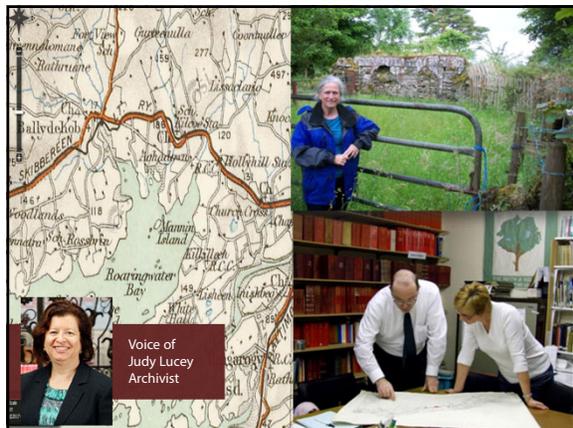


1



2



3

Research in Northern Ireland

- Making the most of online records
 - Archives and library materials online
 - Genealogy websites
- Other records for research
- Planning a future visit
- Unable to visit?
 - Hiring a researcher



A cabin at Glencolumbkille, County Donegal, PRONI Flickr

4

Northern Ireland vs. Ulster

- Northern Ireland
 - Formed in 1922
 - Six Counties
- Ulster Province
 - Nine Counties
 - Includes three in Republic of Ireland
 - Cavan
 - Donegal
 - Monaghan



5

General tips for Ulster research

- Know the place
 - Parish name is good enough
 - Townland is better
- Religion of ancestor
- Parents names
- Time period plays significant role

6

Discovery of the ancestral place



Where is my ancestor from?
Road signs, County Sligo.
Photo by Judy Lucey



The remnants of the ancestral home
at Cloonainra, Co. Mayo (2014)

7

Identify Administrative Divisions

Province

County

Baronies

Parishes
(civil and church)

Townland



8

Placenamesni.org

Placenamesni.org
For history Ireland our place-names

Home | What's New | Place-name Search | Land Units | Language | Baronies | Parishes | Counties | Map of Boundaries

Discover the origin of our local place-names
At placenamesni.org we've collected information on the origins and meanings of over 30,000 place-names from all over Northern Ireland.

Enter a place-name to get started

Townland of
Ballycassidy,
County
Fermanagh



Language

Various languages have been spoken in Ulster historically: primarily Irish, English and Scots. More...



Land Units

The historic administrative division of Ireland has been (in descending order) province, county, barony, civil parish and townland. More...



Map View

Use the map to explore Northern Ireland and discover the location of place-names. More...

9

Ballycassidy, County Fermanagh

Show the Map

Origin
Ir: Baile Uí Chaiside (Baile na hAhaaidy) 'O' Cassidy's townland'

Background
 6.5km N of Enniskillen
 par: Trory bar: Tirkennedy
 The family of Ó Caiside 'O' Cassidy' were formerly hereditary poets and physicians to the Maguire rulers of Fermanagh. The BALLYCASSIDY RIVER flows into Lower Lough Erne a short distance to the west (Ballycassidy 1659).

References
 McKay, P. (2007): A Dictionary of Ulster Place-Names, p. 11

Additional Information

Historical name form

Old Form	Ref. Date	Reference
Ballycassidy	1659	Census 1659 102

Ballycassidy search results

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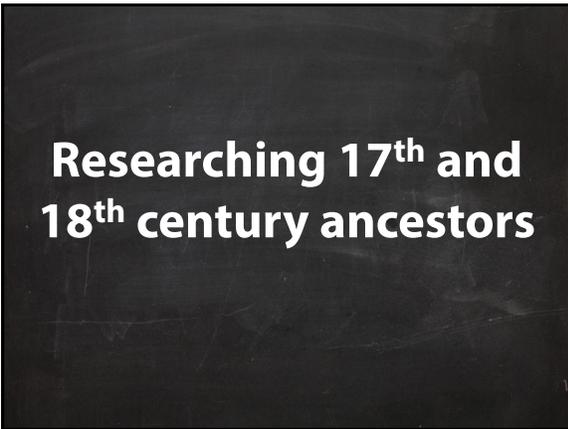
Researching Donegal, Cavan, and Monaghan ancestors

11

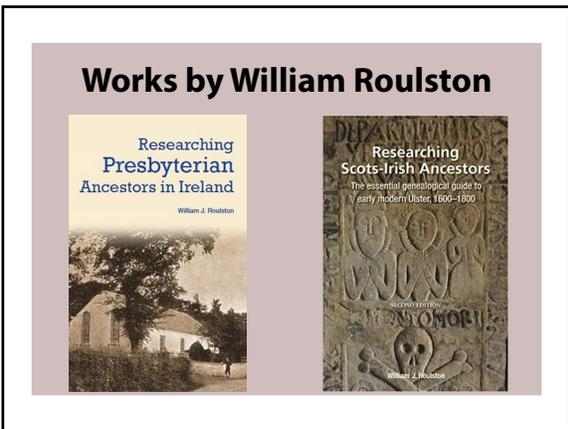
Where to research?

- Depends on religion and types of records
- Irish Catholic ancestry
 - In Republic
 - Church records
 - Civil registration
 - Griffith's Primary Valuation and its records
- When to turn to Belfast
 - Protestant ancestry including non-conformists
 - Estate records
 - PRONI has a lot of County Monaghan records

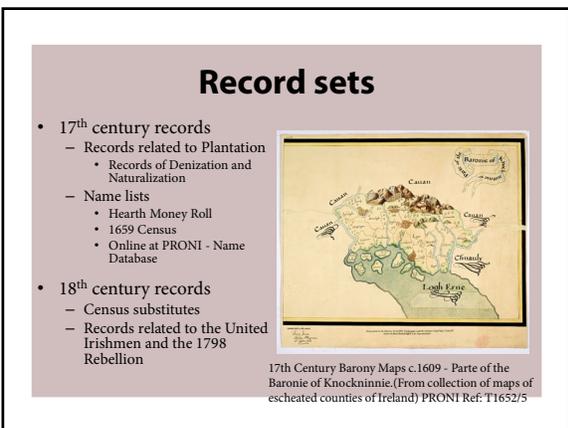
12



13



14



15



16

Works by David Dobson

- Books on the Ulster Plantations, 1600-1699
 - Lanarkshire
 - Dumfries and Galloway
 - Ayrshire
 - Renfrewshire
- Lists of names
 - Extracted from primary and secondary sources

17

Dobson book on Lanarkshire

LAWSON, JAMES, in Govington, husband of Bessie Aitken, testament, 1621, Comm. Lanark.

LAWSON, JAMES, born 1650, in Cherriff, died 1728 (Watson M)

LAWSON, JAMES, born 1654, a coach in Dunbarton, died 1722. (Watson M)

LAWSON, JOHN, born 1645, in Ellrigg, died 1725, husband of Agnes Lawson, born 1654, died 1722. (Watson M)

LAWSON, JOHN, in Ellrigg of Kilmory, Ireland, by 1708, son of John Lawson in Ellrigg of Dunbarton, Lanarkshire, a justice. [NAS.9542.X.376]

LAWSON, Captain RICHARD, a merchant who was admitted as a burgher and gildbrother of Glasgow on 13 June 1600, by right of his wife Margaret, daughter of Robert Barr a merchant and gildbrother, but later he settled in Ireland and consequently lost his burgher rights by 1655. [GSR]

LECK, JOHN, a merchant burgher of Glasgow, testament, 1625, Comm. Glasgow.

LECKIE, WILIAM, a messenger in Hamilton, a justice, 1670. [NAS.9542.X.134]

LECKIE, WILLIAM, was admitted as a burgher and gildbrother of Glasgow on 5 April 1660, by right of his wife Marie, daughter of James Duncan a hattermaker burgher and gildbrother. [GSR]; a merchant in Glasgow, a Covenanter who was transported to the West Indies in 1678. [RPCS.XI.134]

LEES, WILLIAM, merchant and portioner of Kirktoun of Douglas, husband of Jean McMath, sashes from 1690, [NAS.R542.X.305, etc]; deed, 1696. [NAS.RD4.79.1060]

LEES, WILLIAM, merchant and portioner of Kirktoun of Douglas, husband of Jean McMath, sashes from 1690, [NAS.R542.X.305, etc]; deed, 1696. [NAS.RD4.79.1060]

LEGGAT, WILLIAM, in Mains of Hillington, Symington, testament, 1625, Comm. Glasgow.

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LEW, ALEXANDER, a burgher of Glasgow, testament, 1661, Comm. Glasgow.

LEES, WILLIAM, merchant and portioner of Kirktoun of Douglas, husband of Jean McMath, sashes from 1690, [NAS.R542.X.305, etc]; deed, 1696. [NAS.RD4.79.1060]

LEGGAT, WILLIAM, in Mains of Hillington, Symington, testament, 1625, Comm. Glasgow.

LEPPER, GAVIN, in Newton of Strathaven, sashes from 1633. [NAS.R540.IVA.192, etc]

18

©New England Historic Genealogical Society, AmericanAncestors.org; produced by The Brue Family Learning Center

6

Genealogical research collections

- Irish genealogists
 - Tenison Groves
 - Gertrude Thrift
 - Dr. Francis Crossle and son Philip
 - Newry, County Down
 - On FindMyPast.com
- Extracts of records prior to 1922
 - Wills and other legal documents
- Rev. David Stewart
 - Focus on Presbyterian families in Down, transcripts of Presbyterian records
 - Papers at PRONI (and on microfilm)



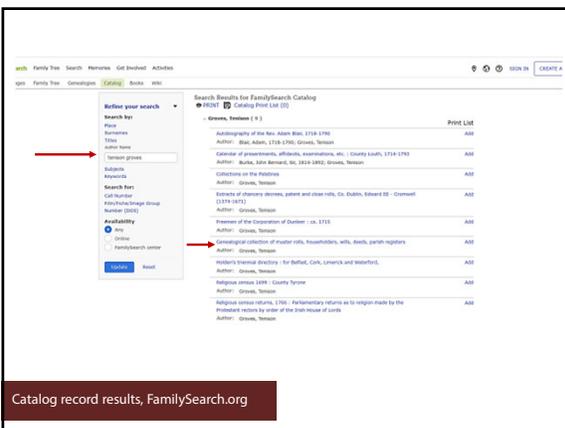
Four Courts Fire, Dublin, 1922

19

Tenison Groves Collection, c.1650-1920

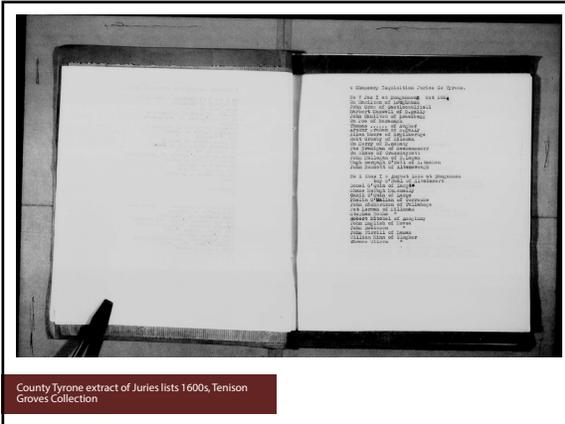
- PRONI has
 - 27 boxes, 20,000 copies of documents
 - Database for pre-1858 wills online at PRONI
- What will you find?
 - Muster rolls, militia lists, protestant householders' survey, gravestone inscriptions and more!
- Microfilmed by Family History Library and browseable online access at FamilySearch.org

20

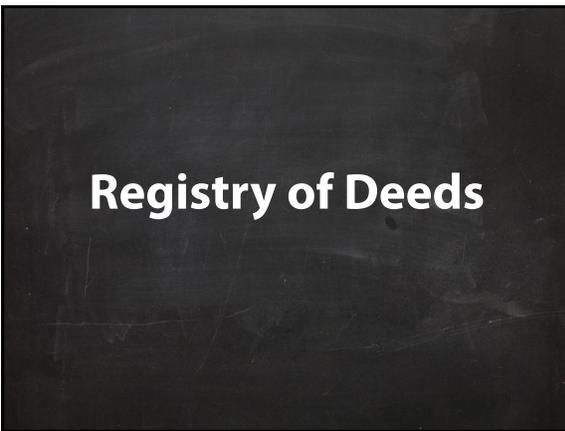


Catalog record results, FamilySearch.org

21



22



23

Registry of Deeds

- Records date from 1708
- Two indexes
 - Grantor index (names)
 - Pre-1832 no placename
 - After 1832 includes placename
 - Land index
- Type of records
 - Leases
 - Conveyances
 - Mortgages
 - Wills
 - Marriage contracts
- Abstract books



24

Using the records

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents Irish property history • Not just for landed gentry • General Grantor Indexes are best to use for research 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required to record land transactions • No Grantee index • Not all leases filed with Registry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – May be with estate records
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25

Indexes

Land - Barony Castlerahan, County Cavan, 1828-1832



Grantor - Surname Wilson, 1758-1796



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https://irishdeedsindex.net/



The screenshot shows the website's home page with a green header, navigation menu, and main content area. The main content includes a 'Purpose' section, a 'Background' section, and a 'FamilySearch Films on-line' section. There is also a 'Guidance' section and a 'Keeping in touch with the project' section. A sidebar on the right contains social media links and a search bar.

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PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

Transcripts of memorials of deeds, conveyances and wills, 1708-1929

Author: Ireland. Registry of Deeds (Main Author) [Add to Print List](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1951

Physical: 2686 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

References: (Finding Aid) Register of the Registry of Deeds, Ireland, with surname and county indexes

Notes
Microfilm of original records at Ministry of Justice, Registry of Deeds, Dublin.

A memorial in legal terms was the preservation or recording of an event, and specifically an abstract of the particulars of a deed for registration. A conveyance was a document relating to the transfer of property.

Includes an index to grantors and an index to lands (townland or address) by county. There is no index to grantees. Up to 1833 the Grantor index does not give the address or townland involved. It shows only the surname and first name of the grantor, followed by the surname of the first grantee, then the volume, page and deed number required to find the record. After 1833 the Grantor index adds the county in which the lands were situated. The Land index groups townlands together under their first letter only. After 1828 the Land index is further divided by barony, so it is necessary to know the barony in which the townland was located. Cities and corporation towns have separate indexes arranged by street or vicinity. Corporation towns (incorporated towns) are: Acton, Ardara, Rameagh, Askeaton, Athboy, Athlone, Athy, Augher, Ballyshannon, Birr, Bandon, Callan, Carlingford, Carlow, Carrickfergus, Carrick-on-Shannon, Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Castlebar, Cavan, Clonfert, Clonmel, Coleraine, Downpatrick, Duleek, Dundalk, Dunganstown, Dungarvan, Ennis, Ennisconny, Enniskillen, Galway, Gowran, Grand, Hillsborough, Jamestown, Johnston, Kells, Kildare, Kilmallock, Kinsale, Laneshelm, Leighlin DM, Lisburn, Longford, Maryborough, Monaghan.

Registry of Deeds records, Family History Library

Can access digital records remotely from home

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Other records for research

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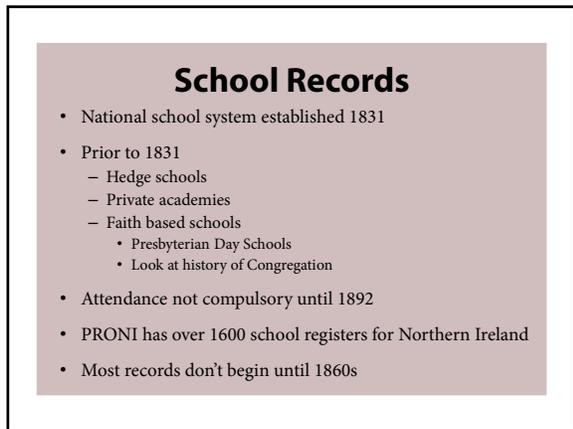
Don't overlook these records

- National School records
- Occupational records
 - Clergymen
- Records of organizations
 - The Freemasons
 - Orange Order and Lodges
- Local and family history manuscripts

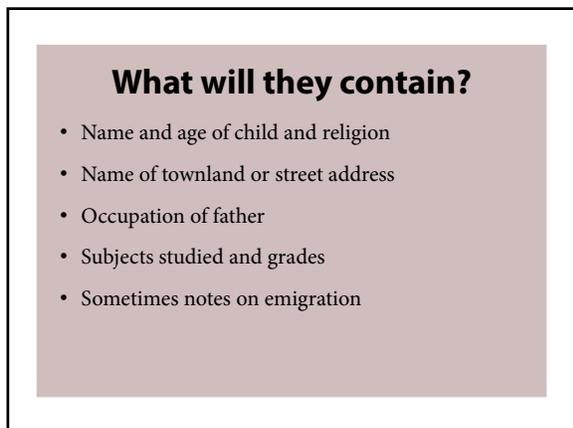
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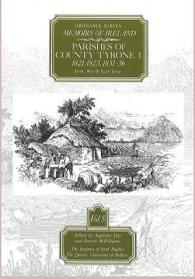
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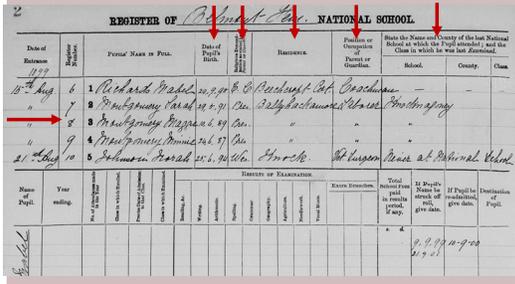
How do you find them?

- Street directories
 - Online at PRONI
- Ordnance Survey Maps
 - Use PRONI online Historical Map viewer
- Ordnance Survey Memoirs
 - Six counties of NI
 - County Donegal
 - South Ulster and its borders (Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim)

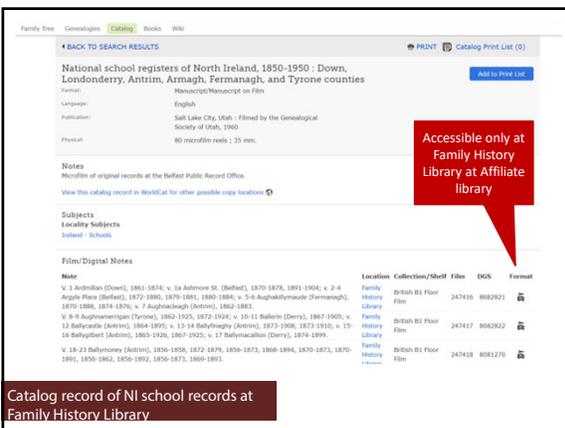


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Belmont-Eden National School, 1899



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Accessible only at Family History Library at Affiliate library

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Index to School Collections at PRONI

Date published: 24 February 2014

Part of: [Guides to PRONI records](#)

This document provides an easy means of establishing which particular schools operated within any parish in Northern Ireland since 1831.

Details

The index includes the name of schools, arranged by parish, alternative names for schools where applicable, the county in which they are situated, PRONI collection reference number (all beginning with prefix SCH), along with additional notes if part of a collection is held elsewhere for example on microfilm. With the SCH reference number, users can browse the descriptions of any SCH collection via our [online catalogue](#), to determine what records exist for a particular school. This PDF document is fully word-searchable- click 'Ctrl and F' to search by school name, parish or county. The original paper records of over 1,500 national schools in Northern Ireland, mainly from the 1860s to the 1940s, are accessible onsite in our Reading Room.

Documents

 [Index to school collections](#)
PDF (957 KB)

[Guide to School records at PRONI](#)

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Ireland National School Registers

Discover your ancestors in 19th century school records from across Ireland, north and south. Find out how they did in school, how good their attendance was, how old they were and what their parents or guardians did for a living. These registers, from schools that have since closed down, give a fascinating insight into the multidemonstrational early school system and can be a valuable resource for genealogists. Please note, however, those images that include individuals born after the 100-year cut-off have been redacted; therefore, some entries only include a transcript.

[Learn more](#) [Useful links](#) [All record sets](#)

Who

First name(s) Last name

Name variants Name variants

When

Year Give or take +/- 2yrs Birth year Give or take +/- 2yrs

Parent/guardian occupation

Parish Start typing a Parish [Browse Parish](#)

Denomination Start typing a Denomination [Browse Denomination](#)

School Start typing a School [Search Ireland National School Registers](#)

[Findmypast.com](#)

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Public Record Office of Northern Ireland



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PRONI

- Centralized repository for Northern Ireland
- Has more than just government records
- Many family history materials
- Comprehensive collection of Presbyterian church records



PRONI Main Search Room
(Ulster Historical Foundation photo)

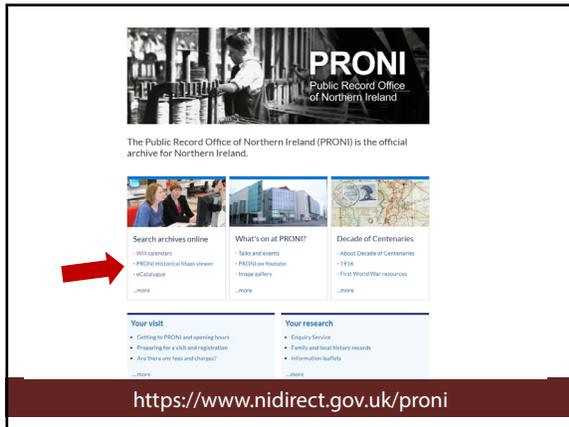
41

PRONI website and catalog

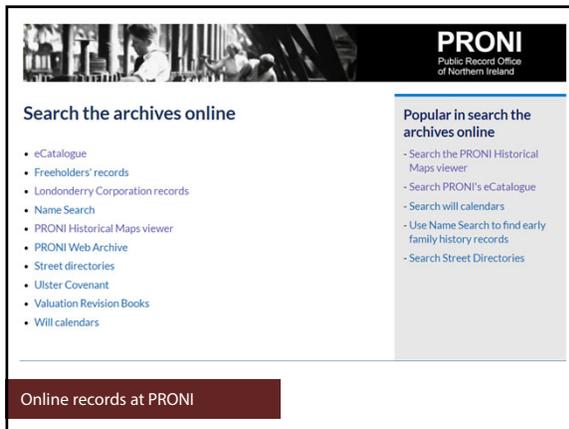
- Access website for
 - Online records
 - Find other material in their online catalog
- Use their online catalog
 - Identify material not online
 - Obtain photocopies from PRONI staff



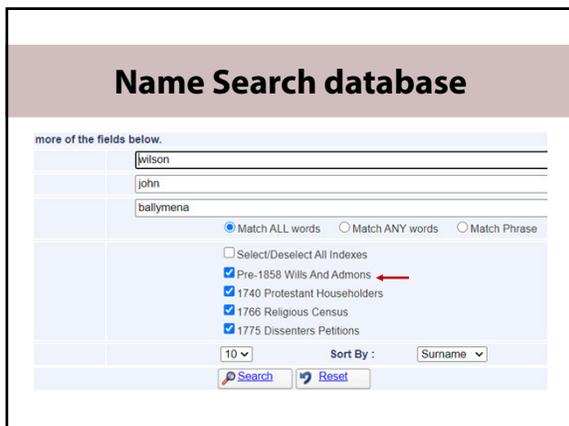
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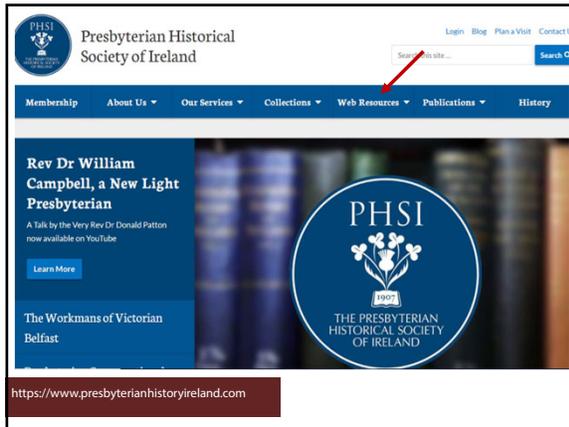
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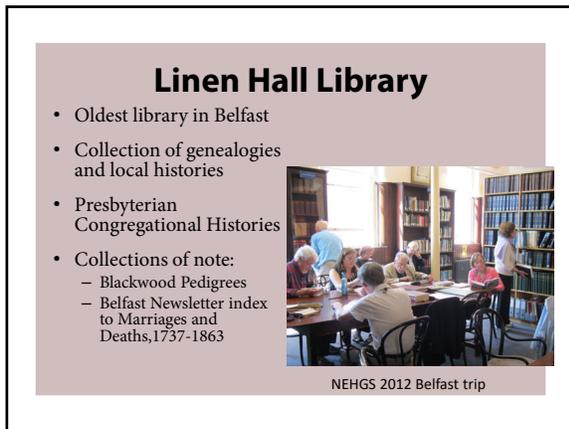
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45



52



53



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Why visit?

- Many local records not online
- Knowledgeable and helpful staff
- Wealth of records
 - Records of the poor law (Workhouse records)
 - Small family estate records
 - Grand jury records
 - Family and local history materials

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Local repositories in Ulster Province

<p>Donegal, Cavan, Monaghan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each has county library or archives • County Donegal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Workhouse records – Railway records – School records – Family collections 	<p>Northern Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No County Archives as in the Republic of Ireland • Local public libraries may require you to create account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Frequently only available to residents of Northern Ireland
--	---

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County Armagh Online Records

- Property records
- Estate records
 - Charlemont Estate 1752 rent roll
- Pedigree notes, family charts
- 1821 partial census of Kilmore Parish

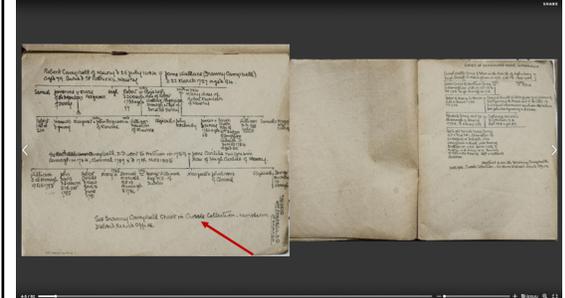


58



Charlemont Estate Rent Roll, 1752, ARMCM.38.1942

59



TGF Patterson Collection, Armagh County Museum Collection ARMCM.9.2014.91

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Steps to take before hiring

- Review your research!
 - Exhaust all research avenues in North America
- Do you have enough information?
 - Do you know a place?
 - Parents of immigrant, at least father's name
 - Time period?
- Outline your research goals
- Be realistic in your expectations!



Researching at NEHGS, Americanancestors.org

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Look for professional services

- Ulster Historical Foundation
 - Research Services
- County Genealogy Centers
 - Descriptions and services offered on www.rootsireland.ie
 - Only research local records!
- Accredited Genealogists Ireland



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Review

- Identify records needed to advance your research
- Make the most of online records and guides to collections
- Explore repository websites
 - Contact them for additional services



NEHGS Tour to PRONI

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THANK YOU!
AmericanAncestors.org



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