GENEALOGY

Methods & Sources in Ireland

Bibliography: p. 31-45.
A guide to source material for genealogical study, including the parish registers; the Public Record Office and the Genealogical Office, Dublin; Irish libraries; printed books; Irish records deposited in Britain; and the Irish Genealogical Research Society. Also lists reference books and printed records.

140 Falley, Margaret Dickson. *Irish and Scotch-Irish ancestral research; a guide to the genealogical records, methods and sources in Ireland.* Evanston, Ill.: 1962. 2 v.
A complete guide to Irish and Scotch-Irish genealogical research. These volumes deal in detail with preliminary research, repositories of records, the records themselves, bibliographies of published genealogical and historical family records and of unpublished records, reference materials, microfilm, and a bibliography for preliminary research.

Deals with research problems, political divisions, the Public Record offices, the Registry of Deeds, the Genealogical Office (Dublin), libraries, ecclesiastical records, tax rolls, census records, and several other topics.

Irish Names

Bibliographical footnotes.
The distribution of names in Britain, a subject important to the antiquities, history, and ethnology of the land. Contains distribution in alphabetical order of general, common, and regional names; characteristic family names of the English counties, with notes; surnames of Wales; homes of English and Welsh names; and Scottish names.

Shows the Gaelic origin of many surnames which have been Anglicised. The author deals also with Ulster and Scottish names, illustrating early connections between Scotland and Ireland. Some of the history of the families and septs is included, as is the location of various branches.

MacLysaght, former chief Herald of Ireland, produced this volume to correct common errors and to present essential facts on Irish nomenclature and families. He deals with "Mac" and "0" names, distortion of Irish surnames, distribution and continuity, Christian names, changes of name, origins of Irish families, and Anglo-Irish families. Includes Barony Map, family arms, and useful appendices relating to rare names, Anglicized and foreign forms, etc.
A revised edition of the author’s authoritative work which was originally published in 1957.

146 Matheson, Sir Robert Edwin. Special report on surnames in Ireland, with notes as to numerical strength, derivation, ethnology, and distribution; based on information extracted from the indexes of the General register office. Dublin: 1894. 73, 1 p.
A general dissertation on the subject, with interesting examples of vagaries of spelling and recent translation of Irish surnames. Lists each name for which five or more births were registered in 1890, and usually gives county or counties in which the name is most prevalent. [Distribution of surnames has not altered materially since. - MacLysaght]

147 ___. Varieties and synonymes of surnames and Christian names in Ireland. For the guidance of registration officers and the public in searching the indexes of births, deaths, and marriages. Dublin: 1901. 94 p.
The author (the Registrar-General) analyzes orthographical changes and considers the use of different surnames interchangeably. Also includes a chapter on Christian names, and an alphabetical list of surnames with their varieties and synonyms.

A leaflet with a map of Northern Ireland illustrating the homesteads of U.S. presidential families (Wilson, Arthur, McKinley, Grant, and Jackson) and Grey's Printery. Includes a short article, "The Scotch-Irish Story," and descriptions of the homestead locales.

Contains an explanation of the Irish name system, and lists of the names of men, women, and surnames, from English to Irish and vice versa, with explanatory and historical notes. Christian names are those in use at the present or at some period in the past; surnames are taken from two incomplete lists published by the Registrar-General, supplemented by newspapers, observations, and history.

Heraldry and Heraldic Dictionaries

150 The Book of family crests; comprising nearly every family bearing, properly blazoned and explained, accompanied by upwards of four thousand engravings ...with the surnames of the bearers alphabetically arranged, a dictionary of mottos, an essay on the origin of arms, crests, etc., and a glossary of terms. Edited by Henry Washbourne. 13th ed. London: 1882. 2 v.
Vol. 1 contains essays on the origin of arms, crests, wreaths and mottos; a dictionary of mottos; crowns and coronets of the degrees of nobility; British and Foreign Orders of Knighthood; a description of birds, beasts, etc., used in armorial bearings; glossary of terms used in the blazonry of crests. Vols. 1-2 contain a dictionary of bearers' names, with titles, mottos, and blazonry of their crests. Concerns families of the British Isles and colonies.

Vol. 2 contains the alphabetical listings of names from L to Z. Vol. 3 has a supplement of around 500 more families and a general index for the three volume set.
152. A genealogical and heraldic history of the commoners of Great Britain and Ireland, enjoying territorial possessions or high official rank; but uninvested with heritable honours. London: 1833-38. 4 v.

The lineage of the families of the English "independent country gentlemen," that is, those with estates or high official rank, "invested however with no exclusive rank - designated by no exclusive title - and born to no exclusive privilege."


This volume contains the peerages of England which, at date of publication, were extinct, dormant, and in abeyance. This work was undertaken to show the link between the existing English gentry and the ancient nobility. Also contains Magna Carta, Charter of Forests and the Roll of Battle Abbey.


Special articles include "The Trust of Landowning." “Landed Properties and Proprietors," and "Reflections on the Landed Gentry." This is the first Burke's to appear since 1952. Each volume has names from A-Z, with priority given to families which supplied updated material. This edition contains a great many pedigrees of families which have never appeared in Burke before.


A revised edition of the genealogical and heraldic history of the Irish landed gentry published in 1912. Contains several prefatory articles on Irish genealogy, surnames, peerage and military service.

156 Debrett's peerage of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. 18th ed.; newly arranged and considerably improved. London: 1830. 2 v.

Vol. I contains prefatory matter on subjects such as degrees of nobility, arms, mottoes, and precedence; the main work gives the descent of English dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, barons, archbishops and bishops. Vol. 2 contains the peerages of Scotland and Ireland, with an appendix giving titles extinct, dormant, in abeyance, and forfeited.

157 The Irish compendium, or rudiments of honour, containing the descent, marriage, issue, titles, posts, and seats, of all the nobility of Ireland. With their arms, crests, supporters, mottoes, and parliament robes ... engraved on copper plates. 5th ed. London: 1756. 560, 4 p.

Revision of former edition, with additions from Lodge's work. John Lodge, Deputy Keeper of the Rolls.


This volume is meant to accompany "the Peerage of the British Empire as now existing," which gives the peerage of the three kingdoms. It contains the ancestors and family of the nobility of the time (1832), and includes the genealogy of the Royal family, genealogy of the peerage, index of mottoes, index to the arms, and plates of the arms.

Irish Source Materials
Reprint of the 1930 ed., published under title: *Irish genealogical guides*.
Includes a list of copies and abstracts of Irish wills from the library of the Society of Genealogists, London; a list made in 1929 at the Public Record Office, Dublin, of the copies of wills contained in the Prerogative Will Books for 1664-84, 1706-08 (A-W), 1726-28 (A-W), 1728-29 (A-W), 1777 (A-L), 1813 (K-Z), 1834 (A-E); a list of early original wills deposited in England; and a list of copies and abstracts of wills contained in several archaeological and genealogical journals, family histories, etc.

Lib. has vols. 1-11.
General application to northern Ireland graveyards with concentration on co. Down. Transcriptions include the name of the graveyard, name of the deceased, date of birth and death (or age), a description of the tomb, residence of the deceased and occupation; details vary, some having more information than others.

161 Cork and Ross, Ire. (Diocese). *Index to the marriage license bonds of the diocese of Cork and Ross, Ireland, for the years from 1628-1750, preserved in the Public record office of Ireland*. Copied ...from the index prepared in the Public record office, by Herbert Webb Gillman. Cork: 1896-7. 141 p.
These bonds, in most cases, are the only official evidence of the marriages to which they refer, because few parish registers in co. Cork contain records prior to 1800 and because the Grant Books for Cork marriage licenses only commence in 1750. Bonds contain the names of the persons to be married, and of the surety who loins in the bond, residences of these persons and other particulars about them.

162 D’Alton, John. *Illustrations, historical and genealogical, of King James’ Irish Army list (1889)*. Dublin: 1855. xvi, 975 p.
The first ed. contains memoirs of 500 families, largely the ancient aristocracy of Ireland, in commission as colonels and subaltern officers of the Regiments of Horse, Dragoons, and Infantry in the army of James II. For each family, information regarding history, genealogy, and ancient localities is given, along with the effect upon them of Cromwell’s Denunciation Ordnance of 1652, attainders and confiscations; how they were represented in various parliaments; involvement in the Act of Settlement; nominations in King James’ New Charters; and claims against their confiscations at Chichester House in 1700. The second ed. expands the historical and genealogical data of the families and septa where available.

163 Farrar, Henry. *Irish marriages, being an index to the marriages in Walker's Hibernian magazine, 1771 to 1812*. With an appendix, from the notes of Sir Arthur Vicars ...Ulster, king of arms, of the births, marriages, and deaths in the *Anthologica Hibernica*, 1793 and 1794. London: 1897. 2 v.
These volumes make available the information found in Walker's *Hibernian magazine* from its first issue in 1771 until discontinuance in 1812, on Irish marriages. Appendix contains index to births, marriages and deaths in the periodical *Anthologia Hibernica* for 1793-94.

This index, covering the years 1710-55 and 1817-30, is the list of marriage license bonds from the Diocese of Raphoe which were held at the Public Record Office before 1922. Gives name of bride and groom and year of the bond. Does not include Catholic or Presbyterian weddings - only those held in the established church. Where parties came from two dioceses, the bond was taken out in the bride's diocese.
165 Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. **Major genealogical record sources in Ireland.** Salt Lake City: 1966. 5 p.
   Lists type of record, period covered, type of information given, and source availability. One table shows major availability by century, and another the mayor sources chronologically arranged.

   Pedigrees, autographs, arms, and some portraits for various Irish families.
   Includes an index of names, and a list of additions updating the material. Also contains several bookplates of gentleman included in the pedigrees.

   Vol. 1 has Blennerhassett Pedigree 1688-1736; "The antiquities of Tralee"; "The Last Geraldyn Chief of Tralee Castle"; "The Black Earl's Raid"; "Tralee of the Dennys"; "Dingle of the Husseys"; Caoine on the Knight of Kerry, Obit, 161+2; the seignory of Castle Island; Castlemagne and its constables; Deposition connected with 1641; Forfeitures of 1688; lists of estates sold to the Hollow Sword Blade co.; list of Corcoguiny lands forfeited by the Rices; list of claims on forfeited lands; Kerry men of the Brigade; inscriptions and epitaphs; and lists of Kerry grand jurors, high sheriffs, etc. 1600-1872. Vol. 2 has Crosbie mss.; church records; certificates of persons ordered to transplant from Kerry, 1653; List of "Papist Proprietors" from Civil Survey (Castle mss.); notes on forfeited lands from the Book of Distributions; Danish silver robbery; 18th Century Kerry; Genealogical notes; "The Knights of Kerry"; Exchequer Records; Inquisitions; Maps; Notes from Annals of Innisfallen and Carew mss.; Correspondence of Robert, Knight of Kerry, 1774-80; and "Lords of Kerry."

168 Index of wills, dioceses of Cork and Ross, 1611-1833, by Richard Caulfield ...prepared June 24, 1873.
   From the Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society.
   Arranged alphabetically giving name, location, date and occupation where available. In 1750 the wills were first copied into books. The index for 1802-33 also gives page of book in which the will has been transcribed.

169 Index to the act or Grant books, and to original mills of the Diocese of Dublin to the year 1800. Dublin: 1895. 1089 p. With this is bound: the 26th report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records ...1894.
   The Grants of Administration run fairly regularly from 16381800, with an interval from 1657-61. The original wills to a large extent supply the gaps in the volumes of proved wills. Index gives name, place and occupation where available, year, nature of record, and page. Report of the Deputy Keeper has lists of deposits and transferrals, abstract of inquisition, co. Antrim (1605), extracts from Mr. Wood's report on bankruptcy records (1857-72), catalog of justiciary rolls and rolls of justices itinerant.

   Vol. 1, 1708-45; Vol. 2, 1746-85. Abstracts of wills recorded at the Registry of Deeds, classed as Full, Narrate, and Precis. Numbered in chronological order of registration. Gives name and address of testator; occupation if mentioned in the will; date of signing; how recorded; length of the memorial and date of registration; relatives, names and addresses of other legatees, trustees, executors, etc.; lands; tenants, witnesses; and number of the book, page and memorial.

A collection of genealogies of selected Irish families, in Irish language only. These are primarily genealogies of Munster families. Includes a genealogical table.

According to E. MacLysaght, former chief Herald of Ireland, “the serious genealogist uses O’Hart with caution, if at all, for he is a far from reliable authority except for the quite modern period.” Has Irish pedigrees (down to the representative when the family was deprived of its patrimony) and Anglo-Irish pedigrees (to the commonwealth). Appendices have valuable lists of officers, forfeitures, grantees, etc.

This volume gives around 257 additional genealogies collected from mss. at Trinity College or in the Royal College Academy. Others have been enlarged or corrected. Some of these are in the addenda. Appendices give various relevant lists.

Gives name, location, sometimes marital status and occupation, and date of probate (or date of will where no date of probate is recorded). Vol. 1 has Ossory (1536-1800), Leighlin (1652-1800), Ferns (1601-1800), and Kildare (1661-1800). Vol. 2 has Cork and Ross (1548-1800), and Cloyne (1621-1800). Vol. 3 has Cashel and Emly (1618-1800), Waterford and Lismore (1645-1800), Killaloe and Killfenora (1653-1800), Limerick (1715-1800), and Ardfield and Aghadoe (1690-1800). Vol. 4 has Dromore (1678-1858), Newry and Mourne (1727-1858). Vol. 5 has Derry (1612-1858) and Raphoe (1684-1858).

Index to wills proved in the Prerogative Court 1536-1810; a separate index to the alliances and aliases mentioned in the wills; a catalogue of around a hundred wills (the Hawkins Collection) reprinted from the 14th report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Record of Ireland; and a table showing the relation between the counties and dioceses of Ireland.

Contains genealogies, wills, testimonial letters, certificates Gates of baptisms, marriages and deaths presented to the Council of Military Orders in Spain by Irishmen or Spanish of Irish origin, in support of their application for Knighthood of the Military Orders of Santiago and Calatrava. Also includes lists of sponsors. Covers period 1607-1786 (vol. 1) and 1617-1889 (vol. 2). Mostly in Spanish.

Genealogical Periodicals

The Journal contains inscriptions from tombs and other memorials to the dead, arranged by parish and churchyard; also extracts from family bibles and other information useful to the genealogist. With index of names.

Contains news of the society, mayor articles on all aspects of Irish genealogy (family histories, records and chronicles, names, inscriptions, etc.) and reviews of new publications. The official journal of the Irish Genealogical Research Society.
179 The Irish Ancestor. v.l- 1969- Dublin.  
This publication has articles with a great deal of useful information to the genealogist - passenger lists, lists of public officials, entries from family bibles, marriage and tombstone inscriptions, indexes to various lists, and reviews of publications.

Family Histories

Authentic works comprising the main reference sources of the history of the 0'Dalaigh; p. 534-537: Government publications p. 537-538. 
A history of the 0'Dalaigh family from ancient to modern times. Includes the origin of the family, its genealogy, scholars, marriage records, officers, priests, and descendants throughout the world.

A history of the Wall family, originally Anglo-Norman, tracing it from Normandy through England and South Wales to Ireland, and through the succeeding centuries after the Norman invasions to the present. Reflects land tenure systems, the effects of rebellions and confiscations, and the narrow margin often separating settler and native. Also important to the local history of several Irish counties.

Traces the history of the Grubb family of Tipperary from the arrival of John Grubb in 1656, a soldier turned Quaker. Does an admirable job of clothing the ancestors with "flesh and blood," fitting their lives into the drama of history, and presenting their lineage. Nicely illustrated with plates, some colored.

The first comprehensive account of the MacCarthy clan, predominant in South Ireland for centuries. Contains a great deal of information on all the branches and sub-branches of the clan. Although not an exhaustive history, the volume covers a wide range of subjects, beginning with early history.

Bibliographical footnotes. 
The Northern Irish clans claiming descent from King Niall of the nine hostages: O'Neills, McLoughlins, Kanes, Devlins, Donnellys, Gormleys, McCloskeys, Mullans, Duddys, Mellans, O'Hagans, Quinns, Hamills, and Brollys. The book traces the rise of the O'Neills, the mainstay of whose power was the O'Kane clan. An account is given of Henry Docwra's conquest of No. Derry, the 1641 rebellion, the battle of Druma-Chose, Shane Crossagh and Brian Mann, and many other interesting subjects. Includes genealogical tables for O'Cahans.

Poet-historian Thomas Sweeney traces the MacSweeney clan in verse from Turloch MacSweeney in 1000 A.D. through the centuries to post-civil war descendants in America.