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**Why are maps helpful?**



Voice of  
Sheilagh Doerfler  
Genealogist

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**Maps**

- Navigate complicated administrative divisions
- Serve as a census substitute
- Learn location of ancestral home
- Discover more about ancestor's community

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**Administrative Divisions**

- Townland
- Civil Parish vs. Ecclesiastical Parish
- Barony
- Poor Law Union
- Superintendent Registrar's Districts
- District Electoral Divisions

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### Why Important to Understand?

- Accurate and efficient search
  - Looking for a Patrick Murphy?
  - Make sure you are looking in the right place!
- Ensures an exhaustive search

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### Census Substitutes

- Place ancestor in a particular place at a particular time
- "Fill in the gaps" in ancestor's timeline
- Determine neighbors
  - Cluster research

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### Locate ancestral home

- Provide specific location of ancestor's home
- Learn details of their community
  - Geographic and historical features
  - "Snapshot" of community

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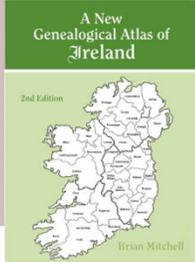
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**Atlases**

- Brian Mitchell, *New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc, 2002)
  - Provides maps of each county
    - Parish
    - Barony
    - Poor Law Union



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**JohnGrenham.com**

- Roman Catholic Parish maps
- Civil parish maps
- Poor Law Union Maps
- Overlay maps to compare borders
  - Links to records and more information

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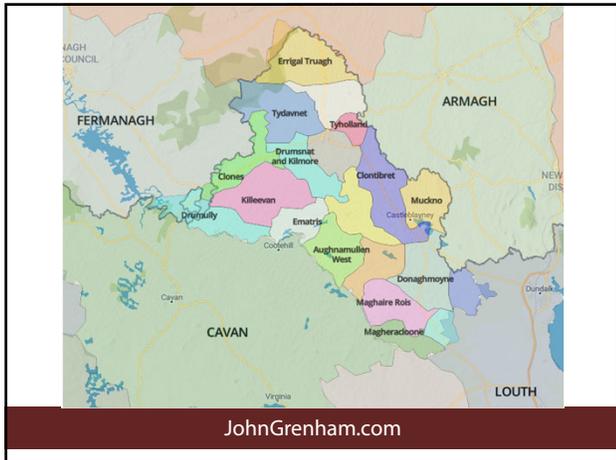
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Class 5: Using Irish Land Records in Your Family History Research




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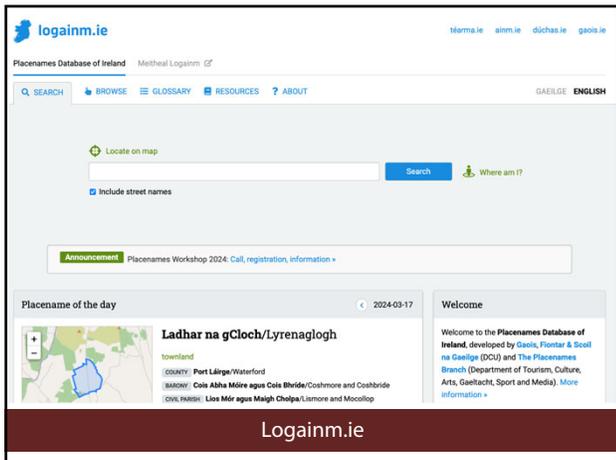
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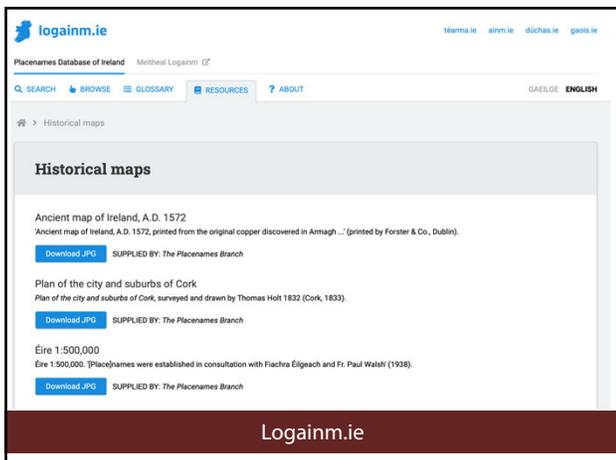
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### County Libraries

- Collections of local maps
  - Estate maps
  - Townland maps
  - GIS data overlays
  - Monument maps

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### Other Sources

- National Archives of Ireland
- Public Record Office of Ireland
- National Library of Ireland
- The Linen Hall, Belfast
- County Council Archives

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# QUESTIONS?

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# Administrative Divisions of Ireland

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## Townlands

- Smallest geographical division of land in Ireland
- Gaelic origin
- More than 60,000 townlands in Ireland




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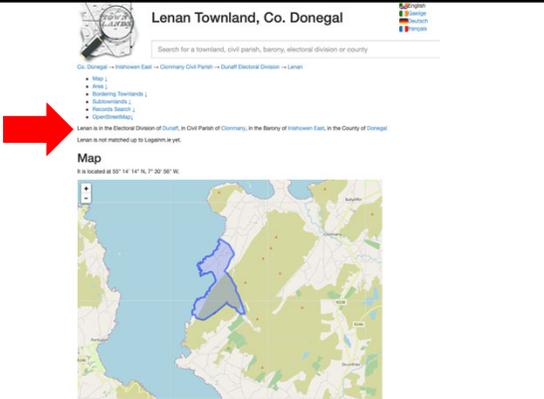
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Lenan Townland, Co. Donegal

Search for a townland, civil parish, barony, electoral division or county

Lenan is in the Electoral Division of **Cluain**, in Civil Parish of **Clonmaghin**, in the Barony of **Inishowen East**, in the County of **Donegal**.  
Lenan is not matched up to Logainm.ie yet.

Map

It is located at 55° 14' 14.76" N, 7° 30' 50" W

Townlands.ie

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### Civil Parishes vs. Ecclesiastical Parishes

- Civil Parish
  - Land and Taxation pre 20th Century
  - Often coincide with borders of Church of Ireland parishes
  - Can cross parish and county borders
- Ecclesiastical Parish or Religious Parish
  - Sacramental records

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### County Londonderry



Marie Daly and Judith Lucey, *Genealogist's Handbook for Irish Research*, (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2016)

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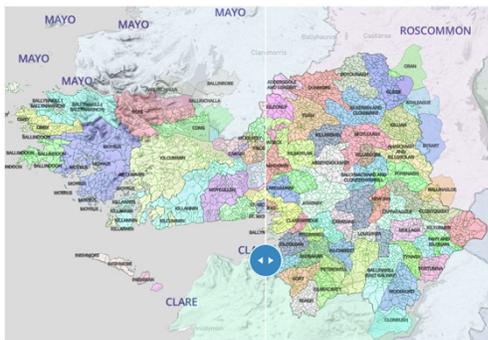
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### RC Parishes vs. Civil Parishes

Civil to the left; Catholic to the right. Catholic boundaries are approximate.



JohnGrenham.com

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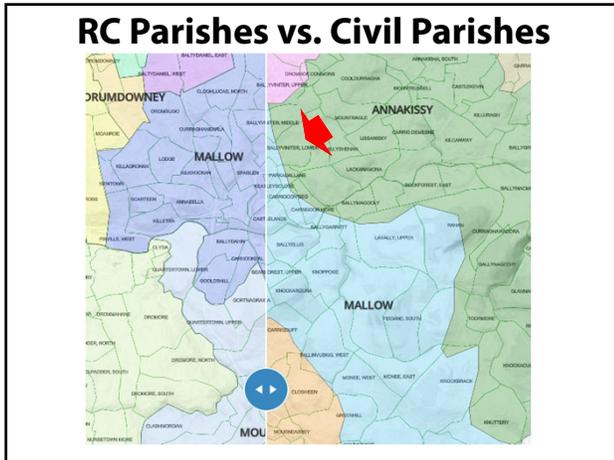
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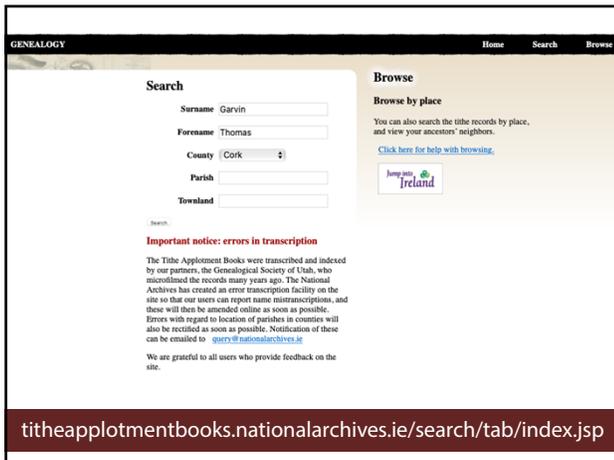
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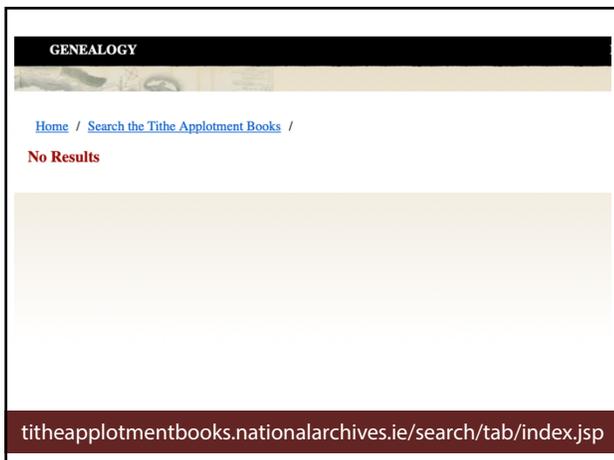
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### Why browse Griffith's?

- Variant spellings of surnames
- Transcription errors
- Ensure an exhaustive search
- More efficient!

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### Hugh McElhenney

- Possible resident of Clonmany parish in County Donegal




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### Ireland, Griffith's Valuation, 1847-1864

Search  Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)  Last Name

Exact...  Exact to...

Quick Fill Suggestions  
1. NEHGS Stephanie Snider Family

No suggestions found

Lived In  Location

Exact to...

Any Event

Keyword

**Browse this collection**  
To browse this image set, select from the options below.  
County   
Barony   
Parish

**Related data collections**  
[Ireland Topographical Dictionary 1837](#)  
[Irish Records Index, 1500-1920](#)  
This database is a name index to microfilmed Irish records contained in the Family History Library, Salt Lake City. Each entry reveals the person's name, date of record, and residence in Ireland. More importantly, the microfilm, box, and item numbers are provided to aid the researcher in obtaining a copy of the original record. These records include histories,...

Ancestry.com

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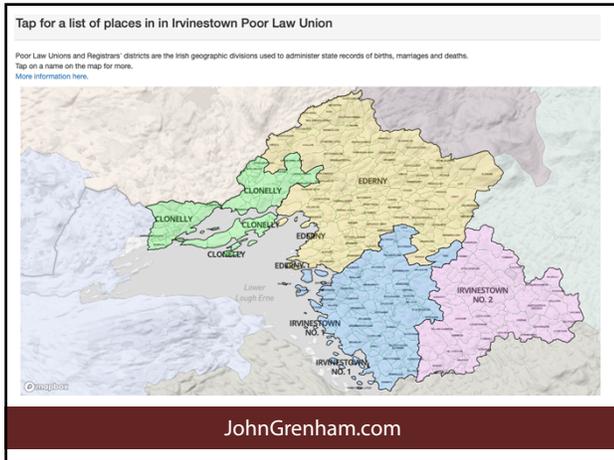
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### Superintendent Registrar's Districts

- Also known as Civil Registration Districts
- Poor Law Union = Superintendent Registrar's District
  - Spanned same territory as Poor Law Unions
  - Renamed in 1863
- Comprised of Registrar's Districts

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### Civil Registration

- 1845 – Recorded Protestant marriages
- 1864 - Extended to capture all births, marriages, and deaths

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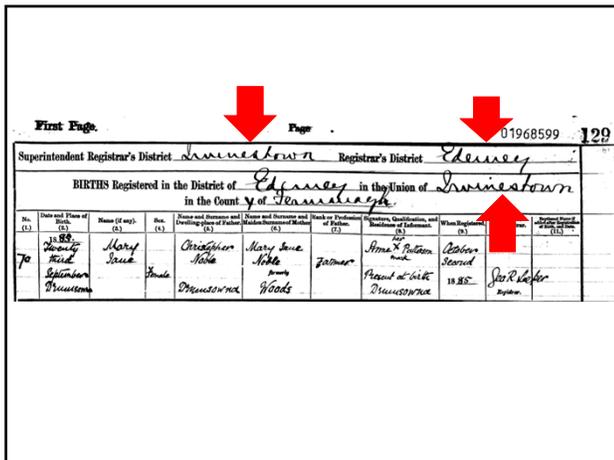
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### Why important to understand?

- More efficient search
- Guarantees a thorough search
  - Don't rely on transcriptions
- Ensures you are examining the correct record for your ancestor
  - Searching correct region

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### District Electoral Divisions (DED)

- Subdivision of Poor Law Union/Superintendent Registrar's District
- Borders can span county and parish borders
- 1901 and 1911 censuses organized by DED

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Home / 1901/1911 Census, Ireland / Search

Search results Displaying results 1 - 10 of 311

Records per page: 10 / 20 / 100

Sort by: Relevance / Surname / Forename / Townland or Street / DED / County / Age / Sex

Surname	Forename	Townland/Street	DED	County	Age	Sex
Murphy	John	Cappaugha	Kilcaskan	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Keulki	Keulki	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Urhin	Conlugh	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Ummera	Timoleague	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Greenfield	Ballincollig	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Dunbullogue	Killleagh	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Shandon Street	Cork Urban No. 4	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Wolfe Tone Street (part of)	Cork Urban No. 4	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Blarney Street (part of)	Cork Urban No. 4	Cork	23	M
Murphy	John	Lisballyhea	Imphack	Cork	23	M

Page 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Next 10

Search More search options

Census year (1901)

Surname (Murphy)

Forename (John)

County (Cork)

Townland/Street

DED

Age + or - 5 years (20)

Sex (M)

Exact matches only




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Tap a DED to go to its 1901 and 1911 records. Tap a county name to go there.



JohnGrenham.com

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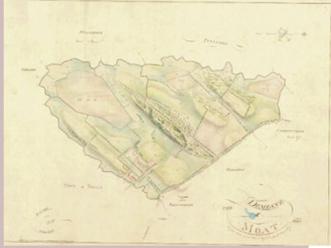
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### Estate Maps

- Can be included in Estate Records
- Depict ancestral townlands
- Sometimes include tenants




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### Estate Maps



Lynch-Blosse Estate Map, County Mayo, 1811

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[library.mayo.ie/maps/browser.htm](http://library.mayo.ie/maps/browser.htm)

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# Ordnance Survey Maps

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**Ordnance Survey**

- Survey of Ireland for land valuation and tax purposes
- Early to mid-19th century
- Extremely detailed maps
- Updated over time




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**Ordnance Survey**

- Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) 19th Century Historical Maps housed at the University College Dublin
- Scanned maps for almost 150 cities and towns
- Dates range for each community

[https://doi.org/10.7925/drs1.ucdlib\\_40377](https://doi.org/10.7925/drs1.ucdlib_40377)

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# Locating your Ancestral Home

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## Walter Grant

- Born: 1810
- Father: Mark Grant
- Townland: Grange
- Roman Catholic parish: Mooncoin
- County: Kilkenny

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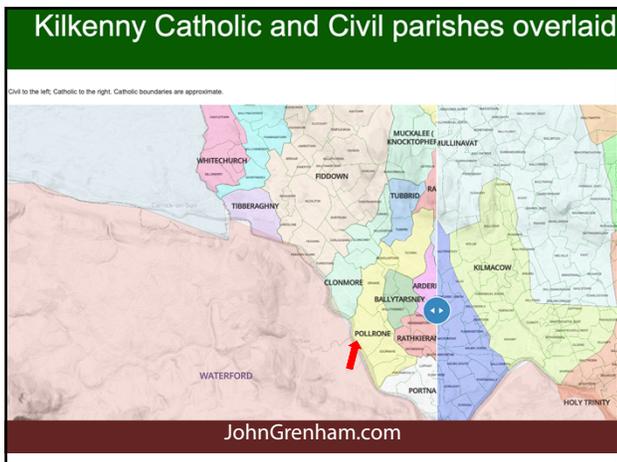
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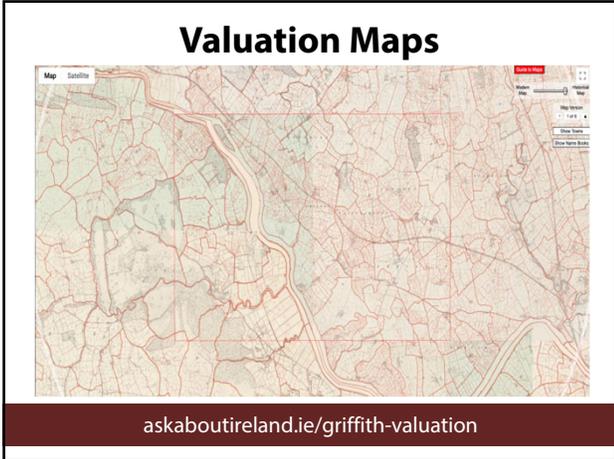
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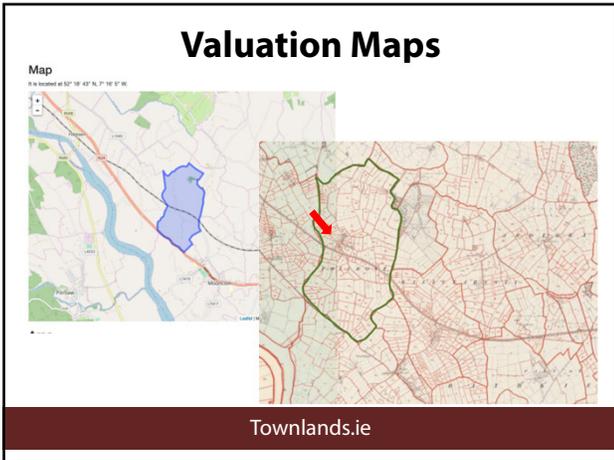
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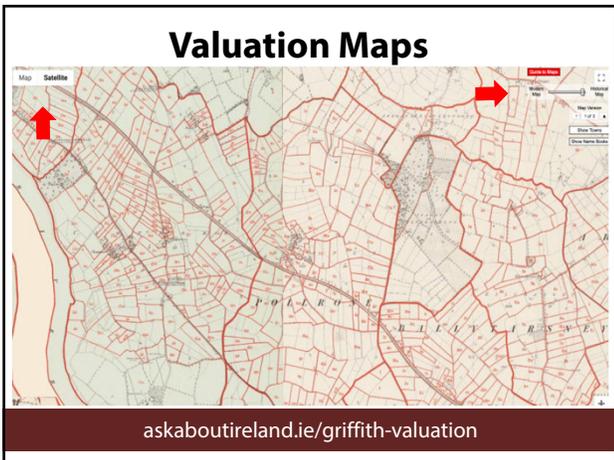
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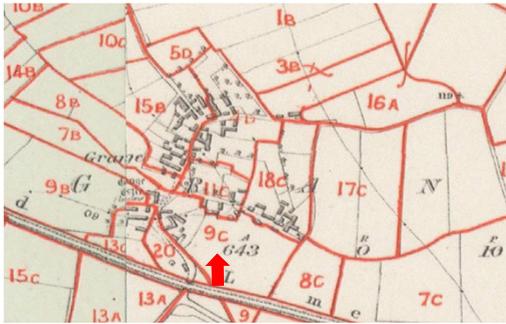
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### Valuation Maps



[askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation](http://askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation)

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### Valuation Map vs. Modern Map



[askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation](http://askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation)

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Grange Townland, Co. Kilkenny

Search for a townland, civil parish, barony, electoral division or county

Co. Kilkenny → Barony → Pollonee Civil Parish → Pollonee Electoral Division → Grange

- Map
- View
- Grid
- Griding
- Subdivisions
- Records
- OpenStreetMap

Grange is in the Electoral Division of Pollonee, in Civil Parish of Pollonee, in the Barony of Iverk, in the County of Kilkenny

The full name for Grange is An Ghraimseach

Grange is on Logainn.ie: Grange



Townlands.ie

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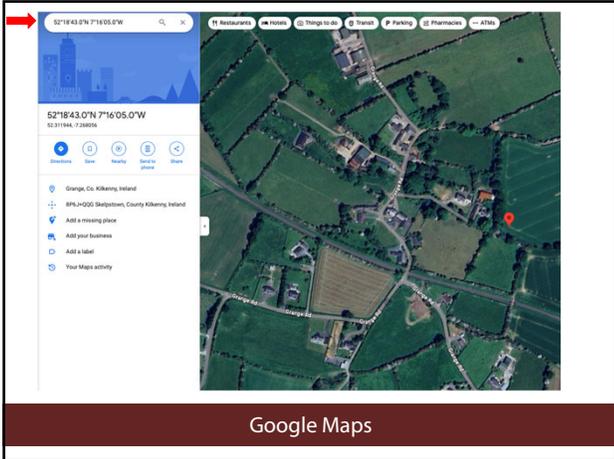
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### Conclusion

- Use maps to understand administrative jurisdictions
  - Allows you to browse records
  - Ensures a thorough and exhaustive search
  - More efficient for common names
- Have fun!

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## QUESTIONS?

**Schedule a consultation**  
[consultations@nehgs.org](mailto:consultations@nehgs.org)

**Hire Research Services**  
[research@nehgs.org](mailto:research@nehgs.org)

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Centers & Initiatives

### Using Irish Land Records in Your Family History Research 2024

Thank you for registering for the online conference, *Using Irish Land Records in Your Family History Research!*

Land records are a critical part of Irish family history research. As many public records were destroyed in 1922, land records become a bright spot in Irish genealogical research. They can provide information on multiple generations within a family, lend a greater understanding of your ancestors' movements and economic status, and shed light on their daily lives. Discussing—but also moving beyond—Griffith's Valuation, this online seminar will delve more deeply into leveraging land records in your family history research.

This course includes five 90-minute classes and exclusive access to handouts and recordings of each presentation. These recordings and all course materials will be available for the foreseeable future.

**Zoom Link for Live Sessions:**  
 Click here to join the live broadcasts: <https://zoom.us/j/92969945824>

If you are unable to attend the live sessions, you will be able to watch the recordings on this course page.

**COURSE INCLUDES**

[AmericanAncestors.org/using-irish-land-records-your-family-history-research-2024](https://AmericanAncestors.org/using-irish-land-records-your-family-history-research-2024)

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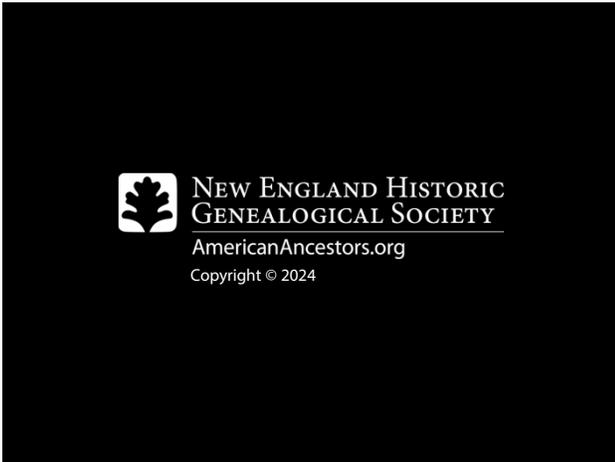
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