

O'MAHONY

The O'Mahony Society



NEWSLETTER

Apr/May 2008

Issue 38

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2008 Gathering at Ardintenant Schull, Co. Cork, June 13th –15th

The 2008 Gathering will be held on the grounds of Ardintenant Castle, in Schull, County Cork on Sunday, June 15, 2008.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FRIDAY

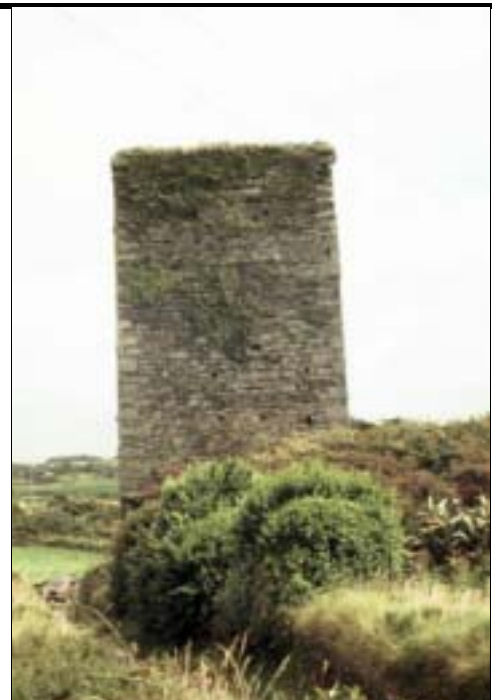
Evening Informal welcome at Harbour View Hotel

SATURDAY

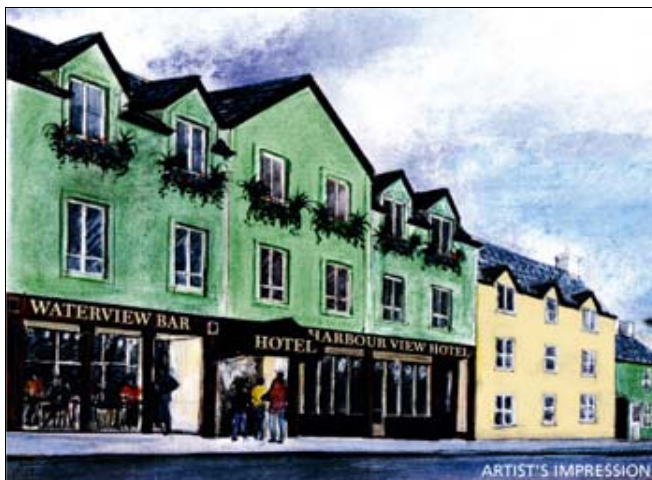
Morning Genealogy workshop
Afternoon Visit to Rosbrin Castle
Evening Council meeting at Harbour View Hotel followed by AGM

SUNDAY

Afternoon Picnic at Ardintenant Castle.
Clan Gathering, inauguration of new Taoiseach
Evening Banquet at Harbour View Hotel, €30 per person



Ardintenant Castle
Photo taken in 1980 by Ken McConnell.



HEADQUARTERS:

The Harbour View Hotel in Schull (left)
The hotel is holding 10 rooms for the O Mahony Society. The B&B rate is €55 per person per night.
Address: Main Street, Schull, Co. Cork .
E-mail: enquiries@harbourviewhotelschull.com
Ph: 353 028 28101
Fx: 353 028 27557
<http://www.harbourviewhotelschull.com>



NEWS FROM NORA

*CARTLANNAI (ARCHIVIST) OF MUINTIR MHATHÚNA AND
EDITOR OF THE O MAHONY SOCIETY JOURNAL*



HOW TO SEARCH FOR YOUR ANCESTORS USING MORMON RESOURCES

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon) Family History Library

Irish Records have been microfilmed from the following archives and the films are available on loan through the Family History Centers. Consult the Family History Library (FHL) Catalogue. Note that Irish records held by the FHL are always catalogued by Civil Parish.

MICROFILMING FROM THESE ARCHIVES

Genealogical Office, Dublin
Registry of Deeds, Dublin
National Archive, Dublin
Trinity College Library, Dublin
General Register Office, Dublin
General Register Office, Belfast
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
Linenhall Library, Belfast
Newry Public Library
Rotunda Maternity Hospital, Dublin
Valuation Office, Dublin
National Library of Ireland
Royal Irish Academy, Dublin
Various Roman Catholic Dioceses
Limerick County Archives
Longford / Westmeath County Library
Leitrim County Library
Monaghan County Museum
Armagh County Museum
Royal Irish Fusiliers Regimental Museum
Meath County Library
Society of Friends (only some)

1) CENSUS

- a) Pre-1901 All known government censuses which have survived
- b) 1901 All Ireland
- c) 1911 All Ireland

2) CENSUS SUBSTITUTES

- a) Tithe Applotment Books 1823 – 1838
- b) Griffith's Primary Valuation 1848 – 1864
- c) Householders' Index to Griffith's 1848 – 1864
- d) Valuation Cancellation Books 1855 – 1900

- e) Old Age Pensioners' Claims Northern Ireland only

3) CHURCH RECORDS

- a) Roman Catholic Dioceses: always check the local catalogue, e.g., Achonry, Ardagh & Clonmacnoise, Clogher, Clonfert, Cork, Cloyne, Dro-more, Elphin, Galway, Killlala, Killaloe, Kilmore, Limerick, Ossory, Raphoe, & Tuam. NOTE: not all parish registers of the above dioceses are microfilmed.
- b) Church of Ireland
Very few parish registers have been filmed. Check locality catalogue to see if any of the nineteenth century genealogists made abstracts

Betham	Crossle	Paterson
Burke	Grove White	Swanzy
Carrigan	Leslie	Gertrude Thrift

 Marriage License Bonds: Indexes & Abstracts
Harold Jones Collection-Co. Cork families
- c) Presbyterian Some, check catalogue
- d) Society of Friends Some, check catalogue

4) CIVIL REGISTRATION

- | INDEXES | Births | Marriages* | Deaths |
|---------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| a) All Ireland | 1864-1921 | 1845-1921 | 1864-1921 |
| b) Republic | 1922-1958 | 1922-58 | 1922-58 |
| c) Northern Ireland | 1922-1959 | 1922-59 | 1922-59 |
-
- | CERTIFICATES | Births | Marriages* | Deaths |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------|
| d) All Ireland | 1864-
Mar 1881
1900-1913 | 1845-70 | 1864-70 |
| e) Republic | 1930-1955 | none | none |
| f) Northern Ireland | 1922-59 | 1922-59 | 1922-59 |

*marriages registered between 1845 and 1863 were non-Catholic ceremonies

5) PROBATE RECORDS

- a) Pre-1858 Based on Church of Ireland diocese
- b) Post-1858 Based on civil divisions, indexed annually by alphabet

(Continued on page 7)



TAOISEACH'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all kinsmen by blood or affection:

It has been a rewarding year for the O Mahony Society and I look forward to seeing many members and friends at our Gathering at Ardintenant in June.

Work on the O Mahony DNA project continues to arouse enthusiastic interest among members all over the world. The more people subscribe, the better results we can obtain!

Let us hope for a bright summer weekend when we rally round Ardintenant Castle on Sunday, June 15.

All the best—
Eileen Mahoney McConnell



MUINTIR MHATHÚNA

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ARDINTENANT CASTLE

Excerpted from *The Castles and Fortified Houses of West Cork* by Michael J. Carroll

The Gathering on Sunday will take place on the grounds of Ardintenant Castle.

Ard an tSaighneain Height of the Beacon
Townland: Ardintenant
Parish: Schull *Scoil Mhuire* School of Mary

Ardintenant, or White castle, was built circa 1310 by the O Mahonys on the site of an old rath or fortification, within the ramparts of a ring fort which would have been the old dún or clan seat. As such it is characteristic of the local habit of using ancient sites, and it became the principal seat of the O Mahony clan of Ivagh. It is mentioned in the *Annals of Logh Ce* as Ard an Tennail, or height of the Fire.

The castle was originally surrounded by a defensive wall with flanking towers. The remains consist of the tower house and one mural tower, both rectangular in shape. The tower has four stories. There is access at both ground level and the first floor, but the main entrance is on the first story some eighteen feet from ground level, and was probably reached by timber stairs or ladder. On the first floor there is a garderobe chamber, and the stairs rising to the third floor, where the rooms have stone window-seats. Spiral stairs lead to the roof. The castle's design is echoed by that of the mural tower, which seems to have had three stories.

Ardintenant is still in relatively good condition. Like all the O Mahony castles it stands isolated and bleak in the landscape and, also typically, it has no fireplace.



Above: Ardintenant Castle
Photo by Mike Searle (<http://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/498612>)



Ardintenant Castle
Photo taken at the 1980 Gathering by Ken McConnell.

The inhabitants may have relied on braziers at different levels, or maybe they were too hot-blooded to need a fire.

According to the *Records of the Four Masters* a Dermot O Mahony was the chieftain residing at Ardintenant. He died in 1427 leaving four sons—Dermot of Dunbeacon, Fineen of Rosbrin castle, Donal Mór who built Dunmanus castle, and Conor, who was called 'Cabraice' as he always wore baggy pants. In 1592 another Dermot O Mahony, chieftain, surrendered the castle and lands to the Crown, and had them regranted to him. He died that same year leaving two sons, one of whom was called Conor and inherited the title in 1600. His mother being one of the MacCarthy Reaghs, he supported the earls in the Battle of Kinsale, but died shortly afterwards in 1602. With the coffers empty his younger brother Donal, who succeeded him, was forced to lease the castle in 1607 to a Thomas Holland, and afterwards to a Geoffrey Galway. Donal O Mahony took up residence at Ballydivlin castle.

Rosbrin Castle

On Saturday afternoon, the clan will be visiting Rosbrin Castle.

Excerpted from *The Castles and Fortified Houses of West Cork* by Michael J. Carroll

ROSBRIN

Ros Broin Bron's Headland
Townland: Rosbrin
Parish: Schull *Scoil Mhuire* School of Mary

This O Mahony castle was named after Bron, the grandfather of Cian O Mahony, and located on a rock overlooking the sea. It was reputedly built in 1310, but the remains are fifteenth or sixteenth century. Records describe a four-story tower house with two flanking towers and a very similar design to that of Ardintenant. The stairway, which was incorporated into the thick wall, ran from the first floor to the third, where there were a number of chambers. Because of the particular manner in which the castle has collapsed, it shows a typical structure in section.

Rosbrin was forfeited in 1562, when Donal O Mahony was executed in Cork for piracy on the high seas. At the time there were in excess of forty-five privateers and pirates working the south coast at any given time, and the O Mahonys, MacCarthys and O Driscolls were among the Irish contingent. In 1565 the castle was restored to



O Mahony Finn and his son Cornelius, on the basis of a tenancy only. In 1571 it was in the hands of a John Perrot, who passed it to a hired soldier in the English forces named MacSweeney. The castle was attacked that same year, probably by the O Mahonys, who seem to have regained possession. Donal O Mahony lost it again in 1584, and the Rosbrin was granted to Oliver Lambert. Lightning and storms over the last two centuries have reduced the castle to its present somewhat perilous state.

From O Mahony Castles of Ivagha by Isaac Nash Notter
Excerpted from *The O Mahony Journal*, Vol. 2, June 1972

Rosbrin Castle was called after Bron, grandfather of Cian, the O Mahony ancestor. It is situated two miles from Ardintenant Castle, Schull, on the same side of the bay, and opposite Horse Island, built on a rock over the ocean. In March, 1905 a considerable portion of the west wall was thrown down by lightning.

Sir Fineen O Mahony had possession of this castle with 91/2 plough lands, which he inherited from his parents. He was born and reared at Ardintenant and acquired the reputation of being the most learned scholar of his time. He wrote an Irish version of "The Travels of Sir John Mandeville" and a copy of it was found by Professor Todd of Trinity College, Dublin in 1869, in the library at Rennes, in Brittany. He transcribed a few pages of it and on his return to Dublin read it to the Royal Irish Academy. Induced by Todd's lecture the Hon. John Abercrombie visited Rennes, translated the manuscript and reviewed it in "The Review Celtique."

"The Annals of Ulster", under the year 1496 bear this reference: "Fineen O Mahony died this year a week before Christmas, an intelligent, polished, erudite man, well learned in the history of the world, last and hither from end to end."



In 1562 Donal, son of Conor O Mahony, the then owner, was tried for felony and executed at Cork, his estate being forfeited. Valueless, as no English tenant would live there, Rosbrin was given to O Mahony Finn, head of the Ivagha sept, and Cornelius, his son. In 1571 Sir John Perrott gave the castle to McSweeney, a gallowglas, and in 1576 a pardon was granted to Teige McConor O Mahony for rebellion.

Search for an Ancestor

Editor's Note: At the Genealogy session of the 2007 Gathering, long-time Society member Lois Pope addressed the group and asked for help in searching for her ancestors, John O Mahony and his wife Hanorah McCarthy Hayes. If anyone has any clues concerning the birth places and parentage of her ancestors, please contact: Lois N. Pope, 2077 W-1835N, Lehi, Utah 84043-3048.

According to the recently found journal of Jeremiah George Mahany, his father John O Mahony was born in Co. Cork, Ireland (no town or parish given) about 1815. He was the youngest of six brothers (no names mentioned). In about 1833 John married Hanorah McCarthy Hayes, a widow with two children—John James (?) and Mary Jane (?) Hayes. Hanorah, born in Dublin (?) about 1805, was ten years John's senior. They sailed for the Miramichi, New Brunswick, Canada in 1834, taking only Hanorah's daughter, Mary and leaving little John Hayes in Ireland.

On ship passage, a son, Denis Henry, was born. Upon arriving they settled on the Black River between Chatham and New Castle where John worked at the shipyard of Gilmore and Rankin. In their six years of residency there, they had three more children—Jeremiah George (B Nov. 15, 18360, Anna (B. 1838) and Ellen.

In 1841, they moved briefly to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada where another child was born in 1842, dying at birth. In 1834 they moved to Buffalo, New York where on Dec. 5, 1844, a son, Albert Daniel (my great grandfather) was born. In 1845, Hanorah, named after her mother, was born. On March 17, 1846, the mother Hanorah died, and a few weeks later little Hanna followed her to the grave.

After the mother's death in 1846, the children were separated. Following is a short history of each by J.G. as he wrote from memory in 1865, the year of this father's death. Fairly soon after their arrival in the new world, the spelling of their name became Mahany instead of Mahony.

About 1853, Mary Hayes went west and married James Callahan, returning to visit Buffalo in 1854 with their infant daughter, Mary Ann, then returned home to Afton, Ill. Taking with them



Lois Pope addressing the attendees of the Genealogy Session, June 2007



Jeremiah George Mahany, second son of John Mahony, and his first three children

Anna and Albert Daniel. In 1845, Denis Henry left home, took employment on the lakes till about 1854 then went to New Orleans taking work both on the river and on shore until the Civil War broke out then he joined the Topographical Corp of the South Confederation, later enlisting as a private soldier. His regiment was all destroyed or captured except him. He escaped by swimming three miles part of the time under water, for which feat he received the rank of Major which office he held until the first battle of Fredericksburg in Dec. 1862, where he was killed. His father and another brother fought in this same battle on the Union side.

Jerry George left home in 1848, sailed on the lakes one year, worked on a farm near Buffalo three years, clerked in a store in Buffalo one year, attended school one year, clerked again three years, moved west to Dubuque, Iowa June 4, 1857. Here he clerked, surveyed, kept hotel, and engaged in brokerage and mining. In April 1860 he moved to the Rocky Mountains then known as Pikes Peak, where he was residing in 1865 when he wrote his diary. In Nov., 1863 J.G. returned to Buffalo where he married Sarah C. oldest daughter of Joseph Scott and Abby Drake Burton on May 5, 1865. He then returned with her to Colorado where a son, Frank Albert was born April 5, 1865 in Montrose Gold Co. Colonial House in Lincoln District, Fall River, Clear Creek Co. Colo. Territory, Mahanyville Precinct.

Anna went to New Orleans to put herself in Denis' charge about 1856. After his death she remained near Natchez until sent for by J.G. in 1864 offering her a home with him in Colorado. She became discontented and "went among strangers" who procured for her a school in Clear Creek Co.

In 1848 *Ellen* was adopted by A.C. Moore of Buffalo. In 1864 she married John C. Graves and moved to Herkimer, NY where a daughter was born to them the same year.

Albert Daniel moved from Alton, Illinois to Bloomington with the Callahans about 1856 and from there to Ohio (then later to western Colorado and helped establish the town of Fruita, west of Grand Junction where he built a fine home and raised a large family. (John, now Mahany died on April 25, 1865 in a Buffalo poor house still suffering from wounds he received in the Civil War. He had suffered as much in his new country as he had in Ireland.)



NEWS FROM NORA (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

- 6) LAND RECORDS
- Valuation Office: Griffith's Valuation & Valuation Cancellation Books
 - Registry of Deeds: From 1708, indexed by county, townland and grantor
 - Estate Records: Check locality catalogue, especially the Dr. R.J. Hayes volume
 - Encumbered Estates Court: filmed at PRONI, contains some non-Ulster material
- 7) SCHOOL RECORDS North of Ireland only

The LDS FAMILY SEARCH Computer Program includes: INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX, IRELAND Which contains over 1 million names for Ireland and is available on microfiche, FHC computer or web page – <http://www.familysearch.org>

ANCESTRY FILE LOCALITY CATALOGUE
US SOCIAL SECURITY DEATH INDEX

N.B.: Always, ALWAYS, check the source of the information. Some material derives from FHL Extraction Programs. These are very well monitored. Other data is collected from personal submissions. This material is not checked—so take care and look at the original sources.

LDS PUBLICATIONS

A Basic Genealogical Research Guide for Ireland, revised 1994
Irish County Maps for Ulster, Leinster, Connaught & Munster
See the LDS Publications Order Forms

Books on Family History Centers & Catalogues
Linda Adair Hjelm, Heritage Creations, WA – *The Irish Family History Catalogue Simplified*
James & Paula Warren – *Your Guide to the Family History Library*
J. Carlyle Parker - *Going to Salt Lake City to do Family Research*

NEW!!! Consult the catalogues of commercial information Irish CDs now coming on the market. Again, always, check your findings with the original source.

Highly recommended: www.eneclann.ie

Visit our website
www.omahonysociety.org

O Mahony Pubs in Chicago

Excerpted from: Chicago Tribune March 13, 2008
[Contributed to the Newsletter by Tom Mahoney of Buffalo Grove, IL]

METROMIX Tapped In

There's certainly no shortage of Irish pubs in Chicago, yet every year a new crop comes to town. [These O Mahony pubs celebrated their first St. Patrick's Day in March, 2008.]

FINLEY MAHONY'S

The story: The Finley behind the bar is the youngest son of one of the owners, Dominic O Mahony. Born in England and raised in Ireland, the big O Mahony is also behind The Drum & Monkey (1435 W. Taylor St.) in Little Italy. 3701 N. Broadway; 773-549-0226.

MAHONEY'S PUB & GRILLE

The story: Mahoney's is named for famous Mahoneys and Mahony, including John O Mahony, an Irish-American Civil War colonel who is said to have planned to conquer Canada so he could trade it back to England

in exchange for Ireland's independence. [The Colonel John O Mahony reference founded the Fenian Brotherhood in America, while his colleague James Stephens back home organized it as the IRB—Irish Republican Brotherhood.] 551 N. Ogden Ave.; 312-733-2121.

--Karen Budel
jnmkikkmbudell@tribune.com



O Mahony Surname Y-Chromosome DNA Project



Geneticists can now study the Y-chromosome DNA of males bearing all variations of the O Mahony surname to determine whether or not they are related and the approximate degree of their kinship. The O Mahony Surname Y-Chromosome DNA Project has made considerable progress; we now have 28 participants. We are an historically ancient and varied Clan with many facets, so we will need more participants to meet our project objectives.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Identify how many distinct O Mahony family lines originated in Ireland.
- Determine whether or not O Mahony Irish emigrants to a given country were related to each other.
- Enable a living male O Mahony anywhere in the world to possibly identify his Irish family of origin.

Within several of the Clan Branches we now have examples of potential common recent ancestors. The results for some individuals indicate a "genealogically" significant relationship. That term means that two individuals may have a common ancestor within the last 1,200 years.

Men bearing the O Mahony name are encouraged to join the project. Only men carry the Y-chromosome; it is passed from father to son with little variation

(mutation) from generation to generation. Given our large Clan with several major branches, it appears that we'll need a larger number of markers to find affinities and "close clusters" among those tested. The smaller number of markers can be adequate when one is testing a very specific hypothesis (such as confirming whether two descendants are from the same common ancestor or not) and when the surname is very unusual. Unfortunately O Mahony (with variants) is all too common for Cork and more sample points of the test should help differentiate branches and sub-branches better and how they are all interrelated.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT

If you are a direct-line male O Mahony descendant and would like to have your DNA tested for matches with others, simply visit our webpage (www.omahonysociety.org) and click on the O Mahony Surname DNA Project.

As a project participant, you will be eligible for a discounted test price of:

- \$269 for a 67-marker test (ideal, but one can always upgrade later)
- \$189 for a 37-marker test (recommended)
- \$148 for a 25-marker test
- \$99 for a 12-marker test (discouraged, used primarily for variant spellings to rule out an O Mahony link) plus a small fee for shipping & handling and return postage.

Thanks to Maeve McConnell Perno and Linda McConnell Baker for their generous sponsorship of test kits.

O Mahony Surname DNA Project Committee Established

Charter:

NAME: O Mahony Surname DNA Project Committee (AKA the DNA Committee)

SPONSOR: The O Mahony Society/Muintir Mhathuna

MEMBERS: Jim Castellan (Chair), Jean Dinwiddie, Nora Hickey, Bill Maney, Paul Mahoney

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1) Provide an active program to increase general awareness of the surname project, its progress and results to appropriate communities and individuals including publications in appropriate venues to document O Mahony history and attract participants.
- 2) Identify, recruit and, if necessary, fund specific surname project participants with documented family genealogies who might provide significant anchors for the O Mahony surname.

3) Provide oversight to and project group administration for the surname project with the DNA test vendor, currently Family Tree DNA.

4) Obtain, review and retain family documentation associated with each participant's DNA test result. Develop an agreed standard for the information with formatting for maintaining this linked information. Encourage additional research for better family documentation where indicated by the review.

5) As agreed, create and maintain data summarization (s) and display(s) with all test results. Refresh appropriate public web pages and other out-of-date public displays and reports.

6) Maintain awareness of surname Y-DNA technical and project administration developments including the areas of testing, data interpretation, summarization, display and communication.

7) Provide appropriate status reports to the Council, the Society and other appropriate communities and individuals.