



# Cumann Oidhreachta Eanách Dhúin Annaghdown Heritage Society

**FREE**

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**Nuachtlitir Uimh. 9**

**Geimhreadh 2021**

## FÁILTE

Welcome to our winter 2021 newsletter. This edition contains items on land records for Annaghdown tenants in the late 1700s, and an overview of two townlands in the parish, from our townlands project. We also reprint a photo from our previous edition, of Corrandulla Boys' National School, now with names added.

Our AGM took place on Thursday 7 October. Following the usual officers' reports of activities in the previous year, the following were elected for 2021-22: Nicholas Lyons, Chair; Irene McGoldrick, Secretary; Evelyn Stevens, Treasurer; Gerry Morgan, PRO; and Paul Greaney, Web Manager. Our most recent event was our most international yet: Sean Brosnahan, curator at Toitū Social History Museum in Dunedin, gave a well-received virtual lecture entitled 'As far from Galway as you can go: Irish pioneers in southern New Zealand'. The talk focussed on migration chains established between Annaghdown and the Scottish settlement in Otago, New Zealand in the 1850s. Over time this saw a steady flow of young men and women from Annaghdown and surrounding parishes to create a network of Galway families in the southern-most part of New Zealand. As strangers in a strange land, the bonds of home were vital to sustaining Irish-speaking, frequently illiterate, peasants as they made their way in the colony.

We look forward to hearing the origins of local placenames at our next event on 27 January, when Dr Nollaig Ó Muraíle will speak on 'Placenames of Annaghdown Parish'. Details of this online event can be found on our website.

We have continued to work on transcribing memorials in local cemeteries. This resulted in the publication of a booklet of inscriptions from Corrandulla Cemetery, a few copies of which are still available via our website. We also erected an information board and map inside the gate of the cemetery. We are grateful to Galway County Council for funding for both of these undertakings. Work has now finished on transcribing and photographing the old section of Annaghdown Cemetery, and we hope to prepare a further booklet containing this information in the new year.



Membership of the Society is open to all and costs €10 per annum, which can be paid via PayPal using the 'Join Us' button on our website. You can follow our activities on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, and by visiting our website. Míle buíochas daoibh go leir, muintir na háite sa mbaile agus thar lear, as ucht bhúr dtacaíocht i gconaí.

## ANNAGHDOWN RECORDS IN THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS

*Paul Greaney*

Several members of the Society have been making use of records from the Registry of Deeds in recent months. The Registry, located in Henrietta Street, Dublin, is a repository for copies of land transactions, wills, marriage agreements, and other deeds from 1709 onwards. The entire catalogue of deeds was microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah in the middle of the last century, and is now available on their FamilySearch research website. It is not searchable by text; instead, one must search using images of the indexes - by townland or surname, with the townland index organised by barony and county. Both searching the indexes and then finding the corresponding deed is a tedious process, but can yield hugely interesting information not available elsewhere.

There are a significant number of deeds relating to land and individuals in Annaghdown parish. Many of these relate to landed families - for example, the marriage articles of Francis Blake of Cregg and Georgina Burke of Glinsk were sent to the Registry having been signed on 13 January 1819. There are many deeds relating to the Staunton family, who held a large portion of the lands in the parish during the 1600s and 1700s, before this was dispersed via marriage agreements, sale and inheritance.

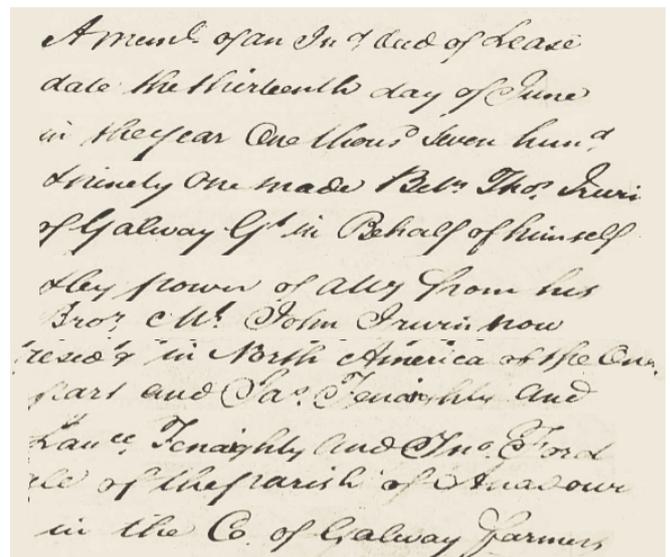


Figure 1. Opening of the 1791 Finnerty/Ford deed

There are few deeds which mention tenants or occupiers of land, as shorter leases did not need to be registered, and most land was held from year-to-year without any lease.

One notable exception is a 1791 agreement between brothers Thomas and John Irwin, and James Finnerty, Laurence Finnerty, and John Forde, to lease the lands of Muckrush and Rabbit Island, for the lifetime of the Irwin brothers at a yearly rate of £35 - 5s - 3d. The holding was described as ‘the lands of Muckerris with the Rabbit Island adjoining and situated in the parish of Annaghdown [...] bounded on the west by Lake Corrib and on the east by the lands of Oldbury and Barrona and on the south by part of the lands of Barrona and on the North to the Quay of Oldbury’. The Irwins had in turn leased ‘the lands of Lygan, Muckerries, Ballymore, Ballybeg, Rabbit Island, Marefield, Parkerabe, and the Meadow adjacent to the river of Clonboo’ in 1779 from the owner, Thomas Staunton of London. This lease was purchased in 1794 from the Irwins by John Staunton of Woodpark, a cousin of Thomas. As regards the Irwins, the lease states that John was residing in North America by 1791 and Thomas was living in Galway. It can be speculated that they may have lived or had a residence in or near Muckrush in the 1780s, as a flagstone near the door of the cathedral ruins in Annaghdown bears the name Elizabeth Irwin otherwise Walker, likely the wife of one of the brothers.

It is also probable that the Forde and Finnerty families built houses in Muckrush after obtaining the above lease, likely the same houses occupied by those families until the middle of the last century. The flagstone next to the Irwin one records the death of Laurence Finnerty’s wife, Mary Finnerty née Forde, on 5 January 1800, aged 37 years. It was erected by Laurence in 1806 when he was aged 46 years. This stone now leans against the wall of the cathedral, but according to tradition it lay on the grave of the Farragher family of Shankill.

Another interesting deed made in 1795, between the Skerretts of Drumgriffin and Blakes of Cregg, mentions several tenants: 35 acres of land at Tonagarraun were held by Patrick Sheedy, while a further 64 acres at Mullaghadrums were held by Patrick Sheedy, Honora Lally, Michael Moran and Denis Glaven. Denis Glaven and John Neal held 22 acres at Gortroe, while Richard Burke, John Ford, John Burke and John Sheedy held 68 acres at Carrowbeg [South].

The last deed we note is between John Butler of Winterfield and John Cavanagh of Gortroe, made in 1834, for ‘that part of Drumgriffin formerly occupied by Patrick Silk, deceased, consisting of the parks meared on the East by the High Road leading to the Mill at Drumgriffin and on the south by the estate of Francis Blake containing four acres or thereabouts; also the small plot or garden formerly held by Owen Lally with the cabbins thereon, containing about twenty five perches’. This land was held by Cavanagh under an 1814 lease from William Robinson, who held the land from James Skerrett. This lease assigned the land to John Cavanagh from the death of John Robinson for the lives of Cavanagh’s second, third, and fourth sons, Thomas (16) Michael (14), and Bartholomew (12), or for thirty one years at £10 - 1s - 2d.

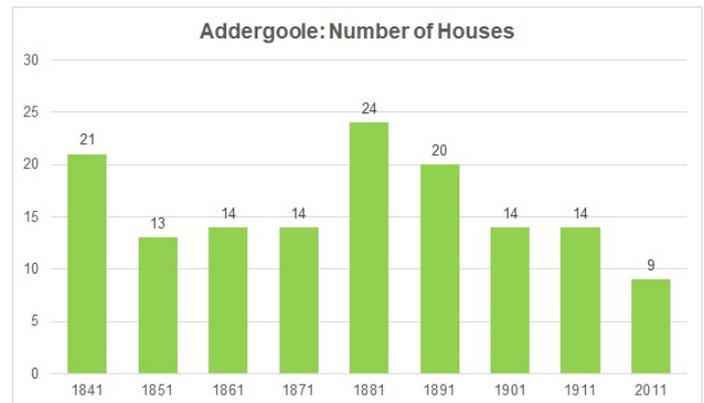
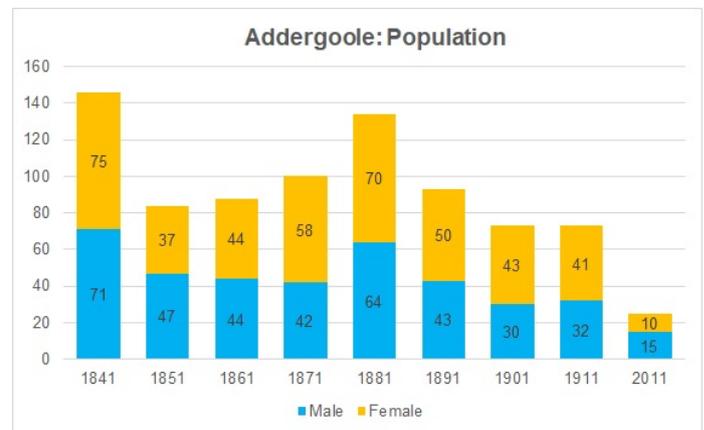


Figure 2. Population and House Statistics for Addergoole

## ADDERGOOLE TOWNLAND

*Compiled by Evelyn Stevens*  
[annaghdownheritage.ie/addergoole](http://annaghdownheritage.ie/addergoole)

The official Irish name for the townland is Eadargúil, and the English name is Addergoole, meaning a place between forks. It consists of 403 acres and 36 perches. Field and other local names recorded in the townland include Tom Giolcaigh, Bóthar an Oileáin, An Seanchaladh, Cnocán an Mhárla, Droichead na bPúiríní, Portaigh Lisheen Cacamil-day, The Pratie, An Speic (Cimín), An Poll Braon, An Átha, Caladh na bPúiríní, Caladh na gCrowes, Cathair na gCapall, Gort na Stalach, Caladh Cos an Choirnéal, Poll Dhóba, Ceap a’ Ghainimh, Gort a’ Gamhain, Léine Jude Coinín, An Tuar Mhór, Gort na n-Ult, Gort na hEasc, Drisín Droighneán, Gort an Chroic (Chnoic), Caladh an Gharraí Mhóir, Caladh Thaidhg, Caladh na Móinteachaí, Oileáin na n-Úróg (tern - in lake). Note that *caladh* is a canal.

O’Donovan’s Field Name Books describe Addergoole as follows: Francis Blake Esq., proprietor, 1/4 of which is under tillage and the remainder bog. A river runs through the centre and forms the boundary in its west side. Situation: It is situated 3 miles south of Annaghdown Church. Bounded North by Cloonboo, South by Curraghmore. Boundary E. and W. by Cregduff and West by Lissanoran. Other names recorded by O’Donovan for the townland (with sources) are Eadra Gabhal, Addergoole, Athergall (County Book), Adragooll (High Constable 1838), Adragool (Local), Adra-

gool (Local Pronunciation), Addrgoole (Rector of Annaghdown).

The Tithe Applotment Books (1821) show F. Blake Esq as renting from J. Kirwan with lessees James Neal, Pat Fahy, Martin Mulryan and partners. The total acreage is shown as 184 acres. The rector R. Marley received £4 3s. 10d. and J Kirwan Esq received £8 7s. 9d.

Griffith's Valuation (1855) shows that there were 14 households in Addergoole in 1855, all with land. All were held under the immediate lessor, Francis Blake. Heads of households listed were William Nally, John Brennan, Jn.(Michael) Leonard, Thomas Leonard, John (James) Leonard, William Leonard, Michl (John) Leonard, Margaret Neill, John Beatty, Martin Mulrine, Patrick Mulrine, Martin Hennelly, Patrick Fahy, Michl. (Jas.) Leonard.

There were still fourteen households in Addergoole in the 1901 and 1911 census. All of the houses were built of stone with thatched roofs. In 1901, ten of the houses were second class and four were third class, while in 1911 five of the houses are listed as third class and nine as second class. All were stone built with thatched roofs. 9 people in 4 different households are recorded as speaking Irish only in 1901, while in 1911 6 people in 4 different households are spoke Irish only.

The 1901 census records the following individuals.

1. Julia Fahy (65) lived with her son Patrick (40), daughter-in-law Bridget (40), granddaughters Julia (16), Maggie (14), Mary (11), Kate (9) and grandson Martin (5).
2. Mary Hennelly (68) lived with her son Martin (37), and daughters Honor (23) and Mary (20).
3. Julia Leonard (70) lived with her son James (35), daughter-in-law Mary (35), granddaughter Julia (2) and grandson Michael (-).
4. Charles Mulryan (62) lived with his wife Mary (40) and son Patrick (28).
5. Mary Mulryan (68) lived with her son Michael (40), daughter-in-law Bridget (34), grandson Martin (5), and granddaughters Mary (4) and Norah (2).
6. Thomas Mulroyan (60) lived with his wife Bridget (50), daughter Marget (27), son John (25), daughters Kate (23) and Honor (21), son Michael (19) and daughter Bridget (12).
7. Michael Fahy (80) lived with his wife Mary (65) and daughter Honor (25).
8. James Neill (60) lived with his son Patrick (27), daughter Kate (24) and son John (23).
9. Roger Leonard (46) lived with his wife Mary (36), daughters Mary (12) and Margaret (9), son William (6) daughters Kate (3) and Bridget (-), brother Richard (40) and sister Margaret (26).
10. Michael (John) Leonard (35) lived with his sisters Julia (29) and Winifred (27).
11. Thomas Leonard (66) lived with his wife Mary (50), son Michael (23), daughter Bridget (21), son Thomas (13), daughter Mary (11), sister Julia (61) and brother Francis (58).

12. Michael (Jun) Leonard (40) lived with his sister Kate (37).
13. William Nally (40) lived with his wife Bridget (35), daughter Mary (6), and sons Frank (3) and Patrick (1).
14. James Brennan (75) lived with his wife Julia (68), daughter Mary (21), son James (18) and granddaughter Mary King (5).

The 1911 census records the following individuals in Addergoole:

1. Michael Leonard (52) lived with his sister Kate (50).
2. Thomas Leonard (78) lived with his wife Mary (56) sons Michael (32), Thomas (23), daughter Mary (21) brother Frank (70) and sister Julia (74), a seamstress.
3. Michael Leonard (60) lived with his sisters Julia (48) and Winniefred (40).
4. Roger Leonard (56) lived with his brother Richard (50), sister Margaret (40) seamstress, daughter Mary (20), daughter Maggie (18), son Willie (16) and daughter Katie (13).
5. James O'Neill (71) lived with his son Patt (40), his daughter Catherine (38) and his son John (34).
6. Michael Hennelly (47) lived with his wife Honor (34) sons Patrick (8), John (5), Martin (5), Michael (4) and daughter Mary (1).
7. Bridget Mulryan (67) lived with her son John (37), daughter Kate (35) son Michael (32) and daughter Bridget (22).
8. Mary Mulroyan (85) lived with her son Michael (46), daughter-in-law Bridget (48), grandson Martin (16), granddaughters Mary (15), Nora (13) and Maggie (7).
9. Patrick Mulroyan (45) lived with his wife Julia (32), daughters Maggie (8), Mary (5) son Charley (3) and aunt Mary Mulroyan (69).
10. Martin Hennelly (50) lived with his sister Norah (40).
11. Julia Fahy (80) lived with her son Pat (50), daughter-in-law Bridget (60), granddaughters Julia (23), Maggie (21), Mary (19) and Catherine (16).
12. James Leonard (45) lived with his wife Mary (45), daughter Julia (12), son Michael (10), daughter Mary (6) and Pat Collins (23) servant.
13. William Nally (55) lived with his wife Bridget (57), daughter Mary (16), son Francis (14), son Patrick (12) and daughter Honor (9).
14. Julia Brennan (72) lived with her daughter Mary (30), son James (26) and granddaughter Mary King (16).

Further information on each of the 64 townlands in the parish can be found on our website at [annaghdownheritage.ie/townlands](http://annaghdownheritage.ie/townlands).



Figure 3. **Franciscan Boys' School, Corrandulla, 1948.** We reproduce this photo from our previous edition, with thanks to Martin Tyrrell, Patsy Lynch, Kathleen O'Shea, Willie Nally, and Gerry Hardiman for assistance with names.

Back Row L-R: Tommy Lardner, Eddie Burke, Brendan Lynch, Gerry Stewart, Sean Greally, Billy Furey, Willie Kelly, Gerry Lynch, Martin Cahill.

Third Row: Bro. Canice Sweeney, Sean Melia, Patrick Lane, S. Shaughnessy, John Greaney, J.J. Healy, P.J. Cahill, Tommy Melia, P.J. Greaney, Tommy Cahill, Paddy Goaley, Bro. Matthew Mannion.

Second Row: Josie Shaughnessy, Tommy Burke, Josie Qualter, Eddie Cahill, Martin Tyrrell, Philip Halloran, Tom Monaghan, John Cahill, Michael Joe Moylan, J. Raftery, Johnny Mulryan.

Front Row: John Joe Murphy, Tommy Burke, Tommy Hynes, Johnny Moylan, Martin Qualter, Brendan Duggan, J. Greaney, Dominic Sweeney, Vincent Lane, J. Moran, Pat Tyrrell, Brendan Shaughnessy, P. Keady. Sitting in front: Sean Hardiman, Joe Hardiman.

## GLEBE TOWNLAND

*Compiled by Paul Greaney*  
annaghtdownheritage.ie/glebe

The official Irish name for the townland is An Ghléib, and the English name is Glebe. It consists of 33 acres and 8 perches. O'Donovan's Field Name Books describe Glebe townland as the rector's seat, who has it as a living. All under tillage. A road runs north and south through the townland. It is situated 1 mile S. E. of Annaghtdown Church. Bounded north by Cregg, south by Drumbaun, east by Slievefin and west by Cregg.

In 1841, there were 12 people living in 2 houses; 1851, 10 people in 2 houses, with a further house uninhabited; 1861, 15 people in 2 houses, 1871, 21 people in 3 houses; 1881, 4 people in 1 house; 1891, 3 people in 1 house; 1901, 2 people in 1 house; 1911, 2 people in 1 house. By 2011 there were 28 people living in 8 houses, with one further house vacant.

The Tithe Applotment Books make no mention of the townland, likely because glebe land was exempt from tithes.

Griffith's Valuation records two houses in Glebe townland: Rev. Weldon Ashe held the Glebe House, valued at £10, and he was also the lessor of a further house occupied by Michael Hanly, valued at 10 shillings. Rev. Ashe was also the lessor of a school, valued at 15 shillings.

The July 1845 house book records Revd. Michael Seymour as occupier of the Glebe, having succeeded Revd. Richard Marley, whose name is struck out. The total valuation on the house was £13-6s-0d, with the price based on the dwelling, basement, return, stables and coach house, cow house, stables and store. A cow shed was recorded as 'down' during the revision of the book. The 1853 version of the book is in agreement with Griffith's Valuation, except that Rev. Michael Seymour had not yet been succeeded by Rev. Weldon Ashe. Rev. Seymour is recorded as occupier of the Glebe House offices, and the Parochial School House, while Michael Hanly is recorded as occupying a house.

The 1901 census records one house in Glebe townland: Patrick J. Cunningham (29), farmer, lived with his wife Mary (33). Both were born in Co. Galway and spoke Irish and English. The house was of the first class, having walls of stone, a roof of slate, iron or tiles, 13 or more rooms, and five front windows. The out offices comprised a stable, cow-house, piggery, boiling house, and barn.

The 1911 census again records one house in the townland: Mary Cunningham (40), farmer, a widow, lived with her daughter Delia (8). Both were born in Co. Galway and neither spoke Irish. The house was of the first class, having walls of stone, a roof of slate, iron or tiles, between 7 and 9 rooms, and six front windows. There were ten out-offices recorded: a stable, cow-house, calf-house, dairy, piggery, fowl-house, boiling-house, barn, potato-house, and a shed.