

An A to Z of Irish Genealogical Terms

By Fiona Forde

Did you know that an Irish mile is 6,720 feet (1,440 feet longer than an English mile)? If you are tracing your Irish roots, you will come across certain terms in your research. While most are straightforward, some may require further explanation. The following list should be helpful in understanding many of the common terms used.

Term	Description	Link To Further Details
Archdiocese	Administrative church area comprising of dioceses. In Ireland today there are 4 Roman Catholic archdioceses.	http://bit.ly/2IgrcJ2
Barony	A group of civil parishes. Baronies originally related to tuatha, tribal division of old Ireland.	http://bit.ly/2rn5idw
Census	The first relatively accurate Irish census took place in 1821, and were taken approximately every 10 years until 1946, where they were taken every 5 years. However, apart from a few fragments, nothing remains prior to 1901.	http://bit.ly/2FL5oQF
Church Parish	A group of parishes make up a diocese. In Ireland, Roman Catholic Church records are based on these.	http://bit.ly/2IgrcJ2
Civil Parish	Consist of a number of townlands, generally map to Church of Ireland Parishes.	http://bit.ly/2rn5idw
Civil Registration	Civil registration is the system by which a government records the vital events (births, marriages, and deaths) of its citizens and residents. Civil registration in Ireland commenced in 1864, when it became compulsory to register all births, deaths and marriages. Non-Catholic marriages were registered with the civil authorities from 1845.	http://bit.ly/2HSCP5C
Cognomen	Latin for surname (family name).	
Congregational Records	Part of Irish parish registers, not belonging with the baptisms, marriages or burials. They feature records relating to other sacraments e.g. Communion, Confirmation, donations, and many other administrative records for the parish.	
Consanguinati en tertio grado	Latin for second cousins.	
Consanguinitas/Con.	Latin meaning blood relationship (usually found on parish marriage records).	
County	There are 32 counties in Ireland.	http://bit.ly/2KEiuCz
Diocese	Administrative church area controlled by a bishop. In Ireland today there are 22 Roman Catholic dioceses.	http://bit.ly/2IgrcJ2
Down Survey	Taken in the years 1656-1658 by William Petty, the Down Survey of Ireland is the first ever detailed land survey on a national scale anywhere in the world.	http://bit.ly/2LERgzn
English Mile	5,280 feet, this dates back to the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1 in the 16th century.	http://bit.ly/2LLLGuS
Fenian	Political movement in the mid-nineteenth century in favour of an independent Ireland. Its name comes from the mythological Fianna army of Fionn MacCumhail.	http://bit.ly/2wfoizh

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Prehistoric Gold Artefacts Discovered In County Donegal



The National Museum of Ireland received a report on Tuesday 26 June 2018 of the discovery of significant artefacts in County Donegal, which appear to date from the Bronze Age.

Experts from the National Museum travelled to the site where the artefacts were discovered and carried out a thorough investigation of the area for evidence of how and when the important artefacts were deposited.

The Director of the National Museum of Ireland, Ms Lynn Scarff said: "The National Museum of Ireland is delighted by the news of this exciting find. The Museum would like to recognise the cooperation of the finders and the local community in Donegal. We would also like to acknowledge our colleagues at the Donegal County Museum, the National Monuments Service and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for their collaboration and assistance with this discovery, and look forward to working closely with them in relation to this find over the coming months."

The Chair of the Board of the National Museum of Ireland, Ms Catherine Heaney said: "This find brings our ancient history and heritage alive: The details of the find, the prevailing weather, the

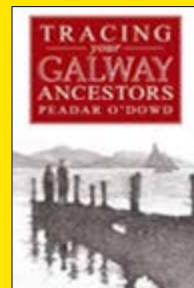
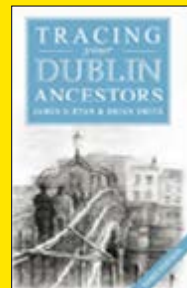
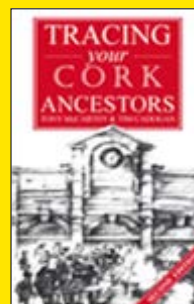
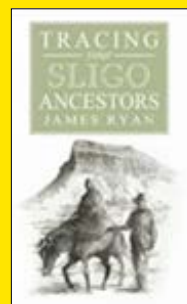
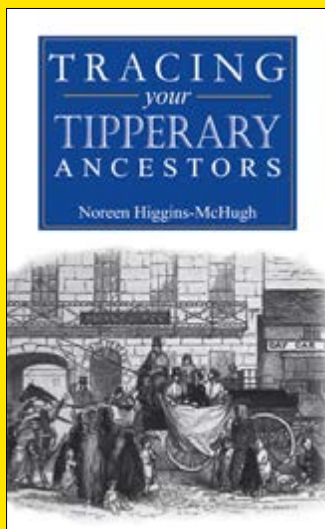
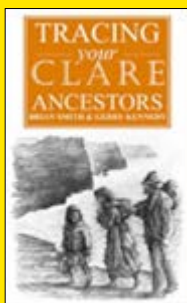
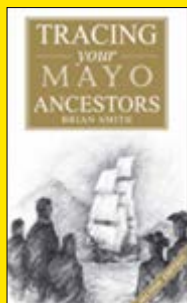
examination of the artefacts and other detail will all place this find into a context that's of interest to people of all generations.

For the Museum, our big challenge now is to complete the examination of the hoard and make it available for public enjoyment as soon as possible. This treasure belongs to the public: sharing it, and its accompanying story, is the duty of the National Museum of Ireland. We look forward to collaborating with Donegal County Council and County Museum in ensuring maximum public engagement with the treasure."

The Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan said: "My Department and the National Monuments Service were delighted to cooperate with National Museum of Ireland colleagues and Donegal County Museum over recent days on the significant discovery and thanks the finders for their prompt reporting of the discovery, which allowed the museum carry out its important investigation into the circumstances of the find."

Following their discovery, the artefacts were immediately removed from the site and transferred to the National Museum of Ireland. They will be put on display as soon as initial investigations are concluded.

Tracing Your....



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By James G. Ryan

County Tipperary is one of the largest Irish counties, and eighty percent is arable agricultural land. It also has several significant towns including Roscrea, Clonmel, Thurles, Nenagh Cashel, Carrickon-Suir and Templemore. All of these have been, and still are, centres for industry. Historically, the county was formed the old Gaelic territories of Ormond, and Thomond. The major Gaelic families include (O') Fogarty, O'Brien, Kennedy, Ryan (and Mulryan), Moloney, Meagher/Maher, Hayes, Hourigan and Gleeson.

In 1172 the county was invaded by the Normans and the land was granted to Theobald Walter, who was given the title of 'Chief Butler of Ireland' from which the family took the name Butler. Other Norman names found in the county are Prendergast, Burke, Purcell, Fitzgerald, Everard and Grace. As elsewhere, the Normans assimilated into the local population and British culture and administrative influence gradually waned over the following centuries. In 1641 the Irish and Norman chiefs of Tipperary joined the rebellion of the Catholic Confederacy but were defeated by Oliver Cromwell in 1649. There followed a major confiscation of land and its redistribution to Cromwellian soldiers and supporters. This was the foundation of some of the major estates on which the vast majority lived as tenants for the next few centuries. The people of the county were major players in the various movements for land reform and independence during all of this time.

The county has undergone major changes in population. In 1841 (according to the official census) it had 435,000 residents, but this dropped to 173,000 by 1891, as a result of the Great Famine (1845-47)

and subsequent emigration. The 2016 census shows that the county has a population of 160,400 but it has been rising significantly in recent decades.

Tipperary has a relatively diverse set of records for family research. It has all of the major national records: Civil records of birth, death and marriage start in 1864 and most of these are available on-line from www.irishgenealogy.ie. It is planned that all of these records (up to at least 1918) will be available in due course. Griffith's Valuation (a major listing of land occupiers) was conducted in 1851 and is available on many websites including www.askaboutireland.ie. The 1901 and 1911 census returns are available on-line at www.nationalarchives.ie.

If you are beginning your search and do not know where your family was located within Tipperary, these are useful starting points. A search in the Griffith Valuation, for instance, will show whether the name is associated with a particular local area (e.g. a civil parish). If it is, then you can search the church or other records from that area to find evidence of your ancestors. Equally, the 1901 census, although compiled long after the major period of emigration, may indicate the local prevalence of a surname. When you have identified a

likely area, or a definite ancestor, one or more of the following types of records can extend your search.

Church Records

There are 56 Roman Catholic parishes serving the county, the majority of these have start-dates in the 1800s: and only 11 have registers for periods in the 18th century, the oldest being Ardmayle which start in 1736. The late start-date of church records may relate to the poverty of the local population, or occasionally due to proscription of Catholic church practices. A full description of the factors which affected creation and maintenance of church records is in 'Irish Church Records' (Flyleaf Press, 2001). www.ancestornetwork.ie/flyleaf/book/Irish-Church-Records.

Catholic Church registers are available online and free to access on the National Library of Ireland website <http://registers.nli.ie/>. In addition, an index to these registers is available on the pay-for sites www.findmypast.ie and Ancestry.com. They are also indexed on www.rootsireland.ie. There are 54 Church of Ireland parishes with records, but again the start dates are relatively late and only 10 have records starting during the 1700s. However, Cashel parish