

# THE TOHILL FAMILY OF BALLYMACPEAKE UPPER, COUNTY DERRY, IRELAND

Sealed deed by Thomas Conolly landlord of the Vintners' estate



Signature of Michael Tohil and mark of John Tohil of Ballymacpeake dated 1803



Prepared for Patrick G Tuohey by Bobby Forrest 2012

Forrest Research Services

## TOHILL FAMILY REPORT

The difficulties of Irish research are well documented. The explosion at the Four Courts complex at the beginning of the Irish Civil War in 1922 destroyed much of the archival heritage of the island, thus making Irish research particularly difficult. The most significant loss was the destruction of the census returns for the period 1821-1851.<sup>1</sup> The 1821 census was one of the earliest carried out in Europe and had it survived intact would have been of enormous help to many in tracing their Irish ancestral line back into the eighteenth century.<sup>2</sup> The practical limits of research in Ireland are determined almost entirely by the survival of local church registers. Although much work has been done to repair the archival heritage of the island the loss of census and testamentary returns in particular make the task of family research a real challenge for the genealogist in Ireland. Thus, when contacted by Patrick Tuohey, who's maternal forebears emigrated to Australia in 1858, to research his Tohill ancestry in the period before civil registration, I was prepared for the challenges that lay ahead. Patrick had some information that his Tohill forebears were from County Derry.<sup>3</sup>

Many hours spent digging in the archives<sup>4</sup> pouring over church registers, gravestone inscriptions, registry of deeds, extant wills, O.A.P returns, tithe books, estate records, 1831 census returns, Griffith's printed valuation and revision books proved to be a success as we were able to trace the family to the townland of Ballymacpeake Upper in the civil parish of Maghera and Catholic parish of Lavey. The joy of discovery was shared across the globe by email; telephone and a memorable Sunday afternoon drive through the countryside of south Derry on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The key to unlocking family history in Ireland is to locate the townland of origin of the family and locate the sources for the area that reveal the surnames of the locality. Encouraged by our successes and in the breaking open of new ground it was envisaged that some form of family history could be written up and perhaps published for posterity only for Patrick to discover that a hitherto unknown New Zealand 'cousin' Hugh Tohill of Dunedin had beaten us to it some fourteen years earlier.<sup>5</sup>

Hugh Tohill's work is to be commended as much of the research was conducted in New Zealand through his local LDS family history library in Dunedin and having consulted all of the standard Irish genealogical sources he had sufficient detail to produce a fairly complete family descendant pedigree chart that has proved to be a useful template in researching the family. Hugh had access to some family oral tradition, which complemented his research in the archives.

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<sup>1</sup> The returns for the period 1861-1871 were destroyed shortly after they were made and those for 1881-1891 were pulped during the Great War much to the chagrin of genealogists and archivists alike.

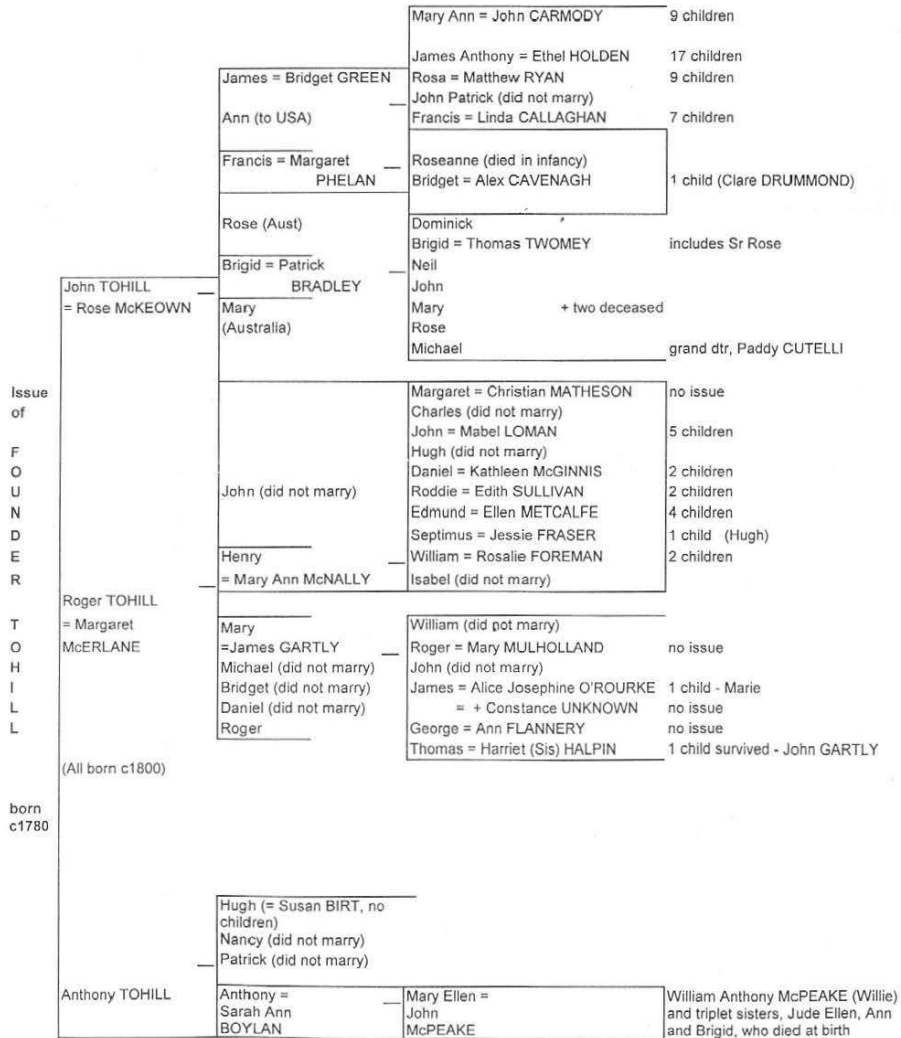
<sup>2</sup> The recent discovery of the 1821 census for the parish of Forkhill, County Armagh in the vaults of the local Church of Ireland parish church gave great impetus and encouragement to local historians in the area.

<sup>3</sup> Patrick [or pgt as I have come to call him!] has an avid interest in family history and made great strides in uncovering source material in Australia/New Zealand that provided vital clues that supported the search in Ireland [vital records of births, marriages and deaths in these countries generally contain more information than the Irish equivalent].

<sup>4</sup> The vast majority of the research was conducted in PRONI, now a world-class facility. I also spent a day in the National Archives, Dublin and a particularly memorable day in the Registry of Deeds in Henrietta Street, Dublin when I ordered ten Tohill deeds. These are priceless family documents and although they were they were costly they are worth every cent and came into the possession of Patrick by post on 11/11/11.

<sup>5</sup> The '*Tohill family history*' by Hugh Tohill was privately published 13 May 1997.

### Hugh Tohill's standard family pedigree chart



This paper is written to complement the work that Hugh Tohill has published and to update or revise where necessary.<sup>6</sup> There is little point in going over the same old ground but a fresh perspective is often required in the light of new discoveries, especially in the Registry of Deeds.<sup>7</sup> **The family can be traced to the antecedent Roger Tohill who was a tenant of the Vintners' estate in the townland of Ballymacpeake in 1788. He was deceased by 1803 but is the progenitor of the family that now has branches in New Zealand, Australian, and the USA.** Having established that the family was firmly established in the parish of Lavey in the barony of Loughinsholin by the mid-eighteenth century gives us a fulcrum point from which to examine the origins of the Tohill sept in county Derry as well as tracing the development

<sup>6</sup> Hugh's work confirmed that my research methodologies had been successful with regard to uncovering the origins of the Tohill family in the townland of Ballymacpeake. The initial information that I had was limited to that James Anthony Tohill was from County Derry.

<sup>7</sup> In his work, Hugh Tohill was aware of the Registry of Deeds [ROD] as a potential source. From the late eighteenth century when the penal laws were relaxed more and more Catholics came to use the ROD, especially those who had acquired a valuable perpetuity lease.

of the family in the townland of Ballymacpeake, which formed part of the Vintners' Bellaghy estate.

### **THE O'TUATHGHAIL SEPT – SURNAME AND ORIGIN**

In the Irish context it is desirable to avoid the use of the term 'clan' because its use might imply the existence of clan system like that so highly developed in Scotland, which in fact, Ireland has never had. MacLysaght<sup>8</sup>, preferred instead to use the term 'sept' which he defined as a '*collective term describing a group of persons who, or whose immediate and known ancestors, bore a common surname and inhabited the same locality*'.<sup>9</sup>

I can think of no better description of the county Derry sept of Tohill, a distinct sept of patronymic and monogenetic origin. According to MacFibris the Ulster family is a branch of the Cinel Eoighan and thus descended from Niall of the Nine Hostages. Not much is known of the history and origins of the Tohill sept and therefore, we are forging new ground in our attempts to unravel the family history.

Tohills emerge from the mists of time during the Plantation of Ulster when the family was very much connected to the Church in several contiguous parishes to the south of the new county of Londonderry, previously known as the county of Coleraine. Counties, of course, were of English origin as were baronies created as a means of facilitating civil administration. Parishes were of greater antiquity and Toghills are said to have given the name to the parish of Desertoghill.

One characteristic of Gaelic Irish surnames is that the great majority are patronymic, that is, derived from named ancestors and prefixed by O or Mac. Tohill is of Irish origin and derives from O'Tuathail translating as "the descendants of the mighty people." Who these "mighty people" were is not proven. In anglicised form the more usual spelling is Toghill although Tohill has become the more accepted spelling over the past two centuries. Throughout this paper I will use the standardized spelling of Tohill except when transcribing original documents, which will retain the original spelling for veracity.

Irish Catholics earned the title of the 'secret people' in the seventeenth century as a result of the discriminatory penal laws. Evidence of Tohills in the records prior to 1800 is hard to come by. The following chart plots the distribution of Tohills registered in three 'census-substitutes', the 1663 hearth money returns, 1740 Protestant Householders' survey<sup>10</sup> and 1766 religious census. Tohills appear in only two baronies - Coleraine and Loughinsholin. I have also included references to the Tohills of Lavey [Termoneeny] parish uncovered in the eighteenth century during the course of research.

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<sup>8</sup> Edward MacLysaght was one of the foremost experts in Irish family names in the twentieth century

<sup>9</sup> Edward MacLysaght, *Irish Families: Their Names, Arms and Origins*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Dublin 1985, p. 12.

<sup>10</sup> The hearth money collectors for Loughinsholin and Coleraine baronies appear to have listed both Catholic and Protestants on their 'walk'. It is very unlikely that all of the Tohills listed in the 1740 survey were Protestant.

**TOHILL RETURNS FROM CENSUS SUBSTITUTES**

Year	Barony	Parish	Townland	First name	Surname
1663	Coleraine	Macosquin-Camus	Not specified	Shane	o'Toale
1663	Coleraine	Macosquin-Camus	Not specified	Donnel	o'Toale
1663	Loughinsholin	Ballinderry	Ballymultrea	Owen	o'Toole
1663	Loughinsholin	Tamlaght O'Crilly	Lismoyle	Owen	Toyle
1663	Loughinsholin	Maghera	Culnagrew	Patrick	O'Toghill
1740	Loughinsholin	Tamlaght O'Crilly	Not specified	Peter	Tochel
1740	Coleraine	Killowen	Not specified	John	Doghill
1740	Coleraine	Macosquin	Not specified	Js	Touhill
1740	Coleraine	Macosquin	Not specified	Jn	Towhill
1740	Coleraine	Aghadowey	Not specified	Wm	Towhill
1740	Coleraine	Aghadowey	Not specified	Alex	Towhill
1740	Coleraine	Errigal	Not specified	Rich	Doghill
1766	Loughinsholin	Desertmartin	Not specified	Dan	o'Toal
1766	Loughinsholin	Magherafelt	Not specified	Edward	Tole
1766	Loughinsholin	Magherafelt	Not specified	Henry	Tole
1752 <sup>11</sup>	Loughinsholin	Lavey [Termoneeny]	Moyagall	Roger	Tochill
1788 <sup>12</sup>	Loughinsholin	Lavey [Termoneeny]	Ballymacpeake	Roger	Tohill
1799 <sup>13</sup>	Loughinsholin	Lavey [Termoneeny]	Ballymacpeake	Michael	Tohill

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<sup>11</sup> Roger Tochill, farmer of Moyagall was a witness to the will of George Martin of Curren, parish of Maghera, smith dated 10 February 1752.

<sup>12</sup> The 1788 rent roll on the Vintners' Bellaghy estate lists Roger Tohill in Ballymacpeake Upper townland.

<sup>13</sup> Belfast Newsletter 27 September 1799 lists Michael Tohill as a 'freeholder' in Ballymacpeake.

**MAP OF BARONIES AND CIVIL PARISHES IN COUNTY DERRY**



**TOPOGRAPHICAL HISTORY**

Townland names often throw a shaft of light onto past history since they are of very ancient origin. There is the townland of *'Inchadoghill'* in Aghadowey parish,<sup>14</sup> translated as 'the island of the O'Tuoghills'. Then there is the parish of 'Destertoghill' – the 'desert of the O'Toughills'. Interesting that both parishes are in Coleraine barony to the north of the barony of Loughinsholin. The topographical history does suggest that the Tohill family had origins further north in the barony of Coleraine in pre-plantation times. By contrast, at the time of the 1831 census the vast majority of Tohill families were resident in the barony of Loughinsholin. This does indicate that the family were pushed south as a result of post plantation land settlements. Undoubtedly, there was a significant topographical change as a consequence of the plantation. Much of barony of Loughinsholin had been covered in scrubby woodland or forest in the pre-plantation

<sup>14</sup> T.H. Mullan, 'Aghadowey, a parish and its Linen Industry' p. 14

period and its destruction throughout the seventeenth century opened new agricultural vistas for settlement and corresponding migrations inland.

### The Destertoghill connection

It has been claimed by some that the original home of the Tohill clan was in the parish of Desertoghill. Folklore exists that explains the origins of the surname in the Ordnance Survey Memoirs of the 1830s.<sup>15</sup> No other parish documented in the Ordnance Survey Memoirs is so rich in legend and lore as Desertoghill, and within it Desertoghill Old Church [said to have been founded by Columbkille in the fifth century]. This church is surrounded by legend; nocturnal disturbances, holy wells, kneeling stones, remarkable burials and larger than life characters in the form of two watchmen with wolf dogs who kept guard over the parishioners.

The memoirs reveal one fascinating detail about the parish – that it was plagued by wolves, and that it is in part due to this fact that the parish derived its name: *'In ancient time the people resorting to the old church of Desertoghill were very much disturbed by the wolves that infested the country . . . on sundry occasions of the people assembling to midnight mass on Christmas days, the wolves made sudden and unexpected attacks on different persons, particularly on some women who were unable to defend themselves, till they were nearly destroyed by these animals. It was necessary to have watchmen with wolf-dogs to guard the county. Consequently, a watch-house was erected by the congregation a little beyond the old church near St. Columb's well, in which two men with wolf-dogs were stationed to guard the congregation. One of these wolf hunters was a gigantic man and of great courage, by name Toughill.'* This Toughill, it is said was a huge and impressive man, and though others came after him, none so colourful as he. It is believed that through time this man became known locally as Desert [a reference to his life and work in the parish] and that eventually the place was partly dedicated to his name, 'and called Desert Toughill, and gave name to the parish, which is said to have been originally Desert only.'

It is claimed in Lesley's 'Clergy of Londonderry' that *'the parish of Destertoghill is so called from the family, which formerly resided there, of which Rory [Ruari] More O'Touhill is traditionally remembered as the last chieftain'*.<sup>16</sup> The same claim is made in Colton's 'Visitation of the Diocese of Derry' - *'Rory More O'Tuohill is traditionally remembered as the last chieftain - their descendants [now called Toghills] are still to be found in this part of the country'*.<sup>17</sup> The O'Toghills were also an erenagh family one of whom, John O'Toghill appears as such in 1608.<sup>18</sup> Roger Tohill was both vicar and erenagh of Errigal parish at the same time. Historically, Rory or Ruairi has also been anglicized by replacement with the unrelated name Roderick. Also the Latin Rogerius can be shortened to Roger. Therefore, Rory, Ruari, Roger, Roderick and Roddy are potentially the same Christian name and interchangeable. That the Ballymacpeake Tohills kept the naming tradition of the ancient chief is certainly worth noting for they were the only Tohill family in county Derry to do so. What we can ascertain from the oral tradition of the O.S memoirs and the scant documentary trail from the seventeenth century is that the Tohills were an ancient family linked to the parishes of Errigal and Destertoghill through erenagh connections.

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<sup>15</sup> O.S Memoirs Desertoghill parish

<sup>16</sup> Lesley's Clergy of Derry, p. 185 [footnotes]

<sup>17</sup> Bishop Reeves' Colton's *Visitation of the Diocese of Derry* [seventeenth century]

<sup>18</sup> Lesley's 'Clergy of Derry', p. 185 [footnotes]

Erenagh or herenach is a term referring to a family with hereditary title to a Church property. In other words, they are descendants of the family of the founder of a monastery, and hold his relics, a manuscript or other sacred objects. The role of the erenagh developed from the early Middle Ages. Being herenachs, the family had hereditary right in perpetuity to land and property in the parish. The Ulster Plantation of the early seventeenth century marked the demarcation between the Old Gaelic world and the new English political order. The legal establishment of the Anglican form of Protestantism in Ireland and the new land settlements saw a transfer of land and Church property to the new colonisers and as a consequence the erenagh families lost status and hereditary rights.

It has also been stated that the O'Touhills were erenaghs of Kilcronaghan parish but this is open to debate in light of new research. Bishop Montgomery, the Anglican bishop of Derry conducted a survey of his new diocese in the period between 1607 and 1609.

### **BISHOP MONTGOMERY'S SURVEY, 1607-1609** <sup>19</sup>

Bishop Montgomery arrived in Ulster in late autumn 1606. He immediately embarked on a survey of his new diocese of Derry before the Flight of the Earls took place in 1607. The report is interesting as it reveals the close link between the Tohill sept and the Irish Church. There are some difficulties with interpretation of the surnames due to spelling and translation. The original report was recorded in Latin.<sup>20</sup>

Irgle [Errigal] parish:

Vicar and Erenagh – Rogerius O'Toghell {Ruairi O'Tuathail} [Roger Tohill]

Disertionghall [Destertoghill] parish:

Rector, vicar and Erenagh – Johannes Otothea {Sean O Tuathail/O'Toghell} [John Tohill]

Magheragh [Maghera] parish:

Vicar – Senkenus Towell

Pension 50 groats or 20 shillings

Killighrunnahan [Kilcronaghan] parish:

Rector – Senkenus Towell<sup>21</sup>

Erenagh – Jacobus Towell

Disertmartin [Desertmartin] parish:

Rector and Vicar – Nigellus Towell

It is traditionally held that the sept of O'Tuitahghail [O'Tuathail] were ereneaghs of both Desertoghill and Kilcronaghan parishes.<sup>22</sup> There is a dispute, however, regarding the interpretation of the name Towell, which has been traditionally interpreted as Tohill. It is probable that this may not be Tohill at all but a form of O Doell or O'Duill. There may be some merit in this argument since Owen O'Doell [Eoghan O'Duill] described as the 'last parson' of Desertmartin, father of Pierce [Piaras] belonged to the erenagh family of

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<sup>19</sup> Seanchas Ardmacha: Journal of the Armagh Diocesan Historical Society: Volume 1 No 1, 1996-97: Bishop George Montgomery's Survey of the parishes of Derry, 1609.

<sup>20</sup> I have also used information from the excellent publication, 'The Clergy of the Diocese of Derry: An Index Edward Daly and Kieran Devlin, pp. 28-31, Four Courts Press, 1997.

<sup>21</sup> Senkenus Tohill was vicar of two parishes – Maghera and Kilcronaghan

<sup>22</sup> Derriana: 'Journal of the Derry Diocesan Historical Society', 1978, pp. 32-36.



the parish.<sup>23</sup> I am now inclined to believe the surname Towell was a form of Dool[e] originally O'Dool[e]. This interpretation can be supported by documentary evidence.

In the 1663 Hearth returns, Hugh O'Dole was a resident of Tamnyaskey in Kilcronaghan parish and in the four towns of Destertmartin resided Neal, Rory and Henry O'Dool. In Lismoyle, Tamlaght O'Crilly parish Owen Toyle had one hearth. In the index to Derry Diocesan Wills, the wills of John Dool of Destermartin were probated in 1765 and 1782. The surname Dool or Doole occurs only eleven times in the 1831 census in county Derry all centred in the same region – one in Kilcronaghan, one in Magherafelt; four in Tamlaght O'Crilly parish and five in Desertmartin. There were 74 people by the name of Doole in the 1901 census in County Londonderry, many in the Destermartin area. That O'Dool are residing in the same area as the erenagh Towell is indicative that they are of the same sept.

That leaves Desertoghill and Errigal as authentically Tohill country. There is no doubting the connection of the Tohill family to the parishes of Errigal and Desertoghill in former times and the family was an erenagh family in the latter parish. The southern migration of the family into the barony of Loughinsholin is entirely connected with the plantation of Ulster and the land settlements that led to a redistribution of land in the seventeenth century.

The 1901 census return indicate only 87 persons carried the name Tohill into the twentieth century in county Derry.

The O.S Memoirs for the parish of Maghera informs us that, of the original Roman Catholic Clergy in Lavey, the first was Rev. John Tohill, who held '*all of Lavey and Ballyscullion*'.<sup>24</sup> The Parish Priest, the Reverend Charles McCann, the incumbent at Lavey at the time of the OS memoirs provided the information for the O.S. collectors. His account of the parish priests for Lavey was most likely based on oral memory since the recorded history of Catholicism in the eighteenth century is scarce, as a result of the penal laws, which rendered the Catholic population a 'secret people' and there are no Catholic registers in Ulster that precede 1790. The Rev Charles McCann was a native of Lislea, Kilrea and was P.P. of Ballyscullion for twenty years before his transfer to Lavey at an '*advanced age*' in 1833. He died at Lavey in March 1838.<sup>25</sup>

#### PRIESTS OF LAVEY PARISH

Ordnance Survey Memoirs Maghera 1830s	The clergy of the Diocese of Derry: An Index
1 <sup>st</sup> Reverend John Toghill	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reverend Patrick McFall	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Reverend McKenna	
4 <sup>th</sup> Reverend Regan	
5 <sup>th</sup> Reverend David McFall	
6 <sup>th</sup> Reverend James Murphy	Reverend James Murphy, P.P 1783-1805
7 <sup>th</sup> Reverend John Rodgers	Reverend John Rogers, P.P 1805-1823
8 <sup>th</sup> Reverend Patrick Lynch	Reverend Patrick Lynch, P.P 1824-1832
9 <sup>th</sup> Reverend Charles McCann	Reverend Charles McCann, P.P 1833-1838
	Reverend James Donnelly, P.P 1839-1847
	Reverend Bernard O'Neill, P.P 1848-1849

<sup>23</sup> 'The Clergy of the Diocese of Derry': An Index, *ibid*, p. 31.

<sup>24</sup> O.S Memoirs Maghera, p. 68.

<sup>25</sup> 'The Clergy of the Diocese of Derry': An Index, *ibid*, p. 87.

There was an ecclesiastical attachment within the Tohill sept.<sup>26</sup> It will be noted that the parishes of Errigal, Desertoghill, Maghera, and Lavey from one contiguous bloc and therefore, it is likely that all of the Tohills in this region are of common ancestry. By the end of the eighteenth century the Tohill sept becomes entirely synonymous with the barony of Loughinsholin.

#### MAP OF DIOCESE OF DERRY ON THE EVE OF THE PLANTATION



#### THE LOCATION

#### The Barony of Loughinsholin

The South-Eastern part of Derry or the barony of Loughinsholin forms a distinct geographical region of some two-hundred square miles of varied and broken topography. Isolation is and always has been one of the main characteristics of this area. In the early seventeenth century, Loughinsholin was described by Sir Thomas Phillips as the most dangerous place in Ireland – it was the last Gaelic stronghold and a threat to the Plantation of Ulster.

<sup>26</sup> Bishop John Tohill of the diocese of Down & Connor was baptised Kilrea chapel on 23 December 1855. He was the son of Anthony and Alice [Convery] Tohill of Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.

When the London Companies were offered the county of Coleraine [O’Cahan’s lands] for plantation, they insisted on having the barony of Loughinsholin as well [then part of Tir-Owen], no doubt tempted by Thomas Philips glowing account of its wealth, especially in the great woods of Glenconkeyne and Killetra. Thus emerged the new county of Londonderry. By the early decades of the eighteenth century most of the woodland was gone [timber from Glenconkeyne was shipped across Lough Neagh to Belfast] and this early clearance of woodland was the most significant single factor in the evolution of the south South Derry landscape because it was in these clearings that agriculture took root and settlements expanded.

In terms of human settlement the different terrains played a part in segregating the native Irish from the new settlers. The former were to be found in the foothills and light gravel soils in spots around the wide boglands. Catholic areas of refuge included the bog-strewn lands north of the Moyola in the eastern half of the parish of Maghera, Lavey and Termoneeny. The Irish were strongly represented in the centre of the Bellaghy estate lands at the time of the 1663 hearth returns especially Rocktown, Drumard, Moyagall and Dreenan.

In 1660 these four townlands were listed as under the tenancy of one Cormuck O’Mulholland, Esquire and were entirely Irish. The numbers of adults of tax-bearing age was given for each townland: – Drummuck [7], Mayogall [3], Bally McPeake [7], Dreenan [6].<sup>27</sup> Whether any of the 23 Irish families were Tohills we will never know since the ‘census’ was based on the numbers of poll-tax paying adults most of whom were not named. Bryan Mulholland was listed in Drumard in Tamlaght O’Crilly parish which is contiguous with Mayogall and ten Irish adults were tax-payers in 1660.

By the end of the seventeenth century an influx of Scottish settlers had saturated the townlands in the middle Moyola valley northwards to the Claudy river but their numbers dropped sharply towards the bog strewn areas of Drumard, Rocktown, and Moyagall in the centre of the estate. By 1740 British settlement had spread to every parish in Loughinsholin with about one-third of it concentrated in the parishes of Magherafelt, Artea, Maghera and Tamlaght O’Crilly. Nevertheless, the new planter class were a minority in the barony of Loughinisland but they did occupy the better land. Overall, south Derry had a scrubby boggy and watery appearance in the early eighteenth century.

### **THE VINTNERS’ ESTATE**

The Company leased their lands to John Rowley and Baptist Jones in 1619 for 57 years [no fine and an annual rent of £120]. In 1625, the lease was taken over by Henry Conway. Following the 1641 rebellion Sir John Clotworthy acquired Conway’s lease without the Company’s knowledge. Clotworthy was accused of stripping the woods on the estate and the Company appointed Lawrence Cox as their agent in 1658. Despite his misdemeanours, Clotworthy remained as the company’s chief tenant. In 1660 Clotworthy became Viscount Massereene and by 1669 his son-in-law, the Second Viscount Massereene was in charge. In 1673 he obtained a new lease of 61 years [with a fine of £2,000 and an annual rent of £200]. William Conyngham of Moneymore was commissioned by the Company to survey the estate in 1697 but Massereene would not co-operate. The company appointed William Conolly [later Speaker of the Irish House of

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<sup>27</sup> ‘A Census of Ireland’ 1659: S. Pender p.134 parish of Maghera

Commons] as their agent and he appears to have seized the estate because Masserene was in arrears. Conolly took over the estate in 1714 when Massereene died.

The opening decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century were a time of economic depression hence many of the inhabitants and tenants going off to America and leaving their lands.<sup>28</sup> The 1718 rental bears out this testimony and shows the Vintners' estate leased out to middlemen in large tracts at low rents – most of these were long established British families – Browne, Clark, Rowley, Arrell, Stafford and Downing. This abrogation of duties by the London Companies and the subletting to middlemen was considered to be the worst feature of the land system in county Derry in the eighteenth century. In 1729 Conolly was negotiating to purchase the estate in fee simple for £6,000 and a rent of £200 with two fat bucks. After a survey of the estate by the Company's surveyor Sloan, Conolly increased his offer to £15,000. Conolly died during 1729 and the purchase of the estate was completed by his nephew, also a William Conolly. Conolly obtained his deeds by 1737. £10,000 of the purchase money was due by 1734, which helps to explain the granting of so many perpetuities on the estate at that time. Because perpetuities included initial fines that were reasonably substantial this was a quick way of raising cash initially. Also tenants holding perpetuities were regarded as freeholders and freeholders could vote.

The nephew, William Conolly was succeeded by his son Thomas Conolly and after his death the estate passed into the hands of various persons who, through marriages to females within the Conolly connection, managed to acquire an interest in the estate. In 1836 the estate was in the hands of the Marquis of Lothian, the Earl of Strafford, the Earl of Clancarty and Colonel Conolly, who were tenants-in-common. Strafford, for example, acquired his interest through the marriage of Anne Conolly [the daughter of the Rt. Hon. William Conolly] to George Byng of Wrotham Park. Byng was the family name of the Straffords. Lord Strafford, et.al. held the estate until the compulsory Land Purchase Act of 1921.

### **TOHILLS AND THE VINTERS' ESTATE**

The area of particular interest for our study centres on several contiguous townlands in Maghera and Lavey parishes namely Drummuck, Mayogall, Ballymacpeake and Dreenan. The latter three townlands formed part of the Vinters' estate.<sup>29</sup> The Tohill family of our study were resident in Ballymacpeake from at least 1788 and were therefore tenants of the Vintners' estate. The estate lay within the parishes of Killelagh, Maghera, Tamlaght O'Crilly, Ballyscullion, Termoneeny, Kilcronaghan and Desertmartin as outlined in the map below.

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<sup>28</sup> D2094/21

<sup>29</sup> Drummuck townland formed part of the Mercers' company estate.

### MAP OF VINTNERS' ESTATE<sup>30</sup>



As you can see from the map all of the townlands within the estate were not contiguous. They were separated in places by churchlands or land held by the Mercers' Estate.

As mentioned the Vintners' estate was leased in perpetuity to William Conolly in 1734 at the yearly rent of £200 and 'a brace of good bucks or £12 in lieu thereof'.<sup>31</sup> The estate contained 32,600 acres [48-50 square miles]. Whilst researching for this paper I noted in the registry of Deeds that Conolly granted several perpetuity leases in 1734 to the native Irish of the area including Thomas McPeake in Ballymacpeake; Bernard Mulholland in Mayogall and Henry McPeake in Ballynease McPeake. Perpetuity leases could only be granted to Protestants therefore McPeakes and Mulhollands must have conformed to some degree. I will discuss this issue later in this paper.

### ATTACHMENT TO THE LAND AND THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Arthur Young, famous English Protestant authority of Irish agrarian conditions following some years of study throughout the country, wrote *A Tour of Ireland* [1776-1779] stated that 'the spirit of emigrating in Ireland appeared to be confined to two circumstances, the Presbyterian religion and the linen manufacture. The Catholics never went, they seem not only tied to the country but almost to the parishes in which their ancestors lived'.<sup>32</sup> The attachment to land and to place was a remarkable feature of Irish life well into the twentieth century.

<sup>30</sup> CD: Tracing Derry/Londonderry Ancestors; Macafee. My thanks to Billy for kind permission to reproduce the map.

<sup>31</sup> D1062/1/16

<sup>32</sup> Young, Arthur, 'A Tour of Ireland', Volume II, p. 42.

Young remarked that the '*lineal descendants of great families, once possessed of great property, are now to be found all over the kingdom in the lowest situation*'. The Old Irish families were dispossessed, yet on Conolly's Bellaghy estate, the McPeakes and Mulhollands remained influential as they managed to get hold of perpetuity leases or three-lives leases that were highly prized.

The penal laws restricted the length of lease that a Catholic could hold. Catholics were not allowed to take out perpetuity leases unless they conformed to the Established Church of Ireland. The McPeakes and Mulhollands resided in densely Catholic areas with few Protestant settlers and as a result may have remained free to practise the Catholic religion, whilst at the same time attending the local parish church to ensure that no one could challenge the conditions of their leases. One remarkable feature of the post-plantation period was the remarkable attachment of the old Irish families who remained faithful to the old religion despite the difficulties.

Occasionally one of the older families conformed to the new religion. Neale McPeake conformed to the Established religion in 1764 in the parish of St Michael's Dublin. He was described as 'late of Newtowndowning, Co Derry, Gent'<sup>33</sup> I could not locate a placename for Newtowndowning in the county, however, Old Town Downing can be found in the tithe book for Ballyscullion parish. Downings Town is part of the townland of Ballynease Strain in Ballyscullion parish and I suspect that his is the same place as Newtowndowning. The Downings of Rosegift were a prominent family in barony Loughinsholin and I suspect Neal McPeake was a son of one of the prominent families in south Derry. Neil McPeake junior was listed as an attorney in Dublin from 1770 to 1805.<sup>34</sup>

The Mulhollands, McPeakes, Tohills of Ballymacpeake were attached to the Catholic faith and conformity was not a common occurrence. Mayogall chapel, Lavey was built by subscription in the between the years 1796 and 1802 at the cost of £350. '*It was 88 feet by 27 feet in the inside, all galleried except for an area 34 by 10 feet where the altar and pulpit stands. The gallery was mere steps and will hold as many persons as the lower part. There were no forms or seats in the chapel better than the steps of the gallery, which were elevated one above the other and so broad as to answer for seats and footstool without any pews. Altogether it could hold about 2,000 people. It was lighted by 8 windows on the southern wall, viz. 6 large oblong and 2 small Gothic windows, one at each side of the altar. This chapel was built of stone and lime and slated. It was also described as having a graveyard well enclosed by a stone-wall and was good repair except for a part on the north side. The wall is 4 feet high with a good iron gate at the entrance. The congregation consists of persons from the part of the parish of Maghera anciently called Lavey and Termoneeny, which was also apart of Lavey. In 1834 the congregation consisted of 1,750 persons*'.

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<sup>33</sup> O'Byrne, 'The Convert Rolls, 1703-1838', Irish Manuscript Commission, Dublin 2005 reprint.

<sup>34</sup> King's Inn Admission Papers, 1607-1867, Keane et al. Irish Manuscript Commission, 1982, Dublin

**ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF COUNTY DERRY**



**The townland of Ballymacpeake Upper in the parish of Maghera**

Ballymacpeake Lower is a townland in the civil parish of Maghera and Roman Catholic parish of Lavey and is not to be confused with Ballymacpeake Lower, which was churchland in the civil parish of Tamblight O’Crilly. The division of Ballymacpeake into two parts predates early sources and townland names are of course, of great antiquity.<sup>35</sup>

According to Woulfe<sup>36</sup>, Macpeake is a rare West Ulster surname meaning ‘son of Peic’ where the name Peic is thought to derive from Old English peac, ‘a thick-set man’.<sup>37</sup> The surname McPeake is clearly of some antiquity in the area as not only are there the 2 Ballymacpeakes but also Ballynease-macpeake in Ballyscullion parish and Moneystaghan-Macpeake in the parish of Tamblight O’Crilly. Ballymacpeake has a simple meaning ‘*the town or townland of the McPeakes*’ and is to be found on the eastern boundary of the parish, containing 1,101 acres it form part of the Vintners’ estate, which

<sup>35</sup> There are over 60,000 townland names in Ireland and the names provide a unique insight into the topographical history of the Ireland.

<sup>36</sup> ‘Irish Surnames’, Woulfe, 1923, p. 399

<sup>37</sup> MacLysaght 1985, p.242 & Reaney 1958 p. 245

later became known as the Bellaghy estate. It will be noted in the records that Ballymacpeake Upper can also be referred to as West and or Middle Ballymacpeake.

In 1734 William Conolly demised unto Thomas McPeake west and middle Ballymacpeake.<sup>38</sup> The area contained 119 acres arable and 108 acres bog plantation in the manor of Vintners for the yearly rent of £13 and a fine of £6, 10shillings to replace each life in the lease. One of the lives inserted in the lease was that of *'Bernard Mulholland, eldest son of Bernard Mulholland, Mayogall, aged about 7 years.'*<sup>39</sup> The ancient families of the barony of Loughinsholin – the McPeakes, Mulhollands and Tohills became the under-tenants of the new ruling class. The barony of Loughinisholin was overwhelmingly Catholic in the eighteenth century, the plantation ensuring a change of land ownership but not necessarily occupancy, as Catholics vastly outnumbered the Protestant population in the area. McPeakes also gained a hold of Ballynease townland and subsequently their holding became known as Ballynease McPeake. William Conolly demised to Henry McPeake of Ballynease 202 acres arable in 1734.<sup>40</sup>

The perpetual three lives lease was a most prized lease as it virtually guaranteed occupancy hence the name perpetuity lease. The Penal Laws were relaxed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. In 1771 Catholics could take a lease for 61 years of not less than ten acres, or more than fifty. In 1782, they were allowed to acquire freehold property for lives or by inheritance. It was legal for Catholics to hold perpetual leases. In 1793, the forty-shilling franchise was extended to Catholics, which had the effect of encouraging subdivision and sub-letting.<sup>41</sup> It is noteworthy that the name of Roger Tohill first appears on the rent roll in Ballymacpeake in 1788 at a time when the penal laws were being relaxed. The Tohill lease was 'determinable' that is for a fixed term and not the more valuable perpetuity lease.<sup>42</sup>

The post-Napoleonic slump hit even the perpetuity holders who had sub-divided their property. For example, the townland of Curragh [near Maghera] had been set out in 1734 under four-perpetuity leases to nine farmers. By 1830 there were 26 names on the lease renewals, twenty-four were resident farmers with holdings ranging from 21 acres down to 2 acres. Their houses lacked, as one observer noted, the good appearance one would expect from persons holding freehold property.<sup>43</sup>

What emerged then at the end of the eighteenth century was a well-populated if rather bleak and through other landscape. The consolidation of scattered holdings, the planting of hedgerows and timber for the reclamation of flow bog were tasks for a later generation. By the time of the 1831 census the pattern, which emerged on the Bellaghy estate and the south-east generally was one of dense settlement and small holdings hemmed in by expanses of flow bog.

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<sup>38</sup> ROD: 187:68:3736

<sup>39</sup> The other lives are: Thomas McPeake third son of the said Thomas McPeake aged about 12 years and Daniel McPeake eldest son of Neill McPeake of the said Middle Ballymacpeake, aged about 7 years.

<sup>40</sup> ROD: 81:373:57950

<sup>41</sup> Pimm, Jonathan - 'The Conditions and Prospects of Ireland', Dublin 1848 p. 332.

<sup>42</sup> ROD: 794: 448: 536783: Roger Tohill 'bequeathed his farm in the townland of Ballymacpeake aforesaid then held by a determinable lease'.

<sup>43</sup> Ordnance Survey Memoirs, Maghera parish.



## THE VINTNER'S ESTATE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Catholic tenants were offered the longest leases allowed under the Penal Laws, viz. 31 years but most were too poor to avail of them. The distribution of these terminable leases does not reflect the overall spread of the native Irish tenantry. In fact, that area in the centre of the estate running northwards from Rocktown to Dreenan although held by Conolly's chief tenants under single perpetuity leases was almost exclusively Catholic. Thus Protestant middle-men were left in charge of what was described by the agent in the nineteenth century as '*wild and lawless areas*'.<sup>44</sup>

Most were too poor to avail of them. Where they did emerge they were invariably joint or partnership groups, in townlands north of Bellaghy such as Ballymacpeake, Moyagall and Eden and in the foothills of Fallagloon, Halfgayne and Ballynock. In all they made up less than one-quarter of the lease-holdings on the estate. However, as the McPeakes and the Mulhollands had been the sept or local ruling families in the Bellaghy area under the old Gaelic order, it is interesting to see how some of them maintained their status by 'conforming' to the Protestant religion. As mentioned Bernard Mulholland [Moyagall], Thomas McPeake [Ballymacpeake Upper] and Henry McPeake [Ballyneese McPeake] were among several Irish people who acquired perpetuity leases for considerable areas of land in 1734.

Although, the profitable land on the Bellaghy estate [classified on the leases as arable/pasture] amounted to over 60% of the total, the comparatively low rents being asked suggest that it was only potentially so. Much of it consisted of recently cleared wood, underwood and scrub and until reclaimed was more like rough grazing. Most leaseholders had large tracts of bog attached. Amongst the Catholic tenantry where there had never been a tradition of emigration, subdivision of land was inevitable. And the relief acts of 1778 and 1782 encouraged them to stay.

### END OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

The rapid increase in the population of Ireland in the latter half of the eighteenth century was clearly reflected at regional level in south Derry and is summed up in the comments of one local observer '*there are several townlands the houses of which have been trebled in the memory of men not very old; the last decade of George II may be assumed as the point whence it began to start towards its present density*'. A significant portion became dependent on the potato crop for survival.

The correspondence between the Bellaghy agent Andrew Spotswood and the proprietor Thomas Conolly reveal the conditions that the tenants at the end of the eighteenth century when Roger Tohill was resident in Ballymacpeake. The letters shed a shaft of light into this period of history. Spotswood wrote to Conolly in June of 1778 about the problems with collecting the November rent due to scarcity of money, '*I have been using my utmost endeavours to bring in the November rents and assure you Sir, when I have impounded the tenants' cattle I have been obliged to return them again for want of purchasers, and little or no money given for cloth or yarn so great is the distress of this part of the country*'.<sup>45</sup>

The late eighteenth century was a time of distress for many due to crop failure and this led to distressful years in 1782-1783 and 1799-1800 with the potato always the culprit. Bad harvests led to rent crises and the frustrations of the Bellaghy land-agent are

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<sup>44</sup> D1062/18A

<sup>45</sup> TCD: 3976/514

prevalent in his letters to the landlord Conolly, and in 1782 he wrote, '*the late and very bad harvests make the rents come in more tardy than usual*'. The period 1795-1805 was particularly bad, '*few of the Roman Catholic tenants, if any, are able to fine down to the rents granted in 1734. The farms each man occupies is so small it is impossible for them to be rich and it is by linen manufacture that they all live*'.<sup>46</sup>

Although the spinning and weaving of linen was important in County Derry, the south of the county was not a major area of production. Only a dozen or so families are listed in Maghera parish flax premium returns for 1796 and no Tohill was recorded anywhere in the county. There were 4 corn mills on the Vintners' proportion and tenants were tied to a particular mill, a usual condition of the lease contract.

On June 9 1800 John Spotswood wrote '*I never experienced such distress as the people are in general in, and assure you there are very few on your estate have their bread unbought and you will not be surprised at it when I can with truth inform you there are but four who live on your estate have above 50 acres of land in their own occupation, and not twenty who occupy 20 acres and the general average of this estate do not occupy more than 7 acres.*' [*I registered 234 freeholders on this estate in May 1796 above 25 are since dead or gone to America, a very few stayed at home*]. '*Most of your Roman Catholic tenants who you gave lives to would not take the oath prescribed by the law to enable them to vote, but many came in when they heard you were anxious for Colonel Stewart and offered to take the oaths and I am in hopes I will get all Catholics to register votes in July next*'.<sup>47</sup>

A letter of 19 May 1801 reflects the same gloomy picture, '*the dreadful distress of the people by the total failure of the potato crop*' and again '*the estate is so thickly inhabited and so many here have joined in a lease and the dreadful distresses at least 5 out of every 8 have suffered for 18 months past that it has rendered many bankrupts and numbers obliged to sell parts of their farms, many the whole, to keep them and their families from starving*'.<sup>48</sup> The average farm at this time was only 7 acres. The Tohill farm was slightly larger than average at 13 acres.

### **RUNDALE SYSTEM AND CLACHAN SETTLEMENT**

Another feature of life on the Vintners' estate was the prevalence of the rundale system and associated clachan settlement. The Vintners' property, which covered two extensive tracts north of the Moyola river separated by a wedge of Church land about Maghera was alienated to the Bellaghy Proprietors in 1737 but the estate was sublet to tenants by leases for ever, which perpetuated the system of rundale and associated clachan settlement.<sup>49</sup> In Maghera parish the custom of rundale led to many endless dispute with partners.<sup>50</sup>

Early lease covenants did not require the enclosure of individual farms or fields. The 1788 Map Survey of the Bellaghy estate shows In Field, Out Field features – for example in the townland of Halfgayne and the southern division of Moyagall. Rundale, much practised in south Derry was a system which required the stock to be pastured in the outfield away from the crops during the growing season. Grazing areas still held in common. Communal settlements called clachans were common feature. Crops – Corn

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<sup>46</sup> TCD/3980/1361 5 July 1800

<sup>47</sup> TCD/3980/1350

<sup>48</sup> TCD/3980/1396

<sup>49</sup> Kernohan, 'Londonderry in Three Centuries'.

<sup>50</sup> D. McCourt 'Traditions of Rundale' in and around the Sperrin Mountains, in *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, Third Series, Volume 16 [1953], p. 83

[oats], potatoes, flax, and hat were the main crops grown. The 1788 survey shows these lease holdings clearly demarcated one from the other and also the division between arable and pasture clearly marked thus outlining area that would have conformed to the specification for parks, varying from 5-10 acres in extent. However, within these enclosures the small, scattered strips of individuals within partnership groups still maintained a semblance of open field.

In 1764 the new leases forbade rundale and ordered each tenure 'to be distinguished by a mearing or ditch or stone wall within seven years' but it took several generations for the system to be completely eradicated and was remembered by older folk in the early twentieth century.

Rundale was practised in Dreenan townland Mr Tully, aged 65, of Carrickmucklan cluster, Dreenan td, informed me that all the lands attached to the town were formerly in rundale. In Ballyneese-Macpeake td, especially about Culbane cluster, strips attain lengths of more than 150 yards in the neighbourhood of the clachan itself, while joint meadows extend all along the flood plain. In Gortmacrane – in 1834 three-quarters of the 120 families held their farms in rundale, typical of surrounding church property.<sup>51</sup>

Mr John McCloy, Ballymacpeake Upper, aged 78 recorded that in former times they had no grass [hay] in the district, the meadow patches being utilised only for grazing. To obtain hay, for the horses especially, it was necessary to go to the Creagh meadows, near Lough Beg, where they took an acre or two to tide them over the winter. They journeyed down in July to win the hay crop.<sup>52</sup>

In Co. Derry, on lands planted by London companies in the seventeenth century, elements of two distinct field and settlement- patterns are still visible in the rural landscape. The small strip-fields, scattered holdings and house-clusters (clachans) are relics of an open-field system, while compact farms and dispersed settlement characterise the areas where tenants held their land in severalty. A study of this landscape from documentary sources reveals the complex processes, which influenced its development. These range from the socio-economic systems of the ethnic groups involved, to varied management policies pursued by the different companies or their middlemen lessees. But open-fields and enclosures were not mutually exclusive elements in the landscape pattern. In the townland of Moyagall on the Vintner's Proportion in the early eighteenth century, partnership groups were obliged to enclose their lease holdings and divide the premises by ditches into large 'parks'. Thus, while open-field farming (rundale) was practised here, it took place within a coarse network of enclosure. Lease holdings proliferated towards the end of the century and the enclosure net tightened. With little reorganisation of land here after the Famine, the pattern of small fields and fragmented farms became fossilised in the landscape. Just as the clachans have survived as relict settlement forms, however, the long, straight, leasehold boundaries have come down from the eighteenth century to form the structural framework within which the fields have taken shape.

From the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards, the landscape pattern emerging was one of coarse textured enclosures. The first Ordnance Survey maps of the 1830s reveal that clachan settlements had been widespread in south Derry and corresponded to patterns of Catholic settlement [both the 1831 census and Griffiths' valuation reveals clachans in existence in Loughinisholin barony]. By the late nineteenth century dispersed

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<sup>51</sup> McCourt ibid page 82

<sup>52</sup> McCourt ibid page 82

settlement would come to dominate the landscape, stimulated by post famine emigration, consolidation and the Land Purchase Acts of the 1870s.

### **ROGER/RODERICK TOHILL IN BALLYMACPEAKE**

It will be noted that Rory More O'Tuohill is traditionally remembered as the last chieftain of the Tohill sept and the vicar of Errigal in the early seventeenth century was also Ruairi or Rogerius O'Tuatahil. Historically, Rory or Ruairi has also been anglicized by replacement with the unrelated name Roderick. Also the Latin Rogerius can be shortened to Roger. Therefore, Rory, Ruari, Roger and Roderick are potentially the same Christian name in the annals of the Tohill sept and we see this name passed down only in the Ballymacpeake Tohill line.

The first recorded instance of a member of the Tohill sept in the townland of Ballymacpeake can be dated to the year 1788 when we find Roger Tohill recorded as a tenant in the Vintners' rent-roll for the years 1788-1790. Roger Tohill was the progenitor of the Ballymacpeake Tohills.

There is consanguinity between all of the Tohills residing in Ballymacpeake Upper in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. There is an earlier reference to a Roger Tohill of Mayogall, farmer acting as a witness to the will of George Martin of Curren, parish of Maghera, [black]smith dated 10 February 1752. The will was also witnessed by Bernard Mulhallen, the elder, farmer. Tohills and Mulhollands would remain closely connected in subsequent centuries.

The landlord of the Vintners' estate William Conolly leased the north and middle portions of the Mayogall to Bernard Mulholland, Gent in the year 1734 containing 141a, 2r, 10p arable and 47a, 1r of bog plantation.<sup>53</sup> It is not known if Bernard Mulholland, senior conformed to the Established religion, as was required by the law.<sup>54</sup> Conolly was a pragmatist and farmed the land to the highest bidder in an area where Catholics far out-numbered the setter population. Evidence suggests that Conolly was sympathetic to the local Catholic tenantry. In February 1783 John Spotswood, the Bellaghy agent wrote to Conolly reminding him to pay his subscription towards the erection of a Mass House.<sup>55</sup>

The Mulholland sept were the hereditary custodians of St Patrick's bell, which was made for Donnel O'Lachlain, Monarch of Ireland, who died at Derry-Columbkille in 1121. Bernard Mulholland of Mayogall was in possession of the bell until his death in 1758, and it passed to his son Edmond Mulholland, who was the under-agent of the O'Neill's of Edenduffcarrick or Shane's Castle.<sup>56</sup> One of the earliest recorded individuals resident in Ballymacpeake was Tieghe More O'Mulhallin called to the Londonderry Assizes on 18 March 1660/61 in the summonister court records.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> Registry of Deeds: 75: 374: 53464

<sup>54</sup> The lease was held for the lives of Bernard Mulhollan, eldest son of Bernard Mulhollan aged about 7 years, Charles Mulhollan, third son of Bernard Mulhollan of Eden, aged about 5 years and Arthur Clark son of Jackson Clark of Magherafelt aged about 5 years.

<sup>55</sup> TCD/3977/798

<sup>56</sup> O.S Memoirs parish of Maghera p. 255. The bell passed to Edmond's son Henry Mulholland, a school-master. Upon his death-bed Henry consigned the custody of the bell to a Mr McClean, who was an old pupil of his. The bell was enclosed in a most elaborate shrine.

<sup>57</sup> T808/15130

It is not known if Roger Tohill of Moyagall, 1752 was the same person as Roger Tohill who took the lease of Ballymacpeake in 1788 but they were contemporaries.<sup>58</sup> Moyagall and Ballymacpeake are in close proximity. The Tohill sept was not prolific in numbers and naming patterns were followed with a degree of rigour in previous centuries.

In Maghera Old Graveyard lies the body of '*Roger Toghil who died 30 August 1705 aged 41 years and also his wife Ann Toghil who died March 1 1703 aged 73*'.<sup>59</sup> The disparity of the ages at death may indicate that there was an error in transcription or that the headstone was difficult to read as it was carved from sandstone. Another transcription gives the date of death<sup>60</sup> – on a worn headstone there are certain numbers that are difficult to differentiate for example 8 and 0 or 3 and 5.

TOGHIL [Sandstone headstone] '*Here lyeth the body of Rodger A. Toghil who died 30th August 1763 aged 41 years. Also his wife Ann Toghil who - -*

This does indicate though that the name Roger was passed on with frequent regularity in the Tohill sept and that is telling in itself. The latter headstone certainly fits the bill for Roger Tohill of Moyagall who was witness to the Martin will, which was written in 1753 and probated 29 April 1763. That he was witness to the will alongside Bernard Mulholland senior and Adam Downing two substantial farmers on the Vintners' proportion does indicate that Roger Tohill of Moyagall was a farmer of some significance himself and the family may have had the means to erect a headstone in St Lurach's, Maghera Old graveyard.

The earliest headstone in Lavey Old Graveyard dates to the early eighteenth century. Maghera may have been the traditional burying place for local families in the area prior that date. St Lurach's, Maghera has a long liturgical history. I visited the graveyard in the summer of 2011 but, unfortunately, the majority of the older headstones are now illegible. Whilst most of the headstones in the graveyard are plain and even rather small, here, as with numerous other graveyards in the north of Ireland there are some headstones with artistic or symbolic carvings engraved. The appearance of such motifs are indicative of the skill of the stone-masons from various periods of history. One particular stone commemorates Henry Diamond [died 1767] and it clearly depicts an Hour-Glass [representing the flight of time], a cross, a crown, an open book [most likely the Bible], a horn or trumpet of some kind and a pointing finger.

Rodger A Tohill<sup>61</sup> [buried in Maghera] had a life-span c. 1722-1763. Both Christian names Roger and Anthony are synonymous with the Ballymacpeake family. We know that Roger Tohill of Ballymacpeake died shortly before 1803 and if he lived into his early sixties might give him a lifespan of c. 1742- c.1802. We know the approximate dates of birth for his sons from lease renewals – Michael Tohill was born c. 1777 and John Tohill c. 1781 and again this gives us a reference point for their father Roger.

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<sup>58</sup> It is possible that they were father and son but really we are entering the realm of speculation since the eighteenth century remains a dark age due to a lack of documentary material in the archives.

<sup>59</sup> D3672/10

<sup>60</sup> Ulster Historical Foundation gravestone inscription database

<sup>61</sup> Did the A in his name stand for Anthony?

### ANALYSIS OF THE VINTNERS' ESTATE RECORDS

Landed estate papers are an invaluable source for family and local historians, however, both temporal and geographical coverage can be patchy. The Vintners' estate papers contain valuable documentary material such as rentals, leases, lease-books, surveys, maps, correspondence and accounts which provide us with information on how the estate was run, the tenants who occupied it at various times in the past and insights into the conditions of life faced by tenants in previous centuries.

The Vintners' proportion at Bellaghy, was leased to Speaker William Conolly about 1718, and he had agreed to purchase the estate in 1729, just before his death. Conolly's nephew, namesake and successor, who came to live at Leixlip after the death of his uncle in 1729. William Conolly junior completed his uncle's last purchase of the Vintners' Proportion at Bellaghy, Co. Londonderry. The Vintners' proportion was freehold and was acquired outright.<sup>62</sup> The estate was centred on the town of Bellaghy and was bounded on the north by the Mercers' Proportion, on the south by Lough Beg, on the west by the barony of Keenaght, and on the east by Co. Antrim. The lessees prior to Speaker Conolly were the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscounts Massereene, to whom the Vintners had granted a 61-year lease in 1673, subsequently extended by about ten years. Conolly seems to have bought the Massereene lease, possibly in 1718, prior to buying the proportion in fee farm in 1729 for £15,000 plus the chief rent [this latter transaction was conducted on his behalf by an intermediary]. The rental of the Proportion was a mere £317 in 1701 [although the 1697 valuation had been £600], £594 in 1718, £714 in 1729, £1,843-plus in 1734, £2,688 in 1775 and £3,117 in 1791. A totting-up of the acreages of the townlands comprising the estate in 1775 produces a figure of 28,628 statute acres: again, perpetuity-leasing explains the discrepancy between this and the contemporary rental of £2,688. There had been seven 'freeholders' [which in this context means perpetuity-tenants] on the estate in 1718. In 1734, William Conolly Junior granted away most of it in almost 80 perpetuities – no doubt because £10,000 of the purchase price of £15,000 became payable in that year. Ruinous in the short term, this ploy seems not even to have succeeded in the short, because in 1737 he had to raise £10,500 on a mortgage of the estate. Even this did not stop the process of perpetuity-leasing; 65 more perpetuities were granted between 1740 and the death of Thomas Conolly in 1803.

Two of Speaker Conolly's earliest freeholders appear to have been Daniel McPeake and Richard Burts of Ballymacpeake who appear in the Vintners' rentals for 1718 and 1729. It appears that McPeake held two-thirds of Ballymacpeake for an annual rent of £10, 2sh and Richard Burts one-third at £5, sh per annum.

#### 1718 rent roll <sup>63</sup>

The towne & Lands of Ballymcpeake		
Part	Daniel McPeake	10, 2
Ditto	Richard Burts	05, 2

#### 1729 rent roll <sup>64</sup>

A rent roll of the proportion of Vintners for the year 1729 [£714.1.7]		
42. Part of BallymcPeake	Dan'll McPeak	£11.05.00
43. Part of BallymcPeake	Rich'd Burts	£06.15.00
	Total	£18.00.00

<sup>62</sup> Subject only to a chief rent of £200 per year.

<sup>63</sup> D2094/21

<sup>64</sup> D2094/29 and D2094/30.

As part of the lease covenants each tenant was required to provide work for the landlord. In 1729, Daniel McPeake was to provide 3 days work by man and horse [in addition to a payment of 7½ bushels of oats] and Richard Burt 2 days work [and 4 bushels of oats].<sup>65</sup>

In 1734, William Conolly leased the townland of Ballymacpeake Upper, in perpetuity, to Thomas McPeake who was probably a son of the original leaseholder, Daniel McPeake. The original lease was dated 3 April 1734<sup>66</sup> from Wm Conolly to Thomas McPeake land in Ballymacpeake containing 119.0.0 acres of arable and pasture and 108 acres bog at an annual rent £13.6.6 for the lives: Bernard Mulholland eldest on of B Mulholland Moyagall aged 7, Thomas McPeake 3<sup>rd</sup> son of Thomas McPeake aged 12 and David McPeake son of Naill McPeake of said Ballymacpeake aged 7 years and a rent fine of £6.10.8<sup>67</sup>

Other perpetuity leases granted on the Bellaghy estate for Ballymacpeake were granted by Thomas Conolly to Samuel Graves in 1781 at the yearly rent of £21.0.0 containing 50.1.27 Plantation measure and in 1803 to Robert Steele of Bellaghy<sup>68</sup> at the yearly rent of £10.11.10 containing 28.2.16 [arable and pasture] and 12.0.0 [of bog]. The latter lease was granted on the same day as the Toghill lease, 6 January 1803. Thomas Conolly died only three months later on 27 April 1803.

#### **RENTALS BELLAGHY ESTATE [VINTNERS' PROPORTION]**

A number of rentals survive on the estate from 1775 through to 1793 and are useful as they show the development of partnership groups on the estate but name only the head tenants on the estate and not the sub-tenants.:

#### **Rental May 1775<sup>69</sup> [D2094/50]**

[Note – the rental for Nov 1775 & 1776<sup>70</sup> contains the exact same details as below]

BallyMcPake	
Thos McPake	£13.06.06
Bry'n McPake	£10.14.05
Hugh Steel	£21.03.10
Dimon & c.	£11.00.09
Ed'wd Burttts & c.	£36.12.05
Cap'n Graves	£08.04.00

#### **Comment:**

Familiar names appear on these rentals – McPeake, Birt, Steel, Graves. There is a first appearance of Dimon or Diamond family, probably Philemy Diamond who appears on later rentals. Two rentals were for groups of farmers that is for Dimon and companyan d for Edward Burts and company.

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<sup>65</sup> D2094/29

<sup>66</sup> The lease transaction was recorded in the Registry of Deeds in Dublin. I have noted that Conolly used the Registry of Deeds diligently.

<sup>67</sup> D1062/1/5. The rent fine was equivalent of a half years rent where a new life had to be inserted in a lease upon the death of one of the 'lives' in the lease

<sup>68</sup> Robert Steele was a malster by trade.

<sup>69</sup> D2094/50

<sup>70</sup> D2094/51

**Rent roll of the Manor Vintners in the county of Londonderry for May 1782<sup>71</sup>**

**BallymcPake [Ballymacpeake]**

Thos McPake	£06.13.03
Bryan Brillaghan	£05.07.2½
Robt Steel & co	£10.11.11
Philly Dimond & c	£05.10.04
Edw'd Burt & c	£10.06.2½
Capt'n Graves formerly 4:2	£10.10.00

**Comment:**

This is a half-year rental return. There were two 'gale days' for rental payments, one the first of May and another on the first of November. This rental is similar to that of 1775, the only change being that Hugh Steele was replaced by Robert Steel and company - others have bought into the lease.

**RENT-ROLL BALLYMACPEAKE 1788<sup>72</sup>**

Ballym. Pake		
Thomas McPake	46 <sup>rs</sup>	6 : 13 : 3
W. P. & R. Brillaghan		5 : 7 : 2½
Hugh Steel	46 <sup>rs</sup>	10 : 11 : 11
Phelmy Dimon		} 5 : 10 : 4
Bryan Bawrin		
Roger Tohill		} 18 : 6 : 2½
Catharin Burt		
Bridget Burt		} 10 : 10 : 0
Patrick McAnnalla		
E. Burt & Neill McGuigan		
J. Burt M Loranins & Keenan		} 2 : 2 : 0
J. G. & Arthur Burt		
Captain Graves		
David Tomb		

<sup>71</sup> D2094/68

<sup>72</sup> D2094/75



**A rent roll of Vintners proportion in the County of L'Derry, 1788-1790<sup>73</sup>****BallymcPake**

Tenant	Rental Nov 1788	Rental May & Nov 1789	Rental May & Nov 1790	Arrears Nov 1790
Thomas McPake	06:13:3	13:06:6	13:06:6	
W P & R Brillaghan	05:07:2½	16:16:0	16:16:0	
Hugh Steel & c	10:11:11	21:03:10	21:03:10	10:11:11
Phelemy Dimon		05:03:6	05:03:6	
Bryan Haverin	05:10:4	05:03:6	05:03:6	
Roger Tohill		7:08:0	7:08:0	
Catherin Burt		05:15:6	05:15:6	02:10:0
Bridget Burt		04:10:4	04:10:4	01:05:0
Patrick McAnnalla	18:06:2½	06:06:0	06:06:0	
E Burt & Neill McGuigan		07:17:6	07:17:6	
J Burt; McLoranins & Keenan		13:13:0	13:13:0	02:10:0
J.G & Arthur Burt		12:12:0	12:12:0	
Captain Graves	10:10:0	21:00:0	21:00:0	21:00:0
David Tomb	02:02:0	04:04:0	04:04:0	
Total	59:01:09	144:19:08	144:19:08	

**Comment**

This is a more detailed rental because it shows the breakdown of partnership groups, for example, Edward Burts the lead farmer who paid the rent in the 1775 and 1782 is listed in 1788 in joint-tenancy of a farm paying half-year rent of £18.6.2½ with other families with surnames of McAnnalla, Burt, McGuigan, Keenan and McLoranin. Philemy Dimon was in partnership with Bryan Haverin and Roger Tohill. New leases were arranged on the estate in 1789.

In 1734 William Conolly demised unto Thomas McPeake west and middle Ballymacpeake. The area contained 119 acres arable and 108 acres bog plantation in the manor of Vintners for the yearly rent of £13 and a fine of £6, 10shillings. By 1788, as you can see from the rent-roll above there were at least 17 tenants grouped in Ballymacpeake under seven leases and farm size were reduced as a result. Townlands or part of townlands could be occupied under a joint-lease or partnership group. The lands let by the chief tenants were leased not to individuals but generally to partnership groups holding 'jointly and severally'. This not only guaranteed the landlord the rent but also ensured that a weaker tenant could be sustained by the partnership lest the lease should lapse. The joint responsibility extended to the lease covenants.

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<sup>73</sup> D2094/75

**A rent roll of Vintners proportion in the County of L'Derry, 1791-1793<sup>74</sup>****BallymcPake**

Tenant	Rental May & Nov 1791	Rental May & Nov 1792	Rental May & Nov 1793	Arrears Nov 1793
Tho: McPake &c	13:06:6	13:06:6	13:06:6	
W P & R Brillaghan	16:16:0	16:16:0	16:16:0	
Hugh Steele	21:03:10	21:03:10	21:03:10	10:11:11
Phelmy Dimon	05:03:6	05:03:6	05:03:6	
Bryan Haverin	05:03:6	05:03:6	05:03:6	02:11:9
Roger Tohill	7:08:0	7:08:0	7:08:0	
Catherine Burt	05:15:6	05:15:6	05:15:6	02:07:9
Bridget Burt	04:10:4	04:10:4	04:10:4	
Patrick McAnnalla	06:06:0	06:06:0	06:06:0	
E Burt & N. McGuigan	07:17:6	07:17:6	07:17:6	
J Burt; McLoranins & Keenan	13:13:0	13:13:0	13:13:0	
J.G & Arth'r Burt	12:12:0	12:12:0	12:12:0	
Captain Graves	21:00:0	21:00:0	21:00:0	21:00:0
David Tomb	04:04:0	04:04:0	04:04:0	
Total	144:19:8	144:19:8	144:19:8	

A rent ledger for the Bellaghy Estate, covering dates 1838-1883, which also cites details from leases from 1733, is a most valuable source for those interested in tracing families on the estate into the nineteenth century.<sup>75</sup> I have transcribed the details from the ledger for the entire townland of Ballymacpeake, 1838-1883 and this compliments the rentals from the previous century.<sup>76</sup>

**LEASES 1788-1789**

Leases are perhaps the most useful source when searching for ancestors on the land. A lease granted by a landlord to a tenant gave the right to occupy the property for a specific period of time. Throughout the eighteenth century leases for three lives were in fairly widespread use. These leases were often for a term of years [usually 31 or 41 years] or for three lives, whichever was the longer. A three-lives lease expired when all three persons names in the lease had died. This explains why some eighteenth-century leases lasted well into the nineteenth century.

In the case of perpetuity leases, a new life could be inserted at the fall of each life on payment of a renewal fine. These type of leases were very common on the Phillips' estate at Limavady and the Vintners' estate at Bellaghy, both properties that had been bought by William Conolly, the Speaker of the Irish House of Commons in 1699 and 1729 respectively. Effectively, perpetuity leases were freeholds that entitled holders of

<sup>74</sup> D2094/78

<sup>75</sup> D1062/1/2

<sup>76</sup> Billy Macafee has transcribed the Bellaghy estate rentals for the townland of Halfgayne from D1062/1/2 and made it available on his CD: 'Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors.'

the lease to a vote. This was one of the reasons why Speaker Conolly granted freeholds on his estate.<sup>77</sup>

Until 1788 Roman Catholics could not hold leases of more than 31 years. On the That part of the Bellaghy estate still let under terminable leases was surveyed and re-valued in 1788 and new leases were given out mostly for 41 years to many of the Catholic tenants on the estate <sup>78</sup>. On 30 April 1789 Conolly granted to Philomy Diamond a lease of 41 years for that part of Ballymacpeake containing 8a, 25p at a yearly rent of £6, 4sh<sup>79</sup> and similarly Bryan Haverin was granted a lease of 41 years from first of November 1788 at a yearly rent of £5.10.8 for 9a, 28p.<sup>80</sup>

#### FORTY-ONE YEAR LEASES BALLYMACPEAKE<sup>81</sup>

1789 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Thomas Conolly: Bridget Birts of Ballymacpeake in trust for her son Bernard Birt containing 6. Acres, 10 perches at yearly rent £5.14, 41 years from Nov 1788 [x her mark]
1789 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Conolly to Catherine Birt in trust for her son Edward Birt, a minor, lease holding in Ballymacpeake 41years from November 1788 containing 9 acres, 8 perches at yearly rent of £6.18.0 [ x her mark].
1789 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Conolly to Mr Henry McLernan and partners. Henry McLernan, Arthur Keenan, and John Burts of Ballymacpeake, Co Londonderry and Francis McLornan 41 years from Nov 1788 containing 20.1.14 for the yearly rent of £16.5.0
1789 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Conolly to Patrick McAnulla 41 years from Nov 1788 containing 9.3.34 at yearly rent of £7.10.0 [x his mark]
1789 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Conolly to Edward Burts, Neil McGuigan of Ballymacpeake 41 years from November 1788 containing 10 acres, 21 perches at yearly rent of £9.8.0 [x mark of Edward Burts, Neil McGuigan and Sarah McPake]
1789 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Conolly to Philomy Diamond, Ballymacpeake 41 years from November 1788 containing 8 acres, 25 perches at yearly rent of £6, 4sh [x his mark]

Roger Tohill was listed with both Diamond and Haverin in the joint rental of a farm of land in Ballymacpeake. I was unable to locate the earlier Tohill lease in the Conolly archive but we do know from other sources that Roger Tohill had a lease for a farm of land in Ballymacpeake containing 13a, 21p by '*virtue of a lease for a year therein*

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<sup>77</sup> I am indebted to Billy Macafee for his insight into the workings of the Bellaghy estate. His CD 'Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors' is a magnum opus with regard to local history and genealogy guide at county level.

<sup>78</sup> These new leases would run until 1830.

<sup>79</sup> D1062/1/10 - Diamond was illiterate as he made his mark x. The majority of the new leaseholders were illiterate and made their mark x in the 1788 leases.

<sup>80</sup> Subsequently to Patrick Heverin.

<sup>81</sup> D1062/1/10

*mentioned* for an annual rent of £7, 8sh<sup>82</sup>. In his will Roger Tohill *'bequeathed his farm in the townland of Ballymacpeake aforesaid then held by a determinable lease to his said three sons'*.<sup>83</sup> A determinable lease is one that had a fixed number of years - one might assume that this earlier was a 41-year lease from 1788/89, as with the Diamond lease. Evidence suggests that the Diamond, Tohill and Haverin farms were contiguous having originally been a larger farm held under one lease. Diamond, Haverin and Toghil at some point entered a joint-partnership lease. In the tithes valuation book for the parish of Maghera in 1828 three names are listed consecutively – No. 70 Rodger Tohill & p[artners] with 16a, 3r, 14 p; No. 71 John Diamond & p[artners] with 11a, 3r, 21p; No 72 Widow Haverin & p[artners] with 13a, 2r, 5p.<sup>84</sup> The original lease may have been for a farm of some 40 acres that was divided amongst the partnership group.

#### LEASES FOR LIVES AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Thomas Conolly, the Bellaghy landlord wooed his Catholic tenants for economic and political reasons. In 1788, he extended the lease terms from 31 to 41 years and in 1796 added three lives to qualify them for the election of 1800. In this way the landlord was able to increase rents and gain greater political advantage. Leases were given out even to individual members of joint groups and upgraded with 'lives' as the restrictive property laws on Catholics were relaxed. We see evidence of this in an advertisement in the Belfast Newsletter dated 27 September 1799 support for proposed *'legislative union between Great Britain and Ireland'* led by the leading landlords of the county Londonderry [including Thomas Conolly] and counter-signed by many of their freehold tenants. The document begins *'we the Noblemen, Freemen, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the City and County of Londonderry'* and is followed by a list of over 1500 names and addresses.<sup>85</sup> The majority of the names on the subscription are undoubtedly tenants and freeholders, but the list does indicate those who were magistrates marked by the letter 'a' and the Linen Merchants of the county, marked by the letter 'b'. There are very few extant freeholders' registers available for county Derry and therefore this newspaper list is an important substitute. A statement by the sheriffs concludes the document by informing the reader that *'the lists with the original signatures are in our possession'*. These lists are unlikely to have survived so the transcript in the Newsletter is therefore of real value but require careful interpretation as it is secondary evidence.<sup>86</sup>

Several townlands belonging to the Vintners' estate are listed in the document including Ballymacilcurr, Ballymacpeake, Ballynease, Derganagh, Dreenan, Drimard, Drumlamph, Gulladuff, Inishrush, Moyagall and Slaghtybogy. Familiar Catholic names appear as freeholders from the Vintners' estate - Bradley, McPeake, Mulholland, Diamond, McAtamney, McNally and Tohill amongst many others.

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<sup>82</sup> ROD: 794:448:536783

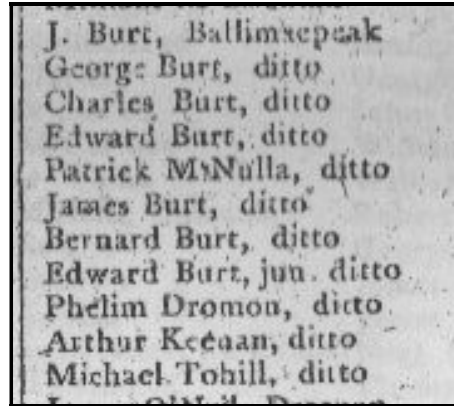
<sup>83</sup> ROD ibid

<sup>84</sup> Reference FIN/5/212

<sup>85</sup> The names of those for the city of Londonderry appeared in a separate list and have been published: see Ulster Historical Foundation Directory of Irish Family History Research No. 24 2001 pp. 87-89.

<sup>86</sup> There are many transcription errors with regard to the spelling of surnames and placenames in the newspaper version.

**COPY OF BNL ADVERTISEMENT 1799**



The list of Ballymacpeake tenants is sandwiched between the freeholder of Moyagall and Dreenan. At least twenty tenants are listed in Moyagall and fourteen for Dreenan. Only eleven freeholders are listed in Ballymacpeake townland – J Burt, George Burt, Charles Burt, Edward Burt, Patrick McNulla, James Burt, Bernard Burt, Edward Burt junior, Phelim Dromon, Arthur Keenan and Michael Tohill. There is one obvious error on the list - Phelim Dromon is most likely Phelim or Philemy Diomon or Diamond, perhaps as a result of a careless error in transcription by the sheriffs or by the typesetters for the Newsletter. Without previous knowledge this name would have been unrecognizable. Philimy Diamond was a lease-holder in Ballymacpeake and appears on several contemporary rent-rolls with Roger Toghill with Bryan Haverin whose name was absent from the list, perhaps, he failed to register his freehold or maybe he did not upgrade his 41-year lease to a 3 lives lease? Michael Tohill appears on the list instead of his father Roger Tohill indicating that the freehold had been transferred to his name and he had registered the freehold personally.<sup>87</sup>

The earliest extant lease uncovered for the Tohill family of Ballymacpeake in the Conolly estate archive was dated to 1803. This was an important discovery as it was a perpetuity lease of three lives renewable forever and it was registered by Conolly's agent John Spotswood in the Registry of Deeds in Dublin on the 8 January 1803 only two days after the lease was signed. Thankfully, the archives of the Registry of Deeds have survived intact through the turbulent years from its inception in 1708.

**THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS**

I have found the Registry of Deeds to be a particularly rich resource for those families that held land but not everyone used the facility since it was not compulsory to register land transactions. Nevertheless, once registered, a deed provided a degree of legal protection that was attractive to even people of fairly modest means and from the late eighteenth century increasing numbers of Catholics can be found using the Registry of Deeds.

I was hopeful that the Tohills of Ballymacpeake might have registered their transactions on the Bellaghy estate, since the landlord Conolly was known to avail of the Registry of Deeds for many of the transactions on his estates. Additionally, it seemed very likely that the Tohill family of Ballymacpeake would want to avail of the legal protection provided by the registry as they held a valuable three-lives lease. A lease of perpetual renewal guaranteed occupation of the farm, as a new life could be inserted [for a fine

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<sup>87</sup> It is possible that Roger Tohill was elderly or too ill to register the property in 1799. It is also possible that he was deceased around this time.

usually equivalent to half the annual rent] upon the death of the life or lives listed on the lease. In other words, a lease of perpetual renewal was equivalent to ownership.

A search of the Bellaghy Estate papers in PRONI produced two copies of the original lease from 1803 and it was confirmed on the lease that the transaction was indeed registered in the Registry of Deeds for the year 1803 reference: 555 – 365185, thus confirming my initial hunch. On one of the leases an additional name was written on the back of the lease – Patrick Tohill and dated to 1823 but I had no way of know what relationship Patrick was to Michael or John Toghil the brothers.

I began a systematic search of the Registry of Deeds using both the names index [Tohil and variants] and the land index for the townland of Ballymacpeake. Variations of the surname in the eighteenth century included – Toole, Towell, Touhill, Tole, Tothal, Toal, Toghil, Tochil and Tohall. The accepted standard surname Tohill did not appear until much later towards the end of the nineteenth century, probably as a consequence of the introduction of civil registration of births from 1864, which had the consequence of standardising the spelling of surnames. In the period before civil registration, many names were spelt phonetically and there was no set methodology therefore the genealogist and local historian needs to take this into consideration when conducting research.

William Macafee in his excellent CD Rom *'Researching Derry & Londonderry Ancestors'* makes the following interesting, illuminative and informed statements based upon his experience of data-basing thousands of surnames:

*'Not surprisingly, the spelling of surnames in the original sources varied a great deal both within and between documents over the centuries. The names in these documents were entered by various officials and there is some evidence to suggest that this led to regional spelling of surnames, particularly in the earlier sources. Certainly, the spelling of surnames had become more standardised by the time of the Griffith's Printed Valuation of 1858/59. Remember too, that the originals of the seventeenth-century Hearth Money Rolls and the eighteenth-century Religious Returns were destroyed in the 1922 Four Courts fire. The only sources we now have are transcripts of those originals and many of these are typed, suggesting that they are probably a transcript of a transcript. Let's not forget that the databases are further transcripts! In transcription it is relatively easy to mistake an "e" for an "a" or an "r" for an "n" and so on.'*

*'Surnames in seventeenth-century sources were written down by officials who, if they were not familiar with the spelling of a surname, spelt it phonetically in a way that made sense to them. For example, McGoldrick can be spelt as Megolrake, McCandless as Micandlass, Ewing as Youing, Brewster as Broster and so on. However, the greatest problem with names in early sources is the fact that the spellings of some surnames in these documents are completely different from their modern equivalents e.g. in earlier documents Alexander often appears as McCalsenor or McElsinor.'*

## THE LEASE OF 1803 REGISTERED IN THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, DUBLIN

Signed, sealed and delivered: The Tohill lease of 1803



Note the different spellings of the surname in the one document. John Tohil made his mark, perhaps indicating illiteracy. Michael Tohill was able to write his signature and these were sealed in the presence of witnesses. We now know that the two men were sons of Roger Tohill whom we found in the Conolly rentals of 1788 and that Michael Tohill was the elder brother. I uncovered two copies of the original lease in the Conolly archive – the memorial number of the registered deed was written on the documents and made it a fairly easy task to locate in the Registry of Deeds archive and here it is reproduced in its entirety for posterity:

### 1803 ROD lease<sup>88</sup>

A memorial of an Indenture of lease bearing date the sixth day of January 1803 between the Right Hon'ble Thomas Conolly of Castletown, Kildare in the county of Kildare of the one part and John Toghil and Michael Toghil both of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry farmers of the other part. Witnessed that the said Thos Conolly in consideration of the rent, reservations, conditions and agreements there after mentioned and expressed, granted, released and confirmed unto the s'd Jno and Michael Toghil [in their actual possession then being by virtue of a lease for a year therein mentioned] and to their heirs and assigns, All that part of Ballymacpeake as the same was then in their possession being Nos. 10 = 14: & 15 containing thirteen acres and twenty-one perches plantation measure be the same more or less situate, lying and being in the proportion of Vintners in the county of Londonderry [excepting as therein excepted]. To hold to the said John Toghil and Michael Toghil their heirs and assigns for and during the natural life and lives of the said John Toghil and Michael Toghil and John Downing son of Dawson Downing of Rowesgift in the county of Londonderry Esq're and the survivors of them and for such other life and lives as should for ever thereafter be added thereto, pursuant to the Covenant for perpetual renewal therein contained at the yearly rent of seven pounds, one shilling sterling [together with twelve pence for

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<sup>88</sup> ROD: 555:365185

each pound receivers[?] fees] payable on the days therein mentioned and three pounds ten shillings and six-pence sterling as a fine on renewal of each life and which said Indenture of lease contains other clauses and Covenants and the same and this memorial are respectively Witnessed by John Spotswood Esq'r the agent of the said Thomas Conolly and William Galbraith Tracy of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry, Esq'r:  
Tho: Conolly seal

Signed and Sealed in the presence of  
Wm Galbraith Tracy  
John Spotswood

#### **Commentary on the recorded memorial:**

According to the recorded memorial in the Registry of Deeds, the lease was dated the sixth day of January 1803 and made between the Right Hon'ble Thomas Conolly of Castletown, Kildare in the county of Kildare of the one part and John Toghill and Michael Toghill both of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry farmers of the other part. This was one of the last leases signed by Thomas Conolly.<sup>89</sup> Michael and John Tohill were in occupation of a farm of just over thirteen acres and now held perpetually for the '*natural life and lives of the said John Toghill and Michael Toghill and John Downing son of Dawson Downing of Rowesgift in the county of Londonderry Esquire*'. It was in the tenants' interest to select names judiciously in order to maximise the possible duration of the lease and therefore is less common to find the lessees named as the life or lives in a perpetuity lease. Hence, the names often include those of the sovereign, young children or local gentry in anticipation that they were more likely to live longer lives. This could indicate that Michael and John Toghill may have had little experience of negotiating such leases or that they themselves were relatively young, healthy men with a life-time ahead of them.<sup>90</sup>

The renewable three-life lease was in reality a grant in perpetuity so long as the tenant wished to renew it. Initially when a lease was taken out three lives were inserted <sup>91</sup> A fine usually equal to half of the annual rent was paid on each life. Thereafter new lives could be inserted forever to replace each life as it expired. Again, a fine of half the rent had to be paid for each new life. In the case of the Tohill lease the annual rent was fixed at £7, 1sh seven pounds and the fine was set at £3. 10. 06. Therefore, should one of the named persons in the lease die it would cost the Tohills £3.10.06 to enter a new name in the lease. Perpetuity leaseholders were free to sublet the property, or part of it, to a third party; this was known as a sub-lease. The third party became an under-tenant, paying rent to the leaseholder, who continued to pay rent to the landlord.

William Conolly, the original landlord of the Bellaghy estate granted several perpetuity leases on the estate in 1734 and as a result these farmers received large tracts of land; some gained whole townlands. More perpetuity-leases were granted on the estate in 1784 and 1803. The Conolly family was an emerging political dynasty and perpetuity leaseholders were guaranteed the vote and therefore expected to support the landlord at election time. Thomas Conolly, the great nephew of speaker Conolly was encumbered by debt, hence the granting of perpetuities in 1784 and 1803; these leases could generate a lot of capital up-front but rents tended to be fixed, which was a disadvantage

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<sup>89</sup> He died in April 1803

<sup>90</sup> We now know from a lease renewal that in 1803 Michael was about 26 years old and John about 22 years old.

<sup>91</sup> Often for the lives of some of the children of the lessees.



from the landlord. Spotswood wrote to Thomas Conolly 19 May 1801 of the desire of 'making leases in perpetuity to that part of your estate not let in perpetuity by the late Mr Conolly'.<sup>92</sup> Rents were increased on partnership leases that were not perpetuity in a bid to raise the total rents on the estate. Catholic families that succeeded in getting perpetuity leases on the estate included the Mulhollands, McPeakes, Crillys and Toghills all erenagh families in the pre-Plantation period, thus they emerged still as the stronger Catholic farmers despite the hiatus of the Plantation. There remained a level of respect within the protestant community for the Old Catholic and Gaelic families. Spotswood, the agent on the Bellaghy estate in a letter to the landlord in 1861 wrote of the Reverend Hasson, the parish priest of Dungiven, that he was from 'a respectable family, and good tenants on the Bellaghy estate.'<sup>93</sup>

As mentioned previously, Michael and John Toghill negotiated the perpetuity lease in 1803 with Thomas Conolly, the landlord. Two copies of leases were usually prepared; the original lease was signed by the landlord and kept by the tenant. The counterpart was signed by the tenant and kept by the landlord. Leases were considered priceless documents by the tenant families and guarded carefully. Two copies of the Tohill lease were uncovered in the PRONI archives.<sup>94</sup> One copy was of better quality but I also noted that this document contained an additional signature. This lease was counter-signed on the reverse side with the following notation, 'Pat'k Toghill, C.Dawson 18 Nov 1822 - J. Gregg'.<sup>95</sup> Learning how to interpret names one finds [or doesn't find] on documents is a critical skill for doing research in Ireland. Initially, it seemed to me that Patrick Toghill may have been a son of Michael or John Toghill.<sup>96</sup>

The initial search of the Registry of Deeds surnames index was promising, as the names resonated of Ballymacpeake.<sup>97</sup>

Toghill, Mich'l orwise Toughill, orwise Tochill; Toghill, John & ors, Toghill, Patk & ors And Agreement 794, 448, 536783
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Given that the 1803 lease was for the names Michael and John Tohill and the additional name on the PRONI lease dated 1822, I was certain that this deed concerned the Tohill family of Ballymacpeake. I was not to be disappointed for this was the most valuable document that I uncovered and with regard to the 'research objectives' undertaken for pgt, we had 'struck genealogical gold!'

It transpires that the 1824 deed was registered confirming an agreement made in 1805 concerning the perpetuity-lease of 1803. This deed threw up a great deal of family information and also included a precis of the last will and testament of Roger Tohill, which is no longer extant. The agreement 'shines a shaft of light' through a widow into the eighteenth century providing a bridge spanning the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and enables us to certify the family tree into the early Georgian period. Here it is reproduced in full taken from an original copy purchased in the Registry of Deeds, Dublin.

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<sup>92</sup> TCD: 3980/1396

<sup>93</sup> D1062/1/8A

<sup>94</sup> D1062/1/12 and D1062/1/11A

<sup>95</sup> D1062/1/11A

<sup>96</sup> My initial instincts proved to be incorrect when new evidence came to light. He was in fact, a brother to Michael and John of the 1803 lease.

<sup>97</sup> MIC311/546

ROD : MIC311/546 [1824]  
Volume 794, page 448, memorial number 536783  
Toghill to Toghill  
1 o'clock 9<sup>th</sup> August 1824

To the Registrar appointed by act of Parliament for Registering Deeds in Ireland and so forth – A Memorial of a certain Article of Agreement baring date and duly entered into the 24 May 1805 and made between Michael Toghill and John Toghill both of Ballymacpeake in the county of LD farmers on the one part and Patrick Toghill of Ballymacpeake aforesaid brother of the said Michael and John of the other part whereby after reciting that Roger Tohill deceased, the father of the said Michael, John & Patrick had died having first duly made and published his last will and testament in writing whereby he bequeathed his farm in the townland of Ballymacpeake aforesaid then held by a determinable lease to his said three sons Michael, John & Patrick, share and share alike and also reciting that after the death of the said Roger the said Michael & John Toghill surrendered said Lease and obtained a new lease of said farm for three lives renewable forever the said Michael and Toghill & John Toghill did for them, their heirs and assigns declare that the said Lease also taken out by them containing 13 acres and 21 perches plantation measure situate in the townland of Ballymacpeake aforesaid was taken out by them for the purpose of carrying the said recited will into execution that is to say as to two thirds or thereof to the use and benefit of them the said Michael and John Toghill their heirs and assigns and the remaining one third to the use of their brother the said Patrick Toghill his heirs and assigns each third part or share being subject to and liable to pay a proportional part of the sum of 5 pounds Sterling bequeathed by said will to their sisters Mary Toghill and Alice Toghill, which said deed as to the execution by the said Michael & John Toghill is witnessed by Alexander Browne late of Bellaghy in the county of LD, writing clerk since deceased and as to the execution thereof by the said Patrick Tohill as witnesses by Richard Dawson of Ballymena in the county of Antrim Attorney at Law and by John Martin of Drumlane in the county of LD aforesaid farmer and this Memorial is witnessed by the said Richard Dawson and the said John Martin.

Patrick Toghill <seal> signed, and sealed in presence of Rich'd Dawson; John Martin  
The within named John Martin maketh oath that and saith that he is a subscribing witness to the Deed of Agreement whereof the within writing is a memorial and saith that he saw the same duly executed by Patrick Toghill one of the executing parties thereto saith he is a subscribing witness to the within memorial and that he saw the same duly perfected by the said Patrick Toghill the only perfecting party thereto.

Deponent saith that the same John Martin subscribed as a witness to the said deed and memorial is this Deponents proper name and handwriting.

John Martin ,

Sworn before before me at Ballymena in the county of Antrim this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 1824 by virtue of a Commission out of his Majesties Court of Exchequer in Ireland to me directed for taking affidavits in said County and I know deponent

P Aicken

#### **Analysis of Agreement 1824:**

The 'agreement' of 1824 is packed with vital information on the Tohill family and the 'legal' dispute with regard to the perpetuity lease was known to descendants of the family upon Patrick's visit to Willie McPeake in February 2012. The recital of details of the will of Roger Tohill in the registered document was most helpful.

The will of Roger Tohill

Roger Tohill according to the agreement '*duly made and published his last will and testament in writing*'. Unfortunately, all original will were destroyed in the Four Courts explosion of 1922, although many indexes had been compiled and these survived. It is likely that the will of Roger Tohill was probated in the Derry Diocesan court yet his name does not appear in the wills index. The indexes were not always comprehensive but they still remain an important source of information indicating approximate dates for deaths pre-civil registration.

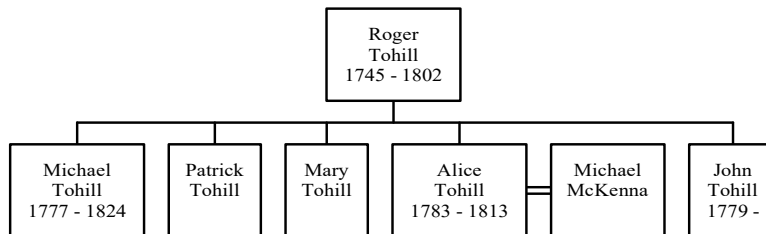
Derry Diocesan wills Index 1612-1858

Tohill, Manus (farmer), Drummuck, p. Maghera	..	1830
Tod, Henry, Drumragh	.. .. .	1789
Tohill, Anthony, Cullnagrew, p. Maghera	..	1856
„ John (farmer), Drummuck, p. Maghera..	..	1821
„ See also Tohill.		

Three Tohill names appear in the index, two for the townland of Drummuck and one for Cullnagew all in the parish of Maghera. A partial transcript for the will of Manus Tohill, farmer of Drummuck is extant and available in the National Archives, Ireland.<sup>98</sup>

**WORKING OUT THE AGES OF THE CHILDREN OF ROGER TOHILL OF BALLYMACPEAKE**

***Descendants of Roger Tohill***



Although the will of Roger Tohill has not survived we are able to reconstruct most of it from the information provided in the agreement. He left his farm in Ballymacpeake held by determinable lease to his three sons Michael, John and Patrick to share and share alike containing 13 acres, 21 perches plantation measure subject to paying legacies of £5 sterling to be made payable to their sisters Margaret and Alice Tohill.

The next task was to work out the vital records of births and deaths for the children of Roger Tohill using a variety of sources. The following pages outline the process by which this was achieved for three of the family namely Alice, Michael and John Tohill.

ALICE TOHILL

Alice Tohill appears to have married Michael McKenna as a headstone was erected in Lavey graveyard in her honour and memory:

**TOCHIL**  
*Erected by Michael McKenna in memory of his wife Alice Tochil who departed ye life 16<sup>th</sup> [?] 1813 aged 29 years.*

<sup>98</sup> National Archives Ireland: IWR/1830

The gravestone inscription details give Alice Tohill a lifespan of circa. 1783-1813 and the information fits perfectly into the above Tohill tree. As Alice Tohill was referred to by her maiden name in the will it is unlikely that she was married before 1803 and a more realistic date for her marriage would be somewhere between 1805 and 1808. One potential cause of her death at such a young age would be childbirth. It is entirely possible that Michael and Alice McKenna had at least one or two children before her sad demise in 1813. There were several people called Michael McKenna listed as resident in the parish of Maghera at the time of the 1831 census but none in Ballymacpeake.

#### MICHAEL AND JOHN TOHILL

Since we know that Michael and John Tohill had negotiated a valuable three-lives perpetuity lease with Conolly in 1803 and both were named as lives in the original lease it was possible that an update for the lease could exist either in the Bellaghy estate archives or in the Registry of Deeds. When new lives were inserted into a perpetuity lease details of age and relationship were often included, and it is possible to work out when the old life died.

Only four families held perpetuity leases in the townland of Ballymacpeake Upper between 1734 and 1803 including the families of McPeake, Graves, Steel and Tohill. I have included all of the details from the lease book for these families including lives inserted upon renewal and this shows the evolution of the original lease over the course of some seventy years and the family connections that developed over the period in question.

#### BALLYMACPEAKE UPPER PERPETUITY LEASES

LEASES ON THE BELLAGHY ESTATE [D1062/1/5 and D1062/1/12]

##### BALLYMACPEAKE UPPER TOWNLAND

**McPEAKE'S LEASE** [Note – called the West Division of Middle Ballymacpeake in a renewal dated 1897]

Original lease  
dated:

1734 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
[Rent fine £6.10.8]

From W. Conolly to Thomas McPeake of Ballymacpeake  
Rent £13.6.6 containing 119.0.0 acres of arable and pasture  
108 acres bog.  
Lives: Bernard Mulholland eldest son of B Mulholland Moyagall  
aged 7, Thomas McPeake 3<sup>rd</sup> son of Thomas McPeake aged 12  
and David McPeake son of Naill McPeake of said Ballymacpeake  
aged 7 years

1<sup>st</sup> rent dated  
1779 29<sup>th</sup> Sept

From Thos Conolly to Dan'l McPeake, Wm McMcPeake, Thos  
McPeake and Rich'd Williams: Life deceased Bernard Mulholland:  
Life inserted Thomas McPeake; Lives therein being John Cuddy,  
Thomas Stafford and Thos McPeake. This rent grants as the  
former Lease did.

2<sup>nd</sup> rent dated  
1803 6<sup>th</sup> Jan

From Thos Conolly to to Thos McPeake of Coleraine, Merch't, Wm Forrester of Clover Hill Esq., and Henry and William McPeake of Ballymacpeake. Life dead Thos Stafford. Life inserted Daniel McPeake son of Henry McPeake aged 5 years. This rent grants the same as the original lease.

#### **GRAVES' LEASE**

Original lease  
dated:  
1781 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec  
[Rent fine £10]

From Thomas Conolly to Samuel Graves at the yearly rent of £21.0.0 containing 50.1.27 Plantation measure. Lives in original lease- royalty:

#### **STEELE'S LEASE**

1764

Conolly to Robert and Hugh Steel

Original lease  
Dated:  
1803 6<sup>th</sup> Jan

From Thos Conolly to Robert Steele of Bellaghy [malster] at the yearly rent of £10.11.10 containing 28.2.16 [arable and pasture] and 12.0.0 [of bog]. Lives in original lease; John Downing, son of Dawson Downing of Rosegift, Francis Wilson, son of George Wilson of Bellaghy aged 8 years and Jas son of James Orr of Kiely, Esq aged about 6 years.

1817

Robert Steele

1<sup>st</sup> rent dated  
1818 1<sup>st</sup> May

From Lord Castereagh and others. To Robert Steele of Bellaghy. Life deceased James Orr of Keely. Life insterted William Steele son of Lessee aged about 12 years. Lives now in being, Wm Steele, John Downing and Francis Wislon. This Rent grants as formerly:

#### **TOGHILL'S LEASE**

Original lease  
Dated:  
1803 6<sup>th</sup> Jan

From Thomas Conolly to John and Mich'l Toghill of Ballymacpeake at the yearly rent of £7.8.1. containing 13.0.21 plantation measure. Lives in the original lease, Mich'l Toghill and John Toghill Lessees and John Downing son of Dawson Downing, [Esq of Rosegift]

Thankfully, both the Bellaghy estate lease renewal book and the Bellaghy estate rent book are extant and provided some insight into the development of the leases in Ballymacpeake Upper into the nineteenth century.

**BELLAGHY ESTATE LEASE RENEWAL BOOK**

It is fortunate that a lease book is extant giving details of the ages of lives in the perpetuity leases on the Bellaghy estate. There was some doubt about the date of the document.<sup>99</sup> The survival of the lease book gives details of the 1734 lease and the changes that took place during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries<sup>100</sup>. Below you will see extracts from the lease book that list not only the lessees in Ballymacpeake townland at different times throughout the eighteenth century but also the names of the various new lives inserted during this period. It is a useful document for working out the dates for the births of the original lessees.

**RETURN OF LEASES BALLYMACPEAKE ON THE BELLAGHY ESTATE HELD FOR LIVES RENEWABLE FOREVER:<sup>101</sup>**

No in ledger	No	Townlands and original lessees	Amount of Ann'l rent	Renewal fines	Penal rent or alienation	Lives in last renewal with their ages
180	52	Samuel Graves	19.07.8½	9.4.7 ½	9.4.7 ½	Prince George of Cambridge, Henry Dawson aged abt 28yrs and Robt Jno Henery aged abt 25 yrs
181	53	Wm Graves	40.12.0		None	Prince of Wales, Sam'l Graves aged about 21 years and Henry Graves aged about 30 years.
190	54	Thos McPeake	12.6.0	6.0	4.12.04	Henry Bruce aged about 40 years. Daniel McPeake aged about 40 yrs & Wm [?] aged about 22 years
202	55	Robert Steele	9.15.07	4.13.2	3.11.5	Wm Steele aged about 54 years, Jno Downing aged about 62 years and Francis Wilson aged about 56 years
206	56	Jno & Mic'l Toghel	6.16.8½	3.05.01	1.05.05	John Toghil aged about 70 years, Michael Toghil aged abt 74 yrs and John Downing aged about 62 years.

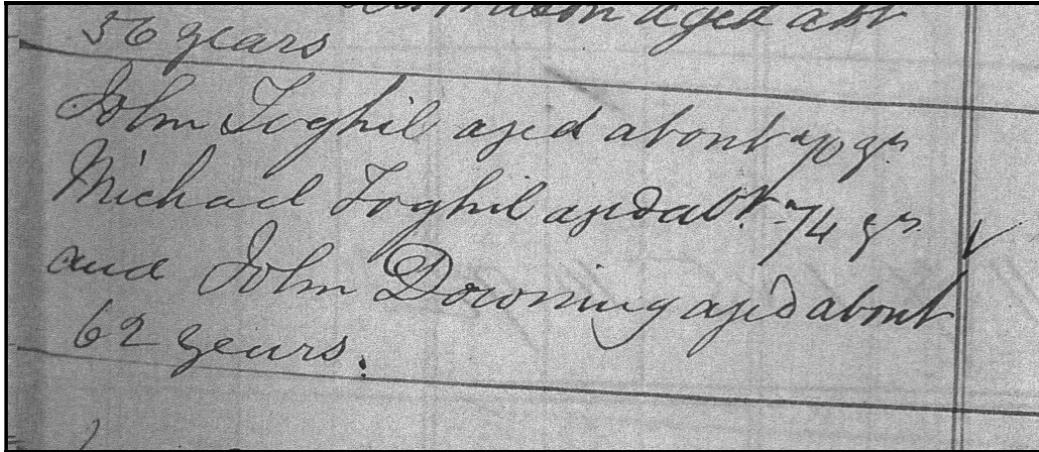
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<sup>99</sup> PRONI estimate for the volume was c. 1850

<sup>100</sup> D1062/1/5

<sup>101</sup> D1062/1/5

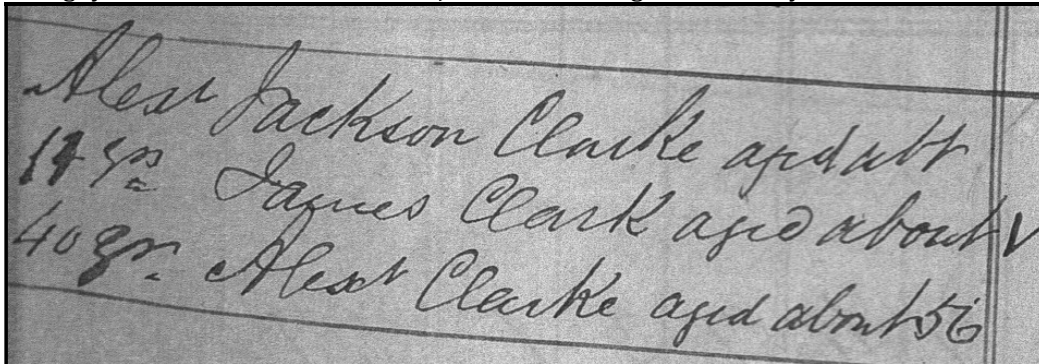
TOGHIL DETAILS FROM THE LEASE RENEWAL BOOK



Here we see that in the lease renewal book John Toghil was given the age of 70 years and Michael was his older brother and was listed as 74 years old. I needed to confirm the date of the document in order then to work out the approximate birth dates for the brothers. Some of the families listed in the lease book had a certain prominence and tracing their origins was not a difficult task.

John Downing, aged 62 years, was the third life mentioned in the Tohill lease. He was the son of Dawson Downing [1739-1807] of Rosegift, Bellaghy. Dawson Downing had issue John Downing 1 August 1790 by his second wife Ann Boyd.<sup>102</sup> Thus, at the time of the 1803 lease John Downing was either 12 or 13 years old. This dated the lease-book to around 1852.

Bellaghy lease renewal book – Alex'r Jackson Clarke aged about 11 years:

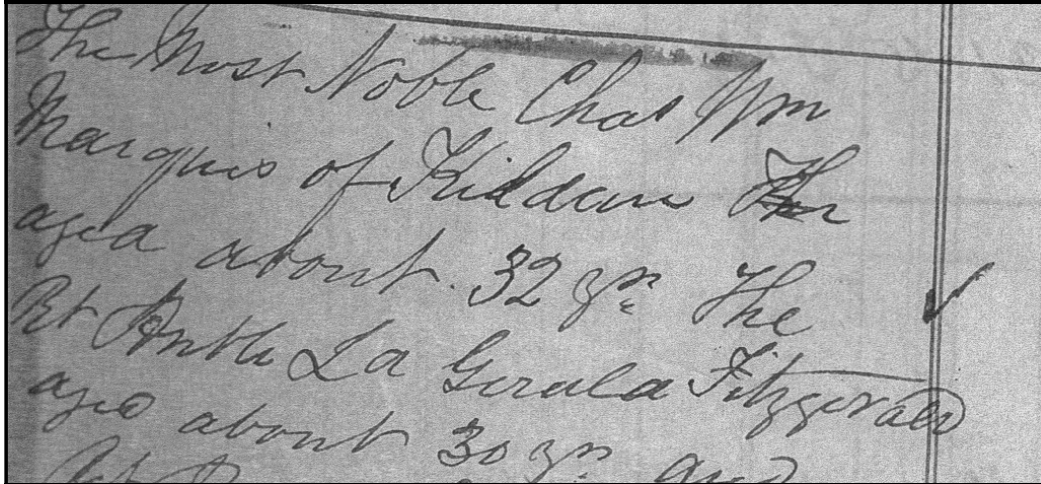


Here we see the name of Alexander Jackson Clarke aged about 11 years in the lease book. Alexander Jackson Clarke was born January 1840 [died Feb 1863] son of James Johnston Clarke by his wife Francis Hall,<sup>103</sup> thus dating the leasebook to c. 1851.

<sup>102</sup> [www.thepeerage.com](http://www.thepeerage.com)

<sup>103</sup> [www.thepeerage.com](http://www.thepeerage.com)

The children of Augustus Frederick Duke of Leinster named in lease-book:



Three children of Augustus Frederick, Duke of Leinster by his wife Charlotte Stanthorpe [married 1818] were named in the lease renewal and this prominent family appear in various pedigrees since they were nobility and thus their details

Charles William, Marquis of Kildare [aged 32] was born 30 March 1819

Gerald [aged 30] was born 6 January 1821

Otho Augustus [aged 24] was born 10 October 1827

Again, the details from the family of the Duke of Leinster gives a best-fit date of 1851. This allows us to work out the approximate dates of birth for the Tohill brothers. Michael Tohill was born circa 1777 and all evidence suggests that he was the oldest surviving son. His younger brother John Tohill, aged about 70 years in 1851, was born c.1781. The third brother Patrick Tohill was still alive in 1824 when the family agreement was lodged in the Registry of Deeds so one might assume he was born in the early 1780s.

I had assumed that both Michael and John Tohill were alive when the lease renewal book was updated in 1851 but this did not prove to be the case as new evidence uncovered in the estate rental book shed additional light on the family.

#### **BELLAGHY ESTATE RENTAL BOOK, 1838-1883<sup>104</sup>**

The Bellaghy estate rental book for the period 1838-1883 also contained details of leases and lives inserted upon renewal.<sup>105</sup> The rental for the whole of Ballymacpeake townland covers pages 155 through to 209. The Tohill lease and rental could be found on page 206 – and a marginal note in pencil stated starkly '*Michael Toghil dead – RP Dawson son of GR Dawson inserted instead of M Toghil in 1824*'. The 'fine' for replacing the life of Michael Tohill into the lease book was £3.5.1. This information was not recorded in the Bellaghy Estate lease renewal book dated to the mid-nineteenth century.

The evidence uncovered so far on the children of Roger Tohill suggested a date range of c.1777-1783. This helps us to make a reasoned guess about Roger Tohill's vital records. He was probably married c. 1775 and if he was married between the ages of twenty and forty then this would give Roger Tohill a birth range of c. 1735-1755. We know that he

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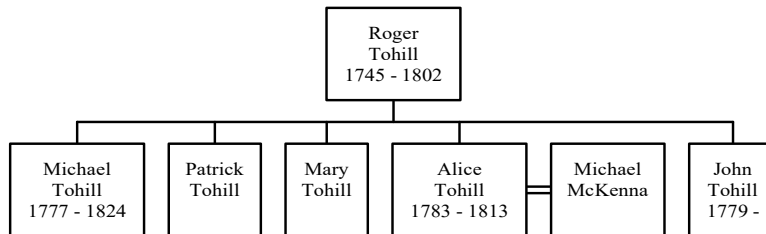
<sup>104</sup> D1062/1/2

<sup>105</sup> This volume of rents was 'missing' in PRONI for over a year – it is a very large and weighty tome so one wonders how such a volume can go missing?



died around 1802 and would not have been an old man by modern standards. He was probably in his fifties or sixties at most. No headstone was erected for Roger Tohill so we are left to speculate about his birth date but he was deceased by 1803. It is speculative but a reasoned guess to give Roger Tohill's lifespan from c.1745 to 1802, which places his birth somewhere in the mid eighteenth century. We can accurately date three of his children: Michael [1777-1824], Alice [1783-1813] and John [born c.1779].

### *Descendants of Roger Tohill*



The two-generational tree developed and shown above gave a solid platform from which to progress. Roger Tohill died c. 1802 and in his will left his farm to his three sons Michael, John and Patrick. Michael and John Tohill proceeded to negotiate a new and valuable perpetuity lease with their landlord Conolly in 1803 with three lives renewable forever, which gave effective ownership of the farm to the family. It seems that the two men negotiated with Conolly without the knowledge and consent of their brother Patrick Tohill. This led to the famed family dispute.

Patrick Tohill may have taken umbrage that his two brothers had re-negotiated a lease on his behalf but without his consent. It is possible that he may have even threatened legal action but the dispute was resolved in 1805. The three men entered into and signed 'Articles of Agreement' dated 24 May 1805 to the effect that all three had equal share of the farm as mentioned in the will of their father, thus clarifying Patrick's position with regard to the valuable perpetuity lease. It is probable that this was a form of legal contract drawn up by a solicitor and counter signed by witnesses.

Michael Tohill died c. 1824 aged about 47 years. It is possible that Michael had been ill for some time since the original agreement of 1805 was registered in the Registry of Deeds on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 1824. One also notes that his brother Patrick Toghill counter-signed the family copy of the 1803 lease on 18 November 1822 in Castledawson.<sup>106</sup> It seems that Patrick Tohill was protecting his interests before the death of his brother and thus giving himself some legal cover through the use of the Registry of Deeds and this is not surprising given the valuable nature of the lease. As mentioned, only four families in Ballymacpeake held perpetuity leases in the early nineteenth century.<sup>107</sup>

Upon the death of Michael Tohill in late 1824 the farm appears to have come into the possession of John Tohill and he may have bought out his brother Patrick's interest. Patrick Tohill appears to have demised his portion of the farm to his brother John Tohill and this in turn was demised to John's son Roger Tohill. In a deed of 1866 registered by Nancy Convery of Dreenan, a previous deed was noted concerning a transaction between Patrick Convery [her husband] of Dreenan and the Tohills of Ballymacpeake by

<sup>106</sup> D1062/1/11A [witness J. Gregg]

<sup>107</sup> The families concerned were McPeake, Graves, Steele and Tohill.

which a small farm and houses were granted; *'said premises were held and demised by John Toghill and Patrick Toghill to Roger Toghill containing 4 acres, 2 rood and houses ---- formerly in the possession of Patrick Toghill and subsequently in the possession of Rodger Toghill deceased'*.<sup>108</sup> Roger Tohill appears to have been in possession of this farm as early as 1828 as he is listed in the tithe book for Ballymacpeake number 64 with land of 4 acres 32 perches. Roger Tohill died 1864 and the farm passed to his family through his wife Margaret/Peggy formerly McErlane.

The location of Patrick Tohill's farm is given in the deed – *'bounded on the north by May Harron, widow, on the east by James Steele, and on the south by Bradley's farm and on the west by John Diamond'*. Unfortunately, the registered deed does not state which plantation measurement was used so it is difficult to determine which farm in Griffiths' valuation corresponds to Patrick's farm.<sup>109</sup> This confusion over acreage makes it very difficult to determine the identity of the various farms held by the Tohills in Ballymacpeake in the nineteenth century.

Roderick Tohill's farms Griffiths' valuation 1858

18 A	Edward Anne,	Same,	House,	—	—	0 5 0	0 5 0
- B	} Roderick Tuohill,	} Earl of Strafford, Sir Robt. Bateson, Bt., and Lady Louisa Trench,	} Land,	3 3 30	1 15 0	—	} 5 10 0
- C				2 2 10	1 15 0	—	
				3 0 10	2 0 0	—	
19	Roderick Tuohill,	Same,	Land,	2 0 10	0 15 0	—	0 15 0
20 A	Daniel Mulholland,	Same,	Land,	2 0 10	0 10 0	—	0 10 0
- B	Daniel Mulholland,	Same,	House, office, & land,	6 2 30	5 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0

Patrick Tohill does not appear in the 1831 census as a head of household in Ballymacpeake and it is possible he resided with one of the three Tohill families recorded there. This suggests that he remained unmarried and reinforces belief that progeny came through John Tohill of Ballymacpeake whom we find as head of household in the 1831 census with a family of six males and two females present.

### THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Many more sources become available to the genealogist and local historian after 1800 and therefore it is often possible to trace Irish family lines back to the early nineteenth century. The single greatest loss in the P.R.O explosion in 1922 was the destruction of census material for the period 1821-1851. Much work has been carried out by archival institutions on the island of Ireland to make up for the loss of these records but the destruction of the P.R.O material in 1922 makes Irish genealogical research rather difficult in the period before civil registration. The tithe books and Griffiths Valuation have become important 'census substitutes' and church registers can often plug the gap where they have survived.

It is essential to locate the place of origin for Irish ancestor and specifically we are talking about parish and townland. A precise place of origin allows the researcher to locate the documented records that often reveal the surnames of interest. Focussing the research narrowly on the family name only can be a frustrating experience in Irish genealogy. Having located the Tohill family to the townland of Ballymacpeake Upper in the Catholic parish of Lavey opened up the potential of consulting land records such as estate papers, registered deeds and other source material pertaining to place that opened a vista into the family's origins back into the mid-eighteenth century.

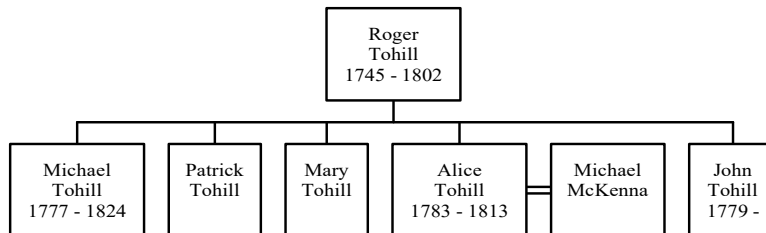
<sup>108</sup> ROD 2: 238 registered 22 January 1866. Patrick Convery of Dreenan was the brother in law of Anthony Tohill who had married his sister Bridget Convery in 1831.

<sup>109</sup> The common measurements were Irish, English and Cunningham measures. Sixteen English acres is approximately thirteen acres Cunningham or ten Irish acres.

Having located the progenitor of the family Roger Tohill [c. 1745-1802] to the townland of Ballymacpeake and traced five known children all born in late eighteenth century the first two generations of the family had been clearly identified.

Connecting James Anthony Tohill ‘the emigrant’ to the established family tree would prove to be more difficult and frustrating than first envisaged. The essential problem concerned his father John Tohill and placing him within the correct generation. As mentioned previously, it seems that John Tohill [born c. 1779] alone had progeny. The line of descent of the third generation of Tohills came through Roger and then John Tohill.

### *Descendants of Roger Tohill*



The records in Australia identified James Anthony Tohill [JAT] as the son of John Tohill by his wife Rose McKeown. Was JAT a son of John Tohill of Ballymacpeake [born c. 1779] by a second marriage or was he a grandson? Determining the answer to this question proved to be both problematic and frustrating. Good progress had been made on the first two generations of the family tree as seen above but making the connection to the third generation would prove to be difficult since there was a significant gap in the records for the early nineteenth century. Some documentary material such as the tithes records for 1828 and the census returns for 1831 are most useful but actually connecting the individuals named in these documents to those in the known tree involves some reasoned guess-work.

Roger and Anthony Tohill whom we find in the 1831 census returns were most probably the sons of John Tohill senior of Ballymacpeake Upper.<sup>110</sup> The weight of evidence suggests so. Michael Tohill died 1824, aged about 47 years so it was possible he had been married but if he had been I would have expected to see a Widow Tohill listed in the 1831 census returns.<sup>111</sup> Michael’s brother Patrick Tohill was not listed as an independent householder in 1831 and this suggests he remained unmarried. The evidence uncovered does suggest that three brothers – Roderick, Anthony and John Tohill junior inherited the land in Ballymacpeake from their father John Tohill senior. This remains the best working hypothesis and one that makes most sense in light of the evidence uncovered so far.

Let us return now to James Anthony Tohill, who emigrated to Australia.

<sup>110</sup> A James Tohill is listed in the 1831 returns for Ballymacpeake but no details are given suggesting he was deceased – it is possible he was another son of John Tohill senior.

<sup>111</sup> No Widow Tohill appears in the 1831 returns for Ballymacpeake indeed only four male heads of household were listed and one of these was an empty return for the above-mentioned James Tohill.

## JAMES ANTHONY TOHILL OF THE BALLYMACPEAKE TOHILLS - EMIGRANT

Patrick's great grandfather was James Anthony Tohill who emigrated to Australia in 1858. An obituary was printed in the local newspaper 'The Elmore Standard' upon his death in 1914 that gives some useful detail.

### OBITUARY ELMORE STANDARD 1914

**MR. JAMES TOHILL.**

It is our duty to record, with regret, the passing hence of still another stoutheart of the district in the person of Mr. James Anthony Tohill, of Campaspe, in the Mt. Pleasant farming areas. For forty years a resident of the district, and a most successful farmer, the late Mr. Tohill hailed from County Antrim, Ireland, where he first saw the light of day in 1835. Fifty years ago he arrived in Melbourne, where he joined the police force, having previously been a member of the Irish Constabulary in Belfast. Having caught the gold-fever, Mr. Tohill resigned his position, and went to New Zealand in quest of fortune. But Fortune proved elusive, as ever, and our friend subsequently delved in Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria at Bendigo. Then he came to the Elmore district, and he farmed at Charlotte Plains. Then the call of the plough found him settled at Campaspe, over 40 years ago, on a snug holding of 320 acres. A little later he took to himself a wife — marrying Miss Bridget Green, at Bendigo. The ceremony was performed in St. Kilian's Chapel, by the late Dr. Backhaus. As a farmer, the late Mr. Tohill was very successful.

Mention is made in the obituary that James Anthony Tohill was born in 1835 and was a native of County Antrim. Where the information on family origin came from is not known but if taken on face value this could have led to many wasted hours of research. No birth details exist for James Anthony Tohill as there is a gap in the Lavey parish registers. His death certificate stated that he was the son of John Tohill by his wife Rose McKeown. This is the only documentary proof that exists for his parentage.

Family tradition suggested that James was a tall man over 6 feet and had been in the police 'in Belfast'. A search of the Royal Irish Constabulary police records held on microfilm in PRONI indicated that he had indeed been a member of the police force. This is the only direct evidence of James Anthony Tohill in Ireland.

RIC RECORD FOR JAMES TOHILL<sup>112</sup>

Record number 19358:

James Tohill: aged 20<sup>113</sup>: 5ft 11¾ inches<sup>114</sup>: born County Derry: Catholic: single: labourer<sup>115</sup>: – he was recommended for the service by J. Courtenay Justice of the Peace.

James Tohill joined the police force some time in 1855 aged 20 giving him a birth date of c.1835. Additional information included in the records indicates that he was transferred to Galway 10 May 1855 and may have also served for a time in County Down<sup>116</sup>. The first allocation [county] took place approximately six months after the date of appointment. James Tohill was fined 10 shillings for some unrecorded misdemeanour but this did not impact on his promotion to First Class sub-constable on 1 July 1855<sup>117</sup>.

Candidates for the RIC had to be personally known to a local magistrate, Justice of the Peace, Protestant or Catholic clergyman or R.I.C Sub-Inspector. The Courtenay connection to the Tohill family would prove to be of some significance. Not only did Courtenay recommend James for the police service but he also mortgaged some of the family property in subsequent decades. The O.S. Memoirs of the 1830s gives the seat of James Courtenay, Esq as Glenburn House on the road from Garvagh to Portglenone standing about two-thirds of a mile west of Inishrush, west of the Bann in County Derry.<sup>118</sup> Portglenone village itself is East of the Bann in County Antrim.<sup>119</sup>

James resigned his position in 1855 most likely to emigrate. Indeed James would join the Melbourne police service upon his arrival in Australia and his service records indicate that he was quite ‘a character’.

Melbourne Police Service Record:

James Tohill, Register no. 1399; Calling I Const’y [Irish Constabulary?] 2 years 8 months: aged 22 described as 6 feet tall; grey eyes; dark brown hair with a fresh complexion; born Ireland; single; R. Catholic; appointed Constable 17 February 1859: Discharged 12 June 1861.

The defaulters’ sheet lists eleven offences – pleaded guilty nine times and not guilty twice. He was fined eight times and reprimanded twice; suspended on 12 June and discharged 12 June 1860 after only 2 years 3 months of service.

One gets the impression that JAT did not really enjoy being a police officer and most of his offences concerned being absent from duty.

22.03.1858 – absent from court when his case was called on  
03.06.1859 – found sitting down in the public library when on duty  
04.08.1859 – found sitting and drunk; also asleep when on duty

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<sup>112</sup> MIC454/4

<sup>113</sup> Minimum age for application was nineteen

<sup>114</sup> Minimum height requirement was 5ft 9’.

<sup>115</sup> The majority of RIC men were farmers or labourers prior to enlistment.

<sup>116</sup> Looks like Galway followed by ‘Down’ but the hand-writing was difficult to decipher.

<sup>117</sup> Rank on Admission was ‘2<sup>nd</sup> class sub-constable’.

<sup>118</sup> O.S Memoirs Volume 18 – parish of Maghera.

<sup>119</sup> The obituary for James Tohill in Australia stated that he was born in County Antrim. There was also a family tradition that he served as a Constable in Belfast, which cannot be substantiated but part of Belfast south of the river Lagan is in County Down.

09.02.1860 – having his carbine dirty at inspection  
09.06.1860 – absent from barracks without leave on night of the ninth  
14.11.1860 – disobedience of orders in not having his hair-cut when ordered  
05.02.1860 – absent from barracks without leave at night  
20.02.1861 – absent from his beat 1½ hours  
10.05.1861 – absent from drill without leave  
25.05.1861 – absent from barracks all night without leave  
09.06.1861 – absent from duty all night

The former policeman caught gold-fever, travelled to New Zealand only to return to Australia where he farmed some 320 acres in Campase, Mt. Pleasant for the next forty years. In his obituary Mr Tohill was praised for being '*a most successful farmer*'. Having been raised on the land in Ireland James Anthony Tohill found his true vocation as a farmer in Australia and police life did not seem to suit his temperament. Indeed, one can imagine him sitting in the public library in Melbourne on 3 June 1858 in full police uniform with his head stuck in a book. What he was reading remains a mystery but perhaps it was something on farming?

#### THE MISSING LINK

The task remained to link James Anthony Tohill to the main stem of the Ballymacpeake family having established that he was the son of John Tohill by Rose McKeown. It was assumed by the New Zealand branch that he was a first cousin of Henry Tohill of Ortago.<sup>120</sup> In order to ascertain the missing link required filing down into a myriad of sources both primary and secondary.

It is fortunate that Derry is the only county in Ireland that has a complete but partial transcribed version of the 1831 census. The source needs to be treated with some caution since it is a secondary source transcribed from the original census material. The transcript lists only the head of household but contains additional and useful genealogical information including – the number of families present in the household on census night;<sup>121</sup> the numbers of males and females present; the numbers and sex of any servants present and a religious breakdown of the inhabitants.<sup>122</sup>

#### 1831 census [1834 census transcript]

In 1831, forty-five of the forty-seven Tohill families registered in the census in Co Derry resided in the barony of Loughinsholin. Here we see a remarkable attachment to place. Nineteen Tohill families in Loughinsholin barony resided in the parish of Maghera that is 42% of the total and the remainder in the parishes of Tamlaght O'Crilly [8], Ballyscullion, [7], Artea [6], Magherafelt [3], and Kilrea [2]. Thus, the vast majority were distributed to the east and south of the barony of Loughinsholin.

The concentration of Tohills in Maghera/Lavey area is striking and we can safely say that this was the homeland of the Tohill sept. The 'sept' was scattered throughout the various estates on the Londonders' plantations. Thirteen Tohill families were resident on the Mercers' estate primarily in the townland of Drummuck [ten], three on the Salters, eleven on the Vintners' or Bellaghy estate. Ten Tohill families resided on

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<sup>120</sup> Hugh Tohill writes in his book, '*next to arrive was James Anthony Tohill [junior] first cousin once removed of Henry who was born in Victoria, 1880 and came over to Alexandea in 1905*'.

<sup>121</sup> For the vast majority of households usually only one family was present in the household on census night. In urban areas houses could contain several tenements and therefore several families could be present.

<sup>122</sup> The religious make-up, of course, a useful indicator for pursuing further research in church registers in the area for the family.

Phillips' estate, which was bought by the Dawson family. Since the Irish were not precluded from Churchlands it was these areas that became heavily populated by the native Irish as a result. We find seven Tohill families resident on Churchland [four in Killygullib townland alone]. The Tohills were a relatively small sept confined to several contiguous parishes to the mid and south of the new County Londonderry. They were almost entirely confined to the barony of Loughinsholin in the nineteenth century. The spatial distribution does suggest a common ancestry and numbers remained relatively modest into the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.<sup>123</sup>

An analysis of the Christian names of the heads of household in the 1831 census is also revealing, the breakdown is as follows:

William [8], John [6], Henry [4], Patrick [4], James [3], Anthony [2], Daniel [2], Edward [2], Michael [2], Lawrence [2], and one each for Hugh, Matthew, Peter, Philip and Roger.

Distinctive Christian names for the Tohills in the Lavey/Maghera area were Anthony, Henry, John, Daniel, Michael, Lawrence, James and Roger. Naming patterns remained fairly rigid even into the twentieth century and can be a vital clue in identifying family members. The use of Roger as a Christian name was almost exclusive to the Ballymacpeake family. We will look at the breakdown of Tohill members listed in Ballymacpeake in 1831 a little later in this paper.

The absence of formal census material for the period 1821-1891 is a considerable handicap with regard to undertaking genealogical research in Ireland, therefore it is necessary to identify 'census substitutes' to fill in the gaps. Civil registration of all births, marriages and deaths began in 1864 so prior to that date one is relying on church registers where they are extant. The Lavey Catholic parish the records are piecemeal in the pre-civil registration period and the registers in PRONI include the following:

**Baptisms:** Sept 27 1837- Aug 1939 <sup>124</sup>  
June 22 1852-Aug 31 1865; 1867-1881

**Marriages:** April 19 1852-Aug 15 1865; 1868-1871

**Funerals:** 1837-1839

The baptism and marriage records for Lavey are fairly complete from 1852 onwards with both civil registration and church records complementing each other from 1864 onwards. In the period before 1852 we are relying on other records particularly land records, such as estate rentals/leases, land valuation books and freeholders' registers.

#### THE FRANCHISE AND FREEHOLDERS' RECORDS

Most Catholics were deprived of the franchise in the period between 1704 and 1793 when the electoral system was dominated by landlordism. The 1704 Penal Act prevented Catholics from buying land, from leasing land for more than 31 years and estates were to be 'gavelled'<sup>125</sup> amongst all sons upon death but a son who converted to the Established church could inherit the family property. The penal laws were officially

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<sup>123</sup> Around forty Tohills were listed in the local county Derry telephone directory of 2008.

<sup>124</sup> This partial register for an almost two year period was particularly helpful in tracing family links in Lavey parish but did not contain any baptisms for any of the children of John Tohill by Rose McKeown.

<sup>125</sup> Divided.

relaxed from 1772<sup>126</sup> and all of the King's subjects allowed to swear and oath of allegiance in 1774 irrespective of religion. In 1778 those Roman Catholics who took the oath were no longer restricted to 31-year leases and could hold leases up to 999 years or five lives.<sup>127</sup> The 1782 Relief Act allowed Catholics who took the 1774 oath to purchase land 'in fee'.<sup>128</sup> The 1793 Relief Act opened the franchise to Catholics in parliamentary and municipal elections.

*'The laws against popery have so far operated', remarked Lord Townshend in 1772, 'that at this day there is no popish family remaining of any great weight from landed property'.*

Freeholders' records are lists of people entitled to vote, or of people who voted, at elections. Freehold in Ireland was defined as the possession of a lease for more than one life. A freeholder was a man who owned his land outright (in fee) or who held it by lease, which could be for one or more lives. A tenant who held land for a definite period such as 31 years or 100 years did not qualify as a freeholder. From 1727 to 1793 only Protestants with a freehold worth at least 40 shillings a year were legally permitted to vote. Between 1793 and 1829 both Protestants and Catholics with 40-shilling freeholds could vote. This gave anyone who owned or rented land that was worth 40 shillings [£2] or more the right to vote

Freeholders had to register to vote. In theory 40-shilling freeholders could register themselves and take oaths [but few could afford this]. They were therefore, only registered by landlords as and when they were needed. 40-shilling freeholders were effectively under control of the landlord. Michael, John and Patrick Tohill would have had the right to franchise after negotiating the perpetuity lease in 1803. Unfortunately, there are few surviving freehold registers or poll books for County Derry.

In 1829 the franchise level was increased to 10 pounds, so 40-shilling freeholders were no longer allowed to vote excluding many previous voters. An Assistant Barrister was responsible for registering freeholders in each county.<sup>129</sup> Each applicant had to testify under oath that his income from land [after all charges such as rent] equalled to £10 per year. This often meant that freeholders had to travel to a specific location to register for example Roger Tohill registered his freehold in Ballymacpeake at Coleraine in October 1831 and Magherafelt in December of the same year.

#### **FREEHOLDERS' REGISTERED LONDONDERRY JOURNAL, 1831<sup>130</sup>**

Londonderry Journal: Tuesday October 4 1831

Barony of Loughinshollen

Applications to Register Freeholds at a General Sessions to be held at Coleraine October 24 1831

**Roger Toghil**, Ballymacpeake, Houses and land at Ballymacpeake. Qualification: Ten pounds

**Anthony Toghil**, Ballymacpeake, Houses and land at Ballymacpeake. Qualification: Ten pounds

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<sup>126</sup> Act of Emancipation.

<sup>127</sup> The estate could pass to one son and a son who converted to the Established religion no longer had automatic right to the property.

<sup>128</sup> Outright ownership.

<sup>129</sup> They had to be from a different county.

<sup>130</sup> My thanks to Len Swindley for kindly providing these details from his transcripts of freeholders' lists from the Londonderry Journal.



Londonderry Journal: Tuesday December 13 1831

Barony of Loughinshollen

Applications to Register Freeholds at a General Sessions to be held at Magherafelt

January 2 1832

**Roger Toghil**, Ballymacpeake, Houses and land at Ballymacpeake. Qualification: Ten pounds

**Anthony Toghil**, Ballymacpeake, Houses and land at Ballymacpeake. Qualification: Ten pounds

Freeholders' registers appeared regularly in local newspapers for a few years 1829-1831 and make a useful substitute.<sup>131</sup> Michael Tohill had died circa 1824 leaving the remaining two brothers as the leaseholders of the farm. What appears to have happened next is that Patrick Tohill offset his share to his brother John Tohill senior and in turn he appears to have demised his share to his sons Roger and Anthony.<sup>132</sup>

By 1831 the Ballymacpeake freehold was being registered under the names of Roger and Anthony Tohill whom I take to be the sons of John Tohill senior. It is Roger Tohill that we find in the Tithe Book for Ballymacpeake in 1828 with two plots of land.<sup>133</sup> Number 64 was a farm of four acres and two roods in possession of said Rodger Tohill and this may have been the farm formerly in the possession of Patrick Tohill whom I take to be Rodger's uncle and demised to Roger Tohill by John and Patrick Tohill.<sup>134</sup> Rodger Tohill and partners were also in possession of number 70 in the tithe book, a farm containing some 16 acres, 3 rood and 14 perches. The tithe books and the freeholders' registers reveal that Roger and his brother Anthony appear as in possession of the Tohill farms in Ballymacpeake.

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<sup>131</sup> Some freeholders' lists 1829-1831 for counties Tyrone and Donegal appear in Faye Logue's marvelous book 'Strabane & West Ulster in the 1800s: Selections from The Strabane Morning Post, 1812-1827', Strabane 2006.

<sup>132</sup> This is a working hypothesis since the Ballymacpeake farms were in possession of Roger and Anthony Tohill in the freeholders' register of 1831.

<sup>133</sup> FIN/5A/212

<sup>134</sup> ROD 2: 238 [22 January 1866]

## 1828 Tithe book: Roger Tohill &amp; partners

66	John McClay	7	1	1	604	2	0	2
67	John Mulholland	7		25	11	3	15	2
68	John Mulholland	6		7	9	3	6	1
69	John Henry (bag)	48			77	3	0	
70	Rodger Tohill & Pat	16	3	14	27	1	4	2
71	John Diamond	11	3	21	19	0	39	3
72	Meadow Harvest & Pat	13	2	5	21	3	27	2
73	Catherine Birt	17	3	18	28	3	29	2
74	Bernard Birt	14	3	20	24	0	15	2
75	John Birt	32	3		53	0	8	3

The Maghera parish tithe book is written in pencil and as a consequence some of the handwriting is faded. The books contain lists of names but it must be remembered that these only include the main tenants in the townland.<sup>135</sup> The tithes payment was a form of tax resented by Catholics and Dissenters alike since the money was raised for the upkeep of the Established Church in Ireland a branch of the Anglican Communion.

In the 1831 census we note that John, Roger and Anthony were both listed as independent householders. From an O.A.P return, which records the family in Ballymacpeake in the 1851 census, we know that Anthony Tohill was married in 1831. His wife was Nancy Convery of Dreenan, so who were the other male and female residents? Perhaps extended family members like unmarried elderly relations. Likewise Roger Tohill's family consisted of 2 males and 2 females, a relatively young family. Roger married Margaret [Peggy] McErlane but by the time of Griffith's valuation they were resident in the townland of Ballymacombs although Roger is listed in Ballymacpeake as holding three small farms of land in the townland of his birth.

<sup>135</sup> This would include leaseholders and tenants-at-will. In townlands where the latter were more prevalent more names are usually listed since they only held the land on a year to year basis.

## 1831 census return Ballymacpeake MIC5/8A

James Tohill		61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Roger Tohill		62	1	2	2					4	4
Anthony Tohill		63	1	2	2					4	4
John Tohill		64	1	6	2					8	8

John Tohill in the 1831 census is probably the John of the 1803 lease given that the family had a more mature structure – 2 males and 6 females. One notes that there was only one family present in the household on census night therefore it is likely that John Tohill junior resided with his father. We can conclude that he was unmarried in 1831.

If John Tohill who married Rose McKeown was the son of John Tohill senior had resided in an independent household in Ballymacpeake then it is probable that they would have been listed as senior and junior respectively. Neither John Tohill senior or junior is listed in the freeholders' returns – indicating perhaps that that Roger and Anthony were older brothers of John junior. John Tohill junior appears to have married after 1831.<sup>136</sup>

The groupings in the tithes book and 1831 census returns is significant and corresponds with the map and land returns of Griffith's valuation in 1857-1858. Clearly in 1831 Roger, Anthony and John Tohill were living contiguously. That James Tohill is listed as the head of an empty house indicates that he had either emigrated or died. The evidence presented thus indicates that Anthony and Roger Tohill were the older sons of John Tohill. The absence of Patrick Tohill as head of household in Ballymacpeake is also noteworthy. This suggests that he resided with other family members in Ballymacpeake – if the latter is true then most certainly unmarried since the enumerators had to indicate the numbers of families present in each household in the fourth column.<sup>137</sup> It is also possible that Patrick was deceased as discussed earlier.

Since the Tohill family held a valuable perpetuity lease from 1803 this opened up the possibility of consulting land records. I made a thorough search of the Vintners' Bellaghy estate archives and also the Registry of Deeds, which opened a vista into the family's activities throughout the nineteenth century.

<sup>136</sup> Four known children – Alice c. 1833; James Anthony c. 1835; Francis c. 1837 and Bridget c. 1838 were all born after 1831. Lawrence Tohill born c. 1831 took over John's farm upon his death and may have been a son or even a nephew.

<sup>137</sup> Despite only naming the head of household, the 1831 returns are very useful as they contain a breakdown of family membership by sex and religion.

RENTALS ON THE VINTNERS' BELLAGHY ESTATE, 1838-1883<sup>138</sup>

The following Tohill references were found in the Bellaghy estate rental book:

Page 160 [Ballymacpeake Upper]  
Francis Birt from 1 Nov 1829 at will  
[pencilled '**including 166 Anthony Toghil**]  
Rent £4:8:0 from 1838-1854  
£7:4:0 from 1855-1882

Here we see above and below that farms numbered 160 and 166 come into possession of the Tohill family from the Birt family. Unfortunately, the rental book does not include the acreage for all of the farms. The will of Anthony Tohill dated 1866 provides additional information as he left his son Hugh Tohill '*Frank Birt's farm of 6 acres*'.

Page 166  
Catherine Birt for part of Ballymacpeake containing [Blank] from 1 Nov 1829 at will  
**R Toghil 1848**  
Rent £1:16:9 from 1838-1855  
See 160

Number 166 appears to have been a small farm that came into possession of Roger Tohill given that the rent was less than two pounds. From 1855 this farm was included in the rental with farm 160 and as a consequence the rent increases from £4, 8sh to £7, shillings for the combined farms.

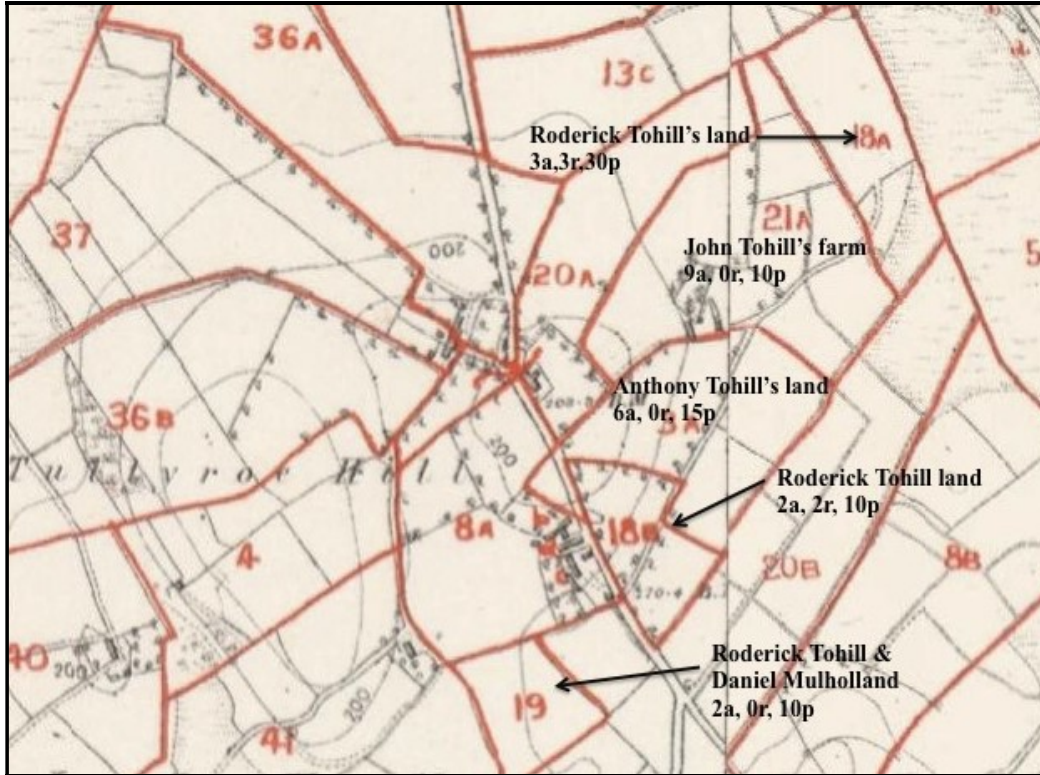
Page 206  
John & Michael Toghil for a part of Ballymacpeake containing 13a, 0r, 21p from 1 Nov 1802 for lives renewable forever – lives in original lease are John & Michael Toghil lessees & John Downing son of Dawson Downing of Rowsgift:  
Received fine on fall of each life £3:5:1  
Marginal note – **Michael Toghil dead** –  
RP Dawson  
Son of GR Dawson  
Inserted instead of  
M Toghil in 1824  
Rent £6:16:8½ from 1838-1870  
£8:3:6 from 1871-1882  
  
Marginal note  
Fee Farm grant 1869  
1871 additions  
Rent £1:6:0

No 206 was the original family farm, which had a perpetuity lease from 1803 and the family came into outright ownership or fee farm grant in 1869. A nominal rent was still paid to the landlord. Griffiths' valuation and the associated maps provide a useful source for trying to identify the location of the family farms.

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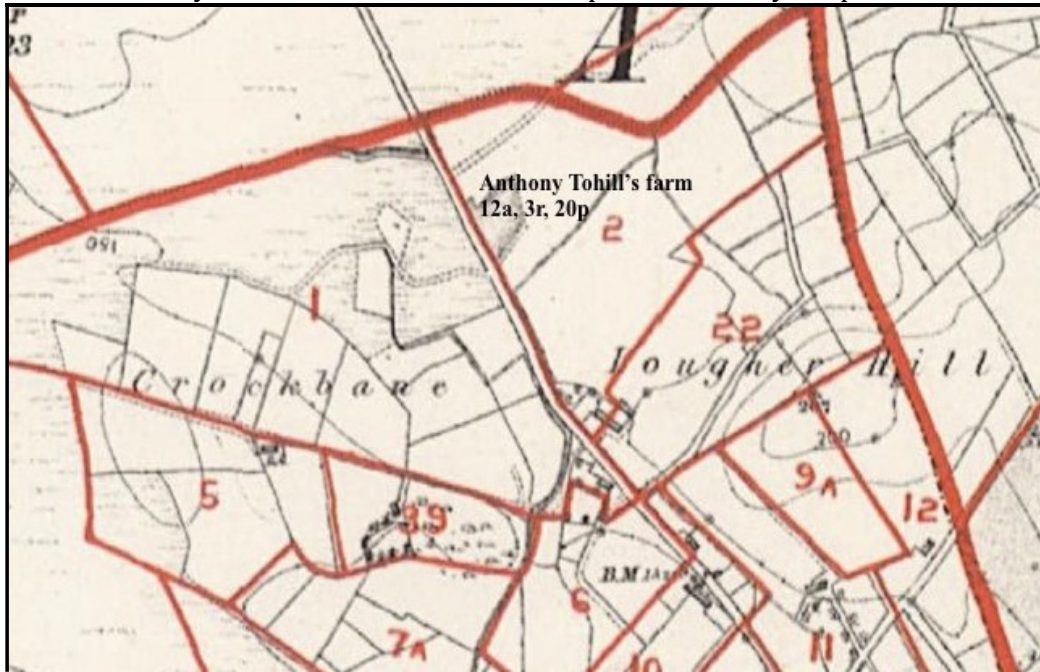
<sup>138</sup> D1062/1/2

1858 – IDENTIFYING THE TOHILL FARMS

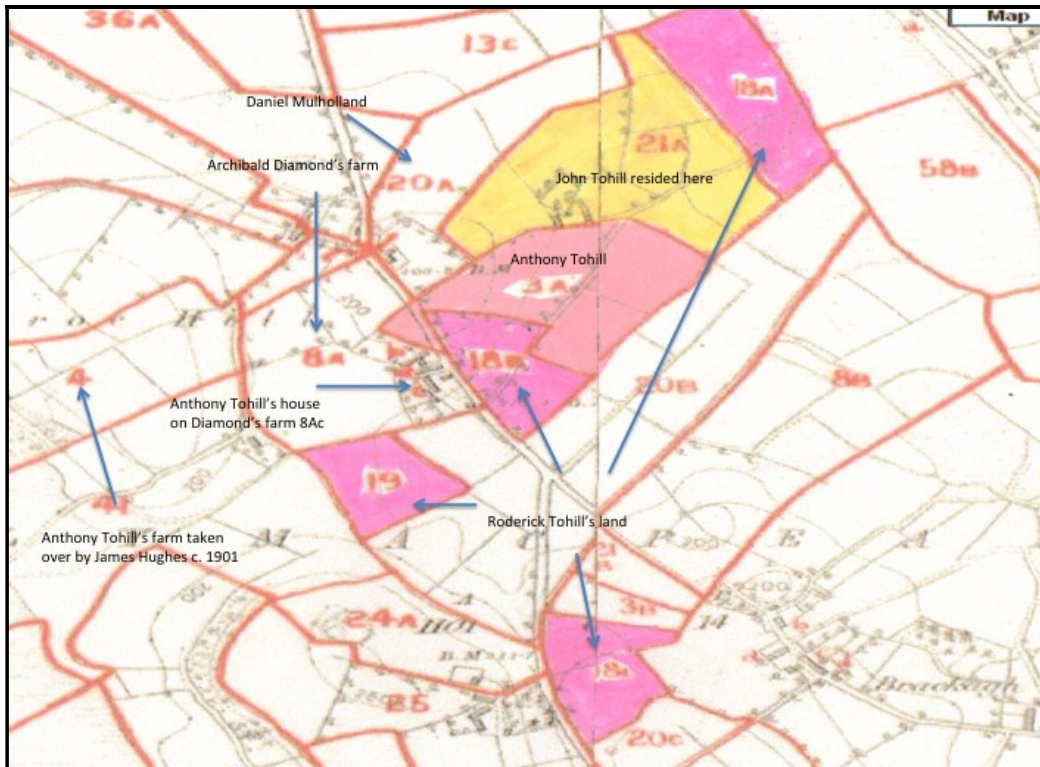


Griffiths' valuation books and the maps are revealing as they show the Tohill farms in a north to south alignment in Ballymacpeake. Roderick Tohill did not actually reside in Ballymacpeake in 1858 as he is shown as a landholder only with three small farms of land 18a, 18b and number 19 which he shared with Daniel Mulholland. John Tohill held the farm 21A, which consisted of 9 acres and 10 perches English acres and this was contiguous with the farm of Anthony Tohill of some 6 acres and 15 perches. Anthony Tohill resided in a house on the land of Diamond 8Ac.

Anthony Tohill's farm in the northern portion of Ballymacpeake<sup>139</sup>



**TOHILL FARMS & NEIGHBOURS 1858 GRIFFITHS VALUATION**



<sup>139</sup> This farm lay close to the townland of Dreenan. Anthony Tohill married Nancy Convery daughter of Hugh Convery of Dreenan in 1831.

## GRIFFITHS' REVISION BOOKS, BALLYMACPEAKE

No:	Occupier 1859	Description of Property 1859	Acreage/value	Occupier 1866-74	Occupier 1875-1882	Occupier 1884-1893	Occupier 1900-1910	Occupier 1911-1921	Comments
2	Anthony Tuohill	Land	12a, 3 r, 20p	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Hugh Tohill	Susan Toughill [1919]	Became 2a from 1905
2a	Andrew Dimond	House	10sh from A. Tuohill	Andrew Dimond	Andrew Dimond	Andrew Dimond	Disappears 1905		Disappears 1905
3A	Anthony Tuohill	Land	6a, 0r, 15p	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tohill	Sarah A Touhill [1926]	3A & 3B Merge 1905 with 8Ac
3B	Anthony Tuohill	Land	1a, 0r, 2p	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Merged with 3A	Merged with 3A	
4	Anthony Tuohill	Cottier's house & land	6a, 3r, 10p	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	James Hughes [1907]	James Hughes	
4a						Henry Murray [1887 from] A Tohill	Vacant [from James Hughes] 1907	Vacant [1921] James Hughes name stroked out	House added 1887 [from A Tohill]
6	Patrick Birt [Big]	House & Land	4a, 1r, 15p	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	James Hughes [1907] Patrick Birt [1908]	Thomas Birt [1914]	
8Ac	Anthony Tuohill	House, office, gdn	0a, 1r, 0p	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Anthony Tuohill	Hugh Tohill stroked out 1905. Merged with 3A	Merged with 3A	See 3A & B
15c	Felix McKeon	House	10sh from Anne McAnnally						
18A	Roderick Tuohill	Land	3a, 3r, 30p	Margaret Tuohill [1870] New house 1877	John Touhill [1881]	Michael Tohill [1887]	Bernard Mulholland	Bernard Mulholland	Very faded green pen [1887]
18B	Roderick Tuohill	Land	2a, 2r, 10p	Margaret Tuohill	John Touhill [1881]	Michael Tohill [1887]	Bernard Mulholland	Bernard Mulholland	
18C	Roderick Tuohill	Land	3a, 0r, 10p	Margaret Tuohill	John Touhill [1881]	Michael Tohill [1887]	Merged with 18A [1908]	Merged with 18A	18C merged with 18 A & B c. 1908
19	Roderick Tuohill Daniel Mulholland	Land	2a, 0r, 10p	Daniel Mulholland replaced by Maria Mulholland [1867] Maria Mulholland [1872]	Felix Mulholland [1879]	Bernard Mulholland [1886]	Bernard Mulholland	Bernard Mulholland	1886 - In perpetuity added in margin
21Aa	John Tuohill	House, off, land	9a, 0r, 10p	Laurence Tohill [May 1874]	Laurence Tohill	Laurence Tohill	Michael Tuohill [1902]	Michael Cassidy [1929]	Became 21Aa & B in 1908
21B	John Tuohill	Land	1a, 1r, 10p	Laurence Tohill [May 1874]	Laurence Tohill	Laurence Tohill	Merged with 21A	Merged with 21A	1908 merged with 21A: Note states 1896 Ex'd boundaries correct

The Griffiths' revision books provide an interesting insight into the movements of families in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As you can see from the grid above farms changed hands on a regular basis passing from one generation to the next or being bought out by neighbours. I was also able to use the land records to list all of those named individuals who appeared as in occupation of farms in Ballymacpeake from 1788 through to 1929.

**THE BALLYMACPEAKE FARMS**

**OCCUPATION DETAILS TAKEN FROM THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, TITHES,  
RENTALS & GRIFFITH'S REVALUATIONS.**

1788-1793

Roger Tohill	Ballymacpeake rentals
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1799 freeholders' list Belfast Newsletter

Michael Tohill	Ballymacpeake freeholder
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1803 ROD

John Tohill Michael Tohill	Ballymacpeake nos. 10 :14: & 15 13a, 21 perch plantation measure £7, 1sh rent
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1822 [1803 Lease D1062/1/11A ]

Patrick Toghil [signed] 18 Nov 1822	Ballymacpeake lease
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1805-1824 ROD

John Tohill Michael Tohill Patrick Tohill	Ballymacpeake nos. 10 - 14: & 15 13a, 21 perch plantation measure £7, 1sh rent
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1828 Tithes Book Ballymacpeake FIN/5/212

Roger Tohill	No 64 - 4a, 0r, 12p Ballymacpeake
Roger Tohill & partners	No 70: 16a, 3r, 14p Ballymacpeake

Rent Ledger D1061/1/2 [1838-1883]

John Tohil, lessee  Michael Tohill deceased 1824	Page 206: Ballymacpeake containing 13a, 21p from 1 Nov 1802 lives renewable forever  New life inserted - RP Dawson son of GR Dawson  Rent £6:16:8½ 1838-1870 Fee Farm Grant 1871 addition £1:6:0 Rent £8:3:6 1871 -1882
Anthony Toghil	Page 160: Francis Birt part Ballymacpeake from 1829 at will Anthony Toghil [pencilled] Including No 166 Rent £4:8:0 1838-1854 £7:4:0 1855-1881
R[oger] Toghil	Page 166: Catherine Birt part Ballymacpeake from 1 Nov 1829 at will R Toghil 1848 Rent 1833-1855 £1:16:9 See 160



1858 Griffiths Valuation

No:	Occupier	Description	Acreage/value	
2	Anthony Tuohill	Land	12a, 3 r, 20p	
3A	Anthony Tuohill	Land	6a, 0r, 15p	
3B	Anthony Tuohill	Land	1a, 0r, 2p	
4	Anthony Tuohill	Cottier's hou & land	6a, 3r, 10p	Anthony Tohill resided 8Ac
8Ac	Anthony Tuohill	Hou, off, gdn	0a, 1r, op	
18A	Roderick Tuohill	Land	3a, 3r, 30p	Roderick Tohill had land in Ballymacpeake but did not reside there [he resided Ballymacombs]
18B	Roderick Tuohill	Land	2a, 2r, 10p	
18C	Roderick Tuohill	Land	3a, o2, 10p	
19	Roderick Tuohill & Daniel Mulholland	Land	2a, 0r, 10p	John Tohill [jun] resided 21Aa
21Aa	John Tuohill	Hou, off, land	9a, 0r, 10p	
21B	John Tuohill	Land	1a, 1r, 10p	

Renewals of leases Bellaghy Estate: 1866<sup>140</sup>

Name and age of the life to be inserted – Anthony Toghil son of Anthony Toghil of Ballymacpeake aged 17 years in room of John Toghil, deceased.	No 206 in Ledger: Ballymacpeake
Date when received: Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> 1866	Yearly rent of £6, 16, 8½ : Renewal fine with interest - £3, 9, 1: Net fine on renewal £3, 5, 1.

1866 ROD

John Toghill and Patrick Toghill to Rodger Toghill	Ballymacpeake 4a, 2r
[farm] as found in the possession of Patrick Toghill subsequently in the possession of Rodger Toghill deceased and	Sold to Patrick Convery, farmer, Dreenan

<sup>140</sup> D1062/1/13

<p>then in the possession of the said Margaret Toghill [widow] John Toghill, Michael Toghill and Henry Toghill [sons]</p> <p>Bounded on the North by May Harron, Widow, on the East by James Steele, on the south by Bradley's farm and on the West by John Diamond</p>	
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LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO BUILDING FUND FOR LAVEY CHAPEL, 1870s

Anthony Tohill	Ballymacpeake Middle
Laurence Tohill	Ballymacpeake Middle

Bellaghy Estate Bog rentals c.1870-1877<sup>141</sup>

No 99: Toghill's lease	Ballymacpeake
No 114: Anthony Toghill No 115: Anthony Toghill	Ballymacpeake [Bellaghy estate] Ballymacpeake ibid
No 118: Margaret Toghill [Peggy 1871] Peggy Tohill's reps 1875 John Toghill 1876	Ballymacombs [Capt Henry's heirs] Ibid Ballymacpeake
No 137: Laurence Toghill No 138: Laurence Toghill	Ballymacpeake [Bellaghy estate] Ibid

1881 ROD

Nancy Convery of Dreenan, widow & administatrix of Patrick Convery late of Dreenan, Farmer dec'd to James Courtenay of Glenburn, Esq	Ballymacpeake; 4a, 2r [as recited in 1865 lease]
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1881 ROD

Lawrence Tohil, of Ballymacpeake, farmer to James Courtenay of Glenburn, Esq, JP	Ballymacpeake; 10a, 1r, 3p
--	----------------------------

1884 ROD

[Mortgage] Henry Tohill, Hotel Keeper of Alexandra near Manuperikia in the Province of Otago in New Zealand & John Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper, farmer to James Courtney of Glenburn, Esq	Ballymacpeake; 8a, 1r, and 30p
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1903 ROD

Henry Tohill of Alexandra near Manukerikia in the province of Otago, New Zealand, Hotel Keeper [per Margaret Tohill] & Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper, farmer to William George Courtney of Glenburn, JP	Ballymacpeake; 8a, 1r, 30p
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<sup>141</sup> D1062/1/3

1907 ROD

William George Courtenay of Glenburn JP, Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake, farmer of the second part & Bernard Mulholland of Ballymacpeake Upper, farmer [£205]	Ballymacpeake: 8a, 1r, 30p to Bernard Mulholland
--	--

1909 ROD

[Mortgage] Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake, Bellaghy, farmer to William James Stewart, Ballymena, Solicitor [£40]	Ballymacpeake 6a, 2r
---	----------------------

1925 Women tenants' listed on the Bellaghy estate:<sup>142</sup>

No 160 - Susan Tohill Ballymacpeake upper, widow <sup>143</sup>	Note – widow of Hugh Tohill, [son of Anthony Tohill]
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1929 Land Purchase Commission, Bellaghy estate:

263	James Young	Ballymacpeake Upper	do.	do.	23, 23A 2017	14	3	24	6	16	0	5	13	8	119	13	1
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The above photocopy was taken from a publication prepared by the Land Purchase Commission for the compulsory purchase of the holdings on the Bellaghy Estate in 1929. It shows Susan Tohill [formerly Birt], widow of Hugh Tohill in occupation of a farm of 13 acres, 1 rood and 8 perch which is probably the original farm, on which Roger Tohill was listed as a tenant in the Bellaghy estate rental of 1788. One also notes that the address was given as Ballymacpeake Upper, Portgelenone, Co Antrim. Here is one possible reason why James Anthony Tohill's obituary states that he was born in the county of Antrim.

D1062/1/5 Bog rental Bellaghy estate, 1930

Susan Tohill, widow of Ballymacpeake	13a, 1r, 8p
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Susan Tohill is the last recorded name I have for a Tohill in Ballymacpeake.<sup>144</sup> She died in 1933 in Ballymacpeake.

Having traced the occupants of the various farms over the centuries I return to the task at hand to provide an outline descendant tree for John Tohill senior [son of Roger Tohill].

<sup>142</sup> D1062/1/5 Women tenants on Bellaghy Estate [25 names] 3 Oct 1925

<sup>143</sup> The Land Act of 1925 has the farm as No. 258 Susan Tohill, widow, Ballymacpeake

<sup>144</sup> Lavey RC register of burials in the twentieth century would provide additional supporting material to provide a definitive conclusion with regard to the last Tohills in Ballymacpeake.

## THE CHILDREN OF JOHN TOHILL [SENIOR] OF BALLYMACPEAKE:

As mentioned previously the problem is connecting James Anthony Tohill to a known line of the Tohill family in Ballymacpeake. We know that JAT was the son of a John Tohill by his wife Rose McKeown.

The lease renewal book for the Bellaghy estate provides supporting additional material that Anthony Tohill was in occupation of the freehold farm in Ballymacpeake in 1866.

Lease renewal rent [D1062/1/13] 9 Feb 1866

Number 206 in Ledger:           Yearly rent of £6.16. 8 ½ [renewal fine with interest £3.9.1: Net fine £3.5.1] Name and age of life to be insterted: Anthohy Toghil son of Anthony Toghil of Ballymacpeake aged 17 years in room of John Toghil deceased.

A fine was paid upon renewal of lease after death of lessee, which was usually equivalent to a half years rent. I cannot be sure whether the John Tohill mentioned as deceased in the 1866 rent renewal refers to John Tohill senior or junior. Civil registration of deaths in Ireland began in 1864. I was hopeful of finding the death certificate for John Tohill but unfortunately this was not registered. One possible reason may be that there was a delay in updating the lives in the lease book so it is possible that John Tohill could have died a few months or even a few years earlier.

One of the most difficult challenges concerning the Ballymacpeake family here has been to identify the JAT's father John Tohill who married Rose McKeown. We can identify a John Tohill resident in Ballymacpeake from about 1803 through to 1866.

The evidence is rather meagre:

1803: John Tohill takes a lease of Ballymacpeake with brother Michael Tohill.

1824: John Tohill mentioned in Registered deed concerning the family agreement.

1831: John Tohill listed in Ballymacpeake with family of 6 males and 2 females.

1858: John Tohill listed as a resident in Ballymacpeake in Griffiths' valuation.

1866: John Tohill listed as deceased in the lease renewal

1874: John Tohill's name struck off in the Griffiths' revisions for Ballymacpeake to be replaced by Lawrence Tohill.<sup>145</sup>

Is it possible that there was only one John Tohill who was married at least twice and had a younger family that included JAT. In other words, was Rose McKeown the second wife of an ageing John Tohill?

One notes that on no occasion was the suffix junior or senior added to any of the records concerning John Tohill of Ballymacpeake, which may suggest that it was one person but I find this unlikely.

The following hypothesis may explain why a suffix was never used:

I assume that John Tohill of the 1803 lease, 1824 agreement and 1831 census is the same person. Six males were present in his household in 1831, so it is possible that John

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<sup>145</sup> Griffiths' valuation was periodically updated but the dates inserted are to be treated with caution and can be used as rough markers only.

Tohill junior was one of them. John Tohill junior married Rose McKeown after 1831. John Tohill senior died some time before Griffiths' valuation and therefore it is his son John Tohill listed in Ballymacpeake in 1858. John Tohill junior died a few years after Griffiths' valuation and was replaced by Lawrence Tohill, [who was possibly a son].

In 1831 the Ballymacpeake 'freehold farm' was no longer in possession of John Tohill [senior] as it had been demised to Roger and Anthony Tohill and therefore they were resident freeholders as noted in the Londonderry Journal newspaper. It seems likely they were the elder sons of John Tohill of the 1803 lease. Indeed it is Anthony Tohill who is in occupation of the freehold farm in the 1866 lease renewal<sup>146</sup>. Anthony Tohill demised his freehold property in Ballymacpeake to his eldest son Hugh Tohill in his will of 1886. When Hugh Tohill died in 1911 it was his wife Susan [formerly Birt] who held the farm until her death in 1933.

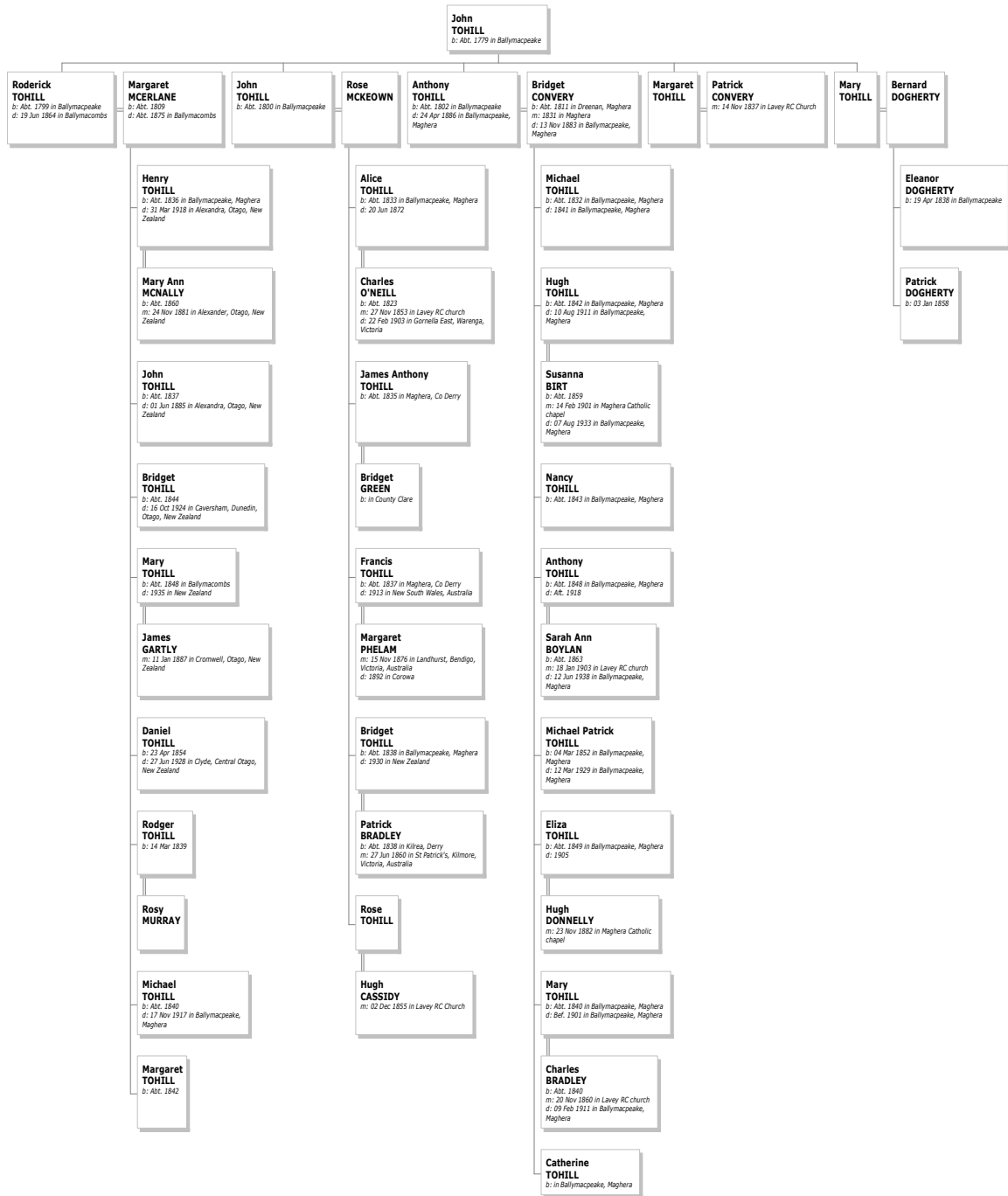
John Tohill who married Rose McKeown was most likely the third son of John Tohill senior and therefore we can add the suffix junior to his name.

It seems that John Tohill senior had at least three sons – Roger, Anthony and John junior. I also include two putative daughters Margaret and Mary in the tree below since evidence does suggest a connection since Margaret Convery was a sponsor to several family baptisms and Mary Tohill who married Bernard Dogherty resided in Ballymacpeake Upper.

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<sup>146</sup> Roger Tohill resided in Ballymacombs in Griffiths' valuation in 1858' although he is listed in Ballymacpeake also with several small farms.

Descendants of John Tohill



The following family report covers the male line of the Ballymacpeake Tohills who descend from Roger Tohill died c. 1802 through his son John Tohill, senior. The male Tohill line died out in Ballymacpeake in the early twentieth century but many descendants of Roger Tohill can be found residing in New Zealand, Australia, and USA. Hugh Tohill's wonderful book documents hundreds of these named individuals. My work compliments Hugh's book since it focuses the pre-emigrant family and also those

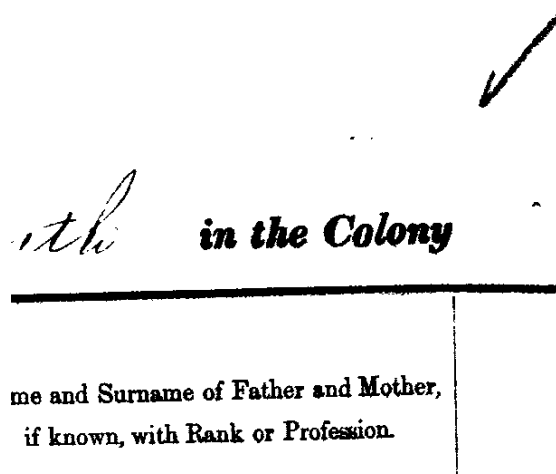
who were left behind in Ireland after the main emigrant flow<sup>147</sup>. The outflow of Tohill emigrants from the townland of Ballymacpeake was significant and Hugh's book is very thorough in documenting the movement of the family and recording descent in New Zealand and Australia. The following report attempts to unravel the descendants of John Tohill senior through the male line, that is:

1. John Tohill junior who married Rose McKeown;
2. Henry Tohill who married Peggy McErlane
3. Anthony Tohill who married Peggy Convery.

### **THE FAMILY OF JOHN TOHILL & ROSE MCKEOWN OF BALLYMACPEAKE:**

Much of the information about John Tohill comes from vital records in Australia. These are the only records that contain the name of John Tohill's wife, a detail, which is not available in any record in Ireland. Her name was Rose or Roseanne McKeown. Despite intensive research I could not locate the family of Rose McKeown/McGowan in Ireland.<sup>148</sup> From the records uncovered it seems likely that John Tohill married Rose McKeown some time after 1831.

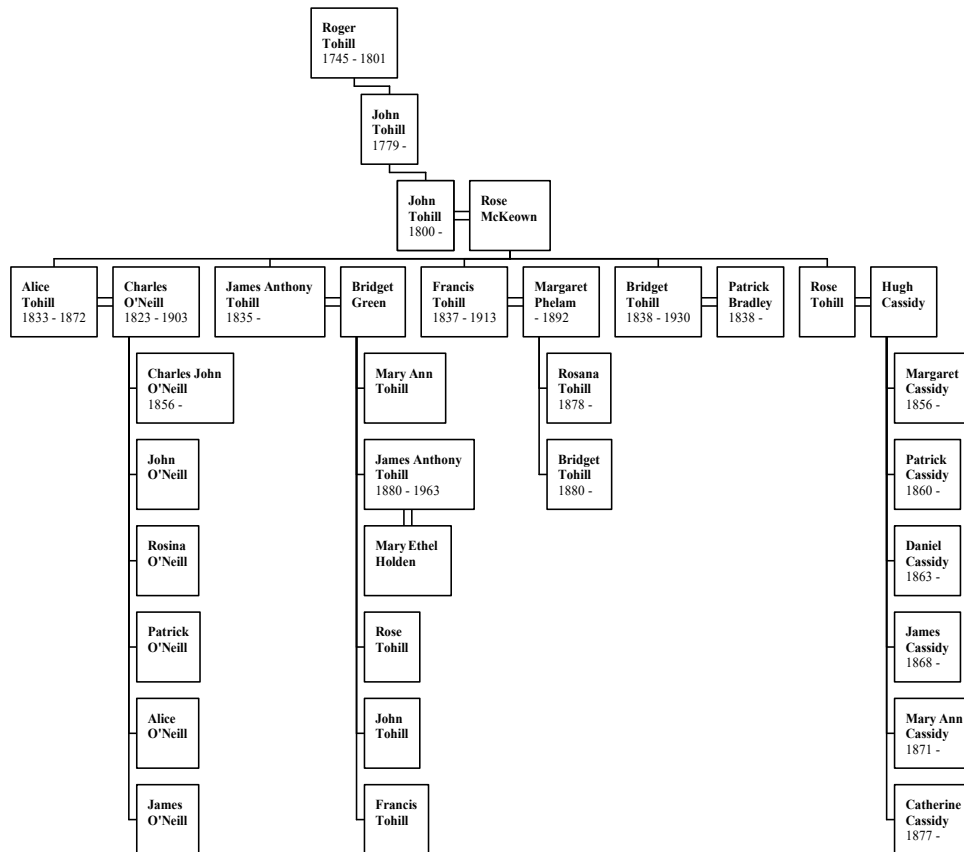
Portion of marriage certificate



<sup>147</sup> I also carried out additional research aimed at determining the 'stem origins' of the Tohill family in the period before and after the seventeenth century Ulster Plantation.

<sup>148</sup> There are many variants of the McKeown surname. It seems unlikely, that the Samuel McKeown, in the 1831 census for Ballymacpeake was a relation since he was Presbyterian and there is no family knowledge of a 'mixed marriage.' I suspect Rose came from a neighbouring townland.

*Hourglass Tree of John Tohill*



Above is the 'hourglass tree' of John Tohill junior descending from his father John Tohill senior and grandfather Roger Tohill. I suspect that it is John Tohill junior who we find in the Griffith's valuation in 1858 and who died sometime in the early 1860s before civil registration began.<sup>149</sup> This may explain why in 1866 the renewal of the perpetuity lease formerly held in the name of John Tohill was updated to include that of Anthony Tohill junior son of Anthony Tohill senior.<sup>150</sup>

Bellaghy lease renewal book:

<p>Name and age of the life to be inserted – Anthony Toghil son of Anthony Toghil of Ballymacpeake aged 17 years in room of John Toghil, deceased.</p> <p>Date when received: Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 1866</p>	<p>No 206 in Ledger: Ballymacpeake</p> <p>Yearly rent of £6, 16, 8½ :</p> <p>Renewal fine with interest - £3, 9, 1: Net fine on renewal £3, 5, 1.</p>
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The Griffiths' revisions show that John Tohill was replaced by Laurence [Larry] Tohill in May 1874 but these books were only periodically updated and are a rough estimate of occupation.

<sup>149</sup> Civil registration of deaths in Ireland began 1864. It is possible that John Tohill junior after 1864 and before 1866 but if he did no death appears to have been registered for the period in question.

<sup>150</sup> D1062/1/13 Record of renewals of leases Bellaghy Estate [1866].



There follows below a family report for John Tohill junior whom I have estimated was born c. 1800 given that he was the putative brother of Roger and Anthony. This is the line of James Anthony Tohill, the emigrant ancestor under study.

### ***Descendants of John Tohill junior***

#### *Generation No. 1*

1. JOHN<sup>3</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1800 in Ballymacpeake. He married ROSE MCKEOWN.

Children of JOHN TOHILL and ROSE MCKEOWN are:

2. i. ALICE<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1833, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 20 Jun 1872.
3. ii. JAMES ANTHONY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1835, Maghera, Co Derry.
4. iii. FRANCIS TOHILL, b. Abt. 1837, Maghera, Co Derry; d. 1913, New South Wales, Australia.
- iv. BRIDGET TOHILL, b. Abt. 1838, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 1930, New Zealand; m. PATRICK BRADLEY, 27 Jun 1860, St Patrick's, Kilmore, Victoria, Australia; b. Abt. 1838, Kilrea, Derry.

Notes for BRIDGET TOHILL:

Witness to marriage of Isabella Tohill [daughter of Daniel Tohill & Mary Convery] 1884 to John Collins in Dunedin, New Zealand.

5. v. ROSE TOHILL.

#### *Generation No. 2*

2. ALICE<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1833 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died 20 Jun 1872. She married CHARLES O'NEILL 27 Nov 1853 in Lavey RC church. He was born Abt. 1823, and died 22 Feb 1903 in Gornella East, Warenga, Victoria.

Children of ALICE TOHILL and CHARLES O'NEILL are:

- i. CHARLES JOHN<sup>5</sup> O'NEILL, b. 24 Feb 1856, Lavey parish.

Notes for CHARLES JOHN O'NEILL:

Charles John O'Neill baptised 24 Feb 1856 Lavey RC son of Charles O'Neill & Alice Tohill:  
Sponsors - Patrick O'Neill & Rose McKeown

- ii. JOHN O'NEILL.
- iii. ROSINA O'NEILL.
- iv. PATRICK O'NEILL.
- v. ALICE O'NEILL.
- vi. JAMES O'NEILL.

3. JAMES ANTHONY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1835 in Maghera, Co Derry. He married BRIDGET GREEN. She was born in County Clare.

Children of JAMES TOHILL and BRIDGET GREEN are:

- i. MARY ANN<sup>5</sup> TOHILL.
- ii. JAMES ANTHONY TOHILL, b. 17 Jan 1880, Elmore, Victoria, Australia; d. 27 Sep 1963, Alexandra, Otago, New Zealand; m. MARY ETHEL HOLDEN.
- iii. ROSE TOHILL.
- iv. JOHN TOHILL.
- v. FRANCIS TOHILL.

4. FRANCIS<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1837 in Maghera, Co Derry, and died 1913 in New South Wales, Australia. He married MARGARET PHELAM 15 Nov 1876 in Landhurst, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia. She died 1892 in Corowa.

Notes for FRANCIS TOHILL: 1876 marriage certificate aged 36

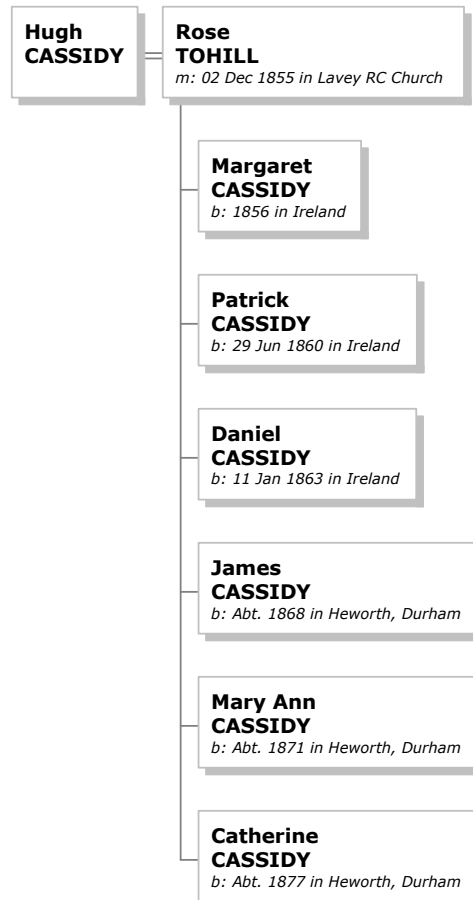
More About FRANCIS TOHILL:  
Occupation: 1876, Farmer

Children of FRANCIS TOHILL and MARGARET PHELAM are:  
i. ROSANA<sup>5</sup> TOHILL, b. 16 Mar 1878.  
ii. BRIDGET TOHILL, b. 1880.

5. ROSE<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) She married HUGH CASSIDY 02 Dec 1855 in Lavey RC Church<sup>1</sup>.

Children of ROSE TOHILL and HUGH CASSIDY are:  
i. MARGARET<sup>5</sup> CASSIDY, b. 1856, Ireland.  
ii. PATRICK CASSIDY<sup>2</sup>, b. 29 Jun 1860, Ireland.  
iii. DANIEL CASSIDY<sup>3</sup>, b. 11 Jan 1863, Ireland.  
iv. JAMES CASSIDY, b. Abt. 1868, Heworth, Durham.  
v. MARY ANN CASSIDY, b. Abt. 1871, Heworth, Durham.  
vi. CATHERINE CASSIDY, b. Abt. 1877, Heworth, Durham.

## Descendants of Hugh Cassidy



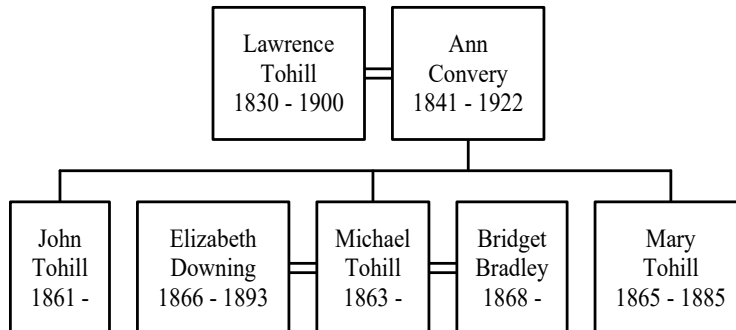
### Endnotes

1. MIC/1D/58 Lavey RC register, Page 217, Sponsors - Daniel Laggan & Margreta Convery.
2. MIC/1D/58 Lavey RC register, Baptisms page 40, Sponsors - John & Biddy McKenna.
3. MIC/1D/58 Lavey RC register, Baptisms page 50, Sponsors - John Lafferty & Catherine Tohill.

## LAWRENCE [LARRY] TOHILL – SON OF JOHN TOHILL JUNIOR?

I suspect but cannot prove that Lawrence Tohill who took over John Tohill's farm was a son who remained behind in Ireland. I have not added him to the family tree but have added his details below. Another possibility is that he was the son of Roger Tohill and therefore a nephew of John Tohill.

### *Descendants of Lawrence Tohill*



### *Descendants of Lawrence Tohill*

#### *Generation No. 1*

1. LAWRENCE<sup>1</sup> TOHILL was born Abt. 1831, and died 16 Feb 1900 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera. He married ANN CONVERY 20 Nov 1859 in Lavey RC church, daughter of JOHN CONVERY and ISABELLA TOHILL. She was born Abt. 1841 in Mayogall, and died 1922 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

#### Notes for LAWRENCE TOHILL:

Griffiths' revisions - took over John Tohill's farm in early 1860s, nos 21A & 21B. Was possibly a son of John [or possibly] Roger Tohill. He was definitely not a son of Anthony Tohill [as he was not listed as a son in the O.A.P census return headed by Anthony Tohill, which lists his entire family in the 1851 census].

Listed in 1876 Landowner's of Ireland page 265

Togill, Laurence Ballymacpeake, Bellaghy 10a, 1r, 20p at £7 valuation

1863 Son Michael Tohill baptised Lavey RC - sponsor Henry Tohill who emigrated to N.Z.

1881 ROD with James Courtenay

Died 16 Feb 1900 Ballymacpeake, married, farmer aged 70 years - age & debility 4 days no medical attendant - Mick Toghill present, Ballymacpeake

Michael Tohill took over farm upon his father's death.

Michael Cassidy was in occupation of the farm in 1929 [Griffith's revisions]

#### Notes for ANN CONVERY:

1901 census aged 57 Ballymacpeake

1911 census aged 70 Ballymacpeake [age difference due to pension claim?]

A Nancy Tohill died 20 May 1922 aged 78 [All Ireland death index]. I am assuming that this is Nancy Convery Tohill of Ballymacpeake.

Children of LAWRENCE TOHILL and ANN CONVERY are:

- i. JOHN<sup>2</sup> TOHILL, b. 04 Jan 1861.

Notes for JOHN TOHILL:

Lavey RC baptism

Jan 4 1861 John Tohill of Laurence Tohill & Ann Convery

Sp: Michael Cassidy & Margaret McGurk

- ii. MICHAEL TOHILL, b. 18 Jan 1863, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; m. (1) ELIZABETH DOWNING, 19 Nov 1891, Lavey RC church; b. 24 Aug 1866, Drumard, Co Derry; d. 1893; m. (2) BRIDGET BRADLEY, 18 Jun 1905, Lavey RC church; b. 27 Jun 1868, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:

Lavey RC baptisms

1863 Jan 18 Michael of Laurence Tohill & Nancy Convery

Sp: Henry Tohill & Rosana McKeown

1901 census Ballymacpeake

Tohill, Michael head 50 farmer

Tohill, Bridget wife 50 Married 5 years

Tohill, Nancy mother 70 widow

McCyrstal, John relative 3

Married 18 June 1906 Lavey

Michael Tohill and Bridget Bradley - they were second cousins [Bridget's mother Mary Tohill was first cousin once removed of Michael Tohill]

Notes for ELIZABETH DOWNING:

Elizabeth Toughill died July-Sept 1893 aged 23 [born c. 1870] Magerafelt registration district Volume 1 page 515

Notes for BRIDGET BRADLEY:

1911 census aged 50

- iii. MARY TOHILL, b. 13 Nov 1865, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 08 Feb 1885, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MARY TOHILL:

Died 8 Feb 1885 Ballymacpeake Upper Mary Tohill spinster aged 19 years daughter of a farmer of mania 14 days certified. Informant Nancy Tohill x her mark; mother present at death Ballymacpeake Upper

More About MARY TOHILL:

Cause of Death: Mania

Medical Information: Died 8 Feb 1885 Ballymacpeake Mary Tohill, spinster, aged 19 dau of a farmer - cause of death mania, 14 days certified - Informant Nancy Tohill, mother, present at death, Ballymacpeake Upper

## FAMILY OF ROGER TOHILL & MARGARET McERLANE OF BALLYMACPEAKE

Roderick or Roger [Roddy] Tohill married Margaret or Peggy McErlane probably some time before 1831 as in the 1831 census the family consisted of two males and two females suggesting that they may have had two children. It is probable that Peggy McErlane was from Ballymacombs since that is where Roger Tohill lived and farmed later in his life. A John McErlane is recorded in the Bellaghy rentals in Ballymacombs with a farm of 9a, 12p paying rent 1838-1882 and may have been a relation. <sup>151</sup>

### *Descendants of Roderick Tohill*

#### *Generation No. 1*

1. RODERICK<sup>3</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1799 in Ballymacpeake, and died 19 Jun 1864 in Ballymacombs, Bellaghy. He married MARGARET McERLANE. She was born Abt. 1809, and died Abt. 1875 in Ballymacombs.

Notes for RODERICK TOHILL:

Death of Roger Tohill

19 June 1864 aged 68 years, married, farmer, died from Bronchitis, resident Ballymacombs. Informant John Toghill son of deceased Ballymacombs [he emigrated 1884 died 1887 New Zealand].

1876 Landowners of Ireland page 266

Togill, Roderic, reps of - Ballymacpeake, Bellagh 9a, 2r, 10p at £5, 10 valuation

Notes for MARGARET McERLANE:

D1062/1/3 Bog rentals Bellaghy estate 1870s

1870-1872 - No 118 Marg't Toghill, Ballymacombs [Capt Henry & heirs]

1875-1875 - No 188 Peggy Toghill's reps

1876-1877 - No 118 John Toghill, Ballymacpeake

All Ireland death Index

Margaret Tohill

Magherafelt

1877 [aged 66]

Volume 1, page 722

Children of RODERICK TOHILL and MARGARET McERLANE are:

2.
  - i. HENRY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1836, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 31 Mar 1918, Alexandra, Otago, New Zealand.
  - ii. JOHN TOHILL, b. Abt. 1837; d. 01 Jun 1885, Alexandra, Otago, New Zealand.

Notes for JOHN TOHILL:

D1062/1/3 Bog rentals Bellaghy estate 1870s

1870-1872 - No 118 Marg't Toghill, Ballymacombs [Capt Henry & heirs]

1875-1875 - No 188 Peggy Toghill's reps

1876-1877 - No 118 John Toghill, Ballymacpeake

Griffith's valuation revisions

18 A, B & C Ballymacpeake [land only]

1859-1864 Roderick Touhill

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<sup>151</sup> D1062/1/2 [At an earlier date John and Henry McErlane held a farm in Ballynease of 12a, 2r, 34p from 1788 for 41 years]

1866-1874 Margaret Tuohill [1870]  
1875-1882 John Tuohill 1881 [new house 1877]  
1884-1893 Michael Touhill [1887]  
1901 census Bernard Mulholland [house 40]  
1908 18A, B + C merged  
1911-1921 Bernard Mulholland  
1955 Dan Mulholland owned the land of Roger Tohill [Tohill family history]

John Tohill emigrated to New Zealand in 1884 [died 1887]

More About JOHN TOHILL:  
Cause of Death: Enteric fever

3. iii. BRIDGET TOHILL, b. Abt. 1844; d. 16 Oct 1924, Caversham, Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand.  
iv. MARY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1848, Ballymacombs; d. 1935, New Zealand.  
v. DANIEL TOHILL, b. 23 Apr 1854; d. 27 Jun 1928, Clyde, Central Otago, New Zealand.

Notes for DANIEL TOHILL:  
Ballyscullion RC MIC1D/58

23 April 1854 Daniel son of Roger Tohill & Margaret McErlane  
Sponsors - Daniel Crilly & Rose Crilly

- vi. RODGER TOHILL, b. 14 Mar 1839; m. ROSY MURRAY.

Notes for RODGER TOHILL:  
Lavey RC baptisms MIC 1D/58

March 14 1839 Rodger child to Roger Tohill & Peggy McErlane  
Sponsors - Felix McChrystal & Cath Bradley

Marriages Lavey RC 1863/4  
Oct 8 - Roger Tohill & Rosy Murry  
Witnesses - William Murray & Catherine Tohill

Notes for ROSY MURRAY:  
Based on marriage of Roger Tohill to Rosy Murray Oct 8 1863/4 in Lavey RC church

- vii. MICHAEL TOHILL, b. Abt. 1840; d. 17 Nov 1917, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:  
ROD 1903  
Henry Tohill of Otago & Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake mortgage of farm in Ballymacpeake to Wm Geo Courtney formerly in possession of Henry Tohill & John Tohill or one of them.  
Mentions Margaret Tohill given power of Attorney on behalf of Henry Tohill in NZ.

1901 census Ballymacpeake  
Michael Tohill head, aged 55 farmer not married born Co Derry  
Margarit Tohill, sister, aged 50, farmer's sister not married born Co Derry.

1909 ROD  
Conveyance dated 1907 between Wm Geo Courtney, Michael Tohill, Ballymacpeake 2nd part & Bernard Mulholland 3rd part - conveyed to Bernard Mulholland farm 8a, 1r, 30p in possession of said Michael Tohill.

1911 census Ballymacpeake  
Annie Bradley head aged 33 single born Co Derry  
Michael Tohill, relative aged 75 retired farmer single born Co Derry

Death registered Magherafelt  
Michael Tohill 17 Nov 1917 Ballymacpeake Upper, bachelor aged 78 of heart failure, one week, not certified: Informant Michael Tohill [his mark], Ballymacpeake Upper, present at death.

- viii. MARGARET TOHILL, b. Abt. 1842.

Notes for MARGARET TOHILL:

1901 census Ballymacpeake

Michael Tohill head, aged 55 farmer not married born Co Derry

Margarit Tohill, sister, aged 50, farmer's sister not married born Co Derry.

ROD 1903

Henry Tohill of Otago & Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake mortgage of farm in Ballymacpeake to Wm Geo Courtney formerly in possession of Henry Tohill & John Tohill or one of them.

Mentions Margaret Tohill given power of Attorney on behalf of Henry Tohill in NZ.

*Generation No. 2*

2. HENRY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*RODERICK<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1836 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died 31 Mar 1918 in Alexandra, Otago, New Zealand. He married MARY ANN MCNALLY 24 Nov 1881 in Alexander, Otago, New Zealand. She was born Abt. 1860.

Children of HENRY TOHILL and MARY MCNALLY are:

- i. MARGARET ELIZABETH<sup>5</sup> TOHILL, b. 1883, New Zealand.
- ii. HENRY TOHILL, b. 1885, New Zealand.
- iii. JOHN TOHILL, b. 1891, New Zealand.
- iv. DANIEL MCERLAN TOHILL, b. 1892, New Zealand.
- v. HUGH AUGUSTINE TOHILL, b. 1892, New Zealand.
- vi. RODDY TOHILL, b. 1894, New Zealand.
- vii. MICHAEL SEPTIMUS TOHILL, b. 1897, New Zealand.
- viii. WILLIAM TOHILL, b. 1901, New Zealand.
- ix. ISOBELLE TOHILL, b. 1902, New Zealand; d. 1975, New Zealand.

3. MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*RODERICK<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1848 in Ballymacombs, and died 1935 in New Zealand. She married JAMES GARTLY 11 Jan 1887 in Cromwell, Otago, New Zealand.

Children of MARY TOHILL and JAMES GARTLY are:

- i. WILLIAM HENRY<sup>5</sup> GARTLY, b. 1881, New Zealand.
- ii. ROGER GARTLY, b. 1884, New Zealand.
- iii. JOHN EDWARD GARTLY, b. 1885, New Zealand.
- iv. JAMES GARTLY, b. 1887, New Zealand.
- v. GEORGE GARTLY, b. 1889, New Zealand.
- vi. THOMAS GARTLY, b. 1892, New Zealand.

Note: The Gartlys were from Aberdeen in Scotland. This locative surname is derived from the placename Gartly, which is a parish and a hamlet in Aberdeenshire:

William Gartly and Elizabeth Lamont of 'Gartly' had issue:

- William 8 October 1842
- Elizabeth 21 May 1844
- James 29 October 1846 [married Mary Tohill]
- Anne 20 July 1848
- Jannet 31 May 1850
- George 14 August 1853

## FAMILY OF ANTHONY TOHILL AND MARGARET [PEGGY] CONVERY

Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake married a neighbour Peggy Convery of Dreenan, daughter of Hugh Convery of the same place in 1831. It is from this family that Willie Anthony McPeake of Portglenone is descended. I have been able to trace an extensive family tree for Hugh Convery of Dreenan, which I have placed in the appendix. Hugh Convery's grandson was Bishop John Tohill. The Bishop's mother was Alice Convery [married John Tohill who was probably from Culnagrew, Maghera], sister of Peggy Tohill who married Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake.

### *Descendants of Anthony Tohill*

#### *Generation No. 1*

1. ANTHONY<sup>3</sup> TOHILL (*JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1802 in Ballymacpeake, and died 24 Apr 1886 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera. He married BRIDGET CONVERY 1831 in Maghera<sup>1</sup>. She was born Abt. 1811 in Dreenan, Maghera, and died 13 Nov 1883 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for BRIDGET CONVERY:

Lavey RC graveyard

TOUGHEL: Pray for the soul of Bridget Toughill who dep this life 13 Nov 1882 aged 72 years and of her husband Anthony Toughel who died 24 April 1886 aged 84 years

Children of ANTHONY TOHILL and BRIDGET CONVERY are:

- i. MICHAEL<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1832, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 1841, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:

OAP Pension claim of Michael Patrick Toughill on 13 Feb 1915 age given as 70 - not listed 1851 census:

Family found 1851 Ballymacpeake - added note - Michael died 1841 aged 9

- ii. HUGH TOHILL, b. Abt. 1842, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 10 Aug 1911, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; m. SUSANNA BIRT, 14 Feb 1901, Maghera Catholic chapel; b. Abt. 1859; d. 07 Aug 1933, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for HUGH TOHILL:

OAP claim 18/12/1910 of Hugh Tohill, age given as 70 - not listed on 1841 return, aged 10 on 51 return. Parents Anthony Tohill and Bridget, Co LD, parish Maghera, Tld Ballymacpeake Upper. Family found in 1841 & 1851.

Married 14 Feb 1901 Maghera RC Hugh Tohill full age Bachelor, farmer of Ballymacpeake son of Anthony Tohill deceased, farmer to Susann Birt, full age, spinster of Ballymacpeake, dau of John Birt, farmer:

Notes for SUSANNA BIRT:

1901 census listed in Ballymacpeake as Susan Toughill aged 34 with brothers Patrick Birt aged 40 & Thomas Birt aged 36

D1062/1/5 - Women tenants on Bellaghy Estate [25 names] 3 oct 1925

No 160 - Susan Tohill Ballymacpeake upper, widow

Land Act 1925 [ibid]

No 258 Susan Tohill, widow, Ballymacpeake

D1062/1/5

Bog rental Bellaghy estate, 1930

Susan Tohill, widow, Ballymacpeake 13a, 1 r, 8p



Death Certificate -

Susan Tohill, widow died 7 August 1933 aged 75, Ballymacpeake of influenza & heart failure, certified; Informant Bella McCloy, Ballymacpeake

WILL OF SUSAN TOHILL [described as spinster in her will schedule]  
Mary Ellen McCloy £5  
Mrs Bridget Tohill £8  
Margaret Collins - farm of land [Margaret resided with Susan]

iii. NANCY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1843, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for NANCY TOHILL:

OAP claim of Nancy Tohill made 12 March 1912 age given as 70 - not listed on 41 return age 8 on 51 return, Ballymacpeake - Parents Anthony Tohill and Bridget married 1831

Will of Anthony Tohill 1886 - daughter Nancy to be left £35 or Roddy's house and 1 acre

1901 census aged 45  
1911 census [with brother Hugh] age 69

Possible death - 16 Nov 1927 - Nancy Tohill spinster, aged 66, Domestic of Ballymacpeake: Bella McCloy informant, Ballymacpeake

[Index has another Nancy Tohill died 20-05-1922 aged 78]

2. iv. ANTHONY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1848, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. Aft. 1918.  
v. MICHAEL PATRICK TOHILL, b. 04 Mar 1852, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 12 Mar 1929, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL PATRICK TOHILL:

OAP Pension claim of Michael Patrick Toughill on 13 Feb 1915 age given as 70 - not listed 1851 census:

Family found 1851 Ballymacpeake - added note - Michael died 1841 aged 9  
Parents Anthony Toughill and Bidy married 1831

MIC1D/58/1 Lavey RC Baptism  
Page 4 March 4 1852  
Michael Paricius Tohill, Antonii [Tohill] et Brydie Convery  
Sponsors - Johanee McCloy et Elizabeth Clarke

1901 census Ballymacpeake  
Anthony Toughill head, 46 farmer not married born county Derry  
Hugh Toughill brother, 50 farmer's brother married  
Nancy Toughill sister, 45 farmer's sister not married  
Patrick Toughill brother, 40 farmer's brother, not married; deaf & dumb

1911 census Ballymacpeake  
Anthony Tohill head, 65 farmer, married 8 years, 1 child alive  
Sarah Anne Tohill, wife, 44, married  
Michael Patrick Tohill, brother, 63 single; deaf & dumb  
Mary Ellen Tohill daughter, 6, scholar

Death registered Magherafelt  
12 March 1929 Michael Patrick Tohill, Ballymacpeake, bachelor, farmer aged 76 of influenza 5 weeks no medical attendant: Informant Mary E Tohill Ballymacpeake, present at death.

3. vi. ELIZA TOHILL, b. Abt. 1849, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 1905.  
4. vii. MARY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1840, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. Bef. 1901, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.  
viii. CATHERINE TOHILL, b. Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for CATHERINE TOHILL:

Mentioned in will of her father Anthony Tohill 1886 and left £1 [mention that she already got her portion, suggesting she had received a dowry upon marriage?]

Possible marriage  
18 Jan 1857 James Scullion to Catherine Tohill Lavey RC  
Had children baptised in Lavey RC resident in Drummuck

*Generation No. 2*

2. ANTHONY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*ANTHONY<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1848 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died Aft. 1918. He married SARAH ANN BOYLAN 18 Jan 1903 in Lavey RC church. She was born Abt. 1863, and died 12 Jun 1938 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for ANTHONY TOHILL:

OAP claim made 16 Feb 1918 Anthony Tohill, age given as 70 - found on 51 return  
Ballymacpeake aged 3: Parents Anthony Tohill & Biddy married 1831

Married Lavey RC 18 Jan 1903

Anthony Toughill full age bachelor, farmer of Ballymacpeake son of Michael Toughill deceased to Sarah Ann Boylan spinster full age of Ballymacpeake dau of Michael Boyland deceased

I think there is a mistake here as all other sources indicate that this is Anthony Tohill junior son of Anthony Tohill senior [see later notes page]

Notes for SARAH ANN BOYLAN:

1911 census aged 44

12 June 1938 Sara Ann Tohill Ballymacpeake, aged 65 housewife & widow died of Influenza/Heart certified - Mary E Tohill present at death Ballymacpeake.

Child of ANTHONY TOHILL and SARAH BOYLAN is:

5. i. MARY ELLEN<sup>5</sup> TOHILL, b. 1904; d. 21 Oct 1961.

3. ELIZA<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*ANTHONY<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1849 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died 1905. She married HUGH DONNELLY 23 Nov 1882 in Maghera Catholic chapel.

Notes for ELIZA TOHILL:

Mentioned in will of her father Anthony Tohill and left £10 [mention that she already got £20 perhaps upon her marriage?]

Married 23 Nov 1882 Maghera RC Hugh Donnelly full age, bachelor & farmer of Drumard son of Edward Donnelly deceased to Elizabeth Toughill, full age of ballymacpeake dau of Anthony Toughill farmer

An Elizabeth Donnelly registered Magherafelt district death OCT-DEC 1905 aged 56 Volume 1, 516

Notes for HUGH DONNELLY:

Lavey G1

Hugh Donnelly died 1931

Elizabeth Donnelly died 1905

Children of ELIZA TOHILL and HUGH DONNELLY are:

i. BRIDGET<sup>5</sup> DONNELLY, b. Abt. 1883.

Notes for BRIDGET DONNELLY:  
1901 census aged 18 Drumard

ii. ROSE ANN DONNELLY, b. Abt. 1889.

Notes for ROSE ANN DONNELLY:  
1901 census aged 12 Drumard

4. MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*ANTHONY<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1840 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died Bef. 1901 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera. She married CHARLES BRADLEY 20 Nov 1860 in Lavey RC church. He was born Abt. 1840, and died 09 Feb 1911 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MARY TOHILL:

Mentioned in will of her father Anthony Tohill and left £1 [mention that she already got her portion] suggesting she had received a dowry upon marriage?

Married 20 Nov 1860 Lavey RC  
Charles Bradley & Mary Tohill

Children of MARY TOHILL and CHARLES BRADLEY are:

- i. MARY JANE<sup>5</sup> BRADLEY, b. 18 Dec 1863, Brackagh.
- ii. JAMES BRADLEY, b. 25 Jan 1866.
- iii. BRIDGET BRADLEY, b. 27 Jun 1868, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; m. MICHAEL TOHILL, 18 Jun 1905, Lavey RC church; b. 18 Jan 1863, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for BRIDGET BRADLEY:  
1911 census aged 50

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:  
Lavey RC baptisms  
1863 Jan 18 Michael of Laurence Tohill & Nancy Convery  
Sp: Henry Tohill & Rosana McKeown

1901 census Ballymacpeake  
Tohill, Michael head 50 farmer  
Tohill, Bridget wife 50 Married 5 years  
Tohill, Nancy mother 70 widow  
McCyrstal, John relative 3

Married 18 June 1906 Lavey  
Michael Tohill and Bridget Bradley - they were second cousins [Bridget's mother Mary Tohill was first cousin once removed of Michael Tohill].

- iv. ANNE BRADLEY, b. 18 Apr 1871, Brackhugh.
- v. ANTHONY BRADLEY, b. 10 Apr 1873, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.
- vi. ELIZABETH BRADLEY, b. 16 May 1876, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.
- vii. CHARLES BRADLEY, b. 20 Feb 1878, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

6. viii. CATHERINE BRADLEY.

### *Generation No. 3*

5. MARY ELLEN<sup>5</sup> TOHILL (*ANTHONY<sup>4</sup>, ANTHONY<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1904, and died 21 Oct 1961. She married JOHN MCPeAKE. He died 17 Mar 1977.

Notes for MARY ELLEN TOHILL:

All Ireland birth Index  
Mary Ellen Toughill July-Sept 1904 Magherafelt Volume 1 page 708

Notes for JOHN MCPeAKE:  
Headstone Greenlough

McPeake  
In Loving memory of  
John McPeake died 17th March 1977  
Mamie McPeake died 19 March 1943  
Mary Ellen McPeake died 21st October 1961  
Also triplet girls who died in infancy

Children of MARY TOHILL and JOHN MCPEAKE are:

- i. WILLIAM ANTHONY<sup>6</sup> MCPEAKE, b. 1945.
- ii. MAMIE MCPEAKE, d. 19 Mar 1943.

6. CATHERINE<sup>5</sup> BRADLEY (*MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, ANTHONY<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, ROGER<sup>1</sup>*) She married GEORGE MULHOLLAND 17 Jun 1890 in Lavey RC church. He was born in Ballymacombs Beg.

Children of CATHERINE BRADLEY and GEORGE MULHOLLAND are:

- i. MARY ANN<sup>6</sup> MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1891.
- ii. SARAH JANE MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1893.
- iii. BRIDGET MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1896.
- iv. CASSIE MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1898.
- v. ELIZA MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1900.
- vi. MAGGIE MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1905.

Notes for MAGGIE MULHOLLAND:

1911 census - with Annie Bradley her aunt in Ballymacpeake aged 5

#### *Endnotes*

1. Old Age pension return.

### THE FAMILY LEFT IN IRELAND

It has been noted before that the Tohill family died out in Ballymacpeake in the male line but the family thrived in far distant shores. Those who remained in Ireland were far outnumbered by their cousins in New Zealand. The census returns of 1901 and 1911 give us a fresh insight as to who remained back in Ireland. Some of the New Zealand family visited the homeland in the 1950s and the fascinating findings are recorded in Hugh Tohill's book.

#### 1901 Census Ballymacpeake

##### 1901 census Ballymacpeake [41]

Christian Name	Surname	Age	Sex	Religion	Education	Profession, Occupation, or Trade	Marital Status	Place of Birth	County	Remarks
1	Anthony	Toughill	46	M	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	Farmer	nm	Derry	
2	Hugh	Toughill	50	M	Roman Catholic	Read Only	Farmer's brother	nm	Derry	
3	Nancy	Toughill	45	F	Roman Catholic	Read Only	Farmer's sister	nm	Derry	
4	Patrick	Toughill	40	M	Roman Catholic	Cannot Read	Farmer's brother	nm	Derry	Deaf & Dumb

##### 1901 census Ballymacpeake [44]

Christian Name	Surname	Age	Sex	Religion	Education	Profession, Occupation, or Trade	Marital Status	Place of Birth	County	Remarks
1	Michael	Tohill	55	M	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	Farmer	nm	Derry	
2	Hugh	Tohill	50	M	Roman Catholic	Read Only	Farmer's sister	nm	Derry	

##### 1901 census Ballymacpeake [45]

Christian Name	Surname	Age	Sex	Religion	Education	Profession, Occupation, or Trade	Marital Status	Place of Birth	County	Remarks
1	Nancy	Tohill	57	F	Roman Catholic	Not Read	Farmer	Wid	Derry	
2	Mike	Toughill	30	M	Roman Catholic	Read Only	Farmer's son	nm	Derry	

##### 1901 census Ballymacpeake [65]

Christian Name	Surname	Age	Sex	Religion	Education	Profession, Occupation, or Trade	Marital Status	Place of Birth	County	Remarks
1	Patrick	Birt	40	M	R Catholic	Read & Write	Farmer	nm	Derry	
2	Thomas	Birt	36	M	R Catholic	Read & Write	Farmer's brother	nm	Derry	
3	Susan	Toughill	34	F	R Catholic	Read & Write	Farmer's sister	md	Derry	
4	Sarah Jane	Hamill	14	F	R Catholic	Read & Write	domestic servant	nm	Derry	

### 1911 census Ballymacpeake

#### 1911 census Ballymacpeake [17]

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
Christian Name.	Surname.	Head of family.	Religion.	Can read & write.	Of Males.	Of Females.	the other side.	under 16.	born alive.	still living.			this column.
1	Michael	Tohill	Head of family	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	50	Farmer	md					
2	Bridget	Tohill	Wife	Roman Catholic	Read & write	50		md					
3	Nancy	Tohill	Mother	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	70		Wid					
4	John	McCrystal	Relative	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	3		nm					

Michael Tohill	Head	Cannot read	50	Farmer	md	Derry	Md 5 years
Bridget Tohill	Wife	R & W	50		md	Derry	No children
Nancy Tohill	Mother	Read Only	70		Wid	Derry	
John McCrystal	Relative	Cannot read	03		nm	Derry	

#### 1911 census Ballymacpeake [32]

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
Christian Name.	Surname.	Head of family.	Religion.	Can read & write.	Of Males.	Of Females.	the other side.	under 16.	born alive.	still living.			this column.
1	Annie	Bradley	Head of family	Roman Catholic	Read & write	33		nm					
2	Michael	Tohill	Relative	Roman Catholic	Read & write	75	Retired farmer	nm					
3	Maggie	Mullholland	Niece	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	5		nm					

Annie Bradley	Head	R & W	35		nm	Derry	
Michael Tohill	Relative	R & W	75	Retired farmer	nm	Derry	
Maggie Mullholland	Niece	Cannot read	05		nm	Derry	

#### 1911 census Ballymacpeake [37]

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
Christian Name.	Surname.	Head of family.	Religion.	Can read & write.	Of Males.	Of Females.	the other side.	under 16.	born alive.	still living.				this column.
1	Anthony	Tohill	Head of family	Roman Catholic	Read & write	65	Farmer	md						
2	Sarah Ann	Tohill	Wife	Roman Catholic	Read & write	44		nm						
3	Michael Patrick	Tohill	Brother	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	63	Labourer	nm						
4	Mary Ellen	Tohill	Dau	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	06	Scholar	nm						

Anthony Tohill	Head	R & W	65	Farmer	md	Derry	Md 8 yrs
Sarah Ann Tohill	Wife	R & W	44		nm	Derry	1 child living
Mich'l Pat'k Tohill	Brother	Cannot read	63	Labourer	nm	Derry	Deaf & Dumb
Mary Ellen Tohill	Dau	Cannot read	06	Scholar	nm	Derry	

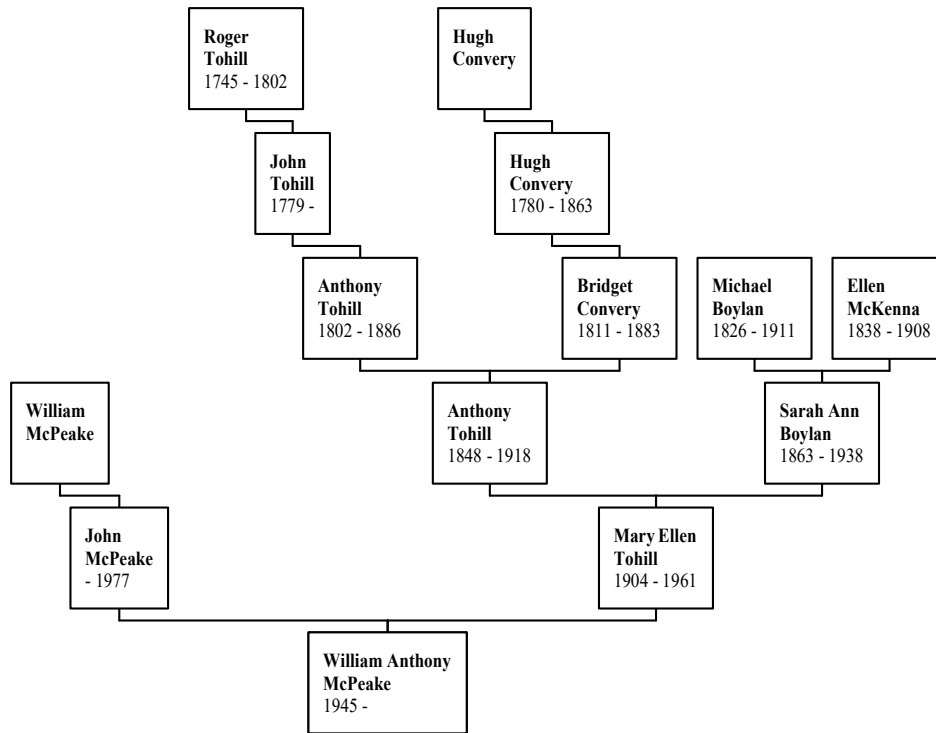
#### 1911 census Ballymacpeake [51]

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
Christian Name.	Surname.	Head of family.	Religion.	Can read & write.	Of Males.	Of Females.	the other side.	under 16.	born alive.	still living.			this column.
1	Hugh	Tohill	Head of family	Roman Catholic	Cannot read	70	Farmer	md					
2	Susan	Tohill	Wife	Roman Catholic	Read & write	60		md					
3	Nancy	Tohill	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read	69		nm					

Hugh Tohill	Head	Cannot read	70	Farmer	md	Derry	Md 10 yrs
Susan Tohill	Wife	Read Only	60		md	Derry	No children
Nancy Tohill	Sister	Read Only	69		nm	Derry	

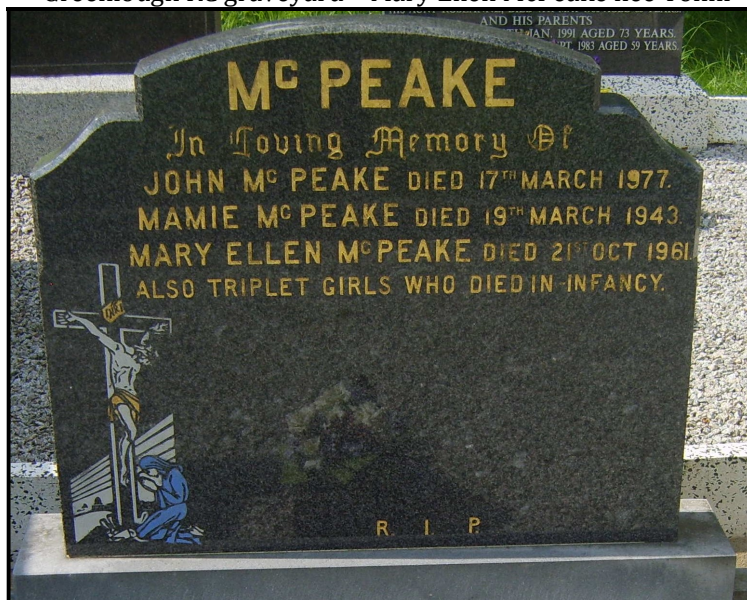
The last of the Ballymacpeake Tohills as far as I am aware was Mary Ellen McPeake who died in 1961. Her son Willie Anthony McPeake lives in Portglenone, County Antrim.

### *Ancestors of William Anthony McPeake*



Willie Anthony McPeake of Portglenone is the grandson of Anthony Tohill by his wife Sarah Ann Boylan. His mother was one of the last of the Tohills of Ballymacpeake.

Greenlough RC graveyard – Mary Ellen McPeake nee Tohill



Here is Willie Anthony's mother Mary Ellen Tohill in the 1911 census aged 6 years.

1911 census Ballymacpeake [37]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Anthony	Tohill	Head	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	65		Farmer	Married				County Derry	
2	Sarah Ann	Tohill	Wife	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	44			Married	8	1	1	County Derry	
3	Michael Patrick	Tohill	Brother	Roman Catholic	Cannot Read	63		Labourer	Single				County Derry	Deaf & Dumb
4	Mary Ellen	Tohill	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Cannot Read	6		Scholar	Single				County Derry	

Anthony Tohill	Head	R & W	65	Farmer	md	Derry	Md 8 yrs
Sarah Ann Tohill	Wife	R & W	44		nm	Derry	1 child living
Mich'l Pat'k Tohill	Brother	Cannot read	63	Labourer	nm	Derry	Deaf & Dumb
Mary Ellen Tohill	Dau	Cannot read	06	Scholar	nm	Derry	

In the household on census night was Anthony's brother Michael Patrick Tohill who was deaf and dumb. He was also known as Patrick and we can see this in the 1901 census below.

1901 census Ballymacpeake [41]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Anthony	Toughill	H <sup>d</sup> of Fam	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	46		Farmer	Not Married				County Derry	
2	Hugh	Toughill	Brother	Roman Catholic	Read Only	50		Farmer's brother	Not Married				County Derry	
3	Nancy	Toughill	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read Only	45		Farmer's sister	Not Married				County Derry	
4	Patrick	Toughill	Brother	Roman Catholic	Cannot Read	40		Farmer's brother	Not Married				County Derry	Deaf & Dumb

Anthony Toughill	Head	R & W	46	Farmer	nm	Derry	
Hugh Toughill	Brother	Read Only	50	Farmer's brother	nm	Derry	
Nancy Toughill	Sister	Read Only	45	Farmer's sister	nm	Derry	
Patrick Toughill	Brother	Cannot read	40	Farmer's brother	nm	Derry	Deaf & Dumb

In 1901 Anthony Tohill was listed as a famer not yet married to Sarah Ann Boylan. Another brother Hugh is listed as unmarried [he would marry Susan Birt].

From the census data we know Anthony Tohill had brothers Hugh, Michael Patrick [deaf and dumb] and a sister Nancy.

All of the aforementioned siblings [Hugh, Nancy, Michael Patrick and Anthony] made pension claims after 1911 each stating that they were the children of Anthony and Bridget/Biddy Tohill of Ballymacpeake.

This is confirmed and corroborated by a baptismal entry in Lavey RC Church that confirms that indeed Michael Patrick Tohill was the youngest son of Anthony Tohill by his wife Bridget or Biddy Convery:

March 4 1852 [page 4]

**Michael Patricius Tohil** of Antonii et Brydie Convery

Sp: Johanne McCloy et Elizabetha Clarke

Below is a copy of the pension claim of Michael Patrick Tohill made in 1920, which I discovered in the National Archives in Dublin. It is a fabulous document. A search was made of the 1851 census on behalf of Michael Patrick Tohill and the family was found in Ballymacpeake Upper. The enumerator was kind enough to list the entire family from the 1851 returns [which were destroyed in the explosion of 1922].

Catherine aged 16

Hugh aged 10

Nancy aged 8

Eliza aged 5



Anthony aged 3  
 Mary aged 14  
 Michael aged 9 - he died in 1841

Michael Patrick Tohill was not found in the 1851 census and the reason we can see from his baptismal entry in Lavey RC records is that he was born in 1852. The OAP claim form also noted from the 1851 census that the parents Anthony Tohill and Bridget were married in 1831.

OAP CLAIM FORM OF MICHAEL PATRICK TOHILL, 1920

Application No. *120. 10336.*

Date of Receipt, *20. 11. 20.* Disposed of,

**EXTRACT FROM CENSUS RETURN OF 1851.**

Full Name of Applicant, *Michael Patrick Tohill or Tohill*

Address, *Mr. Jos Davison, Bellaghy Manufacturing Co., Bellaghy, Co. Londonderry.*

Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, *Anthony & Bridget Tohill.*

Name of Head of Family (if other than Father) with which Applicant resided in 1851.

Relationship and Occupation,

Residence in 1851:

County, <i>L'derry</i>	<i>Dist. (not                  as to Michl's death)                  2/2 set                  174 497312                  220                  24/11/20                  acd</i>
Barony, <i>Loughinisland</i>	
Parish, <i>Maghera</i>	
Townland, <i>Ballymacpeake Up.</i>	
Street (if in a town),	

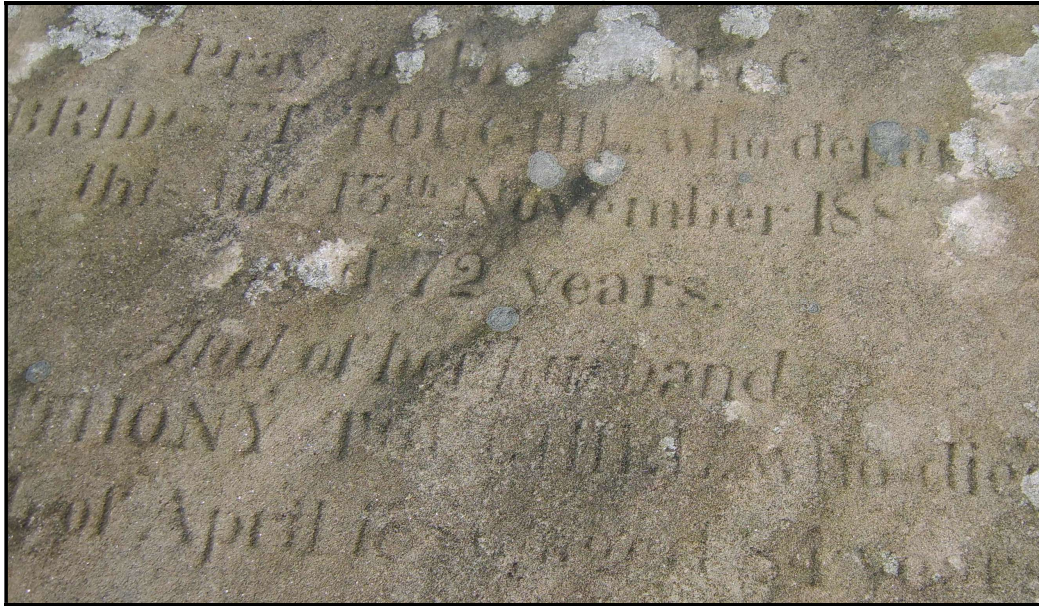
*Cath 16  
 Hugh 10  
 Nancy 8  
 Eliza 5  
 Anthony 3  
 Mary 14  
 Michl 9 died 1841*

Place in Record Treasury, *L 25  
 10 of 14*

Return searched by *Full 28/11/20 Anthy & Betty Tohill m4  
 in return of Michael Patrick*

Extract made by *Shut 11*

Headstone Lavey graveyard – faded Bridget Tohill and Anthony Tohill



Anthony Tohill above died 1883 and left a will naming all of his surviving children. He names the sons in order: **'my eldest son' Hugh; 'my second son' Anthony and 'my youngest son' Michael Patrick.**

**He names his daughters as 'Nancy, Eliza, Mary and Catherine.'**

This gives us an exact match to the pension claim form for Michael Patrick Tohill so we are dealing with one homogeneous family of blood relatives. There is no doubt that Anthony Tohill who married Sarah Ann Boylan was the brother of Hugh and Michael Patrick Tohill.

Mary Tohill married Charles Bradley 20 Nov 1860 Maghera RC [no father given as before civil registration]

Eliza Tohill married Hugh Donnelly 23 Nov 1882 Maghera RC [daughter of Anthony Tohill]

Hugh Tohill married Susan Birt 14 February 1901 Maghera RC [son of Anthony Tohill deceased]

Anthony Tohill married Sarah Ann Boylan 18 January 1903 Lavey RC [son of Michael Tohill deceased]

Given the information uncovered above there seems to be no doubt that the priest made an administrative error in the marriage entry for Anthony Tohill in 1903. One notes that Sarah Ann was the daughter of a Michael Boylan so it is possible this was the reason for the confusion:

Married Lavey RC 18 Jan 1903

Anthony Toughill full age bachelor, farmer of Ballymacpeake son of Michael Toughill deceased to Sarah Ann Boylan spinster full age of Ballymacpeake dau of Michael Boylan deceased

Nevertheless, the marriage certificate is a legal document. On 16 February 1918 Anthony Tohill made a pension claim through the Maghera office as follows:

Claimant: Anthony TOHILL, found on '51 rtn age 3  
Parents: Anthony TOHILL and Bidy, married 1831  
Family found on '51 rtn at BallyMacpeake Uppr (sheet 11)

This information confirms that Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake was the son of Anthony Tohill senior by his wife Bridget or Bidy Tohill. Bridget Convery was from the Dreenan family and her sister Alice was the mother of Bishop John Tohill.<sup>152</sup> Anthony Tohill [Mary Ellen's father] was a first full cousin of the Bishop on his maternal Convery side. During his times as Bishop of Down and Connor [1908-1914] he came by invitation to Lavey on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1911 and confirmed 86 boys and 83 girls. There had been no confirmations in Lavey for five years owing to the ill health of the Bishop of Derry. Mary Ellen Tohill who was then seven years old attended that confirmation with her father Anthony Tohill.<sup>153</sup>

Patrick G Tuohey is the third cousin once removed of Willie Anthony McPeake of Portglenone [Civil IX Canon 5]. The post famine diaspora was painful for many Irish families, especially for those who had emigrated to the Americas or Australasia, and it was incredibly difficult for families to stay in touch. Indeed very few Irish emigrants to America, Canada, Australia or New Zealand ever returned to their homeland. Such was the pain of departure it was referred to as the 'emigrant wake' and the 'feast of departure'. The 'wake' started in the evening before the emigrant was to depart and lasted until the early hours of the next morning. The lament of the Irish emigrant was reflected in both poem and song.

*'Look not for me at eventide,  
I cannot come when work is done,  
I go to wander far and wide,  
For tis not here that gold is won.'*<sup>154</sup>

The advent of modern means of social communication has facilitated a new dialogue that allows the descendants of the diaspora to re-engage with the place and community of their forebears, which has created a new dynamic for interaction and pursuit of family links down through the generations. Thus, Patrick G Tuohey and Willie Anthony Tohill were able to meet in Ballymacpeake Upper on 27 February 2012 some 154 years after Patrick's great grandfather James Anthony Tohill left the shores of Ireland bound for Australia on the Queen of the East in 1858. The family had come full circle. Below is the family tree of Patrick's maternal grandmother Mary Ann Tohill. I am pleased to report that Patrick is the great, great, great, great grandson of Roger Tohill, the original progenitor of the Ballymacpeake Tohills.

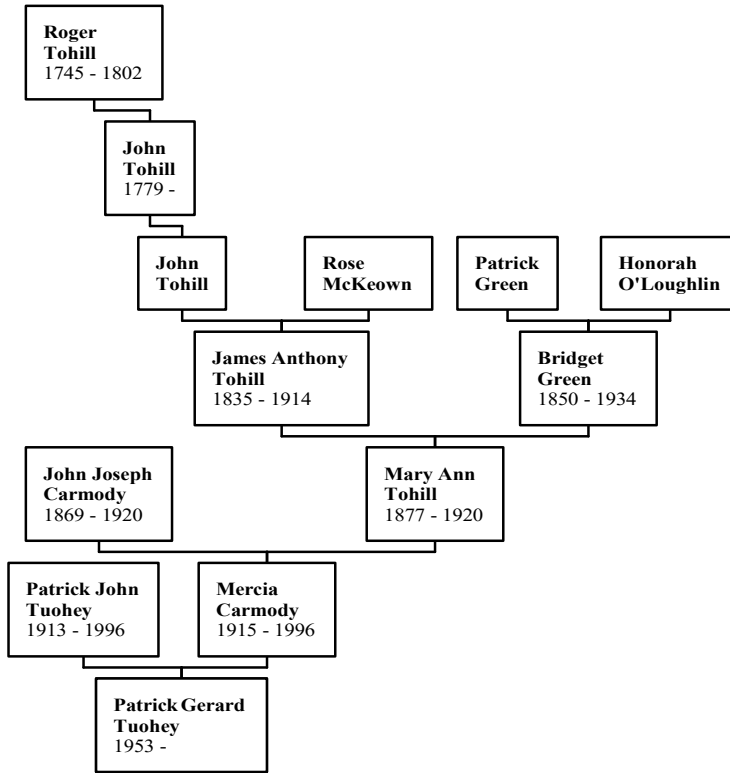
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<sup>152</sup> See 'Hugh Convery of Dreenan' family report for detailed study of the Converys of Dreenan.

<sup>153</sup> Information from Willie Anthony McPeake of Portglenone first cousin twice removed of Bishop John Tohill.

<sup>154</sup> 'The Irish Emigrant, 1880': By John Douglas Sutherland Campbell.

*Ancestors of Patrick Gerard Tuohey*



## **Appendices:**

### **APPENDIX One: Family report of Hugh Convery, senior of Dreenan**

There was a very strong connection between the Tohills of Ballymacpeake and the Converys of Dreenan. I spent many hours trying to sort out the connection between the families and was helped enormously by the fact that Hugh Convery, junior of Dreenan left a will in 1863.

### **APPENDIX Two: Family report of John Convery Mayogall**

Both Drummuck and Ballymacpeake Tohills married into the family of John Convery of Dreenan and several descendants emigrated to New Zealand.

### **APPENDIX Three: Drummuck Tohills**

Some of the Tohills of Drummuck emigrated to New Zealand. This includes Patrick Tohill of the Hawera family.

### **APPENDIX Four: Tohill family wills**

This appendix contains full transcripts of all of the wills uncovered for the Tohill family in the PRONI archives. I have also included the will of Charles Bradley as his wife was Mary Tohill of Ballymacpeake.

### **APPENDIX Five: Tohill abstracts from the Registry of Deeds**

Extensive research of the Registry of Deeds both in PRONI and in the Registry of Deeds in Dublin provided a wonderful insight into the family in Ballymacpeake during the nineteenth century.

### **APPENDIX Six: Church register search Tohill surname**

A search was made of five Church registers for Tohill baptisms, marriages and burials. The parishes included Ballyscullion [Bellaghy], Greenlough, Lavey, Maghera & Killylough and Kilrea.

## APPENDIX ONE – FAMILY REPORT OF HUGH CONVERY OF DREENAN

### *Descendants of Hugh Convery*

#### *Generation No. 1*

##### 1. HUGH<sup>1</sup> CONVERY

###### Notes for HUGH CONVERY:

Listed in Dreenan in 1793 rental so I have assumed he is the father of Hugh & Patrick Convery whom we find in the 1831 census.

D1062/1/1 Bellaghy Estate rental book [with leases]

Page 307

Hugh Convery for a part of Dreenan containing 38a, 0r, 30p from Nov 1788 for 41 years & lives of George Davison, Arthur Dawson & John Downing.

Rent £21-16-0 paid from years 1838-1883

###### Children of HUGH CONVERY are:

2. i. HUGH<sup>2</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1780, Dreenan; d. 14 Mar 1863, Dreenan, Maghera.
3. ii. PATRICK CONVERY, b. Abt. 1783, Dreenan; d. Dreenan.

#### *Generation No. 2*

2. HUGH<sup>2</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1780 in Dreenan, and died 14 Mar 1863 in Dreenan, Maghera.

###### Notes for HUGH CONVERY:

1831 census [beside each other - they were brothers]

Patrick Convery 3 male/5 female 8 RC

Hugh Convery 2 male/4female 1female servant 7 RC

Letters of Administration (with the Will annexed) of the personal estate of Hugh Convery late of Dreenan in the County of Londonderry Farmer deceased who died 14 March 1863 at same place were granted at Londonderry to Patrick Convery of Dreenan aforesaid Farmer the Residuary Legatee.

19 July 1864 Effects: Under £200

In his will of 1861 he names 6 daughters - Belly[Betty?] Henry, Peggy Henry, Bridget Tohill, Catherine McKeaver [McKeefry], Alice Tohill and Mary Mulholland. One son named - Patrick Convery [a.k.a Banker 'Pat'].

Names Patrick's 3 sons [his grandsons] as Michael Patrick, Henry Hugh, Charles and granddaughter - Mary Ellen.

###### Children of HUGH CONVERY are:

4. i. BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1811, Dreenan, Maghera; d. 13 Nov 1883, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.
5. ii. PATRICK CONVERY, b. Abt. 1819, Dreenan; d. 21 Apr 1874.
6. iii. BETTY CONVERY, b. Abt. 1805.
7. iv. MARGARET CONVERY, b. Abt. 1803.
8. v. ALICE CONVERY, b. Abt. 1820, Dreenan; d. 14 Jan 1881, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.
- vi. MARY CONVERY, m. HENRY MULHOLLAND.

###### Notes for MARY CONVERY:

Possibly Mary Convery's husband?

Letters of Administration of the Personal estate of Henry Mulholland late of Dreenan in the County of Londonderry Farmer deceased who died 2 January 1859 at same place were

granted 16 September 1859 at Londonderry to Mary Mulholland of Dreenan aforesaid the Widow of said deceased.  
Effects under £300

Notes for HENRY MULHOLLAND:  
1858 Griffiths valuation  
Henry Mulholland Dreenan  
59Aa from Sir Robt Bateson, Bart 31a, 3r, 30p  
[Also John & Thaddeus Mulholland inc in above]

9. vii. CATHERINE CONVERY, b. Abt. 1823; d. 21 Sep 1889.

3. PATRICK<sup>2</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1783 in Dreenan, and died in Dreenan. He married SUSAN.

Notes for PATRICK CONVERY:  
1828 Tithes Dreenan  
Patrick Convery [the only Convery]

1831 census Dreenan [beside each other - they were brothers]  
Patrick Convery 3 male/5 female 8 RC  
Hugh Convery 2 male/4female 1 female servant 7 RC

Lavey RC headstone  
CONVERY [Sandstone headstone]  
IHS: Erected by Patrick Convery in memory of his father  
Paddy Convery who died 3 August 1839 aged 56 years.  
Also his mother Shusan Convery who died Feb the 6th  
1861 aged 70 years.

Children of PATRICK CONVERY and SUSAN are:

- i. JOHN<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1818, Dreenan; d. 10 Aug 1898.  
10. ii. PATRICK CONVERY, b. Abt. 1824, Dreenan; d. 09 May 1905, Dreenan.  
iii. PEGGIE CONVERY, m. JOHN O'NEILL, 17 Jun 1856, Lavey RC church.

#### *Generation No. 3*

4. BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH*<sup>2</sup>, *HUGH*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1811 in Dreenan, Maghera, and died 13 Nov 1883 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera. She married ANTHONY TOHILL 1831 in Maghera<sup>1</sup>, son of JOHN TOHILL. He was born Abt. 1802, and died 24 Apr 1886 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for BRIDGET CONVERY:  
Lavey RC graveyard  
TOUGHEL: Pray for the soul of Bridget Toughill who dep this life 13 Nov 1882 aged 72 years and of her husband Anthony Toughel who died 24 April 1886 aged 84 years

Registered death: ANTHONY TOHILL:  
Name: Anthony Toughill  
Registration district: Magherafelt  
Event type: DEATH  
Registration quarter and year: Apr - Jun 1886  
Estimated birth year: 1802  
Age (at death): 84  
Volume number: 1 page 569

Children of BRIDGET CONVERY and ANTHONY TOHILL are:

- i. MICHAEL<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1832, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 1841, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:

OAP Pension claim of Michael Patrick Toughill on 13 Feb 1915 age given as 70 - not listed 1851 census:

Family found 1851 Ballymacpeake - added note - Michael died 1841 aged 9 [note: this was an older brother of the claimant who died in 1841].

- ii. HUGH TOHILL, b. Abt. 1842, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 10 Aug 1911, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; m. SUSANNA BIRT, 14 Feb 1901, Maghera Catholic chapel; b. Abt. 1859; d. 07 Aug 1933, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for HUGH TOHILL:

OAP claim 18/12/1910 of Hugh Tohill, age given as 70 - not listed on 41 rtn, aged 10 on 51 rtn

Parents Anthony Tohill and Bridget, Co LD, parish Maghera, Tld Ballymacpeake upper  
Family foud in 1841 & 1851

Married 14 Feb 1901 Maghera RC Hugh Tohill full age Bachelor, farmer of Ballymacpeake son of Anthony Tohill deceased, farmer to Susann Birt, full age, spinster of Ballymacpeake, dau of John Birt, farmer:

Notes for SUSANNA BIRT:

1901 census listed in Ballymacpeake as Susan Toughill aged 34 with brothers Patrick Birt aged 40 & Thomas Birt aged 36

D1062/1/5 - Women tenants on Bellaghy Estate [25 names] 3 oct 1925  
No 160 - Susan Tohill Ballymacpeake upper, widow

Land Act 1925 [ibid]

No 258 Susan Tohill, widow, Ballymacpeake

D1062/1/5

Bog rental Bellaghy estate, 1930

Susan Tohill, widow, Ballymacpeake 13a, 1 r, 8p

Death Certificate -

Susan Tohill, widow died 7 August 1933 aged 75, Ballymacpeake of influenza & heart failure, certified; Informant Bella McCloy, Ballymacpeake

WILL OF SUSAN TOHILL [described as spinster in her will schedule]

Mary Ellen McCloy £5

Mrs Bridget Tohill £8

Margaret Collins - farm of land [Margaret resided with Susan]

- iii. NANCY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1843, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for NANCY TOHILL:

OAP claim of Nancy Tohill made 12 March 1912 age given as 70 - not listed on 41 return age 8 on 51 return, Ballymacpeake - Parents Anthony Tohill and Bridget married 1831

Will of Anthony Tohill 1886 - daughter Nancy to be left £35 or Roddy's house and 1 acre

1901 census aged 45

1911 census [with brother Hugh] age 69

Possible death - 16 Nov 1927 - Nancy Tohill spinster, aged 66, Domestic of Ballymacpeake:  
Bella McCloy informant, Ballymacpeake

[Index has another Nancy Tohill died 20-05-1922 aged 78]

- 11. iv. ANTHONY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1848, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. Aft. 1918.
- v. MICHAEL PATRICK TOHILL, b. 04 Mar 1852, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 12 Mar 1929, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL PATRICK TOHILL:

OAP Pension claim of Michael Patrick Toughill in 1920 age given as 70 - not listed 1851 census since he was born in 1852. See baptism below:



MIC1D/58/1 Lavey RC Baptism  
Page 4 March 4 1852  
Michael Paricius Tohill, Antonii [Tohill] et Brydie Convery  
Sponsors - Johanee McCloy et Elizabeth Clarke

1901 census Ballymacpeake  
Anthony Toughill head, 46 farmer not married born county Derry  
Hugh Toughill brother, 50 farmer's brother married  
Nancy Toughill sister, 45 farmer's sister not married  
Patrick Toughill brother, 40 farmer's brother, not married; deaf & dumb

1911 census Ballymacpeake  
Anthony Tohill head, 65 farmer, married 8 years, 1 child alive  
Sarah Anne Tohill, wife, 44, married  
Michael Patrick Tohill, brother, 63 single; deaf & dumb  
Mary Ellen Tohill daughter, 6, scholar

Death registered Magherafelt  
12 March 1929 Michael Patrick Tohill, Ballymacpeake, bachelor, farmer aged 76 of  
influenza 5 weeks no medical attendant: Informant Mary E Tohill Ballymacpeake, present at  
death.

- 12. vi. ELIZA TOHILL, b. Abt. 1849, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 1905, Drumard.
- 13. vii. MARY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1840, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. Bef. 1901, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.
- viii. CATHERINE TOHILL, b. Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for CATHERINE TOHILL:  
Mentioned in will of her father Anthony Tohill 1886 and left £1 [mention that she already got  
her portion, suggesting she had received a dowry upon marriage?]

Possible marriage  
18 Jan 1857 James Scullion to Catherine Tohill Lavey RC  
Had children baptised in Lavey RC resident in Drummuck

5. PATRICK<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1819 in Dreenan, and died 21 Apr 1874. He  
married (1) NANCY. She died Bef. 1864. He married (2) NANCY CONVERY. She was born Abt. 1842,  
and died 29 May 1922 in Dreenan.

Notes for PATRICK CONVERY:  
AKA 'Banker Pat' of Dreenan

1858 Griffiths Valuation:  
53a Hugh Convery from Patrick Convery (Hugh) House & Land 24, 3, 25  
53b Felix Convery from Patrick Convery  
Bernard Henry Land from Patrick Convery  
Michael Henry ibid

Letters of Administration of the personal estate of Patrick Convery late of Dreenan County  
Londonderry Farmer deceased who died 21 April 1874 at same place were granted at  
Londonderry to Nancy Convery of Dreenan (Maghera) aforesaid the Widow of said deceased.  
Probated - 7 October 1874

Effects - Under £800  
19 April 1923

Convery Patrick of Dreenan county Londonderry farmer died 21 April 1874 Administration  
Londonderry 19 April to John Convery farmer. Effects £150. Former Grant Londonderry D.R. 7  
October 1874.

Date 19 April 1923  
Effects £150

All Ireland Death Index:  
Patrick Convery death 1874 aged 55 Magherafelt district

Children of PATRICK CONVERY and NANCY are:

- i. MICHAEL PATRICK<sup>4</sup> CONVERY, b. Dreenan; d. Bef. 1921, Buffalo, USA.

Notes for MICHAEL PATRICK CONVERY:  
Became a priest USA

- ii. HENRY HUGH CONVERY, b. Dreenan.

Notes for HENRY HUGH CONVERY:  
Became a priest USA

- iii. MARY ELLEN CONVERY, b. Dreenan.
14. iv. CHARLES CONVERY, b. Abt. 1861, Dreenan; d. 02 Dec 1913.

Children of PATRICK CONVERY and NANCY CONVERY are:

- v. JOSEPH T<sup>4</sup> CONVERY, b. 12 Mar 1868; d. 25 Nov 1921, Granaghan, Maghera.

Notes for JOSEPH T CONVERY:  
Rev Joseph Convery  
Half-brothers Michael Convery & Henry Convery became priests USA ['Clergy of Derry', Daly page 48]

Irish News Monday 28 Nov 1921 – death notice:  
CONVERY - Nov 25 1921, at the Parochial house, Granaghan, Co Derry  
Rev Joseph T Convery, C.C. RIP. Requiem High Mass & Office at 11 o'clock  
on Tuesday 29th inst in Granaghan Church

Obituary Irish News 28 November 1921  
Co Derry Priest Dead

We regret to announce the death of Rev Joseph T Convery, CC which took place on Friday at the parochial house in Granaghan. A native of Lavey, Co Derry, Father Convery was the brother of the late Very Rev Michael P Convery VG of Buffalo, USA and a cousin of the late Most Rev Dr Tohill Bishop of Down & Connor. He was educated at St Columb's College, Derry and at Maynooth where he was ordained in 1893 and was on the missions in several parishes of his native diocese including Culdaff, Plumbridge, Leckpatrick, Dungiven, Cappagh and Granaghan from which he was transferred to Maghera. Requiem Office and High Mass for the repose of his soul will take place tomorrow at 11 o'clock in Granaghan Church.

- vi. DANIEL CONVERY, b. 27 Feb 1870.
- vii. JAMES CONVERY, b. 27 Feb 1870.
- viii. JOHN CONVERY, b. 10 Dec 1864.

Notes for JOHN CONVERY:  
Administration of estate of Patrick Convery Dreenan, farmer 19 April 1923 Londonderry:  
John Dreenan maketh oath -- re Patrick Convery late of Dreenan Londonderry, farmer  
deceased died intestate 7 Oct 1874 -- a grant of letters of Administration issued from LD Dist  
Reg to Nancy Convery Dreenan the lawful widow of intestate which said Nancy Convery  
herself died 29 day of May 1922 leaving assets un-administered that I am lawful son and next  
of kin of intestate  
30 December 1922  
Leasehold £150 [Added note - farm merged with others]

Nancy Convery Dreenan 23 Oct 1922  
Oath of Admin by John Convery farmer -- Nancy Convery died intestate leaving me John  
Convery, Francis Convery & William Anthony Convery her lawful sons and only next of kin  
surviving 29 May 1922  
£16-10sh estate

Schedule of particulars  
Dreenan - 5 acres, 1 rood farm year to year rent  
The above farm was the proportion of land and premises held by Mary Mulholland &  
transferred 1880-1887 to the above Nancy Convery deceased [& since merged with another  
holding].  
Estate Duty - Nancy Convery Dreenan died 29 May 1922 aged 80 years  
Household £4

Stock £12  
Cash 10sh  
Total - £16-10sh

15. ix. FRANCIS CONVERY, b. 24 Nov 1872; d. 01 Jan 1943.  
x. WILLIAM ANTHONY CONVERY.

6. BETTY<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1805. She married MICHAEL HENRY 1825. He was born Abt. 1801.

Notes for BETTY CONVERY:

In the will of Hugh Convery 1863 looks like Belly Henry but most likely Betty Henry [Elizabeth].

Notes for MICHAEL HENRY:

1858 Griffiths Valuation:

53a Hugh Convery Patrick Convery (Hugh) House & Land 24, 3, 25

53b Felix Convery from Patrick Convery

Bernard Henry " Land from Patrick Convery

Michael Henry ibid

Children of BETTY CONVERY and MICHAEL HENRY are:

- i. HENRY<sup>4</sup> HENRY, b. Abt. 1835, Dreenan.

O.A.P claim for Henry Henry of Dreenan

Parents - Michael & Elizabeth Henry

1851 census Dreenan found:

Henry Henry aged 16 years parents married 1825

Note: I cannot locate the above Henry Henry in the 1901 or 1911 census fro Dreenan [there is a Henry Henry in Ballymacpeake Lower that fits - he was buried in Greenlough graveyard].

16. ii. HUGH HENRY, b. Abt. 1840, Dreenan; d. 20 Aug 1918, Dreenan.

7. MARGARET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1803. She married BERNARD HENRY 1824. He was born Abt. 1800.

Notes for BERNARD HENRY:

Lavey RC baptims MIC 1D/58

Baptism in Dreenan

10 April 1839 Patt child to Bernard Henry & Peggy Convery

Sponsors - Mary Mulholland & Mary Convery

1858 Griffiths Valuation

53a Hugh Convery Patrick Convery (Hugh) House & Land 24, 3, 25

53b Felix Convery from Patrick Convery

Bernard Henry Land from Patrick Convery

Michael Henry ibid

Children of MARGARET CONVERY and BERNARD HENRY are:

- i. PAT<sup>4</sup> HENRY, b. 10 Aug 1839, Dreenan.

- ii. HENRY HENRY, b. 1847, Dreenan.

Notes for HENRY HENRY:

OAP claim

Henry Henry aged 70 son of Bernard & Margaret Henry of Dreenan.

Found 1851 census

Parent married 1824 - Henry 4 years in 1851

1901 census Dreenan  
Hugh Henry Head of family aged 70 farmer  
Henry Henry Brother aged 60 farmer

1911 census - Henry Henry was a servant aged 65 to Hugh Henry aged 72 widower of Dreenan.

iii. HUGH HENRY, b. Abt. 1834, Dreenan; d. 1905.

Notes for HUGH HENRY:  
1901 census Dreenan  
Hugh Henry Head of family aged 70 farmer  
Henry Henry Brother aged 60 farmer

Not in 1911 census

All Ireland Death Index  
Magherafelt  
Hugh Henry died Jan-March 1905  
Aged 70 [1835]  
1, 612

**8.** ALICE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1820 in Dreenan, and died 14 Jan 1881 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly. She married ANTHONY TOHILL Abt. 1844. He was born Abt. 1820 in possibly Culnagrew, Maghera, and died 10 Jul 1863 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.

Notes for ALICE CONVERY:

Alice Tohill's sister Catherine McKeefry & her husband William McKeefry sponsored the baptism of her son Patrick Tohill 1857 in Kilrea RC.

Notes for ANTHONY TOHILL:

Anthony Tohill may have been born in Culnagrew, Maghera as quite a few of the sponsors for his children were Tohills from Culnagrew. I suspect that he was a son of Anthony Tohill as first son called Anthony.

Children of ALICE CONVERY and ANTHONY TOHILL are:

17. i. MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, b. 22 Apr 1847, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.
- ii. JANE TOHILL, b. 09 Feb 1851, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.
18. iii. ANTHONY TOHILL, b. 01 Aug 1852, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly; d. 21 Sep 1909, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.
- iv. HUGH TOHILL, b. 1854, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.
- v. JOHN TOHILL, b. 23 Dec 1855, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly; d. 04 Jul 1914.

Notes for BISHOP JOHN TOHILL:

Kilrea RC baptism:  
Baptisms 1855  
Dec 23: John Toghil [baptised] of Anthony & Alice Toghil, G-crane: Sponsors - Ber'd Toghil, Coolnagrew [Culnagrew] & Molly Kane, G-crane

This was Bishop John Tohill. Educated at Dreenan school - Eden school and then went to McCloskey school in Tirgarvil.

1908 appointed Bishop of Down & Connor

Obituary Irish News Monday July 6th 1914:  
The Chief mourners:  
Mr Hugh Tohill, brother  
Mrs Hegarty, sister

Nephews  
Mr John Mooney  
Mr John Tohill

Mr Henry Tohill  
Mr Anthony Tohill

Nieces  
Miss Margaret Mooney  
Miss Alice Tohill  
Miss Margaret Tohill

Cousins  
Mrs F McKeefry  
Mr Francis Convery  
Rev Patrick McKeefry PP  
Rev Jos, Convery CC  
Rev David Mulholland [note – see details below]

Relatives  
Joseph McKeefry  
Rev F Kearney CC  
Rev James Hegarty CCSR

The Reverend David Mulholland:  
Obituary Irish News  
The Rev David Mulholland died April 2 1960 St Columbanus House, Helen's Bay Co Down, aged almost 90 years. A native of Swatragh, he was ordained 1908. Buried Milltown cemetery, Belfast.

I contacted Milltown cemetery and found that he was buried B208 section B, and visited the grave on 8 Septmber 2012. The headstone overlooks the Fall's Road side of the cemetery and it confirmed the details in the obituary in the Irish News:

Reverend David Mulholland  
Died 2 April 1960  
Aged 90 years.

I cannot work out how the Revernd Mulholland was a cousin of the Bishop but he appears to have been the son of John Mulholland by his wife Bridget O'Loughlin born 15 June 1870 in the registration district of Maghera. More research is required to confirm if this is the correct family.

- vi. PATRICK TOHILL, b. 17 Sep 1857, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.

Notes for PATRICK TOHILL:  
Sponsors at baptism of Patrick Tohill 1857 Kilrea RC - Wm & Cath McKeefry, Moneysallin

- vii. HENRY TOHILL, b. 03 Apr 1859, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.

Notes for HENRY TOHILL:  
1901 census in Gortmacrane

Not in 1911 census Gortmacrane

19. viii. ALICE TOHILL, b. 16 Nov 1860, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.

**9.** CATHERINE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1823, and died 21 Sep 1889. She married WILLIAM MCKEEFRY. He was born Abt. 1815, and died 21 Feb 1888 in Moyogall.

Notes for CATHERINE CONVERY:  
Mentioned as Catherine McKeever in the will of Hugh Convery but should have been McKeefry.

Notes for WILLIAM MCKEEFRY:  
Full Abstract :  
Letters of Administration (with the Will and Codicil annexed) of the personal estate of William M'Keefry late of Moyogall County Londonderry Merchant who died 21 February 1888 at same place were granted at Londonderry to Kate M'Keefry and Alice M'Keefry both of Moyogall Spinsters the Residuary Legatees.

Mentions wife Catherine in will & sons Hugh Patrick & Anthony re. vocations to priesthood.

Hugh, Patrick and William Anthony McKeefry were 3 brothers who all became priests of the Catholic Church. They were the sons of William and Catherine McKeefry who had emigrated to America but returned to settle in Mayogall, Parish of Lavey, Co Derry, Ireland in the latter half of the 19th century. The McKeefry brothers had 2 sisters Catherine and Alice who both married and had families. Catherine married a Felix Mulholland and Alice married a Francis McKeefry. Father Patrick McKeefry was born on a transatlantic ship. The other 2 brothers birthplaces are as yet unclear but they were apparently born in Kilrea Co Derry. Hugh the eldest child apparently did not return from America with his parents and was ordained to the priesthood in Virginia. Anthony the youngest returned later to America and became a priest for the diocese of Richmond, Virginia. Patrick went to St Columb's College Derry and eventually to the priesthood at the Irish College Rome.

Headstone St Mary's Lavey [New]

William McKeefry died 21 Feb 1888 aged 73

Catherine McKeefry hw 21 Sept 1889 aged 66

Catherine Mulholland dau of William died 2 Aug 1922 aged 64

Mary Ann Mulholland grand-daughter 15 Nov 1926 aged 31

Neil Joseph Mulholland grandson 31 Oct 1961 aged 63

Graveyard Name: Lavey RC

Surname: McKEEFRY/MULHOLLAND

Inscription: McKEEFRY/MULHOLLAND [Granite monument with railed surround of your charity pray for the soul of William McKeefry who died 21st February 1888 aged 73 years. Also his wife Catherine died 21st September 1889 aged 66 years. Also his daughter Catherine Mulholland who died 2nd August 1922 aged 64 years. And his grand-daughter Mary Ann Mulholland who died 15th November 1926 aged 31 years. Also his grandson Neil Joseph Mulholland who died 31st October 1961 aged 63 years.

Children of CATHERINE CONVERY and WILLIAM MCKEEFRY are:

- i. HUGH J<sup>4</sup> MCKEEFRY, b. 03 Jan 1848; d. 16 Jul 1921, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

More About HUGH J MCKEEFRY:

Occupation: Catholic priest

- ii. PATRICK MCKEEFRY, b. 28 Jul 1863; d. 21 Jan 1938, Dungiven, Co Derry.

Notes for PATRICK MCKEEFRY:

Obituary Irish News:

Funeral of Rev P McKeefry PP Sungiven Jan 1938

Chief Mourners [my details in brackets]

Mrs Michael McKenna, Lavey - niece [nee. Rose McKeefry]

Mr N Mulholland, Lavey - nephew [this was Neil Joseph Mulholland]

More About PATRICK MCKEEFRY:

Occupation: Catholic priest

- iii. ANTHONY MCKEEFRY, b. 28 Oct 1866, Moneysallin, Kilrea, Derry; d. 11 Feb 1930, Alexandria, Virginia, USA.

More About ANTHONY MCKEEFRY:

Occupation: Catholic priest

20. iv. CATHERINE MCKEEFRY, b. Abt. 1858; d. 02 Aug 1922.

- v. ALICE MCKEEFRY, m. FRANCIS MCKEEFRY.

**10.** PATRICK<sup>3</sup> CONVERY (*PATRICK<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1824 in Dreenan, and died 09 May 1905 in Dreenan. He married JANE O'NEILL 17 Jun 1856 in Lavey RC church, daughter of HARRY O'NEILL and BRIDGET. She was born Abt. 1828 in Dreenan, and died 21 Sep 1907 in Dreenan.

Notes for PATRICK CONVERY:

Patrick 'Mealman' Convery - he earned this nickname as he worked in a local mill. At the age of 32 he married Jane O'Neill a local girl who lived 2 fields away. Over the next 22 years they 13 children.

Graveyard Name: Lavey RC

Surname: CONVERY

Inscription: CONVERY [Granite Celtic cross] "Thy will be done." Of your charity pray for the soul of Patrick Convery of Dreenan [Maghera] who died 9th May 1905 aged 81 years. Also his brother John who died 10th May 1898 aged 80 years. Also his wife Jane Convery who died 21st September 1909. RIP. Also their daughter Bridget McMullan who died 26th September 1923. Erected by Phil. Convery, Dreenan. Also Felix, son of Phil Convery died 27th July 1924 aged 10 years. The above Phil Convery died 8th April 1954 aged 80 years and his wife Susan died 2nd April 1966.

Will of Patrick Convery of Dreenan died 5 day May 1905 aged 72 years proved LD 5 April 1907

Son Phil Convery £20

Grandson Dan McMullan £5

Dau Bridget McMullan £1

Dau Mary Ann Beattie £1

Dau Sarah Jane Convery £80

Son Patrick Convery MD £1

Dau Susan Gerarty £1

Wife Jane Convery farm etc jointly with my son the Rev William John Convery PP of America

Exors - wife Jane Convery & Felix O'Neill of Cabragh

18 Dec 1904

Patrk Convery x his mark

Witnesses - John O'Neill Dreenan & Felix O'Neill Cabragh

Estate Duty -

Household goods - £20

Stock - £60

Farm of land 18 acres Dreenan £35

Total = £115

Notes for JANE O'NEILL:

Oral tradition 'from the Harold O'Neill family'.

She was left the family farm in the will of her husband Patrick Convery 1907 jointly with her son Rev William John Convery PP of 'America'.

Children of PATRICK CONVERY and JANE O'NEILL are:

21. i. BRIDGET<sup>4</sup> CONVERY, b. 1857, Dreenan; d. 26 Sep 1923.
- ii. PATRICK CONVERY, b. 1858, Dreenan.
- iii. MARY CONVERY, b. 1860, Dreenan.
- iv. PATRICK CONVERY, b. 1861, Dreenan.
- v. WILLIAM JOHN CONVERY, b. 1861, Dreenan; d. 1937, Belfast.

Notes for WILLIAM JOHN CONVERY:

Rev William John Convery V.F

Left family farm with his mother Jane Convery 'Rev Wm John Convery PP of America'

- vi. FELIX CONVERY, b. 1864, Dreenan.
- vii. PATRICK CONVERY, b. 16 Dec 1864, Dreenan.
- viii. SUSAN CONVERY, b. 10 Jun 1867, Dreenan; d. 12 Jun 1943, Jones's County, Iowa; m. JOSEPH A GARRITY; b. 1855; d. 10 Mar 1907, Jones's County, Iowa.

Notes for JOSEPH A GARRITY:

Susan Gerarty left £1 in the will of her father Patrick Convery 1907

- ix. PATRICK CONVERY, b. 26 Feb 1869, Dreenan; d. 01 Sep 1925, USA; m. MARY FLANAGAN; b. Dec 1880, Iowa, USA.

Notes for PATRICK CONVERY:

Left £1 in the will of his father Patrick Convery 1907

More About PATRICK CONVERY:

Occupation: Medical Doctor

22. x. FELIX CONVERY, b. 25 Aug 1870, Dreenan; d. 24 Oct 1870, Dreenan.  
xi. FELIX CONVERY, b. Dreenan; d. 08 Apr 1954, Dreenan.  
xii. SARAH JANE CONVERY, b. 27 Sep 1873, Dreenan; m. JOHN THINES, 01 Jun 1910, Hardin, Iowa.

Notes for SARAH JANE CONVERY:

Sarah Jane Convery left £80 in the will of her father Patrick Convery 1907

- xiii. MARIA ANNA CONVERY, b. 1878, Dreenan; d. USA; m. JAMES BEATTIE; b. Oklahoma.

Notes for MARIA ANNA CONVERY:

Left £1 in the will of her father Patrick Convery 1907

[Mary Ann Beattie £1]

#### Generation No. 4

**11.** ANTHONY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1848 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died Aft. 1918. He married SARAH ANN BOYLAN 18 Jan 1903 in Lavey RC church, daughter of MICHAEL BOYLAN and ELLEN MCKENNA. She was born Abt. 1863 in Ballymacpeake, and died 12 Jun 1938 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for ANTHONY TOHILL:

OAP claim made 16 Feb 1918 Anthony Tohill, age given as 70 - found on 51 return

Ballymacpeake aged 3: Parents Anthony Tohill & Biddy married 1831

Married Lavey RC 18 Jan 1903

Anthony Toughill full age bachelor, farmer of Ballymacpeake son of Michael Toughill deceased to Sarah Ann Boylan spinster full age of Ballymacpeake dau of Michael Boylan deceased

Note:

I think there is a mistake here as all other sources indicate that this is Anthony Tohill junior son of Anthony Tohill senior.

Notes for SARAH ANN BOYLAN:

1911 census aged 44

12 June 1938 Sara Ann Tohill Ballymacpeake, aged 65 housewife & Widow died of Influenza/Heart certified - Mary E Tohill present at death Ballymacpeake

Child of ANTHONY TOHILL and SARAH BOYLAN is:

23. i. MARY ELLEN<sup>5</sup> TOHILL, b. 1904; d. 21 Oct 1961.

**12.** ELIZA<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1849 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died 1905 in Drumard. She married HUGH DONNELLY 23 Nov 1882 in Maghera Catholic chapel, son of EDWARD DONNELLY. He was born Abt. 1843.

Notes for ELIZA TOHILL:

Mentioned in will of her father Anthony Tohill and left £10 [mention that she already got £20 perhaps upon marriage?]



Married 23 Nov 1882 Maghera RC Hugh Donnelly full age, bachelor & farmer of Drumard son of Edward Donnelly deceased to Elizabeth Toughill, full age of Ballymacpeake daughter of Anthony Toughill farmer:

An Elizabeth Donnelly registered Magherafelt district death OCT-DEC 1905 aged 56 Volume 1, 516

1911 census Drumard:  
Donnelly, Hugh Head RC aged 70 farmer, widower  
Donnelly, Bridget, daughter aged 23  
Donnelly, Rose Ann, daughter aged 22

Lavey GI  
Hugh Donnelly died 1931  
Elizabeth Donnelly died 1905

Children of ELIZA TOHILL and HUGH DONNELLY are:

- i. BRIDGET<sup>5</sup> DONNELLY, b. Abt. 1883, Drumard.

Notes for BRIDGET DONNELLY:  
1901 census aged 18 Drumard

- ii. ROSE ANN DONNELLY, b. Abt. 1889, Drumard.

Notes for ROSE ANN DONNELLY:  
1901 census aged 12 Drumard

**13.** MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1840 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera, and died Bef. 1901 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera. She married CHARLES BRADLEY 20 Nov 1860 in Lavey RC church. He was born Abt. 1840, and died 09 Feb 1911 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MARY TOHILL:

Mentioned in will of her father Anthony Tohill and left £1 [mention that she already got her portion] suggesting she had received a dowry upon marriage?

Married 20 Nov 1860 Lavey RC  
Charles Bradley & Mary Tohill

Notes for CHARLES BRADLEY:  
Will of Charles Bradley:  
Date of Death : 9 February 1911  
Date of Grant 20 April 1911  
Registry : Londonderry  
Effects: £64

Full Abstract :

Probate of the Will of Charles Bradley late of Ballymacpeake Upper County Londonderry Farmer who died 9 February 1911 granted at Londonderry to Patrick McGuckin and James Heaney Farmers.

The will of Charles Bradley, Ballymacpeake

This is the last will and testament of me Charles Bradley of Ballymacpeake Upper Barony of Loughinshollin and County of Londonderry. I revoke all former wills and testamentary instruments made by me. I appoint Patrick McGuckin of Tamlaghduff and James Heaney Broagh to be executors of this my last will and testament.

I direct my executors to pay my just debts, funeral and testamentary expenses. I give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine Mulholland, all my farm of land and bogs,

houses, all the money, crop, stick and chattels that I may die possessed of subject to the following legacies:

To my daughter Annie Bradley, I leave the sum of £50 stg and to my daughter Bridget Tohill the sum of £40 stg.

I appoint my said daughter Catherine Mulholland residual legatee,

Witness this my said daughter Catherine Mulholland residual legatee,

Witness this may hand the eighteenth day of January 1911

Charles Bradley x his mark

Signed by the said testator as his last will and testament in our presence both being present at the same time who at his request and in his presence and the presence of each other subscribe our names as witnesses:

Charles Convery, Merchant, Gulladuff, Co Derry

James Heaney, farmer, Broagh, Co Derry

Estate duty schedule

Charles Bradley died 9 Feb 1911

Gross value £64

Farm of land 15 acres Ballymacpeake Upper held by deceased as a judicial tenant under Proprietors of the Bellaghy Estate at yearly rent of £5

Value £30

[Note: George Mulholland married Catherine Bradley 17 June 1890 Lavey RC: Michael Tohill married Bridget Bradley 18 June 1905 Maghera RC].

Children of MARY TOHILL and CHARLES BRADLEY are:

- i. MARY JANE<sup>s</sup> BRADLEY, b. 18 Dec 1863, Brackagh.
- ii. JAMES BRADLEY, b. 25 Jan 1866.
- iii. BRIDGET BRADLEY, b. 27 Jun 1868, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; m. MICHAEL TOHILL, 18 Jun 1905, Lavey RC church; b. 18 Jan 1863, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for BRIDGET BRADLEY:

1911 censu aged 50

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:

Lavey RC baptisms

1863 Jan 18 Michael of Laurence Tohill & Nancy Convery

Sp: Henry Tohill & Rosana McKeown

1901 census Ballymacpeake

Tohill, Michael head 50 farmer

Tohill, Bridget wife 50 Married 5 years

Tohill, Nancy mother 70 widow

McCyrstal, John relative 3

Married 18 June 1906 Lavey

Michael Tohill and Bridget Bradley - they were second cousins [Bridget's mother Mary Tohill was first cousin once removed of Michael Tohill]

- iv. ANNE BRADLEY, b. 18 Apr 1871, Brackhugh.
- v. ANTHONY BRADLEY, b. 10 Apr 1873, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for ANTHONY BRADLEY:

Lavey RC

10 April 1873 Anthony of Carolus Bradley & Maria Tohill, Ballymacpeake

Witnesses - Carolus & Alitia Burt

- vi. ELIZABETH BRADLEY, b. 16 May 1876, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

- vii. CHARLES BRADLEY, b. 20 Feb 1878, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.
- 24. viii. CATHERINE BRADLEY.

**14.** CHARLES<sup>4</sup> CONVERY (*PATRICK<sup>3</sup>, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1861 in Dreenan, and died 02 Dec 1913. He married ANNIE GERTRUDE DONAGHY 19 Jan 1905 in Portrush RC Church, daughter of JOHN DONAGHY. She was born Abt. 1877 in Magherafelt, and died 1919.

Notes for CHARLES CONVERY:

1901 census Gulladuff  
Charles Convery RC aged 45 Merchant  
Francis Convery RC brother aged 30 Assistant

Married Portrush RC 19 Jan 1905  
Charles Convery, Gentleman of Gulladuff, Lavey son of Patrick Convery, merchant to Annie Donaghy of Magherafelt daughter of John Donaghy, merchant:  
Witnesses - James Donaghy & Madeline Donaghy  
Note - both father's deceased Rev J Quinn MGR

1911 census Gulladuff  
Charles Convery RC aged 47 Grocery & Spirit Dealer  
Annie Gertrude Convery age 36 married 6 years 4 children all alive  
Isabella Convery dau 5  
Patrick Joseph Convery son 4  
John Convery son 4  
Mary Josephine dau 6 weeks

Lavey RC graveyard  
In memory of Charles Convery 2 Dec 1913  
And his wife Annie 5 June 1919  
And their dau Isobel 22 March 1935  
And Nancy Convery mother of above Charles Convery

Side panel  
Francis Convery 2 Jan 1943 aged 70 [b. 1872]  
John E Convery 26 Jan 1944 aged 40  
Mary Ann Convery 10 Feb 1991 aged 82  
Mary Convery 3 June 1955  
Katie Convery 8 Jan 1986  
Patrick Joseph Convery Infant  
Annie Louisa Convery 23 Oct 1995  
Josie Rutledge 19 June 1987

Death Index  
Charles Convery Magherafelt  
Jan-March 1913 aged 53 [1861] Volume 1 page 591

Children of CHARLES CONVERY and ANNIE DONAGHY are:  
i. ISABELLA<sup>5</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1906; d. 22 Mar 1935.  
ii. PATRICK JOSEPH CONVERY, b. Abt. 1907.  
iii. JOHN CONVERY, b. Abt. 1908.  
iv. MARY JOSEPHINE CONVERY, b. Abt. 1911.

**15.** FRANCIS<sup>4</sup> CONVERY (*PATRICK<sup>3</sup>, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 24 Nov 1872, and died 01 Jan 1943. He married MARY ANNE KELLY 24 Apr 1909 in Maghera RC. She was born Abt. 1872.

Notes for FRANCIS CONVERY:

1901 census Gulladuff  
Charles Convery RC aged 45 Merchant  
Francis Convery RC brother aged 30 Assistant

Francis Convery was a cousin of Bishop Tohill  
Mentioned as 'Mr Francis Convery' in his obituary 1914

Notes for MARY ANNE KELLY CONVERY:  
1911 census married 2 years 2 children one alive - Mary Anne Convery

Lavey RC headstone [Possible death]  
Mary Convery  
Date of Death: 03/06/1955  
Also Patrick Joseph Convery infant

Children of FRANCIS CONVERY and MARY KELLY are:  
i. MARY ANNE<sup>5</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1910; d. 10 Feb 1991.  
ii. PATRICK JOSEPH CONVERY, b. 1909; d. 1909.

Notes for PATRICK JOSEPH CONVERY:  
Name: Patrick Joseph Convery  
Registration district: Magherafelt  
Event type: DEATHS  
Registration quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1909  
Estimated birth year: 1909  
Age (at death): 0  
Volume number: 1  
Page number: 543

**16.** HUGH<sup>4</sup> HENRY (*BETTY<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1840 in Dreenan, and died 20 Aug 1918 in Dreenan. He married MARGARET CONVERY 15 Feb 1871 in Lavey RC church, daughter of HUGH CONVERY. She was born Abt. 1847, and died 11 Oct 1906 in Dreenan.

Notes for HUGH HENRY:  
Information on this family from their headstone in Lavey RC as well as 1901/1911 censuses.

Notes for MARGARET CONVERY:  
In the index as Coufrey but most likely a mis-reading of Convery.

Children of HUGH HENRY and MARGARET CONVERY are:  
i. MICHAEL<sup>5</sup> HENRY, b. 10 May 1873; d. 25 Nov 1941; m. MARGARET, Abt. 1907; b. Abt. 1870.

Notes for MICHAEL HENRY:  
Cannot locate the marriage of Michael Henry but in 1911 census states married 4 years & no children.

Notes for MARGARET:  
States she was 40 years ol 1911 census.

25. ii. HUGH HENRY, b. 1882; d. 17 Oct 1965.  
iii. MARY HENRY, b. 1883.

**17.** MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*ALICE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 22 Apr 1847 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly. She married CHARLES HEGARTY 09 May 1878 in Kilrea RC Church. He died 1907.

Notes for MARY TOHILL:  
Sponsors to Mary Tohill's baptism in Kilrea RC - William & Catherine McKeefry, Monysally

Notes for CHARLES HEGARTY:  
All Ireland Death Index  
Name: Charles Hegarty  
Registration district: Coleraine  
Event type: DEATHS  
Registration quarter and year: Jan - Mar 1907

Estimated birth year: 1837  
Age (at death): 70  
Volume number: 1  
Page number: 435

Children of MARY TOHILL and CHARLES HEGARTY are:

- i. LUCY JANE<sup>5</sup> HEGARTY, b. Abt. 1881, Claragh, Kilrea.
- ii. JAMES PATRICK HEGARTY, b. Abt. 1883, Claragh, Kilrea.
- iii. KATE HEGARTY, b. Abt. 1885, Claragh, Kilrea.
- iv. JOHN HEGARTY, b. Abt. 1888, Claragh, Kilrea.
- v. JOSEPH B HEGARTY, b. Abt. 1890, Claragh, Kilrea.
- vi. ALICE HEGARTY, b. Abt. 1892, Claragh, Kilrea.

**18.** ANTHONY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*ALICE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 01 Aug 1852 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly, and died 21 Sep 1909 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly. He married MARY MOONEY 23 Aug 1885 in Maghera RC Church, daughter of WILLIAM MOONEY. She was born Abt. 1853, and died 10 Jan 1920 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.

Notes for ANTHONY TOHILL:

Sponsors at baptism of Anthony Tohill 1852 in Kilrea RC were Patrick & Catherine Convery of Dreenan

Name: Anthony Tohill  
Registration district: Coleraine  
Event type: DEATHS  
Registration quarter and year: Jul - Sep 1909  
Estimated birth year: 1852  
Age (at death): 57  
Volume number: 1  
age number: 307

Will of Anthony Tohill farmer Gortmacrane died 21 Sept 1909 will proved LD 26 April 1917  
Effects £499, 10sh Wife Mary Tohill the Widow

Admin of unadministered estate of Anthony Tohill of Gortmacrane LD farmer who died 21 Sept 1909 granted at LD to Alice Mulholland married woman Effects - £256-10sh Granted Oct 9 1922

Children of ANTHONY TOHILL and MARY MOONEY are:

- i. MARGARET ANN<sup>5</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1886, Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly.
- ii. ALICE TOHILL, b. Abt. 1888.
- iii. JOHN TOHILL, b. Abt. 1890.
- iv. JANE TOHILL, b. Abt. 1892.
- v. MARY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1894.

Notes for MARY TOHILL:

Miss Mary Josephine Toughill Kilrea, spinster died 21 Feb 1939  
Probate Belfast 15 May 1939 to Charles Mulholland auctioneer Effects £5

- vi. HENRY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1897.
- vii. ANTHONY TOHILL, b. Abt. 1899.

Notes for ANTHONY TOHILL:

Possibly the A Tohill of Kilrea chief mourner & relative of Rev Patrick McKeefry PP Dungiven died Jan 1938.

**19.** ALICE<sup>4</sup> TOHILL (*ALICE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 16 Nov 1860 in Gortmacrane, Tamlaght O'Crilly. She married JOHN MOONEY 09 Oct 1884 in Kilrea RC Church, son of WILLIAM MOONEY. He was born Abt. 1858.

Children of ALICE TOHILL and JOHN MOONEY are:

- i. JOHN<sup>5</sup> MOONEY, b. Abt. 1886.
- ii. MARGARET MOONEY, b. Abt. 1887.

**20.** CATHERINE<sup>4</sup> MCKEEFRY (*CATHERINE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1858, and died 02 Aug 1922. She married FELIX MULHOLLAND 12 Jul 1893 in Lavey RC church, son of NEAL MULHOLLAND and ANN BRADLEY. He was born Abt. 1855, and died 24 Sep 1919.

Notes for CATHERINE MCKEEFRY:

1911 census Moyagall as Publican & Grocer married 17 years [no husband present]

Children

Marian 16

Neil 12

Rosa 9

Children of CATHERINE MCKEEFRY and FELIX MULHOLLAND are:

- i. MARY ANN<sup>5</sup> MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1895; d. 15 Nov 1926.
  - ii. NEIL JOSEPH MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1898; d. 31 Oct 1961.
26. iii. ROSA MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1902; d. 30 Mar 1985.

**21.** BRIDGET<sup>4</sup> CONVERY (*PATRICK<sup>3</sup>, PATRICK<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1857 in Dreenan, and died 26 Sep 1923. She married JAMES McMULLAN 08 Jun 1884 in Lavey RC church. He died Bef. 1901.

Notes for BRIDGET CONVERY:

Widowed by 1901 census Moyagall

Bridget McMullan Head 40 farmer widow

Daniel 15

Wm John 14

David 12

Bridget 10

Felix 8

Lucy 5

Bridget Convery was left £1 in the will of her father Patrick Convery 1907.

Children of BRIDGET CONVERY and JAMES McMULLAN are:

- i. DAN<sup>5</sup> McMULLAN, b. Abt. 1885.

Notes for DAN McMULLAN:

Left £5 in will of his grandfather Patrick Convery 1907

- ii. WILLIAM JOHN CONVERY, b. Abt. 1886.
- iii. FELIX CONVERY, b. Abt. 1892.
- iv. DAVID CONVERY, b. Abt. 1889.
- v. BRIDGET CONVERY, b. Abt. 1881.
- vi. LUCY CONVERY, b. Abt. 1896.

**22.** FELIX<sup>4</sup> CONVERY (*PATRICK<sup>3</sup>, PATRICK<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Dreenan, and died 08 Apr 1954 in Dreenan. He married (1) ANNIE REGAN 26 Jul 1906 in Magherafelt RC Church. He married (2) SUSAN MORGAN 28 Feb 1912 in Maghera Catholic chapel. She died 02 Apr 1966.

Notes for FELIX CONVERY:

Left £20 in the will of his father Patrick Convery 1907

Notes for ANNIE REGAN:

As O'Regan in marriage

Child of FELIX CONVERY and ANNIE REGAN is:

- i. JANE FRANCIS<sup>5</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1908.

Generation No. 5

**23.** MARY ELLEN<sup>5</sup> TOHILL (*ANTHONY<sup>4</sup>, BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1904, and died 21 Oct 1961. She married JOHN MCPeAKE, son of WILLIAM MCPeAKE. He died 17 Mar 1977.

Notes for MARY ELLEN TOHILL:

All Ireland birth Index

Mary Ellen Toughill July-Sept 1904 Magherafelt Volume 1 page 708

Ballymacpeake National School registers SCH/1077/1/1 page 7<sup>155</sup>

No 355 Admitted 30 May 1910 Mary Ellen Tohill born 5 Jan 1906, RC, dau of a farmer

Headstone Greenlough

In Loving memory of

John McPeake died 17th March 1977

Mamie McPeake died 19 March 1943

Mary Ellen McPeake died 21st October 1961

Also triplet girls who died in infancy

Children of MARY TOHILL and JOHN MCPeAKE are:

- i. WILLIAM ANTHONY<sup>6</sup> MCPeAKE, b. 1945.
- ii. MAMIE MCPeAKE, d. 19 Mar 1943.

**24.** CATHERINE<sup>5</sup> BRADLEY (*MARY<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, BRIDGET<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*). She married GEORGE MULHOLLAND 17 Jun 1890 in Lavey RC church. He was born in Ballymacombs Beg, Bellaghy.

Children of CATHERINE BRADLEY and GEORGE MULHOLLAND are:

- i. MARY ANN<sup>6</sup> MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1891.
- ii. SARAH JANE MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1893.
- iii. BRIDGET MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1896.
- iv. CASSIE MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1898.
- v. ELIZA MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1900.
- vi. MAGGIE MULHOLLAND, b. Abt. 1905.

Notes for MAGGIE MULHOLLAND:

1911 census - with Annie Bradley her aunt in Ballymacpeake aged 5

**25.** HUGH<sup>5</sup> HENRY (*HUGH<sup>4</sup>, BETTY<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1882, and died 17 Oct 1965. He married MARY DIAMOND 08 Jun 1907 in Maghera Catholic chapel. She was born Abt. 1881, and died 24 Feb 1967.

Children of HUGH HENRY and MARY DIAMOND are:

- i. MICHAEL JOSEPH<sup>6</sup> HENRY, b. Abt. 1913; d. 10 Oct 1976; m. MARIA; d. 07 Jul 2005.
- ii. MARGARET HENRY, b. Abt. 1911; d. 10 Jun 1984.
- iii. HARRY HENRY, b. Abt. 1919; d. 19 Sep 1987.  
Ordained to the priesthood 20 June 1946.  
Parish Priest in Didcot, Portsmouth, England.

**26.** ROSA<sup>5</sup> MULHOLLAND (*CATHERINE<sup>4</sup> MCKEEFRY, CATHERINE<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, HUGH<sup>2</sup>, HUGH<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1902, and died 30 Mar 1985. She married MICHAEL MCKENNA. He was born Abt. 1905, and died 10 Aug 1977.

Child of ROSA MULHOLLAND and MICHAEL MCKENNA is:

- i. MARIES CELINE<sup>6</sup> MCKENNA, b. Abt. 1934; d. 23 Sep 2002.

Endnotes

1. Old Age pension return

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<sup>155</sup> There is probably a mistake in the Ballymacpeake school register that has Mary Ellen Tohill born in 1906 as it appears she was born in 1904.

## APPENDIX TWO – DESCENDANT REPORT OF JOHN CONVERY OF MAYOGALL

### *Descendants of John Convery, Mayogall*

#### *Generation No. 1*

1. JOHN<sup>1</sup> CONVERY was born Abt. 1809 in Mayogall, and died 25 Nov 1875 in Mayogall. He married (1) ELLEN KIELT Abt. 1828. He married (2) ISABELLA TOHILL. She died 12 Feb 1886 in Mayogall.

Notes for JOHN CONVERY:

OAP Claim - Nancy Tohill formerly Convery

Mayogall 1851 census:

Convery, Mary Head aged 20 [married Tohill]

Convery, Nancy sister aged 10 [married Tohill]

Convery, Rose sister aged 8

Convery, John father, 50 absent in England

Convery, Isabella mother, 50 absent in England

Convery, Michael brother 25 absent in England

Convery, Ellen, sister 18 absent in England

Convery, Margaret sister 16 absent in England

1851 census, Gateshead, England

John Convery Head marr 41 Labourer chemical born Ireland, Derry

Bell Convery Wife marr 39 Do

Michael Convery Son Un 22 Do

Mary Convery Visitor Widow 57 Do

Dan Convery Son Un 17 Do

Peggy Convery Dau U 14 Do

John Convery Son Un 5 Durham Heworth

Patrick Convery Un 1 Durham Do

Ned O'Neill Visitor Marr 28 Labourer chemical born Ireland, Derry

Name: CONVERY, Patrick

Registration District: Help, Gateshead

County: Durham

Year of Registration: 1850

Quarter of Registration: Apr-May-Jun

Volume No: Help, 24

Page No: 183

Letters of Administration of the personal estate of John Convery late of Moyagall County Londonderry Farmer who died 25 November 1875 at Londonderry were granted at Londonderry to Mary Tohill of Drummuck in said County (Wife of Daniel Tohill) the Daughter.

Probated: 3 May 1886

Effects £71

Child of JOHN CONVERY and ELLEN KIELT is:

2. i. MICHAEL<sup>2</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1829; d. 1918.

Children of JOHN CONVERY and ISABELLA TOHILL are:

3. ii. MARY<sup>2</sup> CONVERY, b. Abt. 1831, Mayogall; d. 07 Jan 1911, Drummuck.

iii. ELLEN CONVERY, b. Abt. 1834, Mayogall; d. USA; m. PATRICK HENRY, 23 Sep 1854, Trenton, Mercer, New Jersey; b. 1833.

New Jersey marriages

Groom's name: Patrick Henry

Groom's birth date: 1833

Groom's age: 21

Bride's name: Helen Convery



Bride's birth date: 1835  
Bride's age: 19  
Marriage date: 23 Sep 1854  
Marriage place: Trenton, Mercer, New Jersey  
Groom's father's name: Patrick Henry  
Groom's mother's name: Sarah  
Bride's father's name: John Convery  
Bride's mother's name: Isabella

- iv. DAN CONVERY, b. Abt. 1836, Mayogall.
- v. MARGARET CONVERY, b. Abt. 1838, Mayogall.
- 4. vi. ANN CONVERY, b. Abt. 1841, Mayogall; d. 1922, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.
- vii. ROSE CONVERY, b. Abt. 1843, Mayogall.
- viii. JOHN CONVERY, b. Abt. 1846, Heworth, Gateshead, Durham; m. JANE CONVERY, 24 Sep 1876, Lavey RC church.

Notes for JOHN CONVERY:  
St Patrick's RC Church, Felling  
Baptism register  
Born 1850 [no date] baptised 17 March 1850  
Patrick Convery son of John and Bell Convery [nee Tochal]  
Godparents - Francis or Frances McNally & Mrs Edward Downey  
Priest - John Kelly

Marriages Lavey RC  
24 Sept 1876  
No 44: Johanis Convery, Mayogall [son of] Johanis [Convery] & Isabella Tohill, Mayogall to Joannas Convery, Mayogall [dau of] Patrica Convery & Maria O'Connor: Witnesses - Patricus McErlane, Greenlough & Joanna Brittan, Dromard.

- ix. PATRICK CONVERY, b. 1850, Heworth, Gateshead, Durham.

Notes for PATRICK CONVERY:  
Deaths Gateshead, Durham  
Oct-Dec 1853  
Volume 10A p258  
Patrick Convery

- x. JAMES CONVERY, b. Mayogall; m. JOANNA CONVERY, 1876, Lavey RC church; b. Mayogall.

Notes for JAMES CONVERY:  
Married Lavey RC Church 1876  
James Convery son of John Convery & Isabella Tohill, Mayogall to Joanna Convery dau of Peter Convery & Maria O'Connor, Mayogall

- xi. HENRY CONVERY, b. 1852, Heworth, Gateshead, Durham.

#### *Generation No. 2*

2. MICHAEL<sup>2</sup> CONVERY (*JOHN*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1829, and died 1918. He married CATHERINE McLOUGHLIN 17 Aug 1851 in St Patrick's RC Church, Felling, Durham, daughter of JOHN McLOUGHLIN and AGNES ROBB.

Notes for MICHAEL CONVERY:

I think John Convery was married twice first to Ellen Kielt and then to Isabella Tohill. Michael Convery appears to have been a son of the first marriage - he was listed in 1851 census as 22 years old just before his marriage in St Patrick's RC Church, Felling.

St Patrick's RC Church, Felling, Gateshead, Durham  
Married 17 Aug 1851

Michael Convery of High Felling, parents John Convery/Ellen Kielt of Derry, Parish Macheraa [sic], to Catherine McLoughlin of Friar's Goose, parents John McLoughlin/Agnes Rob of Friar's Goose.

Witnesses - Mr Boasten of Felling Shore & Mary Kielt of Friar's Goose. Fr Kelly

Child of MICHAEL CONVERY and CATHERINE MCLOUGHLIN is:

- i. AGNES<sup>3</sup> CONVERY, b. 16 Apr 1865, Newcastle, England.

Notes for AGNES CONVERY:

16 April 1865 Agnes Convery of Michaelis Convery & Catherinae McLoughlin, St Andrew's, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

3. MARY<sup>2</sup> CONVERY (*JOHN*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1831 in Mayogall, and died 07 Jan 1911 in Drummuck. She married DANIEL TOHILL 26 Dec 1852 in Lavey RC church. He was born Abt. 1831 in Drummuck, and died 16 Mar 1908 in Drummuck.

Notes for MARY CONVERY:

1901 census Drummuck  
Tohill, Daniel 71 head farmer  
Tohill, Mary 70 wife  
Tohill, Biddy Jane 27 dau n.m  
Tohill, Ellen Jane 5 G-dau

Probate of the Will of Mary Tohill late of Drumuck County Londonderry Widow who died 7 January 1911 granted at Londonderry to James McCrystal Farmer.

Grant 7 Feb 1911

£15, 4sh

Name: Mary Tohill  
Registration district: Magherafelt  
Event type: DEATHS  
Registration quarter and year: Jan - Mar 1911  
Estimated birth year: 1835  
Age (at death): 76  
Volume number: 1  
Page number: 551

Lavey RC Headstone  
Pray for the souls of  
Daniel Toughill, Drummuck  
who died 10 March 1908 aged 76 years  
his wife Mary Convery  
who died 12 Nov 1913 aged 79 years  
His son Daniel who died 15 Nov 1880 aged 20  
his daughter Bridget McCrystal  
who died 8 Oct 1909 aged 30 years.

Registered death Index:

Name: Daniel Tohill  
Registration district: Magherafelt  
Event type: DEATHS  
Registration quarter and year: Jan - Mar 1908  
Estimated birth year: 1834  
Age (at death): 74  
Volume number: 1  
Page number: 676

Children of MARY CONVERY and DANIEL TOHILL are:

- i. DANIEL<sup>3</sup> TOHILL, b. 13 May 1866, Drummuck; d. 1884.

Notes for DANIEL TOHILL:

Name: Daniel Tohill  
Registration district: Magherafelt  
Event type: DEATHS

Registration quarter and year: Jan - Mar 1884  
Estimated birth year: 1866  
Age (at death): 18  
Volume number: 1  
Page number: 577

- ii. MARIANNE TOHILL, b. 24 Dec 1853, Drummuck.
- iii. JOANNIS TOHILL, b. 05 Sep 1855, Drummuck.

Notes for JOANNIS TOHILL:  
Lavey RC baptised as Joannis.

- iv. ISABELLA TOHILL, b. Abt. 1863, Drummuck; d. 19 Dec 1914, Dunedin, New Zealand; m. JOHN COLLINS, 15 Apr 1884, Dunedin, New Zealand; b. Abt. 1857; d. 16 May 1926, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Notes for ISABELLA TOHILL:  
She came to NZ with Rose Tohill [dau of Michael Tohill & Bridget Scullion of Drummuck] 1878

Buried Southern cemetery, Dunedin, NZ

The estate of Isabella Collins was sworn at under £2400 for Probate purposes. Isabella provided for several legacies for the church and to the Prish Priest of Termoneeny, Maghera £40 to erect a headstone on the grave of my mother and faher [not named].

The headstone is in Lavey RC New Graveyard with the following inscription  
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord  
Pray for the Souls of  
Daniel Toughill Drummuck  
who died 10 March 1908 aged 76 years  
his wife Mary Convery  
who died 12 Nov 1913 aged 76 years  
His son Daniel who died 15 Nov 1880 aged 20 years  
His daughter Brigid McCrystal who died 8 Oct 1909 aged 30 years  
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on their souls.

Notes for JOHN COLLINS:  
John Collins aged 27 married Isabella Tohill aged 21 S Dunedin parish 15 April 1884  
Witnesses - James Collins, Dunedin & Bridget Bradley, Caversham [Hugh Tohill pages 78 & 80]

John Collins was buried in the Southern cemetery, Dunedin

- v. LAWRENCE TOHILL, b. 20 Sep 1856, Drummuck.
- vi. MICHAEL TOHILL, b. 26 Oct 1859, Drummuck.
- vii. MARGARET TOHILL, b. 08 Oct 1863, Drummuck.
- 5. viii. PATRICK TOHILL, b. 18 Feb 1868, Drummuck; d. 1936.
- ix. DANIEL TOHILL, b. 1866, Drummuck.
- x. BERNARD TOHILL, b. 26 Jun 1870, Drummuck.
- 6. xi. BRIDGET JANE TOHILL, b. 25 Jan 1875, Drummuck; d. 1908.

4. ANN<sup>2</sup> CONVERY (*JOHN*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1841 in Mayogall, and died 1922 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera. She married LAWRENCE TOHILL 20 Nov 1859 in Lavey RC church. He was born Abt. 1830, and died 16 Feb 1900 in Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for ANN CONVERY:  
1901 census aged 57 Ballymacpeake  
1911 census aged 70 Ballymacpeake [age difference due to pension claim? See below].

OAP pension claim [Masterson page 187]  
Nancy Tohill formerly Convery aged 70:  
Parents: - John & Isabella (Bella) Convery of Mayogall.  
Observation - found: 1841 census: Nancy Convery 1yr: 1851 census Nancy 10yrs.

A Nancy Tohill died 20 May 1922 aged 78 [All Ireland death index]. I am assuming that this is Nancy Convery Tohill of Ballymacpeake.

Notes for LAWRENCE TOHILL:

Griffiths' revisions - took over John Tohill's farm in early 1860s, nos 21A & 21B. Was possibly a son of John or Roger Tohill. He was not a son of Anthony Tohill [not listed in OAP census return headed by Anthony 1851].

Listed in 1876 Landowner's of Ireland page 265  
Togill, Laurence Ballymacpeake, Bellaghy 10a, 1r, 20p at £7 valuation

1863 Son Michael Tohill baptised Lavey RC - sponsor Henry Tohill who emigrated to N.Z.

1881 registered deed with James Courtenay

Died 16 Feb 1900 Ballymacpeake, married, farmer aged 70 years - age & debility 4 days no medical attendant - Mick Toghil present, Ballymacpeake

Michael Tohill took over farm upon his father's death -

Michael Cassidy was in occupation of the farm in 1929 [Griffith's revisions]

Children of ANN CONVERY and LAWRENCE TOHILL are:

- i. JOHN<sup>3</sup> TOHILL, b. 04 Jan 1861.

Notes for JOHN TOHILL:

Lavey RC baptism

Jan 4 1861 John Tohill of Laurence Tohill & Ann Convery

Sp: Michael Cassidy & Margaret McGurk

- ii. MICHAEL TOHILL, b. 18 Jan 1863, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; m. (1) ELIZABETH DOWNING, 19 Nov 1891, Lavey RC church; b. 24 Aug 1866, Drumard, Co Derry; d. 1893; m. (2) BRIDGET BRADLEY, 18 Jun 1905, Lavey RC church; b. 27 Jun 1868, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MICHAEL TOHILL:

Lavey RC baptisms

1863 Jan 18 Michael of Laurence Tohill & Nancy Convery

Sponsors: Henry Tohill & Rosana McKeown

1901 census Ballymacpeake

Tohill, Michael head 50 farmer

Tohill, Bridget wife 50 Married 5 years

Tohill, Nancy mother 70 widow

McCyrstal, John relative 3

Married 18 June 1906 Lavey

Michael Tohill and Bridget Bradley - they were second cousins [Bridget's mother Mary Tohill was first cousin once removed of Michael Tohill]

Notes for ELIZABETH DOWNING:

Elizabeth Toughill died July-Sept 1893 aged 23 [born c. 1870] Magerafelt registration district Volume 1 page 515

Notes for BRIDGET BRADLEY:

1911 census aged 50

- iii. MARY TOHILL, b. 13 Nov 1865, Ballymacpeake, Maghera; d. 08 Feb 1885, Ballymacpeake, Maghera.

Notes for MARY TOHILL:

Died 8 Feb 1885 Ballymacpeake Upper Mary Tohill spinster aged 19 years daughter of a farmer of mania 14 days certified. Informant Nancy Tohill x her mark; mother present at death Ballymacpeake Upper

More About MARY TOHILL:

Cause of Death: Mania

Medical Information: Died 8 Feb 1885 Ballymacpeake Mary Tohill, spinster, aged 19 dau of a farmer - cause of death mania, 14 days certified - Informant Nancy Tohill, mother, present at death, Ballymacpeake Upper

*Generation No. 3*

5. PATRICK<sup>3</sup> TOHILL (*MARY<sup>2</sup> CONVERY, JOHN<sup>1</sup>*) was born 18 Feb 1868 in Drummuck, and died 1936. He married ELIZABETH CUSHLEY COSTELLO 17 Jan 1892 in Lavey RC church. She was born Abt. 1872, and died 1948.

Notes for PATRICK TOHILL:  
1901 & 1911 in Mayogall

Lavey Graveyard online index  
Patrick Tohill died 1936 aged 68

Notes for ELIZABETH CUSHLEY COSTELLO:  
Lavey Graveyard online index  
Elizabeth Tohill died 1948 aged 76

Children of PATRICK TOHILL and ELIZABETH COSTELLO are:

- i. MARY ANN<sup>4</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1893; d. New Zealand.
- ii. DANIEL TOHILL, b. Abt. 1895; m. MARGARET BRADLEY, 12 Oct 1922, Ballerin RC church.
- iii. LAURENCE TOHILL, b. 06 Jun 1898; d. 25 Jul 1926, New Zealand.
- iv. ISABELLA TOHILL, b. Abt. 1901.
- v. ELLEN TOHILL, b. Abt. 1896.
- vi. PATRICK TOHILL, b. 21 Jan 1904; d. May 1976, Dunedin, New Zealand; m. MARGARET MARY HACKETT, 16 Apr 1936, Hawera; d. 11 Sep 1995.
- vii. BRIDGET TOHILL, b. Abt. 1908.

6. BRIDGET JANE<sup>3</sup> TOHILL (*MARY<sup>2</sup> CONVERY, JOHN<sup>1</sup>*) was born 25 Jan 1875 in Drummuck, and died 1908. She married JAMES MCCRYSTAL 11 Oct 1903 in Maghera Catholic chapel.

Notes for BRIDGET JANE TOHILL:  
1901 Drummuck  
Daniel Tohill aged 71 & mother Mary aged 70  
Biddy Jane daughter aged 27  
Grandaughter Ellen Jane aged 5 years

Married 11 Oct 1903  
James McCrystle & Bridget Tohill Maghera RC  
Both of Drummuck - daughter of Daniel Tohill [Derry database]

Lavey RC Headstone  
Pray for the souls of  
Daniel Toughill, Drummuck  
who died 10 March 1908 aed 76 years  
his wife Mary Convery  
who died 12 Nov 1913 aged 79 years  
his daughter Bridget McCrystal  
who died 8 Oct 1909 aged 30 years.

Date appears to be wrong on headstone?

Name: Bridget M'Crystal  
Registration district: Magherafelt  
Event type: DEATHS  
Registration quarter and year: Apr - Jun 1908  
Estimated birth year: 1875  
Age (at death): 33  
Mother's maiden name:  
Volume number: 1  
Page number: 560

Child of BRIDGET TOHILL and JAMES MCCRYSTAL is:  
i. JOHN<sup>4</sup> MCCRYSTAL, b. Abt. 1908.

Notes for JOHN MCCRYSTAL:  
1911 census Ballymacpeake  
Tohill, Michael head 50 farmer  
Tohill, Bridget wife 50 Married 5 years  
Tohill, Nancy mother 70 widow  
McCyrstal, John relative 3

## ***Descendants of Michael Tohill of Drummuck***

### *Generation No. 1*

1. MICHAEL<sup>1</sup> TOHILL was born Abt. 1802 in Drummuck, Lavey, and died 17 Mar 1890 in Drummuck, Lavey. He married BRIDGET SCULLION Abt. 1838. She was born Abt. 1818, and died 28 Feb 1892 in Drummuck, Lavey.

Children of MICHAEL TOHILL and BRIDGET SCULLION are:

- i. JANE<sup>2</sup> TOHILL, b. 10 Feb 1839, Drummuck, Lavey.

Notes for JANE TOHILL:  
Lavey RC registers  
Baptised Feb 10 1839 Jane of Michael Tohill & Bidy Scullin  
Sp - Henry Convery & Bidy McKenna

- ii. CATHERINE TOHILL, b. 31 Jul 1853, Drummuck, Lavey; m. ED HENRY, 27 Dec 1879, Lavey RC Church; b. Rocktown.

Notes for CATHERINE TOHILL:  
Lavey RC registers  
Baptised 31 July 1853 Catherine Tohill of Michaelis et Bridgide Scullion  
Sp - Patrica & Bridgidie Scullion

2. iii. MICHAEL TOHILL, b. Abt. 1847, Drummuck, Lavey; d. 20 Feb 1906.
- iv. ROSE TOHILL, b. Abt. 1857, Drummuck, Lavey.
3. v. JOHN TOHILL, b. Abt. 1855, Drummuck, Lavey.
- vi. MARY BRIDGET TOHILL, b. Drummuck, Lavey; m. JAMES GRANT, 25 Dec 1881, Lavey RC Church; b. Moyagall; d. Kentucky USA.

### *Generation No. 2*

2. MICHAEL<sup>2</sup> TOHILL (*MICHAEL*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1847 in Drummuck, Lavey, and died 20 Feb 1906. He married ELLEN SCULLION 26 Jan 1882 in Lavey RC Church, daughter of FELIX SCULLION. She was born Abt. 1845 in Moyagall, and died 05 Jun 1911.

Children of MICHAEL TOHILL and ELLEN SCULLION are:

- i. MICHAEL CHARLES<sup>3</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1888; d. 1948.
- ii. JOSEPH TOHILL, b. 23 Nov 1882; d. 1927.
- iii. JOHN TOHILL, b. 14 Feb 1886; d. USA; m. MARY ROYALTY.
- iv. CATHERINE TOHILL.

3. JOHN<sup>2</sup> TOHILL (*MICHAEL*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1855 in Drummuck, Lavey. He married BRIDGET HENRY 18 Aug 1880 in Greenlough RC Church, daughter of JOHN HENRY. She was born Abt. 1860 in Ballymacpeake, Greenlough.

Notes for JOHN TOHILL:  
Married Greenlough RC  
1880 Aug 18  
John Tohill to Bidy Henry, Ballymacpeake  
Witnesses - [?] Henry & Eliza Jane McAtamney

Notes for BRIDGET HENRY:  
Father John Henry in index

Children of JOHN TOHILL and BRIDGET HENRY are:

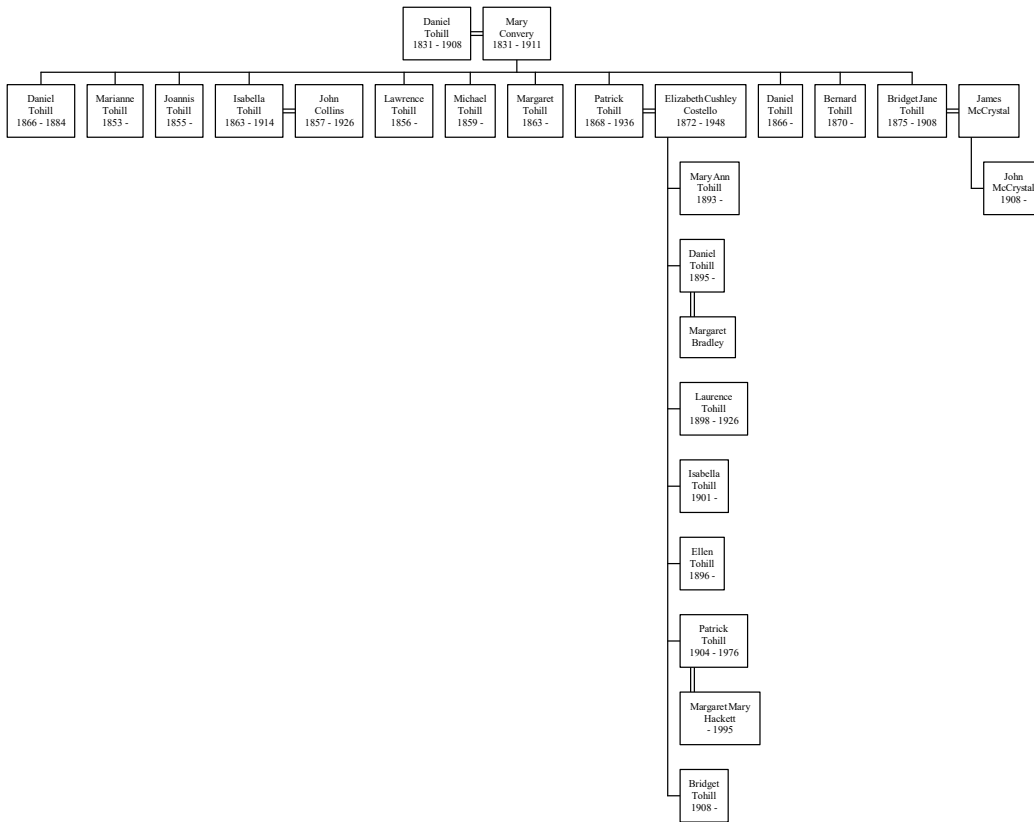
- i. JAMES<sup>3</sup> TOHILL, b. Abt. 1881; d. 1955, New Zealand.
- ii. MICHAEL TOHILL, b. Abt. 1882; d. 1913.
- iii. JOHN TOHILL, b. Abt. 1884; d. 1966.

- iv. BRIDGET TOHILL, b. Abt. 1885.
- v. JOSEPH TOHILL, b. Abt. 1886; d. 1886.
- vi. MARY BENEDICTA TOHILL, b. Abt. 1888; d. 1968.
- vii. ARTHUR JOSEPH TOHILL, b. Abt. 1889; d. 1965.
- viii. CATHERINE TOHILL, b. Abt. 1891; d. 1973.
- ix. FRANCIS ALPHONSUS TOHILL, b. Abt. 1897; d. 1963.
  - x. HENRY HUGH TOHILL, b. Abt. 1894; d. 1960.
- xi. ROSANNE TOHILL, b. Abt. 1899; d. 1986.
- xii. MARGARET TOHILL, b. Abt. 1899.

**PATRICK TOHILL OF DRUMMUCK: THE HAWERA FAMILY**

Patrick Tohill was the last to arrive in New Zeland 1926. He was a grandson of Daniel Tohill of Drummuck by his wife Mary Convery [she was one of the Converys of Moyagall – see John Convery of Mayogall family report].

*Descendants of Daniel Tohill*





## APPENDIX FOUR – TOHILL WILLS

### The Will of Anthony Tohill

In the Name of God, Amen

I, Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake do hereby make this my last will and testament as follows:

To my eldest son Hugh<sup>156</sup> I devise and bequeath the 6 acres land – Frank Birt's farm together with any addition that may be made to said farm, also, I direct and order the house an said farm to be put in habitable condition and the said farm to be cropped (ideal) ploughed and sown with seed the final year for him.

To my second son Anthony<sup>157</sup> I leave and bequeath the house and farm – freehold property in which I now live and reside and the portion of land I hold under Captian Henry's heirs viz. about 6 acres statute measure.

To my youngest son Michael Patrick<sup>158</sup> I leave and bequeath 3 acres Irish measure or thereabouts Pat Bert's land, all these foregoing portions of land to be subject to all rents and charges belonging to each of them.

To my daughter Nancy I leave and bequeath the sum of Thirty-Five pounds stg or if she prefer it to the money I leave her Roddy's house and 1 acre Irish off the Freehold during her natural life to rent to my son Anthony to rent to my son Anthony or his heirs at Nancy's death.

[Page 2 – will continued]

To my daughter Eliza I paid Twenty pounds stg and I bequeath her £10 stg more.

To my other daughters Mary & Catherine I have already paid their portion and I now bequeath each of then £1 stg if called on one year after my decease.

I finally order and direct that all debts and bequests be paid in the first place out of my crop and stock.

I nominate and appoint my son Anthony Tohill and Hugh Henry [Nicky] of Dreenan Executors to this my last will and testament.

Given under my hand this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 1883

Anthony Tohill x his mark

Signed by the testator in the presence of the under signed Witnesses who in presence of the Testator and in presence of each other have affixed our names as witnesses:

William McKefrey<sup>159</sup>

Charles Convery<sup>160</sup>

---

<sup>156</sup> Married Susan Birt

<sup>157</sup> Married Sarah Ann Boylan

<sup>158</sup> Listed in 1901 census Ballymacpeake with 'brother' Hugh Tohill. Listed with Anthony Tohill 'brother' in 1911 census Ballymacpeake.

<sup>159</sup> Brother in law of Peggy Convery who married Anthony Tohill

Codical of foregoing Will of Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake

I Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake further direct and order that all my crop, stock, cash, and worldly effects of every description be divided among my sons Hugh, Anthony and Michael Patrick according as William McKeefry of Mayogall and Charles Convery of Dreenan think right and just after my decease (save the property & money which has already been devised in my Will annexed) ny debts and bequest first to be paid.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 1883

Anthony Tohill x his mark

Signed by the testator in the presence of the undersigned witnesses in his presence and in presence of each other have affixed our names as witnesses:

William McKeefry

Charles Convery

[Page 3]

This is the paper writing referred to in the affidavits of Anthony Tohill and Charles Convery sworn before me this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January 1899

Anthony Tohill

Charles Convery

WILL SCHEDULE

Gross value of estate - £276:15:0

Sworn by Anthony Tohill Magherafelt [exor]

3 March 1904 [son]

Debts and funeral expenses - £32

John Downey [Jacky], Dreenan: Cash lent to deceased in his lifetime £10

John Quinn Bellaghy Shop account £8

John Donaghy Magherafelt, funeral expenses £12

LAND

1. Farm of land containing 8 acres Irish held under Trustees of the Bellaghy Estate as a judicial tenancy at year rent of £6:7:0

Value - £88

2. Farm of land 4 acres Irish held under Capt Henry as a judicial tenancy at year rent of £5:5

VL valuation £3 Value £60

3. Farm of Land 4a Irish under fee farm grant at year rent of £2:6:11

VL Value £5 Value £75 [Real estate written across this sentence]

4. Farm of land 4a, 1r, 5p statute held under Trustees of the Bellaghy Estate jud tenancy year rent of £2:18:0 VL value £2-50 Value £50

Total = £198

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<sup>160</sup> Brother in law Anthony Tohill

Attesting witness

Charles Convery of Gulladuff, merchant

Witness to last codicil of said A. Tohill late of Ballymacpeake retired farmer 1 Dec 1883

in presence of William McKeefry

Sworn 26 January 1899 Magherafelt

The will of Charles Bradley, Ballymacpeake

This is the last will and testament of me Charles Bradley of Ballymacpeake Upper Barony of Loughinshollin and County of Londonderry. I revoke all former wills and testamentary instruments made by me. I appoint Patrick McGuckin of Tamlaghduff and James Heaney Broagh to be executors of this my last will and testament.

I direct my executors to pay my just debts, funeral and testamentary expenses. I give and bequeath to my daughter Catherine Mulholland, all my farm of land and bogs, houses, all the money, crop, stick and chattels that I may die possessed of subject to the following legacies:

To my daughter Annie Bradley, I leave the sum of £50 stg and to my daughter Bridget Tohill the sum of £40 stg.

I appoint my said daughter Catherine Mulholland residual legatee,  
Witness this my said daughter Catherine Mulholland residual legatee,  
Witness this may hand the eighteenth day of January 1911

Charles Bradley x his mark

Signed by the said testator as his last will and testament in our presence both being present at the same time who at his request and in his presence and the presence of each other subscribe our names as witnesses:

Charles Convery, Merchant, Gulladuff, Co Derry  
James Heaney, farmer, Broagh, Co Derry

Estate duty schedule

Charles Bradley died 9 Feb 1911  
Gross value £64

Farm of land 15 acres Ballymacpeake Upper held by deceased as a judicial tenant under Proprietors of the Bellaghy Estate at yearly rent of £5  
Value £30

[Note: George Mulholland married Catherine Bradley 17 June 1890 Lavey RC: Michael Tohill married Bridget Bradley 18 June 1905 Maghera RC].

Will of Hugh Tohill

This is the last will and testament of me, Hugh Tohill, of Ballymacpeake, Barony of Loughinsholin and county of Londonderry. I revoke all wills and testamentary articles heretofore made by me. I appoint Thomas McNally and Thomas Birt both of Ballymacpeake County Londonderry to be executors of this my last will and testament.

I direct my executors to pay my just debts, funeral and testamentary expenses.

I give and bequeath to my wife Susannah Tohill all the lands, bogs, crop, stock, chattels, money and all other effects I may be possessed of subject to the following conditions: In case my sister Nancy Tohill wishes to live on with my wife [as she does at present] I direct that she is to get a home and support. In case she wishes to leave my wife she is to receive the sum of £35 stg which sum she brought with her when she came to live with us. I appoint my said wife residual legatee.

Witness this my hand the 13 day of February 1911.

Hugh Tohill x his mark

Signed by said testator as his last will an testament in our presence both being present at the same time who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other subscribe our names as witnesses.

Thomas McNally x his mark, farmer Ballymacpeake, County Derry

Thomas Birt x his mark, Ballymacpeake, County Derry

Thomas Toner

Nat. Teacher

Ballymacpeake, Bellaghy

Will schedule –

Probate Londonderry

Hugh Tohill, Ballymacpeake Upper, farmer Co Derry 13:9:1912

Estate Duty form

Goods of Hugh Tohill Ballymacpeake deceased –

Thomas Birt of Ballymacpeake Upper, Clady, Portglenone, farmer

Desires grant of Probate for above named Hugh Tohill Ballymacpeake Upper, farmer, married who died 10 August 1911 aged 70 years at Ballymacpeake Upper, left a widow, no lawful children, no lawful parent etc

Gross Value £37

Sworn by above named Thomas Birt x his mark at Maghera 6 Aug 1912

Household goods £2

Stock £25

Leasehold property – judicial tenancies £10

Total £37

Hugh Tohill deceased – farm of land consisting of about 8 acres situate at Ballymacpeake in the parish of Maghera, Co Londonderry and held under a judicial tenancy from the Proprietors of the Bellaghy estate and for which an annual rental of £6:15 is paid.

PL Valuation £6:15

Signed Thomas Birt x his mark

Oath of executor

Thomas Birt Ballymacpeake Upper farmer one of the exors [Thomas McNally the other exor] that testator died 10 Aug 1911

Affidavit of Attesting witness re. Hugh Tohill Ballymacpeake Upper, farmer:  
I Thomas Toner Ballymacpeake Upper aged 21 + one of the subscribing witnesses to the  
last will and testament 13 Feb 1911 – affixed his mark being illiterate – in presence of  
me Thomas McNally the other subscribing witness.  
6 Aug 1912

The will of Susan Tohill, Ballymacpeake

This is the last will and testament of me Susan Tohill of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry Spinster. I hereby revoke all former wills and testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me. I nominate, constitute, and appoint Thomas J Toner and Edward Birt [Dowds] both Ballymacpeake to be the executors of this in my will and I direct them to pay my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses. I leave the following legacies:

To Mrs Bridget Tohill the sum of eight pounds

To Mary Ellen McCloy five pounds

To Mary Fairley of Dreenan twelve pounds

To William Hammill of Dreenan twelve pounds and

To Thomas J Toner the sum of five pounds

To Father Michael O'Neill of Gulladuff the sum of five pounds for masses to be said and in public in Ireland for the happy repose of my soul.

I leave my farm of land to Margaret Collins [who lives with me] when she comes of age and in the meantime the farm is to be managed by my executors. If they think it proper at anytime to sell same I thereby them to do so either by public auction or private contract and offer payments of all debts, funeral and testamentary expenses and legacies, the balance is to be payable to said Margaret Collins whom I hereby appoint as residuary legatee.

Dated this 19 day of February 1932

Susan Tohill x her hand

Signed by the said Testator as and for her last will in presence of us who in her presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses:

Henry [?] Law Clerk, Magherafelt

Eddie O'Neill, Magherafelt.

Will schedule

Susan Tohill, spinster, Ballymacpeake died 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 1933 aged 70 years aforesaid no husband, no lawful issue

Gross value £76-5-0

Land 12 acres, 3 roods, 20 perch PLU valuation £6:5

House - 10 shillings

Land Purchase Annuity

Annual payment £4:7:2

Act under which purchased [1925] 25-year purchase

Amount of Advances = £91:15;1

Successor - Margaret Collins or to be sold

**APPENDIX FIVE: THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS:**

**REGISTRY OF DEEDS SEARCH - TOHILL**

1803

555 - 365185

A memorial of an Indenture of lease bearing date the sixth day of January 1803 between the Right Hon'ble Thomas Conolly of Castletown, Kildare in the county of Kildare of the one part and John Toghill and Michael Toghill both of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry farmers of the other part. Witnessed that the said Thos Conolly in consideration of the rent, reservations, conditions and agreements there after mentioned and expressed, granted, released and confirmed unto the s'd Jno and Michael Toghill [in their actual possession then being by virtue of a lease for a year therein mentioned and to their heirs and assigns, All that part of Ballymacpeake as the same was then in their possession being Nos. 10 = 14: & 15 containing thirteen acres and twenty-one perches plantation measure be the same more or less situate, lying and being in the proportion of Vintners in the county of Londonderry [excepting as therein excepted]. To hold to the said John Toghill and Michael Toghill their heirs and assigns for and during the natural life and lives of the said John Toghill and Michael Toghill and John Downing son of Dawson Downing of Rowesgift in the county of Londonderry Esq're and the survivors of them and for such other life and lives as should for ever thereafter be added thereto, pursuant to the Covenant for perpetual renewal therein contained at the yearly rent of seven pounds, one shilling sterling [together with twelve pence for each pound receivers[?] fees] payable on the days therein mentioned and three pounds ten shillings and six-pence sterling as a fine on renewal of each life and which said Indenture of lease contains other clauses and Covenants and the same and this memorial are respectively Witnessed by John Spotswood Esq'r the agent of the said Thomas Conolly and William Galbraith Tracy of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry, Esq'r:  
Tho: Conolly seal

Signed and Sealed in the presence of  
Wm Galbraith Tracy  
John Spotswood

The above named John Spotswood Maketh Oath that he is a witness to the deed which the above writing is a memorial and to the said memorial and that he saw the same respectively executed by the Right Hon'ble Thomas Conolly the executing party thereto and saith the same John Spotswood subscribed as a witness to said deed and memorial & deponents name and handwriting and that he delivered same to Jno Griffin at the Register Office in the Lower Courtyard on the 8 day of January 1803 at the hour of half past two in the afternoon.

1824

Volume 794, page 448, memorial number 536783  
Toghill to Toghill 1 o'clock 9<sup>th</sup> August 1824

To the Registrar appointed by act of Parliament for Registering Deeds in Ireland and so forth – A Memorial of a certain Article of Agreement bearing date and duly entered into the 24 May 1805 and made between Michael Toghill and John Toghill both of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry, farmers on the one part and Patrick Toghill of Ballymacpeake aforesaid brother of the said Michael and John of the other part whereby after reciting that Roger Tohill deceased, the father of the said Michael, John & Patrick had died having first duly made and published his last will and testament



in writing whereby he bequeathed his farm in the townland of Ballymacpeake aforesaid then held by a determinable lease to his said three sons Michael, John & Patrick, share and share alike and also reciting that after the death of the said Roger the said Michael & John Toghill surrendered said Lease and obtained a new lease of said farm for three lives renewable forever the said Michael and Toghill & John Toghill did for them, their heirs and assigns declare that the said Lease also taken out by them containing 13a, and 21 perches plantation measure situate in the townland of Ballymacpeake aforesaid was taken out by them for the purpose of carrying the said recited will into execution that is to say as to two thirds or thereof to the use and benefit of them the said Michael and John Toghill their heirs and assigns and the remaining one third to the use of their brother the said Patrick Toghill his heirs and assigns each third part or share being subject to and liable to pay a proportional part of the sum of 5 pounds Sterling bequeathed by said will to their sisters Mary Toghill and Alice Toghill which said deed as to the execution by the said Michael & John Toghill is witnessed by Alexander Browne late of Bellaghy in the county of Londonderry, writing clerk since deceased and as to the execution thereof by the said Patrick Tohill as witnesses by Richard Dawson of Ballymena in the county of Antrim Attorney at Law and by John Martin of Drumlane in the county of Londonderry aforesaid farmer and this Memorial is witnessed by the said Richard Dawson and the said John Martin.

Patrick Toghill <seal> signed, and sealed in presence of Rich'd Dawson; John Martin The within named John Martin maketh oath that and saith that he is a subscribing witness to the Deed of Agreement whereof the within writing is a memorial and saith that he saw the same duly executed by Patrick Toghill one of the executing parties thereto saith he is a subscribing witness to the within memorial and that he saw the same duly perfected by the said Patrick Toghill the only perfecting party thereto. Deponent saith that the same John Martin subscribed as a witness to the said deed and memorial is this Deponents proper name and handwriting.

John Martin,

Sworn before me at Ballymena in the county of Antrim this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 1824 by virtue of a Commission out of his Majesties Court of Exchequer in Ireland to me directed for taking affidavits in said County and I know deponent

P Aicken

1864

A memorial of an Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the thirteenth day of December 1865 Between Margaret Toghill of Ballymacpeake in the County of Londonderry, widow of the first part, John Toghill, Michael Toghill and Henry Toghill of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry, farmers of the second part and Patrick Convery of Dreenan in the said County of Londonderry farmer of the third part, After reciting as therein It was witnessed that for the Consideration therein, they the said Margaret Toghill, John Toghill, Michael Toghill, and Henry Toghill granted, bargained sold, alined, released and confirmed unto the said Patrick Convery his heirs and assigns, All that and those, the part or share of the said farm granted by the original lease under which said premises are held and devised/demised by John Toghill and Patrick Toghill to Rodger Toghill containing four acres and two roods by the same more or less with all houses therein and appurtenances thereunto belonging, bounded on the North by May Harron, Widow, on the East by James Steele, on the south by Bradley's farm and on the West by John Diamond as found[?] in the possession of Patrick Toghill subsequently in the possession of Rodger Toghill deceased and then in the possession of the said Margaret Toghill, John Toghill, Michael Toghill and Henry Toghill situate, lying and being in the townland of Ballymacpeake Parish of Maghera, manor or proportion of Vintners, Barony of Loughinsholin and County of Londonderry with the appurtenances as therein, To hold the said hereditaments, and premises with the appurtenances unto and to the use of the

said Patrick Convery for lives renewable forever as therein Subject to the rent therein mentioned and to the covenant and agreements therein contained and also subject to redemption as therein and whole said indenture as to the execution thereof by the said Margaret Tohill, John Tohill, and Michael Tohill and this memorial respectively the same are witnessed respectively by John John Glover, Solicitor and Nathaniel Hastings apprentice to said John Glover both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry.  
Margaret [her mark] Tohill  
John Toghill  
Michael Tohill

Signed, sealed by said Margaret Tohill  
John Tohill and Michael Tohill  
In presence of  
JGlover  
Nathaniel Hastings

1881 Volume 12, 190

Tohill & Courtney 22 March 1881

A memorial of an Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 1881 and made between Lawrence Tohil, of Ballymacpeake in the county of Londonderry, farmer of the one part and James Courtenay of Glenburn in the said county of Londonderry, Esquire, Justice of the Peace of the other part. After reciting as therein is recited, It was witnessed that for the consideration therein mentioned, He the said Lawrence Tohill did thereby grant, assign and convey to the said James Courtenay his heirs and assigns All and those, that part of the lands of Ballymacpeake aforesaid then in the possession and occupation of the said Lawrence Tohill containing by survey ten acres one rood and three perches statute measure or thereabouts situate in the Barony of Loughinshollin and county of Londonderry together with all buildings, fixtures, rights, easements, advantages, appurtenances whatsoever to the said lands and premises appertaining and with the same held and enjoyed and reputed as part thereof and appurtenant thereto To hold the said premises unto the said James Courtenay his heirs and assigns and which said indenture of mortgage and this memorial as to the execution thereof respectively by the said Lawrence Tohill, same are witnessed by Robt McGuckin, solicitor & James Flett, writing clerk both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry:

Laurence Tohill

Signed, sealed by the said Lawrence Tohill in presence of RMcGuckin & James Flett

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1881

CONVERY, Nancy - COURTENAY, James 1881

A memorial of and Indenture of Assignment bearing date the 30 day of July in the year 1881 and made between Nancy Convery of Dreenan in the county of Londonderry widow & administratrix of Patrick Convery late of Dreenan in the county of Londonderry, farmer dec'd on the one part & James Courtenay of Glenburn in the said county of Londonderry, Esq of the other part. After reciting as therein is recited It was witnessed that for the consideration therein mentioned the said Nancy Convery did thereby assign, transfer and make over unto the said James Courtenay his heirs and assigns the said recited mortgage of the 30 December 1865 and all principal money and interest therein due or thereafter & accrued thereof and the lands and premises thereby granted and assured that is to say All that and those, the part or share of the said farm granted by the original lease under which said premises are held and demised of said farm granted by John Tophill and Patk Tophill to [Patk] Tophill containing 4a, 2r be the same more or less as more particularly mentioned and described in said recited mortgage and now in

possession of John Tophill & Michl Tophill & their undertenants, situate lying and being in the townland of Ballymacpeake, parish of Maghera, Barony of Loughinshollen and county of Londonderry with the upts, members, appurts – To hold said lands and premises with the appurts unto and to the use of James Courtenay his heirs and assigns from the day of the date thereof for and during the natural life and lives of the ‘castneque vies’ named in the last renewal of the lease under which said lands and premises with others are held and the survivor of them and for and during the natural life and lives of all such other persons as should forever thereafter be added thereto by virtue of the covenant for perpetual renewal therein contained Subject to the rent & covenants therein and which said indenture of assignment & this memorial as to the execution thereof respectively by the said Nancy Convery the same are witnessed by John Glover & Robt McGuckin both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry, solicitors:

Nancy Convery:

Signed, sealed by the said Nancy Convery in presence of Robt McGuckin of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry solicitor

1884

A memorial of an Indentured Mortgage bearing date the twelfth day of April 1883 and made between Henry Tohill of Alexandra near Manuperikia in the Province of Otago in New Zealand formerly of Ballymacpeake Upper in the county of Londonderry in Ireland, Hotel Keeper, by John Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper in the said county of Londonderry, farmer under a deed poll or instrument in writing dated 24 day of January 1883, and the said John Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper in the County of Londonderry aforesaid farmer of the one part and James Courtnay of Glenburn, Portglenone in the said county Esquire of the other part after reciting as therein is recited, It was witnessed that for the considerations therein mentioned the said Henry Tohill and John Tohill as mortgagees and beneficial owners therby conveyed to the said James Courtenay, all that and those, that part of the land of Ballymacpeake Upper as then in possession of the said Henry Tohill and John Tohill or one of them and their under-tenants containing 8 acres, 1 rood, and 30 perches statute measure be the same more or less with the upts, members, easement & appurtenances. To Hold to and to the use of the said James Courtenay his heirs and assyns for ever subject to the yearly rent of yearly rent £2, 16 shillings stg and to redemption as therein and which said indenture and this memorial as to the executor thereof in manner therein mentioned by the said Henry Tohill and John Tohill by power of attorney, the same are witnessed by Robert McGuckin, solicitor and Alfred Wilson Glover, solicitor’s apprentice both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry:

Signed, sealed and delivered by the said John Tohill as the Attorney and in the name of and on behalf of the said Henry Tohill, in presence of R McGuckin, AW Glover; signed, sealed and delivered by the said John Tohill in presence of R McGuckin & AWGlover

Henry Tohill [seal]

John Tohill [seal]

1903 [MIC311/1524]

Vol 86 no 21

A memorial of an Indenture of statutory Mortgage made the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1903 between Henry Tohill of Alexandra near Manukerikia in the province of Otago, New Zealand, Hotel Keeper and Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper in County of Londonderry, farmer of the one part and William George Courtney of Glenburn in the County of Londonderry Justice of the Peace of the other part. Witnessed that for the consideration therein mentioned the said Henry Tohill and Michael Tohill, as mortgagers and as beneficial owners did thereby convey to the said William George Courtenay, All that and those part of the lands of Ballymacpeake Upper situate in the barony of Loughinsholin and County of Londonderry, as formerly in the possession of

Henry Tohill & John Tohill or one of them and their under-tenants and then in the possession of the said Henry Tohill and Michael Tohill and their under-tenants containing 8 a, 1r, 30p statute measure be the same more or less with the rifgts members and appurtenances, To Hold the same unto and to the use of the said William George Courtenay, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns in fee simple, Subject to the yearly fee farm rent of £2, 16 sh stg for securing - [?] as therein mentioned which said Indenture and this memorial respectively as to the execution thereof by the said Henry Tohill per Margaret Tohill under power of attorney dated 15 April 1899, the same were witnessed by R McGuckin Solicitor and Henry Thompson Law Clerk both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry and as to the execution of said deed and memorial respectively by the said Michael Tohill the same were witnessed by the said R McGuckin Solicitor and Henry Thompson Law Clerk both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry.

Signed, sealed and delivered by the said Henry Tohill and Michael Tohill in presence of being just truly read and explained

Henry <his mark> Tohill per Mgt Tohill under power of Attorney 10 April 1899; Seal Michael Tohill - signed

1907

A memorial of and Indenture of Conveyance dated 27 day of March 1907 and made between William George Courtenay of Glenburn in the county of Londonderry, Justice of the Peace of the first part, Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper in said County farmer of the second part and Bernard Mulholland of Ballymacpeake Upper aforesaid farmer of the third part whereby after reciting an indenture dated the twenty third day of December 1903 and expressed to be made between Henry Tohill and Michael Tohill of the one part and the said William George Courtenay of the other part and also reciting as therein. It was witnessed that in pursuance of the therein mentioned sale and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and five pounds paid by the said Bernard Mulholland to the said William George Courtenay [the receipt acknowledged] the said William George Courtenay as mortgagee in exercise of his power of sale and of every other power him thereunto enabling thereby convey and the said Michael Tohill as Beneficial Owner did thereby convey and confirm unto the said Bernard Mulholland his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns All that and Those, that part of the lands of Ballymacpeake Upper situate in the Barony of Loghinshollin and County of Londonderry as then in the possession of the said Michael Tohill and his under-tenants containing eight acres one rood and thirty perches statute measure be the same more or less with the rights, members and appurtenances To Hold the same unto and to the use of the said Bernard Mulholland his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns in fee simple Discharged from all principal monies and interest secured by and from all claims under the said recited Indenture subject to a proportionate part of the yearly fee rent amounting to the sum of three pounds one shilling and seven pence and also subject to the covenants and conditions therein contained And the execution of said Indenture and of this memorial respectively by the said William George Courtenay was duly witnessed by R McGuckin, Solicitor and G.R Monteith Law Clerk both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry and the execution thereof by the said Michael Tohill was duly witnessed by the said R McGuckin and William Pollock of Magherafelt aforesaid Law Clerk  
William George Courtenay  
Michael Tohill

Signed and sealed by the said  
Wm G Courtenay in presence of  
R McGuckin Sol, Magherafelt

GRMonteith, Law Clerk, Magherafelt

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1909 Anthony Tohill [Volume 1, no 9]

A Memorial of an Indenture of Mortgage dated the 24 December 1908 and made between Anthony Tohill of Ballymacpeake, Bellaghy in the county of Londonderry, farmer and [therein and hereafter called the mortgager] of the one part and William James Stewart of Ballymena in County of Antrim, Solicitor [therein and herein called the mortgagee] of the other part. Whereby after reciting as therein is recited the sum of £40 that day paid by the said mortgagee to the said mortgagor [the receipt whereof the said mortgagor did thereby acknowledge] the said mortgagor his heirs, exors, admors, or assigns, the said sum of £40 with interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1909 and would so long thereafter as any money remains owing on foot of this security pay to the said mortgagee his executors, admors, or assis' interest for the same at the rate aforesaid payable half-yearly on every 1<sup>st</sup> day of November and 1<sup>st</sup> day of May. And it was also witnessed that in further pursuance of said agreement and for the same consideration the said Mortgagor as Beneficial owner did thereby grant unto the said Mortgagee, All that farm of land holding and premises containing by estimation 6a, 2r statute measure or thereabouts situate in the townland of Ballymacpeake, Barony of Loughinsholin and County of Londonderry as then in the occupation and possession of said mortgagor. To hold all the said lands with the houses and buildings thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging unto and to the use of the said mortgagee his exors, admors, and assus, which Indenture and this memorial as to the execution thereof respectively by the said Anthony Tohill same are witnessed by Wm Jas Stewart of Ballymena in the County of Antrim Sol'r and Robert Stewart of Magherafelt in the County of Londonderry retired merchant.

Signed and sealed by the said Anthony Toghill in presence of  
W.Stewart  
Robert Stewart

1909 Courtney to Mulholland Vol 32 no 299 [26 March 1909]

A Memorial of an Indenture of Conveyance dated the 27 day of March 1907 and made between William George Courtenay of Glenburn in County of Londonderry, Justice of the Peace of the first part, Michael Tohill of Ballymacpeake Upper in said County farmer of the second part and Bernard Mulholland of Ballymacpeake Upper aforesaid farmer of the third part whereby after reciting an indenture dated the 23 day of December 1903 and expressed to be made between Henry Tohill and Michael Tohill of the one part and the said William George Courtenay of the other part and also reciting as threin It was witnessed that in pursuance of the therein mentioned sale and in consideration of the sum of £205 paid by said Bernard Mulholland to said William George Courtenay [the receipt acknowledged] the said William George Courtenay as mortgagee in exercise of his power of sale and of every other power thereunto enabling did thereby convey and the said Michael Tohill as beneficial owner did thereby convey and confirm unto the said Bernard Mulholland his heirs executors, administrators and assigns. All that and those that part of the lands of Ballymacpeake Upper situate in the Barony of Loughinshollin and County of Londonderry as then in the possession of the said Michael Tohill and his under-tenants containing 8a, 1r, 30p statute measure be the same more or less with the rights, members and appurtenances, To hold the same unto and to the use of the said Bernard Mulholland his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns in fee simple, Discharged from all principal monies and interest secured by and from all claims under the said recited indenture subject to proportionate part of the yearly fee farm rent amounting to the sum of £3, 1sh, 7d and also subject to the covenants and conditions

therein contained And the execution of said Indenture and of the memorial respectively by the said William George Courtenay was duly witnessed by K McGuckin, Solicitor and R Monteith, Law Clerk both of Magherafelt in the county of Londonderry and the execution thereof by the said Michael Tohill was duly witnessed by the said K McGuckin and William Pollock of Magherafelt aforesaid Law Clerk:

Signed, sealed by the said  
Wm G Courtenay

Signed by  
William George Courtenay  
Michael Tohill

## APPENDIX SIX – CHURCH REGISTERS

### TOHILL CHURCH REGISTER SEARCH

PRONI CATALOGUE has MIC/1D/58/1 as follows:

1. Ballyscullion [Bellaghy]
2. Greenlough [Tamlaght O'Crilly]
3. Termoneeny [Lavey]
4. Maghera & Killylough
5. Kilrea

The actual microfilm is in reverse order & the registers are also in reverse order:

#### **KILREA RC register of births, marriages and burials August 23 1846 – December 26 1860: The BMD's were not in sequence:**

##### Baptisms 1846

Aug 23: John McKeown [baptised] of James and Mary McKeown, of Glebe: Sponsors – **Anthony Toghil**, Gortmacrane & Cat[herine] McCay, Bovedy

##### Dispensations 1846

Febry 1: **Anthony Toghil** to Lavey

##### Baptisms 1847:

April 22: **Mary Tohill** [baptised] of Antony and Alicia Tohil, Gortmacrane: Sponsors – Wm and Cathrine McKeefry, Monysally

##### Funerals 1848

July 10: **Peter Toghil**, Glebe

Dec 18: **Wm Toghil**, Glebe

##### Baptisms 1849

Oct 7: Eliza McKeown [baptised] of Jas & Cath McKeown, Glebe – Sponsors – Thomas McLary, Glebe & Betty McCaye, Bovedy

##### Marriages 1849:

Married May 2 1849 John McKeown [son of Pat'k & {blank} McKeown], Glebe & Margaret Reddon [sister-in-law to Staunton [?]] of the Bannworks, Kilrea]:  
Witnesses – Wm Loughrey, Kilrea & Francis Neeson, Lisnagrot.

##### Baptisms 1851

Feb 9: **Jane Toghil** [baptised] of Anthony & Alice Toghil, Gortcrane: Sponsors – Jas & Peggy Ann Kane, Gortmacrane.

##### Baptisms 1852:

Aug 1: **Anthony Tohil** [baptised] of Anthony & Alicia Tohil, G-crane: Sponsors – Pat'k & Catherine Convery, Dreenan

##### Marriages 1853

Married 22 May: John Magill [son of John & Mary Magil], Drumard to **Eliza Tohill** [daughter of **Wm & Jane Tohill**], Glebe: Witnesses – Pat'k McCallion, Drumard & Ellen Kelly, Glebe

Baptisms 1854

[faded date] **Hugh Tohil** [baptised] of Anthony & Alice Tohil, G-crane: Sponsors – **Pat Tohil & Cat[herine] Tohil** of Culnagrew

Marriages

Married Feb 2 Patrick Birt [no parents listed], Ballymacpeake [Maghera] to Catherine McGuigan [daughter of Michael & Rose McGuigan], Killymuck: Sponsors – Pat'k Bradley, Drumagarner & Sarah Kane, Liscorgain

Baptisms 1855

Dec 23: **John Toghil** [baptised] of Anthony & Alice Toghil, G-crane: Sponsors – **Ber'd Toghil**, Coolnagrew & Molly Kane, G-crane

Funerals 1858

Feb 7: **Wid[ow] Tohil**, Magherymore  
July 9: Neil McKeown, Glebe [7:6 stipend]

Baptisms 1857

Sept 17: **Pat'k Tohil** [baptised] of Anthony & Alice Tohil, Gort-crane: Sponsors – Wm & Cat[herine] McKeefry, Moneysallin

Baptisms 1859

April 3: **Hen. Tohil** [baptised] of Anth: & Alice Tohil, G-crane: Sponsors – Hugh McKeefry [faded]

Baptisms 1860

Jan 19: Elizabeth McKeown [baptised] of Jas & Sarah McKeown, G-grane: Sponsors – Dan'l & Sara Ann McKeown, G-grane

Baptisms 1860

Nov 16: **Alice Toghil** [baptised] of Ant. & Alice Tohil, G-crane: Sponsors – Ber'd Toghil, Culnagrew & Mary McKeefry, Moneysallin

**END OF REEL – SEARCH FINISHED**

Note: Gortmacrane is in the parish of Tamlaght O'Crilly, barony of Loughinsholin; PLU of Ballymoney/Coleraine. D.E.D. Hervey Hill until 1921 and then in Bovedy

**LAVEY, RC registers BMDs MIC/1/58**

**Baptisms: Sept 27 1837- Aug 1939: June 22 1852-Aug 31 1865 & Oct 27 1867-Aug 18 1871 & Nov 27 1871 – 30 Dec 1880**

**Marriages: April 19 1852-Aug 15 1865 & Jan 12 1868 – Feb 12 1871**

1837

Nov 14 – Matrimony Guladuff [page 5]

Patrick Convery, sp

**Margaret Tohill**, sp

**Laurence Tohill**, tesits [witness]

William Dogherty, testis

11sh



Stipend accounts

Nov 22 1837 in **Widow Tohill's** 5sh

March 6 1838 in **Widow Tohill's** 7 sh

1838 Baptisms

April 19: baptism from Ballymacpeak

Eleanor child of Bernard Dogherty & **Mary Tohill**, par:

Sponsors – Jno Bradley & Margaret Diamond

1sh, 6d

1838

June 24: baptism from Drummuck

Grace child to John Maddigan & **Bridget Tohill**, par

Sponsors James McMullin & Martha McMullin

1838 Matrimony

Oct 17

**William Tohill**, sp

Jane Muarray, sp

Felix Henry, testis

Jno Donnelly, testis

Paddy Convery, testis

14sh

1838 Matrimony

Nov 18

Peter Scullion, sp

Bridget Connor, sp

**Mrs Tohill**, testis

Mrs Convery, testis

Paddy Convery, testis

1839 Baptism

[Feb?] 10 – Jane child to Michael Tohill & Bidy Scullin, par

Sponsors – Henry Convery & Bidy McKenna

1sh, 6d

1839 Baptism [page 50]

Feb 12

James child to Hugh Berry & **Biddy Tohill**, par

Sponsors – James Scullin & **Rose Tohill**

1839 Baptism

John child to Neal Caldwell & **Jane Toghil**, par

Sponsors – James McGurk & Sally Murray

2sh

1839 Baptism

March 14

Baptims in Ballymacpeak

Rodger child to **Roger Tohill** & Peggy McErlane, par

Sponsors – Felix McChrystal & Cath Bradley

2sh

Stipends 10 April 1839

**L Tohills** 7 sh

1839 Matrimony 5 April [page 56]

George Donnelly, sp

Sarah Devlin, sp

P Quin, testis

**L Tohill**, testis

1839 Baptism [page 59]

May: Baptism from Drummuck:

Peggy child to **Laurence Tohill** & Mary Lafferty, par

Sponsors – Jno Connor & Peggy Connor

2sh

**LARGE GAP IN REGISTERS 1840-1851**

Baptisms continued [Poor handwriting in Latin]

Feb 23 1852 [page 4]

**Thomas Tohil** of [Danielli?] et Elizabeth Mulholland:

Sp: Johanne [?] et Margareta McGurk

March 4 1852 [page 4]

**Michael Patricius Tohil** of Antonii et Brydie Convery

Sp: Johanne McCloy et Elizabetha Clarke

31 July 1853 [page 7]

**Catherine Tohil** of Michaelis et Brigidie Scullion

Sp: Patricia et Brigidii Scullion

Sept 11 1853 [Page 7]

Joannes McGowan of Joanni[?] et Anna Costigan;

Sp: Dominicus Costigan et **Rosanne Tohill**

24 Dec 1853 [page 9]

**Marianne Tohill** of Danielis et Marie Convery

Sp: Francisco Stewart et Martha Flaherty

1854

9 Jan 1854:

Thomas Stewart of Hugonis et **Maria Tohil**

Sp: Joanni McKenna et Sara Stewart

1855 [page 15]

3 June 1855

**Elizabeth Tohill** of Danielli et Elizabeth Mulholland

Sp: Carole Scullion et Maria McGurk

Sept 5 1855 [page 17]

**Joannis Tohill** of Daniellis et Maria Convery

Sp: **Patrius Tohill** et Margrita Convery

1856

14 Dec [page 22]

Ellenor Graham of Jacobi et **Anna Tohill**

Sp: Anna Mulholland

Illegitimate

1857 [out of sequence]

17 March 1857 [page 24]

Mary of John Riggs & Mary Ann McCloy

Sp: **Philip Tohil** et Rose Riggs

1856

13 Sept 1856 [page 26]

Thomas of James McShane et Bridget Henry

Sp: **Pat'k & Margaret Tohil**

20 Sept 1856 [page 26]

Lawrence of **Daniel Tohill** et Mary Convery

Ap: **Lawrence & Bridget Tohill**

Dec 5 1857 [page 28]

Mary Jane Scullin of James et **Catherine Tohill**

Sp: **Hugh & Mary Tohill**

1858

Jan 3 1858 [page 28]

Patrick Doherty of Bernard et **Mary Tohill**

Sp: Neal McCloy et **Mary Tohill**

1858

April 2 [page 29]

**Bridget & Sarah Tohill** of John et Alice Mulholland [possible twins]

Sp: Jas Ferris & Ellen Henry

Sp. Jas Ferris & **Anthony Tohill**

1858

May 6 [page 30]

**Ann Tohill** of Daniel et Elizabeth Mulholland

Sp: Hugh Lafferty & Mary Ann Scullion

1858/9

28 March [page 33]

John Henry, illegitimate[?] Jane Convery

Sp: **Biddy Tohill**

1859

Sept 3 [page 36]

Mary Stewart of Hugh et Mary Tohill

Sp: **Patrick & Peggy Tohill**

1859

Sept 20

Francis Scullion of James et **Cathy Tohill**

Sp: John Boyle & **Mary Tohill**

1859

Oct 26 [page 37]

**Michael Tohill** of Dan'l et Mary Convery

Sp: William Murrey & Nancy Convery

1860

29 June [page 40]

Patrick Cassidy of Hugh et **Rose Tohill**

Sp: John & Biddy McKenna

1860

Oct 21 [page 42]

**Dan Tohill** of Dan et Eliza Mulholland

Sp: Patrick Convery & Rossana McColgan

1861

Jan 4 [page 43]

**John Tohill** of Laurence et Ann Convery

Sp: Michael Cassidy & Margaret McGurk

1861

1 Oct [page 45]

**Isabella Tohill** of Denny et Mary Convery

Sp: James Scullin & **Peggy Tohill**

1862

17 July [page 48]

Wm Anthony of Patt Convery & Nancy Convery

Sp: **Hugh Tohill** & Catherine Henry

1863

Jan 11 [page 50]

Daniel of Hugh Cassidy & **Rose Tohill**

Sp: John Lafferty & **Catherine Tohill**

1863

Jan 18 [page 57]

Michael of **Laurence Tohill** & Nancy Convery

Sp: Henry Tohill & Rosana McKeown

1863

Feb 4 [page 57]

Daniel of Denny Convery & Ellen Martin

Sp: **James Tohil** & Jane Convery

1863

July 2

Anthony Scullin of James et **Catherine Tohil**

Sp: Wm Murray & **Nancy Tohill**

1863

8 Oct [page 54]

Margret of **Denny Tohill** & Mary Convery, Drummuck

Sp: Hugh Tohill & Marg't Boyle

1863

18 Dec [page 54]

Mary Jane of Chas Bradley & **Mary Tohill**, Brackagh

Sp: Barney Bradley & Ann McWilliams

1868

18 Feb [page 58]

Patrick of **Daniel Tohill** & Mary Convery, Drummuck

Sp: **Patrick & Matilda Tohill**

1868

13 June [page 58]

Margaret of James Scullion & **Catherine Tohill**, Drummuck

Sp: Laurence Boyle & Jane Kelly

1868

29 June [page 58]

Bridget of Chas Bradley & **Mary Tohill**, B'm'peak

Sp: Bernard Birt & Mary Jane Birt

1868

Sept 22 [page 61]

Petter for John Brannon & Cath McCotter, Mayogall

Sp: **Laurence Tohill** & Mary Brennan

1868

Sept [page 61]

Bridgit Dimond of Archy & Jane Dimond, Ballymacpeake

Sp: **Hugh Tohal** & Teresea Dimond

1869

July 25 [page 63]

Ann of John Collins & Bridget Convry, Ballymacpeak

Sp: **Daniel Tohill** & Nancy Mulholland

1870

June 24 [page 70]

**Ber'd Tohil** of Dan'l & Mary Convery, Drummuck

Sp: Jn McCann & Jane Kelly

1870

26 June [page 70]

Anthony Magee of John et **Catherine Tohill**, Drummuck

Sp: Geo Magee & **Matilda Tohal**

1871

Jan 3 [page 70]

Mary Ann Scullin of James & **Catherine Tohill**, Drummuck

Sp: **Anthony Tohill** & Cath Scullion

1871

19 April [page 70]

Ann Bradley of Chas & Mary Tohil, Brackhugh

Sp: Eliza Birt & **Eliza Tohil**

MATRIMONIES

1852

Dec 14 [page 214]

Henricus Scullion et **Brigida Tohill**

Jacobo McShane et **Maria Tohill**

1852

Dec 26

Bernardus Doherty et **Maria Tohill** [entry stroked out]

Johannas Convery & Maria Carmichael

1852

Dec 26

**Dan'l Tohill** et Maria Convery

Sp: Brigida McKegney & Brigida Hagan

1853

Feb 27 [page 215]

Charles O'Neill et **Alicia Tohil**

Margarita Convery et Margareta Noher

1855

Dec 2 [page 217]

Hugo Cassidy et **Rosa Tohil**

Daniel Laggan et Margreta Convery

1856

May 8 [page 218]

Jacobus Daragh et Anna Murray

**Laurentio et Anna Joanna Tohill**

1857

4 Jan [page 218]

Jacobus Scullion et **Catherine Tohill**

**Margarita Tohill** & Joanne Mullan

1857

Misplaced baptism / stroked out

14 Jan [page 218]

Marajonna Cassidy of Danielis et Joannis Cassidy

Sp: Hugone Cassidy et **Rosa Tohil**

1857 Matrimonis

Dec 2 [page 219]

John Daragh et Jane Tohill [no sponsors]

1859

20 Nov [page 221]

**Laurence Tohill** et Ann Convery

Sp: Bidy Convery & Peggy Noher

1860

25 Nov [page 222]  
Charles Bradley et **Mary Tohil** [no witnesses]

1862/3  
Jan'y 25 [page 225]  
**William Tohill** et Maria McErlane, Greenlough

1863/4  
Oct 8 [page 226]  
**Rodger Tohill** et Rosy Murry  
Wit: Wm Murray & **Catherine Tohill**

1864  
Nov 15  
Jas McCrystal et Sara McGill  
Wit: **Pat Tohill** & Wm Murray

1868  
28 Oct [page 229]  
Henry McKay to Roseann Mulholland  
Wit: Jas Bradley & **Jn Tohal**

1868  
Dec 26 [page 229]  
John Magee et Catherine **Tohal**  
Wit: Jas McTamney & Helen **Tohal**

1869  
April 18 [page 229]  
James Kane et Esther Scullion  
Wit: **Anthony Tohill** & Mary Ann McCotter

1871  
12 Feb  
**Patrick Toal** et Margaret McCallion  
Wit: Catherine Scullion

Baptisms

1872  
No 4 – Magee, Brigeda Joanna, Guladuff [baptised] 8 April [daughter of] James Magee & **Catherine Tohill**: Sp – Joanne Magill & Sara Joana Henry

1873  
No 64 – McKenna, Joannes, Drumuck born 1 Jan baptised 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan of Joannes McKenna & Teresa Magill: Sp – **Joannes Tohill** & Rosanna Gribben

1873  
No 88 – Bradley, Antonius, Ballymacpeake, born 10 April baptised 11 April [son of] Carolus Bradley et **Maria Tohill**: Sp – Carolus Birt & Alitia Birt

1873  
No 120 – Scullion, Brigida. Drumuck, born 25 October baptised 26 Oct [dau of] Jacobus Scullion & **Catherine Tohill**: Sp – Patricus Boyle & **Elizabeth Tohill**

1874

No 145 – **Toghill, Brigida Joanna**, Drumuck born 25 Jan baptised 28 Jan [daughter of] **Dionysins Toghill & Marie Tohill**: Sp – Joannes Carolus Boyle & **Rosanna Tohill**

1875

No 327 – **Tohill, Joannes**, Brough born 7 June baptised 13 June [son of] **Edwardus Tohill** & Margaritta Cullion: Sp – Arthur McErlain & Sarah McCorry

1876

No 285 – Bradley – Ballymacpeake, born 16 May baptised 17 May of Carolus Bradley & **Maria Tohill**: Sp – **Antonius Tohill** & Anna Birt

1877

No 383 – Scullion, Franciscus born 1 Sept baptised 12 Sept, Drummuck, [son of] Jacobus Scullion & **Catherine Tohill**: Sp – Patricus Boyle & **Rosa Tohill**

1878

No 414 – Bradley, Caroline, Ballymacpeake born 20 Feb bap 21 Feb of Caroulus Bradley & **Maria Tohill**: Sp – Carolus Convery & Maria Eleanor Convery

1879

No 480 – McPeake, Catherine, Ballymacpeake born 25 July 1879 bap 29 July of Henricus McPeake & Theresa McErlane: Sp – **Michael Tohill** & Rosa McKernan

1879

No 498 – Magill, Maria Anna, Carrick born 12 Nov 1879 bap 13 Nov of Patricus Magill & Brigida Connor: Sp – **Phillip Tohill** & Margaret Masson.

MARRIAGES LAVEY [Dec 5 1873 – Dec 28 1800]

1874: 23 June

No 7: Scullion, Joannes, Magherafelt [son of] Heniric [Scullion] & Margaret McVeigh of Loop to Boyle, Maria [dau of] Danielis [Boyle] & **Maria Tohill** of Drummuck: Wit – Joannes Walsh, Magherafelt & Joanna Kelly, Drummuck

1874: 22 Aug

No 20: Ed Scullion, Moyagall, [son of] Peter [Scullion] & Brigida O'Connor, Mayogall, to Brigida O'Connor, Mayogall [dau] of Patricus [O'Connor] & Maria McErlane, Mayogall: Wit – **Michael Tohill**, Mayogall & Brigida Scullion, Mayogall

1875: Sept 8

No 34: Thomas Stewart, Guladuff, [son of] Hugonis [Stewart] & **Maria Tohill**, Mayogal to Sara Nugent [dau of] Dennis & Sara Nugent: Wit – Guilimis Thur[?], Guladuff & Maria Hughes, Rocktown

1876: 24 September

No 44: Joannes Convery, Mayogall [son of] Joannis [Convery] & **Isabella Tohill**, Mayogall to Joanne Convery, Mayogall, [dau of] Patrica [Convery] & Maria O'Connor: Wit – Patricus McErlane, Greenlough & Joanna Brittan, Dromard



1877: 2 Jan

No 53: Daniel McTamney, Mayogall, [son of] Joannes [McTamney] & Maria Henry [Mayogall] to Anna Convery, Mayogall [dau of] Patricus [Convery] & Anna McNally, Mayogall: Wit – George Bradley, Mayogall & **Martha Tohill**, Drummuck

1879:

No 74: Ed Henry of Rocktown, [son of] Michaelis [Henry] & Maria McKeagny, Rocktown to **Catherine Tohill**, Drummuck, daughter of Michaelis [Tohill] & Brigidia Sculleen, Drummuck: Wit – Robertus Convery, Mayogall & Rosa Scullion, Mayogall

#### **MAGHERA & KILLYLOUGH REGISTERS**

Baptisms 17 March 1841 – 18 October 1857

Marriages 17 March 1841 – May 11 1853

Burials 18 May 1848 – 7 September 1857

Baptisms

1842: 4 June Peter Kane of Peter Kane & Nelly O'Neill: Sp – **Anthony Tohill & Ann Tohill**

1842: 1 May Charles McKenna of Charles McKenna & **Catherine Tohill**: Sp – Roger McCormick & Rose Dugan

1842: 17 July Mary Moran of John Moran & Ann Walsh: Sp – **John Tohil & Ann Tohill**

1842: 30 Dec Eliza O'Neill of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – **Anthony Tohill** & Mary O'Neill

1843: 3 March John O'Neill of John O'Neill & Mary Tohill: Sp – Patrick O'Kane & **Ann Tohill**

1845: 27 April Mary Ann Scullion of Pat'k Scullion & Catherine Scullion: Sp – Pat'k & **Ann Tohill**

1845: 4 June Catherine McKenna of Cormac McKenna & **Catherine Tohill**: Sp – Mark & Ellen McKenna

1845: 21 Sept Mary Ann O'Neill of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohil**: Sp – **Andrew Tohill & Catherine Tohill**

1847: 27 June Joseph of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – **John & Jane Tohill**

1849: 28 Jan Catherine [Stranagon] of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – **Bern'd & Catherine Tohill**

1850: 13 Jan Catherine of Felix Sweeny & **Ann Tohill**: Sp – **Bern'd & Catherine Tohill**

1851: Jan 1 Anthony [Swatragh] of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – **Pat & Catherine Tohill**

1851: June 22 John [Culnagrew] of Felix Sweeny & **Ann Tohill**: Sp – John Kelly & Rose Walsh

1853: Feb 6: Patrick [Swatragh] of Wm Norris & Betty McGrath: Sp – **Pat Tohill** & Bridget Shannon

1853: Jan 9: Pat [Stranagon] of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – Mic'l & Susan O'Neill [should be February]

1853: 21 April: Jas [Culnagrew] of Felix Sweeny & **Ann Tohill**: Sp - **Bern'd & Cath Tohill**

1855: 21 Jan: Ellen [Stranagon] of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – **Pat & Cath Tohill**

1855: 15 April: Anthony [Culnagrew] of Felix Sweeny & **Ann Tohill**: Sp – Neal Collins & Rose Sweeny

1855: 30 Dec'r: Mary [Tergavelle] of **John Tohill** & Ellen Mullan: Sp – Wm Hasson & **Nancy Tohill**

1857: 31 Jan'y: Bridget [Stranagon] of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – **Pat & Cath Tohill**

1857: 21 May: Rose [Culnagrew] of Felix Sweeny & **Ann Tohill**: Sp – **Pat & Cath Tohill**

#### MARRIAGES

1855: Nov 15: **John Tohill** of Tirgarvall to Ellen Mullan of Gortanure: Wit – David & Wm Walsh

1841: [out of sequence]: 25 July: John O'Neill & **Mary Toghil**: Wit – Arthur Brennan & Margaret Kearney

1848: Feb 15: Felix Sweeny to **Ann Tohill**, Culnagrew: Wit – Dr Mooney & Archy Walsh

1857: 7 Jan: Neal Collins & Rose Sweeny, Culnagrew: Wit – Thomas P Hasson & Matilda Mooney

#### BURIALS

1851: Dec'r 22: Mary Tohill, Granaghan, in childbear: Rev Conolly: £4

1856: 19 March: Anthony Tohill, Culnagrew: £5, 19, 0

#### REGISTER

Baptisms 25 Oct 1857 – 28 Dec 1880

Marriages: 25 Oct 1857 – 16 Nov 1880

Burials: 29 Oct 1857 – 15 Sept 1880

#### Baptisms

1858: Feb 7: Bridget [Tirgarvyl] of **John Tohill** & Alice Mulholland: Sp – John Ferris & Ellen Heany

1858: Feb 7: Sarah [Tirgarvyl] of **John Tohill** & Alice Mulholland: Sp – James Ferris & **Mary Tohill**

1859: 23 Jan: Susan [Stranogon] of John O'Neill & **Mary Tohill**: Sp – Fra & Susan McNickle

1859: 8 May: John [Macknagh] of Arthur Mulholland & Cath Tohill: Sp – D. Mulholland & Cath Doherty

1859: 29 May: John [Corlacky] of Henry Arrell [Protestant] & Mary MacAtamney: Sp – Sally Clerkin

1860: Jan 22: Anthony [Tirgarvil] of **John Tohill** & Ellen Mullan: Sp – Pat Bradley & **Mary Tohill**

1861: Sept 15: Mary [Macknagh] of Arthur Mulholland & **Cath Tohill**: Sp – Joseph & Mary Collins

1862: March 23: John [Tirgarvil] of **John Tohill** & Ellen Mullan: Sp – P. Bradley & Cath O'Neill

1863: 9 Sept: Pat'k [Macknagh] of Arthur Mulholland & **Cath Tohill**: Henry & Ann Doherty

1864: 7 Feb: Isabella [Culnagrew] of Felix Sweeny & **Ann Tohill**: Sp – Archy Walsh & Mary Diamond

1866: Feb 16: Ellen [Tirgarvil] of **John Tohill** & Ellen Mullin: Sp – Chas & Mary McShane

1869: Dec 29: Dan'l [Tirgarvil] of **Jno Tohill** & Ellen Mullan: Sp – Bradly, Patk & Mary McShane

#### MARRIAGES [1857-1864]

1858: 24 Jan: Arthur Mulholland & **Cath Tohill**, Culnagrew: Wit – James Doherty & Rev P Hasson

1859: 13 Feb: Wm Tohill & Cath McCloskey, Tamnymullan: Wit – Alex Hegarty & Mary[?]

1867: 23 Nov: Jno Kinkead & Mary Lemon, Fallagloon: Wit – Ber'd McNicholl & Biddy Lennon

#### BURIALS [1857-1880]

1860: 13 July: Patrick Tohill, Culnagrew, £4,3,0

1862: Jan 5: Mrs Tohill, Tirgarvil, 17sh

1872: 5 Dec: Wm Tohill, Tamnymullan, £1, 3, 6

1874: Dec 30: Bridget Tohill, Upperland, £1, 3, 6

1877: Jan 20: Daniel Tohill, Tyrgarvell, £2, 18, 6

1880: 7 March: Bernard Tohill, Tyrgarvel, £1, 15, 0

#### COMPLETED SEARCH

**GREENLOUGH R.C. REGISTERS [PORTGLENONE & TAMLAGHT O'CRILLY]**

Bapt: Oct 5 1846 – Dec 29 1880  
Marr: June 14 1846 – Dec 25 1880  
Burials: June 21 1846 – Aug 18 1870

Baptisms

1847: March 21  
Hanna Jane for **Henry Tohill** & Jane McKinlay, Lislea: Sp – William McKinlay & **Hanna Jane Tohill**

1850: Nov 14  
William for **William Tohill** & Jane Murray, Lislea: Sp – Harry Henry & Peggy McTamny

1850: Sept 29  
Margaret for **Henry Tohill** & Jane McKinlay, Lislea: Sp – John McKinlay & Isabel McLaughlin

[Pages out of sequence?]

1849: April 1 [page 13]  
John for Henry Cassidy & **Rosey Tohill**, Drumnalan: Sp – John Cassidy & Mary Donnelly

1849[?] 7 May [page 9]  
Hugh for Hugh McTamny & **Mary Tohill**, Tyanee: Sp – Geo McRory & Peggy McTamny

1850: 17 Feb [page 24]  
Bridget for **William Tohill** & Jane Murray, Lislea: Sp – **William Tohill** & Jane McShanag

1853: Sept 10 [page 31]  
Ann for **William Tohill** & Jane Murray, Lislea: Sp – Patrick & Isabella Henry

1858: 3 July [page 57]  
Alice dau of Mich'l Macerlain & Ellen McCready, Fallaghagee: Sp – **William Tohill** & **Hanna Jane Tohill**

1864[?] June 22  
**John Tohill** of William & Mary Tohill, Lislea: Sp – Patrick Henry, Lislea & **Kitty Tohill**, Lislea

1864[?] 17 July [page 99]  
Hugh McErlain of Mary & Hugh McErlain, M/S [Moneystaghan]: Sp – **John Tohill**, Ballymarany[?], **Margaret Tohill**, Ballymarany[?]

1865[?] 29 Oct  
**Henry Tohill** of William & Mary Tohill, Lislea: Sp – John Madden, Tyanee & Isabella Henry, Lislea

1865/6[?] April 13  
John McErlain of Hugh & Mary McErlain, Moneystaghan: Sp – Dan'l Carmichael, Drumcrow & **Mary Tohill**, Ballymacoak[?]

1867: May 16

**Mary Tohill** of William Tohill & Mary McErlain, Lislea: Sp – **William Tohill**, Lislea & **Hanna Tohill**, Lislea

1869: May 6

**Margaret Tohill** of William & Mary Tohill, Lislea: Sp – Hugh McCaig & **Mary Tohill**, Lislea

1869: June 29

William James Hagan of Charles & Cath Hagan, Tyanee: Sp – Jas Madden, Tyanee & **Hannah Tohill**, Lislea

1870: Aug 27

Paul McErlean of Hugh McErlean & Mary McAteer, M'Staghan: Sp – **Michael Tohill**, B'McPeak & **Mary Tohill**, B'McPeak

1871: June 13

John of Charles Hagan & **Catherine Tohill**, Tyanee: Sp – Felix Madden & **Mary Tohill**

1871: Nov 9

William son of **William Tohill** & Mary McErlain, Lislea: Sp – Patk McErlane & **Jane Tohill**

1874[?] Aug 15

Pat'k of **William Tohill** & Mary McErlaine, Lislea: Sp – Dan Higgins & Bidy McErlain

1876: 23 Feb

Chas of **William Tohill** & Mary McErlain, Lislea: Sp – James & Mary McShanagh

1880: 28 Dec

Rodger of John Henry & Eliza McAtamney, B'McPeak: Sp – **John Tohill** & Mary Henry

1880: Sept 19

Roger of **Wm Tohill** & Mary McErlain, Lislea: Sp – Chas Henry & **Ann Tohel**

## **MARRIAGES**

1859: July 24

John McLaughlin & **Hanna Jane Tohil**: Wit – John Madden & Mary McTammy: £1

1866:

Charles Hagan, Tyanee

Cath Tohill, Lislea

Witnesses: Roddy Madden, Tyanee & **Hanna Tohil**, Lislea [£1]

1873: 6 May

George McClane to **Mary Tohill**, Lislea: Wit – **Wm Tohill** & Isabella Henry

1880: 18 Aug [Faded]

**John Tohill** to Bidy Henry, Ballymacpeake: Wit – [?] Henry & Eliza Jane McAtamney

BALLYSCULLION [BELLAGHY] REGISTERS CONTINUED

Bapt: 8 Sept 1844 – 17 Jan 1881  
Marr: 14 Sept 1844 – 2 Nov 1880

[Did not check sponsors' witnesses]

1845: Oct 30  
Peter of Peter Quinn & **Ann Toghill**: Sp – Patt Toghill & Ellen Cassidy

1848: 23 April  
Eliza of **Peter Toghill** & Mary Ann Quinn: Sp – John Hughes & Mary Scullen

1849: 16 Dec  
John of John O'Kane & **Ann Tohill**: Sp- Mary Brown

1851: 27 Dec  
Simon of Simon Duffin & **Sophia Tohill**: Sp – Jane Divin & Geo Cartin

1853: 20 June  
Ann of David Lynch & **Eliza Tohill**: So – John Tohill & Mary McGinn

1854: 23 April  
Daniel of **Roger Tohill** & Marg't McErlane: Sp – Daniel Crilly & Rose Crilly

1859: 6 March  
Henry son of **Henry Toghill** & Mary Connor: Sp – John Scullen & Bridget Diamond

1870: Jul 9  
Bridget of **William Tohill** & Mary Shivers: Sp – Francis Tierney & Bridget Shivers

1874: Aug 9  
Mary Jane of Thomas Canavan & **Elizabeth Tohill**: [No sponsors]

1875: 25 June  
Mary of Jas McErlane & Margaret O'Neill: Sp – **John Tohill** & **Alice Tohill**

1875: Aug 1  
Thomas of Thomas Canavan & **Elizabeth Tohill**: Sp – Samuel McIvor & **Marjory Tohill**

**MARRIAGES**

1845: Sept 1845  
John O'Kane & **Ann Toghill**, in Banns: Wit – Jas Davison & **Eliza Toghill**

1846: Jan 10  
Michael Scullen & **Eliza Toghill**, in banns: Wit – Mic'l Larkin & Mary Scullen

1850: 14 Oct  
**David Tohill** & Margaret Costello, in Banns: Wit – **Dan'l Tohill** & Mary Mellon

1863: Sept 8  
**William Tohill** & Jane Scullen, Episcopis disp, et 4t consanguinats, iradie [?]: Wit – John Doherty & Elizabeth McTamny

1873: Aug 24

Thos Canovan & Eliza Tohill: Wit – John Scullen & **Mary Ann Tohill**

1873: 7 Feb

**James Toal** & Bridget Heaney: Wit – James McErlane & Mary Kearny

**END OF REGISTER SEARCH**