

Includes free introductory guide to tracing your Irish ancestors

Discover your
IRISH *and*
SCOTS-IRISH
ancestors with the
Ulster Historical Foundation





The Corn Exchange, Belfast, the home of the Ulster Historical Foundation

Founded in 1956, the Ulster Historical Foundation is one of the principal genealogical research agencies in Ireland and a leading publisher of quality historical and genealogical books.

The Foundation is an educational non-profit organisation. Our aim is to encourage an interest in the history of the province of Ulster; promote a positive image of Northern Ireland overseas; strengthen the links between Ireland and those of Ulster descent; broaden access to historical documents and records for Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy; and to inspire pride in Irish and Ulster heritage and Culture.

Our membership association – called the Ulster Historical and Genealogical Guild – enables friends and supporters to belong to a growing body of like-minded individuals interested in family history, developing a lasting connection to Ulster and Ireland, and which brings people together from all over the world in their quest to discover Irish and Scots-Irish Ancestors.

Ulster Historical Foundation is entirely self-funded. We depend on the support of our customers and members to continue to provide the range of services that we offer.



The counties of Ireland showing the nine counties of Ulster



Research Officer, Gillian Hunt, Bolingbrook IL, March 2017

'I have just received your incredible report. I want to thank you for all your amazing research. You have not only done a wonderful report, you and your researchers (angels) have filled a huge hole in my mother's heart and soul. We are so grateful to you all.'

Barbara McByrne,
Irving, USA

Genealogical and historical research services

**Have you hit a brick wall in your family history research?
Have you exhausted the different online avenues and
need expert genealogical advice and assistance?**

Let us do the hard work for you! The Foundation offers expert genealogical advice through our comprehensive range of professional research services to assist you in your family history research. These include:

- **Personal face-to-face consultations** – a consultation with a member of our experienced research team could save you a considerable amount of time and increase your chances of research success.
- **Initial research assessments** – An initial assessment explores the feasibility of archival research by identifying sources of potential relevance for your family history.
- **In-depth archival research** – Whether you are at the start of your family history journey or have been researching for years; utilising original sources in the archives we can provide a detailed report of your ancestral history.
- **Specific archival research** – If you have specific research that you would like to have carried out, for example a particular Church register, we can do this research for you.
- **Document retrieval** – If you need a specific record from our local archives, which you cannot access remotely yourself, we will find and copy it for you.



'I can honestly say that the Ulster Historical Foundation was the only organisation to make any progress in my family research.'
R. Main, USA

**For our full range of research services go to:
www.ancestryireland.com/research-services/**



Diane Sawyer

YAHOO, INC. AT FLICKR

The Foundation has worked for various media production companies undertaking family history research for a number of other personalities, including: Graham Norton (BBC, Who Do You Think You Are); Linda Martin (RTÉ, Who Do you Think You Are); and Diane Sawyer (for Good Morning America).



Graham Norton

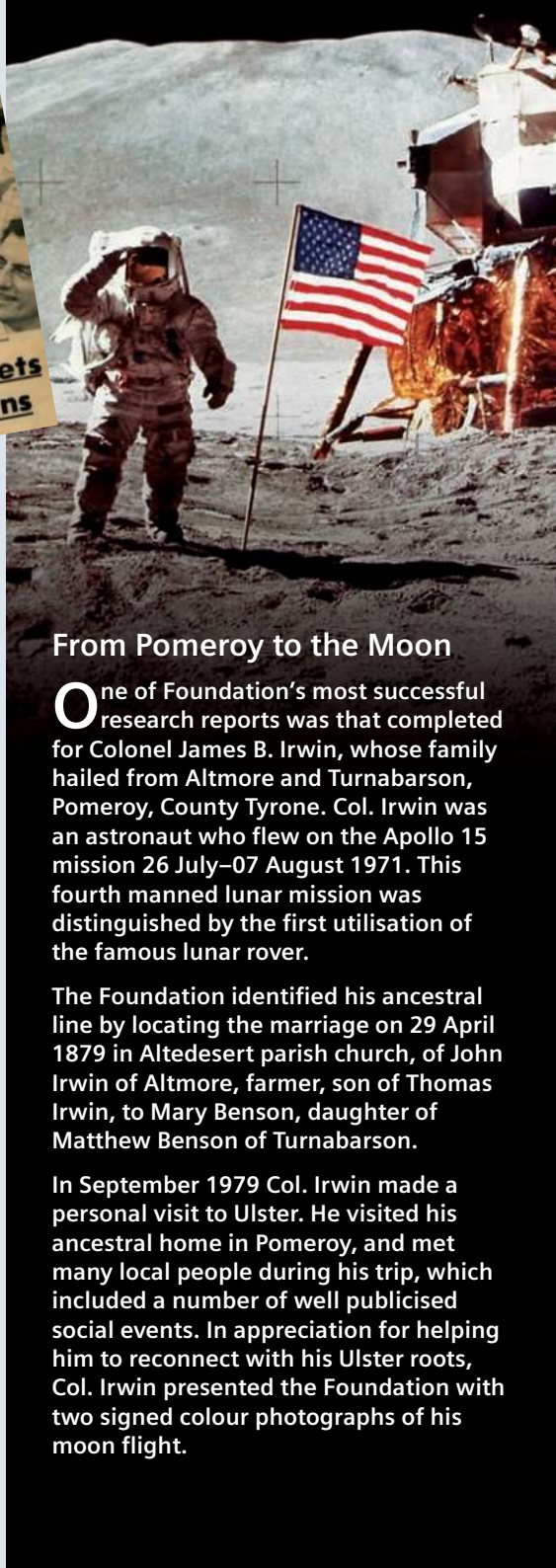
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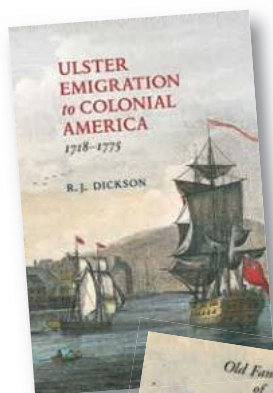
From Pomeroy to the Moon

One of Foundation's most successful research reports was that completed for Colonel James B. Irwin, whose family hailed from Altmore and Turnabaron, Pomeroy, County Tyrone. Col. Irwin was an astronaut who flew on the Apollo 15 mission 26 July–07 August 1971. This fourth manned lunar mission was distinguished by the first utilisation of the famous lunar rover.

The Foundation identified his ancestral line by locating the marriage on 29 April 1879 in Altedesert parish church, of John Irwin of Altmore, farmer, son of Thomas Irwin, to Mary Benson, daughter of Matthew Benson of Turnabaron.

In September 1979 Col. Irwin made a personal visit to Ulster. He visited his ancestral home in Pomeroy, and met many local people during his trip, which included a number of well publicised social events. In appreciation for helping him to reconnect with his Ulster roots, Col. Irwin presented the Foundation with two signed colour photographs of his moon flight.

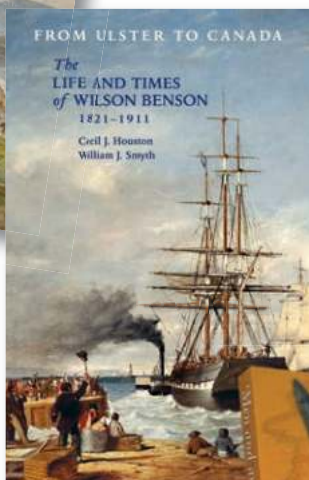
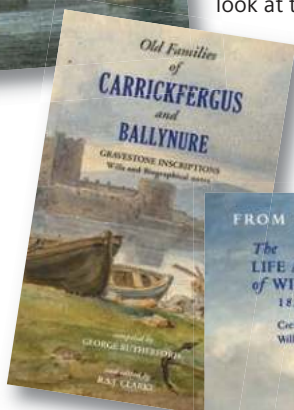




Ulster Historical Foundation is one of the leading publishers on the island of Ireland and as far as production values are concerned, is second to none for the quality of its books.

Since 1966 the Foundation has been publishing books that look at the relationship between Ulster and North America.

Our first book was *Ulster Emigration to Colonial America, 1718–1775*, by R.J. Dickson, a volume that has never been out of print.



Moreover the published an extensive back list of titles which can help you explore the migration experience of your ancestors.

Among the genealogical titles produced by the Foundation, *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The essential genealogical guide to Early Modern Ulster* by William J. Roulston, provides a detailed overview of pre-1800 records for tracing your roots in the north of Ireland, including a parish by parish listing of available sources.



We have hundreds of Irish history and genealogy books and eBooks available on our bookstore:

www.booksireland.org.uk



St Columb's Cathedral,
Derry

Our membership association, the Ulster Genealogical and Historical Guild, was established in 1978 to provide a forum for the Irish and Scots-Irish genealogical community to share their knowledge with other researchers across the world.

It is designed to give local and family historians access to a range of specialist resources and services that you will find invaluable in your quest to complete your research. Benefits of membership include:

Publications

Guild members receive two annual publications – *Familia: Ulster Genealogical Review* and the *Directory of Irish Family History Research*. Guild members are welcome, indeed encouraged, to make submissions for publication in *Familia* and the *Directory*.

Share your research interests

A key attraction of membership is to have your own research interests shared with other members through our annual *Directory* as well as on an online searchable database. Members can place up to 6 research interests for free, and include names, dates, locations and occupations.

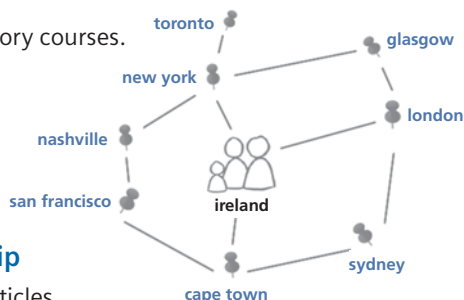
Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre, Oldbridge House, Drogheda, Co. Meath



Product discounts

Guild members enjoy huge discounts on our products and services:

- At least 50% off all baptism/birth, marriage and death/burial records on www.ancestryireland.com.
- Free access to over 200 member-only databases, many covering all of Ireland; and free access to our research library in Belfast.
- Free access to over 50,000 gravestone inscriptions and to *History of the Irish Parliament* online.
- 15% off the Foundation's publications.
- Discounts on research consultations and initial assessments as well as privileged access to the Foundation's research expertise.
- Discounted attendance at our family history courses.



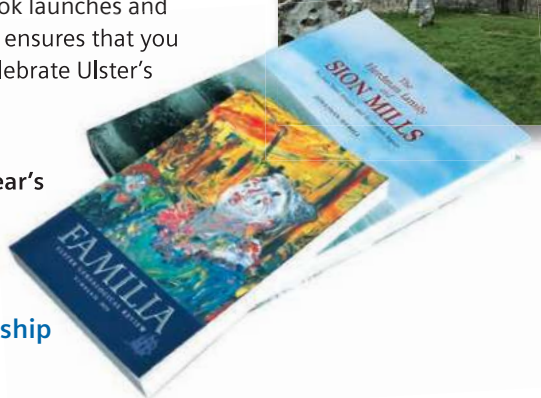
Access to our members' area at www.ancestryireland.com/membership

The online members' area contains over 160 articles from previous issues of *Familia* 1985–2013 and further articles on research and guides to sources.

Celebrate Ulster's heritage: educational and social events

Be part of and contribute to a vibrant Irish research community. The Foundation frequently holds local and international lecture tours, book launches and other functions. Your membership ensures that you are kept informed of all events. Celebrate Ulster's connection with the wider world.

Prices start from as little as **UK£38/US\$53/CAN\$66** for one year's membership.



Irish family history conferences



Conference delegates at PRONI, October 2015

The Foundation's annual family history conferences are devised to let you trace your Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors for yourself with the assistance of the Foundation's expert staff and researchers.

You can learn about the history of Ireland and your ancestors' lives and migration experiences first-hand through assisted research with our team of genealogists in the Belfast and Dublin archives, complemented by excursions through Ireland's beautiful landscape to some of our most historic sites.



Our experienced and expert research staff will be on hand in the archives to provide you with the advice you need to help find your ancestors. They will be available to direct you to sources that could be helpful in your quest for more information on your forebears, and will be ready to

assist with reading difficult handwriting and understanding more about the documents you will be consulting.

Key attractions

Should you prefer to spend more time savouring the enchanting landscape and historic sites of your ancestors, each day there will be a visit to some of Ireland's best visitor attractions.

Journey into pre-history and marvel at the UNESCO World Heritage site at Newgrange. Look out onto the North Atlantic Ocean from the famous stones of the Giant's Causeway and visit Kilmainham Gaol, one of Dublin city's most important monuments and visitor attractions.

View the beautifully-illustrated Book of Kells at Trinity College, walk on the famous Walls of Derry and have afternoon tea at Barons Court, home of the Duke of Abercorn.



Dunluce Castle, Co. Antrim

Great conference UHF! It was very Informative, well organized, friendly, and fun. Looking forward to my next one

Suzanne Billings,
Pennsylvania,
USA



What is included in the price

For all those taking part in our *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* conferences the following is included:

- Five evening meals
- Six lunches
- Four morning teas/coffees
- Transport during the event (from the designated drop-off and pick-up point)
- Talks and tours
- Entrance fees
- Research assistance by professional genealogists
- Complimentary research assessment
- Optional pre-conference Irish genealogy essentials course

The 2018 conference will run from 5–12 September. Celebrate 300 years and more of migration, and mark the tercentenary of the 1718 migration with visits to sites and places synonymous with the migration of Ulster and Irish families to the New Worlds

For more information go to

www.ancestryireland.com/family-history-conference/autumn

The Foundation normally holds family history events in June and September each year, however this can vary. Check the Foundation's website regularly for upcoming events.

The Ulster Historical Foundation's genealogy conferences can be summed up in one word: **OUTSTANDING!**

Marcia Falconer,
Ontario, Canada

Delegates with Dr Brian Lambkin (Mellon Centre for Migration Studies) at the Ulster American Folk Park, June 2014





Irish genealogy essentials family history courses

The Foundation offers the most comprehensive Irish family history focused genealogy course available in the UK and Ireland.



Our Irish Genealogy Essentials course embraces the unique nature of Irish family history research. It is ideal if you:

- Have no experience with genealogy or family history research
- Have some experience with genealogical research, but want to develop your skills and knowledge further
- Consider yourself a more experienced genealogical researcher who wants to learn new techniques and lesser known sources.

Prof. Sir George Bain
(UHF Trustee)
speaking at the
ceremony to award
course certificates,
September 2017





The Foundation's research library

The five day courses are delivered by the Foundation's experienced staff and will offer participants three days of intensive learning, with practical demonstrations using relevant websites and other electronic resources and a day and a half of guided research in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (a shorter three-day event is offered as an option during the Foundation's family history conferences).

Participants will have full access to the Foundation's research and newspaper library, electronic resources, and of course the expertise of our staff. The course will cover topics such as Irish land divisions; nineteenth and early twentieth century census returns; church records; civil records; Griffith's Valuation; tithe applotment books; wills and testamentary papers; landed estate records; school registers; and of course information on the archives and libraries in Ireland; plus much more!

The knowledge you gain from our **Irish Genealogy Essentials Course** will help you get to grips with research techniques, archives and genealogical sources in Ireland; provide you with the information and skills to further explore your family history and help you find your elusive Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors.

The Foundation offers a growing number of our family history courses throughout the year. For more information visit the website below for details on upcoming programmes:

www.ancestryireland.com/irish-genealogy-essentials/

Class of June 2017





Research Officer, Gillian Hunt presents a 'Causeway tartan' tie to door-prize winner, Memphis TN, March 2014

North American lecture tours

Ulster Historical Foundation has been bringing its historical research expertise and knowledge of Irish archives to North America since 1979, delivering Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy programmes through our annual lecture tours.

The Foundation is the only Irish historical research organisation undertaking regular and extensive family history lecture tours overseas (mainly USA and Canada but also Australia, New Zealand and in Britain). The presenters are from one of Ireland's foremost genealogy research organisations and one of the few agencies within the British Isles to travel regularly to share its knowledge, skills and enthusiasm for Irish archives with American and Canadian audiences.

Our workshops are in-depth and highly educational programmes. Offering full-day and half-day or evening programmes, the speakers deliver presentations on a wide-range of Irish historical and genealogical subjects. The seminars provide very practical and detailed information on how to trace your Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors.

The sessions help the beginner and the seasoned genealogist alike: from the basics (for those new to Irish genealogy) to guidance and research tips on utilising obscure and unusual archival sources for 17th- and 18th-century research. Moreover our programmes are of value to researchers, no matter where your ancestors originate on the island of Ireland.

These expert sessions demonstrate how to get the most out of Irish resources and records, provide strategies for breaking down brick walls, and provide important historical context that may help fill in gaps in your research. The programmes include 'Solving your brick-walls' – a practical internet tutorial where the speakers use online resources and their local knowledge to offer participants tips and specific advice about their personal research interests.

Check out our website to see our upcoming tour schedule at: www.ancestryireland.com/northamericantour2018/

Our staff will deliver the Irish course at the 2018 British Institute hosted by the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History (ISBGFH) in Salt Lake City, 15–19 October 2018. Details can be found at: <https://isbgfh.org/cpage.php?pt=56>

If you belong to a group that would like to invite the Foundation to deliver a genealogical research programme in your area, please contact the Executive Director, Fintan Mullan, at: enquiry@uhf.org.uk

All of our events are open to the general public as well as members of the host organisations. Our staff are happy to travel to any location where we are invited to speak and can offer a wide range of lectures which we tailor to suit a group's specific needs or interests.

Book stall, BIFHSGO event,
Ottawa ON, March 2015



Six steps to get started researching your Irish ancestors

Success in Irish genealogy can never be guaranteed. The loss of so many records combined with poor record-keeping has made the task of searching out Irish forebears more difficult than in other parts of the world. Nonetheless, there are many sources that can be checked and which do have the potential to reveal much about your family history in Ireland. Our simple six-step guide can help you get started.

1 Search the online records of www.rootsireland.ie

www.rootsireland.ie contains over 20 million Irish genealogical records, including church and civil records, census returns and gravestone inscriptions that have been digitised by the various county-based genealogical research centres in Ireland. The site also contains the largest collection of church and civil records for the island of Ireland that are searchable online.



2 Search digitised church records online

The website www.irishgenealogy.ie is indexing and digitising Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic Church records for Carlow, Cork, Kerry and Dublin city. The National Library of Ireland has digitised its microfilms of Roman Catholic Church registers up to 1880 – these are available at <https://registers.nli.ie/>. This is helpful to search if you know the parish or area your ancestors came; if you do not know the year or parish, you will find it more useful and efficient to first search the Roman Catholic databases available on www.rootsireland.ie.

3 Search census returns online

The only two censuses which are available in their entirety for the island of Ireland were compiled in 1901 and 1911. These censuses are available for free online at www.census.nationalarchives.ie. Although ages given in census returns are frequently inaccurate, they can be a basis for searching for birth certificates or baptismal records. This website also holds scans of the surviving fragments of the 1821 to 1851 census returns. It is possible to download a scanned image of the actual census, and related forms for each household.



4 Search the civil registration records

Civil registration of all births, marriages and deaths began in Ireland in 1864. Non-Catholic marriages had been registered by the state from 1845. The Irish government website www.irishgenealogy.ie contains historic civil records for Ireland – births over 100 years, marriages over 75 years and deaths over 50 years (those for Northern Ireland up to 1921).

5 Search the PRONI eCatalogue

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni) is one of the best regional archives in the British Isles. Many of its collections have been catalogued in some detail and its once voluminous paper catalogues are now available electronically.

It is worth spending some time going through the eCatalogue to see if any records of potential relevance can be discovered. These can then be searched if you are able to visit PRONI in person or you could commission the Foundation to examine documents on your behalf (see page 3).

Date of Entrance, 1875..		Register Number	Parent's Name or Name	Age of Child at Birth, Month, Day	Religion	Residence	Occupation or Name of Living of Parents	State the Name and County of the last National School at which the Pupil attended; and the Class in which he last passed.		
								School	County	Class
27.9.15	206	1	John M. Bruide	15-7-89	R.C.	Duncarbit	Farmer	St. Mary's	Leitrim	1st
27.9.15	207	2	Francis M. Baido	25-7-89	R.C.	"	Farmer	St. Mary's	Leitrim	1st
4.10.15	208	3	Edward Murray	11.10.89	R.C.	Ardeaghmore	Shopkeeper	St. Anne's	Armagh	2nd
3.11.15	209	4	Edwin Lord nee	1.12.89	Presb.	Drumshoolin	Unusually	St. Peter's	Down	2nd
31.1.16	210	5	Daniel M. Neill	13.1.89	Presb.	Leverock	Shepherd	St. Dun's	Armagh	2nd

6 Search Valuation records online

After civil and church registers, probably the most important nineteenth-century source for researching Irish ancestors is Griffith's Valuation of c. 1848–64, the first truly comprehensive survey of property in Ireland. The website www.askaboutireland.ie provides a free search facility.

Tithe Applotment Books from the 1820s and 1830s only concern land liable for tithes so will not include ancestors who were, for example, labourers or lived in urban areas. Nonetheless it is an important source for identifying surname locations in the pre-famine period. Those books for the Republic of Ireland (which include a few parishes in Northern Ireland which border the Republic) are now available online at:

www.titheapplotmentbooks.nationalarchives.ie.

Additional valuation records are also available for free on the websites of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni) and the National Archives of Ireland www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie

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