dublin (UCD).

Antrim.

A young man named John Butler, a labourer employed at the extensive mining works of Messrs. Backhouse & Co., of Darlington, at Carrickmore, near the point of Fair Head, and within three miles of Ballycastle, was drowned lately, while assisting to sink the hull of a vessel between two large rocks, where the company are making a pier for the purpose of shipping iron stone. He fell between the side of the vessel and the rocks, and, as is supposed, was killed against either the vessel or the rock, as he could swim, and was only seen for a moment on the tide until he sank to rise no more. Every possible exertion was made, but without effect, to recover the body. He has left a wife and two children to deplore his loss.

Accident at Carrickmore Pier. Irish American Weekly
(New York), 27 June 1857.

11 1854 – Glasgow. Extensive Ironstone and Coal Royalties. *Northern Whig*, August 8.
12 1862 – Applications for Cessio Bonorum – *Glasgow Morning Journal*, April 5.
13 1862 – Application for Cessio – *Greenock Telegraph & Clyde Shipping Gazette*, May 10.

BALLYCASTLE IRON MINES.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, THAT
 Messrs. LATTA & CO., of Glasgow, having no
 connexion whatever with these Mines, nor any
 authority to order any Goods for their use, the Re-
 sident Agents have strict orders to refuse all Stock
 from this district, except supplied to my order.
EDWARD SHEPPARD.
 Ballycastle, 9th May, 1856. 1478

Sheppard and Latta in 1856. Belfast Telegraph.



Face of the Grey Man looking east towards Scotland.

At *Port na Lúb* a boat ran aground with a cargo of American bacon. It was a funny colour but very good! At *Portnapartin* there are nine sailors buried.

Scrule Dubh is shale and grass below the cliff at *Fargan Dubh*. *Toberdoney* no longer has a well, although it was rumoured to cure blindness. The story goes that a woman

washed a 'dirty wain' there, and the well moved across the burn. *Wee Hell* is a very deep crack in the ground on the *Brae Heads*, close to the *Grey Man's Path*. Sheep and lambs have been lost in it (it presumably refers to where you'll end up if you fell down it). *The Dales* were small tracks in the soil, now smoothed over.

The following is an

eyewitness account of the *Grey Man* climbing *Fair Head* in the 1790s.¹⁴ The 'Troubles' referred to by the boatman is the 1798 United Irishmen rebellion:

"And did you never see the 'Grey Man?' we inquired of one of the boatmen, who was more eloquent than our cragsman.

'God forbid! It's not that sort I'd be liking to see.'

'What, did you never even see his shadow?'

'No, thank God! The likes of him only comes to the place for trouble. I heard say, before the great ship was wrecked off Port na Spania, he was known to have decoyed the vessel in, and that when he ticed it on to the rocks he floated away to his own berth up there, and clapt his hands, and the strength of the echo of the clap pitched yon rock into the sea from the head-land, as you would pitch a marble.'

'And was he never seen since?'

'It was a year, or maybe two, before 'the troubles'

14 Mr & Mrs SC Hall (1843) *Ireland: Its Scenery, Character, &c.* Vol III.

that my father, dodging about in his boat, thinking it best to run into Ballycastle, for it was wintertime, saw, betwixt himself and the setting sun, a wreath of smoke passing over the waters; and, as there were no steamers in those times, smoke was an unnatural thing on the sea; and he rested on his oars, this way, and it rose and fell with the billows – a pillar of smoke; but, as it drew nearer the coast, it grew into the shape of a giant, folded in its cloak; he could see the plaits of the cloak falling from the head to the feet plainly as he treaded the waters, and the apparition became more palpable when it ascended the cliffs; it assumed, as it were, a solidity of aspect and form, nor did it pause until when nearly beneath where the fallen pillar rests. Above the path it made a pause, and turning around, spread its arms forward, as if imploring either a blessing or a curse! Too well,' continued the boatman, 'was it proved that the prayer was for destruction; that very night, and, as I said, it was about two years before the ruction of '98, and there are many who remember it still, that very night, on the east side of Fairhead, the colliers, who had not very long quitted their work there for the night, were terrified by what they at first imagined to be loud claps of thunder, followed by such clouds of dust, and such raging and foaming of the sea, and such broad flashes of lightning, that they imagined the end of the world was come. Clap after clap, answered by the raging billows and the mad, mad lightning; they crowded together in their cottages, and fell on their knees in prayer – those who had never prayed before prayed then, though indeed there were but few of that sort among them. In the morning the effects of the Grey Man's curse were sufficiently plain; rocks had been detached that no earthly power could move, and they had crushed in the collieries, so that more than a thousand tons of coals were buried past recovery. Columns were hurled into the sea, which had stood erect in the sight of heaven since the world was a world. Old men trembled, and while the women asked them what it meant, they looked to see the entire of Fairhead bound into the ocean. It is there still for all that, though who know what might happen if the 'Grey Man' paid it for another visit?"



Grey Man's Path c.1900, with the rock in four pieces.



Grey Man's Path 2017, with the rock in three pieces.



Placenames around the path, 3rd Ed. OS.

Families

- 1669:** Adare, Downy, McAllister, McCahir, McMurry, McWarnat, O'Drinn, O'Hamon, O'Money.
- 1734:** O'Cune, Sharp.
- 1803:** McAleese, McBride, McCurdy, McKinly, McQuilkin, Whiteford.
- 1831:** Butler, Jamison, McAleese, McBride, McGraw, McKinlay, McNeile.
- 1861:** Black, Butler, Hunter, Jameson, Kiernan, McBride, McDonald, McKinley, McLeese, McNeill.
- 1901:** Butler (*& Lamont nephew & niece*), Butler (*& Darragh daughter and son-in-law; McCollam worker*), Connor, Hunter (*& Dunlop workers*), Jamieson, McBride, McNeill.
- 1911:** Butler (*& Lamont niece*), Butler (*& Darragh grandson, McKendry & Dillon workers*), Connor (*& Gillan worker*), Hunter, McBride, McNeill.
- 2018:** Darragh, McBride;

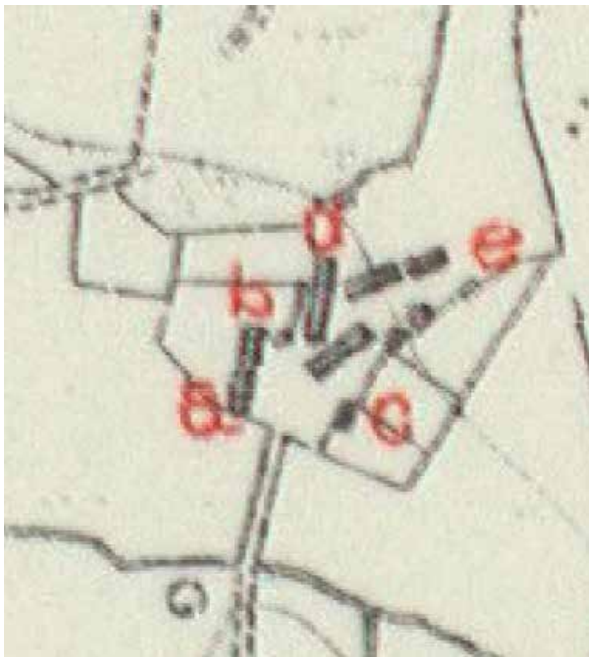
Townland of Cross which contains Crockincarragh Clachan

Year	Population	Houses
1841	95	15
1851	113	16
1861	87	16
1871	81	15
1881	63	11
1891	57	10
1901	32	9
1911	33	8
1926	30	7

Population numbers from the Clachan Project. Currently there are two households and five residents in the townland, and both clachans are uninhabited, apart from the occasional holidaymaker in Coolanlough, or climber camping at Crookincarragh.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



Coolanlough 1861.



John and Kathleen Doherty in Coolanlough.

Coolanlough in 1861:

The following information is taken from the clachan project. The five names listed on the Griffith's Valuation in Coolanlough are Denis McKinley (house A), John McNeill (house B), Hugh Butler (house C), James McLeese (house D, on the end of house B), and Bernard McLeese (house E). The five shared 253 acres, with Denis McKinley having a third, and the remainder divided between the rest. They also had their own fields around the clachan. Denis McKinley died in 1880, and the house was passed onto William McNeill. These McNeills were known for running a tearoom for tourists in the house. The McNeills of house B lived there until the 1950s, when the house and land were sold. The Butlers in house C passed the property on to their nephew Francey Lamont, who died in the early 1960s. House D and E, along with a third of the mountain were bought by Patrick McCarry of Murlough in 1884.

Crookancarragh in 1861:

The ground was held by Daniel and John McBride from the Boyd landlords. Patrick Kiernan, Arthur Jameson, and Daniel M'Donald all rented houses in the clachan from the McBrides. The Jamesons also lived in Coolanlough, and some moved to Barnish in 1892. There's a Jamieson name and date inscribed on the back wall of a house in one of the clachans.

Whitefords of Cross:

Of the eight surname lists in our research, the name Whiteford only appears in one of them, the 1803 survey. At a brief glance you'd think they were there and away, a brief mystery like the O'Cunes or O'Hamons before them. What the survey doesn't tell you is that three generations of Whitefords were born in Cross between 1740 and 1830.

In 1823 Alexander Whiteford of Cross was said to be one of the 'seats of County Antrim', on a par with the McGildowneys in Ballycastle and the Cuppages in Glenshesk.¹⁵ Their seat was most likely the large two-storey house also known as Hunter's House or Cross House. The first Whiteford was Alexander, thought to have come from Scotland in the early 1740s. He was sea captain of a boat called the Hawk.

His son Alexander (1745-1821) was the warden of Cross, supervisor for the landlord, and had 3 sons and 2 daughters.

1. Alexander (b.1767) – he was in the Antrim Militia in the 1798 rebellion, and he lost the lease to Cross. The story is detailed below. All of this family line emigrated to Newfoundland in Canada.
2. John (b.1770) – married Jane McBride, three of their sons moved to Campbeltown in the 1820s and had families there.
3. Robert (b.1795) – he erected the headstone for his father, and his four year old son (John 1825-1829) in Ballynaglogh.
4. Mary (b.1777) – married John McBride of Crookincarragh, and had two sons, John and Daniel. John Jr married Mary Butler of Doon c.1829. Five of John Jr and Mary's sons emigrated to New Zealand in the 1860s (John, Frank, Alex, Bob, and Hugh), with Patrick and Mary staying behind to look after their parents. Patrick married Grace Butler of Watertop, and Mary married Hugh McCarry in Murlough.
5. Ellen married Hugh McBride. Their son Alexander McBride and family emigrated to Lake Wakatipu in New Zealand with his cousins in the 1860s. There is a headstone in Bun na Margai for Archibald Whiteford of Gortalorkin (Ballyreagh Upper), who died in 1809, aged 49. He must have been a cousin or uncle of the five children.

meal for the dog, 5s." Another entry relating to meal runs—"Alexr. Whiteford, Masr of the Hawk sloop—By freight of oatmeal, 8½ tons, at 7s 6d, £3 3s 9d." It would be interesting to find out where this meal was then coming from, and why it was being brought in.

Febry, 1761." The following are entries relating to the shipping of coal:—22 Aug., 1753—Alex. Whiteford, capt. of the Hawk, by 28 tons coals delivered at Derry to Arthur Vance at 10s 6d—£14 14s; John Dennin, merchant in Strabane, 30 tons of coal delivered to Arthur Vance at 10s 6d—£15 15s; James Adair, mercht. in Belfast, to 27 tons coals sent you by the Hawk sloop at 4s 6d—£6 1s 6d. Why was there such an excessive difference in freight between Belfast and Derry?

Cuttings are from a Ballycastle accounts book of the 1750s, published in the Northern Whig in 1909.

15 Atkinson, A. (1823: 439) *Ireland Exhibited to England*. Baldwin, Cradock, & Joy: London.

In the matter of
ROBERT WHITEFORD, } **TO be SOLD by**
an Insolvent. } **PUBLIC AUC-**
TION, on TUESDAY,
 the 25th day of August
 next, at the Office of Mr. DANIEL M'DONNELL,
 DONEGALL-STREET, Belfast, at the hour of TWO o'Clock,
 P. M.—The Debts returned due to the Insolvent's Estate;
 the interest of said Insolvent in the LANDS of CROSS;
 together with his expectancy under the Will of Doctor
WHITEFORD, late of LISBURN, deceased.—Dated 26th
 August, 1831. **PATRICK JAMIESON, Assignee.**
JOHN BYRN, Auctioneer. (839)

Auction of the Whiteford ground in 1831, possibly the same Dr Whiteford whom The Doctor's Rock is named after. Belfast Commercial Chronicle.



Whiteford headstone Ballynaglogh.

THIS STONE ERECTED
 By Robt Whiteford To
 The Memory of his Father the
 Late Alexr Whiteford of Cross
 Who Departed This Life May 10
 1821 Aged 76 Years. Also His
 Son JOHN Who Departed
 This Life 8th Sept 1822
 Aged 34 Years

The Whitefords went into insolvency in or before 1831, and the ground was taken over by Patrick Jamison. However this was then disputed with his brother-in-law Francis McGrath in 1839.¹⁶ The story of how the Whitefords lost Cross was taken from an 1874 letter written by Isaac McNeily, whose mother was Whiteford, on a visit from Canada:

"The tombstone of Alexander Whiteford of Crosse is in good state of preservation. Uncle James [Whiteford] never likes to go to Fairhead because it was through the original criminal negligence of his son Alex Whiteford of Crosse, my grandfather's father, that we lost it...The circumstance of its loss were these: The family held 'Crosse' under a long lease at a rental of £50 per ann and a sheep. The lease contained a clause that at its expiration it was to be renewed in perpetuity by the then heir of the Boyd Estate. The lease expired during the term of the heirship of one Colonel Boyd who was then about to go to Dublin for his health. He sent for the old man and said 'Whiteford, get that lease ready and I will sign it before I go'. 'Do not mind til you come back,' said he. 'I may never come back,' said the Colonel, and he never did. And the next heir of course refused to give up 700 acres of valuable land and there was no way to compel him. And so the Whitefords are in a fair way to die out."

Although the Whiteford surname has died out, it'll be a while before they're away totally, as (by my count) about a third of the hurling team are great (x6) grandsons of Captain Alexander Whiteford.

16 1839 – John Jack, Lessee of P Jamison v Francis M'Grath – *Belfast Commercial Chronicle*, July 27.

McBrides of Cross:

Patrick married Grace Butler, and he also worked in the mines at Port na Graí in Ballyreagh Upper. His grandmother was Mary Whiteford.




*McBrides of Antrim Farm, Frankton, Queenstown, New Zealand.
Standing L-R: Frank Jr, Maggie, Jack, Dolly, Dan, Alex.
Sitting L-R: Frances, Frank Sr, wife, Owen.
Kneeling L-R: Leonard, Monica, Cecil.*

The photo above is of Patrick's brother Frank, who emigrated to New Zealand in the 1860s. Another brother, John, took the scenic route to New Zealand after serving in the United States Civil War. Frank and his brother Dan were the first to emigrate, leaving after gold was discovered in Otago in 1861. After they set themselves up, their siblings and cousins followed, with the saying being that everyone in Queenstown 'was either a McBride or a Chinaman'.¹⁷

The McBrides went on to set up major farming and business interests in Queenstown.

¹⁷ McBride, P. (2012) *Antrim, Wakatipu, and Beyond: A McBride Family Journey*. Lia Fáil Publishing: Aotearoa.

STEAM TO AND FROM
KINGSTON & HEAD OF LAKE.

 J. W. ROBERTSON, HICKS,
and M'BRIDE'S
POWERFUL PADDLE STEAMER
"A N T R I M,"
WILL LEAVE
QUEENSTOWN FOR KINGSTON
EVERY TUESDAY MORNING,
EARLY,
RETURNING THE SAME EVENING;
AND FOR THE
HEAD OF THE LAKE (SAW MILLS)
W E E K L Y .
Returning the following day.

For Freight or Passage, apply on board, or to the
owners, Queenstown and Kingston.

Authorized Agent for Kingston: Mr J. B. Kerr

Cartage paid at Kingston on goods consigned to
us; and every care taken for safe delivery of same.
Goods Stored at Queenstown, Kingston, and
Frankton, but at owners' risk.

Charges on goods at our Kingston Receiving
Stores are as follows:—

	s.	d.
Agent's Commission, per ton ..	2	6
Storage, per week ..	2	6

Advertisement for the New Zealand McBrides.
Otago Times.



An Emigrant's House, John McBride at Greenstone Point, NZ.



Patrick McBride (centre).

Hunters of Cross:

The adjacent photo is from the Stewarts in Benvan; written on the back was 'Paddy Hunter, Cross'. A great-niece of Paddy sent us details: "I think this man is my granny Gillan (Hunter)'s brother Pat. He emigrated to America around 1912 along with his brother Bob. They lived in Cross with their brothers Jimmy, Alex and sister Mary Agnes (my granny). She married Joe Gillan of Farrinmacarter." Daniel and Margaret Hunter (née McCurdy) of Fair Head had a son, John Darragh Hunter, who emigrated to New Zealand around 1879.

Paddy Hunter, Cross.



McCormicks of Cross:

The only details found on this family are the following cutting from the *Belfast News-Letter* in 1854, and their headstone in Barnish.

IN CHANCERY.

ADVERTISEMENT TO CREDITORS, LEGATEES, AND INCUMBRANCERS.

Cause Petition, Under "The Court of Chancery (Ireland) Regulation Act, 1850."

In the Matter of Archibald Butler and William Butler, Petitioners; John M' Cormick, Respondent.

I HEREBY REQUIRE all persons claiming to be Creditors or pecuniary Legatees of Michael M' Cormick, late of The Cross, Parish of Culfeightrim, in the County of Antrim, deceased, on or before the twentieth day of March next, to furnish, in writing, to Archibald Butler and William Butler, both of Watertop, in the County of Antrim, Farmers (Executors of the said Michael M' Cormick), the Petitioners, or to Stephen Wilson M' Neale, Esq., the Solicitor for the Petitioners directed to his Office, No. 23, Eccles Street, Dublin, the amount and particulars of their several demands (accompanied, in case of simple contract debts, by statement of the consideration of such debts), in order that the Petitioners may, without any expense to them prove in this Matter such or so much of their demand as he shall think just, of the allowance or disallowance of which, or any part of same, said creditors shall receive due notice. And all such creditors whose demands shall be disallowed, either wholly or in part, shall at the peril of costs, be at liberty to file Charge in my Office, in respect of the claims or amounts so disallowed, within one fortnight after they shall respectively have received notice of such disallowance.

I also require all persons having Charges or Incumbrances affecting the real and freehold Estate of the said Michael M' Cormick, to come in before me, at my Chambers, Inns Quay, in the City of Dublin, on or before the 1st day of April next, and proceed to prove the same.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 1854.

EDWARD LITTON, Master in Chancery
STEPHEN WILSON M'NEALE, Solicitor for the Petitioners, No. 23, Eccles Street, Dublin. 655



Francie Lamont, Coolanlough:

'Francie Lammin' lived in the clachan, and is pictured on the front cover. He was a good man for songs, stories, and poems, as well as riddles such as the following:

"There was a tall girl the name of Short, and she loved a big Mr Lyttle. Well, Lyttle, little thinking of Short, loved a wee lass the name of Long. To make a long story short, Lyttle proposed to Long and made Short long to get even with big Lyttle. So in the meantime Short meets Long and threatens to marry Lyttle before long. Naturally, Lyttle meets Long and marries Long before long. So now the question is: Did tall Short love big Lyttle less because Lyttle loved wee Long?"



'Hearth in Francie Lamont's house, Fair Head.' National Folklore Collection, University College Dublin (UCD).



Bishop Donal Lamont, his uncle Francie, and Dr Wilson. Bishop Lamont lived in Zimbabwe in the 1970s, when it was under British colonial administration of Rhodesia. He was opposed to the white minority rule government of Ian Smith. He was sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment in 1976, and was later deported, and nominated for the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize.



'1956. View of village cluster, Fair Head. Francey Lamont lives in first house on right.' National Folklore Collection, University College Dublin (UCD).

McNeill's Cottage, Coolanlough:

The cottage was used as a tea-room for the many visitors to the cliff in the 1910s and 1920s. There's an old pamphlet called 'McNeill's Poems of Fairhead', a collection of prose written by visitors.



Patrick McNeill and his wife Mary Ellen McMullan.



Thought to be taken at the McNeill's, c.1900.



Old postcard of McNeills.

There are also two headstones in Bun na Margaí inscribed as follows:

MCKINLEY 1825

The Burying Place
of Alexander McKin
ley and Family of
Culinlough
Here Lyes the remain
of the body of his wife
SARAH MCKINLEY who
died on the 9th April
1825 Aged 58 years.



MCBRIDE 1871
THIS STONE WAS
ERECTED BY HUGH
MCBRIDE OF COUL
LINLOUGH TO MARK
HIS BURYING PLACE
& FAMILY 1871.



The View from Fair Head, 1838:

The following is an interview with a farmer on Fair Head by Leitch Ritchie in his book *Ireland - Picturesque & Romantic* from 1838.¹⁸ The topics of conversation were living standards, landlords, clergy, tithes, and Daniel O'Connell:

"While returning along the shore from Fairhead, I observed a man of more respectable appearance than we usually find in such employments in Ireland, working at a quarry by the road side. I entered into conversation as usual; which I prolonged to a more than usual extent, on finding my companion to be not only intelligent, but trustworthy. A traveller in this country, in fact, must be always on his guard; for even the most stupid of the peasantry are ingenious enough to deceive, when they come in contact with the ignorant or unwary. If the inquirer have not some previous knowledge of the subject, some established date to go upon, his questions will, in nine cases out of ten, be worse than useless. But if a man will only leave his prejudices behind, as unfit for a traveller's stores, he will find these data by no means of difficult attainment. It is unlikely that everyone he meets will be in the same story, and he will soon learn to sift the truth from the falsehood. The tendency, however, to represent matters as still worse than they are, may be said to be universal; although, on the other hand, this tendency is too often neutralised by the fact that matters are as bad as it is possible to represent them. There are few places in the north where the traveller will not hear as dismal accounts as in the worst districts of the south; it is necessary, therefore, that he should not only hear with his own ears, but see with his own eyes. The man, however, whom I now fell in with belonged to the very small class of those whose communications proceed from an overflowing of the heart. There was nothing uncommon in the information I received from him – nothing with which I was not previously acquainted; but our conversation lasted so long, and turned upon so many points, that I am led insensibly to refer to it as to an expression of the average opinions of the people of Ireland. The man was a small farmer, of the poorer class, which is to say, he was not nearly upon a par with an English day labourer: let those who sneer at my sources of information address themselves to the gentry – and much good may it do them. In the course of the volume I shall no doubt have frequent occasion to refer mentally, if not otherwise, to my interview with this small farmer on the Fairhead beach; but in the following notes I shall confine myself to one or two topics of our discourse.

"How are you for subsistence in this part of the country?"

"Badly enough, indeed. Potatoes and milk, a little meal, rarely a bit of meat – such is the lot of the most of us."

"Do you know that your countrymen in the south are still worse off?"

"I do not know anything about the south. All I know is, that things appear to me to be as bad here as they can be; and I think, therefore, that they cannot be worse anywhere else."

"To what do you attribute the misery you complain of?"

"To the impossibility we find of paying our rent, and getting a decent living out of the land."

"Do you complain of bad landlords?"

"I do not know: they cannot all be bad; and yet they seem to be pretty nearly all alike. There are men of four thousand a year in this part of the country whose tenants are the next thing to beggars. Surely this is not right. Four pounds over and above a decent living would be a great thing to us – fourteen pounds would be a kind of a fortune. If we were able to make this, we would not envy our landlords their four thousand a year."

"What is the character of your priests?"

"To speak of the priests in general, I would say that they are a griping, close-fisted set. They no doubt discharge their sacred functions as they ought to do, but they are satisfied with that. We call them 'Father' but I could wish that they treated us more like sons."

"What is the character of the Protestant clergy?"

"I do not know; they are not remarkable in one way or other; they are just like other gentlemen. They have plenty of time, however; their estates are small; and, being worldly-minded men, they make the most of them. They are, in short, good and careful farmers, and I think therefore they do some service by residing in the country. There is one however – Mr. Stewart, of Ballycastle, who is more than a farmer or a gentleman. I have not had anything to do with him myself; but it is reported among us that he is one of the very best men in all Ireland."

"Do you complain much of tithes in this quarter?"

"We of course think it an intolerable hardship to pay for the support of a religion which we are taught from the cradle to believe is a heresy. Besides, we cannot afford it. I myself pay four shillings to the priest; and, considering my circumstance, both he and I think it is enough. Yet over and above this, I am compelled to pay eighteen shillings and fourpence to the clergyman."

"The dues of the priest not being recoverable at law, you of course pay them willingly, however unamiable be the character of the individual?"

"What can we do? If we are slow in coming forward, he calls out our names from the altar, and tells us that the labourer being worthy of his hire, if we do not pay he will not work."

"I have heard that in the case of obstinacy, or inability, he ultimately excommunicates you."

"That is untrue; and indeed there would be no use for any form of the kind, a denial of his spiritual functions being as bad as anything that could befall us. There never can be inability in the case; for, however avaricious the priest may be, he had not the gross folly of the landlord, to exact more than he knew it to be possible to pay, and he is as well acquainted with our resources as we are ourselves."

"Do you suppose that the remission of this tax of eighteen shillings and fourpence

would make a great difference to your family? Imagine the sum to be spent in provisions in the course of the year, and consider what improvements would take place in consequence in your comforts."

"Why, I cannot say that there would be much perceptible difference. Indeed I must confess that, even if relieved from tithes, we should be in pretty nearly the same situation as before. But that is not the question. Though miserably poor, we are not destitute of the ordinary feeling of human beings; and we do not like to be compelled to support a church which we hate as erroneous, and despise as apostate – more especially when that is the church of only a paltry handful of the population of our country. A man may submit to be starved; but can you wonder that he should feel chafed, if you insult him into the bargain? With regard to myself, I am barely able to keep my family in common decency, yet I voluntarily cheat our necessities out of four shillings to uphold that form of faith in which I was born and brought up. This, however, is not enough. The clergyman comes in after all, armed with the terrors of the law, to demand four or five times the sum to uphold what we are taught from the cradle to call a heresy!"

"Have you ever been better off than you are now?"

"Never. But there are always some gentlemen trying to do us good, and that keeps up our hearts from time to time. O'Connell is now at the head of them."

"Have you heard what O'Connell is trying to do for you?"

"He is trying to relieve us from tithes, and that will be a great thing; but we want besides sufficient food, decent clothing, and warm lodging."

"Are you not surprised that, notwithstanding the great changes for the better which of late years have taken place in the political condition of Ireland, the Irish people should have been left in precisely the same deplorable state as before?"

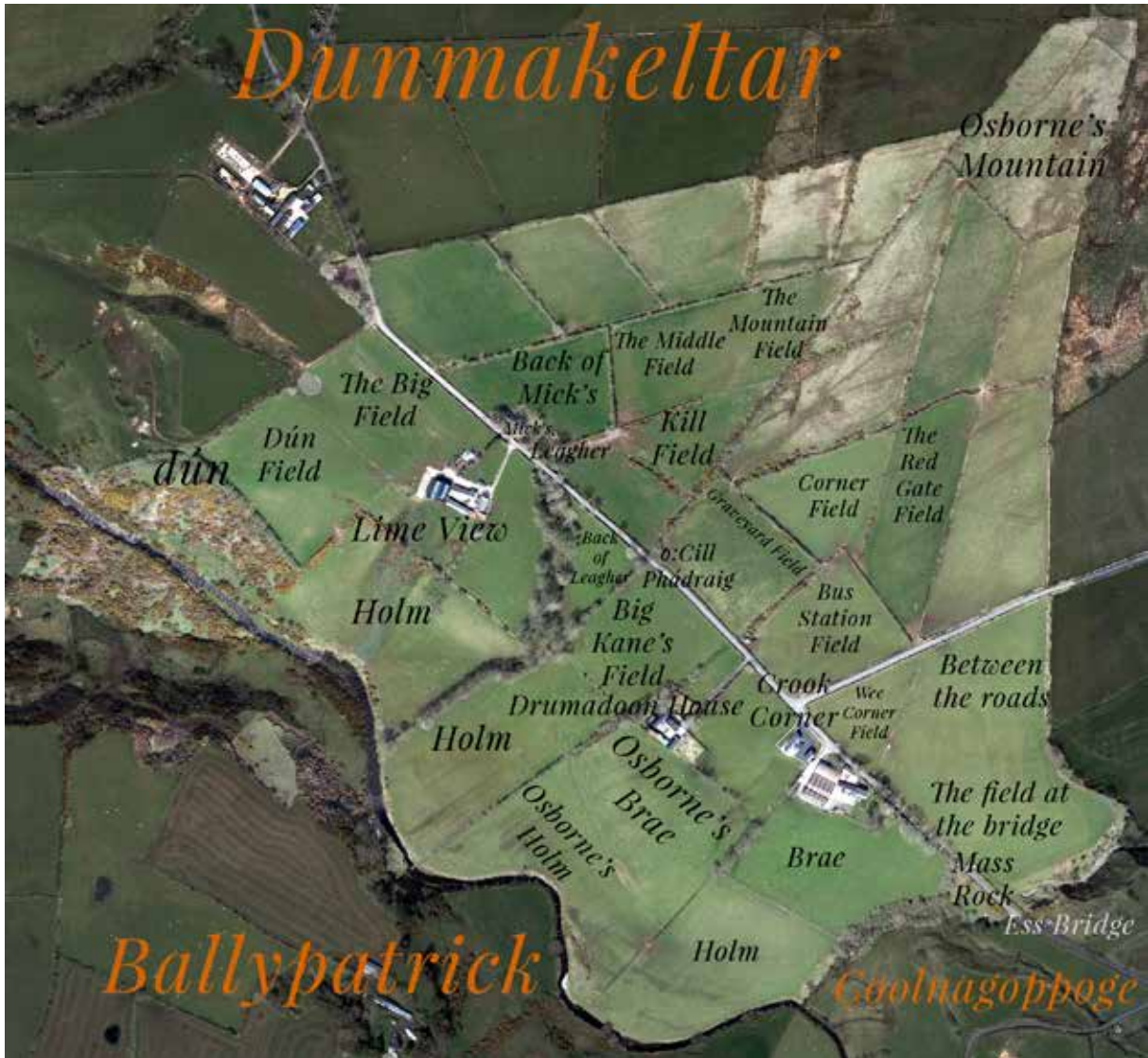
"I am, when I reflect upon it. Still, however, we think that something will at last be done for us – something, we know not what. It is this that keeps us quiet, - and woe to that man who shall destroy the hope, illusive though it be! On the day this takes place, let but a leader present, himself, and all Ireland will rise like one man."

This is the sum of what the man said to me on the subject, although I do not affect to remember his particular expressions; and it will not be thought surprising if, in my walk along the bay, the beautiful scenery by which I was surrounded should have fled from my eyes, and if grave and painful reflection should have obliterated, for the time, the impression made by Fairhead, and the Grey Man's Path."

View from Dún.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Crook Corner / Cnoc an Chúil / Hill of the corner;
2. Doon / Dún / Fort;
3. Ess Bridge / Droichead na hEas / Bridge of the waterfall;
4. Kilpatrick / Cill Phádraig / St Patrick's graveyard;
5. Leagher / Luachair / Place of rushes;
6. Lig a niffrin / Log an Aifrinn / Hollow of the mass;
7. Back of Leagher;
8. Back of Mick's;
9. Between the Roads;
10. Big Kane's Field;
11. Brae;
12. Bus Station Field;
13. Corner Field;
14. Drumadoon Bridge;
15. Drumadoon House;
16. Dún Field;
17. Graveyard Field;
18. Holm;
19. Kill Field;
20. Lime View;
21. Osborne's Brae;
22. Osborne's Holm;
23. Osborne's Mountain;
24. The Big Field;
25. The Field at the Bridge;
26. The Middle Field;
27. The Mountain;
28. The Red Gate Field;
29. Wee Corner Field.



Droim an Dúin plays a significant role in the history of Irish archaeology, as it was there the bell shrine was found in 2002. The townland name was first recorded in 1620 as 'Drimadune in the barony of Carey'.¹

Back of Mick's is named after Mick McLean, who lived in the wallsteads at *Leagher*. Mick was one of fourteen McLean children who grew up there. *Big Kane's Field* is named after the late Seamus Kane of Ballyvennaght. The Osbornes used to live

at *Drumadoon House*. *Osborne's Holm* is one of the old hurling pitches.² The *Mass Rock* was mentioned in the OSM as *Lig a niffrin*, or hollow of the mass. The valley once had hazel trees.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 141).
 2 Pers Comms Pat McCarry Sr (Murlough).



Log an Aifrinn.



The graveyard is bounded by stones and a ring of trees.

The graveyard at Cill Phádraig was described as follows in the OSM: *"In Drumadoon and holding of Neal McKague, east of and immediately adjoining the old leading road from Ballycastle to Cushendall, there stands the remains of an ancient graveyard*

locally called Killephadrick, being by name dedicated to St Patrick. It now occupies 11 by 11 yards of ground partially occupied by graves and the latter chiefly covered with stones. It has probably been larger at a former period. Those interred

*here within the last 50 years were strangers, stillborn, and unbaptised children...Informants Neal McKeague, John McClene and others."*³ The last burial we know of was in the 1920s, a Carey family that returned from Belfast to bury their child there.

3 OSM pg 50-51.



1st (c.1830) and 2nd (c.1860) Edition OS maps of Cill Phádraig.

On the 2nd Ed OS map you'll see 'cave' marked across the road from Cill Phádraig. It is a large souterrain, or network of souterrains, and due to its presence it is thought that Cill Phádraig was a ráth (earthen ring-fort), prior to being used for burials. The two sides of the road may be part of a larger site, with the road built through the middle:⁴

"About 17 yards west of that place [Cill Phádraig], and about 12 yards

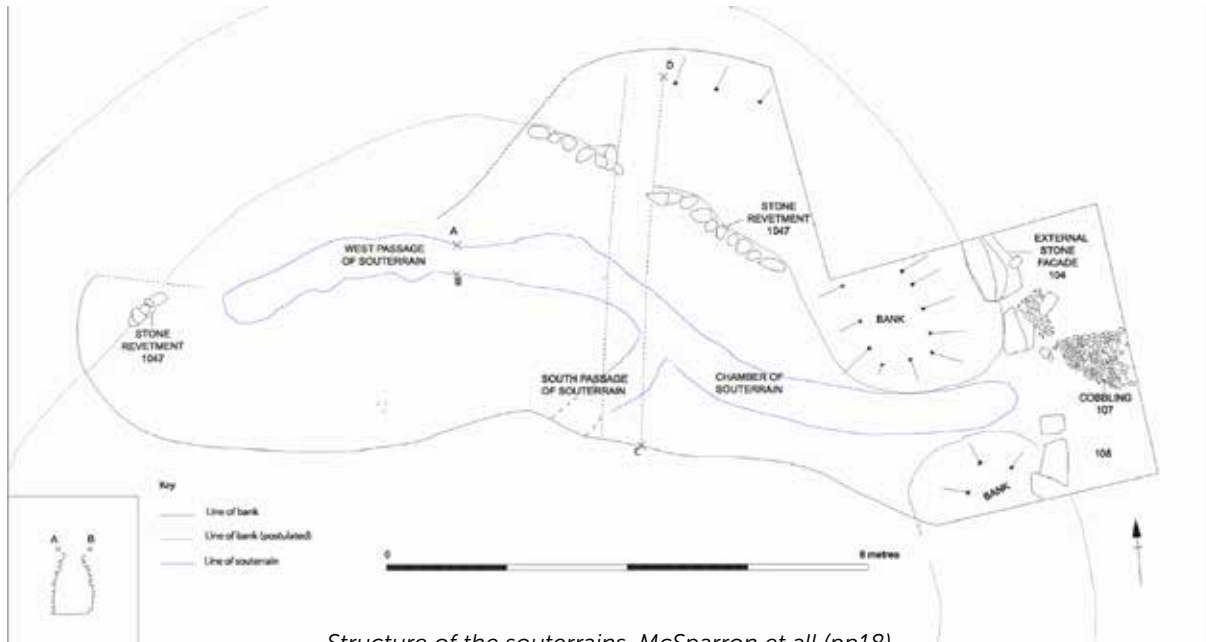
west of the adjoining road, stands a cave of considerable extent formed into different apartments, one of which lends in a south direction from the others and seems to have been the original entrance, but is now closed at its junction with the others, as shown by the ground plan on following. The other apartments, too, are closed to great extent by mud and water. The present entrance on the west side of the east or

large room was lately discovered by the falling in of one of the stones in the side wall. The most remarkable feature in this cave is that the latter room, which stands 8 and a half by 8 feet in the clear, is roofed by 1 large stone which measures nearly 11 by 11 feet and 1 to 1 and a half feet thick. A quantity of bones and limpet shells were found in this cave. 17th October 1838."⁵



The large roof stone for the souterrain.

4 SM7-ANT-009-016-01.
5 OSM pg 51.



Structure of the souterrains. McSparron et al (pp18).

An Dún:

The dún was mentioned in the OSM: *"In Drumaduin and holding of John McClene, and situated at the summit of a handsome lofty hill, there stood a fort which gave name to the townland. It was composed of earth and stones and seemed to have been circular shape, about 25 yards in diameter and 5 to 10 feet high, but nearly one-half of it has fallen down a great precipice to the south side. The summit of this fort, from the prominence of the site on which it stood, commanded a wide and delightful prospect of*

the surrounding scenery.

Contiguous to this fort stands a cave said to be of considerable extent, but a present closed up."⁶

The 1992 archaeological report on the dún is of interest, given the finds ten years later. After describing the location, it reports a 'very poorly preserved remains of a mound which has been extensively quarried from NW to N destroying much of the top, the original perimeter and the shape'. Measurements are given, as well as a description of what had been previously found, a flint arrowhead and scraper. A ditch and

souterrain mentioned in the OSM could not be located, and although it was indicated as a good site for urn burials, it was described as 'too damaged to classify'.⁷ There was no indication that the dún contained one of the most important archaeological finds in Ireland. Most of the archaeological reports on the historic sites in Carey read in a similar manner, leading you to wonder what else is still in the ground waiting to be uncovered.

Part of the dún had slipped on the side of the river, so it was excavated

6 OSM pg 51-52.
7 SM7-ANT-009-042-01.

in 2002 before any more movement could occur. This dig revealed a silver penny from the time of King Henry III of England, dating from 1247 to 1272, as well as glazed pottery, iron arrow and spear heads, and the bell shrine. The bell shrine was dated to the last quarter of the twelfth century, with a figure of the Christ on the cross added a century later in Limoges in France.⁸ The bell shrine was *'designed to house a hand-bell which was revered as the relic of a saint'*. They were *'associated by tradition with miracle-working'*, and *'were attributed to saints and were among the emblems of the office of their successors'*.⁹ The *dún* was occupied in two phases, the first was a farmstead dated to around 800-900AD, containing a house and yard surrounded by an earthen bank. It

had a grain store, and a souterrain used for storage and refuge from raiders. The site was abandoned around 900AD, possibly a result of Viking invasions. It wasn't settled again until a Norman motte was built on the *dún* around 1250AD. The first period was under the rule of the Dál Riata or the Fir Li, the second under the Norman invasion of Hugh de Lacy in the mid-thirteenth century.¹⁰ The site was abandoned by the early fourteenth century, possibly due to subsidence into the river, political turmoil, or the fort becoming obsolete to modern weaponry and warfare.¹¹



West passage of souterrain. McSparron et al (pp60).



The Bell Shrine just after being found. McSparron et al (pp74).



The Bell Shrine after cleaning. McSparron et al (pp75).

8 McSparron, C., Williams, D. & Ó'Neill, J. (pp30) Excavations at Drumadoon, Co Antrim. *Data Structure. Report No 23*. Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork, Queen's University: Belfast.

9 McSparron et al pp36.

10 McSparron et al pp34.

11 McSparron et al pp35.



View from the dún with Jollie's Mill (Drumnakeel) on the left and the Row School (Ballyreagh) on the right.



A View from the dún over the two Holms and down to Osborne's Brae and Holm.

Drumadoon School:

Recorded in the OSM as follows: *"Drimadone, Master Hugh Sheals, Roman Catholic; pay school, annual income 20 pounds; school-house held in an outhouse; number of pupils by the Protestant return: 1 Established Church, 46 Roman Catholics, 37 males, 10 females; by the Roman Catholic return:*

*1 Protestant, 46 Roman Catholics, 37 males, 10 females; associations none."*¹² Pat Dennis of Coolnagoppoge thought there was a hedge school below them, but we were unable to locate this. There is no such school marked on any maps, and the only other mention of one in the townland is from Father Walsh and the Home Missions. Hugh

Sheals was also one of the teachers cursed by Father Walsh. The following is the list of scholars in the Drumadoon Irish School that was paid by Home Missions. The remarks in the last column are either Father Walsh's, or Inspector Brennan's after he had *'gone over to the Priests'*.

12 OSM pg 85.

Drumadoon Irish School 1842¹³

Inspection list of the Drumadoon Irish school, for the period ending the 17th of Nov, 1842 – John M’Henry, teacher.

The space under this heading should be filled by teachers.

The space under this heading should be filled by inspector.

No.	Names of Scholars	Residence	Age	Progress	Remarks
1	H M’Alane	Drumadoon	24	Reading	No scholar – a forgery
2	D M’Alane	ditto	22	Reading	ditto ditto
3	A M’Alane	ditto	30	ditto	ditto ditto
4	J M’Alane	ditto	48	ditto	Never attended any such school
5	P M’Alane	ditto	36	ditto	Cannot read a word – a forgery
6	A Dallen	ditto	44	ditto	No scholar – a forgery
7	W M’Ateer	ditto	20	ditto	ditto ditto
8	J M’Ilroy	ditto	18	ditto	ditto ditto
9	J Hunter	Dunacotter	38	ditto	ditto ditto
10	J Fisher	ditto	21	ditto	ditto ditto
11	J Davison	ditto	29	ditto	A Protestant – a forgery
12	? M’Henery	Parkure	21	ditto	No scholar - ditto
13	John Quin	ditto	33	ditto	ditto ditto
14	D Hunter	Craigfad	36	ditto	ditto ditto
15	J Daragh	ditto	22	ditto	ditto ditto

Subjoined are the declarations of the master and inspector:

With sorrow and regret for the evil I have done, I admit that the above names of scholars are fictitious – that the above never entered my school, and that I never showed scholars, because I never had a school; and, at the last payment, in August, I got the money without being asked by M’Minnamy or M’Ilhatton, the inspectors, for scholars, and the money I received was ten shillings.

his
John X M’Kendry
mark

Witness - **LUKE WALSH, PP - PATRICK M’KENNA, CC- DANIEL M’NEILL.**
None of the above scholars ever appeared at any time at any inspection.
FRANCIS BRENNAN, late Inspector.

¹³ 1843 – Horrible Frauds and Deception of the Home Mission – Awful and Astounding Disclosures. *The Vindicator*, December 6.

Families

- 1734:** Butler, Darragh, McDonnell, McIlroy, McKay.
1803: Dallan, Hunter, McAlean.
1831: Hunter, McCormick, McKeag, McClean, McMullan.
1861: Darragh, Dillon, McCaig, McCambridge, McClean, McCormick, McDonnell, McIlroy, McMullen, McNeill.
1901: Darragh (& workers Magill, McBride, McNeill), McCambridge, McCormick, McKeague, McLean.
1911: Darragh (& workers Dunlop, Jameson), McCambridge (& worker McIlroy), McCormick, McKeague, McLean.
2018: Hunter, McCambridge, McKeague.

There is a lease dated 1719 from the Earl of Antrim to John McVeigh of Drumadoun for 31 years, from the reference it looks like the old name for the dún was Dunard.¹⁴

McNeills of Drumadoun:

Reverend George Hill wrote about the McNeills in 1873. The Hector McNeill mentioned lived on the Isle of Gigha: *"The Macneills who came with the Macdonnells from Cantire continued to keep up a close intercourse with their Scottish connexions, as did their descendants also in after generations. Among the Macneills of Carey, whose ancestors had come from Cantire, was a most respectable family settled at Drumaduan, in the parish of Culfeightrin. Doctor Macneill, a member of*

this family, married a sister of Christopher, the last lord Slane, who resided at Anticor in the parish of Finvoy, and whose grandmother was the lady Anne Macdonnell, eldest daughter of the first earl of Antrim. Dr. Macneill's great-granddaughter is married to Thomas Mitchell, Esq, of the Lawn, South Lambeth Road, London. The following extract from a letter of this gentleman, written in 1872, is interesting, as recording perhaps the latest illustration of the intercourse so long continued between the Macneills of Carey and Cantire:—"Dr. Alex.

*Macneill, of Drumaduan, was closely related to Hector Macneill on the opposite coast, and it was with this gentleman that nearly the whole of the Macneill family sojourned during the rebellion (1798), having crossed in a little ship, the Amy, belonging to Mr. Boyd; and, on their arrival, twenty-five Macneills sat down to breakfast at Captain Hector's. This was told me by my wife's mother, who died at my house a short time ago, in her 90th year, and who was one of that party."*¹⁵

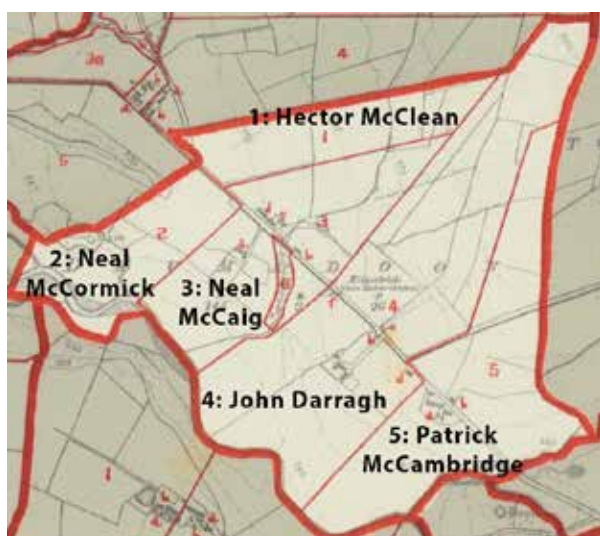
¹⁴ D2977/3A/2/18/1, PRONI.

¹⁵ Hill, G. (1873: 39) *An Historical Account of the MacDonnells of Antrim*. Archer & Sons: Belfast.



IHS
Erected by Patrick McClan
of Drimadone here lieth
the remains of Cathrine
McClane his wife, who
departed this life the 26
dec 1831 Aged 60 years

1831: Patrick McClean's headstone in Barnish.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: Neal McCaig lived in house 3a. Across the road were Alexander Dillon (3b), Neal McCormick (3c), and Hector McClean (3d). Patrick McMullen was house 4b, with a forge, Mary McIlroy (4c), Francis McNeill (4d), and Archibald McDonnell (4e). The graveyard is marked 4f. It must have been distinctly marked to be measured as exempt from valuation. Patrick McCambridge lived in house 5a, with Michael McMullen at 5b. Hector McClean, Neal McCaig, and Archibald McDonnell are buried in Barnish. Neal McCaig was one of the sources for stories listed in the 1838 *OS Memoirs*.

1901 and 1911 Censuses:

Mick McLean (Back of Mick's) is on both censuses living in Drumadoon. His brother Dan had already moved to Barnish by 1901, marrying Rose Anderson of Acravilla in 1910. The McLeans are thought to have been in Drumadoon from the early 1600s.



Dan McLean.

James Darragh was a Justice of the Peace, and Chair of the Ballycastle Rural District Council. His son James married Annie Butler of Doon (Cross) in 1900, while another son was John Darragh of Drumahaman. The farm worker Dunlop listed with the Darraghs in 1911 was William John Dunlop, from Duncairn Street in Belfast. He joined the Royal Field Artillery, and was killed 4 weeks before the end of World War One. Hugh Osborne of the mill in Ballypatrick bought the Darragh farm, with the various Osborne's fields named after the family.

Death of Mr. James Darragh.
 With regret we announce the death of Mr. James Darragh, of Drumadoon (father of Mr. John Darragh, J.P., Chairman of Ballycastle Rural Council). Deceased, who had reached four-score years, was well known and highly respected throughout the district. He was able to look after his affairs until near his death, having attended the last Ballycastle fair, so that his death came as a great surprise to his many friends. He was a straightforward and industrious man; and in this respect his mantle appears to have descended upon his sons. Although an extensive farmer, he took no active part in public affairs. An attached member of the Roman Catholic Church, he was a regular attendant at the services, and a liberal subscriber to the funds. He was by no means a bigot; but had a sincere friendship for those who differed from him in opinions or belief. The bereaved family have the sympathy of all classes of the community. The funeral, which took place on Friday to the family burying-ground at Culfeitrim, was largely attended, although many who would have been present were unaware of the fact that he had passed away. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. H. Eardly, P.P.

Coleraine Chronicle, 1910.

Darragh, 1909-1984 (Barnish)

ERECTED
 BY
 JOHN DARRAGH JP
 DRUMAHAMMOND
 IN MEMORY OF
 HIS FATHER JAMES DARRAGH
 DRUMADOON
 DIED 16TH NOVR 1910, AGED 83 YEARS
 HIS MOTHER ROSE ANNE
 DIED 17TH APRIL 1909, AGED 79 YEARS
 HIS BROTHER JAMES
 DRUMAVOLEY HOUSE, BALLYCASTLE
 DIED 9TH NOVR 1914, AGED 50 YEARS
 AND ANNIE WIFE OF JAMES
 DIED 28TH JUNE 1926, AGED 58 YEARS
 HIS SISTER JANE DARRAGH
 DIED 22ND Aug 1945, AGED 85 YEARS
 ALSO THE ABOVE NAMED
 JOHN DARRAGH,
 DID 3RD APRIL 1950, AGED 87 YEARS
 HIS NEPHEW CHARLES DARRAGH
 DIED 9TH OCTOBER 1969
 ALSO ANNIE MARY DARRAGH
 DIED 24TH MARCH 1984



Darragh, 1909-1984 (Barnish).

McDonnell, 1850-1882 (Barnish)
 IHS
 ERECTED BY SARAH McDONNELL
 DRIMADOON
 IN MEMORY OF
 HER FATHER
 ARCHIBALD McDONNELL
 WHO DIED 10TH MAY 1881 AGED 82
 AND HIS BELOVED WIFE
 ANN
 WHO DIED 3RD MARCH 1882 AGED 84
 ALSO THEIR SON
 JAMES
 WHO DIED 10TH MARCH 1850 AGED 23
 AND ALSO THEIR SON
 DANIEL
 WHO DIED 10TH NOVEMBER 1860 AGED 32



McKague, 1861 (Barnish)
 IHS
 ERECTED
 by JOHN MCKAGUE of
 Drimadon in memory of his
 father NEAL who departed this
 life on the 26th day of July 1861
 Age 70 years

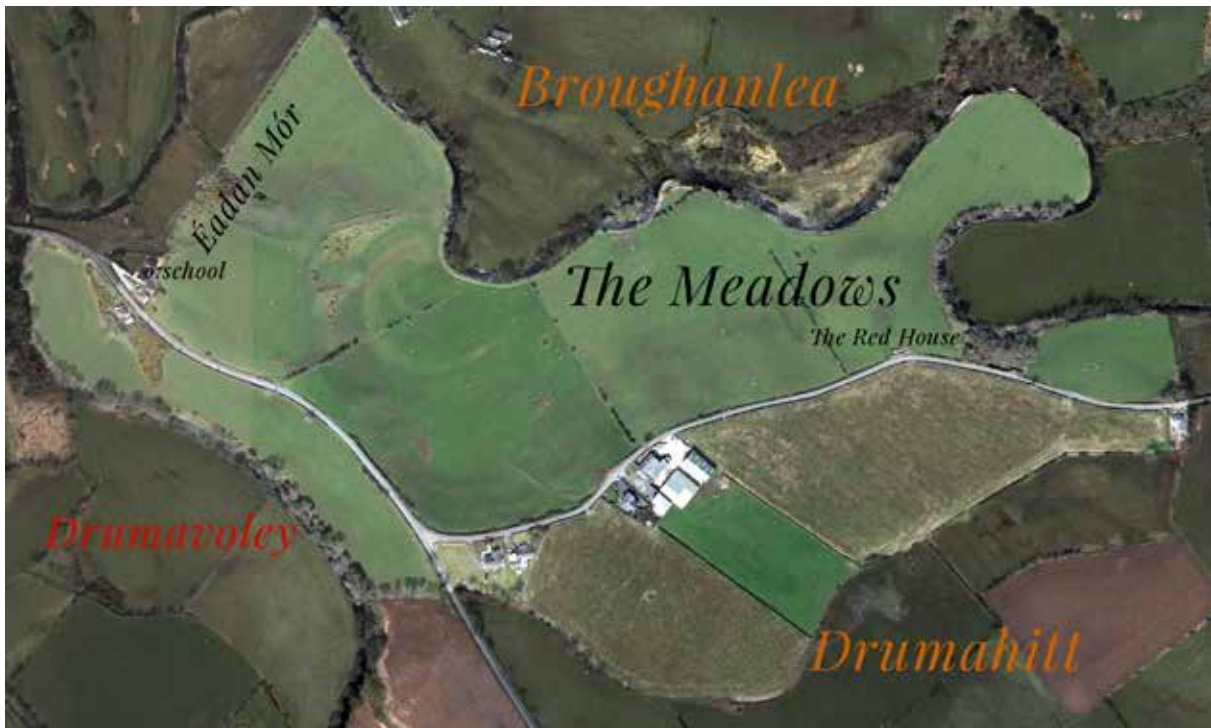


McLean, 1862-1882 (Barnish)
 ERECTED
 BY
 CATHERINE McLEAN
 IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER
 HECTOR McLEAN
 OF DRIMADOON
 WHO DIED 25TH JULY, 1879
 AGED 91 YEARS
 ALSO HER BELOVED MOTHER
 MARGRET
 WHO DIED 18TH JULY 1862
 AGED 70 YEARS.
 THEIR SON
 HECTOR
 DIED 16TH MARCH, 1882, AGED 50 YEARS.



Sundial depicting Taurus, sign of the zodiac.





Camán refers to the style of bend seen in a hurling stick, and the boss of a hurl can be clearly seen in the north-east corner of *The Meadows*. *Éadan Mór* (the great or big brow) is a name from the old maps, referring to the ridgeline running east of the old school. *The Meadows* and *The Red House* (named after its distinctive roof, now a ruin) were the only other names found for the townland. The last residents of *The Red House* were Paddy Murphy from Ballyverdagh North, after

he married Jane Gillan from Armoy, and Anthony Mullen.

Initially little was known about Drumahaman School, bar that John 'Benmore' Clarke was a former pupil, and evening services of the Church of Ireland were held there in the time of Reverend Frederick Davis, from 1903 to 1943.¹ The OSM described the school as follows in July 1835 "*Drumahammond, 6 Protestants, 18 Roman Catholics, 18 males, 6 females, 24 total; this school is under*

the London Hibernian Society, who grant 6d per quarter for each child who passes an examination; the scholars pay from 1s to 2s per quarter; established 1831."³ Lewis in 1840 wrote that "*An excellent school-house was built at Bonamargy, near the bridge, by Alexander M'Neil, Esq...*"⁴

The Society's full name is 'London Hibernian Society for Establishing Schools and Circulating the Holy Scriptures in Ireland', and it was founded in 1806. The

1 1950 - Parish of Culfeightrin in the Diocese of Connor X - *Londonderry Sentinel*, August 26.

2 London Hibernian Society (1833) *The Twenty-Seventh Annual Report of the Hibernian Society for Establishing Schools, and Circulating the Holy Scriptures in Ireland*. Hatchards: London.

3 OSM pg 48.

4 Lewis, S. (1840: 441) *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland Vol I*. S Lewis & Co: London.

ANTRIM.

	£.	s.	d.
Francis Turnly, Esq. Richmond Lodge ..	18	0	0
John Cromie, Esq. Portstuart	20	0	0
Rev. Richard Waddy, Fenvoy, Kiltrea....	3	3	0
Miss Thomson, Greenmount	1	11	0
Rev. Messrs. Crawford and Stuart	30	0	0
Rev. Messrs. Cumming and Patterson ..	30	0	0
Rev. William Wolseley, Clough	2	2	0
Sampson Moore, Esq. Ballinacru	19	0	0
A. M'Neil, Esq. Ballycastle	12	0	0
Mrs. M'Cartney, Lisanore, Dervock	3	0	0
Rev. Mr. Dixon, Rathsharkin	1	0	0

Cutting from the 1833 Annual Report of the London Hibernian Society.²

following is how they described themselves “To guarantee the pledged non-interference of the Society with the religious tenets of those under their care; to secure their Pupils’ moral principle, without any interference with the peculiar doctrine of their respective denominations; and with a view to obviate that species of animosity which attention to religious distinctions engenders, no Books on Religious Controversy, Tracts, or Catechisms, are to be admitted into the Schools. The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, without note or comment, in the ENGLISH and IRISH languages, and the

Society’s Spelling Books, are the only books provided by the Society.”⁵

“The art of reading Irish in the Roman and Celtic characters, is to be taught ALL PUPILS WHO MAY DESIRE IT; and all Masters in Districts where the Irish is the common language of the adult population, are required to form an Irish Class; and for the extra attention and trouble attending the instruction of Irish Classes, an additional allowance of half-pay is granted the teacher.”⁶

It was another one of the numerous ‘Bible through Irish’ societies of the early 1800s, with the Presbyterian Synod of

Ulster, the Irish Society, and the Presbyterian Home Missions being others. Initially the Catholic Church didn’t pay too much heed, but quickly turned against them, their teachers, and in the end the language. The Societies weren’t so much proselytising, as hoping Catholics would see the light if they read in their own language from the Protestant and Presbyterian Bibles.

The 1816 Annual Report includes a letter mentioning that one of the Society’s Inspectors “has lately been the means of reclaiming a person who was brought up in the Protestant profession, but having settled in {redacted}, was soon induced to turn Catholic...Though bred from his infancy in the north of this kingdom, and among protestants, he was entirely ignorant of the Scriptures; nor could he read, and therefore soon became a prey to popish delusions”.⁷ The Report gave some background as to why the

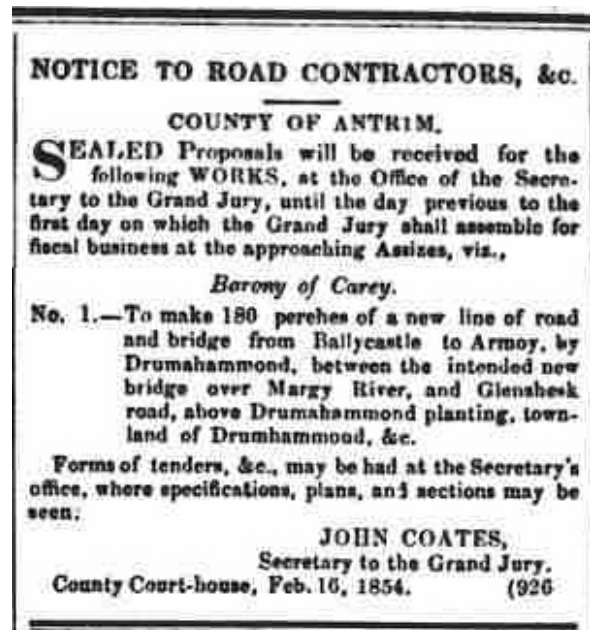
5 Webster (1828: 8).

6 Webster (1828: 9).

7 London Hibernian Society (1816: 20) *The Tenth Annual Report of the Hibernian Society for Establishing Schools, and Circulating the Holy Scriptures in Ireland.* J Low: London.

Catholic Church didn't take too kindly to them: "...that the Catholic religion, by systematically and determinately withholding the Scriptures from the greater part of the population, prevents the diffusion of Divine light and influence, and perpetuates mental degradation and depravity..."⁸ There were also questions raised about the accuracy of the Inspectors' Reports, as well as their high numbers of pupils.

In 1861 the school was listed as the 'Church Education Society's School-house and yard', with the ground leased from the Reverend Hugh M'Neile of Colliers' Hall, later the Dean of Ripon. It is not yet known if it became a National School, although it was a private house by 1911.



Tender for the building of the Drumahaman Bridge, 1854. Belfast Commercial Chronicle.



The Drumahaman bridge from the Bonamargy side c.1900.

Families

- 1669:** McManie, McMaw, Stewart.
1734:⁹ Cary, Fullerton, Hall, McGalbride, McGilbride, McGugan, McIlbride, McKachan, McKinlay, McKerie, McLeane, McMullan, McTyre, Moor, O'Morgan, Robinson, Sharp, Sinklar, Stewart, Thomson.
1803: Calon, McCann, McCurdy, McKeague.
1831: Cristy, McNeile¹⁰, Millar.
1861: McCurdy, McDonnell, Thompson.
1901: McMullen, Thompson.
1911: McCullagh, Walker.
2018: Baird, Donnelly, McCambridge, McCarry, McNally, Mitchell.

McCurdy, 1792 (Bun na Margái)

ALLEXANDER MC
CURDYS OF DRIMAHA
HITON BURYING PL=
AGE THE 8TH SEPTR
1792



McCurdy, 1792 (Bun na Margái).

Jolly, 1838 (Bun na Margái)

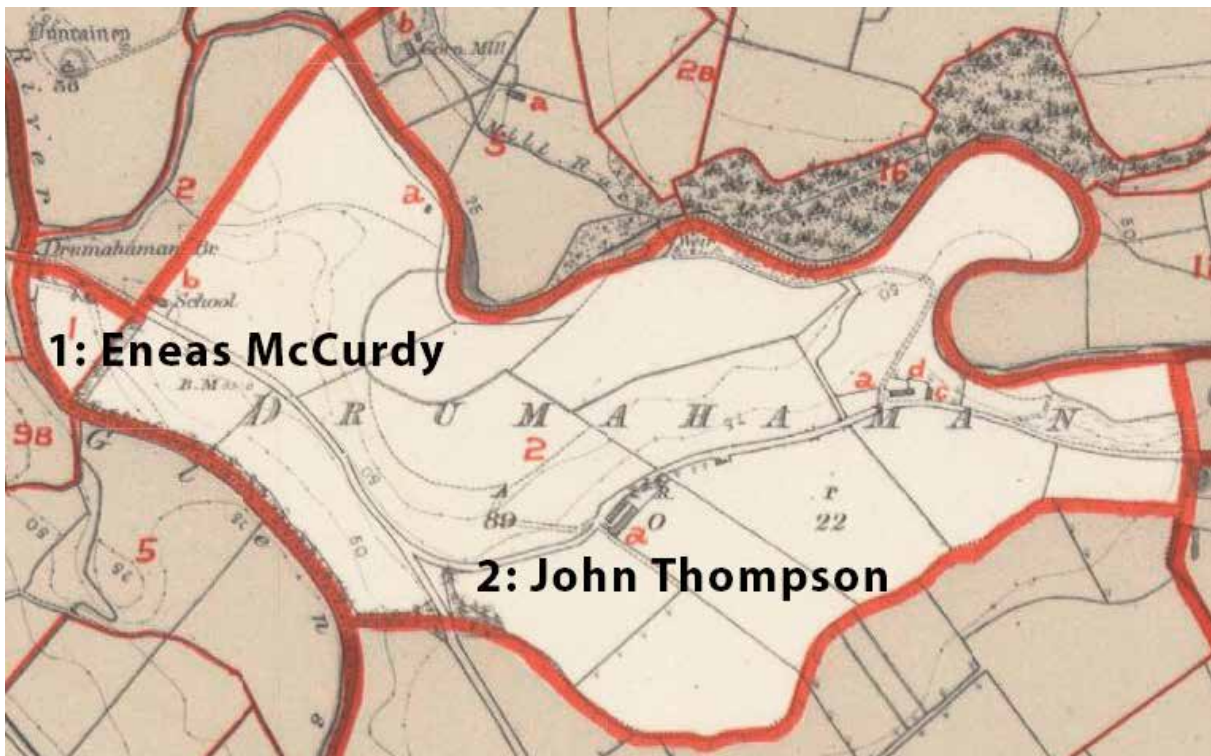
ERECTED
By CHARLES JOLLY
of Drumahamon
In Memory of his Son
JOHN JOLLY
who departed this life
the 2nd of Sepr 1838
Aged 18 years.



McCurdy, 1792 (Bun na Margái).

9 Drimaman. This must take in several neighbouring townlands as there are too many names, probably Drumahitt for one.

10 Alexr McNeile Esq, also of Broughanlea.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: The ruin of Eneas McCurdy's house is still hidden in the whin bushes, while Archibald McDonnell lived in *The Red House*. The Thompsons and the McMullens were the only residents in 1901, while the McCullaghs and the Walkers were the only families in the townland in 1911. Robert McCullagh was the caretaker on the McKinleys farm from at least 1909, the farm was auctioned in 1917.

MR. H. A. M'ALISTER'S SALE.

AUCTION OF FARM OF LAND AT DRUMAHAMMOND.

MR. ROBERT LEE has instructed me to Sell, by Auction, on the Premises, on MONDAY, 23rd January, 1899, at Twelve o'clock, his interest in that Farm of Land and Premises, held by him under Miss K. I. Boyd, at the judicial yearly rent of £11 10s, containing 10a 2r 17p, Statute Measure, be the same more or less.

Portion of the Premises are situate in the Townland of Drumavoly, and the remainder in the Townland of Drumahammond.

The Lands are of excellent quality, capable of carrying any Crop.

There is a neat Dwelling-house on the holding, which was erected by the Vendor a few years ago.

The Premises are quite convenient to Ballycastle.

Terms—£20 per cent. at sale; remainder on getting possession. Purchasers to pay 2½ per cent. auction fees at sale.

420 H. A. M'ALISTER, Auctioneer.

Auction notice of Robert Lee's farm. Northern Constitution.

Mr. M'CAMBRIDGE'S SALES—CON.

Drumahammond, Ballycastle.

IMPORTANT SALE OF

VALUABLE FARM.

AND CHARMING RESIDENCE,

SITUATE IN THE TOWNLAND OF DRUMAHAMMOND, NEAR BALLYCASTLE.

I have received instructions from MRS. MCKINLEY to Sell by Public Auction, on the Premises, on MONDAY, the 29th OCTOBER 1917, at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon.

All that very valuable Farm of Land and Premises, in the Townland of DRUMAHAMMOND, containing 96a 2r 7p, or thereabouts, Statute measure, held under Rev. H. M'Nale, at the yearly judicial rent of £66 10s, fixed for a second Statutory term, which is now almost expired.

The Property is beautifully situated about one mile from Ballycastle, and half-a-mile from the fashionable bathing quarter, known as the Quay, and surrounded by the beautiful scenery of Glenties.

The Dwelling-house is an excellent two-storied building, containing on the ground floor Drawing-room, Dining-room, and Breakfast-room, with Kitchen, Scullery, Pantry, &c., and on the first floor there are five Bedrooms, and another Bath-room.

The Out-offices comprise Coach-house, Barn, Granary, Straw-house, Byres for 18 Cows; also Byres for 12 fatweas or stores, Stable, suitable for 4 horses; and a Loose-box, Pulping-house, Cart Sheds, Potato House, Figgery, &c., all new and slated. There is an enclosed Yard, with force Pump, and an excellent Garden, with Fruit Trees; also a Labourer's Cottage and another Dwelling-house.

The Farm consists of first-class soil, in a very high state of cultivation, well fenced, and drained, with a constant supply of running water in each field, and to each field there is an entrance from the County Road. The Lands are famous for sure cropping, producing abundant crops of flax, beans, barley, oats, &c., and there is a powerful Horse Threshing Machine on the premises, which the purchaser will take at a valuation.

The Auctioneer confidently commends this splendid holding, as it is seldom such a property is in the market.

Immediately after Sale of Farm, I shall Sell 2 Iron Bedsteads and Bedding, 2 Large Presses, 1 Mahogany Table, Kitchen Table, Large Box Chairs, by Kennedy.

TERMS—£15 per cent. Deposit at time of Sale, with remainder on completion. Purchaser to pay £2½ per cent. Auction Fees. Furniture, Cash, and 5 per cent. Fees.

For further particulars as to Title, &c., apply to

R. C. MARTIN,
Solicitor, having carriage of Sale,
Ballymenay.

E. F. M'CAMBRIDGE,
Auctioneer, Ballycastle.

46-48

Auction of Mrs McKinley's farm. Ballymena Observer.

The last house on Churchfield Road before Drumaridly used to belong to Willie McGinty.

When the garage at the schoolhouse was repaired approximately 20 years ago, an old document was found hidden between the walls. It was a Last Will and Testament, and made mention of the Lord Mayor of London. It also included a register of slaves on a sugar plantation in Barbados,

along with the English owners. There were also names of parents, their children, and height and weight measurements. It was given to PRONI for safekeeping, but when it was followed up PRONI didn't recognise the reference code.

A sundial was also found. It is inscribed 'John Foster Colerain 1823', and has the months of the year on the inside ring, the signs of the zodiac in the

middle, and the degrees of the sun on the outside. It is a mystery as to how both the sundial and the will ended up in the garage. The sundial was maybe the property of the school, while Archie McAllister, an undertaker who formerly lived in the schoolhouse, may have been given the items for safe-keeping. The late Cahal Dallat also said Archie had the keys to the vault in Bun na Margai.



The sundial found between the walls.



The damaged stamp, what it was or why it was damaged are also mysteries.



Signs of the Zodiac (Scorpio and Taurus).



'John Foster Colerain 1823'.



Fieldnames

1. Goirtín;
2. Caldwell's Horseshoe;
3. Chrishes Hole;
4. Sharpe's Field.



Droim an Chait likely refers to the large number of foxes and wild cats in the area.¹ The *OS Memoirs*² record the story that it is the site of the sixth century 'Long Parliament' convened by the monarch of Ireland. The 'Long Parliament' lasted 13 months, and was attended by

other Irish nobility and monarchy, as well as St Colm Cille. The site of the Parliament, according to locals, was on Sharpe's farm. In the late 1700s John McIninch discovered gold antiques, in the field between what is now the haulage yard and the Glensheshk river. They were subsequently

sold in Belfast and Liverpool.³ The general consensus is that the Long Parliament is on a hill called Droim Ceat, at the back of Limavady Grammar School, in the townland of Mullach.⁴ A paved road and what were thought to be two stones at either end of a grave was found beneath

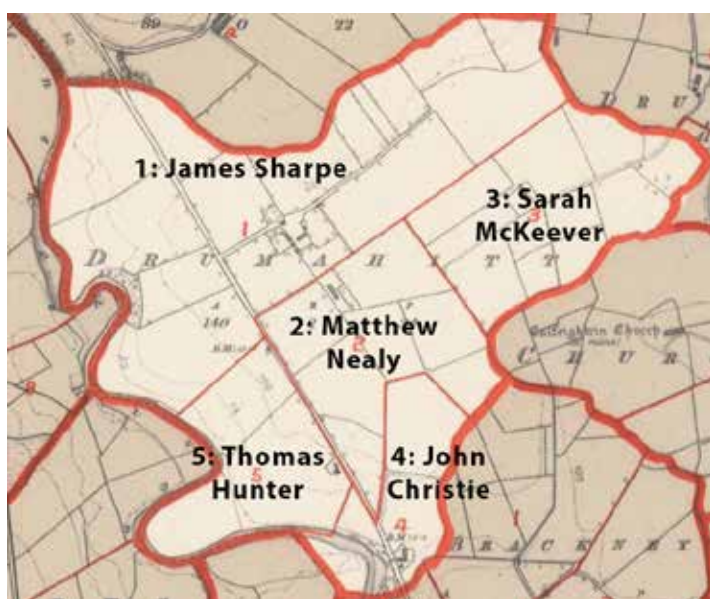
1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 143-4).
 2 OSM pg 67-68.
 3 OSM pg 67.
 4 Mac Gabhann (1997: 144).

one of the fields in the southwest of the townland. Between all these sites, a silver coin dating from the reign of Henry III⁵ was found in 1817.⁶ This is the same type of coin found at Drumadoon in 2002. In more recent times, the water for Boyd's bleach works in Ballycastle was diverted from the Glenshesk river at Sharpe's farm, via a one and a half mile long culvert. Cahal Dallat had written in the early 1970s that the mouth of the culvert could still be seen at Sharpe's farm.⁷

Goirtín (little field) is the last small corner field just before Brackney, while *Chrishes' Hole* is a deep part of the river just above it. *Caldwell's Horseshoe* was another name of a part of the river.

Families

- 1669:** McCurdy, McTaylor, McVarnag.
- 1803:** Calon, Car, Linn, Sharp.
- 1831:** Cristy, McMichael, McNeill, Neilly, Sharp, Stinson.
- 1861:** Christie, Hunter, Nealy, McKeever, Sharpe.
- 1901:** Hay, McCarry, Mullin, Sharpe, Sherred.
- 1911:** Carrol, McCormick, McGarry, Sharpe.
- 2018:** Black, Boyle.



Griffith's Valuation

1861: The lane into Sarah McKeever's house ran in through Drumaridly. The Sharpes were the only family living in Drumahitt in the censuses of 1901 and 1911, their farmhouse now part of the haulage yard. One of the Sharpe family plots is in Old Ramoan, and another in the Presbyterian graveyard at the top of Castle Street in Ballycastle. Another plot is between two old trees in the farm at Drumahitt, with the headstone dating to the 1830s.

5 1207-1272.

6 OSM pg 68.

7 <http://www.ballycastlehistory.com/ballycastles-18th-century-industries-by-cahal-dallat.html>.

Sharpe, 1890-1909 (Old Ramoan)
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 JAMES SHARPE OF DRUMAHITT
 WHO DIED 17TH MAY 1890 AGED 81 YEARS
 ALSO HIS WIFE SARAH
 WHO DIED 25TH MARCH 1909 AGED 86
 YEARS.



Sharpe, 1890-1909 (Old Ramoan).

Christie, 1866 (Barnish)
 IHS
 ERECTED
 to the memory of
 JOHN CHRISTY
 late of Drimahit who died
 7th August 1866
 Aged 55 years
 Also his son ARCHIBALD
 Aged 2 years.



The Christies listed in the 1831 and 1861 surveys are buried in Barnish.

McIvor, 1873 (Barnish)
 IHS
 IN MEMORY OF
 SARAH McIVOR of Drumahitt
 who died 10th June 1873
 AGED 70 YEARS
 wife of HUGH McIVOR
 Coast Guard
 ERECTED BY HER SON
 MICHAEL



McIvor, 1873 (Barnish).



Fieldnames

1. Henry's Hollow;
2. Henry's House;
3. Sand Pit;
4. The Bog;
5. The Brick Yard;
6. The Cottage Field.



Droim an Riodalaigh is another difficult townland name. The above form is based on the twelfth century Norman surname of de Ridal (later Gaelicised

as Riddell), which was present in the northern areas of the Earldom of Ulster.¹ It could also be a variation of *roide* (reddish mud, bog-mire; muck, dirt).

Henry's House and *Henry's Hollow* are presumed to be named after Henry Murray shown on the 1861 map.

Families

- 1803:** Buyl, Daragh, Dulinan, McFall.
- 1831:** Boyle, Darragh, Dullilan, Murray.
- 1861:** Darragh, Dillon, McRoy, Murray.
- 1901:** Darragh.
- 1911:** Darragh.
- 2018:** Brogan, Devlin, Campbell, Lavery, McCambridge, McCormick.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 144-5).

1803: Both Hugh Buyl and John Darragh listed in this survey have family plots in Barnish:



Darragh, 1825 (Barnish).

Darragh, 1825 (Barnish)
SACRED

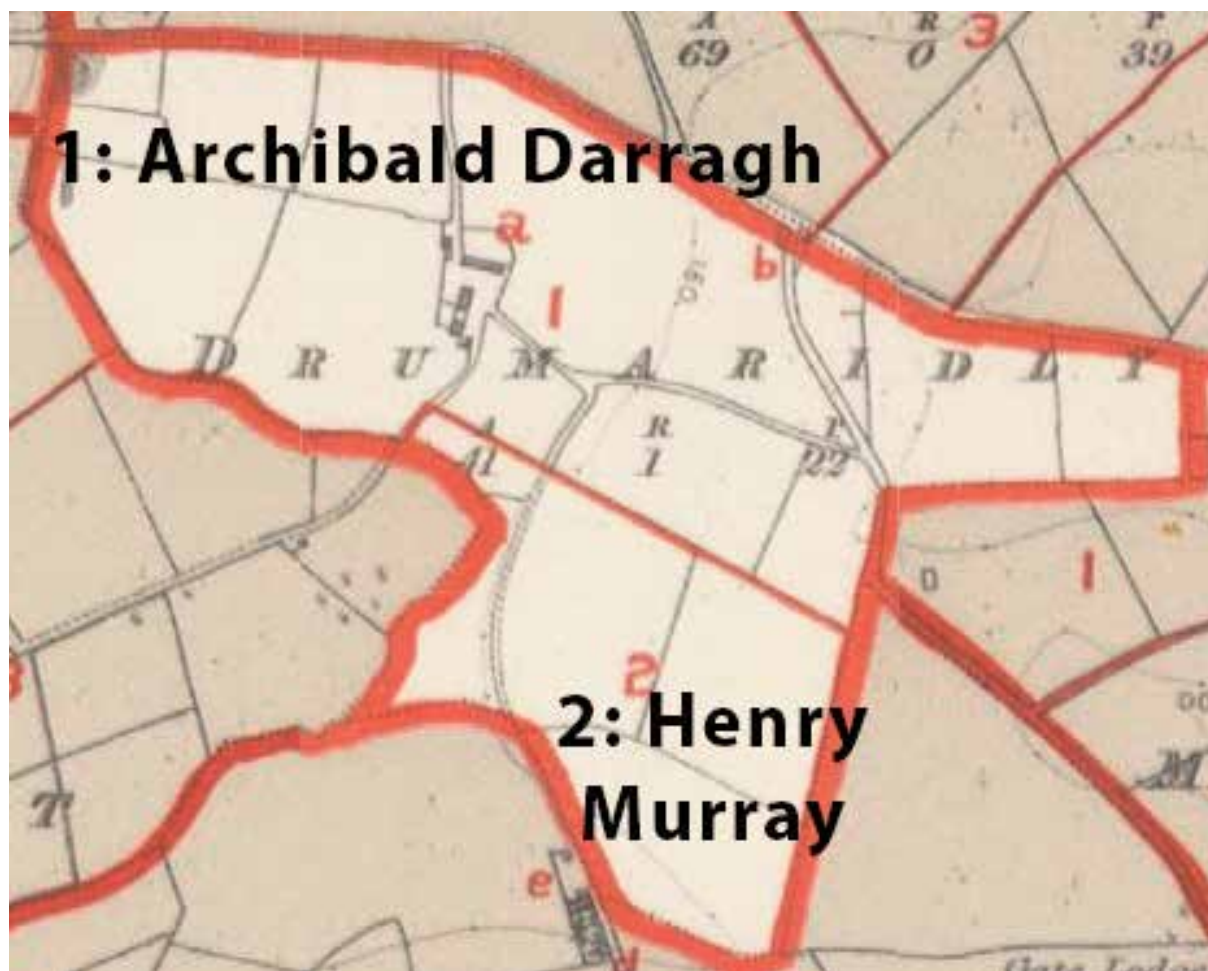
To the memory of John Darragh late of Drimaridley who departed this life the 15th Febr 1825 Aged 63 years. Also his daughter Mary who died 2D FebrY 1825 Aged 20



Boyle, 1833 (Barnish).

Boyle, 1833 (Barnish)

ERECTED BY
Hugh Boyle of
Drumaridley in memory
of his wife Sarah who
died the 3rd June 1833
Aged 60 years

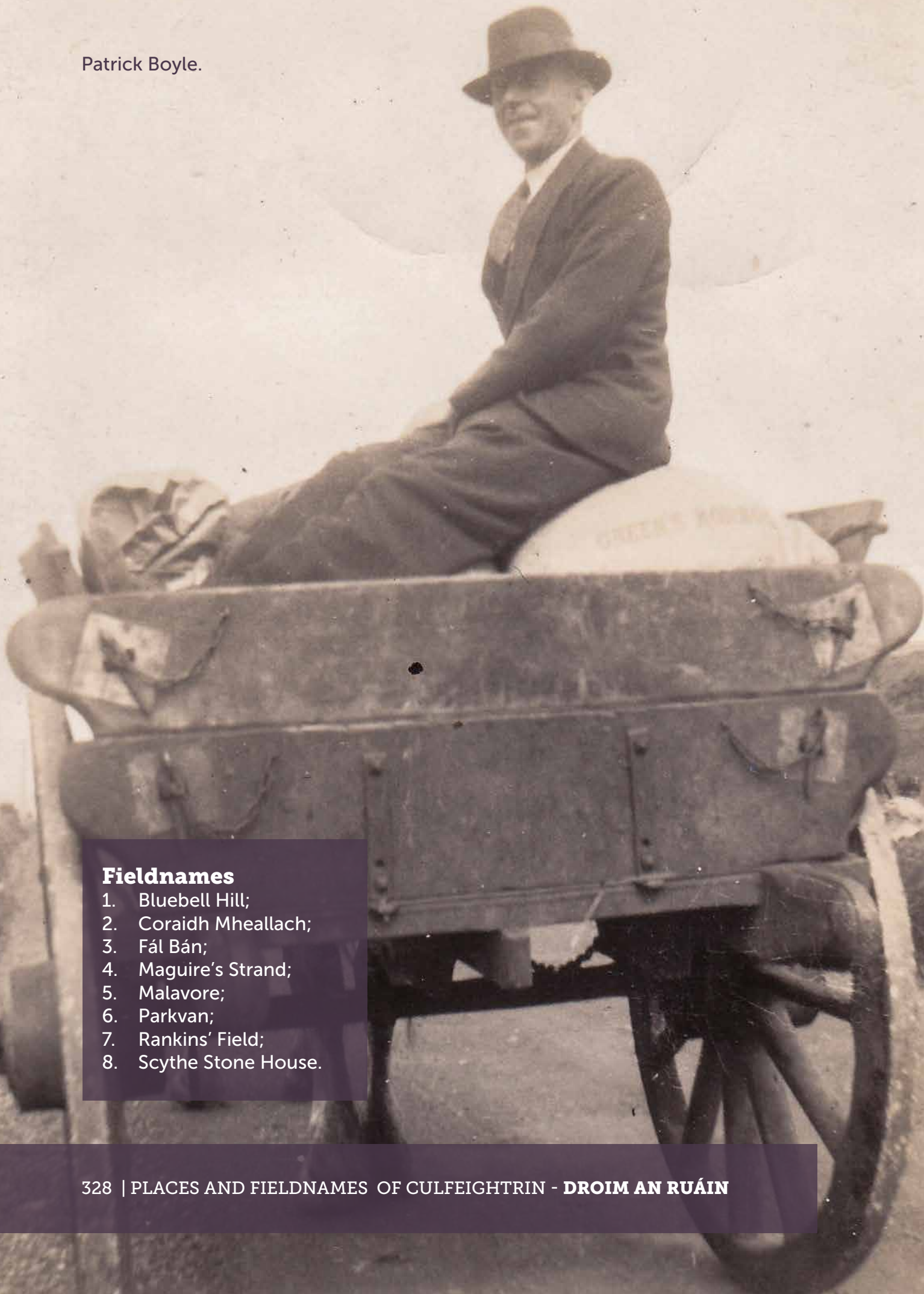


1: Archibald Darragh

2: Henry Murray

Griffith's Valuation 1861: Archibald Darragh lived in house 1a, and James Dillon at 1b. The survey list also includes Jane M'Roy at 1c, which isn't recorded on the map, but is presumed to be in Archibald Darragh's yard. The only family resident in the 1901 and 1911 Censuses were Archibald Darragh and his wife Anne McLean. In 1901 their sons, Charles and James, and daughter Rosetta were living with them; by 1911 Charles had left home.

Patrick Boyle.



Fieldnames

1. Bluebell Hill;
2. Coraidh Mheallach;
3. Fál Bán;
4. Maguire's Strand;
5. Malavore;
6. Parkvan;
7. Rankins' Field;
8. Scythe Stone House.



Droim an Ruáin could refer to a 'plant (that produces red coloured matter)',¹ as well as landscape features that are red in colour (for example an animal, buckwheat, or a moorland).² Ruán is the Gaelic word for buckwheat, the flower of which can be pink

in colour. Buckwheat is related to the common native wildflower samhadh bó (sorrel), which has reddish flowers and seeds.

Fál Bán Colliery (white hedge or fence) is thought to refer to a white sandstone enclosure which once

stood on the site, while the *Scythe Stone House Level* is the name of one of the coal seams. *Maguire's Strand* is named after brothers Richard and William McGuire from Dublin, who leased the colliery in 1720.³ The souterrain at *Malavore* (Mhala Mhór - big brow) runs north to south, and

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 165).
 2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 145, 216-7).
 3 D2977/3A/2/36/2A, PRONI.

was found when part of it caved in. It was not mentioned in the OSM, and no remains of a cairn or rath were found nearby, but it is said to be a prime location for such structures.⁴ *Parkvan* is likely *Pháirc Bhán* (white field).

Coraigh Mheallach (lumpy weir, which is a place to cross a stream or river) is a townland on the Cushendun side of

Torr, and was chosen for the site when the Holiday Fellowship was set up in the 1930s.⁵ It's possible that some form of *Coraidh Mheallach* was the local placename before this; however we have found no reference to this. Today the Holiday Fellowship still organise walking tours. Retreat houses such as *Coraigh Mheallach* used to be part of package holidays for members.



Looking down towards Maguire's Strand, c.1930.



The Holiday Fellowship under construction, 1930s.

4 ANT 009:210.

5 Mac Gabhann (1997: 134-5).



*The newly finished site in the 1930s.
HOYFM.WAG.1093 Corrymeela, Ballycastle
© National Museums NI.*



Holiday Fellowship in Murlough, May McCloy (née Stewart, Benvan) is in the polka dots in front of the porch.

5th June 1930, Northern Whig

HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP

"Garden Houses" to be Erected at Ballycastle.

Ballycastle Rural Council received a letter from Mr WL Skelton, Solicitor, Royal Avenue, Belfast, stating that his clients, Messrs Holiday Fellowship, Ltd, London, an organisation having as its object the erection of "guest houses" in certain rural districts in the British Isles for the accommodation during the summer months of their members and associates, wished to establish a centre in Northern Ireland.

They had negotiated for a site on Mr Anderson's farm at Drumaroan, Ballycastle, but they had asked him to advise whether the Ballycastle Rural Council would pass the plans of the buildings proposed to be erected by them. There would be a main building in addition to small wooden houses, termed "garden houses", to provide supplementary sleeping accommodation.

The Council approved of the plans submitted.

The proposed site is situated overlooking the sea about 1½ miles from Ballycastle on the coast road to Fair Head. The grounds attached to the guest house will, it is understood, be extensive, allowing for tennis and other games.

Families

- 1669:** Dugar, Dulkan, Nivian.
1734: Gilbert, Hill, McAlester, McIlbride, McNeill.
1803: Castly, Darragh, Dickson, Hill, McBride, McCargish, McCrank, McNeill.
1831: Cashley, Clark, Dixon, Ferguson, McBride, McCurdy, McKeag, McLaughlin, Walsh (*Revd*).
1861: Duncan, McCauley, McGraw, McKinley, McLoughlin, Meehan.
1901: McErlean (*& worker McMullan*), McGuire, McLaughlin (*& worker McBride*), Rankin.
1911: Boyle, McGuire, McLaughlin, Rankin.
2018: Boyle, Brennan, Dallat, Grainger, Montgomery.

Of the families in the 1831 survey, the Fergusons are buried in Bun na Margaí, while the McKeags are buried in Barnish. Father Luke Walsh is the only other recognisable name. A speech he gave on the chapel steps in Barnish in 1840, included in this chapter, is the only information available on his life.

SEA-BATHING.

TO BE LET, FURNISHED,
FROM THE FIRST OF JUNE,

THAT comfortable Cottage in DRUMAROAN, at present occupied by the Rev. L. WALSH, containing Kitchen, Parlour, and Two Bed-rooms, with Pantry and Servants' Apartments. There is Stabling for Three Horses, Car-house, and Cow-house; also, a neat Garden, well stocked with Fruit Trees.

This would be a most desirable residence during the Bathing Season for a small family, being most advantageously situated on a rising ground, about fifty perches from the Sea, and a mile from Ballycastle, County Antrim, in a most picturesque country. It commands a most extensive view of the Atlantic, Fairhead, Rathlin Island, Ballycastle, Glenshesk, &c. &c., and is only about twelve miles from the Giants' Causeway. The Post Car to and from Belfast passes every day.

It will be Let by the Month or for the Season.
The Milk of a Cow can be given, if required.
Apply to the Rev. L. WALSH; or, Dr. BIRT, Ballycastle.

DRUMAROAN, 9th May, 1845 (449)

Father Walsh's cottage. The Vindicator.

Ferguson 1822 (Bun na Margai)
 IHS
 To the Memory
 of
 Margaret Ferguson
 Late of
 Drimaruan Who departed
 this Life the 18th Day of March 1822
 Aged 56 years
 Also her son
ALEXANDER MCGAWLEY,
 who departed this life in 1837,
 aged 33 years.
 And her daughter
ANN LAW,
 who departed this life 24th Nov. 1885
 aged 90 years.



Ferguson 1822 (Bun na Margai).

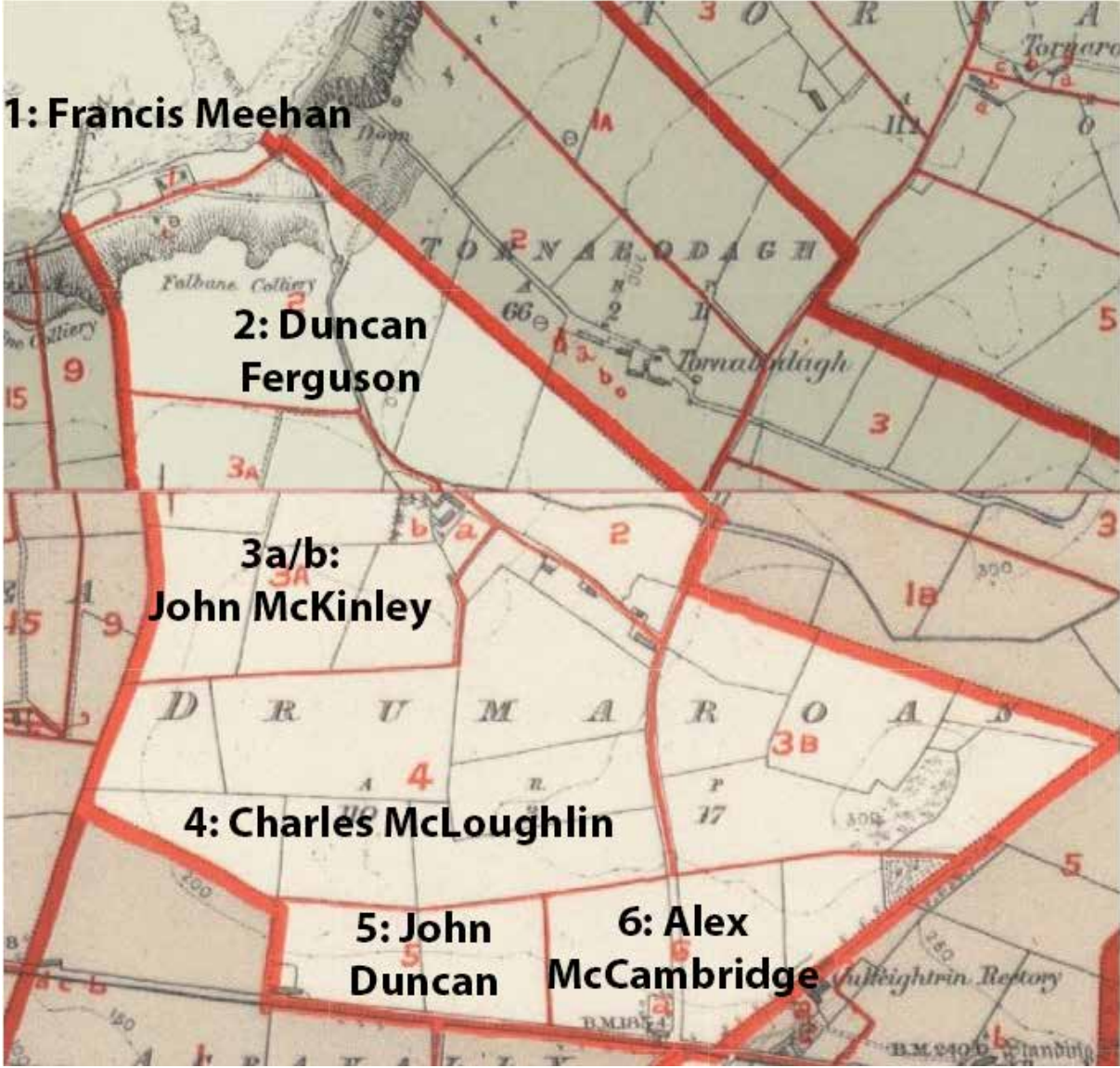
McKeag 1860 (Barnish)
 IHS
 Sacred
 To the memory of the late
ROBERT MCKAGUE
 of Drimaruan who departed
 this life the 5TH of February 1860
 Aged 77 years
 Also his three Sons
EDMOND, ROBERT, And
EDMOND

this stone is Erected by his son
JAMES of Newyork
 Unrighted States of America



McKeag 1860 (Barnish).

Griffith's Valuation 1861: Francis Meehan lived at the Maguire Strand Caravan Park, we presume *Meehan's Bow* in Broughanlea is named after this family. Of the names listed not on the map, Francis McGraw lived beside John McKinley, Alex McCambridge was from Ballynaglogh, and Patrick McCauley lived at the bottom of *Malavore Hill*. At the corner of Alex McCambridge's ground was the garden of Reverend Courtenay, who lived in the rectory in Ballynaglogh.



McGrath (Barnish)
 IHS
 ERECTED
 BY FRANCIS MCGRATH
 of Drumarona in
 Memory of
 his Beloved wife
 And Family



McGrath (Barnish).

25th August 1883, Ballymena Observer

**AUCTION OF
 FARM OF LAND,
 STOCK, CROP, &c.,
 AT DRUMAROAN, BALLYCASTLE**

To be sold by Public Auction, on the premises, at Drumarona, on Friday August 31, at one o'clock, p.m., all that and those, that Farm of Land and premises, formerly in the possession of John M'Kinley, deceased, and now in the possession and occupation of his daughter and administratrix, Bridget M'Kinley, containing 36 statute acres, or thereabouts, and held under John M'Gildowney, Esq, D.L., at the yearly rent of £30 2s 11d.

The Farm is situate about 1 mile from the Town of Ballycastle, and is convenient to this Cushendall Road. On this Farm there is a commodious slated Dwelling house, and the office-houses, comprising – Cowhouse, Stables, Byres and Barn, are all slated and in excellent condition.

Immediately after the sale of the Farm the following Stock, Crop, &c, will be sold: -

STOCK – Cows and Calves, Horse, Cart and Cart Harness, Ploughs, Harrows, and all out-door effects.

CROP – 10 Irish acres prime Oats, 15 (?) Upland Hay, 2 acres Potatoes, 1 acre Turnips; also the entire Household Furniture.

Terms – For Farm, £50 deposit at sale, and remainder on getting permission. For Stock, Crop, &c, Cash. Purchasers to pay Auction Fees at sale.

For further particulars apply to
 ALEX O'RORKE, Jun, Solicitor, Ballycastle; or to
 WM. STOREY, Auctioneer & Valuer, Antrim and Randalstown.

McKinley auction 1883.

John McKinley in plot 3A/3B is buried in Bun na Margaí, in the family plot of the McKinleys of Colliers' Hall. His daughter Bridget sold up in 1883:

**JOHN MCKINLEY OF DRIMARUAN,
DIED 4TH JAN. 1879, AGED 72 YEARS.
HIS WIFE ANN,
DIED 18TH MARCH, 1870**

Censuses:

1901: the McGuires moved into the townland sometime between 1883, when they were living round the quay in Ballycastle and 1890. The Rankins moved in before 1886.

1911: Cornelius Boyle, a stone mason, and his family were living on Anne Street in Ballycastle in 1901, and moved to Drumaroan between October 1903 and January 1905. The McLaughlins are buried in Barnish, with the most recent date on the headstone being 1956.

The small house at the top of Malavore and opposite the Brennans was that of Mary Anderson, later a Bird family from Kildare.

Father Walsh and the Reform Movement:

On Wednesday February 5 1840 *The Vindicator* newspaper reported that Father Walsh had given a speech after mass in Barnish about the Reform Movement. The Reform Movement was led by Daniel O'Connell (post the Catholic Emancipation of 1829) to re-instate the (mostly) independent Irish parliament of 1782 to 1800, which was shut down on the creation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Father Walsh's speech mostly



Patrick Boyle.



Patrick Boyle and Paddy McGuire. Patrick Boyle is a son of the above Cornelius. Paddy McGuire lived at the Maguire Strand Caravan Park.

concerned attempts by hardliners in the Conservative Party to repeal the Catholic Emancipation. He praised Queen Victoria of England, proclaiming that:

"Under the Roman Commonwealth there was only one emergency in which it was held lawful for the priests to take up arms – that was when it was invaded by the Gaul; and should our modern barbarians, the Hanoverians, attempt either throne or person of our beloved Queen, I think we, also, would do our duty (Cheers). Yes, Sir, even in those wild and romantic glens, where your forefathers took refuge, after they had been despoiled of their fair possessions, and denied the poor privilege of worshipping their God according to the dictates of their conscience, would be found ten thousand brave and hardy volunteers, who, with Faga-balla⁶ for the word, would fly to the rescue (Loud Cheers)."

After a few resolutions Father Walsh spoke of his early years. He was a native of Kilwarlin, near Lisburn, and was ordained in Downpatrick in 1823, and was sent to Maghera in 1827. *"Nor have I and my family been exempted from our full share in those calamities. I recollect the Orange yeomanry of Lisburn, on days of parade, retaining the charge in their muskets to fire over my father's house on their return. I saw them pursue our servant girl into the room in which I was lying in a fever, with a drawn bayonet, where she saved herself by running under the bed where I was, which so alarmed me that I relapsed. I saw them on the 12th of July...wrecking and smashing my father's house into pieces...They murdered a near relative of mine at his own door, Mr Close, of Rushy-hill, an old and respectable man, when he was going to see his cattle done up, at nine o'clock at night. They killed an uncle of mine, Mr Charles M'Neile, in the county of Tyrone; and they murdered a dear brother of mine, an innocent unoffending youth of only 19 years of age, at our own door... (Here the rev gentleman was so overcome by his feelings, that it was some minutes before he could proceed)...To this I might add, that I stood two chances for my own life. The last in the neighbourhood of Ballymena, in a place called Buckna, where they shot at me, on my return from attending a man who was dying in the town of Broughshane..."*

THE SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS.

MEETING OF CULFEIGHTRIN.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DRUMBOGAN, NEAR BALLYCASTLE, JAN. 29.—In consequence of the severity of the weather, the meeting of the parish of Culfeightrin was postponed until last Sunday, when a vast concourse of people assembled in Carey chapel-yard.

On the motion of the Rev. L. WALSH, P.P., Mr. PATRICK M'CAMBRIDGE was called to the chair, and Mr. DANIEL SCULLION requested to act as Secretary.

1840: Father Walsh and the Reform Movement. *The Vindicator*.

6 Fàg an Bealach (clear the way) is an old war cry, which became the motto of the Royal Irish Regiment in 1811 (anglicised as 'Fough a Ballagh'). The Royal Irish Fusiliers were nicknamed the 'Faughs', and the hurling club also takes its name from Fàg a Bealach.

Standing Stone.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Cabra / Cabrach / Rough, bad land;
2. Fallaghan Duff / Falachán Dubh / Little dark hedge;
3. Kilhame/Calhame / Callchaoim / Hazel wood;
4. Macilowskin/Maghiloskin / Machaire an Luscáin/Loisceáin;
Plain of the small cave/fire for singeing corn;
5. The Fank Field / An Fang / The sheep pen;
6. The Keel / An Chill / The church or graveyard;
7. Tircoon / Tír Cuain / Bowed lan;
8. Big Wullie's Hill;
9. Calhame Lane;
10. Crockie Hill;
11. Gravel Pit;
12. Jollie's Mill;
13. Mill Lane;
14. Rosie's Hill;
15. Scullion's Corner;
16. The Acre;
17. The Boragh;
18. The Holme.

The OSM gave the source of the townland name as the burial ground currently in Jake and Maria Paterson’s back garden. It was then called ‘Kille’ in the holding of James Kenny.¹ There is also a Bronze Age burial site in the ridge at *Crockie Hill*, while the OSM also states that the first Protestant church in Carey was in this townland.

Jolly’s Mill was built between the 1832 and 1860 OS maps as a scutch mill for flax, although its exact origins are not yet known: “the entrance to it was by a long lane going down from Scullion’s corner. I was in it many times as my father looked after it for Charlie Jollie. I watched the scutching and other operations in preparing the lint for market”.² *Big Wullie’s Hill* was named after William Davidson, who lived with his wife Kate Anne in the single wallstead at the top of the *Mill Lane*.



1 OSM pg 51.
 2 Pers Comms John McConnell.



Jolly's Mill from Drumadoon.



Jolly's Mill c.1900, 3rd Ed. OS.

The burial site below *Crockie Hill* was excavated in 1983 ahead of the construction of the main road.^{3,4} Patrick Casement of Churchfield had found a skull and parts of a skeleton there, which analysis later revealed to be from an 11 year old boy dated to 1305 BC. The site was then excavated, and found to be an early Bronze Age cemetery, dating from 700-1300 BC. A vase and urns containing cremated remains were also found, and it's thought either a cist grave, or a series of cist graves had collapsed

in the sand quarry.⁵ Bronze Age burials are typically found on the top of ridges, with landslips and quarrying into the ridge revealing more burials. On *Crockie Hill* there is a well preserved circular mound thought to be a barrow, or raised earth over a grave.⁶ In March 1984, the late Hugh Duncan found an encrusted urn when digging at the gravel pit, while another two vase urns were found after a landslip that January.⁷ A cup-marked decoration found on one of the cist stones was thought atypical of Irish cists,

suggesting it was of western Scottish origin, as was a similar stone found a few years prior in Glenmakeeran.⁸ A similar discovery was made when the Coast Road was dug in the 1830s, a human skeleton in a circular pit at the top of a hill.⁹

The standing stone that is just over 3 feet high, further up the hill, is thought to be part of the larger Bronze Age site. There is much more of the stone underground, as John Duncan backed the tractor into it once and it never budged.¹⁰

3 SM7-ANT-009-072.

4 Williams, BB. (1985) Excavations at Drumnakeel, Co Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, Vol 48: 51-61.

5 Williams (1985: 52).

6 SM7-ANT-009-012B.

7 Williams (1985: 52).

8 Williams (1985: 57 & 60).

9 OSM pg 51.

10 SM7-ANT-009-204-01.



Crockie Hill.



Standing Stone.

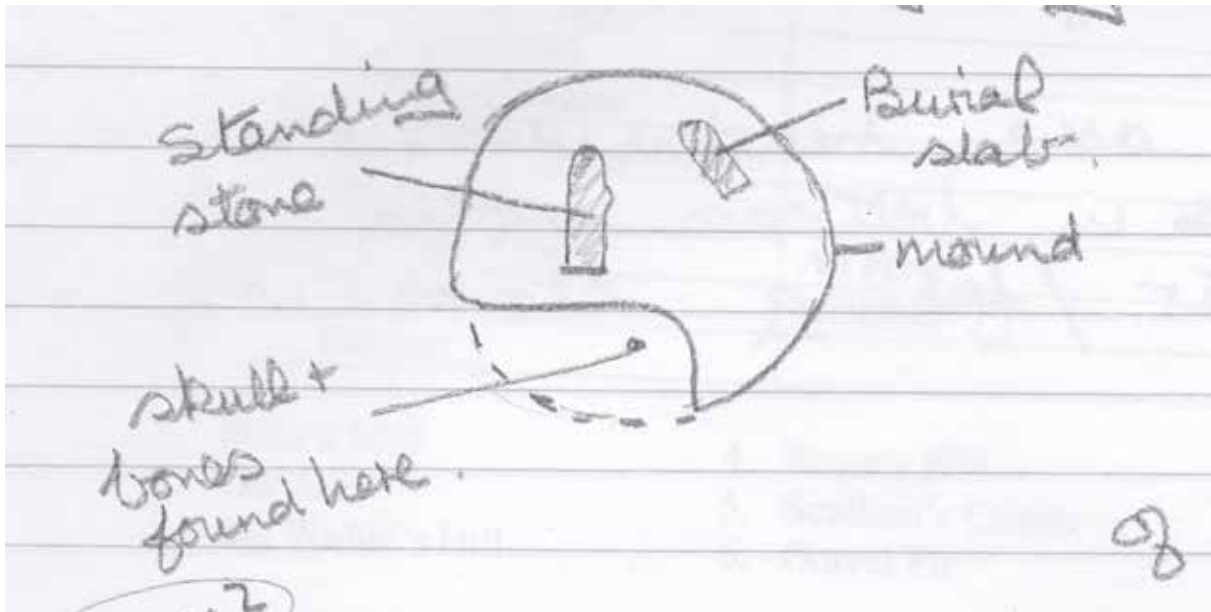


*Encrusted urn found by Hugh Duncan.
Williams, BB. (1985).*



*Drawing of a vase found by Patrick Casement
at the Gravel Pit. Williams, BB. (1985).*

The Keel refers to the burial ground that begins behind Jake and Maria Paterson's and runs into the field. Jake found the top of a skull there while gardening in spring 1980, in an area that was originally part of the mound, but was cut away to make a path for a horse and cart. Jake tells a good story of what happened when he informed the authorities. Bear in mind this was at the height of the Troubles, so a phone call about finding a skull in a garden resulted in the British Army landing, machine guns and all, and the road being closed off.



Maria's drawing of the mound in their garden.

The case was passed on to archaeologists, who dug out a square metre, and found 12 bones belonging to eight different people. The bones were dated to early Christian times, around 430AD. The top of the skull had been cleanly cut off from the rest of the body, and the archaeologists had no explanation. The standing stone is part of the mound, with the cross added at a later date. The OSM said that the standing stone was then 15 yards northwest of the burial ground.¹¹ There was also a porcellanite axe head found by the archaeologists pushed into the outer stones of

the mound.¹² The OSM said that children had only started being buried there in the previous 50 years, so from 1770 onwards. In 1904 the Rural District Council wrote to the Local Government Board asking for the graveyard to be fenced off, with Eneas McCambridge saying that it was still being used for stillborn baby burials.¹³ John Duncan remembers it being used for unbaptised baby burials in his time.

The Smith's Shop Field refers to the old forge once at the top of *Cabra*. John Duncan said that *Smith's Shop Field* was also called *Kilhame*,

although the 1861 map marked the wallsteads John called *Davidson's and Dunbar's* as *Calhame*. John called the lane up to here *Kilhame* too. There is an old hooping stone that lies in *Kilhame Lane*, used for putting the iron hoops on the wheels of the caravans. As John stated '*caravans were bigger than a barrow, but not as big as a cart*'. The man Davidson (or Davison) who lived up the lane took the spikes off the hooping stone in case he fell into it coming back from Ballyvoy at night¹⁴ (we were told of another man who fell into a silo up to his waist coming back from Ballyvoy, so I can

11 OSM pg 51.

12 Pers Comms Jake & Maria Paterson (Drumnakeel).

13 1904 – Ballycastle – *Belfast News Letter*, March 24.



Wallstead at Davidson's and Dunbar's.

well believe John).

The mountain in Drumnakeel is all called *Calhame*.¹⁵ There's an 1881 auction notice for James McMullan's farm in Drumnakeel, which mentions '*part of the mountain of Calhame*'.¹⁶ The name *Calhame* is a bit of a mystery: there are 8 townlands of the same name in Ireland, 7 are in Donegal and the last between Ballyclare and Straid. Part of Lubitavish townland in Glenann is also called *Calhame*. The only possible translation is callchaoim (hazel wood).¹⁷

John Duncan said *The Boragh* is a church or baptismal font. He also said it was used to provide drinking water for the hens when he was a small boy.

Scullion's Corner takes its name from the Scullion family who lived there until the 1960s (see the story later on). At one time 22 children were playing around *Scullion's Corner*. The corner was also ruled for a time by a rooster, who took a run at everyone walking past, regardless of who they were or what side of the

road they were on. The branch of a whin bush was needed one day to get past it on the way to school, '*vicious wee bugger!*' *The Spring Well* at the top of the *Mill Lane* was the principle source of water for the area.

The church site above *The Holme* is mentioned in the OSM as the original seat of Protestant worship in Carey. It was then in the holding of Archibald Jolly, and was destroyed by 1834.¹⁸ Nothing else is known about this church site. The Duncans used to take their horses into

14 Pers Comms John Duncan (Drumnakeel).

15 Pers Comms Martin Gillan (Losset).

16 1881– Valuable Farm For Sale At Drumnakeel – *Belfast Morning News*, January 25.

17 NI Placenames: Magill's Antrim 75, in the parish of Ballynure near Belfast.

18 OSM pg 73.

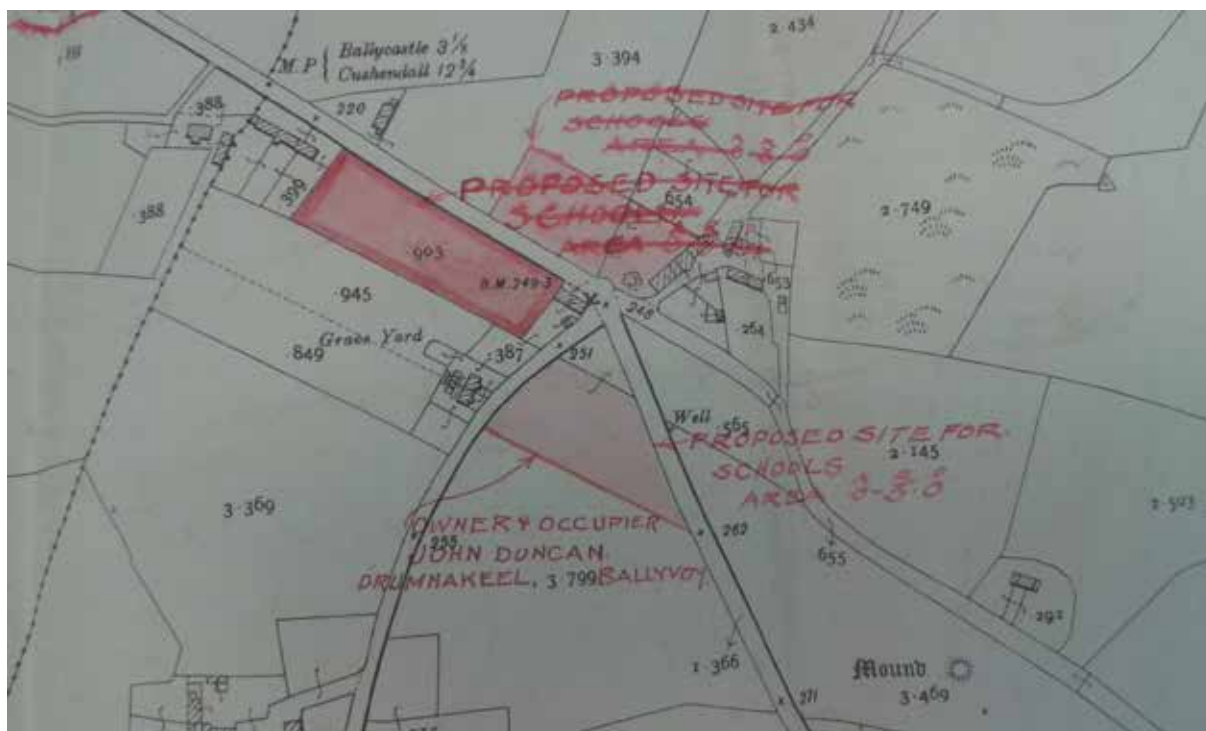
the river at *The Holme* to wash them after a day's work. One day after working the flax in *The Cabra*, John rode down on Bob, his grey horse, while holding Charlie the black horse by the reins. Bob took a stumble into the deepest part of the river and fell on his back with John trapped below him. John said the few panicked seconds seemed like hours, but by the grace of God, John somehow got out from below him. John said Bob was his favourite horse, sired by a stallion of John Black of Ballyverdagh, who had married a school-teacher from Cork, and picked up the stallion on one of his

visits there. John Duncan said the other stallion in the area was a big black one that went down the road once a month, with the mares to be serviced taken out to meet him on the roadside.

There are two old laneways through the townland. One is the old road to Cushendall that runs across the top of the *Mill Lane*, over *Crockie Hill*, and through Tom O'Neill's lane (superceded by the coast road). The second is the old sheep driving path to Armoyle, running over the top of the mountain into Greenans in Glenshesk.



Old road through Drumnakeel from the 1st Ed, OS (c.1830).



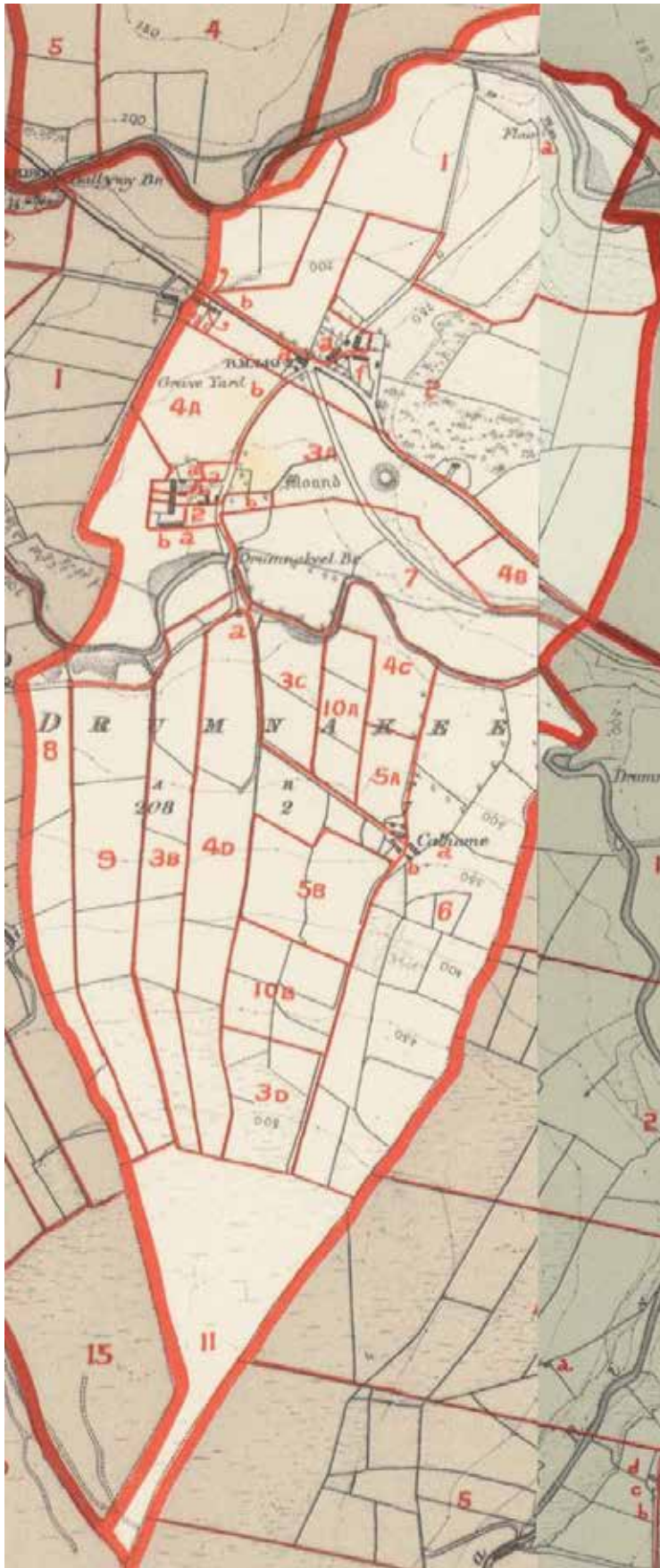
Part of the plans in the 1930s for the re-organising of the schools. Drumnakeel was one of the sites looked at before Barnish was settled on. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: ED/14/A/43.

Families

- 1734:** Jollie,¹⁹ Lunchan, McKewan.
- 1803:**²⁰ Himan, Jolly, Kinny, McCollim, McGugen, McKown, McNeill.
- 1831:** Hindman, Jolly, Kinny, McAulay, Milling, Sharp.
- 1861:** Butler, Connor, Davidson, Delargy, Donaghy, Fleming, Fullerton, Hill, Hunter, Jolly, Lynn, McAllister, McCambridge, McCollum, McCrank, Scally, Sharpe, Stewart, Taylor, Walsh.
- 1901:** Davison, Delargey, Dunbar, Hill, Jolly, Kane, McAleese, McAlister, McCaughan, McCluskey, McCollam, McCollum, McKillop, McMullan, Murphy, Stewart.
- 1911:** Davidson, Davison, Delargy, Hill, Kane, McAleese, McAllister, McCloskey, McCollam, McCollam (& Douglas boarder), McConnell, McCormack, McGarry, McMullan, Stewart (& McCrank nieces).
- 2018:** Butler, Devlin, Duncan, Paterson.

¹⁹ A couple of the old Jolly leases for the 'quarterland of Drumnakeel' are held in PRONI; one is dated 6th June 1692, from the Earl of Antrim to the trustees of Andrew Jolly (D2977/3A/2/20/1); a second dated 29th December 1709 from the Earl to Peter Jollie (D2977/3A/2/20/2), and another to Peter Jolly from the Earl dated 28th June 1738 'for 3 lives renewable forever' (D2977/3A/2/20/3).

²⁰ James Himan and Loughlin McNeill are recorded in Calhame.



Griffith's Valuation

1861: James Dillon had the forge at Cabra, Charles Jolly had the flax mill at Jolly's Mill, while Francis Stewart, Edward Walsh, and Eve Donaghy lived at Davidson's and Dunbar's. William Davidson and Charles Jolly had houses at the top of the Mill Lane, while across the road at Scullion's Corner was Alexander McCollum with a house, shop, office and small garden. Mary McCollam still had the shop there in 1911. On the Ballynagard boundary were Michael Connor, John Hill, Anne Scally, Francis Butler, and Mary McCrank. Daniel Delargy, Eleanor Fullerton, Robert Sharpe, Duncan Hunter, Alexander McAllister, Edward Fleming, James McCambridge, and Mary Anne Lynn all lived in what is now John Duncan's yard.

Drumnakeel 1861

- 1.** Charles Jolly (house, miller's house, flax-mill, land).
- 2.** John Burnside (land).
 - 2a. Alexander M'Collum (house, shop, offices, garden).
 - 2b. Michael Connor (house, garden).
 - 2c. John Hill (house, garden).
 - 2d. Anne Scally (house).
 - 2e. Francis Butler (house, garden).
 - 2f. William Davidson (house, offices).
 - 2g. Mary M'Crank (house).
- 3 A/B/C/D.** Eleanor Fullerton (house, offices, land).
 - 3Aa. Eleanor Fullerton (house).
 - 3Ab. Daniel Delargy (house).
- 4 A/B/C/D.** Robert Sharpe (herd's house, land).
 - 4Aa. Robert Sharpe (herd's house).
 - 4Ab. graveyard (10 perches).
 - 4Ba. John Dillon (forge).
 - 4Bb. Edward Fleming (house).
 - 4Bc. James M'Cambridge (house).
 - 4Bd. Mary Anne Lynn (house).
- 5 A/B.** Francis Stewart (house, offices, land).
- 6.** Archibald Jolly (land).
 - 6a. Edward Walsh (house).
 - 6b. Eve Donaghy (house).
 - 6c. Hugh Taylor (house).
- 7.** Alexander M'Allister (land).
- 8.** Duncan Hunter (land).
- 9.** Alexander Rankin (land).
- 10 A/B.** Alexander Murphy (land).
- 11.** Alexander Rankin, Eleanor Fullerton, Robert Sharpe, Archibald Jolly, Duncan Hunter, Alexander Murphy (shared mountain).
- 12A.** Alexander M'Allister (house, offices, garden).
- 12B.** Duncan Hunter (house, offices, garden).

Townland of Drumnakeel

Year	Population	Houses
1841	114	20
1851	82	15
1861	94	19
1871	92	23
1881	93	20
1891	69	18
1901	62	17
1911	78	17
1926	53	14

Population of Drumnakeel 1841 to 1926, from the Clachan Project.

There were 18 households in Drumnakeel in the two Censuses, now there are only four. In 1901 James Hill was a stone-cutter, Jane and Mary McCollum were grocers, Denis McMullan was a shoemaker, and his daughter Mary Jane a shirtmaker. In 1911 Dan McMullan and James McAleese were surface men, Archibald McCollam a butcher, Alexander McCormick a road

contractor, John McGarry a carpenter, Mary Anne McCollam a shop keeper, with her boarder Annie Douglas a teacher, and Rose McMullan was listed as a hawker.

Jamie Davidson, who lived in what is now Patersons', kept a boar pig and was known as 'Jamie the Boar', Butcher Jamie, and Tom's Jamie, on account of his father being Tom. Jamie was the last of the

Protestant Davidsons. When Jamie moved to Ballycastle he was a barman in McCarroll's (now O'Connor's, Anne Street).

Big Wullie Davidson was a man to be feared, as he had the ability to put a curse or the evil eye on you. His daughter married Rutherford, and lived with Wullie and his wife Kate Anne. At the top of the Mill Lane used to be a



Jamie Davidson killing his first pig in the late 1920s, in the middle his father Thomas Davidson, on the right Robert Huggins (Ballyvoy).

row of three houses. Jim McAuley who worked in Jolly's Mill lived in one. Waxy Butler also lived in one of the houses for a short time. The McBrides lived in the two room house at the side of the barn. After the McBrides, Jimmy the Yankee Davidson lived there. John Duncan mentioned the Yankee, he arrived in the townland when John was young, said to be on the run from the law in America. John said he was 'the only man who emigrated in the wrong direction!' (The next few paragraphs are mainly from a combination of two interviews with John Duncan, one by Maria Paterson in 2017, the other by Carnanmore about 15 years ago. The names and locations get confused between the two).

After the Yankee John Catterin (or Carten) lived in the house; they baked scones in a kettle if you went to visit. There is no trace of the name in the area currently, although he had a sister who married and lived in Armoy. He was recognisable because of his very shaky legs. He would be at Drumnakeel Bridge before he could get his leg over the bicycle, much to the great enjoyment of the children at Scullion's Corner. The Catterins were from Armagh, and John had lost half his leg in a reaper. He made a living by fiddling at fairs, and could work on any farm. John Duncan remembered thinning turnips with him ('coul work'). John Catterin, Yankee Davidson, John McColvin, and a man named Campbell all

worked in Jolly's Mill.

Nortons, Hill, McAuleys, McKillops, and McCormicks at the Ballynagard boundary. Ned Hill (Totem) worked in the mill, his sister Sarah married McCormick, and they lived in the same house. Maggie Hill also lived in the house. She only had one arm due to an accident in the mill. Totem helped bring up various relations, all in a three room house. He was a barber so was nicknamed after the barber's pole. John Duncan said he would call to the house and cut everyone's hair, whether they needed it or not.

The mill ceased working in the mid-1950s, Charlie Jolly died in 1957. The lint growing died out after World War Two, although there was money to be made from flax during the war, after there were plenty of other fabrics about. Charlie also had a small scutching mill at McGuile's Mill on the Warren; unfortunately there are no photographs of the mills in action (unless anyone reading this has one in a dusty box). John Duncan said Jolly's Mill was a good dancing spot, there was always music and people came from all around for them.

The working men's cottages were built with stone from Fair Head around 1917. They were built by the Council, with a dry toilet and a half acre garden each. The first house was McCluskey's; the family were John, Charlie and Maggie. A sister went to New Zealand, while their father was a joiner. Next were the Davidsons, Tommy the head of the family with three boys (Johnny, Hugh, and Bill), and four girls, one of whom, Eileen, married an American during the war. The Davidsons close to Duncan's married a Protestant and half the family were Protestant and the other half Catholic. The Yankee Davidsons were John, Jimmy, Bill, and Paddy.

Jane Dunbar, her son James, and his wife Lizzie are listed in the 1901 Census, John Duncan remembered the family. Mrs Dunbar worked in the mill, and was an aunt of Totem, while Jimmy Dunbar lived in America. Randal McDonnell used to live beside Mrs Dunbar. He was a signal man

by trade, but also 'the greatest joiner'. He had a small outhouse he used as a workshop. It is thought the Dunbars and Randal lived at the top of the Mill Lane.

On the main road at the Ballynagard boundary is a wallstead that was once Alec Darragh's. John Duncan remembered him having a black beard, and thought he was maybe a Royal Irish Constabulary man. There was also John O'Cay, who was 'like a ferret', and Mrs Cooper. She was from Scotland, and her son George came over every few years to try to persuade her to move back home, the Coopers were away in the 1950s. John O'Cay was a 'mischievous fellow'. He would visit Osborne's and McKinley's, and was full of good craic and kept people going. After he left, the first house was turned into a store for the second house.

Before the Duncans were Kanes. John Duncan Sr was from Coolnagoppoge, but bought the Kane farm in the 1920s, and built

the house, John says he was born in it. The Kanes bought a farm out at Moyarget, and married into the McCaughans at Ballynagard. The three families at Duncan's were the McCollums, McCormicks, and the McAleeses, all living above the current house. John remembered Hughie McCollum and the Quinns as well.

Sam Davidson's poems:

Jerusalem Cuckoo, Sweet Seacon, Lovely Fair Head, and The Maid of the Hollow were some of the poems. Sam's shotgun was called Queen Anne, while there was a poem about the Grey Man's Path. Sam worked at threshing, '*he was wile al-bred, could he give you an answer!*' was how John Duncan described him. John also had another story of Sam putting a cat down the chimney of a man called McGiver living nearby after a row. Sam worked at scutching and made up songs about folk he didn't like.

Lovely Fair Head (1920)

*Have you ever heard the story of the place they call Fair Head?
It's one of the loveliest places that ere your foot did tread.
Where the skylark tunes her morning note, and the thrush does whistle shrill,
While listening to the songsters with joy your heart would fill.*

*You can hear the moorcock calling all of her younger flock,
When she hears the sportsman coming and firing his first shot.
She calls them in to safety and to get ready now,
You can hear her call 'come in, come in, to some grand heather now'.*

*You can see the hare cock up her lugs when she hears them far away,
And to the hay she does go for she can no longer stay.
She runs all with great energy for she knows it is her foe,
But the aim from the sportman's gun soon does leave her low.*

*Now for to view that lovely lough where our fisherman does stray,
With his rod and line and hook to pass a useful day.
You can see the hook go out of sight and the rod bend in his hand,
And a beaut about twelve inches long comes swimming to the land.*

*Now standing on that lovely spot you can view the country round,
You have sweet Raghery in your view and Ballycastle town.
That little place they call Sheep Isle and the shores of Ballintoy,
Glenshesk, the slopes of high Knocklayde and on up to old Armoy.*

*You have the tops of Loughgiel that seem to reach the sky,
Where there lives an old photographer whose name it is John Guy.
He is a Gaelic sportsman, with his comrades he goes out,
To meet our Carey hurling team that seldom was knocked out.*

*And to the left you have Torr Head and there Cushleake's mountain grand,
Where the shephard with his dog and staff is gathering in the lambs.
And farther on you have the hills of dear old Cushendun,
Where Shane O'Neill lies cold and pale beneath the rising sun.*

*You have sweet Murlough in your view, most elegant to be seen,
Where the larch and pine and fir does grow and the shamrock decks the green.
And if you're sick or tired, or needs a medical man,
Go see Jamie Stewart, who lives down in Benvan.*

*Now when you're viewing those sceneries, it's hungry you may feel,
Then just go down to that grand hotel that is owned by Jeannie McNeill.
No matter what you ask for you'll get whate'er you call,
For she has a speedy butler, his name it is McFaul.*

*Now for to view the Greyman's Path that leads down to the shore,
Keep walking until you find the stone all split in four.
It's the one that lies across the rock,
That, in days of old, we are told, under which the Grey Man used to walk.*



Duncans of Drumnakeel - L-R: John Duncan Sr, John Jr, Maggie, Fr Jeff, Mary (née McNeill, Carvadoon), Mary (m McGill, Ballymoney), Elizabeth. Thought to be taken before Father Jeff was leaving for the Missions in Africa. Hugh, Charlie, and Dan were probably away working at the time.



Charlie Duncan at Drumnakeel, Charlie lived in Scotland.



Charlie Duncan.



Dan Duncan as Mr Toad, in Toad of Toad Hall, Carey Hall c.1935.

17th September 1917, Derry Journal

A force of police, in charge of District-Inspector Oates, armed with rifles, surrounded the M'Alister Memorial Hall, Ballycastle, and seized about twenty rifles belonging to the Ballycastle Company of the National Volunteers. The police then proceeded by motor cars to Drumnakeel and roused Mr John Jolly, R.D.C., from his slumbers. They searched his house, and got about fifteen rifles belonging to the Carey Company of the National Volunteers.

Raid on the Jollys, September 1917: quite a few of the Nationalist Rural and Urban District Councillors joined the pro-Home Rule Irish Volunteer movement after it was founded in 1913. The vast majority of them followed John Redmond's National Volunteers after the 1914 split.



Mill Lane - Back: John, Charley, Hugh, Dan Duncan, Willie Davidson. Middle: Katy Ann Davidson, Mary McAuley. Front: two McAuley children.



Dan Duncan (marked x), No 30 Squadron, India Command, Oct 1946. Taken at RAF Station Agra.



Taj Mahal, 1940s, taken by Dan Duncan.



Dan Duncan at Drumnakeel. Dan worked in McCaughan's Garage on Market Street in Ballycastle (the 1922 stone arch), joined the RAF, was stationed in India, lived in Castle Street, Ballycastle, sold the building to the Spence's for their shop, then emigrated to Australia. Returned to live in Magherindonnell.

Scullion's Corner:

A family of seven, the father Daniel Scullion had died in 1900, and in the 1901 Census the family are living in the middle of Glenmakeeran near the McGills (listed as Scullin). The head of the household was Mary, a wool spinner, along with her brother-in-law Henry, and children Ellen (dress-maker), Daniel Jr (farm worker), and Henry (an invalid). Two daughters were living away from home. Mary Jane was a housekeeper in Portrush, however, it is not known where Kate (Catherine) was. By 1911 Mary, Ellen, and Henry Jr had moved to the last house in Ballypatrick on the Cushendun side.

Daniel Jr was the delivery man for Mary Ann Boyd's bakery on Castle Street in Ballycastle, when he was caught in the big snow of late December 1908 returning from a run to Cushendun, and died. There was a poem written at the time in memory of Daniel:

*On the 28th December when a snow storm swept
the ground,
Dan Scullion with his bread-cart and horse left
Ballycastle town.
His course lay over the mountain, a place bared
to the blast,
And on that grim and fatal night, he fell and
breathed his last.*

*From then until Friday, no trace of Dan was found,
and hopes that he was still alive, were dashed to
the ground.
And when on that tragic morning, his body was
found,
the cries of his dear old mother were most
profound.*

*There is a lonely cross which stands on the
Loughareema hill.
It marks the spot where, in that powerful storm,
brave Dan Scullion fell.
He was a youthful fella, and was loved by all,
Ballycastle, Carey, Cushendun and Cushendall.*

*We miss the jingle of his bells,
when he was coming every child could tell.
Now with the dead he silently sleeps,
and for him his dear old mother weeps.*

Dan's brother Henry died in March 1912, followed by his mother Mary in 1915. Around this time Ellen and her two sisters, Kate and Mary Jane, took over McCollam's shop on the corner. The Scullion house became a great céilí house, and visitors would be given a glass of Kate and Ellen's homemade 'ginger wine'.

John McConnell recalls: *"I remember going in many a time as a boy, they sold baked goods, but my memory was everything tasting of Paraffin oil, which would have been used widely in lamps in those days. They had a big jar in the corner and you helped yourself to it, the shop was filled with the smell of it, even the pastries tasted of Paraffin!"* Tom O'Neill of Ballypatrick told the story of Neal McCormick of the Mill in Carvadoon. Neal was always up and down the road in a pony and trap, and called in with Ellen one day:

'Ellen! Get me an ounce of Warhorse.'

Ellen goes and gets it and they talk about the weather and all the rest of it and whatever. That was alright. There was no money coming forth, and oul Neal he gives the horse a slap with the reins and says:

'Right Ellen I need to go.'

'Aye but Neal you haven't paid for the tobacco'

'Oh! Aye but did you pay for it Ellen?'

'Oh I did'

'Well there's no point in the two of us paying for it!'

Mary Jane died in 1936, Kate in 1956, and Ellen died in 1963, when the house was auctioned off, and later demolished, but the name "Scullion's Corner" lives on. John Duncan said it was a fine shop and an outstanding house, but the shop closed in 1955 and the house was bulldozed when the road was widened.

Old Drumnakeel Headstones

Jolly 1800-1911 (Old Ramoan)

In Memory Of

PETER JOLLY of Drimnakiel

Died 2nd August 1800

Aged 44 years

his wife RACHEL

Died 15th May 1837, Aged 80 Years

their son Charles,

Died 10th November 1871,

Aged 74 years.

(The headstone also mentions Hugh Jolly of Ballyucan, died 8th June 1807, and the Jollys of Ballycastle).



McCollam 1854 (Ballynaglogh)

Erected
By Alexr McCollam of
Drimnakeel to the memory
of his Daughter
MARGRET
who departed this life Novr 26th
1854, aged 12 years

**O'Connor 1819-1847 (Bun na Margai)**

PATRICK O CONNOR
of Drimnakeill in memory of his
Father Daniel late of Lossit who
died 12th Febr 1819 Aged 47 years
Also his Mother Rose & sister
Ann; both died 1827
Also his daughter Rose who
died 20th Decr 1847 Aged 16 years.



Scullion 1900-1963 (Barnish)
Daniel Scullion of Drumnakeel (1900)
his wife Mary (1915)
Sons Daniel (1908) & Henry (1912)
Daughters Mary Jane (1936), Catherine
(1956), & Ellen (1963)

**Darragh 1883-1938 (Barnish)**

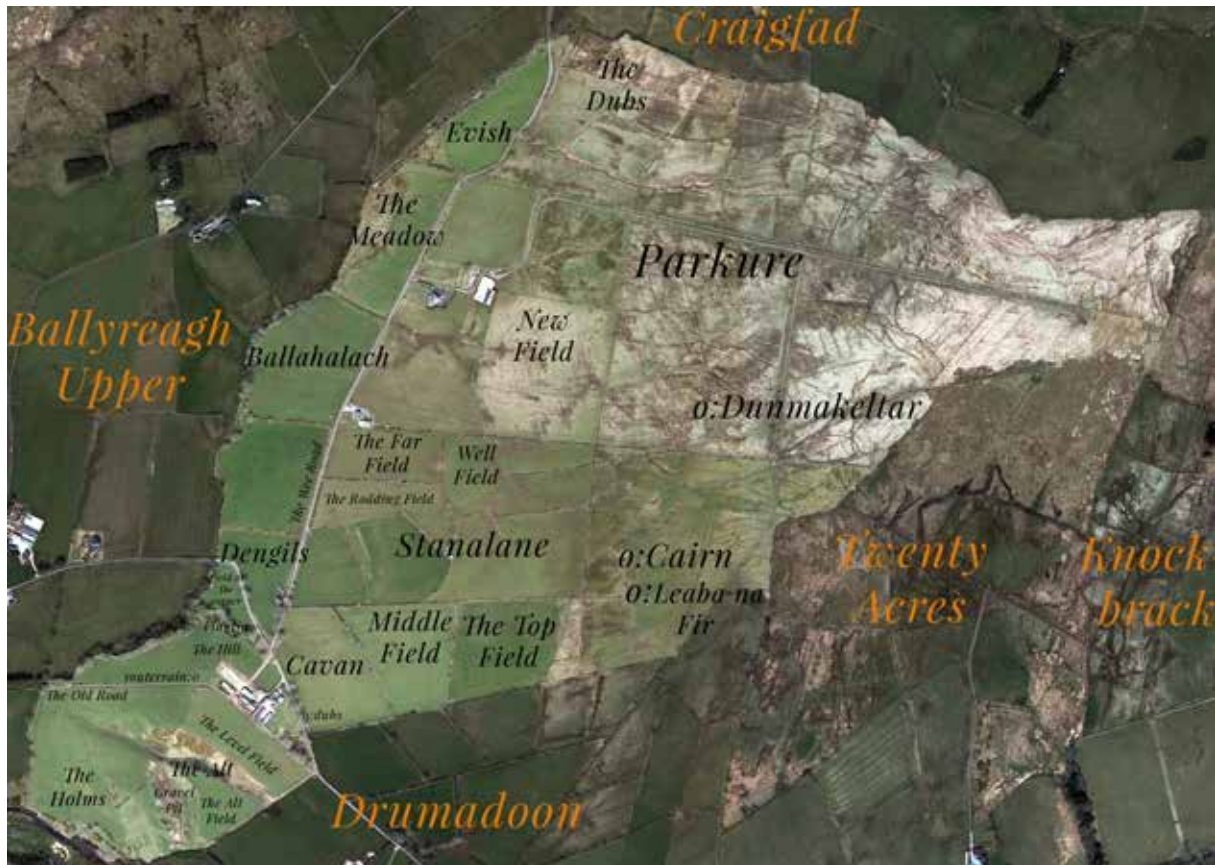
Pray for the Souls of
ALEXANDER DARRAGH
Drumnakeel
Died 7th November 1938
His mother ELIZABETH
Died 6th January 1883
And his brother THOMAS
Died in Ardrossan



Parcure Wallstead.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Cavan / Cabhán / Dry hill;
2. Creevagh / Craobhach / Place of trees or bushes;
3. Evis / Aibhéis / Hillside or course mountain pasture;
4. Parkure / Pairc Úr/Pairc an Íuir / New field/Field of the yews;
5. Stannalane / Stoigh na Léana / House of the meadow;
6. Lubbynafir / Leaba na Fir / Bed of the man;
7. The Alt / Ailt / Steep-sided glen, height, cliff;
8. The Rodding Field / Rodán / Little road;
10. Dengils;
11. Field at the corner;
12. Gravel Pit;
13. Middle Field;
14. New Field;
15. The Alt;
16. The Alt Field;
17. The Dubs;
18. The Far Field;
19. The Hill;
20. The Holms;
21. The Level Field;
22. The Meadow;
23. The Top Field;
24. The Old Road;
25. The Wee Road;
26. Plantin;
27. Well Field.



Dún Mhac Cealtchair is a townland name of uncertain origin. It is thought to refer to the rare first name Cealtchair.¹ Cealtchair Mac Uitheachair led a third of the men of Ulster as a chief of the Craobh Ruadh (Red Branch Knights).² The link between him and the townland was recorded in a late sixteenth century

version of *Scéla mucce Meic Da Thó* (The Tale of Mac Da Thó's Pig). The few similar recorded names are Ráth Cealtchair (fort of Cealtchair; an earlier name for Downpatrick),³ Tulaigh Cealtchair (hillock of Cealtchair) in Fermanagh,⁴ and a graveyard known only as Cealltar in Limerick.⁵

Margaret Dobbs of the Feis na nGleann wrote of one of Cealtchair's sons, Cathnia "*From Cathnia sprang the Coenraige of Murbolg, Druim Asain, Aidne and Aene*";^{6,7} and that the "*only family who seem to have been in Ulster were the Caenraighe of Murbolg*".⁸ The Cothraighe/Coenraige are thought to be the ancient tribe

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 148-9).
 2 Ní Dobs, Mhaighréad (1917: 37) *Side-Lights on the Tain Age, And Other Studies*. WM Tempest: Dundalk.
 3 McKay, P. (1999: 59-60) *A Dictionary of Ulster Place-Names*. W&G Baird Ltd: Antrim.
 4 <https://www.logainm.ie/en/60459>.
 5 <https://www.logainm.ie/ga/1412973>.
 6 Ní Dobs, Mhaighréad (1917: 35).
 7 Hogan, Fr Edmund (1910) *Onomasticon Goedelicum locorum et tribuum Hiberniae et Scotiae*. An index, with identifications, to the Gaelic names of places and tribes.
 8 Ní Dobs, Mhaighréad (1917: 35).

giving Cothraí (Carey)^{9,10} its name, as well as being St Patrick's slave name,¹¹ while Muirbholg is the Gaelic form of Murlough. To complete this version of the story, Cathnia Mac

Cealtchair would build his residence on the dún, overseeing his clan. This fits with pronunciation of the townland as Dunnykelter, from Dún Uí Chealtchair, or fort of

the children of Cealtchair. Incidentally, one of Cealtchair's father-in-laws was Conchobar Mac Neasa, of the summer palace in Ballynaglogh.



View from Dún Mhac Cealtchair.



The dún.



Stone circle close by the dún.

As late as 1833 *Craobhach* was used as the townland name instead of *Dún Mhac Cealtchair*.¹² In the 1654 Down Survey map, the townland of 'Crivagh Acres' covers the area between Cross to the north, Drumnakeel to the south, Ballyreagh to the

east, and Drumnemeloge to the west. *Parkure* could mean 'new field', referencing the old planting being cleared out, or the name of the planting itself - *Pairc an Íuir* (field of the yew trees).

The late Frankie

McCarry cleared the *New Field*. The only other recording of Stanalane is the townland between Bushmills and Portballintrae. The *Rodding Field* is likely rodán (little road), as the current lane into *Stanalane* runs across the bottom of it.

9 Folklore Society (1898: 61) *A Quarterly Review of Myth, Tradition, Institution, and Custom*, Vol 9. Folklore Society, Great Britain.

10 Mac Gabhann (1997: 1-9).

11 Todd, JH (1856: 297) On the Name Said to Have Been Given to St Patrick When a Captive in Ireland. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, 6: 292-298.

12 Mac Gabhann (1997: 148-9)a.



The old lane into Stanalane, 1st Ed. OS (c.1830).



Stanalane.

The field east of *Stanalane*, marked with a cairn, is of significant archaeological interest. The HEM shows within it a sweathouse, two enclosures, a cairn, and a possible wedge tomb, as well as a possible crop-mark site. At the south of the field at the Drumadoon boundary is a wedge tomb.¹³ In the OSM the tomb was shown as a giant's grave called *Lubby-nafir*.¹⁴ The mounds alongside the giant's grave are called *Dun righ-ny*. The townland boundary with Drumadoon was redrawn between the 1st and 2nd Editions of the OS, and in the 1st Ed. the fort was on the ground of Neal McKague of Drumadoon.



Site of the cairn. Most of the stones were probably used to build walls and houses, but the tomb may still be beneath the surface.

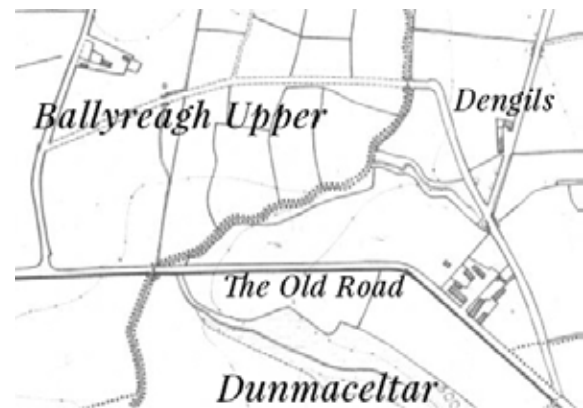


Leaba na Fir. This is a tomb similar to those in Carnanmore or Ballyvennaght, except the capstone and cairn have been removed.

The Old Road runs from Colliers' Row in Ballyreagh. Randal McDonnell remembered the line of horses and carts heading over *The Old Road* to get to Mass in Barnish. *Dengils* is the name of the old wallsteads where the new house has been built. *Dengil* was Daniel McCambridge. After the new road was built to replace *The Old Road*, between the 1830s and 1860s, the mother or the grandmother thought the road was too noisy, so they moved to Blackpark. At *The Alt* and *The Alt Field* there are a lot of rabbits (good eating in the past).

Frankie McCarry told the story of an elderly bachelor farmer, who lived on their farm long before the McCarrys. He was returning from a funeral one day and the bull, not recognising him in his Sunday best, charged and killed the poor man. He was meant to have buried his gold on the mountain (one of many pots in many mountains!)

13 SM7-ANT-009-207.
14 OSM pg 51.



The Old Road in the 1st and 2nd Ed. OS maps.

Families

- 1669:**¹⁵ Horseman, McCamly, McCormucke, McNeale.
- 1734:** Gilbride, McCormick, McKrank, McLeane, O'Conner.
- 1803:** Coyls, Dallen, Durnen, Getty, Kenney, Leverty, McDonnell, McHendry.
- 1831:**¹⁶ Dallen, Delargy, Fisher, Hunter, MacMullan, McKenzie, McKinlay, Quinn, Scally, Sinclair.
- 1861:** Butler, Fisher, Hunter, Lennon, McGoogan, Starkey.
- 1901:** Fisher, Hunter, McDonnell.
- 1911:** Fisher, McCambridge, McDonald.
- 2018:** Fisher, McCarry, McDonnell.



Randal (left) and Hugh McDonnell (right) at Dunmaceltar. The man in the middle is unknown. The McDonnells' was another house in Carey where dances were held.

15 This is under Creevagh.
 16 Creevagh & Dunnyceilter.



McGlarry, 1847-1856 (Barnish). The last name on it is Marian McMichael (or Henry) 10th April 1877, possibly of Churchfield.

ERECTED
IN
MEMORY OF NANCY McGLARRY alias DORNAN
of Dunmacalter, who departed this
life 17th Decr 1847 Aged 55 years.
Here lieth a Mother, whose Love for her
children might be equal'd, but could not
be surpassed, but great as that love was she
never permitted any of them to commit a
crime unpunished. Her chief concern was
to have them all instructed in their duty
to God, and given the happiness
of living to see these her designs. Accompli
shed of seeing her children universally
beloved and of dying in the arms of one
of them dearer to her than life itself.
Her soul too great to be confined,
In an earthly house of clay,
To oh joy, the Brother lieth
From this world has fled away.
Also her Sons DANIEL, who died
November, 1852, Aged 37 years
And JOHN who died March
1856, Aged 35 years.
By her son Daniel
ONE OF DANIEL'S CHILDREN
Pray for the soul of MARIAN Mc
MICHAEL (or Henry) who died 10th April 1877
Aged 20 years.

1803: Lawrence Durnan is probably from the same family as John Dornan, who is buried in Bun na Margái, and Nancy McGlarry (née Dornan) in Barnish. John's headstone is undated but inscribed as follows:

John Dornan (Bun na Margái)
To the memory of
JOHN DORNAN late
of DUNMACALTER



The following headstone in Barnish is for a surname not listed on the surveys, Jane McAlister:

McAlister, 1858
IHS
Beneath lieth the
Remains of
JANE McALISTER
of Dunmacalter
Who departed this
Life the 7th of
November 1858
Aged 88 years.



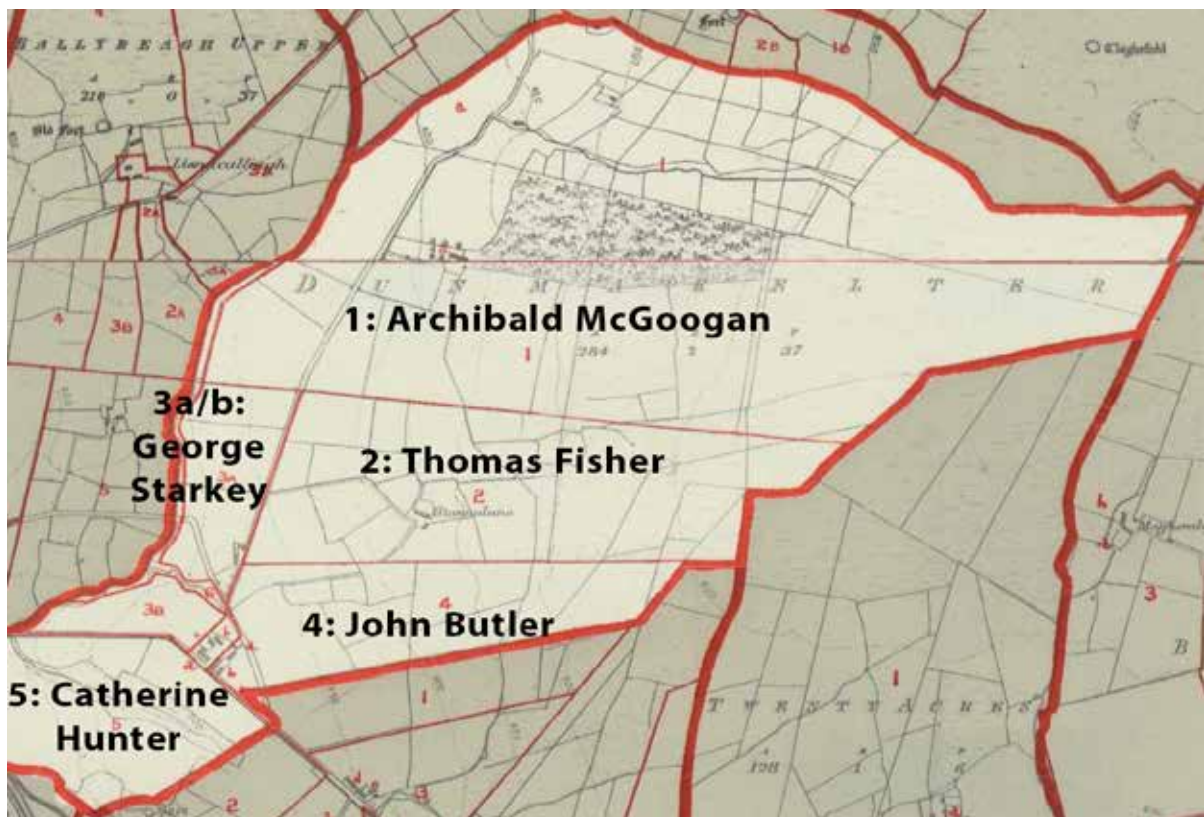
The 1803 survey also records two names at Parkure, Neal Kenney and Hendry McHendry:

McHendry, 1837 (Barnish)
IHS
ERECTED
BY
Henry McHendry of parkure
In memory of his Father
DANIEL McHENDRY
Who departed this life on
The 13 of January 1837
Aged 39 Years





Wallstead opposite Evish, possibly McHendrys.



Griffith's Valuation 1861:

House 4a was John Butler, while George Starkey was in 4b. Catherine Hunter was in house 5a, and John Lennon in 5b. John M'Gildowny was the landlord and held the planting marked 6.

Starkey, 1856-1869 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED
BY
GEORGE M STARKEY to the memory
of his beloved mother BRIDGET
who departed this life AD 1856
aged 44 years
Also to the memory of his father
GEORGE
late of Dunmacalter
who departed this life AD 1869
aged 70 years



Butler, 1873 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED
To the Memory of JOHN
BUTLER of DUNMACALTER
who departed this life
3rd of September 1873
Aged 70 years
Also Mary McLean alias
FISHER OF ACRAVIC, who
departed this life in 1866
Aged 65 years.
Requiescant in pace



The Fishers of Acravic lived in Eglish.

Hunter, 1829 (Barnish)

Beneath lieth the remains
of MATHEW HUNTER of
Dunmacalter who departD
this life the 8th OctR 1829
Aged 72 years.



In 1884 John Hunter had his 16 acre farm up for auction, as he was about to emigrate.¹⁷ Presumably, this is the same family of Hunters as mentioned previously.

¹⁷ 1884 – Auction of Farm of Land at Dunmakeltar – *Coleraine Chronicle*, December 13.

AUCTION OF
FARM OF LAND, STOCK
CROP, IMPLEMENTS,
AND HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE
AT DUNMAKELTER.

I HAVE received instructions from JOHN HUNTER (who is about to emigrate) to Sell by Auction, at the Premises, on DAY, 22nd DECEMBER, at 12 o'clock his interest in that FARM OF LAND PREMISES now in his possession, containing 16 acres Statute, or thereabouts, held judicial term under JOHN M'GILDRAY Esq., D.L., at the Yearly Rent of £ sterling.

The Premises are situated at Dunmalkelter about three miles from Ballycastle, on the road leading to Fair Head. The lands are all arable, are well fenced, thoroughly cultivated, and in the highest state of cultivation. There is a comfortable Dwelling-house, with several offices, all slated, and in good repair. Also will be Sold the following Stock: 2 good Farm Horses (6 off); 2 Milch Cows (in calf); 4 Heifers (3 supposed to be in calf); 4 stacks Oats, 1 stack Beans, about 4 stacks Hay, and 1 acre of Turnip. Also will be Sold a Harness, Plough, Harrow, smaller implements, and the entire Household Furniture.

Auction of John Hunter's ground,
1884.

Scéla mucce Meic Da Thó (The Tale of Mac Da Thó's Pig):¹⁸

The sixteenth century version of the story that sets it in Carey and Glenshesk is thought to be a rewrite, commissioned by the McDonnells to celebrate their victory over the Uí Néill. Local placenames were added to include the sites of Seaán Mac Cuinn Ó Néill's march on the Glens, during the Battle of Gleann Taise in 1565.¹⁹ Alternatively you could say that it confirms the townland name is almost five hundred years old.

Mac Da Thó was the King of Leinster, whose legendary hound Ailbe could defend the whole province by itself. When word of the dog's prowess spread, King Ailill and Queen Medb of Connacht demanded it be handed over to them, as did Conchobar Mac Neasa, King of Ulster. Mac Da Thó struggled to solve the problem until his wife came up with the answer, to secretly inform both parties the dog is theirs, invite them to a feast to claim it, and let them fight it out between each other. However, at the feast another dispute arose. Mac Da Thó had slaughtered his best pig and both sides argued


over whom should get the curadmir (hero's portion). The solution was to let their warriors challenge one another to the best boasts over past battles *"It was then that a valorous and aggressive warrior of the Ulster men arose i.e. Cealtchair mac Cuicheachair from whom Dún Meic Cealtchair in Carey is named and said: 'do you Connachtmen know that it was I who killed Congan Cneasach mac Deagadh?'"*. Ceat mac Mághach of Connacht then stood and said *"I came on one occasion, Cealtchair, to the door of your fortress in Carey and furthermore, Laoghaire Buadhach who is over there in your presence was in Dún Borraigh beside you in the same region and I seized cattle-spoil."* Dún Bharraigh is the fort demolished when the coastguard station was built on Torr (originally Tor) Head. Ceat ended Cealtchair's boasts by bragging of how he seized Cealtchair's cattle, and left him unable to produce children after wounding him with a spear at the river-mouth of Knocklayd.

A man named Cumhsgraidh Meann Macha mac Conchubair then rose to challenge Ceat, and was summarily dismissed when Ceat reminded him of how the two met at *"Gleann Conáin which is also named Gleann Caonair in Carey"*. Ceat was raiding cattle again, and Cumhsgraidh pursued him to *'Dún in Daimh which is also named Dún Carbaid'*,²⁰ from where Cumhsgraidh left with Ceat's spear in his neck. Just as Ceat was about to carve the pig for the Connachtmen, another Ulsterman, Conall Cernach, arrived. After exchanging boasts Ceat accepted Conall was the better warrior, but only because his own brother Anlúan wasn't there, as he was the best warrior of them all. Conall replied Anlúan was present, and threw his severed head to Ceat. Ceat conceded, Conall got the pig, and the Ulstermen got the hound.

18 Breatnach, C. (1990) The Early Modern Version of "Scéla Mucce Meic Da Thó: Tempus, Locus, Persona et Causa Scribendi". Ériu, Vol 41: 37-60.

19 Breatnach (1990: 59).

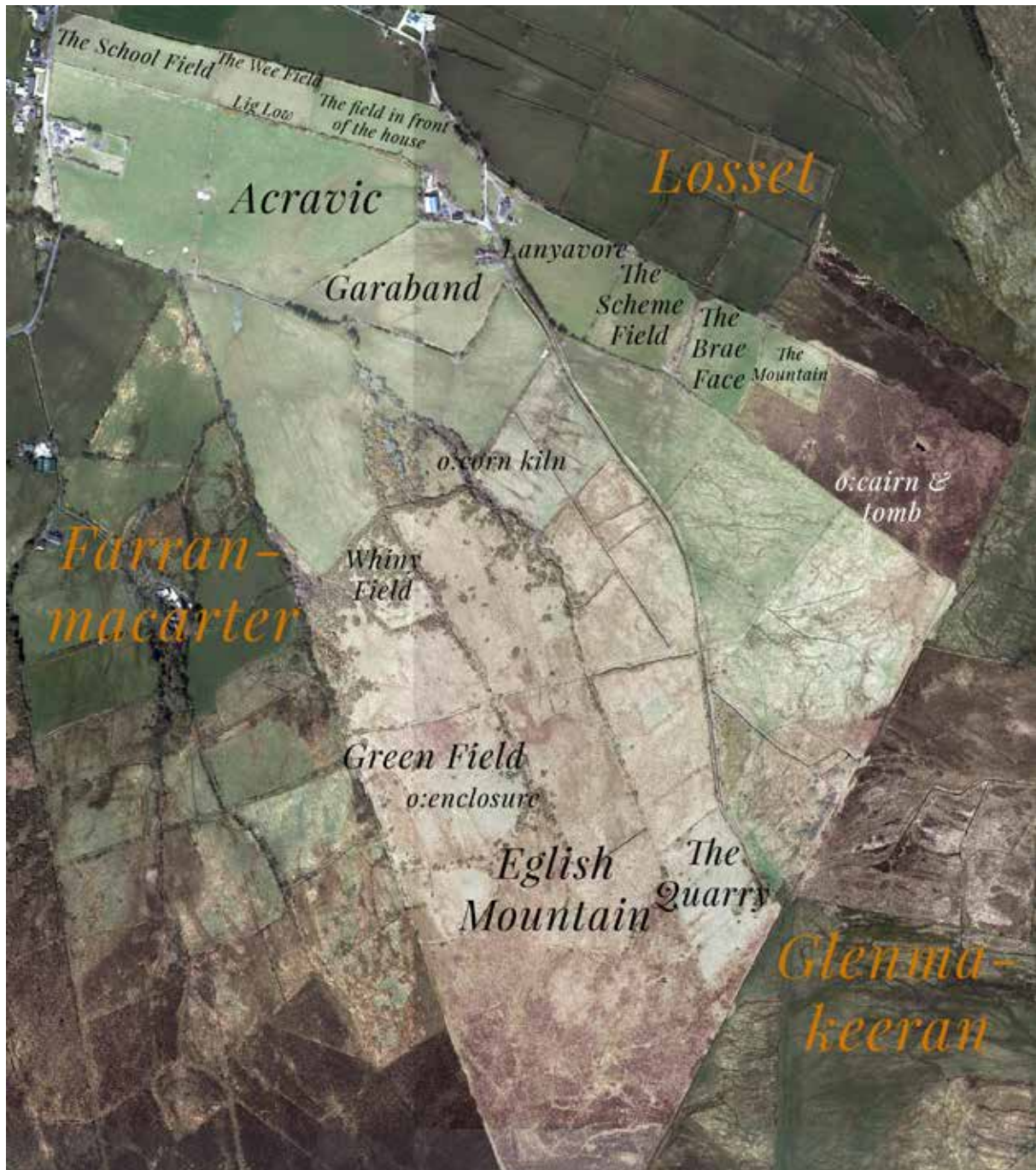
20 Duncarbit in Glenshesk.



James McCart, John Quinn and Joe McCormick.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Acravic/Aghraid / Acra ... / Acre of ...;
2. Carnenbane / Carnán Bán / Little white cairn;
3. Crook na Viellian / Cnoc an bhilin/bhFaoileán / Hill of the little trees/seagulls;
4. Garaband / Garrdha Bhán / White garden;
5. Lanyavore / Léana Mhor / Big lowlying grassy place;
6. Eglish Mountain;
7. Green Field;
8. Lig Low;
9. The Brae Face;
10. The Bridge;
11. The field in front of the house;
12. The Mountain;
13. The Quarry;
14. The Scheme Field;
15. The School Field;
16. The Wee Field;
17. Whiny Field.

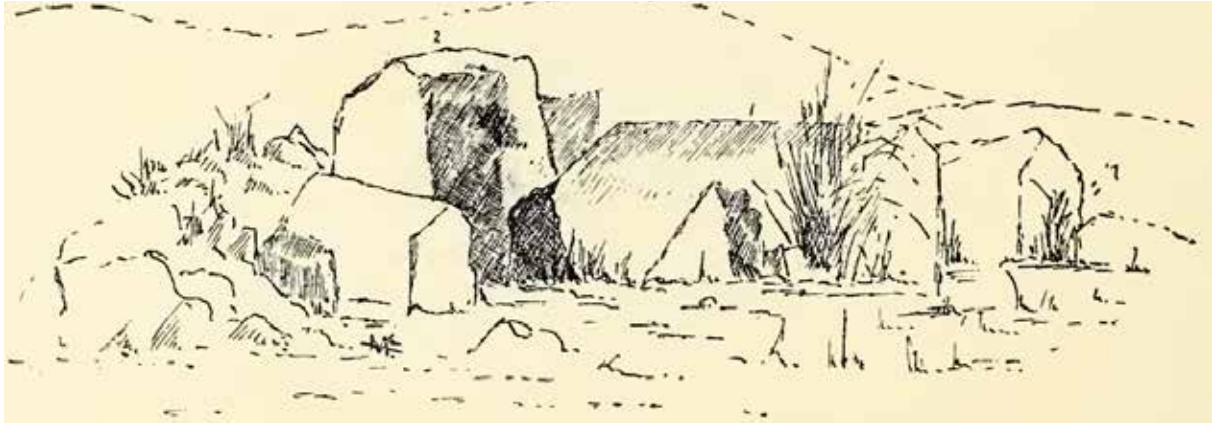


An Eaglais is named after a church that once stood there. There are no records of where it may have been. It possibly refers to the cairn and

tomb marked on the map. The earliest record of the name found by the Northern Ireland Place-Name Project was from 1830, and Mac Gabhann

states that eaglais refers to a post-twelfth century church, so it could mean 'church land'.¹

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 51).



Eglish Mountain tomb, drawn in 1906.²

There is a detailed description of the cairn and tomb in the OSM, then on the ground of Thomas McBride: *"In Eglish, and on the summit of a mountain in the holding of Thomas McBride, there stood an ancient cairn locally called Cairnenbane. The quantity of stones of various sizes composing it was calculated to be above 2,000 cart-loads, all which have been removed for the erection of houses, fences, and bridges in its neighbourhood. However, beneath the cairn were found vaults enclosed and roofed by long flat stones and containing a quantity of every description of human bones in a decayed state. Some of the stones enclosing these vaults*

are still extant. One of them, standing in the centre of the ground, is 3 feet high, 4 feet 3 inches broad, and 6 to 12 inches thick. The others are of inferior size. The bounds occupied by the cairn was about 30 yards in diameter...15 yards north west of this cairn stood a druid's altar or cromlech, the ruins of which still remain and stands 12 feet long and about 5 feet wide, enclosed by stone columns, 5 of which are still on the ground and vary from 2 to 3 feet high. A pipe or gully led from the cairn to this place, supposed to have been designed for conveying off any water lodging about the vaults that stood beneath the cairn. Informants Thomas McBride, Robert McCormick and others.

25th October 1838."³

The cairn is thought to be a cist cairn, however it was deemed 'too damaged to classify'.⁴ The druid's altar is described as 'the very poorly preserved remains of a small court tomb'.⁵ The OSM described a second site nearby: *"In Eglish and holding of Alexander Thompson, and about 2 feet beneath the surface, were discovered, 1806, several vaults of different sizes enclosed and roofed by long flat stones. Some of these contained parcels of decayed bones and others earthen urns containing bones and ashes. On the same site stood several standing stones, all which are now destroyed."⁶*

2 Níe Néill, Íde. (1906: 175).

4 SM7-ANT-009-027.

6 OSM pg 53.

3 OSM pg 53.

5 SM7-ANT-009-029.

In 1906 Íde Níc Neill, another founder of the Feis na nGleann called this hill *Crook na Viellian*:

"Supposed from Irish name to mark grave of some minister. On the top of the long stone was a large slab in the memory

*of the shepherd who showed these stones. It was removed for some building purpose. About 7ft 8in from these stones is a standing stone much hacked and broken by R Casement's men many years ago."*⁷

The enclosure to the south of the townland, close to Farrinmacarter is thought to be a medieval or post-medieval animal enclosure.⁸ The OSM mentions "Danes' fences" on Eglish mountain, which could well be the same thing.

Families

1803: McCaughin, McCauhen, Thompson.

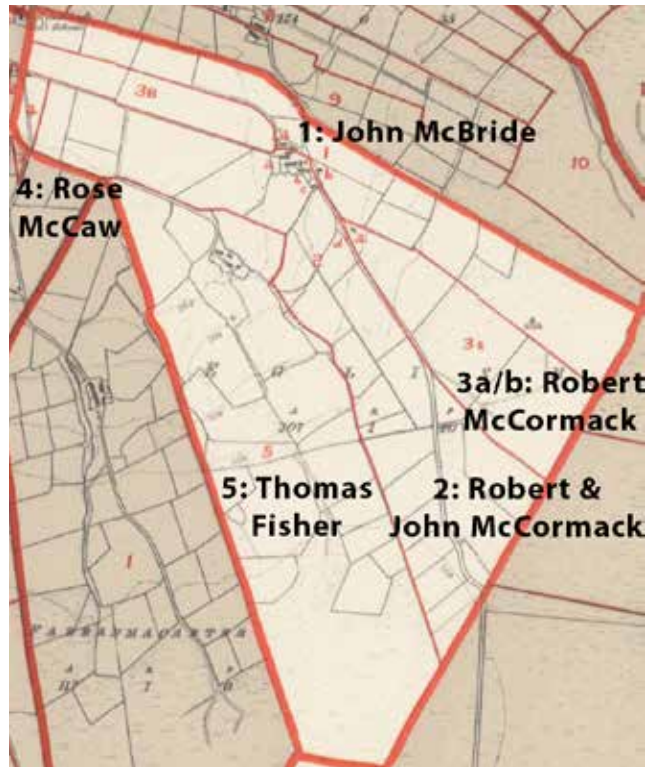
1831: McBride, McCahan, McCormick, Murray, Thompson.

1861: Dornan, Fisher, Hill, McBride, McCaw, McCormack, McKay.

1901: McCormick (& Darraugh sister, Black worker), McCormack, McKay, Murphy.

1911: McCormack, McKay, Murphy, Quinn (& McCarty boarder).

2018: Lavery, McBride, Ó hArtghaile.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: Of the names not on the map, Patrick Dornan lived in house 1b, William Hill was in house 2c, Donald McNeill house 2e, and Archibald McKay in house 3Aa.

1911: The Murphys are Jane, aged 71 and a widow, and her three sons John (32), Robert (29), and Patrick (28). Robert was in the Fair Head Branch of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH), and signed up to the Leinster Regiment in World War One. The training was in Cork. Before he shipped out Robert returned home, and was presented with a silver medal, and a silver mounted pipe and tobacco box by the AOH. He was killed on the 3rd September 1916, at the Battle of Guillemont. His name is on a memorial at Thiepval.



James McCart (Glenmakeeran), John Quinn, and Joe McCormick (Eglish) outside Séamus Clarke's pub, Anne Street, Ballycastle (now O'Connor's).

7 Nic Néill, Íde. (1906: 178) Some Standing Stones in County Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, Vol 12: 175-8.

8 SM7-ANT-009-090.

9 OSM pg 72.

*Ballyverdagh
North*

English

*Bottom
Field*

*Barley
Field*

*Red
Hill*

*Hill
Field*

*Well
Field*

*Crook na
brockney*

Green Field

*Paddy's
Field*

Kilpark

*Old
Ground*

*Wee
Field*

*Park
Fields*

*Ballyverdagh
South*

Coolaveely

Fieldnames

1. Barley Field;
2. Bottom Field;
3. Crooknabrockney;
4. Green Field;
5. Hill Field;
6. Kilpark;
7. Old Ground;
8. Paddy's Field;
9. Park Field;
10. Red Hill;
11. Wee Field;
12. Well Field.

Families

- 1803:** Corry, McCaughin.
1861: McCahan.
1901: Gillen.
1911: Gillin.
2018: Gillan.

Charles Connor of Ballypatrick married Catherine McCaughan of Farranmacarter in October 1870, and the following year they had a daughter Mary Anne while in Farranmacarter. Patrick Gillin was a witness at the wedding.

Fearann Mhic Artúir was first recorded in 1657 as 'ffarnemcallister', or McAllister's ploughland; Ffyarin is closest to the current pronunciation. In 1734 it was written as 'Faranmakarter', and has been recorded as Mac Artúir since then.¹ Other than a placename on Rathlin (trans: 'rough stony ground of MacArthur'),² there don't appear to be any similar placenames on record. The Mac Artúirs were said to be a branch of Clan Campbell descended from an Arthur Campbell, who was awarded extensive territory in Argyll by Raibeart Bruis in the 14th Century.³ However, they

lost most of their lands in the fifteenth century when Clan Chieftain Iain Mac Artúir was beheaded by King James I of Scotland.⁴ Traditionally, the McAllisters and Mac Artúirs would have been on opposing sides, with the McAllisters descended from Alasdair Mór Mac Domhnaill (hence being a sept of the McDonnells), and the Mac Artúirs on the side of their eternal enemies, Clan Campbell.

Crooknabrockney is possibly Cnoc na Bhrocaigh (hill of the badger warren), or it could be the same as Brackney. *Kilpark* will be Cill Pairc (church field), but there are no details

of how it got the name. It might be a clue as to where the church is in the neighbouring townland of Eaglais though. *Paddy's Field* was named after Paddy Murphy of Losset. He spent a day and a night plowing the field so it was always named after him.



P.J. Gillan (driving), his father Joe behind him. Bringing in the hay, Fyarin. From Danny McGill's Moyle Memories.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 152-3).

2 Mac Gabhann (1997: 153).

3 Skene, W & Macbain, A. (1902: 358) *The Highlanders of Scotland*. E Mackay: Stirling.

4 De Bhulbh, P. (1922) *Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall*. MH Gill & Son: Dublin.

XVII

Fieldnames (Local spelling / Gaelic spelling / English translation)

1. Benagorib / Bhinn an Gharbh / Rough peak or cliff;
2. Cloughadrandan / Cloch an Drantáin / The grumbling stone;
3. Crookaneel / Cnoc an Aoil / Hill of lime(stone);
4. Cuisla / Cois Liath / Grey foot;
5. Curragh / Currach / Marsh;
6. Drumnasoal / Droim na Sol / Ridge of the sun;
7. Eglarudda Burn / Eagal Roda / Deep pool of bog water;
8. Pound Sheugh / Seoch / Dyke or drain;
9. Sronamona / Srón na Móna / Nose of the bog;
11. Big Field;
12. Big Holm;
13. Big Upper Field;
14. Black's Field;
15. Black's Hill;
16. Bradley's Hill;
17. Butler's Acre;
18. Corner Field;
19. Curragh Field;
20. Dub Field;
21. Ellen McCormick's;
22. Fairy Field;
23. Far Field;
24. Field Outside;
25. Field up road;
26. Garden Field;
27. Garden of the Glen;
28. Gravel Pit;
29. Green Hill;
30. Halles' Big Field;
31. Halles' Mountain;
32. Halles' Wee Field;
33. High Moss;
34. Holm;
35. Kiln Field;
36. Lime Field;
37. Little Crossroads Field;
38. Little Upper Field;
39. Middle Field;
40. Mountain Field;
41. Near Field;
42. Outside Mountain;
43. River Field;
44. Sheep Fold;
45. The Braes;
46. The Dubs;
47. The Far Field;
48. The Hill;
49. The Hollow;
50. The Holm;
51. The Lodge;
52. The Lodge Road;
53. The Long Field/Silage Field;
54. The Mountain;
55. The Pen;
56. Wallstead Field;
57. Wee Field;
58. Wee Holm;
59. Wee Mountain;
60. Well Field;
61. Whinny Brae;
62. White Lady.

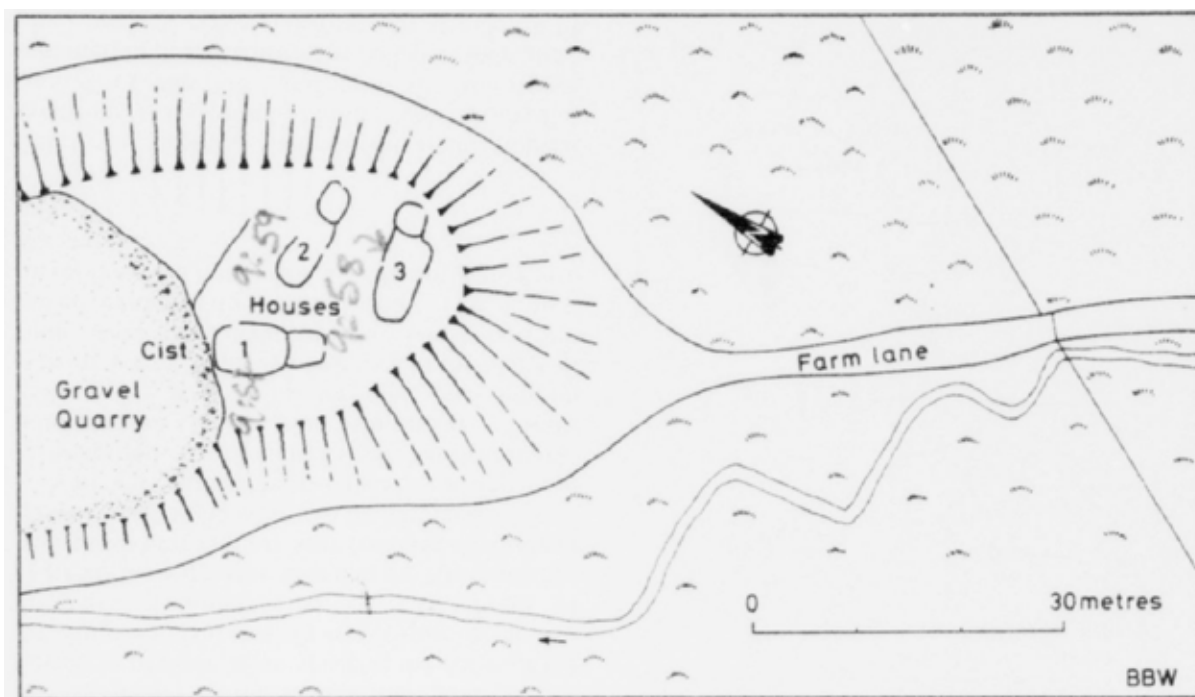
cave⁵ (Cushleake - Cois Leice - place beside the flagstone). Gortnasool in Tyrone has been translated as Gort na Súil (field of the eyes, possibly after jaundice or a cure), Drumnasole in Ardclinis was translated as Droim na Saileach (ridge of the willows),⁶ though saileach elsewhere in Carey is pronounced Sally. Mac Gabhann wrote that there was 'considerable doubt over the form and meaning' of Eglarudda.⁷

Cnoc an Aoil is the peak

of the mountain where it meets Kinune in Layd. The OSM stated that *Cloch an Drantáin* was a druid's altar, then in the holding of an Archy McGugan,⁸ with the local translation given as 'the chiming stones, so called from a rocking of the canopy or altar stones that formerly covered the exiting columns'.⁹

There are a number of sites in Glenmakeeran marked on the Historic Environment Map. There were two megalithic

tombs, and a pre-bog field system found in the field above *The Mountain*, on the Losset side, when Seamus McKinley was reclaiming the ground in the early 1980s.^{10,11,12} The OSM had located them on the 'mountain grazing of Daniel Cairns', and described one of the tombs as 'the ruins of a giant's grave locally called *Cuisla*', and 'the ruins of ancient houses and fences supposed to be of Danish erection'.¹³ The OSM was in the area in December 1838,



Drawing of the houses and cist in the Gravel Pit. Williams and Robinson, UJA.

6 Northern Ireland Place-Name Project.
8 OSM pg 83.
10 SM7-ANT-009-054.
12 SM7-ANT-009-056.

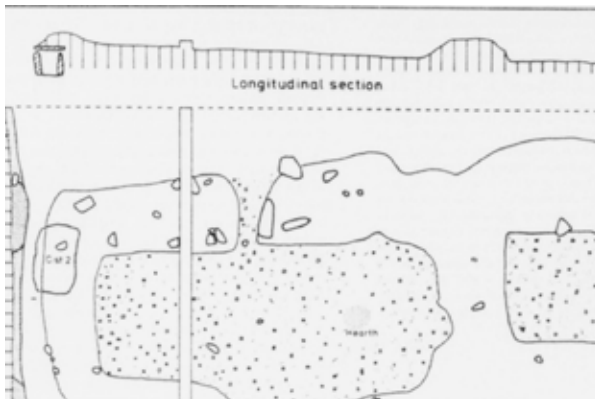
7 Mac Gabhann (1997: 187).
9 OSM pg 83.
11 SM7-ANT-009-055.
13 OSM pg 72.

but unfortunately the two farms it gives as reference, Daniel Cairns and John Stewart, aren't marked on the 1845 townland map.

There is a round cairn at *The Pen*,¹⁴ while the area around the *Green Hill* and the *Gravel Pit* was a booleying settlement. Two bronze

age cists were found in John Butler's gravel pit by Chris McCormick of *Drumnasool* the early 1980s.^{15,16} The archaeologist's report on the gravel pit concluded that the 'apparent absence of human remains in the *Glenmakeeran* cists... seems to indicate that the graves were not used,

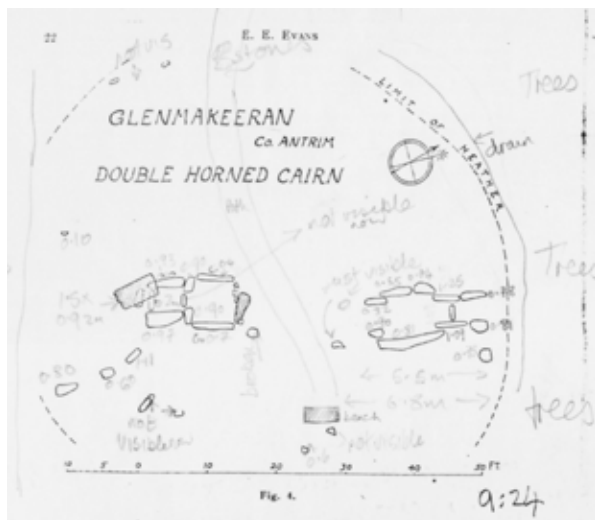
and the uniformity of the fill in the latter almost certainly excludes the possibility of robbing in antiquity'.¹⁷ The capstone on the first cist had 13 cupmarks on its surface, described as being 'rarely found' on Irish cists,¹⁸ the capstone was taken away to Castlewellan in 1983.



More detail on one of the houses found. Williams and Robinson, UJA.



Tripartite Irish bowl found by Chris McCormick. Williams and Robinson, UJA.



Drawing of Cloughdrandan with pencil notes from the archaeologists.¹⁹

A quarry and limekiln were at *The Lodge*, while *Cloughdrandan*, a dual court tomb, is further on up the mountain hidden in the forest. In 1974 the Department of Agriculture sent a request to the Archaeological Service asking that the cairn be restated to its original condition, as they were establishing the scenic drive in Ballypatrick Forest. Despite the offer to provide the labour, the archaeologists politely declined.²⁰ There is also thought to be another megalithic tomb 300 yards east of *Cloughdrandan*,²¹ and

14 SM7-ANT-009-026.

16 Williams, B. & Robinson, P. (1983) The Excavation of Bronze Age Cists and a Medieval Booley House at Glenmakeeran, County Antrim. *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 46: 29-40.

17 Williams & Robinson (1983: 33).

19 SM7-ANT-009-024-7.

21 SM7-ANT-009-202.

15 SM7-ANT-009-057.

18 Williams & Robinson (1983: 33).

20 SM7-ANT-009-024.

another undetermined stone structure over 600 yards to the north west.²²

The OSM records the following story: *"In Glenmakeeran and the holding of Daniel McKinlay, and at some depth beneath the surface of new land, were found, in 1837, one of the largest ancient beads ever seen in this portion of the country. Material unknown, but as smooth as marble or glass and partly the colour of the former, and very beautifully striped and ornamented on the*

surface, and of rather an oval shape. It was subsequently procured by Dr MacDonnell of Belfast. Informants Daniel McCormick, Archibald Jolly and others. 10th December 1838."²³ The beads would have been found somewhere in the fields between the two Curragh Fields and Ballypatrick. Dr James McDonnell was from Cushendall, and was the landlord in Murlough. He also founded important buildings in Belfast in the early 1800s, such as Belfast Medical School (now the Royal Hospital),

and Royal Belfast Academical Institution. It is not known what happened to the beads, or what they may have been. *The Wallstead Field* is so named because a man started to build a house there, and that was as far as he ever got. We don't know who he was, or when he did it, but the walls are still standing today. Further up the burn from *The Wallstead Field* is *Bradley's Hill*, though the origin of this name is also unknown. It was only ever used for gathering sheep.

Families

- 1669:** McCormuck, O'Kennan.
1734: Butler, Jollie, McCormick, McDonnell, McKewan, McKormick, O'Boyle, O'Nogher, O'Scalley, Scalley.
1803: Connor, Dulargy, Hill (Reverend), McAninch, McAulay, McClean, McCormick, McKinly, McLean.
1831: Brown, Hergan, Hill (Reverend), McAulay, McCambridge, McKinlay, McClean.
1861: Cassidy, Clements, Herigan, Magill, McAllister, McCall, McCambridge, McCauley, McCormack, McFadden, McKinley, McLean, McLeese, Morrow, Simpson.
1901: Black, Butler, Cassidy (& Macillop niece), McAlister (& Wilkinson father-in-law), McAlister, McCormack (& McCrank niece), McCormick, McGill, McKinley, McLean (& Black worker), Scullin.
1911: Black, Butler (& Kelly worker), Cassidy (& McKillop niece, McMullan sister), McAllister (& McQuilkin father-in-law²⁴), McAllister, McCarte, McCormick, McClean, McGill, McKinley.
2018: Bell, Butler, Kinney, McAllister, McCormick, McGill, McLafferty, McLean, Ó Seanáin.

22 SM7-ANT-009-209.

23 OSM pg 73.

24 Wilkinson in 1901.

Glenmakeeran is one of the few townlands for which we have the hand-drawn Antrim Estate maps from the 1840s,²⁵ showing the boundaries of all the farms in the area. Starting from the 1845 map, our researchers looked in detail and tried to find out what happened next. Most of the houses and the families that have since left the townland were on the Glenshesk side of the road, so that's the one we looked at in detail. As you look at the map we're starting at the top left, and down that side of the river, on the road up to the right. The straight fence lines that run across the townland today, from left to right

on the map, mark out the 1845 boundaries (the old map is at the end of the chapter).

Drumnasoal was occupied by Robert Morrow in 1845. John Delargy, John Brown and a McCormick family had been previous tenants. An undated headstone in Bun na Margai was erected by Michael McCormick of 'Drimnasol', for his two daughters Mary and Catherine. Robert Morrow was a gamekeeper and small farmer, and lived here with his family until his death in 1877. He is buried with his wife Jane and their infant son in Ballynaglogh. After the Morrrows, James

McCormick moved in around 1882. He previously lived at Thorn Cottage in Broughanlea. James was the rent warner (bailiff) for the Earl of Antrim, which involved collecting property in lieu of unpaid rents, and chasing up late payers. James made considerable improvements to the house, and by 1878 its rateable value had doubled. He died in 1897, followed by his wife Mary in 1906. Their son William and daughter Louisa ran the farm until they passed away, William in 1948, and Louisa in 1964. Neither had married and the property lay vacant for a time, and was then put up for sale.

£1 REWARD.

STRAYED from **BALLYPATRICK**, near Ballycastle, County Antrim, on 28th September last, a Small Brown **RETRIEVER BITCH**, with white spot on breast, long ears, and tip of tail without hair. Answers to the name of "Juno."

Any person returning her to the above address will receive the above Reward, and any person keeping her after this date will be prosecuted.

ROBERT MORROW, Gamekeeper.
Ballypatrick, Oct. 8, 1867. 134

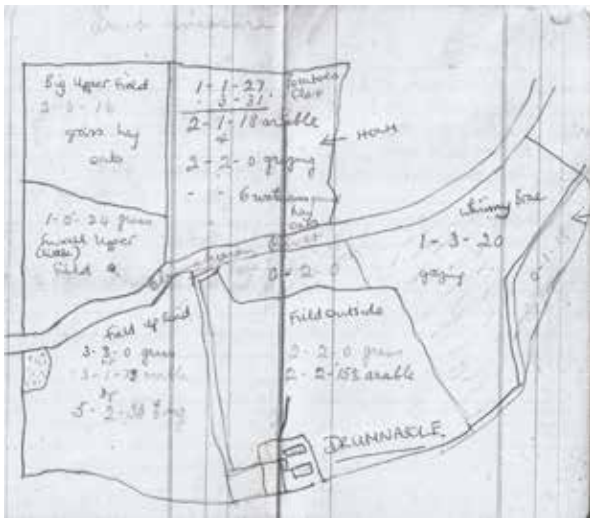
Belfast Morning News, 14th October 1867.



McCormick headstone, Bun na Margái.



William McCormick, Drumnasoal.



William's hand-drawn field map.

Sale Dates & Turnings		Year
6	Dallas Cairn on John's Hill	5 2
6	" " P. Hill	15 -
4	" " John's Hill	10 -
4	" " " "	10 -
2	" " " "	5 -
Champions		
30	Clayton & Sullivan	1 0 0
0	" James Butcher	1 0 0
0	" John Butcher	1 1 8
0	" " "	1 5 2
20	" " "	2 3 4
10	" " "	1 2 6
1	" " "	1 4 2
10	" " "	1 2 6
1	" " "	1 - 10
5	" " "	12 -
		14-7-1
		1-0-0
		13-7-1

Part of William's account book for renting out his ground from 1909-1945.

The next farm was that of Charles McLean (*The Far Field to the Holm*). In the 1841 Census, Charles was living with his wife Ann, and children Mary, Henry, Charles Jr, Ann Jr, and Esther. Esther married John McAllister of Glenmakeeran in 1864. Another daughter, Margaret, was born in 1842, and a son, John, in 1844. Charles died in 1882, and by 1901 the Census shows Henry,

John, and Margaret, all unmarried, and running the farm. By 1916 the three had died, and the house lay vacant for a number of years until it was re-built in the early 1940s by the McLeans of *Srón na Móna*.

Randal Cassidy lived on the next farm (*Garden of the Glen to the Holm*) with his wife Margaret (née McHenry). In 1880, aged 71, Randal and two

others were charged with 'illicit distillation', and fined accordingly. A worse fate was to befall Randal nine years later, when returning from the Cushendall fair. He took the old road home, and his body was found the following morning by a shepherd called John McFadden (probably from Ballyvennaght). Randal was thought to have died from natural causes. His son John Cassidy lived on

the farm until his death in 1931. In later years it was the home of James McCart, a shepherd on Glenmakeeran mountain, and his wife Mary. Mary passed away in 1945, and James in 1961, aged 86. A holiday home has since been built on the site. The following was the only other reference we could find of the Cassidys, dated 1883:

"Margaret Cassidy of Glenmakeerin, summoned John M'Lean of the same place for striking her with a stick on the head. M'Lean, who is a very boisterous fellow, and who during the trial could not be kept quiet, but insisted on examining, cross-examining, and speech-making all at once, was fined 40s and costs."²⁶

The next farm up in 1845 was Patrick McCambridge's, the block below the *Garden of the Glen* on the map. By 1861 it was in the hands of Neal McCambridge, with Daniel McKinley, Donald McCormick, and Charles McAllister also living on his holding. The four houses were at the roadside. Below Neal McCambridge's holding was John McAllister Sr, over the road from the *Curragh Field* and taking in *Cuisla*. By 1898 Patrick McKinley had acquired the ground, and the house was in ruins by 1912.

Alexander Harrigan and his son Daniel held the next parcel of land, from *The Mountain* to the *Big Field* and *The Hill*. Daniel continued to farm here after his father's death. They lived in a house between *The Hill* and *Butler's Acre*, with the property passing on to his widow

LAMBING EXTRAORDINARY.— On Saturday last, a little half-bred ewe, the property of Mr. Charley M'Lean, of Glenmakeerin, near Ballycastle, lambled the extraordinary number of five lambs, all alive and strong. The previous day the other ewe produced three. Charley, by two arithmetical operations, equalised the families, and up to the present all appears to be getting along "thriving."

Coleraine Chronicle, 21st April 1877.

8th May 1880. Coleraine Chronicle
ILLCIT DISTILLATION.— On Monday, at Ballycastle Petty Sessions, Daniel M'Kinlay, Ballypatrick, Denis M'Kinlay, and Randal Cassidy, Glenmakeerin, were charged with having articles in their possession for the purpose of illicit distillation. It appeared that on the 10th of March Acting-Constable Bailey, of Ballymoney, went with four constables on revenue duty to the district. In an old lime kiln, situated in Dan M'Kinlay's field, were found three barrels, two of which contained thirty-nine gallons of wash, and the other a large quantity of malt grains. In the same field was found a still concealed in a drain, covered with a sod of heather. At Denis M'Kinlay's, close to another old kiln, a bag of malt grains was discovered, concerning which Denis denied all knowledge. Denis Cassidy had two tin measures in his possession, and endeavoured to conceal them thus:— A cow was before Cassidy, and he appeared to be engaged in driving her. When passing a ditch to get into a field he stooped down and put the tins under the heather. Acting-Constable Bailey searched the spot and found the tins, which were wet with wash. Cassidy was asked for his name, and, after some modest reticence, admitted that it was useless for him to be humbugging any longer, and gave his real name and address. Randall was arrested, and all the articles were taken to Ballycastle. The cases were heard before the local bench on Monday, and a fine of £100, mitigated to £6, or, in default, three months' imprisonment, was imposed upon the M'Kinlays and Cassidy respectively. The whole case was managed with considerable tact and ability by Acting-Constable Bailey.

Coleraine Chronicle, 8th May 1880.

Anne in 1893. Mary Jane Herrigan married Bob Lynn of Ballyvoy in 1886. In the 1901 Census, Anne is living with her son Daniel, in his pub on Castle Street, Ballycastle (now the Glow Hair Studio). The pub and farm were put up for sale in 1909,²⁷ and Anne went to live with a married daughter in Strabane, where she died in 1916. Denis McGill acquired the ground, and the house was in ruins by 1919.

²⁶ 1883 – District Intelligence, Ballycastle Petty Sessions – *Northern Constitution*, June 16.

²⁷ 1909 – Licensed Premises and Farm of Land in Glenmakeeran – *Ballymena Weekly Telegraph*, April 10.



D. Harrigan's Spirit Store on the left, the House of McDonnell on the right.



Harrigan family plot in Barnish. Erected by Daniel Harrigan in memory of his father Alex (d.1874), mother Jane (d.1869), brother Alexander (d.1849), and son Patrick (d.1888).

10th April 1909, Ballymena Weekly Telegraph

**BALLYCASTLE, COUNTY ANTRIM
VALUABLE FREEHOLD
LICENSED PREMISES,
WITH BAR FITTINGS AND FIXTURES THEREIN,
IN BALLYCASTLE,
ALSO, VALUABLE
FARM OF LAND
IN THE TOWNLAND OF GLENMAKEERAN.**

To be Sold by Public AUCTION, on the PREMISES, at Ballycastle, on THURSDAY, the 29th April, 1909, at the hour of 12 o'clock noon.

ALL THAT TENEMENT and PREMISES, situate in CASTLE STREET, Ballycastle, comprising two Shops and Dwelling-houses, held for ever subject to the small yearly rent of £3 12s 7¹/₂d. The principal Shop and House, to which is attached a Seven-day Retail Spirit Licence, is in the occupation of Mr Daniel Harrigan. These Premises are situate in the leading street of the town, and in the best and most crowded of its thoroughfares, and a very large trade has been carried on in same for many years. The House is extensively and admirably adapted for the liquor trade, and has ample accommodation for a large number of people. The Bar is supplied with good fittings, and the Premises are in first-class order. There is a suitable Yard in the rear, with Gateway Entrance from the street, and affords good Stabling accommodation, and on Market and Fair Days it is fully occupied, an extensive country connection having been established with the house.

The other portion of the Premises consists of Shop and Dwelling-house adjoining, capable of producing £12 per annum.

The Farm is situate in the townland of Glenmakeeran, and is at present in the occupation of Mrs Anne Harrigan, contains 49 acres and 2 roods, or thereabouts, and is held as a statutory tenancy under the Right Hon the Earl of Antrim, at the yearly judicial rent of £14 4s 0d. The Lands are situate within four miles from the town of Ballycastle, and are well fenced and drained, and have an abundant supply of water at all seasons. About 40 acres of this farm are good arable land, and the remainder excellent grazing. There is a good two-story slated Dwelling-house and suitable Offices on the holding.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale apply to
ALEXANDER CARUTH & SON,
Solicitors, Flixton Place, Ballymena
SAMUEL HOOD,
Auctioneer and Valuer,
Mill Street and Galgorm Street, Ballymena.

Auction of Harrigan's farm 10th April 1909, Ballymena Weekly Telegraph.

**GLENMAKEERAN, Ballycastle,
COUNTY ANTRIM.**

TO be Sold by Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 10th day of MARCH, 1909, on the Premises, at the hour of 12 o'clock noon.

All that very valuable

FARM OF LAND,

in the Townland of GLENMAKEERAN, as at present in the occupation of MRS. ANNE HARRIGAN, containing 49 acres and 2 roods, or thereabouts, held as a Statutory tenancy under the Right Hon. Earl of Antrim, at the yearly judicial rent of £14 4s.

The Lands are situate within four miles of the Town of Ballycastle, on the direct road to Cushendall, and are well fenced and drained, and have an abundant supply of water at all seasons.

About 40 acres of the Farm are good arable Land and the remainder excellent Grazing.

There is a good two-story slated Dwelling-house and suitable Offices on the holding.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale, apply to
ALEXANDER CARUTH & SON,
Solicitors, Flixton Place,
Ballymena.
SAMUEL HOOD,
Auctioneer and Valuer, Mill
Street and Galgorm Street,
Ballymena. 96-98

Auction of Harrigan's Farm, 1909. Ballymena Observer.

Below this was Denis McCormick's land, from the river to Eglish, taking in the three *Halles' fields*, the *Wee Field*, and the *Well Field*. The origins of *Halles'* is unknown. Part of the mountain on the Ballyverdagh/ Coolaveely side is also called Halley's, so we assume it is a surname. Hally as a placename has been translated as (h) Aille (cliff),²⁸ and caladh (marshy meadow).²⁹ Denis McCormick died in 1883, with Alexander Butler, and then John Magill the next on the ground. There's a wallstead in *the Wee Field* where Denis lived.

Between the river and road, *The Hollow, The Hill* and the *Garden Field*, was John McClements, with Hugh Simpson renting a cottage from John by 1861. By 1873 John



Denis McGill (born 1857).

1st May 1880, Belfast Morning News
AUCTION OF THE WELL-KNOWN SIRE "DUKE."
 TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, on the DIAMOND,
 COLERAINE, on SATURDAY 8th May, at Two o'clock,
 p.m. Colour, Dark Chestnut; age, rising 5; height, 16^{1/2}
 hands. Has proved himself a sure foal-getter. Good-
 tempered. Pedigree at Sale.
 JOHN M'GILL, Proprietor.
 Glenmakeerin, Ballycastle.
 28th April, 1880.

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McGill had the ground, and tradition has it this was where the Reverend George Hill, Rector of Ramon and Vicar of Culfeightrin, lived until his death in 1837. John McGill died in 1894, and the farm was passed onto his son Denis. Among the family of Denis and his wife Mary (née McCambridge) was their son Father Patrick McGill. He was ordained a Missionary by the Holy Ghost Congregation,

and based amongst the Kikuyu Tribe in Kenya. During the Mau Mau rebellion in the 1950s, Patrick survived several attempts on his life, and continued to minister, despite a death threat being issued against him. Father McGill died in 1970, and was buried in Kenya. When Denis died in 1937, the farm passed on to his son John, a member of the Ballycastle Rural District Council, and then on to John's son.



Seán, Father Patrick, and Paddy McGill in 1957.

28 Logainm.ie – Tinnahally, Co Kerry.
 29 Logainm.ie – Rahally, Co Galway.

CATHOLICS IN THE MAU MAU COUNTRY

A FIRST SATURDAY IN KIRIKU

IMAGINE yourself present in a mission settlement in the heart of the Kikuyu Reserve in Kenya. It is set on a peak of 7,000 feet, close to the Aberdare Range. It is the Mission of Our Lady of Fatima, Kiriku. It is the First Saturday. The early morning mists still shroud the valleys, but already many Kikuyus are making their way to the Mission.

It is too poor to boast of a church, but just inside the doorway of the mud-walled building in which Mass is said, you can see the pastor of the flock, Father McGill, bending over to hear the whispered Confessions of his children.

If you look up towards the front of the building, and mind you, it is darkish for there are few windows, you will see a wooden altar, already prepared for Mass. Behind it, the roughness of the mud walls has been concealed by a covering of palm branches.

For this great occasion, little clusters of flowers, whites and reds, yellows and purples, have been interwoven into the palm branches. To the left stands another altar. It too is decorated, and on it reposes a statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

African Voices Greet Our Lady

An hour passes but that Confession queue grows shorter very slowly and it is half past eight before Holy Mass begins. While the Mass proceeds, the Rosary is said, and it is sweet music to the ear, to earthly as well as heavenly ones, to listen to the chant of these African voices as they greet Our Lady in her Rosary . . . *Ne ngokopeithia, Maria, moiyoze ne waga* . . . Between each decade they recite the prayer asked for by Our Lady of Fatima . . . *O Jesu akwa* . . . (O My Jesus, forgive us our sins . . .)

Right through the Mass, they speak their praises of Mary, stopping only for the Consecration, and then again for the great moment when each approaches the altar to receive the Son of Mary. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar, and immediately there follows the quarter hour's Meditation on the Mysteries. Finally, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament is given, and the ceremony is over.

Yes, all has been done exactly as Our Lady of Fatima had asked. You remember her words to Sister Lucy: "Announce in my name that I promise to assist at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, go to Confession and receive Holy Communion, recite the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour while meditating on the Mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to me."

But our story does not end there. Mary has been given all she asked, but generous, African hearts will not rest content with that. She will be given more, much more.

After the Benediction, the Blessed Sacrament is taken by Father McGill to his hut. There it remains until at 10 o'clock in the evening it is borne again to the little church for the all night Vigil. Were there many in the church? I, for one, had quite a job to get in. It wasn't so much the people who were kneeling outside the church who blocked the way. No, it was

the people inside, packed tightly together.

So began the long night Vigil, before the Blessed Sacrament enthroned on the altar in a tiny Monstrance. The Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Rosary, a hymn, a sermon, then spiritual reading, that was the order until at length with the dawn, Holy Mass was celebrated to close the Vigil.

These African children of Mary, some of them, indeed, not so young, prayed and sang her praises. No wonder that the babies cried, slung on their mothers' backs, when, perhaps, the poor mother's eyelids closed and opened and closed again. But they would not let themselves sleep when they were gathered together in honour of their Queen, and so they had arranged for stewards who would nudge the drowsy ones from their slumbers.

Can you wonder that they were tired and sleepy when many of them had walked as much as twenty miles in order to be present. And they must have been hungry, too, for they had come all the way fasting. On the morrow, they would have to make the long journey home before breaking their

fast. So Lough Derg has really got nothing on Kiriku.

It was a sacrifice for them all, and it surely must have brought a smile to the face of Our Lady that in pagan Africa, and in the midst of troubled times, she should receive such a wonderful response to her appeal at Fatima for prayer and penance and especially the Rosary. It was recited some twenty-five times that night.

Its Latest Form

Outside the church, you could have seen on duty, with rifle in hand, the African policemen who guard the Mission day and night. They were a reminder of the hatred and strife which Our Lady would have us remove from the world, as well as a testimony to the fearless courage with which Father McGill has not hesitated to unmask the terrible evil of Communism in its latest form of Mau-Mau.

That is the story, but still it is not ended. Christmas is a time for making gifts, for it is the anniversary of God's greatest gift to man. Will you make a gift to Our Lady this Christmas to show her that Irish hearts still love her as much

as ever. You will please her very much by making, first of all, this resolution for the New Year: that you, too, will answer her call to the First Saturday. Let Kiriku be your inspiration.

That brings me to the second point. We have no church at Kiriku, and during the Vigil many African lovers of Our Lady had to remain outside that mud-and-wattle building, because there was no room within. Doesn't that thought bring you back to the first Christmas?

To-day, Mary is looking for a dwelling-place for her Son at Kiriku. Will you help us to provide it? Please send some contribution, big or small, towards Our Lady of Fatima, Kiriku, Building Fund.

The cost of a new church is estimated at £6,000. Every donation will be acknowledged personally by Father McGill. Please send your offering to Rev. Fr. McGill, Our Lady of Fatima Mission, Kiriku, P.O. Box No. 49, Thika, Kenya. The names of all benefactors will be enrolled in a Golden Book, and their intentions will have a special place in the ceremonies and prayers of the First Saturday at Kiriku.
P. CREMIN, C.S.Sp.

26th December 1952, The Standard.

EXTENSIVE SALE OF FARMING STOCK.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, without reserve, on **TUESDAY** the 10th Sept. next, and following days, on the Lands of **GLENMAKEERAN**, near **BALLYCASTLE**, the property of the **Rev. CHARLES HILL** :—

60 Head of real Highland BLACK CATTLE, among which is a remarkably fine BULL of same Breed.

400 Black-faced SHEEP, of superior Quality.

20 PIGS.

Also, a number of HORSES, BROOD MARES, PONEYS, &c. &c.

Terms—Cash :—Purchasers to pay King's duty.

Sale to commence each day precisely at 11 o'clock, Forenoon.

THOMAS O'CONNELL, Auctioneer.

Glenmakeeran, Aug. 28, 1833. (784

Belfast Commercial Chronicle, 4th September 1833.

ATTEMPT ON LIVES OF IRISH MISSIONARIES

Details of an attempt on the life of an Irish missionary by an African secret society were disclosed in Nairobi, Kenya, on Friday.

Armed with knives and spears six members of the Mau Mau secret society surrounded the presbytery of the Kiriku mission in the Kikuyu Reserve at night and yelled: "We want the priests." One of the priests, Rev. P. J. McGill, C.S.Sp., whom they had "sentenced to death," was away, but another, Rev. T. O'Donoghue, C.S.Sp., emerged from a nearby schoolroom where he was holding a class.

Immediately one of the attackers threw a spear at him, but an African pupil deflected it, saving the priest's life.

Father O'Donoghue escaped in the darkness, an alarm was raised and the gang ran away. The mission is now under police protection.

The Mau Mau Society is pledged to drive the Europeans out of Kenya.

Father McGill said afterwards that he had been informed that a Mau Mau "court" had condemned him to die because, Sunday after Sunday, he had denounced them.

A native of Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, Father McGill was ordained in 1928, and went to Kenya the following year.

Father O'Donoghue is a native of Toomevara, Nenagh, and was ordained in 1941. He was on the teaching staff of Rockwell College for six years, and went to Kenya in 1949.

Both priests were home on holidays this year.

17th September 1952, The Derry Journal. The Mau Mau rebellion was that of the Kikuyu people in Kenya against British colonial rule, beginning in 1952, but suppressed by 1956. It was back in the news in 2011, when secret files on the extent of the suppression were unearthed. During the uprising the British confined almost 1.5 million Kikuyu in detention camps and fenced off villages. As a result the British government paid out £20 million in compensation to torture victims in 2013.

The last farm on the Glenshesk side of the river in 1845 was held by Patrick McCormick, from the fence at *Halles' Wee Field* to the mountaintop at Craigban. Patrick's holding extended over the road, as far as the present tree line of the forest; they had two houses below Black's Hill. Patrick died in 1867, with his wife Esther (née McLean) inheriting the farm for her lifetime, and their son Daniel next in line. In 1872 Daniel McCormick pre-deceased his mother, so his widow Ellen (née McMichael) was in possession of one of the houses and 114 acres, which had originally been farmed by Denis McFadden. Esther McCormick died in 1895, and the 1901 Census shows Ellen McCormick living in Drumavoley, with her house in Glenmakeeran vacant and the ground rented out. Meanwhile Patrick and Esther's daughter, Mary, and her husband Alexander Butler, were the new owners of the original house and the farm.



Ellen McCormick (nee McMichael), when living with her brother John McMichael in Drumavoley. There is a photo of her as a young woman in the Churchfield chapter.



Johnny and Alec Butler with Michael McHenry and Trevor Butler.



McAllister's.

Marked on the fieldname map are the names *Ellen McCormick's* and *The Lodge*. The triangle of ground pointing down to the right was Patrick McAulay's in 1845. The last record of them is the following map of Ann McAuley's ground in 1875. The Crawfords

were the last family in *The Lodge*, up until the 1950s, and are now over the mountain in Cushendall. Our researchers were unable to find a photo of *The Lodge*, so the drawing on Ann McAuley's map is the only detail available.

Everything south of the tree line below the *Pound Sheugh* to the mountaintop, around 1,900 acres, was held by Thomas McCall of Ballypatrick, from at least 1845 until his death in 1899. See Ballypatrick chapter for more details.

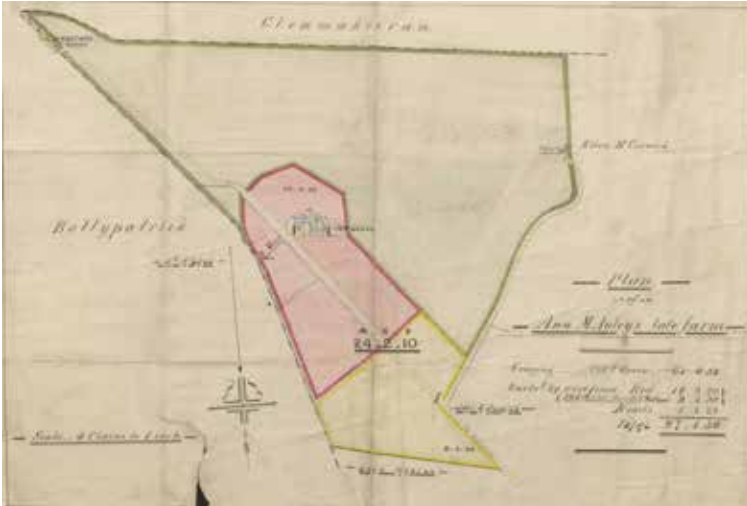
2nd December 1903, Belfast News-Letter

CAREY SHOOTINGS AND GLENMAKEERAN LODGE, BALLYCASTLE

TO BE LET, FROM 1ST MARCH, 1904. The Shootings extend over 10,000 acres – 7,000 moor – well stocked with Grouse and other Game. 300 Brace of Grouse have been shot in one season.

Apply to the ANTRIM ESTATE OFFICE,
Glenarm, County Antrim 31625

Advertisement for the lodge, Belfast News-Letter, 2nd December 1903.



McAuley's ground 1875, also showing the location of The Lodge.
Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/24/7.



James McAllister (Glenmakeeran).



McLeans circa 1918 - Back L-R: John, Archie, Esther, Anne. Front L-R: Patrick Jr, Margaret (née Darragh from Torr), Patrick Sr, Charles, Gretta (who went on to teach in Ballyucan), Agnes, Catherine, Daniel, Archie, and Daniel went to Brooklyn after the War of Independence, and their families still live there.



James McAllister and Joe Duffin at the moss, 1982.

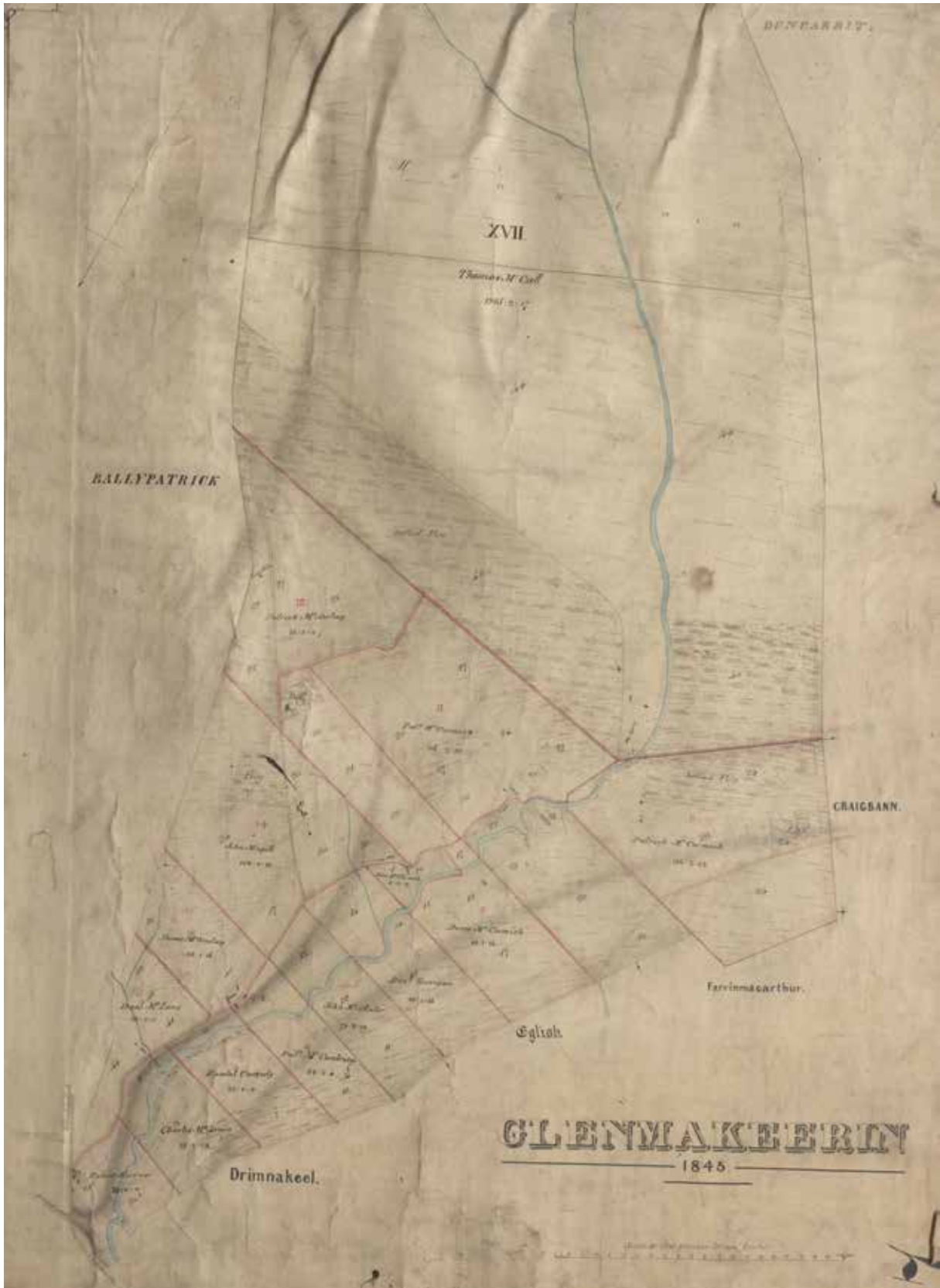
The Daniel M'Lane on the 1843 map was the great-grandfather of the late Pádraig McLean. When Daniel died in 1896, the farm was passed on to his son Patrick, and in turn to his son Patrick (Patsy) in 1924. Patsy owned a thresher and baler, and, along with Sam Davidson and Paddy Murphy, travelled the country threshing corn. When the thresher came to a farm, all the neighbours gathered to help with the work. The thresher had long been disposed of, and the baler abandoned in a field, when Patsy's son Pádraig took over the farm. Pádraig was eventually able to buy back the thresher, and with the help of his neighbour Jim Brennan, restored both machines. They now form part of an extensive collection of vintage farm machinery and implements collected by Pádraig and Jim.



Pádraig McLean and the thresher.



Jimmy McVeigh (Acravilla) with McLean's thresher, 2018.



Glenmakeeran in 1845. Courtesy of PRONI, ref: D2977/36/21/1.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Benlagh / Binn Liath / Grey peak;
2. Benlagh Martin / Binn Liath Mhártain / Martin's grey peak;
3. Benvan / Binn Bhán / White peak;
4. Brock's Hollow / Log na Bhroc / Hollow of the badger;
5. Carrick a ful (& Port) / Carraig na Fóla / Rock of the blood;
6. Carrick a nala / Carraig na nEalaí / The Swans' Rock;
- 7-8. Casanban (Gate & Hollow) / Cosán Bhán / White path;
- 9-11. Contan (Gate, Mountain & Quarry) / Cointinn / Contention/dispute (possibly land whose ownership was disputed);
12. Crook na Guidhill / Cnoc na Gardáil / Hill of the guard or watchman;
13. Doon / Dún / Fort;
14. Doonasay / Dún Easa / Fort of the waterfall;
15. Douay / Dubhaigh/Dumhaigh / Black or dark place/sandy ground;
- 16-17. Ess (Bridge & Burn) / Eas / Waterfall;
18. Fear na Streive / Fír na Sreabh / Man of the stream;
19. Islandoo / Oileán Dubh / Black island;
20. Laragh / Lárach / Mare;
21. Ligabodagh Shim / Log na mBodach / Hollow of the churls;
22. Ligahappel / Log an Chapail / Hollow of the horse/mare;
23. Lignaglee / Log na gCláí / Hollow of the hedges;
24. Low Grainne/ Gráinne / Grain;
25. Portnavna / Port na nGamhna / Port of the calves;
26. Rhu Bahn / Rubha Bán / White headland;
27. Rhu Dubh / Rubha Dhubh / Black headland;
- 28-29. Scornaghs (Lower & Upper) / Scornach / Gorge;
- 30-33. Skeogh (Big, Lower, Field & Planting) / Sceitheog / Hawthorne, thorn bush;
34. Stobal / Stobháil / Store;
35. The Fank / Fang / Sheep pen;
- 36-37. The Rodden (the Hare's Rodden) / Ródán / Little road or path;
38. Aidan's Corner;
39. Boat house;
40. Boat port;
41. Big Barn;
42. Big Garden;
43. Black Brae;
44. Bothy;
45. Byer;
46. Carhouse;
47. Cart house;
48. Clarke's Cottage;
49. Clarke's Garden;
50. Cottage Path;
51. Cove;
52. Cove Corner;
53. Explosive Bank;
54. Green pool;
55. Homestead;
56. Low Barn;
57. McDonnell's Planting;
58. McDonnell's Port;
59. Moss Road;
60. Moss Road Spring;
61. Mountain Field;
62. Net Port;
63. Net Port Path;
64. Nettle Hollow;
65. Paddy Scally's Garden;
66. Park Field;
67. Red Brae;
68. Sandy rock (at sea);
69. Scotsman's Hollow;
70. Smithy;
71. Stable;
72. The Bush;
73. The Rowan-Tree Bush;
74. The Sandhole.

Families

- 1831:** Black, Duncan, Hunter, McGlarry, Scally, Stewart.
1861: Clarke, Duncan, Hunter, Stewart.
1901: Clarke, Duncan (& Christie niece, McLaughlin & Lynn workers), Fee, Hunter (& McCormack granddaughter, McMullin worker), Stewart (& workers Anderson and McKenny).
1911: Duncan (& Logue boarder, Lavery and McMill workers), Hunter (& Cushnahan worker), McAfee, McFall (& Donohue mother-in-law), Stewart (& sister Gillan, worker Humphrey).
2018: Duncan.

Magees of Ballyucan:

The first Earl of Antrim granted lands in Ballyucan and Tornaroan to two Magee brothers from Islay, Alexander and Donal, on the condition they established a permanent settlement of 300 Catholics from the islands. This is known as the Magee Village, which is on the old Hunter farm. The Magees came originally from the Rinns of Islay, and settled first in Islandmagee:

"On the 3rd of July, 1620, the first earl of Antrim granted to Alexander Magee of Ballygicon (Ballyuchan) the lands of Ballygicon, containing 80 acres; half of Turnaroan, 60 acres; Ballycregagh, 120 acres, and the quarter of Dowcorry, 20 acres... Alexander Magee was

*succeeded by his son, Daniel."*⁴

The leases held in PRONI for the same are dated 27th July 1637.⁵ Donnell and fferdoragh Magee of Ballyeeron were questioned in Coleraine in 1652 over their role in the 1641 Rebellion and subsequent Confederate Wars. The 1641 Rebellion was an attempt by the Irish Catholic gentry to overthrow the colonial English administration of Ireland. It failed and descended into a bitter war between the Gaels (both Irish and their Scottish allies) and the English and Scottish settlers (and their respective armies sent over in assistance by the English and Scottish Parliaments), as well as Catholic v Protestant. In January 1642 an English garrison in Portnaw,

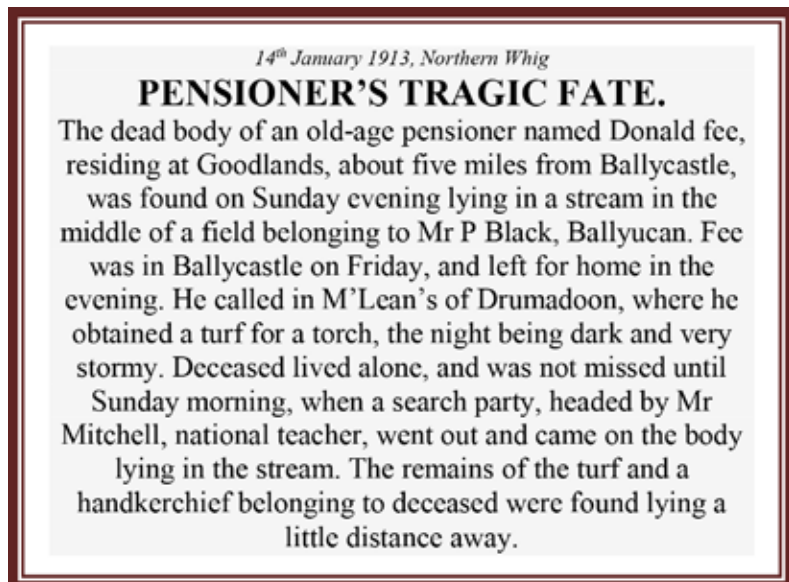
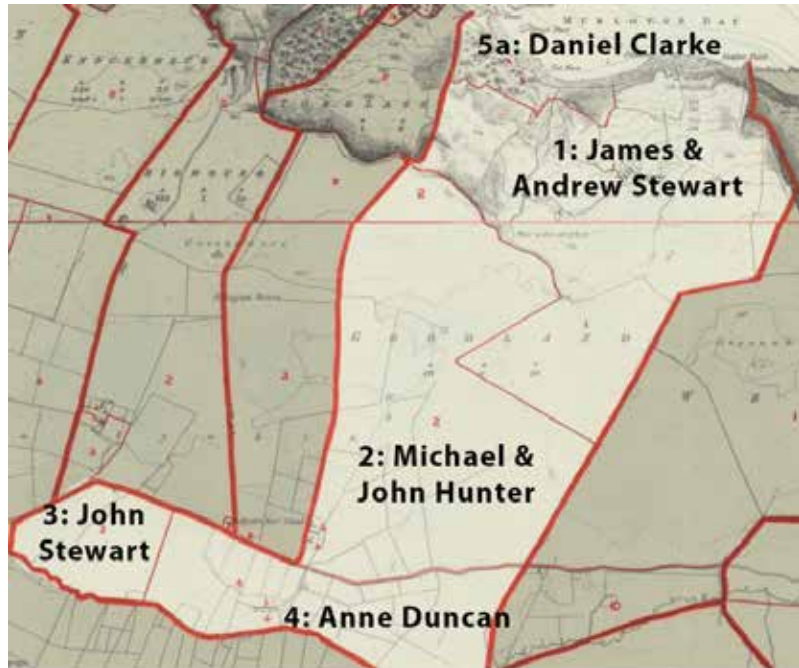
on the Bann south of Coleraine, was attacked by the O'Cahans of Dunseverick and Alasdair Mac Colla Chiotaich Mac Domhnaill. A few days later the Magees were accused of commanding 300 men at Port Briotáis in Ballycastle (the main boat slip now), with John Stewart the younger of Magherebooy as their prisoner (he should be of the Ballintoy Stewarts). This was when the Countess of Antrim was living in the McDonnell castle in the Diamond in Ballycastle. The Countess was interviewed in 1653, and gave an account of the last days of the castle before it was garrisoned by British soldiers (Robert Monro commanded them around this area). The Magees denied everything. Donnell said that he only went into Oldstone to save a British

⁴ Hill, G. (1873: 117) *An historical account of the Macdonnells of Antrim*. Archer & Sons: Belfast.
⁵ D2977/3A/1/2/1A-D, PRONI.

acquaintance from the Irish Army, after which he went home, never left, and knew nothing about anything. fferfordagh said he never left the house after the battle of Portnaw, as he was hiding British who had fled from there.

The last Magee found in the area was Anne Magee of Ballyucan, who married Coll a Voulin⁶ McDonnell of Kilmore (Cushendall) before his death in 1719. Coll a Voulin's father was Alasdair Mac Colla Chiotaich Mac Domhnaill. Alasdair's nickname is said to be 'the man who destroys houses', he was a major military leader from the 1641 Rebellion until his death at the Battle of Knocknanuss in Cork in 1647. Alasdair was born on Colonsay, with his home said to be Ballypatrick. The family moved to Kilmore after his death in 1647. Another son, Gillaspic, was lord of Murlough and Kilmore in 1662.

Coll a Voulin and Anne Magee had one son Alexander, who married twice. One line married into the McCarrys of Murlough in 1906, Alex McDonnell of Glenariffe and Margaret McCarry. Their son Hugh married Mary Duncan of Ballyucan. The other line runs into



Donald Fee (McAfee) 1913.

the McDonnells of Castle Street, Ballycastle, with many locals in this family tree.

Griffith's Valuation 1861: The Clarkes, Hunters, and Stewarts have all left the townland and the Duncans are the only family still living

there. There was a second Stewart farm in 1861, taking in the fields below Big House. These Stewarts were in rent arrears, and sold up around 1864, the ground going to John Duncan.⁷ The McFalls from the 1911 Census moved to Ballycastle, while the McAfees, recorded as Fee on the

⁶ from muilleann, meaning Coll of the mill, which was in Cushendall.

⁷ 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.

1901 Census, had one daughter, Mary, who married into the Clarkes. Mary's widowed father was found dead in 1913. The McFalls and McAfees lived in two halves of one house.

Clarkes of Murlough: The Clarkes were wardens or agents for the McDonnell landlords, and their family story is that they arrived in Murlough in 1780 or 1790 from the Mull of Kintyre. The Clarkes of Murlough and Broughanlea were related through two brothers in the 1830s.

In the 1901 Census the Clarkes are Daniel, his brother Stephen, a carpenter and boat builder, and their sister Mary. John Clarke had a racing yacht called the *Wild Rose*,⁸ and another called *St Brendan*.⁹ There was an older brother Hugh, in the Royal Irish Constabulary. By 1911 Stephen had moved to the *An Tuirne Beag*, known as 'the Irish Shop' in Anne Street, Ballycastle, where Wysner's is now. The frame for Clarke's sign is still on the shopfront.

Daniel had married Mary McAfee of Ballyucan¹⁰ in February 1904 and had five children: Dan Jr, Mary Ann (Marie), Rose Charity, John (Seán), and Stephen. The only ones known to marry and have children were Rose and Stephen. Rose's son Kevin, who was living in Italy, and Stephen's daughter Monica, who was living in London, visited in 1991 with Frances Duncan (née McCarry, Murlough). Rose also has another daughter living in England, but that's the



Clarke's shop.



Repairs in McDonnell's Port c.1900. BELUM.Y.W.O1.56.41 "At the cottage, Murlough Bay." © National Museums NI.

last that's currently known of the Clarkes. Dan's family were the last Clarkes resident in the cottage, and either had left before the Stewarts bought the house and plantings during the Land Purchases (c.1930), or were outbid. From what we were able to piece together, the Clarkes moved to the Row in Ballyreagh after Murlough, but we're not sure what happened next. The planting above the house was held by the McDonnell landlords, but the Clarkes had cleared part of it for a vegetable patch.

8 1901 – Ballycastle Regatta and Sports. *Ballymena Observer*, July 5.
 9 1907 – Ballycastle Regatta and Sports. *Belfast News Letter*, July 24.
 10 Daughter of Daniel McAfee.



Mary Clarke at the Cottage c.1900.
 BELUM.Y10030 Mary Clarke of Murlough Bay.
 © National Museums NI.

11th November 1931, Northern Whig
MURLOUGH BAY, Co. Antrim.
 VALUABLE
FREEHOLD PROPERTY
MURLOUGH COTTAGE, For Sale
 We have been favoured with instructions of Miss M.H. M'DONNELL, and the Trustees of the late Mrs M.W.C. PILKINGTON'S Estate, to Sell by Public AUCTION, on the Premises, on FRIDAY, 13th November, 1931, at 12 o'clock Noon.
 ALL THAT DWELLING-HOUSE AND PREMISES, known as MURLOUGH COTTAGE, together with the net port Plantation, situate in the Townland of Goodland, containing 15 acres 3 roods, or thereabouts (excluding the Boat House and Plot of Ground on which same is built). The Cottage is a comfortable slated Building, containing 5 Rooms, Kitchen, Pantry, &c., and is in an excellent state of repair, having been done up within the last 4 months. It stands close to the sea, in most picturesque surroundings, and would make an ideal Summer Residence. 5 acres 1 rood and 35 perches excellent Turbary will be sold with the Cottage.
 For further particulars apply to
 S.S. & E. REEVES & SON,
 Solicitors, Belfast;
 or to
BRYARS & NEWTOWN,
 Auctioneers, Dungannon.

Clarke cottage for Sale 1931.



Clarke cottage 1940s.



Clarke headstone, Barnish.

IHS
 THY WILL BE DONE
 PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF
 DANIEL CLARKE, MURLOUGH,
 DIED 9TH MARCH 1930, AGED 69.
 HIS BROTHER JOHN CLARKE,
 DIED 26TH NOV 1931, AGED 73.
 AND HIS WIFE MARY,
 DIED 31ST MARCH 1941, AGED 71.
 R.I.P.

There's an old story about the Clarkes passed down from Hugh McCarry Senior (Murlough, d.1943) through his grandson Hugh McDonnell. A branch of the family lived at Watertop, and fourteen of them emigrated to New Zealand on the one day, rowing out from Murlough to meet a larger boat waiting offshore. The late Séamus Clarke of Ballycastle and the Feis na nGleann said that the Watertop Clarkes had a small boy who was too ill to travel, who was left in the care of the Murlough Clarkes but died not long after. A Benvan story told of the Clarkes being forced to move out of the cottage one day a year, furniture and all, to prevent them gaining any tenancy rights.

After the Clarkes left, members of the Royal Navy stayed in the cottage. They tried, and failed, to lay a telegraph line to Kintyre. It is remembered that some of them went on to fight and die in World War Two, although the only name remembered is Brian Spillar, thought to be related to the Antrim McDonnells. From a newspaper cuttings the others included Lieutenant-Commander Tate, 'Mr J Colquhoun the scientist', and Biddy the pup.¹¹ Gerry Fitt is probably the best remembered inhabitant of the cottage.

¹¹ 1931 – Experimental Station for Admiralty by the Waters O'Moyle, with seamen ashore at Murlough. *Irish Independent*, Sept 4.



Inscription on the frame of the adjacent photograph.



Photo of the Navy Men given to the Stewarts as a thank you.

8th December 1911, Belfast News-Letter

THE BALLYCASTLE SHIPWRECK

Further Details of the Disaster

A SURVIVOR'S THRILLING STORY

How Mr Maude Met His Fate

Further details that have been received in connection with the sinking of the steamer *Templemore* in Ballycastle Bay go to show that, despite the unfortunate loss of life that took place, the accident might readily have been a much more disastrous one. Indeed, the occurrence was the culminating incident of an adventurous voyage. The *Templemore* left Ellesmere, on the Manchester Canal, on the 4th inst with a cargo of coal for Derry, where she was due about one o'clock on the following day. Early that morning, however, the owners, Messrs Henry Lane & Co, received intimation that during the night a tremendous sea had been shipped, which flooded the engine-room, extinguished the fires, and left the ship at the mercy of wind and wave. Happily the comparative shelter of Murlough Bay was near at hand, and with some manoeuvring the disabled vessel reached there, and anchors were dropped. The crew took to the boat, and although a boiling surf was running along the shores the men, numbering ten in all, rowing along in the dark trying to find a landing place. This they were unable to do, and they began to shout in the hope of attracting attention. In the early hours of the dark drizzly morning, Mrs Daniel Clarke, of The Cottage, Murlough Bay, was awakened by a noise heard above the roaring of the breakers, and came to the conclusion that it proceeded from some people in distress. Hastily getting up, she aroused her husband and other members of the household, and the party rushed towards the beach, carrying torches and lanterns. Mr Clarke soon discovered that the boat was making for a portion of the shore where it would almost inevitably have been smashed to pieces in a few seconds, but by frantically waving his torch and shouting he managed to direct the exhausted crew to a spot where there was some probability of their being able to effect a landing. The men made for this place, and Mr Clarke, rushing into the water up to the waist, succeeded in catching the boat and getting the crew ashore. The poor fellows were soon inside the walls of The Cottage, where their wants were kindly attended to by Mrs Clarke. As soon as possible two of the crew made their way to Lloyd's signal station on Torr Head, and reported the occurrence to the owners at Derry and to Lloyd's. On receipt of the message Mr Joseph N M'Guinness, one of the members of the firm, motored to the scene, and was accompanied by Mr Maude, of Belfast. On their arrival at Murlough Bay, however, they found the sea so rough they were unable to do anything. Meanwhile the steam tug *Earl of Dunraven* had been sent round from Moville, but had temporarily to put into Ballycastle Bay. The crew of the *Templemore* divided, some of them being taken by motor car to Ballycastle and the others remaining in Murlough to watch the vessel.

Between ten and eleven o'clock on the morning of the 6th inst, she broke from her moorings, and while the members of the crew at Murlough were watching her she was driven against the rocks at Fair Head, and afterwards carried out to the channel, where she was picked up by the Laird steamer *Brier* and the tug, as already reported.

The portion of the crew and the surveyor, Mr Maude, who were at Ballycastle, were not aware of the fact that the *Templemore* had been driven on to the rocks, and this circumstance, it is held, may to some extent explain the subsequent accident, as in all probability the vessel sustained damage, which they were not aware of. The main facts of what afterwards occurred have already been reported, but it seems that Mr M'Guinness and Mr John Buchanan, a well-known Strabane motorist, were also on board the vessel when she went under, and both were picked up by the Ballycastle fishermen. But for the gallant conduct of these fishermen and of Mr Clarke at Murlough, it is only too probable that the death roll would have been a much heavier one. Mr Hugh A M'Alister, agent for the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, took charge of the rescued men, and was indefatigable in his attentions to their wants, providing food and clothing, and also sending a car to Murlough for the party there. The injured man Hamill was taken into Mr Wm M'Laughlin's house near the port, and was there attended to by Mrs M'Laughlin, Dr Harper, and Nurse Hipwell. He is now making satisfactory progress. The other members of the crew were sent on to Derry by the 4-10pm train yesterday.

The vessel lies in the bay about three-quarters of a mile from the shore, in about 15 fathoms of water. No trace of the bodies of the drowned men has yet been discovered, and as the sea is still rough the work of the searchers is attended by much difficulty.

Stewarts of Benvan:

The Stewarts are said to have first arrived in Benvan from Scotland in the 1750s, through a brother of the famous James Stewart of the Glen. James was hanged as an accessory to murder in 1752, on the coast above Loch Lomond, the 'Appin Murder' of Colin Campbell. Campbell was a government agent en route to evict local families and replace them with his own, when he

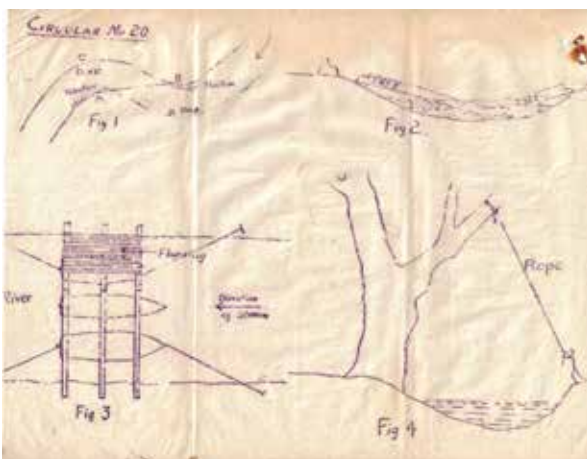
was shot. It is still debated today whether James was guilty. The Stewart family story is that his brother John was in France at the time, and, returning after the execution, fled across the water to Benvan. All of the field names were passed down by Jamie Stewart, a renowned herbalist who was one of the last native speakers of Antrim Gaelic along with his sister Annie (married as Casey in Ballycastle).

The male line of the Stewarts died out in 1937, when Pat Stewart, Jamie's only son, died of tuberculosis. Pat was the Engineering Officer for the Old IRA, and months of hiding out in cold, damp caves, turf banks and ditches caught up with him. For the benefit of future generations who may not know how to ford a river, one of Pat's Engineering Papers will show you how.



Dan McCloy, Jim McKenzie, May McCloy (née Stewart), Jamie Stewart, Annie Casey (née Stewart).

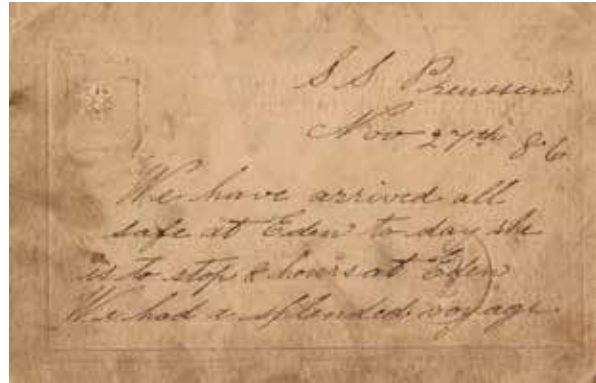
Jamie and Annie Stewart's sister Catherine married into the Gillans of Farranmacarter. Jamie also married into the family; his wife was Mary Gillan. Rose Stewart married John McBride of Torr in 1886, and emigrated to Penrith, New South Wales. They had at least six children but no further details are known. Jamie Stewart and Mary Gillan were married in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, in April 1895, and had returned to Ireland by June 1896.



26th August 1921: Engineering Circular No. 20, River Crossings. G.H.Q. Dublin, Department of Engineering. From Map Reading & Field Sketches (No. 2 Brigade).



May Stewart and Nanny, Bessie, and Daisy.



Telegraph from Eden, 1886 (thought to be Aden in Yemen).



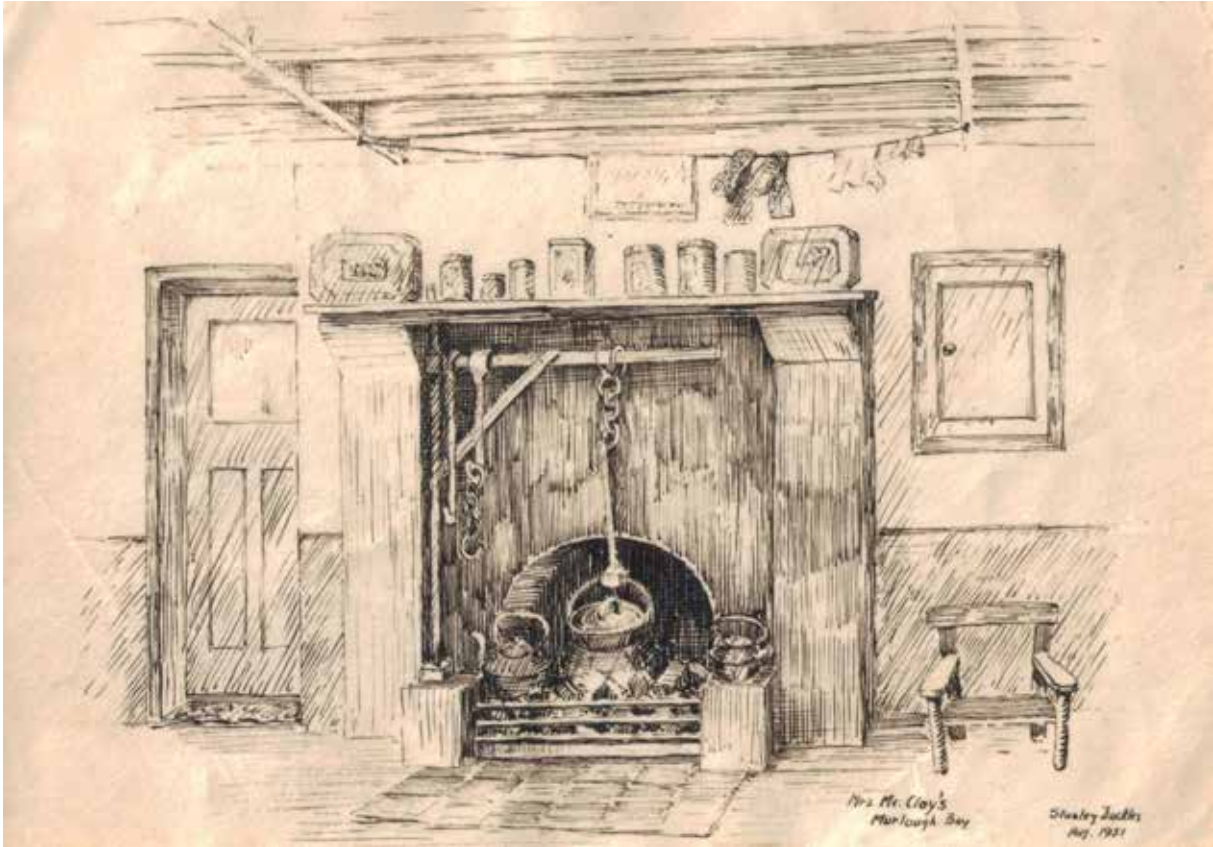
Stewarts of Benvan (May Stewart, cousin Willie Gillan of Losset, Pat and Jamie Stewart).



Polly and Pat Stewart.



Standing – Denis Ireland, Dan McCloy, Bob Davidson. Sitting – unknown, Joseph Tumelty, May McCloy (née Stewart), unknown.



Stanley Duckles' drawing of Benvan, 1951.



Pat and May Stewart as children c.1910, probably their aunts in the back.



Pat & May Stewart, Willie Gillan (Losset) with the byre and stable in the background.

Carrick a Ful is the rock with a cave east of the bothy, with another former boat port in front of it. There are also square foundations below the *Dún* that can be easily seen from the road. Queen's University archaeologists who surveyed it stated that no-one knew what the enclosure originally was or who built it.¹² Pat McCarry Sr of Murlough said that Jamie Stewart used it as a turnip patch, and they were 'sweet as apples'. When the May bulk came in at Carrick a Ful Port the Stewarts would spread it on the turnips and the fields as fertiliser. *The Bothy (or the Miners' Cabin)* was originally a stable converted by Jamie Stewart in the 1930s for the coalminers, while the *Carthouse*, later used as a boathouse, was built in 1890. The date is inscribed on the inside wall with a small shamrock.

Both the *Cottage Path* and the *Net Port Path* were dug by Jamie Stewart (he was still at it into his 80s). There is a story that Jimmy McKinley, the Ballyvoy postman, took the post van down the *Cottage Path* on his first day on

the job with JK O'Neill of Ballypatrick as a passenger. The path was newly dug and looked like a road if you didn't know better. Two sailors are said to have washed up at the *Net Port* and were buried below the cliff, above where the two paths meet. When the British ship *HMS Viknor* was sunk by a German mine off the coast of Donegal in 1915, bodies were washed ashore in Ballycastle, Murlough, and Torr, and most, if not all, are buried in Bun na Margái:

"The second inquest was on the bodies found at Murlough Bay and West Torr. Dr Boylan said the first body found at Murlough was that of a well developed man, about 40 years old and 5 feet 9 inches in height, with dark hair and fair moustache. He had a small rubber inflated collar round his neck and was dressed in grey dungarees, with flannel undervest and white pyjamas. On a small piece of tape was the name, in red letters, 'FW Wilson'. In the pocket was a ring with six keys and a brass disc stamped 'British Key and Property Register, Ltd, 192, Hope Street, Glasgow,' and directions

*as to return if found. The body had been eight to ten days in the water. The second body found at Murlough was that of a man between 30 and 35 years, 5 feet 9 inches high, with dark hair and clean shaven face. On the right forearm was tattooed in blue and red the figure of a woman, with a background of two flags – the Union Jack and Stars and Stripes. Tattooed over the heart in blue capital letter was the word 'Jessie'. The body was dressed in white woollen underclothing and pyjamas, on which was tape bearing a name which was probably 'Kenneth Ballantyne'. The body had been in the water about eight or ten days."*¹³

The fishing co-op at the *Net Port* was run by Jamie Stewart and Hugh McCarry Jr. Once the day's work was done and the Rosary said, Jamie would go out to the wall before the *Rodden*, and look down to see if there was a shoal of glasán lying off the *Net Port*. If there was, a white sheet or a flour bag was raised to let the McCarrys know to come down to bring the net in. There's a 13-verse song titled 'The Murlough Mariners',

12 O'Neill, P. & Gordon, L. (2013) Survey of the Doon Enclosure at Murlough Bay, County Antrim. *Ulster Archaeological Society*, Survey Report no 17.

13 1915 – Victims of the Disaster, Inquest held at Ballycastle. *Belfast News Letter*, Jan 27.

referring to a row about the sale of a haul of glasán in Ballycastle. As far as is known, Jamie and Hugh were guilty of not giving the Colliery workers from Ballyreagh, and other Carey folk their fair share of the profits. Pat McCarry Sr had heard the story, but not the specifics, mainly because 'there were

always wars going on about fish down there' and it's hard to distinguish one war from another. Pat told a story about a night when he was a young boy, going round Carey with D.P. Osborne trying to sell a trailer of glasán filled to the top of the sideboards. D.P. was charging two shillings a bag, when Pat was sent

into Mrs Mulholland in Ballyvennaght he charged her half a crown, as he wanted sixpence for himself. When Mrs Mulholland found out a day or two later what the neighbours had been charged, D.P. got the blame and Pat pretended he didn't know any better, 'Sure I was only wee'.

Murlough Mariners

"This was an argument about a large haul of fish, caught at Murlough, which was taken by boat to Ballycastle to be sold to the townsfolk. I think the 'wee Hugh' was Hugh McCarry of Murlough...the 'Boys above the Brae' I feel were others from Carey, and the 'guilty' were Hugh McCarry and Jamie Stewart." Annie Stewart was Jamie's sister, married as Casey in Ballycastle. She's in the 1911 Census on Anne Street as a confectioner. Johnny Connor, Dan McBride, and Bob Butler are thought to be from Cross. The Colliery Boys were either in the Row or at Coolanlough.

*Come all you youth of Carey, I hope you will attend,
And listen to my statement, and take it as a friend.
For that's if you don't want to learn roguery,
I will tell you what to do –
It's to keep away from the Net Port and Wee Hugh.*

*Some of them have salesmen, and the rest of them go round.
Stewart is going to get a man, he lives somewhere in town.
He's not a man of honour, he's just a man his lone,
He's the ranting, roving Irish boy, his name is Hugh Malone.*

*Stewart is a ruffian, and a noted rogue as well.
He tried to cheat the Colliery boys, the truth to you I'll tell.
The Colliery boys are manly, they had the Captain like a mouse,
He thought to call a meeting for to build a house.*

*The meeting was to be and the barn was the place,
The first thing that I laughed at was the hair on Stewart's face.
Stewart looked very pale, 'Do you think they will come?'
He sat down like a monkey and started to chew his thumb.
The Scorpion, he got up, you know he's not very tall,
But his voice rang like thunder through his father's granary hall.*

*Thanks be to the Almighty, and our noble chairman too,
And that is Johnny Conner, a man that is well to do.
The facts he showed them up clearly, and them he did defy,
The first thing that I noticed was that Stewart was going to cry.*

*Wee Hugh, he tried to shush him, but the Captain weeped and wailed,
When the chairman got up to his feet and asked 'what about the sail?'
There is another thing you two in view, I know that it was mean,
Going down to the plantin to take the net boat for to stream.*

*The cargo that went to the Quay, from that the trouble all arose,
What they done with the money, I'll tell you how it goes;
Neil Blaney stood amazed, and years had bowed him down,
"I'll try to buy your fish, I'll give you half a Crown."*

*Dan McBride is tall, he lifts his head with pride,
"Before we take your offer, we'll throw them in the tide."
Bob Butler, he gets up, he gasped all around,
"I'll go and get the Nortons and wheel them up the town."
McBride says: "This will take too long, it will become some expense"
Stewart says: "among us all, we have only thirteen pence."*

*Stewart is very hard to dodge, it's him you could not snare,
The first thing I noticed was Connor and the mare.
They got them into the cart and started up the town,
They had not many offers, that's what Stewart said –
"I'd be better making Duania in the caves below Fair Head."*

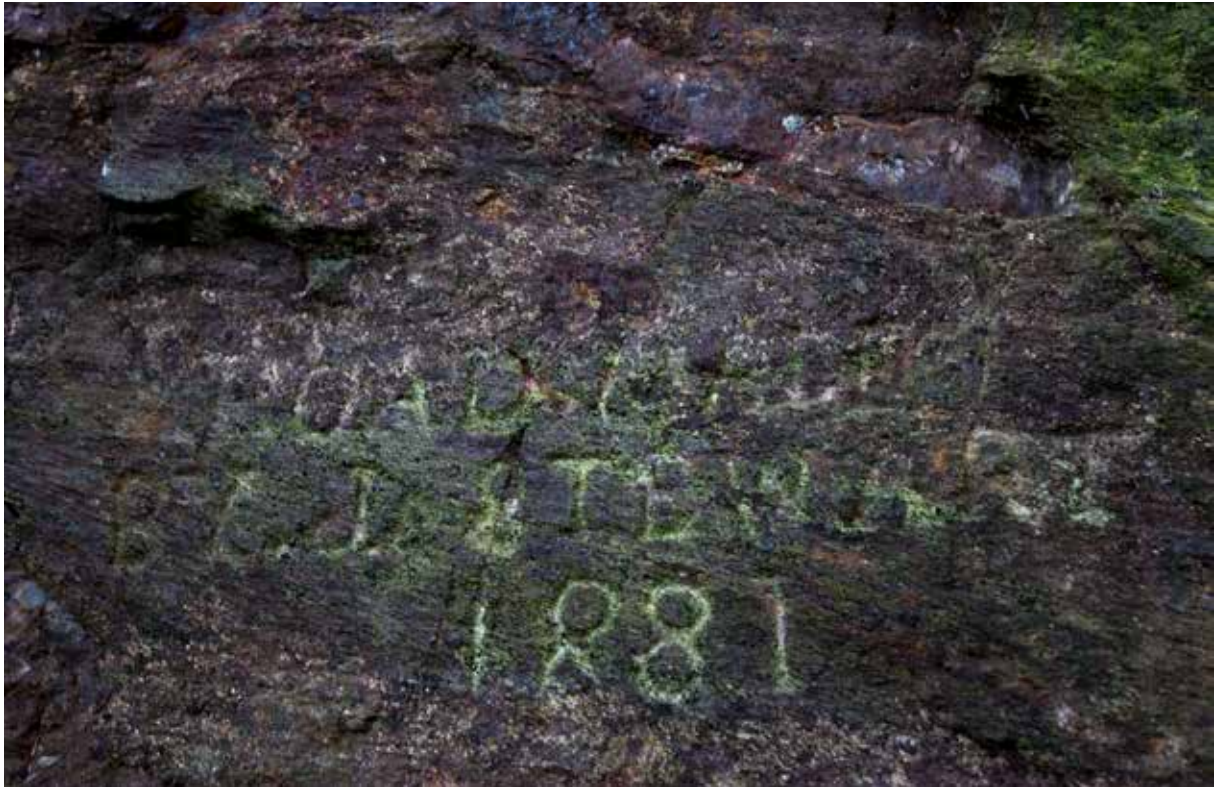
*When the Captain came to Annie Stewart's, he said he would have to dine,
"So it's better Mr Connor, for you to go and get your lime."
The evening it was wet, and the paddles were not strong,
"Pull away McBride, and I'll sing a song."*

*The songs they sang, the rocks they rang, they had drinks galore,
They finished their last noggin just fair at Carrickmore.
The Captain got to his feet, "McBride hold out your hand.
There's seven and sixpence, I have that for every man."*

*McBride sat in laughter,
I saw him wipe his brow.
He says he'll buy an animal be it big or small,
"I'll buy a kangaroo, I hear they sell them in Cushendall."*

*Stewart says "keep steady boys, the summer is at hand.
You know I'll have excursions and not across the land.
The boat is very hard to pull, it would leave you very frail,
I'll keep the money of the crew and buy the boat a sail."*

*When he told it to the wife, she says "It is Jamie dear,
Be of good counsel, for your hair is turning grey.
Your roguish plans will never last with the Boys above the Brae."*



Road built by J Stewart 1881.

Paddy Scally's Garden is named after Paddy Beag Scally, who was in *Benvan* when the Stewarts first arrived around 1750, while the *Cove* is a cart house cut out of the rock face by

Jamie Stewart, adjacent to the homestead. Jamie Stewart built the *Low Barn* in 1877 before he took to the sea, and the *Big Barn* with his son Pat in 1922. It was an extension to a

smaller building where a McQuilken family once lived prior to the Famine. The inscribed stones are still on both barns and the *Cove*.



Paddy Scally's garden.



Old fank between Doonasay and the Scotsman's Hollow.

Aidan's Corner is named after Aidan Doyle, an itinerant who made Benvan his home for a while, in a similar manner to Dusty Rhodes. The corner that bears his name is where he spent many hours singing songs. Dan McCloy built the *Car House*, while the *Explosive Bank* is reputed to be misdirected ordnance from nearby U.S. troops stationed during World War Two. Pat McCarry Sr said they were set up on Kiln Hill in Knockbrack. Laragh was ploughed for spuds and hay, while the Big Garden once held raspberries, blackcurrants, redcurrants, and apple trees. Ellen McQuilken and Johnny Scally are two names amongst many that would have cut turf on *Contan Mountain*.

"Rhu Bahn is Benvan (formerly Goiter Point) with the old hideout caves. Rhu Dubh is on the Torr side, below Lig a Happel, along the shore. I do think both took their names from the colour of the rocks...the former being a pale shade of basalt & the latter much darker...almost black"

The Smuggler's Cave was for rum. It looks like a souterrain, with a fank (stone walled sheep pen) over the top of it. You can only see this from a boat, but there's a line of stones leading up to it from *Port Navna*. There was another cave higher up the hill that fell in years ago.

The story of *Port Navna* in Benvan is that it means "the calf's port", as one had washed up there. The townland of Carricknagavna in Armagh has the following story behind its name:

"A local tale tells of an enchanted cow which could fill any vessel with milk. The cow gave birth to a heifer which in turn gave birth to a calf. The owner got married and such was the extent of his boasting about his three cattle that his wife decided to put his enchanted cow to the test. One particular day she began to milk the cow into a strainer and being unable to fill the strainer, the cow took off with her heifer and her heifer's calf. They gave three enormous jumps before jumping into the

*sea and each place they landed they left three great stones, each bigger than the other. Three such stones exist in the townland and this is the popular folk etymology for the name."*¹⁴

Benvan was also the headquarters of the local IRA battalion during the War of Independence, and hosted the training camps for the entire 3rd Northern Division during the Truce. Sixty men a week passed through in the six weeks prior to the aborted Northern Rising of May 1922. There was also a running gun-battle over the Ballyucan hills, between the IRA and the Ulster Special Constabulary in mid-July 1922, after the interception of a communique about an arms shipment en route to the Net Port. The interviews with the Bureau of Military History give more detail, but there isn't much missed out in the police reports either (that should be a fair clue of how it all ended up). Of the pile of papers left behind, this poem written by Dusty Rhodes about May Stewart is the best:

OSLAIG NA h-ÉIREANN.

HEADQUARTERS,

Department

Bosky Murlough Bay

BATTALION,

2nd BRIGADE,

Sweet Murlough when I look at thee
When all the leaves are green
Primroses bloom on every bank
While the grass is emerald green
So there awhile with my true love
I'd dearly like to stay,
Close sheltered by the spreading grove
In Bosky Murlough Bay.
Fair Head is looming close at hand
Above the swelling tide
Where high o'er head the dark rocks stand
As the ships by Rathlin glide
So there when summer flowers appear on every bank and brae
I love to stray with my dear by Bosky Murlough Bay.

Thy giant rocks are with me yet
The guardians of our land
They stand where the white billows fret
Against the silvery sand strand
The ferns appear amidst the wood
They gem the flowery brae
Where oft enraptured I have stood
By Bosky Murlough Bay.

Bosky Murlough Bay.

The Old Hunter farm

1. Hunter's Gate;
2. Ilk;
3. Ilk Gate;
4. Ilk Quarry;
5. Magee Village;
6. The Meadows;
7. The Mountain;
8. Turf Road.

The Hunters lived here before it was sold to the current owner, and the two stone pillars standing across the *Turf Road* marked the boundary between two Hunter brothers, James and John. It's also the townland boundary between Tor Glas and Goodland, though it is unknown which side the brothers were on.



Pat Dennis' grandmother Mary Hunter (née McLister) feeding the pigs in Ballyucan.



James Hunter (1867-1937), Mary's husband.



John Hunter in Ballyucan.



L-R Jamie Stewart (Benvan), unknown, unknown, Margaret Butler (née Hunter Ballyucan), unknown, unknown, Mary Hunter (Ballyucan), May Stewart (Benvan), unknown.

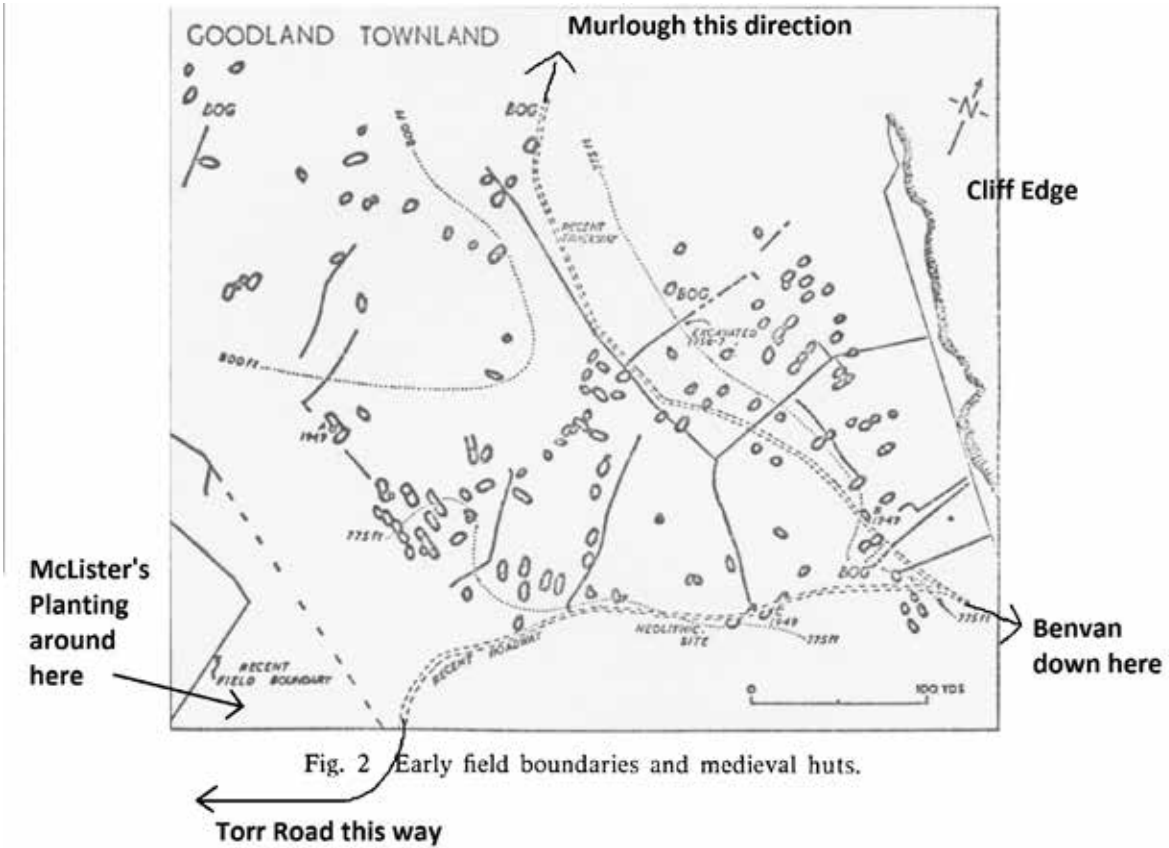


Jimmy Davidson, Hugh Duncan, John Hunter, Pat Mulholland, poss PJ Davidson, Bob Hunter, John Quinn, Johnny Butler (Craigfad), Sean Butler, unknown, Bonzo the dog.



Pat Mulholland, John Hunter, John Quinn - Ballyucan 1947.

Ilk is said to be where the remains of an Irish elk were found. Although it became extinct between 8,000 and 10,000 years ago many skeletons were found, preserved in bogs, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. *The Magee Village* is known better in archaeological circles as the Goodland Plantation.^{15,16} It refers to one of the few Catholic Plantations in Ireland during the sixteenth century, with a similar settlement to the village surrounding Dún Libhse (Dunluce). There are over 130 earthen huts in the village, with opposing doors, making it easier to bring the milking cow in at night and out in the morning. The site was previously used for booleying, as well as a Neolithic settlement.¹⁷ The first gate on the lane to Benvan after Hunters is called *The Pass*.



Outline of the village.¹⁸



Outline of the foundations of some of the house, Islay and the Paps of Jura in the background.

15 Horning, A. (2004) Archaeological Explorations of Cultural Identity and Rural Economy in the North of Ireland: Goodland, Co. Antrim. *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*, 8(3), pp. 199-215.

16 Case, H.J., Dimbleby, G.W., Mitchell, G.F., Morrison, M.E.S. and Proudfoot, V.B. (1969) Land Use in Goodland Townland, Co. Antrim, from Neolithic Times until Today. *The Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, 99(1), pp. 39-53.

17 SM7-ANT-009-043.

18 Case et al (1969).

Duncan

1. Scally's;
2. Ivy Field;
3. McFall's Brae;
4. Middle Field;
5. Meadow Field;
6. School Field;
7. Lane Field;
8. Joe's Spout;
9. The Gate;
10. Burn Field;
11. Flax Dams;
12. Brae Field;
13. Mossy Field;
14. Mountain Fields.



McNeill 1823-1874 (Barnish).

The Gate refers to the old gate that crossed the Torr Road at the top of Duncan's lane. The OSM mentions an ancient spring, and a fairy haunt on what was then John Duncan's farm.¹⁹ The spring was described as a holy well, formerly arched over by a stone

building. It was used as a site for the Stations of the Cross, as well as a cure for disease and ailments. However it had fallen into ruins by the 1830s. There's no living memory of this story or the site, although there is a spring on the farm called *Joe's Spout*. The fairy haunt was a large stone, then called the *Seanbhean* (old woman), but there is no memory of where it could be. It was described as being 'illuminated at night' and a 'seat of supernatural voices'. The *OS Memoirs* also mentioned there were ancient wooden vessels containing butter, as well as steel weapons from the 1798 Rebellion, found in the bogs in Goodland, likely those cut for turf on *Contan Mountain*. The ground over the parish boundary from the *Mountain Fields* is called *Lizzie's*, thought to be after a Lizzie McNeill. There was a Miss Lizzie McNeill of Ballyucan letting ground in 1908,²⁰ while Archibald McNeill held the ground called *Lizzie's* in 1843.

Scally's and *McFall's Brae* take their names from the two families who lived in the wallstead where the two fields meet, at the Torr Road. Pat McCarry Sr said the wallstead was in two halves, one Scally and the other McFall. Johnny Scally and his parents John (from Torr) and Annie Kane (the late Seamus Kane's aunt from Ballyvennaght) were the last of the Scallys. Johnny married a teacher from Ballyucan School, and they moved down the Warren. From an interview with Pat McCarry Sr: "Well he'd *have been earlier than me for he used to keep goals for Carey, wee Johnny Scally. They bought that big house down the Warren, that house that's for*

¹⁹ OSM pg 74.

²⁰ 1908 – E.F. M'Cambridge's Sales – *Coleraine Chronicle*, November 14.

sale there now. He lived there for years, I was in that house whenever he was living in it. When I built this house here Johnny did a good bit of the joinery work. He was a joiner, of sorts, he was a handyman like everybody else at that time."

The McFalls moved to Ballycastle before Pat built his house in Ballyucan in the 1960s. Paddy McFall is pictured in the Ballyucan School photograph from 1939.



*Standing: Paddy McFall, Rose McAllister, Frank & Frances McCarry
Kneeling: Gerard, Hugh, Monica and Pat McCarry.*

Description of Murlough, 1843

from the Hall's travel book of 1843.²¹ The cottage sounds like the one beside the boat port, with the tenants probably Clarkes:

"There are spots – small unrecorded places – nooks hid beneath cliff or mountain, mere corners of the Island, that altogether escape the tourist who bowls along the splendid roads which render the great leading features of the scenery of the county of Antrim so easy of examination. Let the visitor on no account omit to inspect this Bay – a scene of unspeakable grandeur and beauty. The road, or rather path, as we have intimated, has a rude grandeur befitting the magnitude of the objects to which it conducts, and the whole aspect of the country is remarkably stern. Rain-clouds gathered about Fairhead, and by their rising and falling intimated a showery, if not a stormy, day. Nothing could surpass the splendour of the various colours thrown upon the clouds by the sun; the sea was heaving and swelling in huge masses of

21 Mr & Mrs SC Hall (1843) Ireland: Its Scenery, Character, &c Vol III. Jeremiah How: London.

lead-coloured water, but the crests of the 'sea-horses' had not broken into foam, even when divided by the reefs of the rocks; they approached slowly and solemnly; there was nothing of the usual wild splashing or roaring; they came on with dark, uncrested heads, and passed over the rocks as unworthy of notice; scorning their opposition – they divided with hardly a curl, and were lost in the wide-spreading caverns, or dispersed upon the shore. We descended towards the shore through Doctor McDonnell's farm, to Murlough Bay; then indeed the beauties of varied cultivation gathered fresh interest from their location amid rocks and mountains. The steep and abrupt footpath, was occasionally overshadowed by thick growing brush-wood, which at times, protected by intervening cliffs and projecting headlands from the strong sea wind, grew to a considerable height, and were arrayed in their full summer leaves; beneath their shade the grass grew long and thin, and of the palest green, from amid many-coloured moss; and the innumerable wild-flowers wreathing together according to the fantasie of nature, made it difficult to proceed without pausing to gather some at every step; the music of a mimic waterfall was ever with us; leaping down some steep bank, foaming and fretting into a thousand sparkling atoms, as it forced its way round fragments of rock, and over the smooth fair stones it had polished. A brown rabbit looked more than once down upon our path from its fastness, moving first one and then the other ear, until it vanished as suddenly as it appeared. The crops in this exquisite glen looked clean and abundant, and betokened good farming; there was no waste of useful land, and we should have loitered much longer on our descent, but that the rain-clouds began to pour forth upon us, and we stood under the protecting branches of a wide-spreading thorn tree. We were soon joined by a poor woman, who was going to the shore to gather delisk. In the south no shower would have driven a woman to seek the shelter afforded even by a tree, unless invited to do so by 'the gentry,' or at least without prefacing her act by a request.

"Plaze ye'r honours, would ye have anything agin me, if I'd stand out of the way of the rain (God bless it), which 'ill be through and through me in less than no time, on account of my having but small covering (saving your presence), to keep out the illiments, glory be to God!"

But the northerns are more terse, and seem to have a poet's lines more frequently before them,

*"The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
The man's the gou'd for a' that."*

The woman eyed us attentively, and then inquired in a very peculiar patois, 'if we had travelled far, and knew many?' We replied; and she continued with good-natured feeling, and the brusque northern manner, 'that it would be better to get down to the house where we'd have a dry lodging till the boat came round.' We agreed.

Without wasting another word, she took possession of our books and a useless parasol, which she rolled up in the tail of her gown, and set off at a 'swinging trot' before us; the descent became every moment more abrupt; but the delisk gatherer trudged on, turning round occasionally to laugh at our more deliberate movements, and assuring us that nothing was better for the health than climbing crags, and eating delisk for breakfast; at last we came to the shelter she promised us in Murlough Bay.

The hut was low, and built of shingles; it consisted of but one room. Nevertheless, it was clean, orderly, and to us, accustomed to southern cottages, comfortable. An old woman was spinning, and a cheerful girl, plain, but of a pleasant countenance, was in the act of putting some small fish into the everlasting three-legged pot. 'Ech!' she exclaimed, 'but the leddy is wet;' and down she knelt to pull off our shoes and chafe our feet; while the good dame hung up our dripping cloaks, and assured us it would be fine by-and-bye; and then she would have us sit close to the fire; and after some whispering between mother and daughter, a little round table was brought from the dark corner, and covered by a clean white cloth; and the little fish were dished, and potatoes, full and floury, raked from out the ashes; and if we had not partaken of this genuine hospitality, we should have given offence to those who meant so kindly. The old woman spoke with clannish devotion of her old landlord, Doctor MacDonnel. She only wished he was able to come to Murlough Bay; and then she was sure he would build her another 'hoose'. She was quite self-possessed from the moment we entered until we departed; there was no southern shyness mingled with the national hospitality; the ease of the manner of this poor woman and her daughter was perfectly well-bred. When she had placed all she had to offer, both asked permission to resume their wheels; and they conversed with us, and speculated on the weather. And the old woman spoke of the traditional feuds between the Macquillans and the MacDonnells; and assured us that Fairhead was better worth seeing than the Causeway; and told how her husband and her other children were at 'wark' in the Doctor's fields. And, at last, when the boat came in sight, and the rain ceased, she rose, 'cloaked' us carefully, and clasping her hands, bade God bless us, with a rustic grace and earnestness we have not forgotten; the girl watched our departure, but the mother immediately returned to her wheel. We have often thought of the humble cottage of Murlough Bay. We do not remember to have seen one where industry and cheerfulness made a braver stand against poverty."



Upper Scornaghs, Benvan, December 2018.

Hugh and his brother Patrick.



McCarry Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Cothotrin / ... / ...;
2. Crookanboeoy / Cnoc an Bhuaigh / Hill of the victory;
- 3-4. Cushlan (& Cushlan Gap) / Cuisleán / Overgrown stream; soft green strip in bog;
- 5-6. Fadnamook Fargams (& Fadnamook Gap) / Fad na Muc Fargán
Long ledge for pigs;
7. Lough Fadden / Loch Pháidín / Páidín's lough;
8. Port Doo / Port Dubh / Black port;
9. Arched mine;
10. Bay Houses;
11. Big Field;
12. Chapman's Mine;
13. Councillor's Planting;
14. Goodman's Mine;
15. Fall Point;
16. North Gate;
17. North Grazing;
18. Powder House (or
Manager's House);
19. Rough Side;
20. Sandstone Quarry;
21. Stage Rock;
22. The Sight Rock;
23. Wee Field;
24. Whinny Hill;
25. White Mine.

the time as a land agent.³

It is believed the McCarrys came to Murlough between 1838 and 1848. The OSM described a site that was then on Daniel McCormick's ground, by 1848 that area was part of "McCarray's grazing farm".⁴ The rumours were the McCarrys were either relocated (evicted) from Garron Tower when it was being built, or from Glenarm Castle in 1803, when the garden was being extended.⁵

Pat Dennis heard the first McCarray had married a McDonnell heiress, and they sailed into Murlough with the heiress sitting on a chest of gold, hiding it below her long dress. Pat McCarray Sr said the first time he went to the sheep sales in Cushendall he was asked his name by an old man. When Pat said he was a McCarray of Murlough the owl boy said "you're the ones that sailed away with the gold." Frances Duncan started chasing these stories 40 years ago, and we're no closer to finding the gold now than she was then.

The first McCarray we know of in Murlough was John. His first wife was Mary McKiernan, thought to be from Garron Point, who sadly died. They had a daughter Mary (b.1843), who married Daniel McKinlay of Coolranny. John's second wife was Alice Clarke. They had two sons Patrick (b.1844) and Hugh (b.1846). It is suspected there might be a third son John Junior, who emigrated to Philadelphia in the late 1800s. Hugh married Mary McBride of Cross, and all the McCarrys in Carey are descended from them. Patrick never married, but was a Justice of the Peace, and sat on the Ballycastle Board of Guardians. Hugh was also on the Board of Guardians. All that's known about Patrick is what can be found on the Petty Sessions and Board of Guardians reports:

"Mr Daniel M'Kinley said the road from Ballycastle to Ballintoy should have been added. They had practically got no concession whatever. Mr M'Carry – Ballycastle has got as much as it

*deserves. (Laughter)."*⁶

Frances Duncan (née McCarray, Murlough, married Hugh Duncan, Drumnakeel) wrote the following of her father's (Frank) and her grandparent's (Hugh & Mary) life in Murlough in the late 1800s.

"They kept a big byre of cows – not to sell milk because they were too far from any market, but to produce butter. The churn was driven by horses, and Mary and her eldest daughters made and packed butter. The wooden tubs were still lying about when I was a youngster [1930s]. The butter was sold in Coleraine market to buyers from Derry, where it was used in the manufacture of confectionary and biscuits. The men in the family became involved with the sheep and cattle trade. At the peak of their activities they were shipping cattle weekly from Belfast to Liverpool. As butter making activities waned, the habit of keeping more cows than usual continued. The

3 1838 - Randal M'Donnell, Esq, Agent for Lloyd's, Murlough. *Belfast News Letter*, April 10.

4 1850 – Action for Damage to a Farm by a Colliery Company. M'Donnell v Kenneth and others, defendants. *Belfast News Letter*, July 26.

5 Pat McBride (Ballyreagh Lower) had the Glenarm story, the McCarrys have the Garron Tower one.

6 1906 – Ballycastle Board of Guardians. *Coleraine Chronicle*, February 24.

household was practically self-sufficient with milk, butter, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, table fowl and fish all home produced. But the horse ring now drove a threshing mill, and home grown oats provided corn and straw for horses, cows and fowl. Farm hands got free milk and sometimes butter when it was plentiful. The bean-

a-toige made her own bread and jam. Flour was bought every two weeks in a hundred weight bag, and the head of the household would select a good bag of oatmeal for the family porridge and oatcakes when he visited the mill. Fish, eggs, rabbits and hares, and the game fowl of the hills and marshes supplemented the diet so that butcher's

meat once a week was ample. We were self-sufficient in those days and we had no money."

Frances also wrote of her father Frank that he: "... was always scolding the boys 'the sheep are your bread and butter', he'd say, when he thought we hadn't our priorities right!"



Hugh McCarry Sr.



Hugh's wife Mary (née McBride of Cross).



Murlough McCarrys 1950 - L-R: Pat, Monica, Hugh, Frances, Frankie, Kathleen, Gerard at the front. Hugh McCarry Sr and Mary McBride are their grandparents.



Hugh and his brother Patrick beside the cross.



Murlough McCarrys 1920.

1st row: unknown, son Hugh McCarry, possibly grandson Hugh McDonnell.

2nd row: Hugh Sr and wife Mary, son James.

3rd row: Father James Small, Father McBride (Greenans), son-in-law PJ McBride (Greenans), daughter Annie, daughter Mona, daughter Lizzie, son-in-law David Kane (Belfast), daughter-in-law Mary McArdle (Castleblaney), daughter-in-law Mary Ann Boylan (Garvagh), son Dan.

4th row: Son Joe, Joseph McBride (Greenans), son-in-law Harry Sheehan (Belfast).

Fieldnames:

The *Fall Point* refers to a major rock fall in the late eighteenth century, the rocks past the *Arched Mine* are the *Lower Fall*, while the ledge up above it leading into the cliff is the *Upper Fall*. William Chapman was an Englishman who tried and failed with his mine in 1790, while Richard Goodman was a Dubliner who worked the mines in the 1760s. The *Bay Houses* were the miners' accommodation. Both

the *Bay Houses* and the *Powder House* are marked as ruins on the 1832 OS map, therefore they must date from either Goodman's time, or that of John Montgomery and Malcolm McNeill in the 1780s. Montgomery and McNeill were merchants from Larne, who also took the lease to Glenarm Colliery. They petitioned Parliament in 1785 for assistance to build two places to ship coal in Murlough, and commissioned a plan

of an intended harbour in Ballyucan in 1789. It's likely that this harbour was the *Stage Rock Pier*; the *Ring Stone* is named after its mooring ring. Other attempted mining operations include that of the Murlough Bay Mining Company (Owen and Kenneth) in the late 1840s, T.B. Marshall about 1878, a man called Jamieson about 1893, and John Reid (Dublin) around 1918. Marshall and Jamieson appear to be the last to

ship coal out from the *Stage Rock Pier*.⁷ John Reid abandoned the mines due to the cost of transport, because he couldn't get support to rebuild the pier he had to cart it up the hill.⁸ The last to work the mines was James Delargy of Glenballyeamon, who used the coal to run his limeworks until it closed in the 1960s.⁹ The Bothy in Goodland was converted into the miner's house in the 1930s. Chrissie Laverty remembered "Henry McMullan from Glenravel, who came up to Benvan at night to get milk & eggs from mammy...he wore his carbide coal miners lamp to guide his way." The coal in Murlough wasn't suitable as household coal as it didn't burn well and sparked a fair bit, though Frances Duncan wrote that 'during the last war one was glad to get it'.

A court case from 1850 gives more detail on the extent of the work of the Murlough Bay Mining Company: *"In the year 1848 the defendants came upon those lands, and commenced to sink shafts for coals, and continued to do so until they had sunk about 80 shafts. They had erected cottages, machinery, and constructed tramroads, on which the carriages were drawn by horses, and not driven by steam power; and they had established a port and harbour for shipping their coals, or for vessels bringing anything they might require from Ballycastle or adjoining country. The whole of Mecarry's grazing farm had, in fact, become a perfect common, wholly unsuited for any purpose whatsoever, by the embankments, and roads, and tramways which*

were made upon it by defendants."¹⁰ The Stage Rock Pier was definitely rebuilt, or even first built, by this company, described as running 'from the land to the two rocks in the sea, and extended about eighty feet'. A row of houses was also built; it appears that the Bay Houses were rebuilt. The mines employed 120 men, while blacksmith and carpenter shops had also been built, along with a dwelling for the storekeeper. One of the witnesses, County Magistrate JS Moore, is thought to have been referring to Montgomery and McNeill when he said: *"There was an effort made, a good many years ago, by two persons, to sink for coals there, and they broke themselves by it."*¹¹



Coal mines from the 1st Ed OS (c.1830).



The same area in the 2nd Ed OS (c.1860), showing the changes made by the mining company as outlined in court.

7 Wright (1924: 77) *The Geology of the Ballycastle Coalfields*.

8 Figgis et al (1921: 165) *Memoirs of the Coalfields of Ireland*.

9 Morgan (2006: 103-105) *By the Moyle Shore Vol II*.

10 1850 - Action for Damage to a Farm by a Colliery Company. M'Donnell v Kenneth and others, defendants. *Belfast Newsletter*, July 26.

11 1850 - County of Antrim Assizes, M'Donnell v Kenneth and others. *Northern Whig*, July 25.

16th July 1850, Banner of Ulster

IRISH ANTHRACITE COAL.

THE MURLOUGH BAY COMPANY beg to call the attention of LIME-BURNERS to the following letter:-

(Copy of a Letter from Mr W Campbell, Garron Point.)
"Tower, May 24, 1850.

R. KENNITH, Esq. - Sir - Being from home, and not having quite tested the Murlough Coals for Burning Lime when your note arrived, I could not immediately reply; I, however, now beg to state that, after giving them a fair trial, by one of the most experienced Lime-Burners in this part of the country, we find they are making a *very superior Lime, really excellent* for all building purposes, and in *quantity to each ton beyond* what I have formerly got from the Caprington Coal; and I also beg to say, I am really pleased and satisfied with the manner in which they are now working. My Lime-Burner informs me that they are not quite so speedy, but require more time in burning than the Caprington Coal; yet, if properly managed and understood in the working, they are *decidedly superior*.

I am, Sir, with respect, your most obedient servant,
W. CAMPBELL"

The Company are now prepared to supply any quantity of this very superior article, delivered at Belfast or Derry, at 9s 6d per ton, or at their shipping place, put on board, at 5s 6d per ton.

N.B. - Depth of water at jetty, 15 feet: despatch in loading, above 30 tons per hour.

Apply to Mr. ROBERT LYONS, 24 Great George's Street, Belfast; Mr. S. MORRISON, Ship Agent, Londonderry; and at the Works or Ballycastle, to Mr. ROBERT KENNITH.

Advertisement for Murlough coal from the Banner of Ulster, July 1850.

FAIR HEAD HARBOUR COMPANY.

This Harbour will be on the site of the proposed shortest Telegraph Route between Great Britain and Ireland.

Provisionally registered, 7 & 8 Vic., cap. 110.
 Capital £250,000 in shares of £1 each, to be paid on allotment.

The Fair Head Mining Company, the property of which is adjacent to the Harbour, have agreed to set aside one-fifth of their net annual profits towards the payment of the dividends, by means of which it is expected, that the Shareholders in this Company will receive a minimum dividend of 6 per cent. per annum.

OFFICES.—No. 28, Cornhill, London.

TRUSTEES.
 The Right Hon. The Earl of Devon.
 The Lord Kingsale.
 Lieutenant Colonel Brandling.

DIRECTORS.
 The EARL OF DEVON, Chairman.
 The Lord Kingsale, Kinsale, Ireland.
 John Allan, Esq., (Messrs. Allan, Duffell, & Co., Calcutta,) Heath Field Lodge, Chisellhurst.
 Lieutenant Colonel Brandling, 10, Gloucester-place, Portman-square.
 Captain Denny, (Committee of the General Ship-Owners' Society.) Firm of Denny, Clarke & Co., Great St. Helen's.
 Francis Charles Fitz-Roy, Esq., 6, Cadogan-place, Belgrave-square.
 The Hon. Adolphus Graves, Gravesend House, Devonport.
 John Holland, Esq., Hastings.
 The Hon. Capt. Hotham, R.N.U.S. Club & Brighton.
 Capt. W. B. Mouppenny, R.N. United Service Club.

Share advert for the Fair Head Harbour Company, 1852. The Earl of Antrim took Lord Kingsale to court in 1859 over the Murlough mines, so it's presumed the Company refers to the Stage Rock Pier, and not Carrickmore or Ballyvoy. Circular to Bankers.

Prior to the mining company work, Murlough had been described in 1840 as '*producing an abundance of corn*'.¹² A tourist guide also said that the '*crops in this exquisite glen looked clean and abundant, and betokened good farming; there was no waste of useful land*'.¹³ I asked Pat McCarry Sr where did he think the crops would be, '*everywhere they could get*' was the reply.

Port Dubh is named after the black rocks on the shoreline, while *Cothotrin* is said to be the site of a second church, with a bullán close by. Pat Sr said an archaeologist visited the bullán with students years ago, and told Pat that bulláns were never too far away from a church. The last of a wallstead is across from the bullán, but it's more likely an old fank or a mining building than a church.

The *Fadnamook* and *Cushlan Gaps* are old sheep trails through cracks in the cliff top, that took previous generations down to Murlough. Both are now so overgrown and fallen away the Grey Man himself would do well to blow through them. The miners heading down to the *Arched Mine* from *Cúl an Locha* in Cross did not need such luxuries as a sheep

12 Lewis, S. (1840: 441) *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* Vol I. S Lewis & Co: London.

13 Mr & Mrs SC Hall (1843: 142) *Ireland: Its Scenery, Character, &c* Vol III. Jeremiah How: London.

trail, their preferred route was at the burn running over the cliff past the *Fadnamook Gap*, where a big larch stood on its end against the cliff, and steel pins were used as steps.

The *North Grazing* runs from the boundary wall at the *Big Field*, along the shoreline to the *Arched Mine*. It would be below the road, while the *Fadnamook* is above it. A 1924 geological report includes two alternate names for *Fadnamook Fargans*; *Farragan-na-muck* (from John Reid), and *Fiadh-na-muck* (Stephen Clarke).¹⁴ The OSM described a find, that from the directions given is somewhere in

the *Fadnamook*: “...in a rocky hill in the holding of *Daniel McCormick*, were discovered, about 1798, a vault about 8 feet long, 5 feet broad and 4 feet high, and in the interior of which lay, at some distance one from another, 5 earthen urns each containing black ashes, but the urns so decayed that they crumbled down on being removed. Informants *Daniel McCormick*, *John Duncan*, *John Clarke* and many others.”¹⁵ There is what looks like a souterrain without the capstones in the *Fadnamook*, but it’s not known if this is the same as that described in the OSM.

The *Councillor’s Planting* was named after Patrick McCarry the J.P., who replanted it in the late 1800s, while the *Sandstone Quarry* was supposedly used to found St Patrick’s Church in Barnish. The *Councillor’s Planting* also holds one of the Stations of the Cross. The best guess is that it runs through Big House, from Kilmologe to Cnoc an Óir. There is another route that is said to run from Cross, past Murlough, on the way to Torr. The Benvan version has the current cross as the 13th Station.

Black (of Big House)

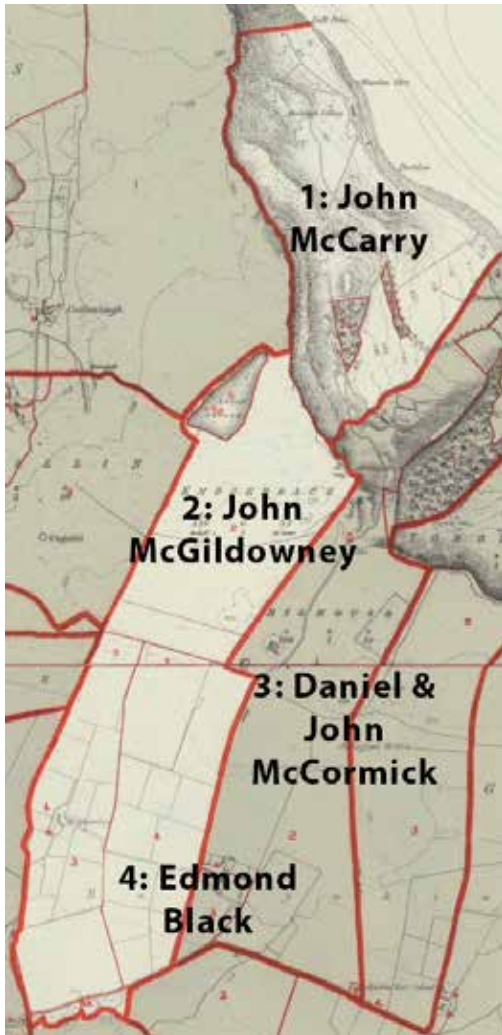
- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Machaire Buí; | 8. Pond Field; |
| 2. Dub Field; | 9. Quarry Field; |
| 3. Kiln Field; | 10. Stile Field; |
| 4. Long Field; | 11. Stone Parks; |
| 5. McCormick’s Wallstead; | 12. The Turn; |
| 6. Mountain Field; | 13. Turn Field; |
| 7. Pass Gate Field; | 14. Well Field. |

The Murlough McCormicks lived at the wallsteads in *Machaire Buí* (the yellow plain), but it is not known what happened to them. PRONI holds a lease to 46 acres of Tobar na Gabhla in Loughguile, dated 5th April 1832. Four of the signatories are Daniel McCormick Jr (Rathlin), and John, Dennis and Daniel McCormick Sr (Murlough), along with a Patrick McAleese of Lime Park. Daniel McCormick of Murlough died in 1839, and Dr James McDonnell, the landlord, took his executors Daniel and Denis McCormick to court to pay his debts. A Denis McCormick, farmer of Murlough, was declared bankrupt in *Perry’s Bankrupt & Insolvent Gazette* of 27th July 1839. The McCormicks had a boat called *Sally* that traded between Rathlin and Scotland in the 1830s.¹⁶

14 Wright, WB (1924: 79) *The Geology of the Ballycastle Coalfield, Co Antrim*. Memoirs of the *Geological Survey of Ireland*. The Stationery Office: Dublin.

15 OSM pg 58.

16 1841 – M’Donnell v Executors of M’Cormick – *Belfast Commercial Chronicle*, February 13.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: Daniel and John McCormick are in *Machaire Bui* in 1861. In 1876 a Mary McCormick said that she and her brother 'laboured a farm in the townland of Magherboy for twenty-four years', until 'my brother was forced out of it. He never proposed to sell it to anyone.'^{17,18} Mary was giving a deposition in a court case between the McDonnells and McGildowneys over tenant-right in Murlough. The McCormicks appear to have had their tenancy bought out by the McDonnell landlords,¹⁹ though Angus Martin, McGildowney's agent, was also buying tenants out after McGildowney leased ground in Knockbrack, Bighouse, and Torglass from the McDonnells in 1845. When James McDonnell took over his father's estate in Murlough in 1845 the total rent arrears were £1,000, which was cancelled and rents reduced for all tenants.²⁰ The McCormicks were given £35 to leave, but it sounds as though this was not optional.

In the 1901 Census James and Patrick McCormick were living with the McCarrys as farm labourers. However by the 1911 Census they had moved on, and couldn't be found anywhere in Ireland. There is another wallstead believed to be McCormick's at the bottom of the *Stone Parks*. This is all that was known about the Murlough McCormicks.

Murlough McCormick headstone, Bun na Margái.

HERE LIETH THE BODY OF DANIEL ROE MCCORMICK OF MURLOCH WHO DIED FEBY 4TH 1800 AGED 74.



Duncan (of Goodland): The last name in Knockbrack is *Douay Planting*, which is likely dubhaigh (black or dark place), but could also be dumhaigh (sandy ground²¹). From appearances it's likely to be the former.

17 1876 - John McGildowney, Claimant; James and John McDonnell, Respondents - *Northern Whig*, July 8.
 18 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.
 19 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.
 20 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.
 21 Mac Gabhann (1997: 185).

Opening of the Murlough Bay Colliery (1848)²²

"Our readers may be aware, that, for upwards of twelve months past, certain English capitalists have been engaged in making preliminary explorations of the extensive mineral basin, on the north-east coast of Antrim, which has a sea-boundary from Torhead to the bay of Ballycastle, and runs several miles inland. The whole of this basin, comprising many thousand acres, is held under lease, from the Earl of Antrim. Active investigations have of late discovered, in the Ballycastle section of the property, beds or veins of iron stone, some of which are two feet nine inches thick, of a quality equal, if not superior, we learn, to the celebrated black band in the West of Scotland. The seams of coal vary from two feet six inches to six feet in thickness; and embrace almost every variety, from the rich and bituminous produce of the North of England, to the anthracite or blind coal of Wales. The colliery which has just been opened lies contiguous to Murlough Bay, a fine natural harbour, extending from Torhead, on the South, to a point near Fairhead, on the North. The bay has seven fathoms' depth of water beyond a ledge of rocks jutting from its centre, and at which, in the olden times, coal and agricultural produce were exported for the consumption of the coast. The colliery works are situated near the base of one of the spurs of the range of lofty basaltic hills, the loftiness and grandeur of which are exceeded only by the wonder of the Causeway. Three seams of coal have been opened by means of adits or levels, which are driven into the side of the hill; and the produce is conveyed by railways to a drop or jetty, which will be used for temporary shipment, until the construction of a pier upon a large scale (for which, we understand, the working plans are being prepared), at the point of the bay already indicated.

Tuesday last being appointed for the opening of this colliery, several gentlemen visited the works, and expressed much satisfaction with the quality of the coal and the facility of working it, and with the arrangements made for its shipment. The inhabitants of Ballycastle – naturally much interested in the erection of the works, and in the intended benefit to their immediate district – testified their respect for the English company by illuminating their picturesque little town, by the blazing of tar-barrels, the parading of bands of music through the streets, and other modes of rejoicing. There was also a tolerably good display of fireworks.

A celebrating banquet was given by the proprietors to the gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, at the Antrim Arms, Ballycastle. Letters were received from Lord O'Neill, Mr M'Donnell of Glenarm Castle; Mr Cuppage, Mr M'Neile of Parkmount; Professor Hodges and several landowners connected with the district, and from many gentlemen in Belfast, expressing their inability to be present, but cordially approving of the national objects of the undertaking. The chair was taken by Mr Gillan, of London, one of the proprietors of the company, who was supported on his right by J M'Gildowney, Esq, of Clare Park; on his left, by Captain Boyd of the Hon East India Company's service. The vice-chair was filled by another proprietor, Mr Brown of Cushendun House.

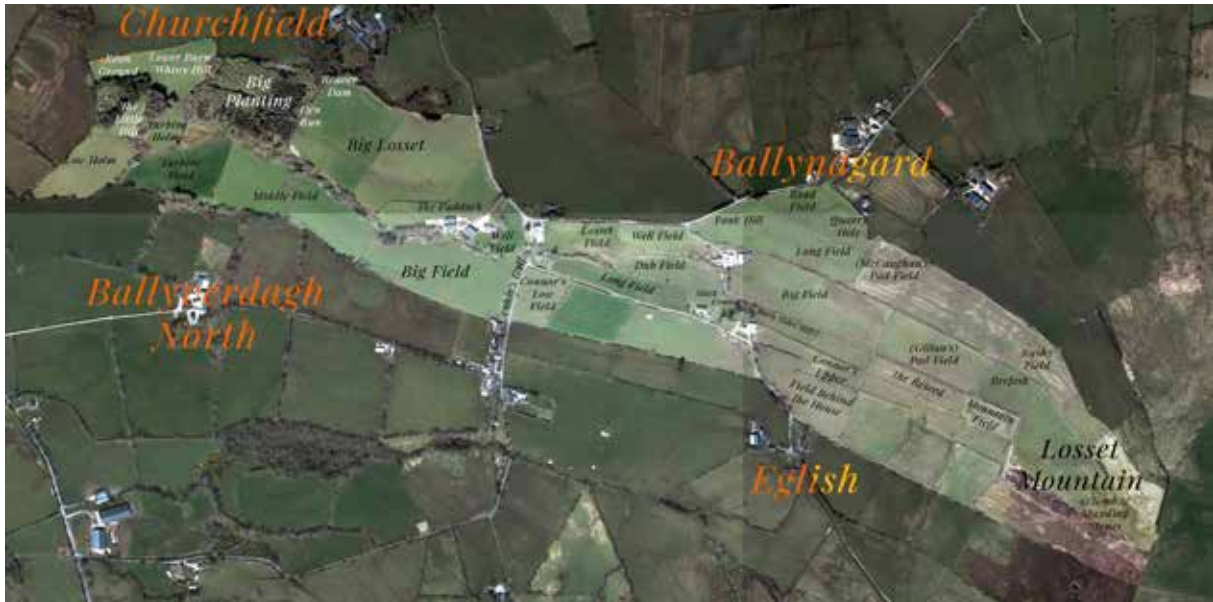
On the following day (Wednesday) all the miners and workmen in the employment of the company were regaled with a substantial dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, to which, we need hardly say, they did ample justice. Mr Owen, delivered an animated and energetic address to the men, which was followed by an impressive pastoral admonition from the Rev Mr Hincks, the Rector of Carey."



Mary Agnes Gillan, Catherine McMichael (née Gillan), and Sarah Gillan.

Fieldnames

1. Bean Ground;
2. Beaver Dam;
3. Big Field;
4. Big Losset;
5. Big Planting;
6. Brefesh;
7. Burn Sides Hill;
8. Connor's Gulf;
9. Connor's Hill;
10. Connor's Low Field;
11. Connor's Upper;
12. Dub Field;
13. Fank Hill;
14. Field in behind the house;
15. Hen Run;
16. Little Hill;
17. Long Field;
18. Losset Field;
19. Low Holm;
20. Lower Burn or Whiny Hill;
21. Middle Field;
22. Mountain Field;
23. Pad Field;
24. Quarry Hole;
25. Road Field;
26. Rushy Hill;
27. Stack;
28. The Mountain;
29. The Paddock;
30. The Reseed;
31. Turbine Field;
32. Turbine Holm;
33. Well Field.



Losaid is thought to be a reference to the fertility of the ground,¹ akin to calling somewhere a 'bread-basket', or a description of the land as a shallow trough. The closest townland of the same name is in Clogher in Tyrone, although there is a field of the same name at Dún in Cross. The *Bean Ground* takes its name from an unsuccessful attempt by Jack Casement to grow beans; as far as could be made out, the only thing to survive was the name. The *Lower Burn* is the bottom half of the Upper Burn in Churchfield, rechristened *Whiny Hill* by Frank Casement Jr. The *Turbine Holm* refers to an

early river hydroelectric power scheme for the Casements in the 1960s, successful enough to power some lights but not them all. The *Beaver Dam* takes its name from Jack Casement's attempts to breed coypu, South American swamp beavers, for fur in the 1930s. The Ulster Fur Farm was quite the spectacle locally.²

Connor's Gulf was used by John Connor to grow spuds, carrots and other vegetables, and the *Dub Field* was a lint dam. The megalithic tomb³ on *Losset Mountain* is set in the middle of a cairn measuring 15 metres wide. It has not been established if it is a court

tomb or wedge tomb. Although it looks visually more like a wedge tomb, its orientation, running east northeast to west southwest is different to that of wedge tombs,⁴ normally orientated towards a winter or summer sunset.

The OSM called the *Losset Mountain* '*Caha na Rio*' (from *Catha na Ríthe* - the battle of Kings), being the location of the deciding battle between the King of Ulster, Conchobar Mac Neasa, and rival Kings from the other provinces.⁵ Around 1820, five brass battleaxes were found in Thomas McBride's bog during turf cutting, with it being rumoured to be

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 158).
2 1935 – In Aid of Ballycastle Nursing Society. *Northern Whig*, Aug 9.



Looking over the cairn towards Rathlin. The wider view takes in the coast from the Margai River to Ballyucan.



The tomb on the Losset mountain, very little is left now, only a general outline.



The boundary wall of the cairn.

3 SM7-ANT-009-028-01.
4 SM7-ANT-009-028-01.

the site 'of an ancient battle between Danes and natives'.⁶ This would date the battle to the ninth century, although some of these old stories may be mixing up Losset and Eglisish mountains.

Alexander Murphy had a "herd's house" at the top of the *Fank Hill* in 1861, the remains of which are still in the field. The kiln for the *Quarry Hole* is in Ballynagard.

The OSM describes two vaults, then on Patt McCambridge's ground, discovered 3 feet below the surface in 1820. They

measured 7 feet by 3 feet by 2 feet, with a single ancient skeleton in each. Nearby, a 'handsomely carved' urn containing ashes and calcified bones was found in a smaller vault. The local tradition was that a castle once stood on McCambridge ground, but whatever remained had been dug up in the previous 60 years.⁷ In 1861 the majority of the McCambridge fields ran along the south of the townland adjoining Ballyverdagh North and Eglisish.

The OSM also includes the story of a gold rod

found in 1808 by Daniel Lamon, sold in Dublin by Edmund McGildowney for £80. This story made the newspapers at the time, but the site is hard to locate. All we know is it was 'situated on the bottom of a rivulet contiguous to the River Shesk', and that 'contiguous to the place it was found stood a fort which is at present destroyed'.⁸ There is a burn running down the middle of Losset to the Glenshesk River, so the gold rod and the castle may have been in the Rocket's *Big Field*.

26th July 1808, Manchester Mercury A Lucky Discovery

"A peasant, while walking beside a rivulet, near Ballycastle, in the North of Ireland, on the 20th of last June, observed a hook of glittering metal projecting from a part of the bank, where the earth had recently been washed away by the current; on stooping to pull it out, he found it to be the extremity of a rod, 38 inches long, free from rust, and of a bright straw-colour; each end was terminated by a narrow hook, inflicted in contrary directions; these hooks were massive, two inches in diameter, their curvatures not included in the length of the rod, which, if extended in a straight line, would measure 42 inches. About an inch and a half below the neck of each hook, the body of the rod was divided into three distinct virgae, which were closely twisted together in the manner of a toasting-fork. Unacquainted with its value, the peasant suffered it to be used as a bauble by his children, until his attention was raised by a person offering for it more than it was apparently worth. He then, with some difficulty, wrenched off one of the hooks, took it to a gentleman in Ballycastle, who sent for the rod, which, on proving it with aqua-fortis, he found it to be entirely of gold, and to weigh (in air) 20 ounces and a half, avoirdupois. The workmanship, though neat, is simple; it is void of all those ornaments so generally used in gold or silver materials of the middle centuries; it bears no religious symbol, and its original purpose remains for the skilful antiquarian to decide."

5 OSM pg 56.
7 OSM pg 52-53.

6 OSM pg 53.
8 OSM pg 53.

Families

- 1669:** McDreg, McVering.
1803: Connor, McAhargy, McBride, McCambridg, McNeill.
1831: Campbell, Connor, Dixon, McAlister, McAulay, McCambridge, McCormick, McCurdy, Murphy.
1861: Connor, Gullion⁹, Kelly, Kennedy, Magill, McCambridge, McCluskey, McCurdy, McMullen, Murphy.
1901: Connor (*& McCormick lodger*), Gillen, Lavery (*& McCambridge nephew*), McCambridge (*& workers Matthews and Walker*), McMullan, Neill, Quinn.
1911: Connor, Gillan (*& McBride worker*), Graham, Larvery (*& Quin daughter and grandson*), McCambridge (*& Smiley worker*), McMillan, Neill.
2018: Black, Crombie, Gillan, McAuley, McCormick, McGowan, Murphy.

McCormick, 1762 (Bun na Margái)

HERE
LYETH THE BODY
OF MARY MCCORMICK WHO D
EPARTED THIS LIFE: SEPR
29TH 1762 AGED 3 QUARTER
DAUGHTER TO JOHN MCCOR
MICK OF LOSSET.



Christy, 1831-1844 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED
By
MICHAEL CHRISTY of
Lossit To the memory of
his Son JOHN who Departed
This life the 17th January 1831
AGED 21 years
Also his Daughter ANN who
Departed this life 24th May
1844 Aged 23 years.



9 This should be Gillan.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: In 1861 Patrick Kennedy, John McMullen, John Kelly, Rose Connor, Mary McCambridge, and John Magill were all living in what is now the Rocket's yard. In 1911 the Neills also lived in the Rocket's yard. Samuel is a grandfather of Walter McBride in Ballynagard. The last of the Connors was John Connor, who lived at Martin Gillan's.

Laverty, 1905-1906 (Barnish)

IHS
 ERECTED BY
 DANIEL LAVERTY, LOSSIT
 IN MEMORY OF HIS WIFE
 MARY ANN LAVERTY,
 WHO DIED 9TH FEBRUARY, 1905
 AGED 86 YEARS.
 THE ABOVE DANIEL LAVERTY
 DIED 12TH MARCH 1906.
 AGED 86 YEARS



McCambridge, 1874-1926 (Barnish)

PRAY
FOR THE SOUL
OF
ALEXR McCAMBRIDGE
LOSSIT
DIED 1ST JULY, 1874
AGED 49 YEARS
ALSO HIS SON ALEXANDER
DIED 21ST JULY, 1886, AGED 20 YEARS
ALSO HIS DAUGHTER MARGARET A
BELLAMY,
DIED IN NEW ZEALAND 23RD MARCH,
1900,
AGED 34 YEARS
AND HIS WIFE MARY.
DIED 28TH NOV 1905, AGED 78 YEARS.
HIS DAUGHTER ELLEN TRACEY, BELFAST,
DIED 31ST DECR 1926, AGED 70 YEARS.



Francis McCambridge, from the 1911 Census, sold up and emigrated to Alberta, Canada, in 1926.¹⁰ Danny Gillan is currently living in the homeplace where John Gillan was in 1861.



McCambridge's wallstead 2018.

10 Pers Comms Danny and Martin Gillan (Losset).

LOSSET, BALLYCASTLE.

IMPORTANT

LETTING OF LANDS

And Clearance Sale of Stock, Crop and Implements.

Favoured with instructions from Mr. FRANCIS M'CAMBRIDGE, Losset, we shall Let and Sell by Public Auction, on the Premises,

On Wednesday, 1st Dec., 1926,

At Eleven o'clock sharp.

3½ Acres for Green Cropping.	4 Acres Potato Beds for Oats.
3 Acres for Flax.	2½ Acres for 1st Cutting.
5 Acres for 2nd Hay-Cutting or Grass.	2½ Acres Old Lea for Oats.
15 Acres Rough Grazing.	

STOCK—3 Good Cows, coming early; 3 Good Calves, 2 Horses, five and nine years' old; 1 Seven-year-old Mare, all guaranteed to do all work.

CROP—17 Corn Stalks, Potato Oats, Poland and Sandy, suitable for Seed; 6 Tons Upland Hay, in Fines, we'll save; 30 Tons Potatoes, Dupes, Arran Victors, Chassians and Kerres Finks; 1 Acre Swede Turnips, 4 Ridge Kale Plants, a Quantity Fennel and Mennard.

IMPLEMENTS—1 Trap and Set Silver-Mounted Harness, 3 Carts and 2 Sets Cart Harness, 1 Mowing Machine (Pierce), 1 Potato Digger (Jack), 2 Swing Ploughs (Gray & Glass), 1 Chill Plough (Pierce), Cutting Saddles, 1 Drill Plough (Glass), 1 9-Tooth Cultivator, 1 Metal Roller, Breaks, Drill Harrow, Grubber, Turning Slicer, Pulper, Wheel Barrow, Box Barrow, Tandem Bogey, 1 Pair Harrow Fans (by Adams), almost new; Spades, Shovel, Shovels, Grapes, Forks, Sawbars, Picks, Sledges, Boring Jammers, Plunging Chains, Swing Trees, 3-Horse Iron Tree, 1st Plunging Pulley, 1 Drill Hoe (Victory), 1 Hand Potato Sprayer, 3 Spraying Barrels, a Spouting Bucket, Ladder, Potato Baskets, Tubs and Buckets, Small Hammer and Spanners, 1 Hay Knife, Gravel Screen, Hand Barrow, Cart Rest and Trestle, and a lot of other articles too numerous to mention.

The Auctioneers would draw special attention to this Sale, as the Vendor is determined to Let and Sell, and no lot will be withdrawn.

TERMS—Cash, Credit to 1st November, 1927; Stock, Crop, &c., 9 Months' Credit on Approved Security; any Sums below £3, Cash. **Wine at Sale.**

E. F. M'Cambridge & Son,

Auctioneers and Valuers, Ballycastle and Portlough.

M'Kerlin, Printer, Ballycastle.

Francis McCambridge's auction notice 1926.



Pat Moore. He emigrated to Leominster, Massachusetts in 1910, was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar, and opened a law firm in Leominster and nearby Fitchburg.



Mary Agnes Gillan, Catherine McMichael (née Gillan), and Sarah Gillan.

Catherine Gillan (Losset) married John J McMichael in Kansas City in 1884. John J's father was nicknamed the 'buck of the Alt', and lived at the top of Farrinmacarter. The photo was taken in Kansas. Catherine's niece Sarah Gillan (Farrin) is on the right, and married James Hunter of Lisnacilly.

Sarah's Field in Ballyreagh is named after her. Another niece of Catherine, Mary Agnes Gillan, is on the left, she was unmarried.



Daniel Gillan and Norah Moore on their wedding day, 8th June 1908.

Grandparents to Martin and Danny Gillan and family. Norah was from Kerry, her brother Pat Moore was a teacher in Ballyucan School, and a founder of the hurling club.



Norah and Daniel Gillan in the 1950s.




Norah and Daniel's son James Gillan (father of Martin, Danny and family) with a foal and a mare.



Martin, Gerard, and James Gillan at ploughing match.



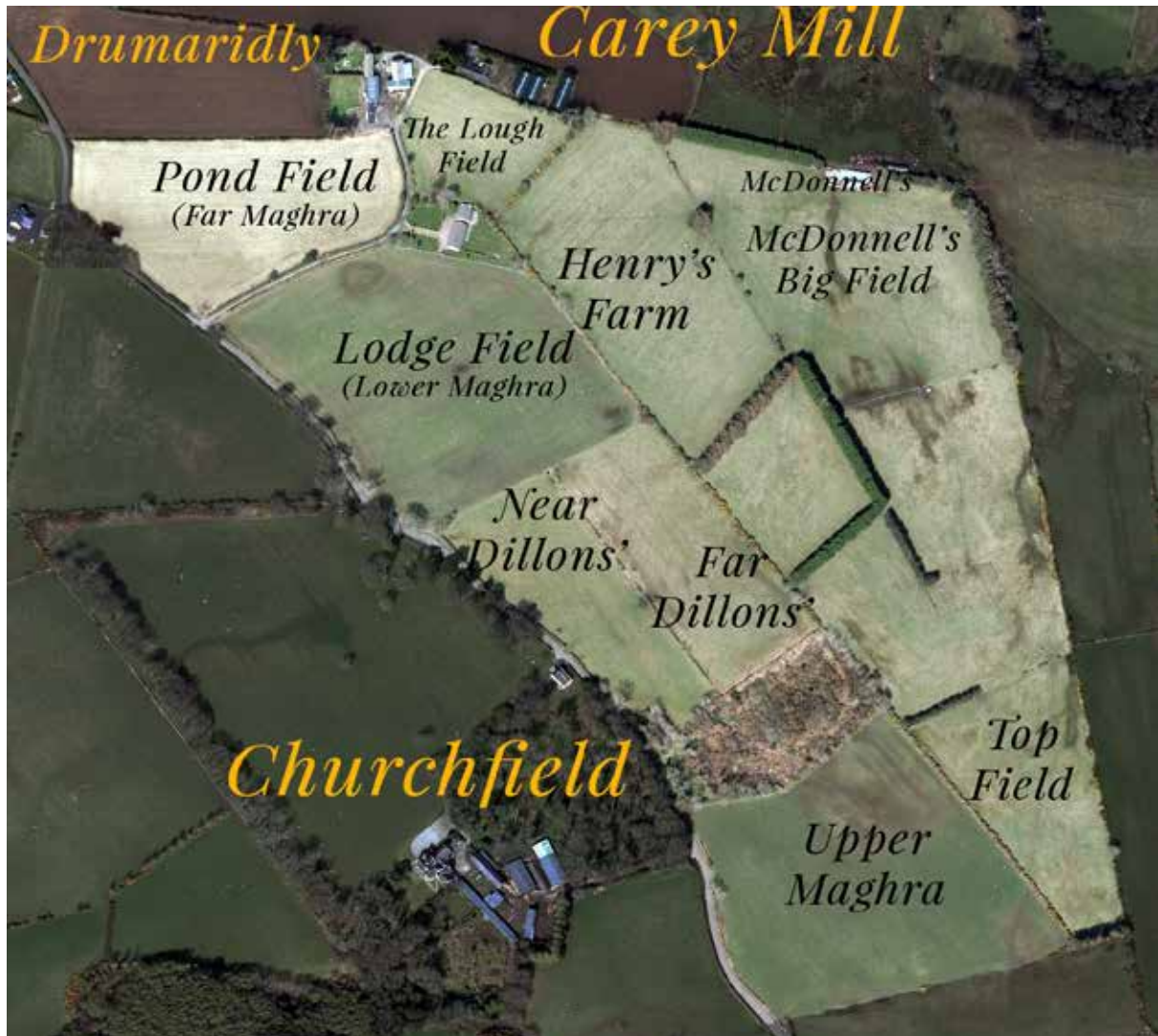
Danny Gillan's photo, names unknown.



Old fireplace at McDonnells.

Fieldnames

1. Big Field;
2. Far Dillon's;
3. Henry's Farm;
4. Lodge Field (Lower Maghra);
5. Magherlough;
6. McDonnell's;
7. Near Dillon's;
8. Pond Field (Far Maghra);
9. The Lough Field;
10. Top Field;
11. Upper Maghra.



Machairín Dónaill is thought to be the most likely original form of the townland name, although *Machaire an Dónallaigh* (the plain of Mac Domhnaill/McDonnell) is a possibility. The earliest record of the townland name found is from the 1662 Court of Claims,¹ established to solve land disputes after

Cromwell's invasion and seizure of native lands and the subsequent plantation in the years after the 1641 Rebellion.²

The Lodge Field was named after the site of the original entrance to Casement's yard, roughly where the current sign for St Fiachra's Church is placed. The 1861 map

shows the location of the old Gate Lodge in Churchfield. *Far Maghra* and *Lower Maghra* were names given by the McCormicks who used to work for the Casements, although the Casements knew these fields as *the Lodge and Pond Fields*.

A letter sent to the Ballycastle Rural

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 159-60).

2 Arnold, L. (1985: 417) The Irish court of claims of 1663. *Irish Historical Studies*, Vol XXIV (96): 417-430.

District Council by an Andrew Henry mentions the otherwise unknown placename of Magherlough: "Carey Mill, 17th March, 1903. Sir, - I beg to draw the attention of your Council to the unsanitary state of Magherlough, which is adjacent to my house. It is nothing but the nuisance of drains and quagmires,

also flax dams, etc, etc, in the neighbourhood, until it has become an unhealthy pool of stagnant water which is almost intolerable. I consider it is most injurious to my health and that of my family. I therefore wish you to pass a resolution to have it drained off in another direction, which

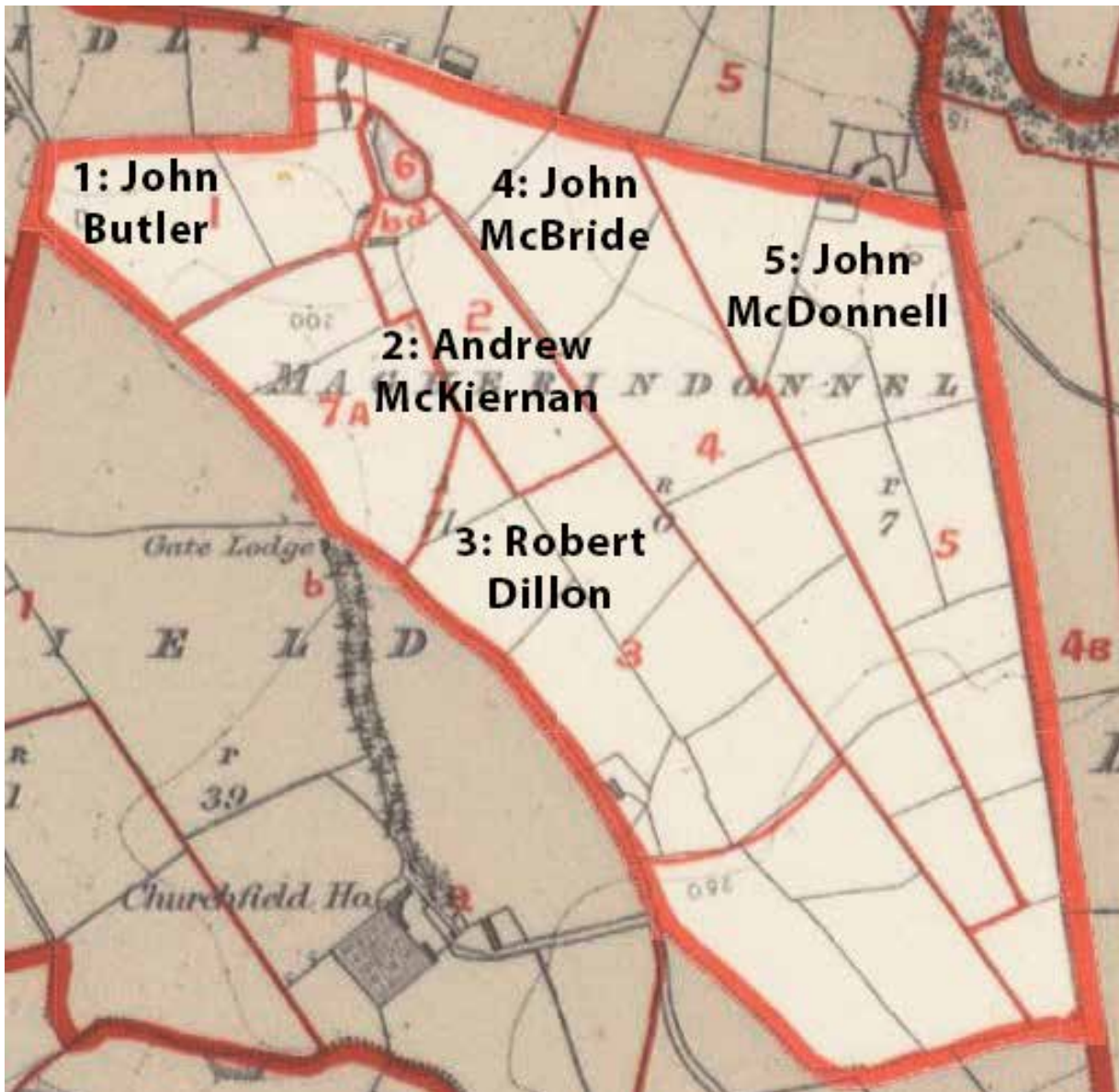
is quite easily done.- Your obedient servant, Andrew Henry." The Henrys used to lived in Carey Mill, and Henry's Farm is named after them. The lake is drained now but it was in The Lough Field. Jimmy McVeigh remembered it being used for skating during the winter (sometimes filled by the bucketful).



Magherlough 1st Ed OS (c.1830).

Families

- 1803:** Black, Dulinan, McBride, McGown.
- 1831:** Butler, Casement, Dullilan, McDonnell, McGown, McKearnan.
- 1861:** Butler, Dillon, Lydon, McBride, McDonnell, McKiernan.
- 1901:** Dillon, McCormick [3 McCormick households].
- 1911:** Dillon, McCollam, McDonnell, Scullin.
- 2018:** Butler, Duncan.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



McDonnell 1856-1867 (Barnish).

McDonnells of Maghera:

The John McDonnell listed in the Griffith's Valuation, along with his mother Mary of Carey Mill, are buried in Barnish with his father Alexander. The placename is Maghera. All that is known of Alex McDonnell is that he moved to England.



The old lane into McDonnell's, this was at one time the way to get to Cushendall.



An old fireplace in the house.



What remains of McDonnell's at present.

Dillons: The Dillons lived in the wallstead opposite Casement's, in the field called Near Dillons'. There was a note left on the fieldname map referring to the family, saying 'six boys, six girls'. This is all we know about them, apart from the sale of Lodge Field and the two Dillons' fields to the Casements in the 1930s. The Dulinan of 1803, and the Dullilans of 1831, are most likely the Dillons.

Dillon, 1838-1881 (Barnish)

IHS
ERECTED BY
ELLEN DILLON OF
B.CASTLE IN MEMORY OF
HER FATHER HUGH DILLON
MAGHRADONEL WHO DIED 1838
AGED 73
ALSO HER MOTHER MARY
WHO DIED 1840 AGED 70
ALS HER SISTER MARGET
WHO DIED 1881 AGED 76



Dillon, 1889-1962 (Barnish)

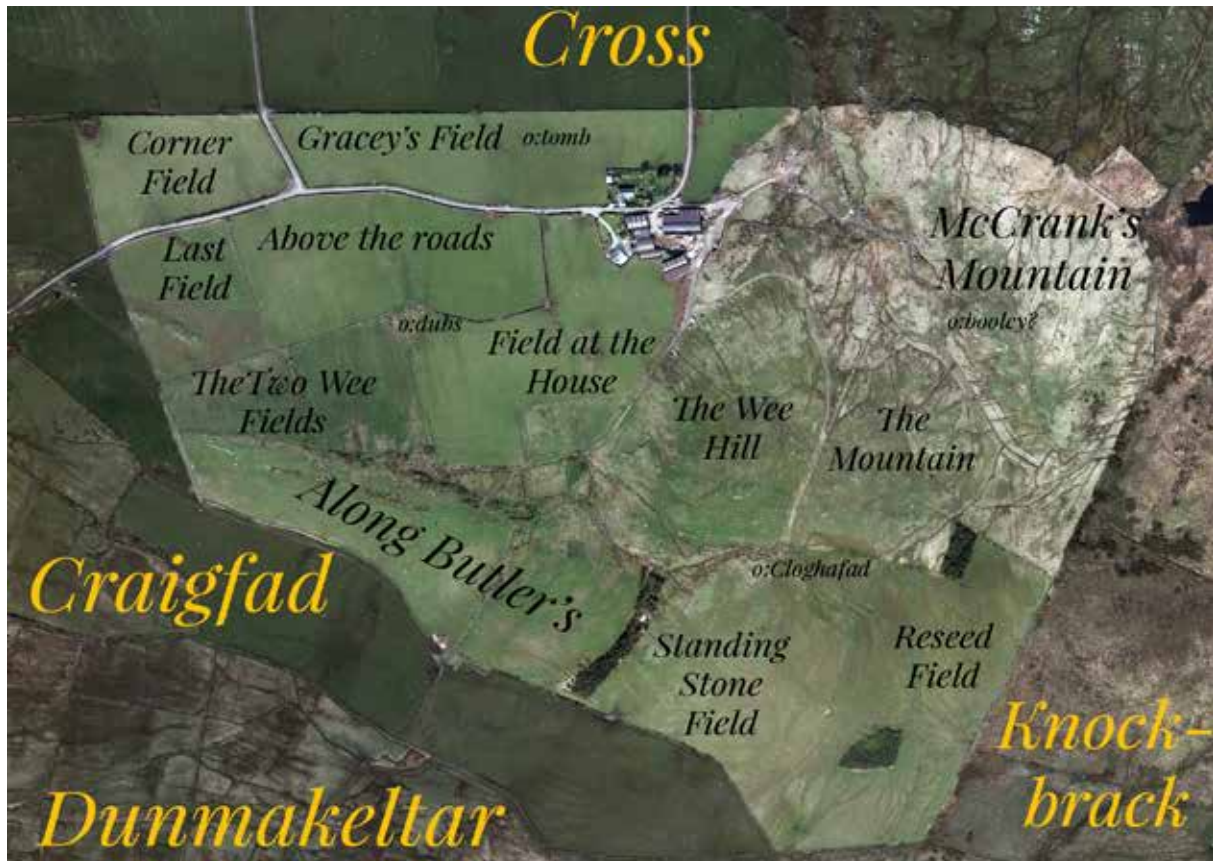
ihs
THY WILL BE DONE
IN LOVING MEMORY
OF JOHN DILLON,
CHURCHFIELD
WHO DIED 11TH April 1889.
AGED 64 YEARS.
ALSO HIS WIFE
MARY DILLON,
WHO DIED 4TH NOVEMBER 1900,
AGED 64 YEARS.
AND ROBERT DILLON,
WHO DIED 26TH APRIL 1898,
AGED 84 YEARS.
ALSO JAMES DILLON,
DIED 13TH NOVEMBER 1938,
AGED 68 YEARS.
AND HIS WIFE MARY DILLON
DIED 16TH MARCH 1962,
AGED 86 YEARS.



The rock where four townlands meet, Knockbrack, Dunmaceltar, Craighfad and Tervillin.

Fieldnames

1. Along Butler's;
2. Above the roads;
3. Cloghafad;
4. Corner Field;
5. Field at the House;
6. Gracey's Field (or the Long Field);
7. Last Field;
8. McCrank's Mountain;
9. Reseed Field;
10. Standing Stone Field;
11. The Mountain;
12. The Two Wee Fields;
13. The Wee Hill.



Tir Mhaoilín is the suggested original townland name, as the placename element *tír* is often followed by a personal name. Another possible name is *Tír Mhaoilinn* or *Mhaoileann*, the land of the rounded summit or summits. The townland was first recorded in 1734 as 'Tervillan', but like most townlands the origin of the name remains a mystery.¹

The tomb in Gracey's

Field is thought to be megalithic, possibly a wedge tomb. Although it 'appears as a pile of rocks in a well grazed, reseeded field' a porcellanite axe was found amongst the stones, said to contain major archaeological remains.² An earlier archaeological survey described it as a cairn and an 'unconvincing megalith' due to its condition.³ The latter is likely due to an 'ill-fated attempt to clear it away... made about 1876'.⁴

Cloghafad (Clocha Fhada – the long rock) is a court tomb or horned cairn, said to have been 'blasted by an inquisitive miner c1890'.⁵ It's recorded as a burial place by the first OS maps of the 1830s. However, in 1847, Bishop Reeves wrote that there were no memories of any interments there.⁶ Below *Cloghafad*, by the stream are the remains of at least five structures, thought to be booleys, as well as old field boundaries.⁷

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 161).
3 SM7-ANT-005-012-01.
5 SM7-ANT-005-016.
7 SM7-ANT-005-038.

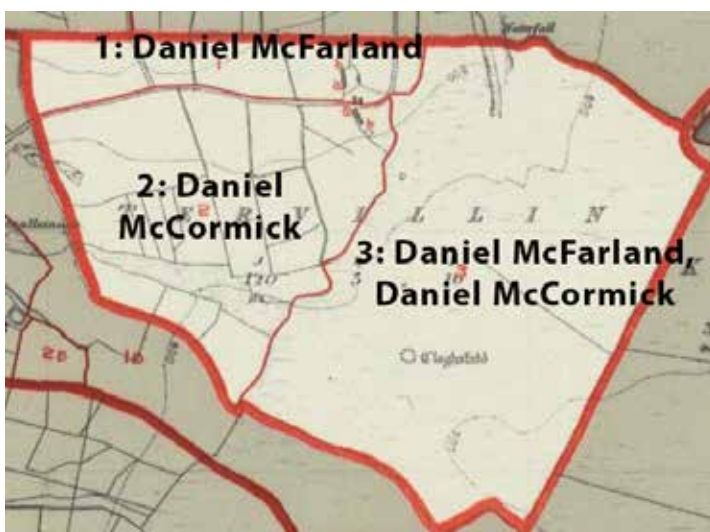
2 SM7-ANT-005-012-02.
4 SM7-ANT-005-012-01.
6 Reeves (1847: 283).



The rock where four townlands meet, Knockbrack, Dunmaceltar, Craighfad and Tervillin.

Families

- 1734:** Hunter, Whiteford.
- 1803:** Hunter, McBride, McCormick, McKeague, Sinkler, Whitefor[d].
- 1831⁸:** Hunter, McBride, McCormick, McFarland, O'Neill, Sinclair.
- 1861:** McCormack, McFarland, McKeiran.
- 1901:** McCrank.
- 1911:** McCrank.
- 2018:** Grace, McCambridge.



Griffith's Valuation

1861: From the lists of names, the 1734, 1803, and 1831 Tervillin surveys take in more of Cross. All that was known about the McFarlands was a story that they did some work around a mound, possibly Cloghafad, and three of them died within six months.

8 Townland recorded as "Turveelin. Mr O'Neill's or Colliery Lot".



McFarland, 1849 (Barnish)

IHS

ERECTED

in memory of Arch M'Farlane
of Tirvelin, who departed this
life 20th Sepr 1849

aged 52 years.

Also his wife ANN, 20th March 1849
aged 42 years.

And their son Alexr 16th June 1849,
aged 22 years.

By 1901 only the McCranks were living in the townland. James McCrank died in November 1915, aged 28. He joined the Royal Navy, possibly after emigrating to Scotland for work, and was stationed on *HMS Atalanta*. It was a private yacht commandeered by the British Navy on the outbreak of war, used for patrolling the coast from Wales to Gibraltar. James was a fireman or stoker, shovelling coal for the steam turbine. In 1915 *HMS Atalanta* was in a collision with another boat in Glasgow, and James went overboard. His body was never recovered.

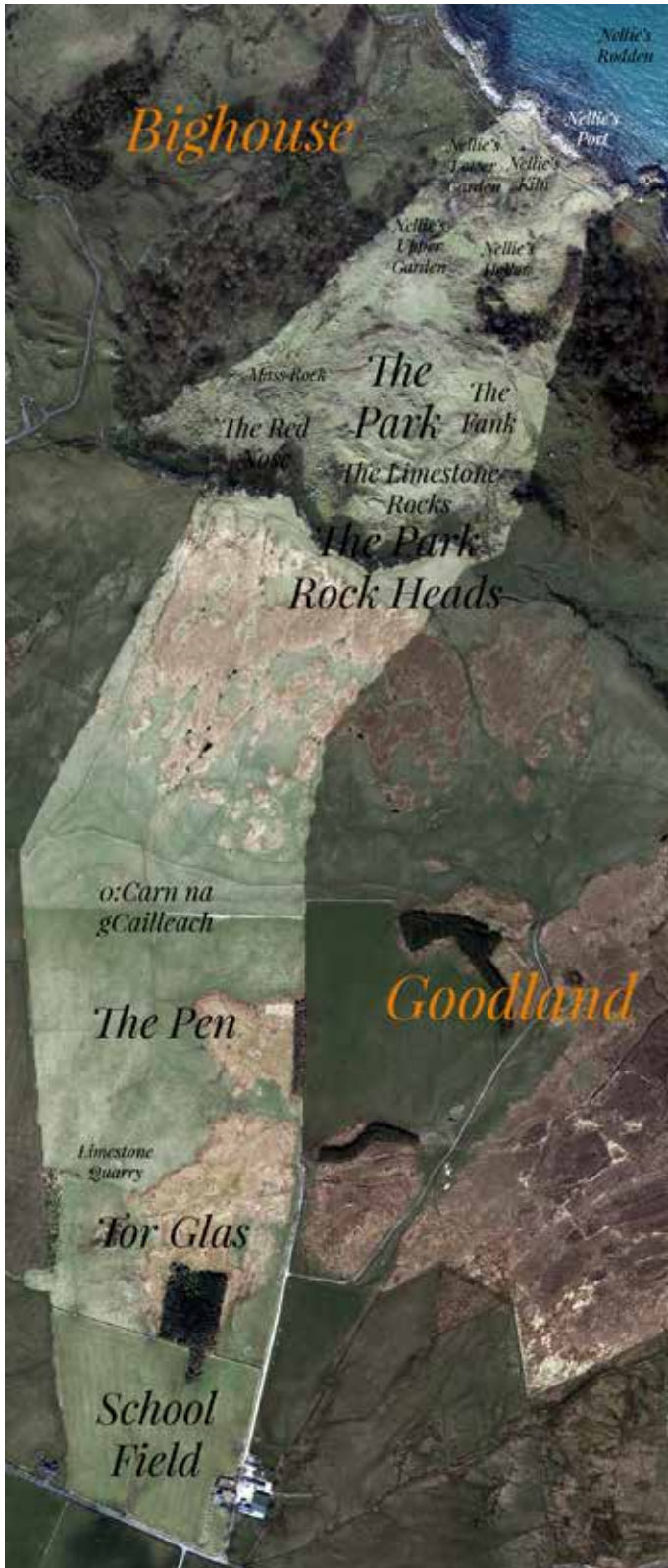


Mary Jane McCrank, Mary Jane McNeill, Anne McCrank (nee McNeill), John & Annie McCrank, James McMullan at the end. The small girl is Mary McNeill.

Hunters of Ballyucan.

Fieldnames

1. Carn na gCailleach;
2. Nellie's Rodden;
3. Nellie's Port;
4. Nellie's Kiln;
5. Nellie's Lower Garden;
6. Nellie's Upper Garden;
7. Nellie's Hollow;
8. Mass Rock;
9. The Park;
10. The Fank ;
11. The Limestone Rocks;
12. School Field;
13. The Pen;
14. The Rock Heads;
15. The Red Nose;
16. The Park Rock Heads;
17. Tor Glas;
18. Turf Road.



The townland name could refer to the green moss that partly covers the *Park Rock Heads*, or the grass above *The Fank* (Fang – sheep pen) rising to meet the *Park Rock Heads* at the Goodland boundary. However, the current owner of the ground said he always knew *Tor Glas* as the field marked on the map. The 1876 court case between the McDonnells and the McGildowneys makes a distinction between the Torglass farm and the Murlough farm.

Carn na gCailleach (the hag's cairn) is mentioned in the OSM as being one furlong east of *Oya yeilla gleish*, the giant's grave in Big House. It was 'considered so gentle, by fairy haunts and amusements, that the farmers would not disturb it or any of the ground occupied by it'.¹ About 90 yards south of *Carn na gCailleach* are two booleying houses.²

Two furlongs (440 yards) east of *Oya yeilla gleish* was said to be an even larger giant's grave. The story starts in 1829, when James Shiel dug out a shoulder-blade ten times the size of that of a normal man. The bone was bought by John Duncan as a local curiosity, and in keeping with the theme of similar stories, James Shiel met with a series of unfortunate events anytime he went near the grave in the following years. Shiel's giant's grave is recorded as 'unlocated',³

1 OSM pg 57.
2 SM7-ANT-009-177.

and was possibly removed by Shiel himself.

Nellie's refers to the general area around the lime kiln. *Nellie* is thought to be one of the same family of McCormicks that had the cure in Kilmologe (Big House), or a McQuilken. There is still plenty of wild garlic growing around the *Lower Garden*. The gooseberry bushes were within living memory but are now gone. There is a story from Benvan that a 140lb halibut was caught at *Nellie's Rodden*. It was quite the occasion, and a crowd was needed to haul it into the cart to take it to Ballycastle to be sold. *Nellie's Rodden* is a few hundred yards out at sea from the kiln, usually a good fishing spot. It could be a corruption of *ród* or *rodanaí*, which describe a 'type of seaweed thrown up on the shore',⁴ or a *ródán* (little road or path) referring to the run of the fish. *Nellie's Hollow* is a dip in the ground that cannot be seen from the road, or the top of the *Park Rocks Heads*.

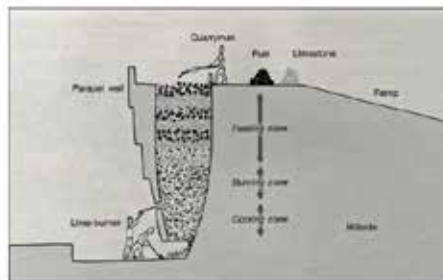


Figure 14: Diagram of a working kiln (after Ursula Mattenberger, *Archaeology Ireland*, Volume 19, No. 2, Issue No. 72, 19)

Diagram of a working kiln (adapted from Welsh, J. (2011) *Survey of Lime Kiln at Murlough Bay, County Antrim*).

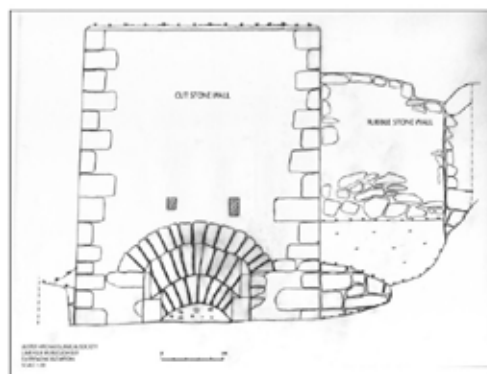


Diagram of Nellie's Kiln (adapted from Welsh (2011)).



Looking down over the mass rock towards *Nellie's*, it's between the edge of the shadow and the lane in the centre of the shot.

3 SM7-ANT-009-142.

4 Hughes, A. (1992: 109) *Placenames of Northern Ireland*, Vol 2. (Roddans Co Down).

Legatrummon is mentioned by Danny Morgan as an obsolete placename east of *Droim na Cille*. It is not a name known locally; however a 1924 geological report⁵ states that *Legatrummon* is a small plantation south of Port na Trostán (Big House), containing an old mine. From that description it could only be the planting known now as *Nellie's*, above the limestone kiln. Pat McCarry Sr said he was told there was an old coal mine behind *Nellie's* that was used for the kiln. The name might be derived from Log an Tromán (hollow of the dwarf elder trees).

Around the *Limestone Rocks* are wild hazel, which were cut for walking sticks for local sheepmen and sent to Rathlin for creels. *The Red Nose* is a small, round hill with exposed red earth at the foot of *The Rock Heads*. The drills can be seen in *The Fank* from the top of the *Park Rock Heads*, or from Benvan. The *Mass Rock* gets a brief mention in the OS Memoirs: "In this valley, and some distance west of the old church, there formerly stood a stone altar where Roman Catholic worship was performed during the existence of the Penal

Codes, but this altar was nothing more than a natural rock at the base of a hill and serving for the above purpose."⁶

There are also seven buildings marked in the 1832 OS Map in *Tor Glas* (the field) on the Big House boundary, but no one knows anything about them. An old limestone quarry is just above them at the bottom of the *Pen*. The buildings are still in the 1861 Griffith's Valuation Map, but unlisted in the survey book, and all trace of them has vanished by the 1900 OS.



Looking down from the Park Rock Heads.



Quarry and quarry buildings from the 1st Ed. OS (c.1830).

5 Wright, WB (1924: 79) *The Geology of the Ballycastle Coalfield, Co Antrim. Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Ireland*. The Stationery Office: Dublin.

6 OSM pg 58.

Families

1831: Duncan, McCafferty, McCambridge, Scally.

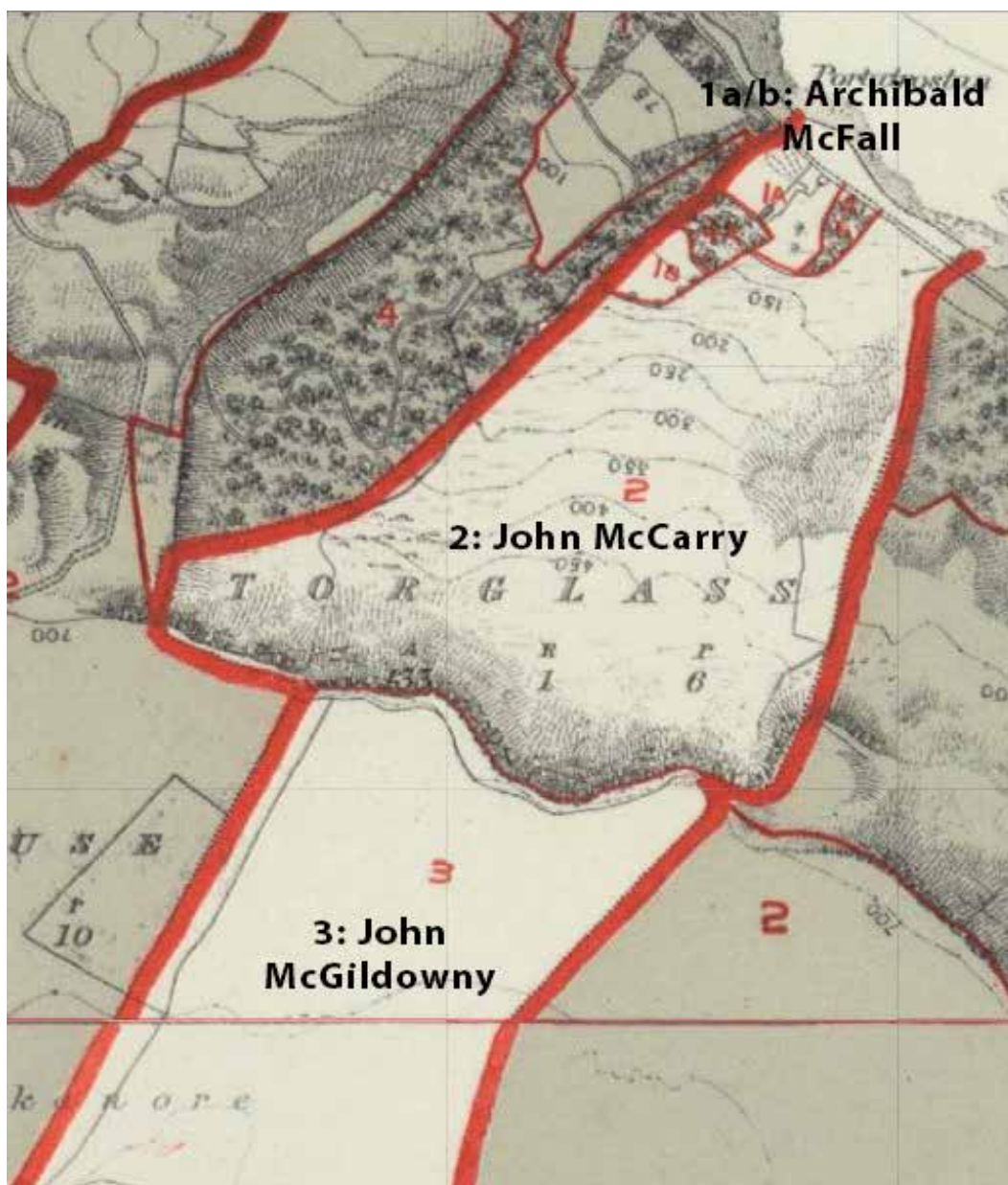
1861: McFall, McGuilkinson.

1901: None.

1911: None.

2018: None.

In 1861 Archibald McFall was living at *Nellie's*, while John McGuilkinson lived in a small house, on the Torr Road beside Ballyucan School. Most of the Hunter yard is in Goodland, where the old houses are, with only their new house (now a ruin) in Torglass.



Griffith's Valuation 1861.



Hunters of Ballyucan. The adults are Leah, Tina and her husband Ambrose, c.1960.

The 1876 court case between the McGildowneys and the McDonnells gave the most detail on the earlier families in Torglass. John McGildowney gave up his tenancy in Knockbrack, Big House, and Torglass on the 8th March 1876.⁷

The McCaffreys of 1831 left because the rent was too high. Mary McCaffrey gave evidence in 1876, aged 91. She said that she and her husband John lived in Torglass for 30 years, *'but the times were bad, and the rents high, and we had to give it up'*.⁸ *"Angus Martin, Mr M'Gildowney's man, gave them £5 for leaving it."*⁹ They had left by 1861, although there wasn't a date given in the court case.



Hunters of Ballyucan, the adults are Ambrose and Tina.

7 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.
 8 1876 - Belfast Land Sessions - *Northern Whig*, July 8.
 9 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.

In the same case Hugh Kirkpatrick also testified; he lived in Torglass from 1833 to 1848/9. *"I know the lands of Torglass, on which I was a cottier tenant for fifteen or sixteen years. I was about twelve years in it before he [referring to John McGildowney] got possession of it. Before that it was divided into three, between the Scallys and the M'Caffertys. They laboured some of it, and raised potatoes and corn. The only part that could then be cultivated was from the hill to the road. That is nearly the half of it. There was sufficient tillage to feed three horses and fifteen cows. I saw a small portion of it cropped after Mr M'Gildowney got it. I recollect the fence*

*between Torglass and the leasehold property. A portion of it was in good condition, but the rest not so good. When Clarke was tenant of Murlough, before Mr M'Gildowney got it, he cultivated all he could of it."*¹⁰ The cottiers were the landless labourers, usually renting an outhouse from the farmer they were working for.

Kirkpatrick was referring to *'two men named Scally and two brothers of the name of M'Caffrey. It was in three divisions, and the two brothers had two-thirds of it'*.¹¹

Another witness in the court case, auctioneer John McGrath from Ballycastle, mentions that *'he saw crops of beans and other crops [oats*

and barley] growing on the lands of Murlough... while in the occupation of Hugh Clarke'.¹² The case also mentions that McGildowney sent cattle up from Clare Park to be grazed in Murlough.¹³

Hugh Clarke was in rent arrears, so in 1848 the McDonnells took the farm back, and gave him a subscription to emigrate to America.¹⁴ It also appears that John McGildowney gave Clarke £45 to buy out his lease in 1847.¹⁵ The Clarke farm then was 20 and a half acres.

The following is another of Father Walsh's schools. It is thought Patrick McHenry was from Ballypatrick.

10 1876 – Belfast Land Sessions - *Northern Whig*, July 8.

11 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.

12 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.

13 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.

14 1876 – Belfast Land Sessions - *Northern Whig*, July 10.

15 1876 - Important Local Land Case - *Coleraine Chronicle*, July 15.

Murlough Irish School 1842¹⁶

Inspection list of the Murlough Irish school, for the period ending the 17th of Nov, 1842 – Patrick M’Henery, teacher.

The space under this heading should be filled by teachers.

The space under this heading should be filled by inspector.

No.	Names of Scholars	Residence	Age	Progress	Remarks
1	Jas Clark	Murlough	19	Reading	No scholar – a forgery
2	D Clark	ditto	21	ditto	ditto ditto
3	John Clark	ditto	40	ditto	ditto ditto
4	John Scully	Benvan	13	ditto	ditto ditto
5	Hugh Scully	ditto	14	ditto	ditto ditto
6	P Scully	ditto	38	ditto	ditto ditto
7	A Stewart	ditto	29	ditto	ditto ditto
8	L Stewart	ditto	36	ditto	ditto ditto
9	A Stewart	ditto	12	ditto	ditto ditto
10	M Stewart	ditto	18	ditto	No such person in the place
11	A Stewart	ditto	16	ditto	ditto ditto
12	A Black	ditto	29	ditto	No such person to be found
13	L Black	ditto	48	ditto	No such person to be found

With sorrow and regret, I admit that the above names are fictitious, that they never attended my school, and that I never showed a scholar, and at the last payment, in August, I got my money without being asked by M’Minnemy or M’Ilhatton, the inspectors. The money I received was ten shillings.

his
Patrick X M’Henery
mark

Witness - **LUKE WALSH, PP - PATRICK M’KENNA, CC- DANIEL M’NEILL..**
None of the above scholars ever appeared at any time at any inspection.
FRANCIS BRENNAN, late Inspector.

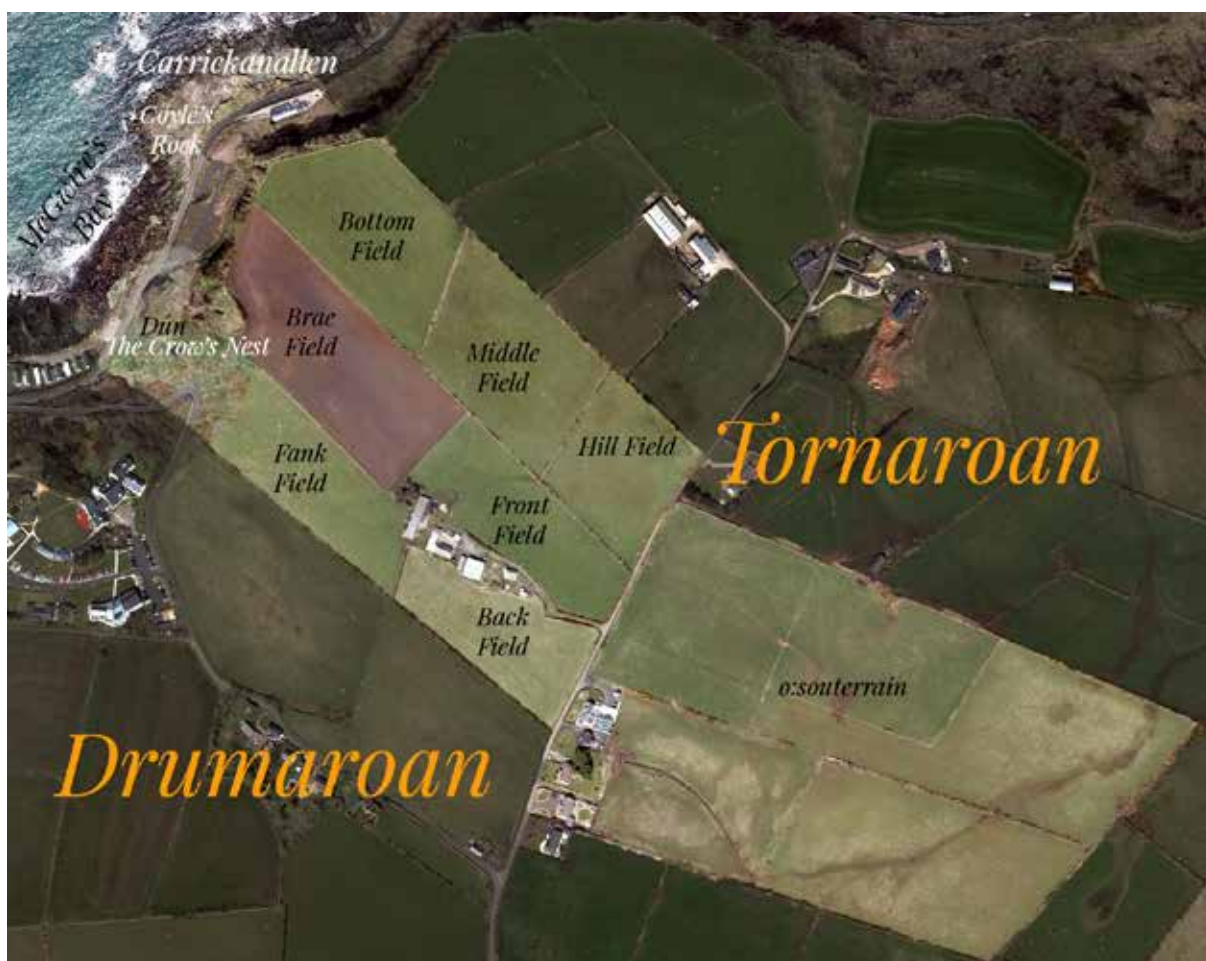
16 1843 – Horrible Frauds and Deception of the Home Mission – Awful and Astounding Disclosures. *The Vindicator*, Dec 6.



Fieldnames

1. Brae Field;
2. Bottom Field;
3. Middle Field;
4. Front Field;
5. Back Field;
6. Hill Field;
7. Fank Field.

The rock where four townlands meet, Knockbrack, Dunmaceltar, Craighfad, and Tervillin.



First recorded in 1839, *Tornabodagh* is another townland name with a few alternative meanings. The first element could be either *Tuar* (cattle field), or *Tor* (steep, rocky height). *Bodach*, translates to lout, or churl, meaning a rude or mean spirited person, in older times a peasant. Nils Holmer did record it in the Glens in the 1940s as meaning an 'old man',¹ while Scots

Gaelic translates *bodach* as either 'old man' or 'spectre/ghost'.² Perhaps the townland name is just a nickname for a grumpy old farmer in days gone by.

Carrickinallen is taken from an old map of the collieries,³ *Carraig an álainn* (the beautiful rock) is the closest translation.⁴ It appears to be east of *McGwire's Bay*, thought to be named after the

two McGwire brothers who ran the collieries at a time.⁵

Coyle's Rock was the site of a wooden pier used to ship coal to Dublin,⁶ identifiable by the post holes. It is thought to be previously named *Colliery Rock*, until it was renamed after the Coyle family who lived at Tornarosan in the nineteenth century.⁷

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 163).

2 Grant, A (2010) Gaelic Place Names: Bodach. *The Bottle Imp*, Issue 8.

3 McGill, D. & Reid, G. (2007) Col Hugh Boyd's Ballycastle. Causeway Museum Service: Coleraine.

4 NI Placenames – Kinallen, Co Down.

5 Morgan (2006: 41).

6 Morgan (2006: 41).

7

Morgan (2006: 48).

Deugh was the name of a coal mine just east of the *Dún* before the *Brae Field*, possibly a corruption of *Dumhach* (sandy ground), although it is pronounced locally as 'Dook'. The mine was flooded with water and running sand around 1918 when a Scottish company renewed the works in it.⁸ There was another mine in the southern corner of

the Bottom Field, and a third in the southern half of the *Fank Field* (sheep pen). The mines were part of the *North Star Colliery*, and were last worked in the late 1940s.⁹ The *dún* is a man-made structure, although not much is known about its early origins.¹⁰ There was a British Army look-out post on it during World War Two. Afterwards it

was reclaimed by the briars and nicknamed *The Crow's Nest*.¹¹

The souterrain is closed up, and was recorded as partially collapsed in the 1930s.¹² It is suspected that whoever built it was trying to hide something from Viking raids around the ninth and tenth centuries.

Families

- 1803:** Black, Dulinan, Mullan, Wotson.
- 1831:** Black, Dixon, Dullilan, Ferguson, Mullan, Murdock, Wilson.
- 1861:** Chettick, Ferguson, Wilkinson, Wilson.
- 1901:** Ferguson, Kerr, Wilkinson (*& McFall worker*).
- 1911:** Kerr (*& McHenry grandsons*), Kerrigan, Wilkinson (*& McFale worker*).
- 2018:** Cushnahan, Duncan, McGinn.

From maps of 1832 to 1903, all the houses in the townland were in the one farmyard. The house across from *Coyle's Rock* was built for a man named Hutton in the 1940s.¹³

Dillon 1831-1841 (Barnish)

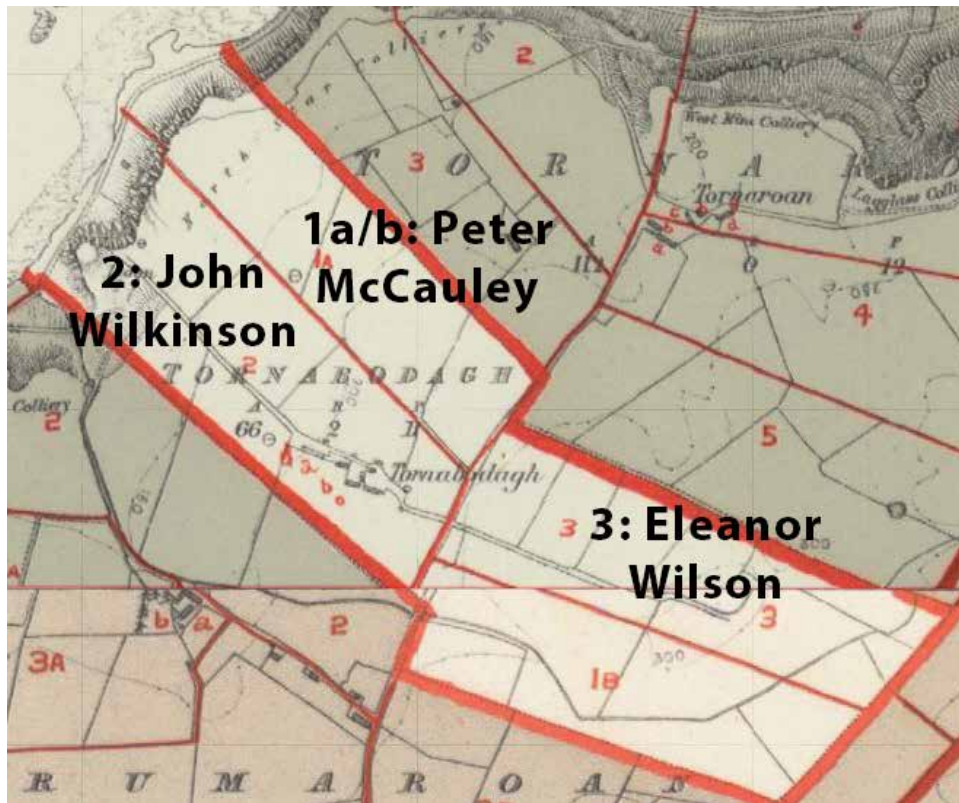
ERECTED

By PATRICK DILLON of Tornabodah
 In Memory of his Brother
 CAPT JOHN DILLON
 who departed this life 27th Nov 1841
 Aged 38 years
 Also his sister JANE who died
 May 25th 1831 Aged 21 years.



8 Morgan (2006: 44).
 10 SM7-ANT-005-001.
 12 SM7-ANT-005-002.

9 Morgan (2006: 47).
 11 Morgan (2006: 43).
 13 Morgan (2006: 49).



Griffith's Valuation 1861.

Griffith's Valuation 1861: The residents were John Wilkinson, Duncan Ferguson, Eleanor Wilson and Henry Chettick. Peter McCauley doesn't have a house listed, only land. John Wilkinson of Tornabodagh is recorded in the death register of February 1882, aged 77.

The head of the Ferguson household in 1901 was Alex, aged 96, and his sister Annie, aged 85. By 1911, they were no longer listed, presumably deceased.

Ferguson, 1839 (Barnish)

ERECTED

By Duncan Ferguson
of Tornabodagh

In Memory of his Son
JOHN who departed this
life 15th March 1839
Aged 14 years.



The Kerrs (or Carrs) were the only family remembered. In September 2018 two ladies from Glasgow visiting Ballyvoy commented that they were Carrs of Tornaroan. They lived there until they were 12. It is thought the family left during the 1950s. Denis Kerr of Tornabodagh died in 1962, and was buried in Barnish.

The Coal Mines.

Fieldnames (Local or Written Form / Original Form / English translation)

1. Casloinbarrow / Cosan Báraigh / Barach's path;
2. Goldnamuck / Guala na Muc / shoulder (ridge) of the pigs;
3. Lagglass / Lag Glashe / green hollow;
4. Lagmore / Lag Mór / great hollow;
5. Coalyard Cottage; 11. The Braes;
6. Colliery Bay; 12. Tornaroan Salt Pans;
7. Fisher's Port ; 13. Tornaroan Coalyard;
8. North Star Colliery; 14. Tornaroan Port;
9. Portnickavallen; 15. West Mine Colliery.
10. Sandy Nose;



Tuar na Ruán is thought to have the same origin as the neighbouring Droim an Ruáin (ridge of the red place), referring possibly to the reddish wildflower samhadh bó (sorrel). Several alternative translations for the townland name have been given over the years, for example Tor na Rón (tower of seals), and Tor na Ruadháin (tower of the moorland). However, *Tuar na Ruán* is thought to be the most likely original form, as *Tuar* can also be used to describe 'manured land; cattle-field; sheep-run; pasture; lea; bleaching green'.¹



'The 1/2 Townland of Tournaghroaghan', 1654 Down Survey.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 164-165).

Families

- 1734:**² McAlester, McCormick, McKerie, McKernan, McLean, McNeill, O'Laverty, O'Scallye.
- 1803:** Hamilton, McDuffee, McKeernon, Robin, Scally, Watson.
- 1831:** Coyles, Loughridge, McDuffee, McKernan, McKearnan, Murray, Scally, Wilson.
- 1861:** Dillon, Dixon, Hall, Jameson, McKeernan, Scally, Wilkinson.
- 1901:** Dillon, McKiernan (*& McAlister mother-in-law*), Scally (*& worker McMullan*).
- 1911:** Dillon, Kerrigan, McAlister, McKeirnan.
- 2018:** Boyle, Duncan, Jennings, McKiernan.

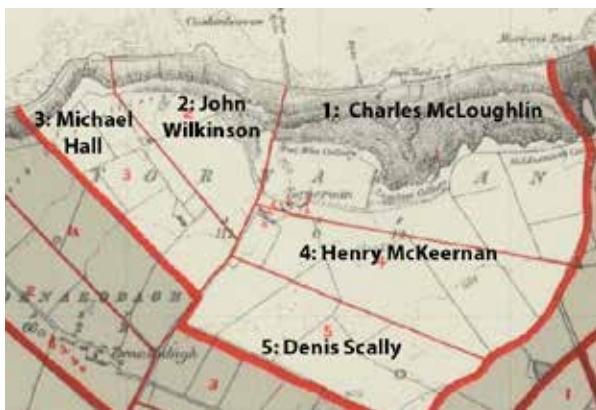
The three Tornaroon headstones in Bun na Margái are those of Daniel McAuley (d.1800), John and Rodger Scally (d.1844 and 1846), and one for Frank or Francis McKegue (d.1831). John Campbell and family are buried in Ballynaglogh, while the Coyles are buried in Barnish.



Campbell, Ballynaglogh.



Coyle 1841, Barnish.



Griffith's Valuation 1861: Houses 1b-e were Charles McLoughlin, John Dixon, Henry Jameson, Alexander Dillon, and John Wilkinson respectively. Charles McLoughlin had an office, but no house, at 1a, while John Wilkinson also had the freestone quarry. House 1e is thought to be the coalyard; in later years the McAuleys lived there. House 3's resident was Michael Hall, who also owned a lot of the seaweed rights on this side of Fair Head. Houses 4a & b were Henry McKeernan and Denis Scally's.

² Tornervan.

A genealogy request to the Glens of Antrim Historical Society was made from a granddaughter of Henry Hall of Tornaroan, who emigrated to New Zealand in 1890. His father was Henry Hall of Tornaroan, who was a son of Michael Hall, a coastguard stationed at Torr Head. Michael Hall died in 1882 in Tornaroan aged 75, with the informant his daughter Esther O'Hara. The Halls were no longer in Tornaroan by 1901.

In 1901 Hugh Dillon was a coalminer. The McKiernans and Denis Scally were farmers, although Denis was 84. Denis Scally died in 1906 aged 96, with John Fisher of Dunmakeltar present at the death.

In 1911 Hugh Dillon and the McKeirns were still resident. New residents were the coalminer John Kerrigan and his wife Fanny (née McAuley), who moved from Broughanlea, and another coalminer John McAlister of Belfast, with his wife Annie and their nine children.

Cosan Báraigh takes its name from Barach, the Chieftain residing in Dún Báraigh (aka Torr Head) in

the story of Deirdre and the Sons of Uisneach. *Cosan Báraigh* is also known as the *North Star Dyke*, with the area around the dyke marked on a 1790 map as *the Poor's Ground*. *Guala na Muc*, *Lag Glas*, and *Lag Mór* are names of the collieries, along with *West Mine* and *North Star*. *North Star* is said to take its name from Hugh Boyd of Ballycastle, who was nicknamed the 'Star of the North'.³ All the mines were working for periods in the early eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, but were all intermittently worked and then abandoned.

Portnickavallen is recorded in an old map of the collieries.⁴ 'Vallen' in placenames is usually translated as the personal name Meallán,⁵ but it has also been recorded as 'bhallen'⁶ (ballán), which can mean either a rock with a cup-shaped hole, a bare patch in a field, or a ballan wrasse (a type of fish to be found amongst the rocks and seaweed along the shore). The 'nick' part is usually translated as cnoc (hill).⁷ The port of the bare hill may be an original form.



Henry McKiernan .

The site of *Portnickavallen* is hard to place as the old map does not draw the coastline in great detail, but it may be the old name for *Fishers' Port*. *Fisher's Port* was named after Johnny Fisher, who used to farm in Tornaroan. After living in Tornaroan the Fishers moved to Drumnakeel, and then, in 1801, to Dunmakeltar.⁸ The *Salt Pans* are said to be on the site of the former *Coalyard Cottage*,⁹

3 Barnes, I. & Boyd, HA (1977) Notes on Ballycastle in the Olden Days. Glynn's, Vol 5.

4 McGill, D. & Reid, G. (2007) Col Hugh Boyd's Ballycastle. Causeway Museum Service: Coleraine.

5 Northern Ireland Place-Name Project – Lurgyvallen, County Armagh; Bravallen, County Antrim.

6 Northern Ireland Place-Name Project – Trickvallen, County Tyrone.

7 Northern Ireland Place-Name Project – Moneynick, County Antrim.

8 Morgan (2006: 49).

9 SM7-MRA-009-012.

below what is now the car park.¹⁰ The bucket pot is below the eastern wall of the cottage. The *Coalyard Cottage* was also known as Call the Coals, after the calling of the weight of the coals by the man in charge.¹¹ On the shoreline below this was *Tornaroan Port*,¹² one of the many little ports along the coast now gone. Edmund McGildowney had built his own salt pans in the mid-1700s, his correspondence dated 1788 is *'lamenting that Boyd's new lease of the salt-works to someone else militates against the working of another salt-works which McGildowney himself has erected'*.¹³ We don't

know if McGildowney's was in Tornaroan, but Boyd held the Salt Pans at Broughanlea, and the Earl of Antrim was in Ballyreagh. There was also a freestone quarry in Tornaroan, subject of a dispute involving the Boyds, McNeiles of Colliers' Hall, McGildowney, and the Earl of Antrim in the early 1800s, ending up in an 1824 lawsuit. A lease was granted by the Earl of Antrim to the Boyds in 1736, and then sold by the Boyds to McGildowney in 1792. The Antrim Estate claimed ownership after Mark Kerr married into the McDonnells.¹⁴ The Kerrs' case was that the quarry wasn't Boyd's to

sell to McGildowney. McGildowney contended the opposite, delicately balancing it all with his position as the agent for the Kerrs in the Antrim Estate.

There is a story about how *Coalyard Cottage* got the name *Marconi's Cottage*. It's not thought that Marconi was ever near the place, but back when Ballycastle Urban Council existed, someone had proposed a memorial to Marconi. The Urban Council weren't interested, so the Rural Council offered *Coalyard Cottage* as a location for the memorial.



The Coalyard Cottage in 1952.



The photo is thought to be of one of the McKiernans, c.1900. HOYFM.WAG.831 Fair Head from the Coal Mines © National Museums NI.

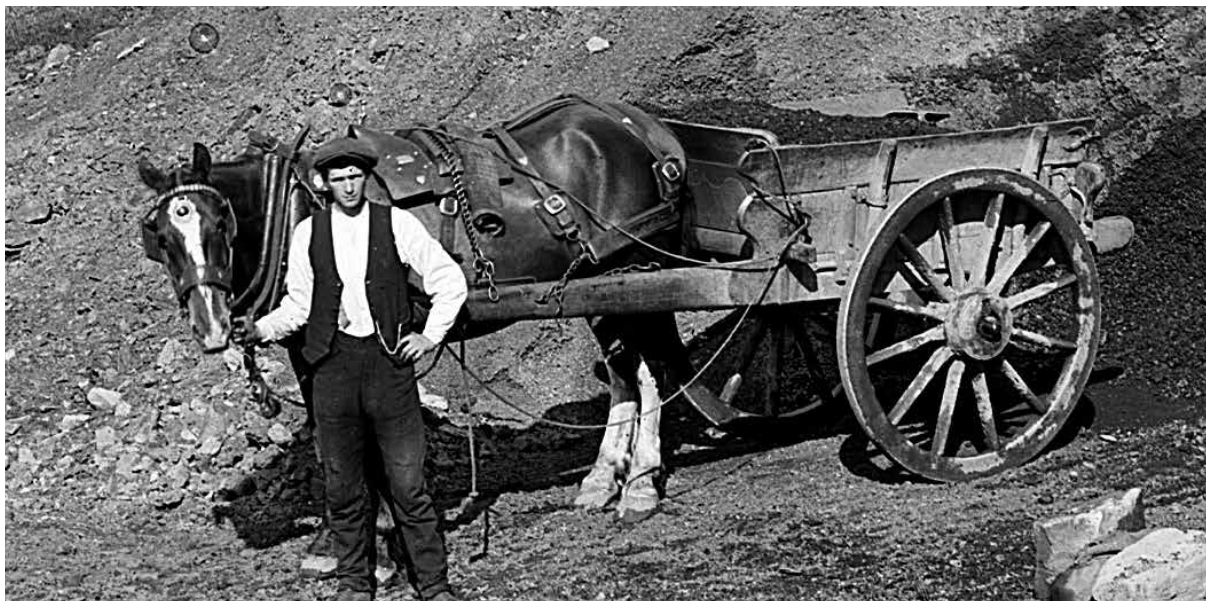
10 Morgan (2006: 64) citing Danny McGill in the Glynnys Vol 17.

11 Morgan (2006: 64).

12 Morgan (2006: 64).

13 D1375/3/30, PRONI.

14 D1375/2/11, PRONI.



Close up of the miner thought to be one of the McKiernans. HOYFM.WAG.831 © National Museums NI.

The Danish Coal Mine:

The Reverend William Hamilton included this story in his 1790 book, *Letters Concerning the Northern Coast of the County of Antrim*:

"About the year 1770, the miners, in pushing forward an adit toward the bed of coal, at an unexplored part of the Ballycastle cliff (the mine opened here has since been called the north star, from its superior value), unexpectedly broke through the rock into a narrow passage, so much contracted, and choaked up with various drippings and deposits on its sides and bottom, as rendered it impossible for any of the workmen to force through, that they might examine it farther. Two lads were therefore made to creep in with candles, for the purpose of exploring this subterranean avenue (their names were James M'Kiernan and William M'Neal; they are still employed as miners about these collieries). They accordingly pressed forward for a considerable time, with much labour and difficulty, and at length entered into an extensive labyrinth, branching off into numerous apartments, in the mazes and windings of which they were completely bewildered and lost."

The miners on the outside became concerned and started to dig out the passageway to get the boys, but they were so far in they couldn't hear each other. The boys were located 24 hours later, they were hitting their hammers off the rocks, carrying noise through the mine:

"On examining this subterranean wonder, it was found to be a complete gallery, which had been driven forward many hundred yards into the bed of coal (the adit had been carried forward 450 yards...). That it branched off into numerous chambers, where miners had carried on their different works (there were 36 of these chambers discovered, and esteemed so valuable as again to be occupied by the workmen who discovered them). That these chambers were dressed in a workman-

like manner (the sides and supports of the pits were even, and well squared: that part of the coal...was rejected by the old workmen; it is used by the present miners, who make no other objection to it, except that it breaks entirely into slack): that pillars were left at proper intervals to support the roof. In short, it was found to be an extensive mine, wrought by a set of people at least as expert in the business as the present generation. Some remains of the tools, and even of the baskets used in the works, were discovered, but in such a decayed state, that on being touched, they immediately crumbled to pieces.

The antiquity of this work is pretty evident from hence, that there does not remain the most remote tradition of it in the country...The people of this place attribute these works to the Danes..."¹⁵

Hamilton dismissed the theory of the original miners being Vikings, calling them plunderers, not settlers. However, there was a small Viking settlement on Rathlin in the ninth century, their graveyard was found in recent years. 450 yards back from the top of The Braes takes you below the road.



*Lifting the wrack, c.1900. BELUM.Y.W.01.56.13 Kelp gatherers at work near Fair Head, Co. Antrim.
© National Museums NI.*

15 Hamilton, W. (1790: 51-62) *Letters Concerning the Northern Coast of the County of Antrim*. George Bonham: Dublin.



A more recent version, c.1940. This is the wall just before the car park at the old Coalyard (in the background).



In the kelp pits, somewhere between Carey and Kinban, c.1940.

McCormick headstone.

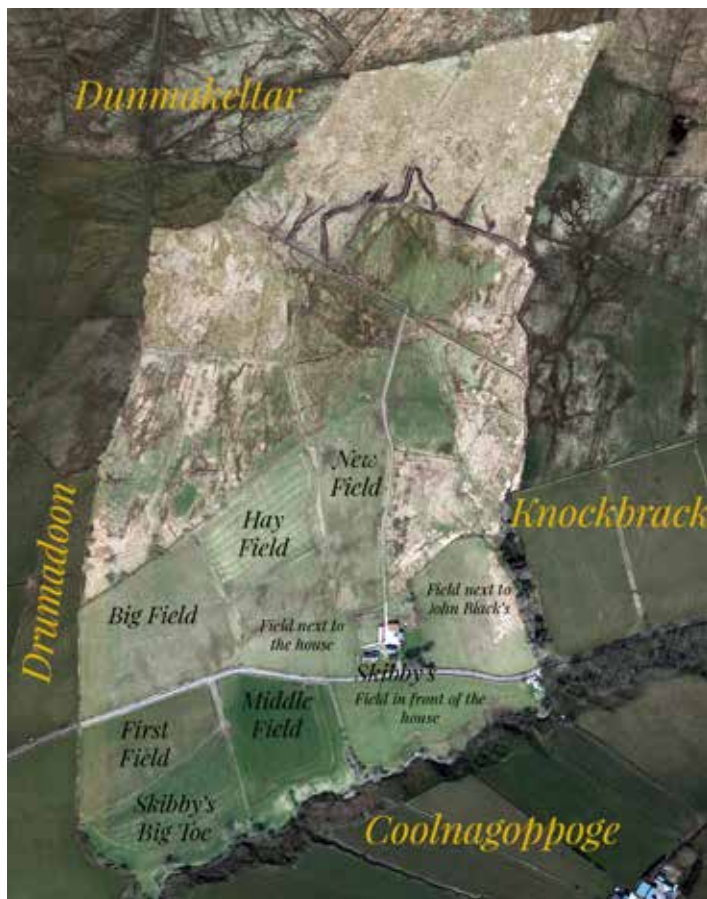
Fieldnames

1. Big Field;
2. Field in front of the house;
3. Field next to John Black's;
4. Field next to the house;
5. First Field;
6. Hay Field;
7. Middle Field;
8. New Field;
9. School Master's;
10. Skibby's;
11. Skibby's Big Toe.

TWENTY ACRES - DROIM NA MEALLÓG

Ridge of the knolls

40



Twenty Acres has been the name of the townland since 1734; prior to this it was *Droim na Meallóg*.¹ The origin of both names is uncertain, as Twenty Acres covers 128 acres, and the final element in *Droim na Meallóg* could be either *ballóg* (roofless house or ruin), or *meallóg* (knolls or small mounds). The 1654 Down Survey map shows the location of *Droim na Meallóg* roughly where Twenty Acres and Drumadoon are now.

The Hay Field is so named because it was cut for hay the first year the ground was bought. *The School Master's* is the house just on the Knockbrack boundary, which was the teacher's residence for Ballyucan School. *The School Master's* also acted as a barracks at a time. Prior to

this, it was the area pound for stray animals. *Skibby's Big Toe* is a name given to a distinctive rise in the field.

The OSM records several giant's graves, then on the holding of John O'Neill, as well as a leaning standing stone measuring five feet by three feet by two feet. However the sites are as yet unlocated.²

Families

- 1734:** Comish, Dorrugh, Ieahan.
- 1803:** Brennan, Connel, McCafferty, McHendry, McMullan.
- 1831:** Linn, McCambridge, O'Neill.
- 1861:** McMullen.
- 1901:** Cullen, Donaghy (& son-in-law, daughter, and grandson McFall).
- 1911:** Black (& workers Davison and Kerrigan).
- 2018:** Doherty, McBride.

1 Mac Gabhann (1997: 165).
2 OSM pg 55.

In the 1803 census the following farmers were recorded in 'Drimnamallog': Butler, Hunter, McAninch, McCormick four times, McGaughey, McGlarry, McMullan twice. *Twenty Acres* is recorded as a separate entry in 1803, so it's presumed these names are in the additional 63 acres. Drimnamallog took in parts of Drumadoon and Coolnagoppoge, as the only names still nearby in 1831 are Michael and James McMullan of Drumadoon, and James and John McCormick, also of Drumadoon.

Griffith's Valuation 1861:

James and Michael McMullen held all the ground, and lived at *Skibby's*. James McDonnell lived at the *School Master's*, although we believe Dr McDonnell was the landlord, rather than a resident.

In 1901 James Donaghy and family were living at *Skibby's*. Their McFall in-laws had moved to Goodland by 1911, with James' wife Mary recorded as Donohoe rather than Donaghy. James died in March 1911 a few months before the Census.

John Henry Cullen was the national school teacher in 1901, so it's presumed John was living in the School Master's house. John's family were his wife Margaret, daughters Mary, Margaret, and Elizabeth, and son Patrick. There were older sons John Henry Jr³ and Harry.⁴ John Henry Sr was also the trainer for the Culfeightrin Amateur Dramatic Club.⁵ Originally from Armagh, John Henry married Margaret McHenry, from the post office in Ballyvoy, in April 1879. He taught in Ballyucan, probably from as early as 1883, as they were living in Goodland when their eldest child Margaret was born that year. John Henry later moved into Ballycastle to teach in the Fair Hill School.⁶ He was originally from the townland of Tullygarron in Grange, County Armagh. John Henry Sr, his son Patrick, and the two Margarets are all buried in Barnish.

Patrick Black of Ballyucan (Big House) moved into the Donaghy's house after he married Mary Jane McDonnell of Dunmakeltar in February 1904. One of their children was Edmond, known as Skibby. He was a tall, quiet man. A story told about him is that he had gone to the Ballyvoy blacksmith to get a horse shod, and there was a boxing match on at the time. Edmond was asked if he wanted to join in while he was waiting, but said he didn't fight, and only wanted the shoe. The next offer made to him was that if he beat the blacksmith it would be done for free. It was made as a joke as no-one had ever seen Edmond throw a punch in his life. After about twenty seconds and a flurry of punches the blacksmith was on his back, and Edmond was asking him '*now about that horse?*'

3 1896 – The Intermediate Examinations Pass Lists, Boys Senior Grade – *Belfast News Letter*, August 31.

4 1896 - Torr Head Regatta & Athletic Sports - *Northern Constitution*, July 25.

5 1900 – Ballycastle Notes – *Northern Constitution*, June 2.

6 Morgan (2006: 107).

Old Twenty Acres Headstones

40

McCormick 1836 (Barnish)

This monument erected by Elanor M'Cormick of Twenty Acres to perpetuate the memory of Mary M'Cormick Wife of Arthur Conoly who departed this Life the 12 of Novembr 1



*Jamison (Old Ramoan)
The inscription is for Patrick Jamison of Twenty Acres, and possibly his wife.*

PLACENAMES AND FIELDNAMES OF
CULFEIGHTRIN



**Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council**

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