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Midwest Genealogy Center Research Tour Form

In order to provide the best individual support during the Midwest Genealogy Center Research Tour, we have compiled the following questionnaire. Please complete this form no later than March 08, 2026. If you have any questions please contact Education and Programming Manager, Kathleen Mackenzie, at kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org.

Pre-Tour Consultation

Please fill out the following information for your 30-minute pre-tour consultation which will take place via Zoom ahead of the tour.

Specific question(s) or goals for consultation:

I would like to find my great-great-grandmother Ellen Kelly's passenger list showing her immigration from Ireland. I'm curious to know when she immigrated and if her husband was with her when she did.

Optional: Provide a link to your PUBLIC family tree:

www.Ancestry.com/my-sample-tree

Pertinent information related to your question:

According to Ellen's baptism record, she was born in 1845 in Dingle, County Kerry, Ireland. She married Thomas Griffin (b. 1844) in 1867 and had four sons, John (1869-1877), James (1870-1878), Edward (my great-grandfather, 1873-1931), and Daniel (1877-1961). All four sons were born in Dingle. You can view the baptism, marriage, and other relevant records supporting these facts on my public Ancestry tree, which I linked above.

I have city directories and census records showing that Ellen and her sons Edward and Daniel all settled and lived in Holyoke, MA, which can also be found on my Ancestry tree. My grandfather, Walter Griffin (1913-2007), was always told that Ellen and her two living sons immigrated together, and according to census records, they all immigrated in 1895. Ellen's husband, Thomas, was never mentioned to my grandfather—he described it as a taboo subject in the family.

I have tried searching 1895 passenger lists for Ellen's, Edward's, and Daniel's names, but I haven't found any with those three names together. I do not know what port they traveled to. Any tips or strategies that can help lead me toward a passenger list would be appreciated!

Any additional comments related to this consultation:

When filling out this form, I noticed that Edward and Daniel were naturalized. Would finding the naturalization records help? Where can I find them?

Would you like to discuss this same question during your on-tour consultation?

I'm not sure yet!