





Townlands

- Why is it important to identify?
 - Important location identifier
 - Often the address given in parish records, estate records, court records, newspapers, and naturalization records
 - Townlands can distinguish individuals with same name

Civil Parish

- Collection of usually 25-30 townlands
- Grew out of the Church of Ireland parishes
- Often share the name of the COI parish
- Can cross county borders
- Referred to in census, taxes and land surveys

Why are Civil Parishes important?

- Tithe Applotment Books (1823-1838)
- Griffith's Valuation (1847-1864)
 - Organized by Civil Parish

Poor Law Union

- 1838 Poor Law Act established relief system of workhouses
- Workhouse situated in a market town
- Poor Law Union takes its name from market town
- 163 Poor Law Unions
- 1851: Dispensary Districts created to assign a doctor to each district

Why are Poor Law Unions important?

- Workhouse records
- Poverty Relief Loans
- Griffith's Valuation (1847-1864)

Census Records

Census Records

- Taken every 10 years beginning in 1821 up to 1911
- 1821-1851, fragments exist (bulk destroyed in Four Courts in 1922)
- 1861-1891, destroyed by order of government
- 1901 and 1911 available online

nationalarchives.ie/collections/search-the-census-c19/

Surname	Census Year	Age	Townland / Street	County	Barony	Parish	House Number
Myles, Ann	1851	N/A	1 High Street, Court	Dublin	N/A	St Michael's	N/A
Myles, Major Genl -	1851	N/A	2 Royal Barracks, Brunswick Square	Dublin	N/A	Saint Paul	N/A
Myles, Jas	1851						

Census Fragment Search

Home > Search the Census Records > 1851 > Dublin > 1 High Street, Court > House Number N/A

Myles, Ann

Download record | Print | Link to record

Census Year	1851	View census images
Surname	Myles	Census Image 1
First Name	Ann	
County	Dublin	
Barony	N/A	
Parish	St Michael's	
Townland / Street	1 High Street, Court	
House Number	N/A	
Age	N/A	

Census Fragment Abstract

HIGH STREET COURT
ON REAR of ANGEL COURT

Ann John 1
Joseph Robt 1
James Ann 1
James Ann 1
Mary Ann 1
Joseph Sarah 1
Stone Mary 1
Robert Owen 1

Emmie Christopher 1

Census Fragment - Image

Home > Search the collections > Search the Census Records

Search the Census Records

About the Census Collections

Census Year: All years

Surname: Please enter a surname

First Name: Please enter a first name

County: All Counties

1901, 1911 Censuses

nationalarchives.ie/collections/search-the-census/

Government services About - Gaelige

An Chártaire Náisiúnta National Archives

Search the collections Help with research - Plan a visit - Engage and learn -

Home > Search the Census Records > 1911 > Donegal > Carrigarden > Carricknahona > House Number 7

Myles, James Download record Print Link to record

View single record View household record

Census Year	1911
Age	79
County / Country of Origin	Donegal
Occupation	Farmer
House Number	7
Townland / Street	Carricknahona
DED	Carrigarden
County	Donegal

View census images

Form A page 1 Form A page 2

Other original census images available

1911 Census Search Result



Taxation Records

- Tithe Applotment
- Irish Poor Law Act 1838
- Valuation Acts
 - 1826
 - 1846
 - 1852

Tithe Applotments, 1823-1837

- Tithed a tenth of produce to COI clergy
- Farmers living on an acre or more had to tithe
- All denominations paid tithe
- Tithes abolished in 1838



Strengths and weaknesses

Strengths

- May be the only record for parishes where no pre-1850 church registers exist
- May be the only record set to identify an ancestor if they emigrated before the Great Famine
- One of the earliest records representing the poor in Ireland

Weaknesses

- Not every occupier like Griffith's Valuation
- Cities and towns not included
- No standard format – every parish different
- Placename issues

Dealing with Placenames in Tithes

- Standardization of placenames through Ordnance survey in 1830s
 - Townlands and parishes divided
 - Many placenames renamed
- How to identify current placename
 - Obtain list of townlands in Civil parish
 - Can you find similar names, total area in Griffith's?
 - Utilize online placename websites
 - Logainm.ie

Where do you find these records?

<p>Online</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NationalArchives.ie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Republic of Ireland • PRONI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FIN/5 via eCatalogue • Familysearch.org <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Republic of Ireland only - Northern Ireland images accessible only at FS center or FS library • Ancestry has online searchable indexes for all of Ireland but no images 	<p>Originals and microfilms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PRONI, Belfast - National Archives, Dublin • Microfilms all Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Library Ireland - National Archives - Family Search
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Valuation Records

Townland Valuation Act of 1826

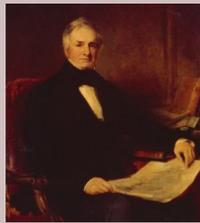
- Sought to assess the value of land and buildings throughout Ireland
- Using the information collected, a calculation would then be made regarding the annual tax amount to be charged to each property

Tenement Valuation

- 1846 Valuation Act: tenement rather than townland used as a measure of valuation. For areas where valuation already took place or was underway, the use of the townland valuation remained in use until the passage of the 1852 Valuation Act. Previous work reassessed to change to tenement valuation
- “Tenement” pertained to lands, buildings, bogs, etc.
- More widely known as Griffith’s Valuation

Sir Richard Griffith

- Civil engineer and geologist
- Made Boundary Commissioner, 1824
- Head of valuation
- Griffith’s Primary Valuation
 - Published instructions
 - Native Irish surveyors



Why use Griffith’s Valuation?

- Gateway to 19th century research
- Ability to identify exact place of origin
- “Census-substitute”
- How they lived
- Determining socio-economic status

Valuation of Tenements									
COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON.									
BARONY OF ATHLOE.									
UNION OF ATHLOE.									
PARISH OF BERRY									
NAME	ACRES	ROPE	PERCHES	ROPE	PERCHES	VALUATION	VALUATION	VALUATION	VALUATION
...



VALUATION OF TENEMENTS.
PARISH OF KILDEMOCK.

Col. 1: Lot Number and letter on map

Col. 2: Townland and name of occupier

Cols. 3 and 4: Landlord and description of tenement

Remaining Columns: Total area in English acres and annual value

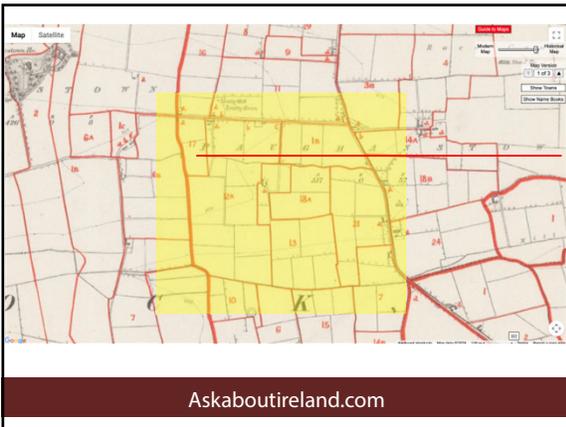
No. and Letter of Index to Map	Names		Description of Tenement	Area	Rateable Annual Valuation		Total Annual Valuation of Tenement Property
	Townlands and Occupiers	Immediate Lessors			Land	Buildings	
PAUGHANSTOWN postward.							
12 a	d	Patrick Bourke, Andrew Maginness,	House,	—	—	0 8 0	0 8 0
12 b	e	Alexander Miles, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	37 0 8	31 10 0	1 0 0	35 10 0
12 c	a	Mary Brennan, Alexander Miles,	Land,	7 1 2	3 0 0	—	3 0 0
12 d	b	William Miles, Same,	House and garden,	0 0 10	0 1 0	0 6 0	0 7 0
13 a	a	Yves Taaffe, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	10 0 33	15 0 3	0 15 0	15 15 0
13 b	a	Francis Taaffe, Same,	House, offices, and land,	11 2 14	10 15 0	1 5 0	12 10 0
13 c	a	Yves Taaffe, Same,	Land,	3 0 37	1 10 0	—	1 10 0
13 d	a	Patrick Walsh, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	15 2 25	13 3 0	0 18 0	14 0 0
13 e	a	Patrick Maginness, Same,	Land,	9 2 35	4 10 0	—	4 10 0
13 f	a	Patrick Maginness, Same,	House, offices, and land,	13 0 20	6 15 0	1 0 0	7 15 0
13 g	a	James Walsh, Same,	House, offices, and land,	8 0 25	6 0 0	—	6 0 0
13 h	a	Michael M'Carthy, James Walsh,	Land,	17 3 0	13 15 0	1 5 0	20 0 0
13 i	a	Philip Murphy, John Trimble,	House and land,	6 3 20	3 15 0	5 0 0	7 0 0
13 j	a	Owen M'Enany, Same,	Land,	7 2 25	2 10 0	—	2 10 0
13 k	a	Thomas M'Enany, Same,	Land,	12 0 0	2 10 0	—	2 10 0
13 l	a	Bryan Burn, Same,	House, offices, and land,	12 0 0	5 8 0	0 15 0	6 0 0
13 m	a	James Burn, Same,	House,	—	—	0 6 0	0 6 0
13 n	a	Henry Murphy, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	13 2 33	6 5 0	0 15 0	7 0 0
13 o	a	John Killech, Same,	House and land,	10 3 2	8 0 0	0 10 0	8 10 0
13 p	a	Margaret Steen, Same,	House, offices, and land,	19 1 12	16 0 0	1 0 0	17 0 0

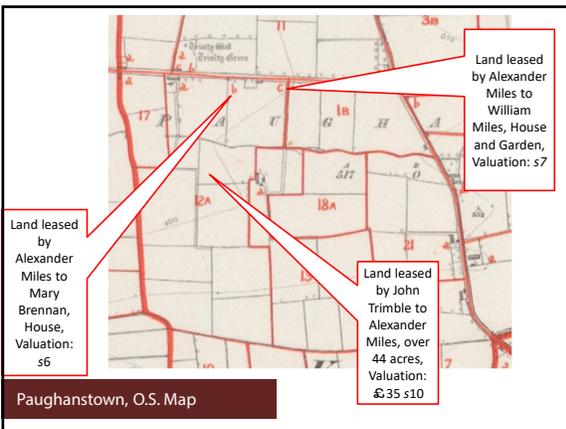
VALUATION OF TENEMENTS.
PARISH OF KILDEMOCK.

Griffith's Valuation

Paughanstown, Kildemock, Co. Louth

No. and Letter of Index to Map	Names		Description of Tenement	Area	Rateable Annual Valuation		Total Annual Valuation of Tenement Property
	Townlands and Occupiers	Immediate Lessors			Land	Buildings	
PAUGHANSTOWN postward.							
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12 b	e	Alexander Miles, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	37 0 8	31 10 0	1 0 0	35 10 0
12 c	a	Mary Brennan, Alexander Miles,	Land,	7 1 2	3 0 0	—	3 0 0
12 d	b	William Miles, Same,	House and garden,	0 0 10	0 1 0	0 6 0	0 7 0
13 a	a	Yves Taaffe, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	10 0 33	15 0 3	0 15 0	15 15 0
13 b	a	Francis Taaffe, Same,	House, offices, and land,	11 2 14	10 15 0	1 5 0	12 10 0
13 c	a	Yves Taaffe, Same,	Land,	3 0 37	1 10 0	—	1 10 0
13 d	a	Patrick Walsh, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	15 2 25	13 3 0	0 18 0	14 0 0
13 e	a	Patrick Maginness, Same,	Land,	9 2 35	4 10 0	—	4 10 0
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13 l	a	Bryan Burn, Same,	House, offices, and land,	12 0 0	5 8 0	0 15 0	6 0 0
13 m	a	James Burn, Same,	House,	—	—	0 6 0	0 6 0
13 n	a	Henry Murphy, John Trimble,	House, offices, and land,	13 2 33	6 5 0	0 15 0	7 0 0
13 o	a	John Killech, Same,	House and land,	10 3 2	8 0 0	0 10 0	8 10 0
13 p	a	Margaret Steen, Same,	House, offices, and land,	19 1 12	16 0 0	1 0 0	17 0 0





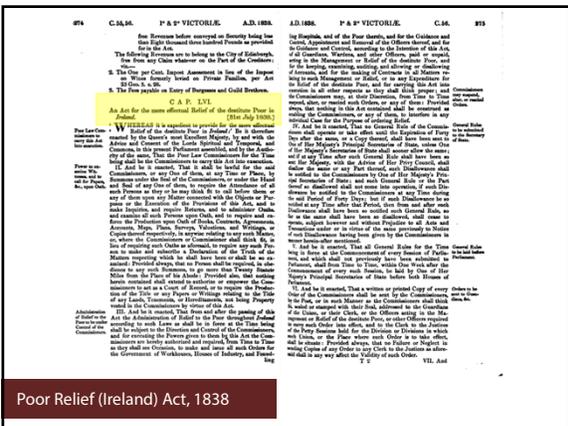
Griffith's Valuation	
Valuation Information	What it says about your ancestor/their home
House valued at 15s, 10s, 8s, or less	One or two room structure with mud walls and a thatched or turf roof
Living on less than five acres	Frequently referred to as a "cottier" or "laborer"; in some situations, the laborer worked on the landlord's land for a few pence a day. Tenancy was "year by year" or sometimes referred to as "tenant at will"; it didn't mean that you could be thrown off the land at whim by the landowner!
House with a valuation of £2 or £5	Walls built of stone or brick with a thatch roof; some might have a second level or "dormer."
Living on a lot between five and thirty acres	Small or medium farms; the tenant usually paid their rent in cash. An occupier considered to be a medium farmer usually had a lease.



QUESTIONS?



Poor Records



Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1838

Benefits of Using

- Vital information (births, deaths) pre-date inception of civil registration in 1864
- May exist when other records were destroyed
- Offer insight into life in a community
- May discover potential relatives of your ancestors

Records

- Minute Books
- Correspondence
- Accounts
- Statistics
- **Outdoor Relief**
- Dispensary
- Assessment
- Rate Books
- Workhouse
 - Administration
 - **Inmates (aka Indoor Relief)**
 - Infirmary
- **Returns of Births and Deaths**
- Vaccination
- Miscellaneous

Indoor Relief Registers

- Admission number
- Name and surname
- Sex and age
- Marital status for adults (single, married, widowed, widower)
- Children situation (orphaned, deserted, illegitimate)
- Occupation
- Religious denomination
- Description of disability (if any)
- Given name of spouse
- Number of children
- Condition of pauper on admission (clothing, cleanliness)
- Electoral division & townland of residence
- Admission date (or birth if born in workhouse)
- Date of discharge (or death in workhouse)

Land Records

- Registry of Deeds – Dublin
- Landed Estates
 - Not government generated records
 - Primarily in northern Ireland
 - Reveal those who didn't actually own land
 - When used with Griffith's Valuation, offers insight to locations

Registry of Deeds (ROD)

- Opened in 1708, Dublin – part of the Penal Laws
- Parties draw up a deed and decide to register it
- A memorial (copy or summary of the deed) is prepared by solicitor (attorney)
- Solicitor presents memorial and original deed at ROD
- ROD swears witness to memorial, registers it, gives it a number
- Clerk transcribes memorial into large transcript volumes for public access; notes volume, page, and memorial number; files memorial in ROD vault; original deed returned to solicitor
- In early 19th c., ROD began creating abstracts of memorials

Records and indexes

- Over 2 million deeds memorialized between 1708 and 1929
- Deeds could be leases, assignments, sales, marriage settlements, mortgages and rent charges, wills, bills of discovery
- Grantors index (no index to grantees, but online indexing in progress)
- Lands index (townland or address)

What are landed estates?

- Begun with the 17th century Plantation of Ulster
- Cromwellian Restoration and Williamite land settlements continued the practice
- System in which a single individual holds title to the lands ranging from 1,000 acres to 100,000 acres and leases to farmers and other tenants
- In effect until the late 1800s, early 1900s when Acts of Parliament broke them up

Landed Estates

- Owners of the larger estates (upwards of 100,000 acres) were usually members of the aristocracy who may have had several estates in Ireland and Britain
- Smaller estates of 1,000 to 3,000 acres were often owned by more modest farmers and the records may not survive.
- Almost all landowners were members of the Church of Ireland.

Landowners {

- Entered into leases with individuals/tenants
- May have used agents/middlemen to handle the leases

Lessee/Tenant {

- Entered into lease with landowner
- Had to pay set rents – 2x a year
- May have had a specific number of years on the lease
- May have then rented some of their land to sub-tenants or cottiers

Landed Estate System

What are estate records?

- Documents generated by administration of landed estates
- Prior to 20th c. majority land owned by large and small estates
- Landowner was a member of nobility, landed gentry or Church of Ireland clergy
- Land could be held by others such as the London guilds and various companies

Estate records

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent resource for 18th c. and early 19th c. ancestors• Useful source for searching poor ancestors• One of the few record sets that may survive in an area where church records start late	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most rental and tenant's lists document only major tenants• Limited time periods• Not all areas of Ireland had large landed estates• Some records destroyed or still in private hands

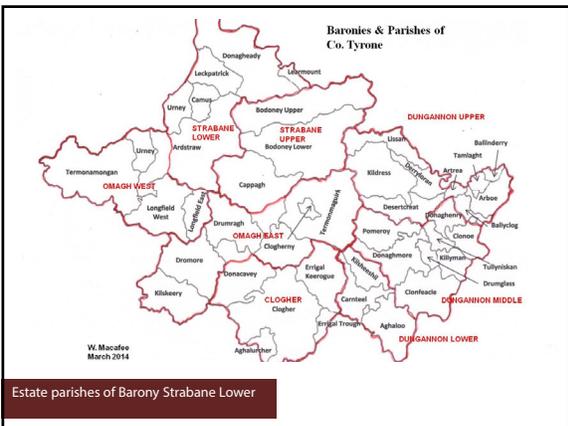
What do they contain?

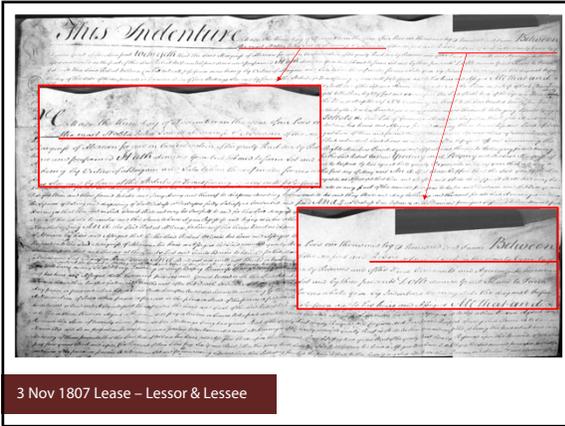
- Leases and lease books
- Rentals, rent books and tenant lists
- Maps
- Correspondence
- Emigration lists and eviction records
- Account books
- Manor Court Records

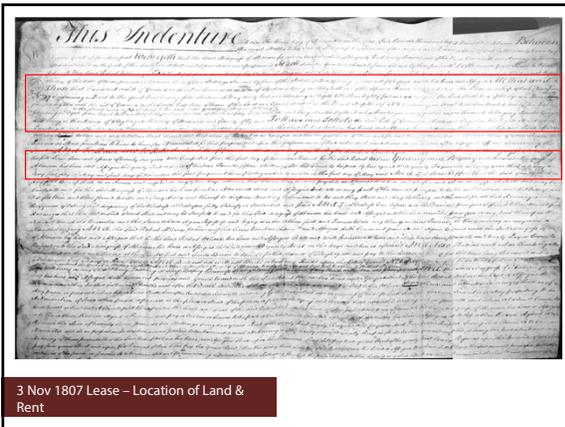
[eI]
Do not assume one
type of record is all you
need.

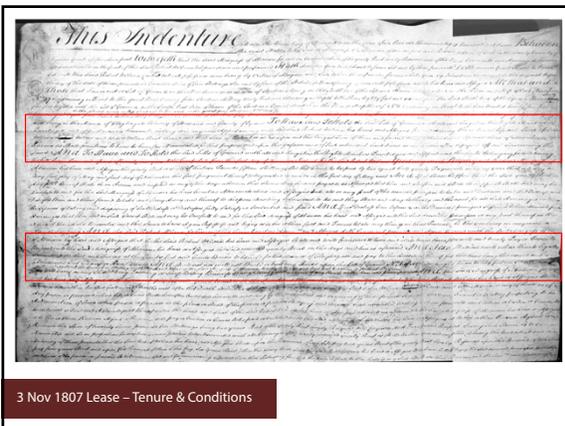
Anatomy of a Lease

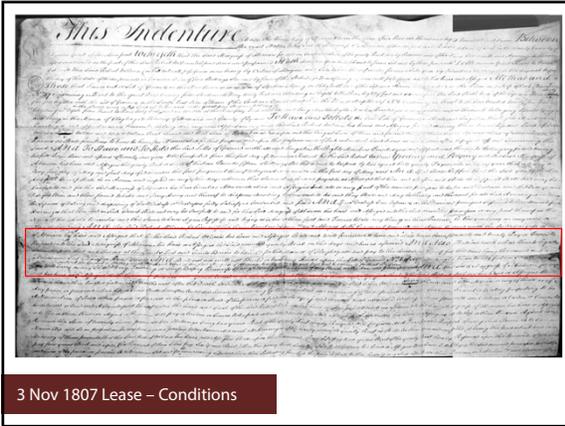
- Name of the lessor (the landowner)
- Name of the lessee (the tenant)
- Location of the farm
- Rent to be paid
- Tenure of the lease
- Conditions required of the lessee

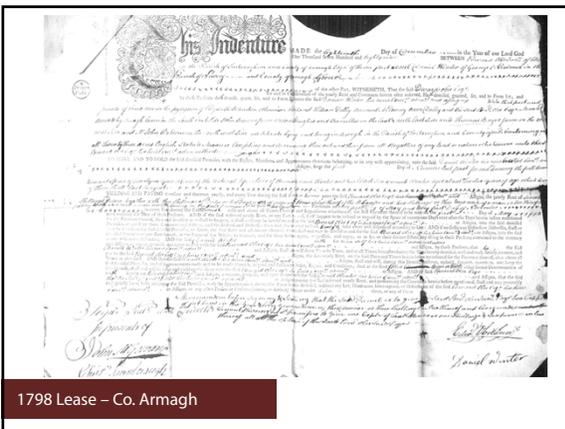


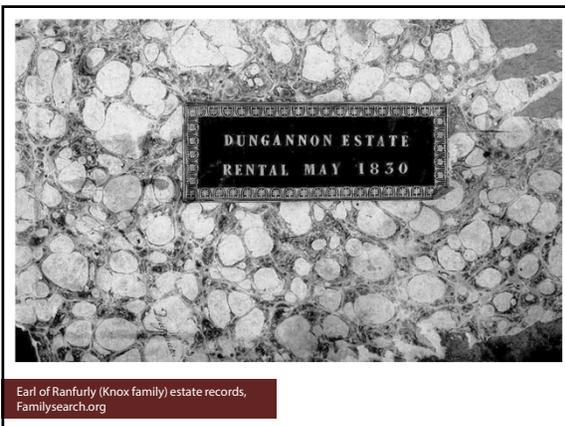












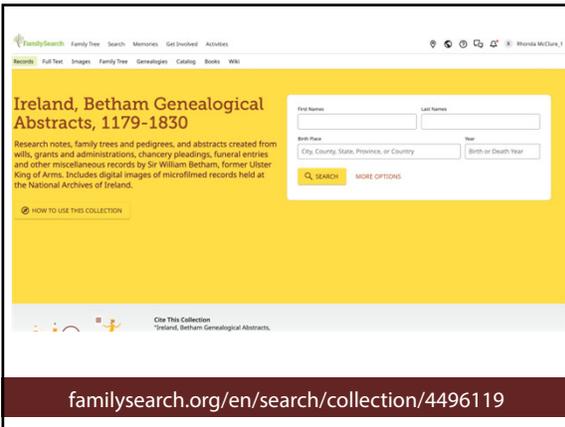
Wills

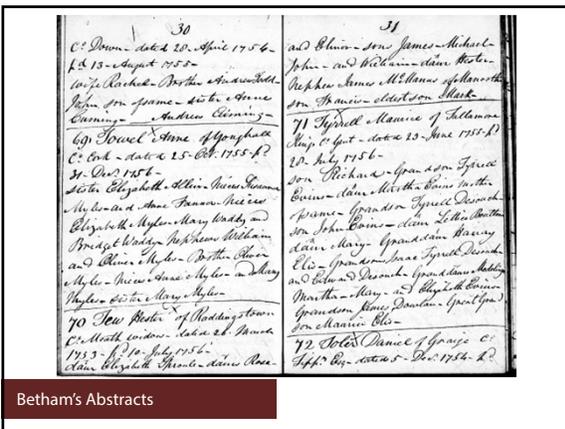
- Usually find the following:
 - Name, address, and occupation of testator
 - Names of beneficiaries
 - Name(s) of the executor(s)
 - Names of the witnesses
 - Date the will was made
 - Date of probate of the will

[eI
Date of will and date of
probate suggest period
of death

Wills

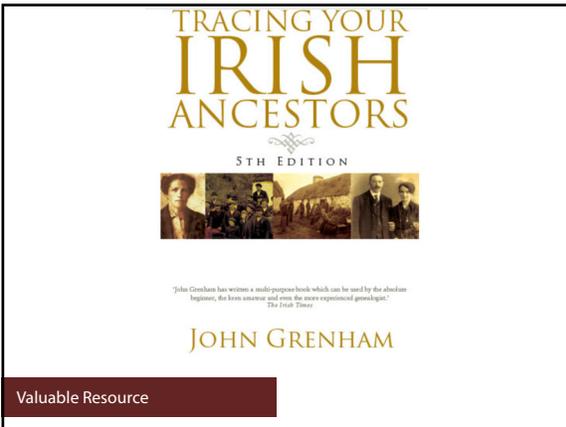
- Consistorial Courts
 - Under authority of the Church of Ireland
 - Abolished their testamentary authority in 1857
 - Records deposited in the Public Record Office
- Prerogative Court
 - Dealt with properties worth more than £ 5 in a second diocese
- Most destroyed in 1922





The Probate Act (1857)

- Gave testamentary authority to:
 - Principal Registry in Dublin
 - 11 District Registries
- Principal Registry took the place of the Prerogative Court & covered Dublin and surrounding area
- Transcripts were made in district registries and originals sent on the Principal Registry







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Unlock your Irish family story! In this five-week, online course you will learn how to move past brick walls and discover new generations of ancestors. Led by nationally recognized genealogy experts, this course guides you step by step through Ireland's most important civil and church records—showing you not only what records exist, but how to use them successfully. You'll explore Catholic, Church of Ireland, Presbyterian, and Quaker records, along with lesser-known sources such as minister's diaries and membership rolls that can reveal rich details. Packed with practical strategies, expert insights, and real-life case studies, this course will give you the confidence and tools you need to make meaningful breakthroughs in your Irish ancestry research. Whether you're just getting started or revisiting long-standing puzzles, this course will help bring your Irish ancestors—and their stories—into clearer focus.

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