

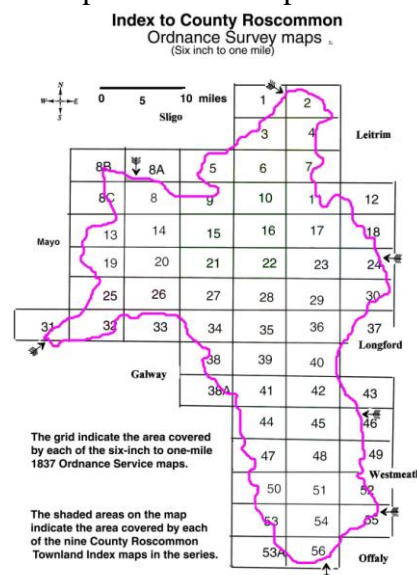
Brief explanation of terms used in Roscommon research

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Ordnance Survey (O/S) Maps. (For more details see Part F)

The following grid-map from Part F1 (Roscommon maps) of this CD shows the area covered by each six-inch to one-mile map. The 1837 map was the map used for the Griffiths Valuation.

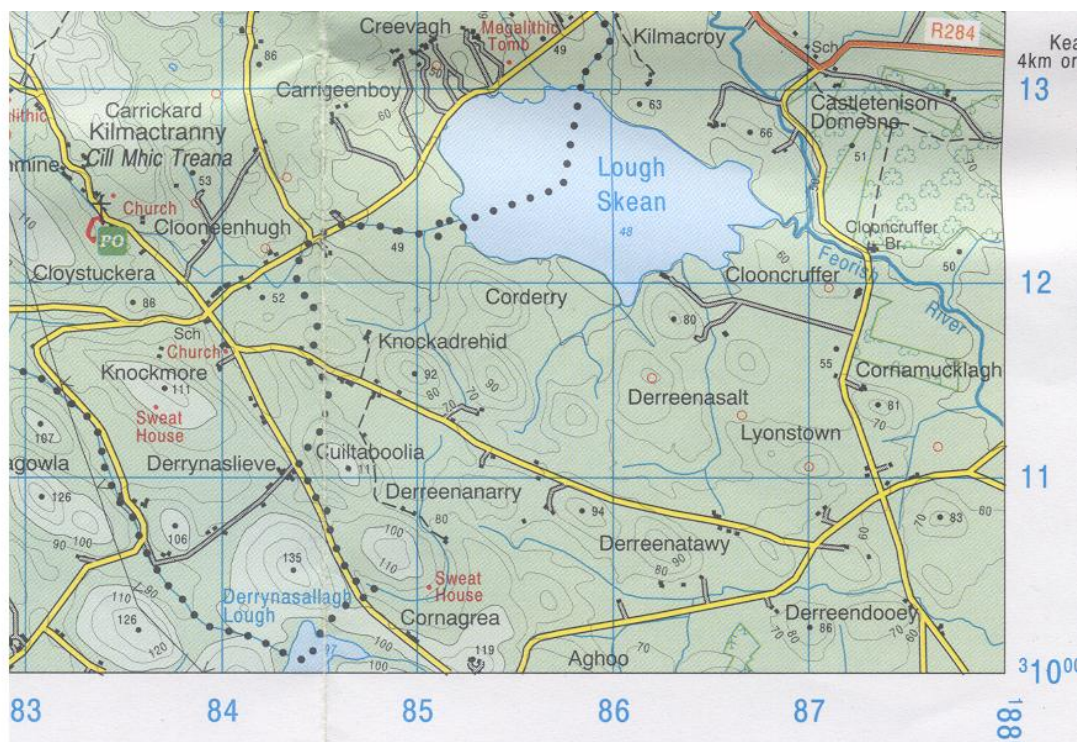


Ordnance Survey 1:50.000 Discovery Series maps. (For more details see Part F)

Current Ordnance Survey road maps (approximately one inch to the mile) are known as the "1:50.000 Discovery Series". Covering Ireland, these large format maps are ideal for planning and referencing as well as for finding your way through the maze of narrow roads. They are useful for walkers as they include public rights of way. (These maps are readily available worldwide at specialist map stores)

The maps include name and approximate location of most townlands, but not the townland boundaries (see Part F1 of this CD for details of Ordnance Survey 1 inch to the mile Townland Index maps that show the approximate boundary of each townland).

Part of Ordnance Survey Ireland Discovery Series map 29



See Part F of this CD for additional information on County Roscommon Ordnance Survey maps.

Area in acres.

The area of the townland in acres. 4840 square yards equals one acre. Remember 40 perches is equal to one rood and four roods are equal to one acre (one perch is 5 1/2 yards by 5 1/2 yards). One acre is equal to 0.405 hectares.

Townland.

The Townland is the smallest administrative unit of land. County Roscommon townlands vary in size from two acres (Ballyclare Island) to 2469 acres (Cloonown townland). The average size is 350 acres. The townland is still the basic address used by rural Irish people for mail and telephone. Each Civil Parish is composed of a number of townlands. A town or village might comprise parts of a number of different townlands. Townlands can come in almost any shape, any size, and with all manner of names (e.g. Gaelic, Norman, English, topographical). Note that many

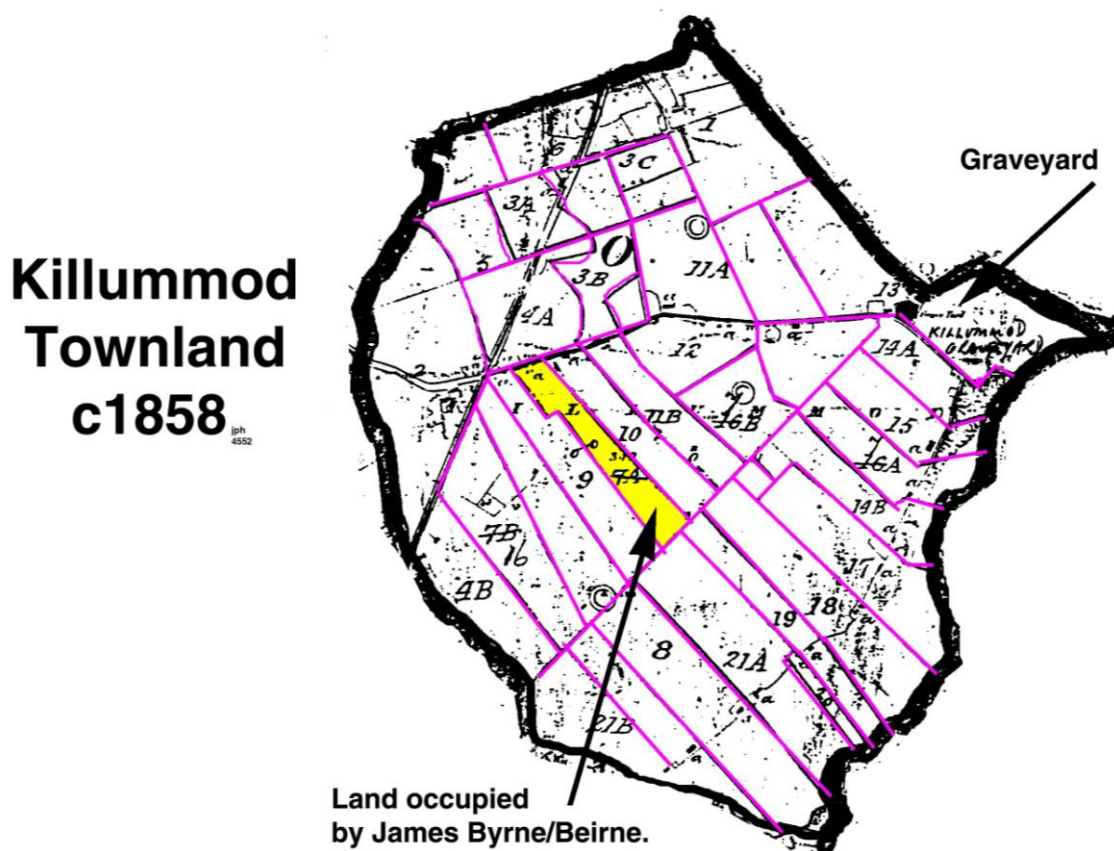
Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

townlands in Co Roscommon share the same name. In Australia today we would refer to them as a "sub-division" or "an estate" that had been broken up into varying sized "lots" or "allotments" of land.

The spelling of townlands on this CD is in accordance with the standard spelling listed in the "General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland" based on the Census of Ireland for the year 1851. Currently in Ireland there is much debate about the spelling of townlands. The difficulty stems from the effort to spell townlands as they are pronounced. Often townlands are spelled incorrectly and the only reason that letters are delivered is because the postman knows where people live.

Postal addresses in Ireland are similar to those in many other parts of the world, but there is no national post code system. An Post has argued that a nationwide public postcode system is unnecessary, describing it as "a 1960s solution to a 21st century problem".^[1] that it would be expensive and that its existing system is superior.^[2] Concerns were also expressed by traditionalists that postcodes would undermine the use of historic [townland](#) names. Those advocating an Irish postcode system point out that many people living in rural (and even some urban) areas share the same postal address. This becomes particularly confusing when there are people of the same surname living at different addresses within the same rural townland. This also creates problems for delivery drivers, the emergency services and any visitors unfamiliar to an area trying to find an address (especially since in such areas it is rare for roads to be named or houses numbered. Indeed it is difficult when travelling through rural Ireland to know which townland one is in, since there are few road signs indicating where townlands begin and end.)

The decision - Postcodes (aka ZIP codes) will be introduced in Ireland by [1 January 2008](#).



Townland – following essential data for each townland is listed in Part B of this CD

Townland name

6 in to 1 mile 1837 Ordnance Survey Map number

Area in acres

Ordnance Survey Discovery series road map number (maps readily available worldwide)

Discovery series map grid reference Eastings

Discovery series map grid reference Northings

Civil Parish

Likely Catholic Parish (and Diocese)

Barony

Poor Law Union

Registrar's District (Civil Birth, Death & Marriages)

District Electoral Division

Tithe Applotment (+ year) LDS film number

Griffiths Valuation – full details

Griffiths Valuation (+ valuation year) LDS film number

Continuing property Valuations 1855-c1920 LDS film number

1901 Census LDS film number see also www.leitrim-roscommon.com/1901census/

1911 Census LDS film number

Civil parish. (For more details see Part C)

Originally an ecclesiastical division, the Civil Parish was until comparatively recent times, an area for Civil purposes. The extension of English rule resulted in the existing parish framework being adopted by the Protestant church and by the Civilian authorities, hence the name Civil parish. It often bore the name of the townland in which the ancient church and graveyard were located. The Civil Parish is the key to finding your Irish ancestors as most old record categories embrace this geographical division. An interesting feature of the Civil parish is that several unconnected area of land many kilometres apart may be part of the same Civil parish (e.g. Kilteseen townland in Kilbryan Civil parish). Civil parishes may cross county borders for example, Athleague Civil parish is partly in Co. Galway and partly in Co. Roscommon.. Today the term "Civil Parish" is seldom used in Ireland except in genealogical research. For further details on Civil parishes see Part C of this CD. The existence of Civil parishes is the second best kept secret in Ireland. All civil parishes are listed in the publication General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland. To locate the Civil parish for any townland in Ireland see: <http://www.leitrim-roscommon.com/ireatlas/>

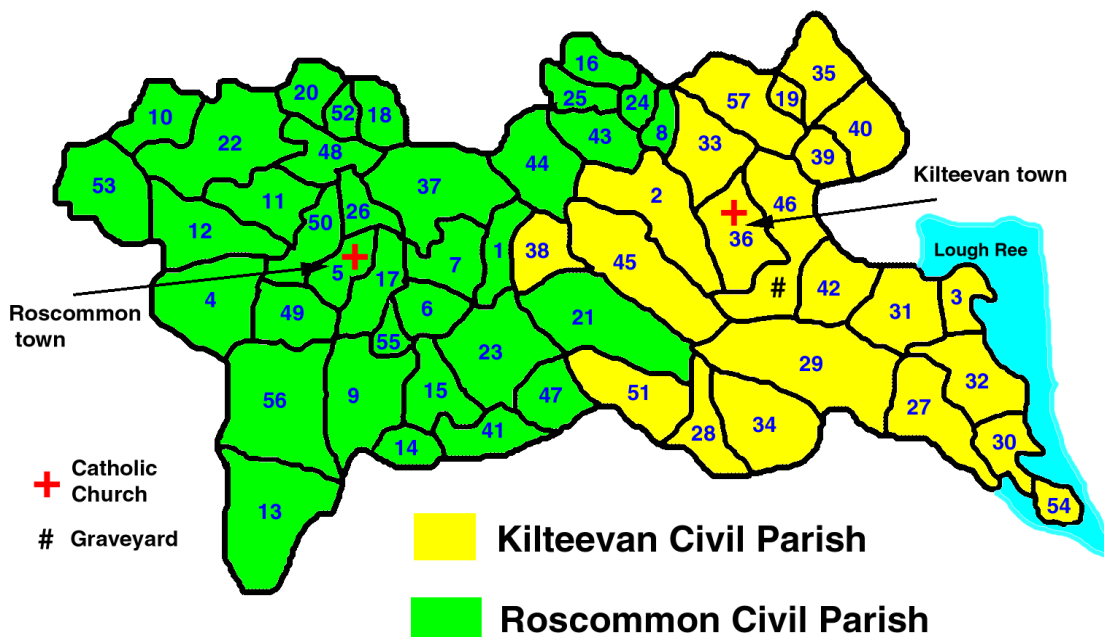
The following map shows the location of the 17 townlands in Killummod Civil parish.



Catholic Parish (and Diocese). (For more details see Part D)

Unlike Church of Ireland parishes, most Catholic parishes do not conform to the boundaries of the Civil parish, and will often not have the same name as the Civil parishes they comprise. A single Catholic parish may include more than one Civil parish, or one Civil parish may cover several different Catholic parishes. A number of Catholic Parishes have more than one church. Most Catholic parishes settled into their current form around the 1880's. As the boundaries of Catholic Parishes have altered over the years, it may be necessary to search adjoining parishes. For boundary changes in Elphin Diocese see "The Diocese of Elphin, People Places & Pilgrimage", Francis Beirne, 2000, ISBN 1 85607 299 1. Available from Fr. Francis Beirne, Four Roads, Roscommon, County Roscommon.

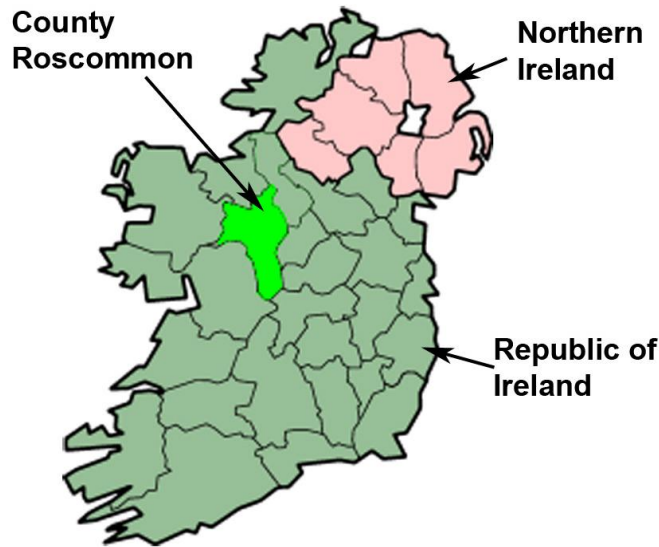
Roscommon Catholic Parish (Roscommon and Kiltreevan)



County

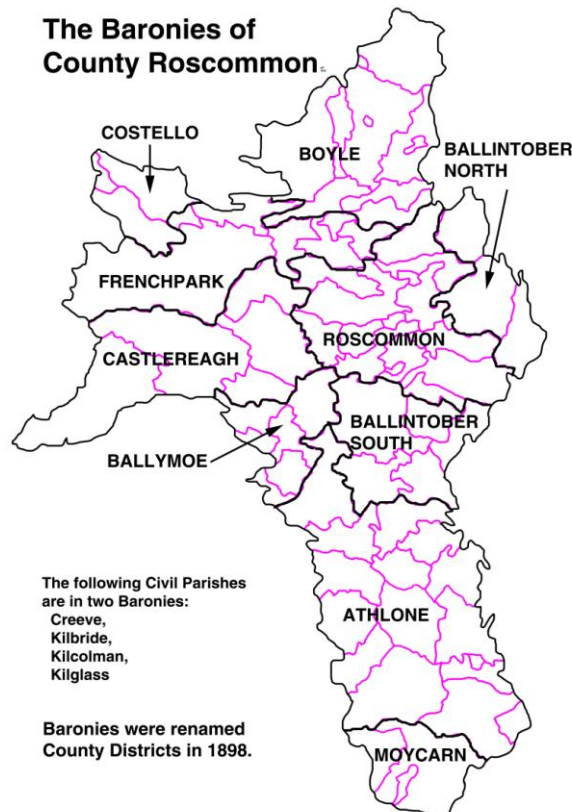
The county is the major administrative division of land and is an autonomous unit for many administrative purposes. For example in the Province of Munster there are six counties. County Kerry is adjacent to two other counties, namely Cork in the South and Limerick in the North. County Clare is just across the River Shannon.

Some counties are landlocked, for example county Tyrone in Ulster is surrounded by counties Donegal, Derry, Armagh, Monaghan and Fermanagh. Only 18 of the 32 counties have a border directly to the ocean. Some others have access by river.



Barony. (For more details see Part F)

The Barony was introduced into Ireland by the Anglo-Normans as a unit of land ownership, being the area appropriate to the jurisdiction of a baron. Each county was divided into baronies and like counties themselves, varied greatly in size. In recent times the Barony has little administrative significance but occurs in older records, including surveys, land transactions, censuses and Griffith's Valuation. See Part F2 (Co. Roscommon maps) of this CD for the Co. Roscommon Barony map.



Province

Ireland is divided into four Provinces as follows:

- **Munster** Six Counties,
- **Leinster** Twelve Counties,
- **Connaught** - Five Counties, and
- **Ulster** - Nine Counties.

Munster: Counties Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford.

Leinster: Counties Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois (aka Leix) formerly Queen's, Longford, Louth, Meath, Offaly formerly King's, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow.

Connaught: Counties Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo.

Ulster: Counties Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry (aka Derry), Tyrone, Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan.

Note: Of the nine counties in the Province of Ulster, only six are in Northern Ireland. Counties Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan, whilst part of the Republic of Ireland, remain in the Province of Ulster as well. Records from these three counties can be found in either Belfast or Dublin, generally in both.

Poor Law Union.

The Poor Law Relief Act of 1838 was instituted to alleviate the distress of the poor in Ireland. The whole country was divided into 159 districts called Poor Law Unions (PLU), for the purpose collecting rates from the inhabitants to provide for the poor and destitute living in that Union. The boundary of each Union had no relation to that of the Barony, county, or Civil parish included in the Union. A workhouse was established in each Union to house the poor with a market town as its centre. The Union itself included an area of about ten-mile radius from the workhouse. Each Union elected a Board of Guardians to administer poor law relief. The workhouses or poor houses were funded by property-owners, as documented in Griffith's Valuation. For location of Workhouses and a drawing of the Roscommon town Workhouse see Part J2c of this CD.

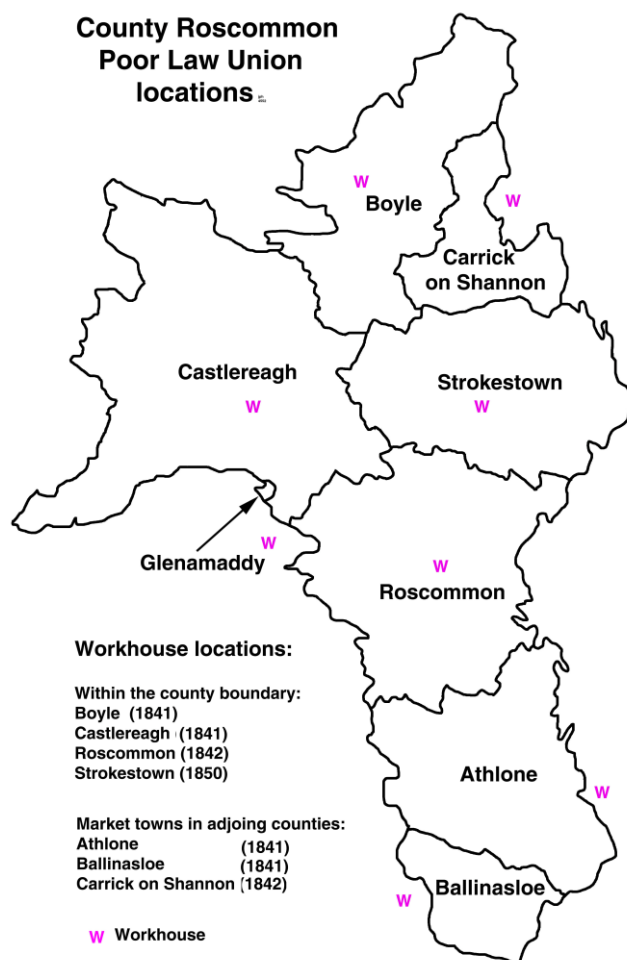
Poor Law Unions are multiples of Townlands, District Electoral Divisions, and Dispensary Districts, and share a common boundary with the Superintendent Registrars' Districts under the Marriages, Births and Deaths Registration Acts. They range in extent from 41,205 to 347,820 acres: In 1901, 113 were situated wholly in one county, 38 in two counties, while 8 extended into three counties. The locality listed in the Irish Civil Birth & Marriage Indexes available on FHL microfilm is the Superintendent Registrar's District (or Poor Law Union). See Part F3 (Co.

Roscommon maps) of this CD for the Co. Roscommon Poor Law Union map

For details of Workhouses in County Roscommon see:

<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~peter/workhouse/map/connaught.html>

<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~peter/workhouse/Roscommon/Roscommon.shtml>



Registrar's District (same area as Dispensary District).

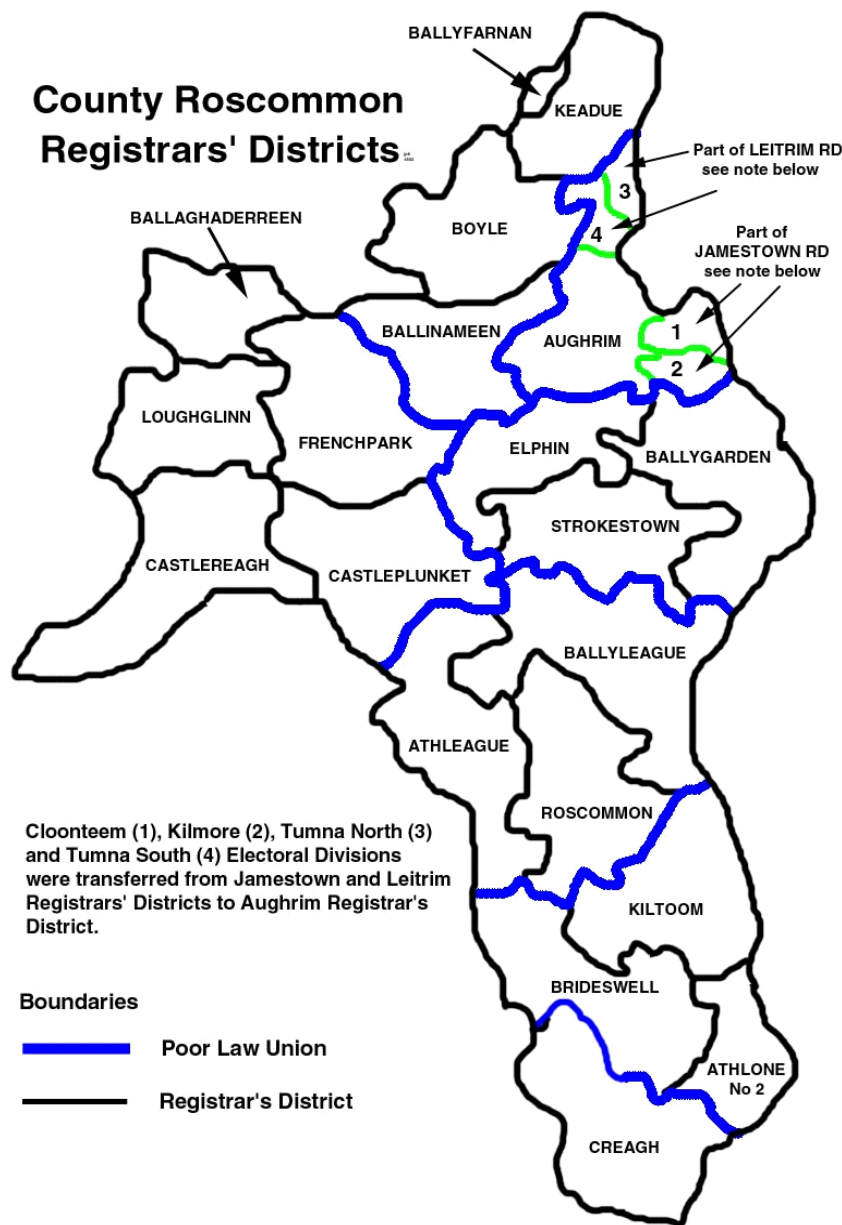
In the 1850's a large-scale public health system was created, based on the area covered by the Poor Law Union. Each Union was divided into Dispensary Districts, with an average of six or seven Districts per Union, and a medical officer, normally a doctor was given responsibility for the health of a District. When the registration of all births, deaths and marriages began in 1864, these Dispensary Districts also became Registrars' Districts, with a registrar responsible for collecting the registrations within each district. In most cases the Medical Officer for the Dispensary District also acted as Registrar for the same area, but not in all cases. The locality listed in the Irish Civil Birth & Marriage Indexes available on FHL microfilm is the Superintendent Registrar's District (or Poor Law Union). The locality listed in the FHL International Genealogical Index (IGI) and the 2001 FHL British Isles Vital Records Index second edition (BIVRI) CD is the Registrar's District. It may not be the actual birthplace/place of marriage. The Civil parish maps in Part C of this CD show the Registrar's District and Catholic Parish for each townland in 1885. See Part F4 (Co. Roscommon maps) of this CD for the Co. Roscommon Registrar's District map. The Registrar's District is listed in the 1871 Index to Townlands available on microfiche.

The Registrar's District for all Roscommon townlands is listed in Part B2 of this CD.

To find the Registrar's District for any townland use "Townlands in Poor Law Unions", now available (2007) as a very reasonably priced Archive Book on CD titled "Handran's Townlands in Poor Law Unions". Google search for the address of a local supplier.

Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

For any Irish historical or genealogical researcher, the importance of Townlands in Poor Law Unions is immeasurable, and is one of only a small handful of must-have reference sources. Originally published in Ireland in pamphlet-form throughout 1885 by the General Register Office by Alexander Thom for Her Majesty's Stationary Office, it is unlikely that the source came into the public domain until it was fortunately collected and privately published by George B. Handran in 1997. Few of Handran's small print-run ended up in private hands and the publication can in the main only be consulted in research libraries and public institutions. The CD-Rom version of George Handran's Townlands in Poor Law Unions has to grace the shelf of anyone seriously researching their Irish ancestors. This CD could not have been compiled without access to Townlands in Poor Law Unions.



Registers of Births, Deaths and Marriages. (For more details see Part J16)

Non-Catholic marriages were registered from 1 January 1845. As the minister was the registrar, the Civil Parish was the area mentioned. When the civil registration of births, deaths and marriages was made universal from 1 January 1864, the Poor Law Union was used as a Superintendent Registrar's District (SRD), and within each Registrar's District, Dispensary or Registrars' Districts was created (RD). On a quarterly basis, each District Registrar sent the certified record of births, deaths and marriages to his superintendent, who in turn sent these records to the Registrar General in Dublin. The Registrar General then indexed these records for the entire country, and these indexes are available to the general public to search in Dublin, **(or on FHL microfilm worldwide at major Public Libraries and Family History Centres)**. When a birth, death or marriage is found, by payment of a fee, one may order a copy of that particular certificate from the Registrar General in Dublin. As there was no penalty for non-registration until 1874, it is thought that about 20% of early Irish births and marriages were not registered.

The original copies of all birth, death and marriage registers for County Roscommon are now held by the Health Board in Roscommon Town. The address is Births, Deaths and Marriages Office, Community Care, Western Health Board, Lanesboro Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon. If visiting Roscommon Town the staff will undertake to do research for a fee (and may even let you see the actual entry in the register).

Copies of the printed indexes of birth registers for all Ireland 1864-1922 are available in PRONI (MIC/165).

Information contained in birth, death and marriage registers:

Birth Certificate: date and place of birth; name of infant; sex; first name(s) and surname of father; residence of father; first name, surname and maiden surname of mother; rank, profession or occupation of father; signature, qualification and residence of informant; when registered; signature of registrar; and baptismal name if added after the registration of the birth.

Marriage Certificate: when married; first name(s) and surnames of the groom and bride; ages; condition (widow(er), bachelor, spinster, etc.); rank, profession or occupation for both; residences for both at the time of the marriage; both parties fathers' first name(s) and surnames; both fathers' rank, profession or occupation; the church where married; the names of two witnesses and the minister performing the ceremony. The age may be full, or minor (with father's consent). Very often the witnesses were family members or relatives of the bride or groom.

Death Certificate: date and place of death; first name(s) and surname of deceased; sex; condition (whether married, bachelor, spinster, widow, etc.); age; rank, profession or occupation; cause of death and length of illness; signature, qualification and residence of informant; when registered.

For Dr. Jane Lyon's excellent website on information listed on Irish Birth, Death and Marriage certificates visit <http://www.from-ireland.net/gene/civilregistration.htm>

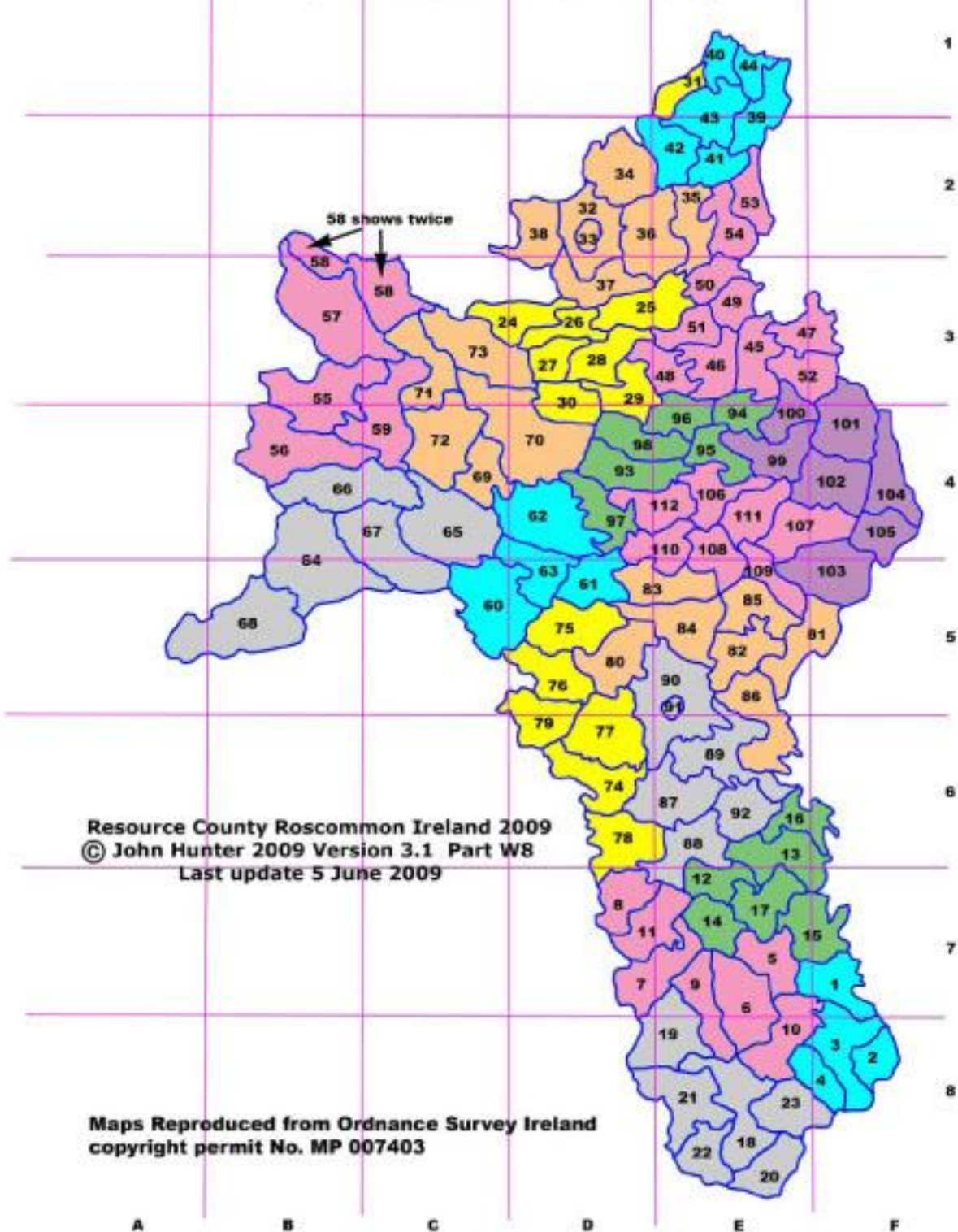
Poor Law Electoral Division, later known as District Electoral Division (DED).

Poor Law Unions were subdivided into District Electoral Divisions (DEDs that returned elected representatives to serve on the Boards of Guardians. The applicable Electoral Division for a group of townlands can be found in the Indexes to the 1871, 1901 and the 1911 censuses, as well as the 1997 publication "Townlands in Poor Law Unions" by George B Handran (see Registrar's District

above). Please note that the Electoral Division is not listed in the “General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland” based on the Census of Ireland for the year 1851. The name changed to District Electoral Division in 1898. See Part F5 (Co. Roscommon maps) of this CD for the map showing the location of Electoral Divisions (DEDs) in Aughrim West Registrar’s District).

Registrar’s Districts - location of DEDs

(DEDE = District ELECTORAL Division)



Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

District Electoral Division (DED) - Name	Poor Law Union or County District	Registrar's District	DED number	Map grid Letter	Map grid Number
Aghafin	Boyle	Keadew	39	E	1
Altagowlan	Boyle	Keadew	40	E	1
Annaghmore	Strokestown	Strokestown	106	E	4
Artagh North	Castlereagh	Ballaghaderreen	55	B	3
Artagh South	Castlereagh	Ballaghaderreen	56	B	4
Athleague East	Roscommon	Roscommon	87	E	6
Athleague West	Roscommon	Athleague	74	D	6
Athlone West	Athlone	Athlone No.2	1	F	7
Aughrim East	Carrick on Shannon	Aughrim	45	E	3
Aughrim West	Carrick on Shannon	Aughrim	46	E	3
Ballaghaderreen	Castlereagh	Ballaghaderreen	57	B	3
Ballinlough	Castlereagh	Castlereagh	64	B	5
Ballintober	Castlereagh	Castleplunket	60	C	5
Ballydangan	Ballinasloe	Creagh	18	E	8
Ballyfarnan	Boyle	Ballyfarnan	31	E	1
Ballyformoyle	Boyle	Keadew	41	E	2
Ballygarden	Strokestown	Roosky	99	E	4
Ballynamona	Athlone	Brideswell	5	E	7
Baslick	Castlereagh	Frenchpark	69	C	4
Bellanagare	Castlereagh	Frenchpark	70	D	4
Boyle Rural	Boyle	Boyle	32	D	2
Boyle Urban	Boyle	Boyle	33	D	2
Breedoge	Boyle	Ballinameen	24	C	3
Buckill	Castlereagh	Frenchpark	71	C	3
Bumlin	Strokestown	Strokestown	107	E	4
Caltragh	Athlone	Kiltoom	12	E	7
Cams	Roscommon	Ballyleague	80	D	5
Carnagh	Athlone	Kiltoom	13	E	6
Carrowduff	Castlereagh	Castleplunket	61	D	5
Carrowreagh	Ballinasloe	Creagh	19	E	8
Castleplunket	Castlereagh	Castleplunket	62	D	4
Castlereagh	Castlereagh	Castlereagh	65	C	4
Castlesampson	Athlone	Brideswell	6	E	7
Castleteheen	Castelreagh	Castleplunket	63	D	5
Cloonburren	Ballinasloe	Creagh	20	E	8
Cloonfinlough	Strokestown	Strokestown	108	E	5
Cloonfower	Castlereagh	Castlereagh	66	B	4
Cloonown	Athlone	Athlone No.2	2	F	8
Cloonteem	Carrick on Shannon	Jamestown	47	F	3
Cloontuskert	Roscommon	Ballyleague	81	F	5
Cloonygormican	Roscommon	Athleague	75	D	5

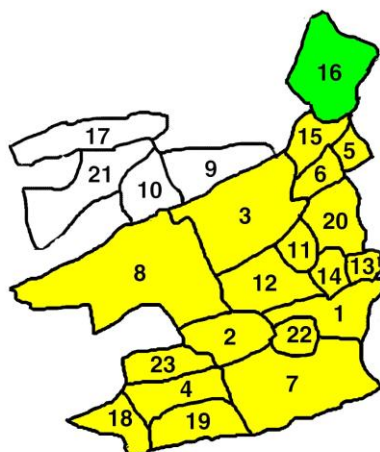
Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

District Electoral Division (DED) - Name	Poor Law Union or County District	Registrar's District	DED number	Map grid Letter	Map grid Number
Cloonyquin	Strokestown	Elphin	93	D	4
Coolougher	Castlereagh	Castlereagh	67	C	4
Crannagh	Athlone	Athlone No.2	3	F	8
Creagh	Ballinasloe	Creagh	21	E	8
Creeve (Barony of Frenchpark)	Carrick on Shannon	Aughrim	48	E	3
Creeve (Barony of Roscommon)	Strokestown	Elphin	94	E	4
Cregga	Strokestown	Elphin	95	E	4
Croghan	Boyle	Ballinameen	25	D	3
Crossna	Boyle	Keadew	42	E	2
Culliagh	Ballinasloe	Creagh	22	E	8
Danesfort	Carrick on Shannon	Aughrim	49	E	3
Drumdaff	Roscommon	Ballyleague	82	E	5
Drumlosh	Athlone	Athlone No.2	4	F	8
Dunamon	Roscommon	Athleague	76	D	5
Dysart	Athlone	Brideswell	7	D	7
Edmondstown	Castlereagh	Ballaghaderreen	58	B	3
Elia	Strokestown	Roosky	100	E	4
Elphin	Strokestown	Elphin	96	E	4
Estersnow	Boyle	Ballinameen	26	D	3
Fairymount	Castlereagh	Frenchpark	72	C	4
Frenchpark	Castlereagh	Frenchpark	73	C	3
Fuerty	Roscommon	Athleague	77	D	6
Keadew	Boyle	Keadew	43	E	1
Kilbride North	Roscommon	Ballyleague	83	E	5
Kilbride South	Roscommon	Ballyleague	84	E	5
Kilbryan	Boyle	Boyle	34	D	2
Kilcar	Athlone	Kiltoom	14	E	7
Kilcolagh	Boyle	Ballinameen	27	D	3
Kilgefin	Roscommon	Ballyleague	85	E	5
Kilglass North	Strokestown	Roosky	101	F	4
Kilglass South	Strokestown	Roosky	102	F	4
Killavackan	Strokestown	Strokestown	109	E	5
Killukin (Barony of Boyle)	Carrick on Shannon	Aughrim	50	E	3
Killukin (Barony of Roscommon)	Strokestown	Strokestown	110	E	4
Killummod	Carrick on Shannon	Aughrim	51	E	3
Kilmacumscy	Boyle	Ballinameen	28	D	3
Kilmore	Carrick on Shannon	Jamestown	52	F	3
Kilteevan	Roscommon	Ballyleague	86	E	5

Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

District Electoral Division (DED) - Name	Poor Law Union or County District	Registrar's District	DED number	Map grid Letter	Map grid Number
Kiltoom	Athlone	Kiltoom	15	F	7
Kiltullagh	Castlereagh	Castlereagh	68	B	5
Lackan	Roscommon	Roscommon	88	E	6
Lecarrow	Athlone	Kiltoom	16	E	6
Lisgarve	Boyle	Ballinameen	29	D	3
Lismaha	Roscommon	Athleague	78	D	6
Lissonuffly	Strokestown	Roosky	103	F	5
Lough Allen	Boyle	Keadew	44	E	1
Loughglinn	Castlereagh	Ballaghaderreen	59	C	4
Mantua	Boyle	Ballinameen	30	D	3
Moore	Ballinasloe	Creagh	23	E	8
Mote	Roscommon	Roscommon	89	E	6
Oakport	Boyle	Boyle	35	E	2
Ogulla	Strokestown	Elphin	97	D	4
Rockhill	Athlone	Kiltoom	17	E	7
Rockingham	Boyle	Boyle	36	D	2
Roosky	Strokestown	Roosky	104	F	4
Roscommon Rural	Roscommon	Roscommon	90	E	5
Roscommon Urban	Roscommon	Roscommon	91	E	5
Rosmoylan	Roscommon	Athleague	79	D	6
Rossmore	Strokestown	Elphin	98	D	4
Rushfield	Boyle	Boyle	37	D	3
Scregg	Roscommon	Roscommon	92	E	6
Strokestown	Strokestown	Strokestown	111	E	4
Taghboy	Athlone	Brideswell	8	D	7
Taghmaconnell	Athlone	Brideswell	9	E	7
Termonbarry	Strokestown	Roosky	105	F	4
Thomastown	Athlone	Brideswell	10	E	8
Tivannagh	Boyle	Boyle	38	D	2
Tulsk	Strokestown	Strokestown	112	E	4
Tumna North	Carrick on Shannon	Leitrim	53	E	2
Tumna South	Carrick on Shannon	Leitrim	54	E	2
Turrock	Athlone	Brideswell	11	D	7

Location of townlands in Aughrim West Electoral Division



Civil parish:

- Aughrim
- Creeve
- Killummod

As an alternative to using “Townlands in Poor Law Unions” to find the Electoral Division (DED) for any townland in Ireland, is to “Keyword” search the FHL Library catalogue for “Ireland Killummod Civil parish”, then click on 1911 Census, then click “Film notes” (replace “Killummod” with the relevant Civil parish).

Tithe Applotment. (For more details see Part J3)

A survey was carried out during the period 1823-38 to determine the amount which occupiers of agricultural holdings were required to pay in tithes to the Established Church (Church of Ireland). The amount paid by each landholder was based on the average price for wheat and oats in each parish during the seven years preceding 1821.

(Definition: tithe - the charging of one-tenth of the earnings or produce of a person or property for the upkeep of the established church in the parish).

Tithe Applotment records are available worldwide on LDS-FHL microfilms and also on National Library Ireland microfilms at major Public Libraries. Tithe records are not comprehensive, people who did not hold land are not listed and some types of land, including church lands and glebes and urban areas were passed over absolutely. It was paid by leaseholders and occupiers of all religious denominations to the clergy of the Established Church of Ireland. There was growing resentment against this tax, particularly in the period of distress after 1815 and the government was forced to give way and introduce a Tithe Composition Act 1823 which replaced payment in kind by payment in cash by landlords.

Names have been roughly indexed in the readily available "Index to Surnames" or "Householders Index." section of the microfiche edition of Griffith's Valuation. See Part S2 of this CD for the 1827 Tithe Applotment records for Killummod townland.

Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

Note that the measurement used was the Plantation or Irish acre, which differs in size from the Imperial or English acre, used in Griffiths Valuation. The ratio is 30.25 : 49. The different types of acres used in each will account for difference in size of land held by a family from one valuation to the other if they appear in both. For example, Killummod townland was 212 acres at Tithe Applotment and 348 acres at Griffiths Valuation. If you apply the ratio to Killummod townland you'll get a small variance which could be attributed to the accuracy of the surveyors. It may also be attributable to drainage improvements in the interim, as there had been much land "improvement" by "improving" landlords.

To convert Irish acres to English acres use the following formula = Irish acres x 30.25/49

To convert English acres to Irish acres use the following formula : = English acres x 49/30.25

See Part C2 (Civil parish database) of this CD for details (film & TAB number) of the Title Applotment records microfilmed by the National Library Ireland and available at the major Public Libraries worldwide.

The tithe books give the names of landholders, the areas of their farm subject to tithe, sometimes the quality of the land and an overall valuation, areas not subject to tithe and the landlords' names. In effect they are the nearest that we have to a farm census in the years before the massive emigration resulting from the Great Famine.

It is important to appreciate that these volumes do not include the large numbers of cottiers or landless labourers, or urban dwellers, excepting those with holdings on the outskirts of towns.

Householders' Index 1820s-1860s. (For more details see Part G1)

The surnames in the Tithe Applotment Survey (1825-1837) and Griffith's Valuation Survey (1848-1864) for the Republic of Ireland have been roughly indexed by the NLI. This index contains a barony by barony index of surnames. Having located the barony(ies) in which the required name is recorded, proceed to the civil parish indexes which are arranged by the Civil parish within each barony. Having located the parish(es) proceed to the actual valuation to locate the name you seek. Both the index and the valuation books are obtainable on microfiche at major libraries.

Griffith's Valuation 1852-1854. (For more details see Part G)

Complete records of the 37,000+ individuals who occupied houses and land in County Roscommon at the time of Griffith's Valuation are included in Part G of this CD. The Griffith's Valuation data has been expanded by the addition of Barony, Poor law Union, Registrar's District, Electoral Division, year of Valuation and likely Catholic parish. The sorting of the expanded data in several ways, together with the inclusion of schools, churches, police, courthouses, etc., should be of interest to local historians as well as family historians.

Griffith's Valuation of County Roscommon was carried out between 1852 and 1858 to provide a uniform valuation of all property based on the productive capacity of the land and the potential rent of buildings. It listed every house and piece of land in all of Ireland, down to the nearest perch, i.e. 5 1/2 yards by 5 1/2 yards (remember 40 perches equals 1 rood and 4 roods equals 1 acre). It is organised by County, Poor Law Union, Barony, Civil Parish and Townland. Also available in book form and on microfiche at major Public Libraries as well as major genealogy societies. Griffith's Valuation on Microfiche may be purchased from specialist genealogy bookstores worldwide.

Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

The Printed Valuation is the summary of three sets of notebooks now deposited in NAI, Dublin -- the House, Tenure and Field Books.

The Tenure Books note farm content, tenure details and observations. These books may give you the information needed to locate a Deed of Lease at the Registry of Deeds, Dublin.

Continuing Valuations- change of occupiers 1852-c1920. (For more details see Part G1)

Because of the devastating loss of Census Returns, the Irish researcher uses various "Census substitutes" viz., the Continuing Valuation Lists, Tithe Applotment Books and Griffith's Primary Valuation. These records span the years from the 1820's to the 1960's.

The FHL have microfilmed the original Cancelled Land Books, or Cancellation Books, which trace the tenancy of land from the time of the final Griffith's Valuation to the 1960's in some cases. They are invaluable for tracing leaseholders of land and landholders during the 1848 to the early 1900s. These valuations are organised into the Local Govt. Rural and Urban districts and into Electoral Divisions within each district. The publication Townlands in Poor Law Unions by George B. Handran can assist with this task (see Registrar's Districts above).

The microfilms can be an extremely valuable resource despite the fact that some entries were made in coloured ink that does not show on the black and white microfilm. Details of the Poor Law Electoral Division for the townland being researched are needed to identify the Family History Library (FHL) microfilm of the original records held at the Valuation Office, Dublin. The books can be very useful in pinpointing a possible date of death or emigration, or in identifying a living relative as the succession dates often mark some significant event, such as death, a marriage, a serious illness, or emigration.

See Part R3 of this CD for further details and for the changes of ownership or tenancy recorded for part of Killeen West townland from 1858 to 1919. The information was extracted from LDS microfilm.

Killeen West Townland, Shankill Civil Parish.

Changes to occupiers from Griffith's Valuation in 1858 to 1919.

Griffiths Valuation Lot #	1.a	1.b	1.c	1	Year of Alteration
Griffiths Val. Desc.	Ho Id (w/3o)	Ho Id (w/3o)	Ho Id (w/3o)	Ld (w/3o)	
Griffiths Val. 1858	Edward Nerney	Patrick McGrath	Michael McGrath	Connor Nerney	
Griffiths Val. Area	34A, 2R, 0P	34A, 2R, 0P	34A, 2R, 0P	34A, 2R, 0P	
Cancelled Books:					
Book 1	Edward Nerney 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Mary McGrath** Michael McGrath 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Michael McGrath 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Connor Nerney 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	1863
Book 2	Edward Nerney 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Michael McGrath, jun** 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Michael McGrath 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Connor Nerney 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	
Book 3	Edward Nerney 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Michael McGrath, jun** 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Hugh McGrath 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	Roger Nerney 34A, 2R, 0P(w/3o)	1867-83
Book 4	Roger Nerney 8A, 2R, 0P****	John McGrath** 9A, 1R, 15P****	Hugh McGrath 8A, 2R, 0P****	Roger Nerney 8A, 0R, 25P****	1883-96
Book 5	Edward Nerney (Ned) Roger Nerney (Ned) 8A, 2R, 0P	John McGrath (Michl.)** 9A, 1R, 15P	John McGrath 8A, 2R, 0P	Roger Nerney 8A, 0R, 25P	1901-11
Book 6	Roger Nerney (Ned) 8A, 2R, 0P	John McGrath (Michl.) 9A, 1R, 15P	John McGrath 8A, 2R, 0P	Roger Nerney 8A, 0R, 25P	1913-17

Valuation District.

The LDS Family History Library (FHL) catalogue for County Roscommon has separate Valuation lists for the following Rural and Urban Districts:

Athlone Rural District, 1855-1947 (includes the Co. Roscommon portion of the Ballinasloe Poor Law Union).

Boyle Rural District, 1858-1962.

Carrick on Shannon Rural District, 1955-1947.

Castlerea Rural District, 1850-1942.

Roscommon District, 1860-1947 (includes the Co. Roscommon portion of the Strokestown Poor Law Union).

Private Estate Records

Private estate archives are major sources of genealogical information. In general the best order in which to consult the different types of estate records for genealogical searching is:

- Rent rolls: which normally list the tenants, townland by townland;
- Leases: which give the tenant's name and probably those of some of his children, with their ages, if it should be what is known as a 'lease for lives'; these were common in the 18th century because if landlords granted tenants leases for lives they qualified as freeholders and were entitled to vote and this strengthened the political 'interest' of the landlord;
- Rent ledgers: showing how much and when each tenant paid his rent;
- Maps: which are usually on a large scale of about 6 inches to 1 mile and plot tenants holdings;
- Wages books: in which will be found the names of estate labourers and household servants and gardeners who may not appear as tenants;

Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

- Land agents' note-books: where sometimes a page is devoted to a tenant and his family, giving personal details of children and character or an observation that a tenant had 'gone to America';
- Land agents' letters: since these are usually unindexed they are not easily used.

Censuses and Census Substitutes

1618 & 1630-31

Muster Rolls 1618 and 1630-31. Following the completion of the English conquest of Ireland in 1603, the lands of six of the nine counties of the province of Ulster were granted to undertakers who were bound to "plant" their estates with British tenants or occasionally Irish. These undertakers held their lands directly from the Crown and since they were settled in a barely conquered country, arrangements had to be made for self-defence.

Undertakers, that is the large landlords, were required to muster all able-bodied Protestant males aged 16 to 60 years on their estates. Their names were listed along with details of arms. The original muster rolls were destroyed in PROI Dublin in 1922 but copies survive for eight of the nine counties of Ulster (all save Co. Monaghan) in the British Library London and are available in PRONI Belfast, in transcript and copy form. Copies are also available for a similar muster of 1618 for a few counties.

The Census of Ireland was published in 1959 by the Irish Manuscripts Commission edited by Seamus Pender. Each county is divided into baronies, parishes and townlands. The numbers of English and Irish in each parish are given. A further column lists the titulados or the principal people of the parish. Five counties are not covered, Cavan, Galway, Mayo, Tyrone and Wicklow.

These people are very much the gentry of this period in history. It is an interesting exercise to compare the spelling of townland names of a parish listed in this document with the spellings recorded in Griffith's Valuation of Ireland 1848-64. Source: Research in Ireland; with Particular Reference to the Nine Counties of Ulster 1988, by Terry Eakin ISBN: 0-7316-7204-6

The manuscript Census of Ireland (1659) was discovered by W. H. Hardinge in 1864 from among the papers of the Marquess of Lansdowne, but was not published until 1938, when Seamus Pender transcribed this massive edition. Though not well known by Irish-American genealogists and very scarce in the United States, it is a work of great historical and genealogical importance.

A Census of Ireland, Circa 1659 represents the only known actual numbering of the people of Ireland prior to 1821. It is arranged geographically by counties, and thereunder by baronies, parishes, and townlands; and by cities, and thereunder by parishes and streets. For each townland or street, the census states the total number of inhabitants and the proportions of English, Irish, and Scottish residing there. In addition, and of great interest to genealogists, the returns supply the names of the most distinguished resident of each townland or street, under the designation "Titulado." Such an individual would ordinarily have been a landowner and could have been of either sex, a nobleman, baronet, gentleman, esquire, military officer, or adventurer. Since many of the Titulados were Irish Catholics, this unique volume demonstrates that there were many exceptions to the enforced transplantation of the Irish Catholic nobility following the Cromwellian subjugation of Ireland--and it divulges their identities. The returns also list, barony by barony, the main Irish surnames in 1659 and the numbers of families of each. Thus, we learn that in the Barony of Owhny in the County of Limerick, the families McDonough (7), McLoghlen (5), O'Ryan (5), O'Rea (5), and Rayne/O'Raynn (61) predominated.

Explanation of terms used in Roscommon research. www.roscommon.info

Appended to the Census itself are the Irish Poll-Money Ordinances of 1660 and 1661, which list the names, county by county, of the several thousand individuals responsible for collecting these taxes. Mr. Pender's marvellous transcription of A Census of Ireland, Circa 1659 concludes with a complete name index to the nearly 20,000 titulos found in the volume and a comprehensive placename index for pinpointing Ireland's population in 1659.

(Source: <http://www.genealogical.com/>)

Old Age Pension search forms

Another under-utilized source of information for the 1841 and 1851 census are the old age pension search forms prepared in PROI c.1910-1922. These are arranged by county, barony, parish, townland and street.

Quite a number of the forms simply record unsuccessful searches of ages of individuals but since there are nearly 30,000 of the forms in the National Archives Dublin (including 9,419 for counties in Northern Ireland) and over 10,000 forms in PRONI (ref. T.550), with some information for every county in Ireland, this is a source which should not be ignored. The series is arranged alphabetically by county so that the reference for Co. Tyrone is CENS28/1-1393.

1901 and 1911 Censuses. (For more details see Part J4a)

A country-wide, every-person census was taken approximately every ten years from the early 1800's to the present. Most returns were lost when the Record Office was burned in 1922; others were officially destroyed. The Family History Library (FHL) has microfilm copies of the 1901 census and the 1911 census. It is important to check the FHL catalogue at www.familysearch.org/ before ordering 1911 Census microfilms as the entry for some townlands show "Nil".

The more important details for all individuals who lived in County Roscommon at the time of the 1901 Census have been extracted by Roger McDonnell of the USA and his group of dedicated volunteers. The records are available for searching on the Internet at www.leitrim-roscommon.com/

1901 Census

Barony of Boyle

Killummod Civil parish

Return for Households in Killummod townland

Extracted from the Leitrim - Roscommon website <http://www.leitrim-roscommon.com/1901census/>

County	Description	Head of household Surname	Head of household Given	Head of household Occupation	Other occupants
Roscommon	Household	Beirne	Andrew(52)	farmer	Mary(50)-Timothy(11)-Timothy(89) father/retired farmer
Roscommon	Household	Butler	Patrick(45)	farmer	Anne(40)-Mary(20)-Margaret(16)-Michael(14)-Charlie(12)-William(11)-Bridget(9)-Luke(6)-John(1)-Margaret Horan(60) widow/mother in law
Roscommon	Household	Carty	Mathew(51)	farmer	Mary Anne(30)-Maggie(7)-Mary Anne(5)-Bridget(2)-
Roscommon	Household	Gannon	Mary(58)	farmer	Maurice(40) son-Patrick(28)-Bridget(25)
Roscommon	Household	Gannon	Mary(65)	farmer	Patt(36)-Katie(25)-Michael Joseph(23)
Roscommon	Household	Glancy	John(50)	farmer	Owen(12)-Thomas(10)
Roscommon	Household	Glancy	Timothy(50)	farmer	Ellen(45)-Bridget(6)-John Patrick(1)
Roscommon	Household	Hanley	Catherine(63)	farmer	William(24)

Birth place

You might find your ancestor gave a variety of addresses on census returns and other records. They might give the name of the first place they remember living, the nearest big town, the parish or the name of the actual village. Be aware that a Catholic gave the name of the Catholic parish, other gave the Civil parish.

Age difference

Remember that your ancestors were human and could lie about their age, especially when one member was much older than the other, and they had to continue this subterfuge on census night. Sometimes people born before civil registration only had a vague idea of when they were born or how old they were. Remember the information was only as good as the person giving it to the census enumerator

See [Part J4a](#) (Miscellaneous (Notes on the 1901 Census) of this CD for details of the additional information collected at the 1901 Census.

Soundex code (For more details see Part L1)

Soundex is a code that codes together surnames that sound similar but have different spellings. Thanks to Ed Finn of <http://www.leitrim-roscommon.com/index.shtml> this CD offers an option to list surnames in "Soundex" code order. For example in part L2 of this CD there are 23 entries for Cuff and Cuffe. This expands to 54 when you check "Soundex" code "C100" which includes similar sounding surnames such as Caffey, Cavahy, Cave and Coffee.

For further details on Soundex see

http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/census/soundex.html

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/general-info-leaflets/55.html>

For a Soundex Code generator

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/3916/soundex.html>

and for limitations of Soundex see

<http://www.genealogyandhow.com/lib/soundex/codes.htm>

Surnames

The surnames in this CD have been entered as listed in the original printed documents. No attempt has been made to correct spelling or typesetting errors. See [Part D1](#) of this CD for notes on the accuracy of transcribed surnames.

Distribution of surnames. (For more details see Part L)

A unique database listing the distribution of surnames during the period 1749 to 1901.

The data has been extracted from the following the four sources:

- 1749 Census of Elphin Diocese.
- c1830 Tithe Applotment records.
- c1855 Griffith's Valuation.
- the 1901 Census of County Roscommon.

Surname Index to the 1749 Census of Elphin Diocese. (For more details see Part M)

A unique Index to The 1749 Census of Elphin Diocese lists the name of heads of households, (some including the name of householder's wife), religion, profession, number of their children and the number of their servants.

Flaxgrowers list. (For more details see Part P)

The Irish Flax Growers bounty list, also known as the Spinning Wheel Premium was compiled in 1796 by the Irish Linen Board

Freeholders. (For more details see Part N)

A freeholder was a man who held his property either "in fee," which means outright ownership, or by a lease for one or more lives (such as the term of his life or the term of three lives named in the lease).