

Daviess and Martin Counties: Irish Immigrants Buried in Catholic Cemeteries, 1836–1920

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Headstone inscriptions offer ample evidence that significant numbers of Irish Catholics settled in parts of rural Indiana in the nineteenth century. A case in point is a cluster of cemeteries in Daviess and Martin Counties. This is strikingly so in four locations in the southeastern townships of Daviess County: at the Catholic cemeteries associated with Saint Patrick, Corning; Saint Patrick, Glencoe (just north of the village of Glendale); Saint Peter, Montgomery; and Saint Mary in Barr Township (located about three miles northwest by north from Loogootee). Significant numbers of Irish natives also are buried at Saint Rose in Mount Pleasant and at Saint John in Loogootee, both in western Martin County. In addition, many graves of Irish immigrants are in the large cemetery of Saint Joseph outside the town of Washington. It is likely also that many natives of Ireland are buried at Saint Michael, near Plainfield, in northern Daviess County, but no headstones bearing inscriptions suggesting this have survived. Additionally, given the distribution of the Irish in this general area in the nineteenth century, this is probably also true of the Catholic cemeteries at Saint Martin in Whitfield and Saint Joseph in Bramble, in western Martin County.¹

The lists below are compiled from a survey I conducted in 2004 in all these cemeteries. The information from Saint Rose is based on both my own examination of that site and a cross-check with information garnered from a survey conducted by the Martin County Historical Society between 1963 and 1971.² The earliest Irish burial to be recorded on a headstone in these cemeteries is that of Pfelix Bradley, who died in 1836 and was buried at Saint Peter, Montgomery. The most recent is that of Julia Burns, who died in 1920 and was also buried in this cemetery.

The headstones of these Irish immigrants are remarkably detailed with respect to their origins in Ireland. In almost all cases the county of birth is noted and often so is the parish, which allows for a precise identification of point of origin.

The immigrants whose names and places of origin appear in these lists are an unusual subset of the Irish who came to America. While the Protestant Irish, who arrived mostly in the eighteenth century, appear to have largely settled on the land and continued to farm in their

adopted country, their Catholic compatriots, who mostly came to the United States in the nineteenth century, overwhelmingly settled in towns and cities; only a small minority of them became farmers. Therefore, those who settled in rural parts of Daviess and Martin Counties represent an unusual aspect of the story of the Irish in Indiana.

Notes

1. For more information about the Irish in Daviess and Martin Counties, see Daniel Gahan's two-part article, "'Irish Immigrants in the Hoosier Hills': The Irish Catholic Farming Communities of Daviess and Martin Counties in the Early Nineteenth Century" in *The Hoosier Genealogist: Connections*: "Part 1: Irish Paths to Rural Southern Indiana," vol. 58, no. 2 (Fall/Winter 2018): 4–13; "Part 2: Becoming Hoosiers: The Irish of Daviess County, 1850–1888," vol. 59, 1 (Spring/Summer 2019): 4–11.
2. "The Cemeteries of Martin County, Indiana," typescript report, compiled by the Martin County Historical Society, 1963–71, 2:184–91, available at Willard Library, Evansville, Indiana, Reference #RFH IN 977.2382 V2.

Irish Immigrants Buried in Catholic Cemeteries in Daviess and Martin Counties, Indiana

Some notes regarding the tables below:

- Where husbands and wives appear to have been buried together, this is indicated by the letters "h" and "w," respectively.
- Where a birth year, death year, or age at death is not specified on a headstone but can be calculated, this year is inserted in brackets.
- Catholic parish names are transcribed here as they appear on headstones; it should be noted that these are references to Roman Catholic parishes and not to civil parishes.

Saint Peter (Montgomery)

County	Parish Listed on Headstone	Name	Born	Died	Age at Death
Antrim	A--oy(?)	Gaede, Mary	1838	1904	[66]
Cavan	?	Nolan, Rose Ann	1844	1877	33
Derry	Maghera	Bradley, Pfelix	1780	1836	[56]
Derry	?	Bradley, Patrick (h)	1804	1890	[86]
Derry	?	Bradley, Rosanne (w)	1815	?	?
Derry	?	Bradley, Francis	1812	1868	[56]
Kildare		Bradley (Kelly), Ann	1820	1894	74
Derry	Clon-fr(?)	Fitzpatrick, ?	?	?	?
Derry	?	Mackell, James (h)	1809	1880	[71]
Derry	?	Mackell, Mary (w)	1819	1880	[61]
Derry	?	MacTaggart, William (h)	1852	1894	[42]
Derry	?	MacTaggart, Anne (w)	?	?	?
Tyrone	Carmon Rock	Mullen, Michael (h)	1815	1880	[65]
Derry	Minney More	Mullen, Elizabeth (w)	1825	1865	[40]
Down	?	Fegan, Peter	1808	1879	71
Down	?	Fitzpatrick, Patrick	1805	1873	[68]
Down	?	Morgan, Margaret	1827	1905	79
Tyrone	?	Mullen, James	1813	1872	[59]
Tyrone	?	Carlin, James	1807	1880	73
Monaghan	?	Collins, Margaret	1802	1876	[74]
Monaghan	?	Lenen, John	1815	1852	[37]
Monaghan	?	Lenen, Patrick	1805	1852	[47]
Carlow	?	Doyle, Christopher	1837	1892	[55]
Kildare	?	Hart, James (h)	1828	1896	[68]
Tipperary	?	Hart (Eagan), Margaret (w)	1851	1883	[32]
Kildare	?	Hart, James (h)	?	?	85
Kildare	?	Hart, ?(w)	1778	1863	85
Kildare	?	Hart, James	1855	1870	15
Kildare	Clonbeg	Kavanagh, Timothy (h)	1825	1893	[68]
Wexford	New Ross	Kavanagh, Margaret (w)	1841	1905	[64]
Dublin	Clondalkin	Butterly, Thomas	1813	1889	76
Tipperary	Clonmel	Butterly, Elizabeth	1817	1880	63
Kilkenny	?	Shea, James	1811	1878	[67]
Kilkenny	?	Cahill, William (h)	1804	1888(?)	84(?)
Kilkenny	--ing(?)	Cahill, Mary (w)	1812	1871	[59]
Kilkenny	?	Conway, Thomas	1808	1880	[72]
Kilkenny	Templeorum	Griffin, Peter (h)	[1812]	1885	73
Wexford	New Ross	Griffin, Mary (w)	1804	1885	81
Kilkenny	?	Ryan, Michael (h)	1807	1885	[78]
Tipperary	?	Ryan, Mary (w)	1815	1870	[55]
Kilkenny	?	Shea, James	1818	1876	? [58]

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Wicklow	?	O'Neill, Timothy	?	?	?
Longford	?	Healy, Samuel	1857	?[1880]	23
Longford	Cashil(?)	Murray, Daniel	?	1880	?
Longford		Conroy, Denis	1827	1877	[50]
Wexford	Ballygarrett(?)	Cavanagh, Pierce	?	1903	?
Wexford	?	Kavanagh (Doyle), Cath.	1810	18--	?
Wexford	New Ross	Nolen, ?	[1802]	1875	73
Wexford	New Ross	Nolen, James	1815	1896	[81]
Wexford	New Ross	Nolan, Lawrence	1803	1872	[69]
Wexford	?	Nolan, Edward	1805	1879	74
Wexford	?	Nowland, Robert	1810	1865	[55]
Wexford	?	O'Kavanagh, Catherine	1825	1865	[40]
King's Co.	?	Conroy, Denis	1827	1903	[76]
Queen's	Ballygarrett	Conway, Thomas (h)	1795	1860	[65]
Kilkenny	?	Conway, Ellen (w)	1808	1868	[60]
Wicklow	?	O'Neill, Timothy	?	?	?
Mayo	Kilmore	Hevron, Lawrence	?	1851	?
Galway	?	Burns, Julia	[1841]	1920	79
Sligo	K----ass(?)	Connaughton, ? (h)	[1817]	1882	65
Sligo	K----ass(?)	Connaughton, Mary (w)	?	1873	?
Sligo	Claddagh	Eagan, Austin	?	?	?
Tipperary	?	Kennedy, James	1810	1879	[69]
Tipperary	?	Heffernan, Michael	[1813]	1884	71
Tipperary	?	Heffernan, Daniel (h)	1815	1907	[92]
Cork	?	(Meehan), Catherine (w)	1826	1903	[77]
Kerry	?	O'Connor, Michael (h)	[1810]	1877	67
Tipperary	?	O'Connor, Julia (w)	[1816]	1891	75

Saint Mary (Barr Township)

County	Parish	Name	Born	Died	Age At Death
Antrim	?	Mullins, ?	[1818]	1888	70
Donegal	?	Gillin, Edward	[1786]	1858	72
Dublin	'City'	Dwyer, Daniel	1815	1854	[39]
Dublin	?	Dunn, Thomas	[1810]	1887	77
Kildare	Allen	Doyle, John (h)	[1812]	1870	58
Kildare	Johnstown	Doyle, Sarah (w)	[1812]	1890	78
Kildare	Allen	Cleary, Michael	[1822]	1893	71
Longford	?	Hopkins, Patrick	?	1904	?
Longford	?	Matthews, Michael	[1802]	1874	72
Westmeath	?	Cooney, Christopher (h)	1810	1886	75
Kilkenny	?	Cooney, Mary (w)	1815	1888	[73]
Westmeath	?	Grannan, Bridget	[1805]	1898	93
Westmeath	?	Drew, John	1844	1909	[65]
Wexford	?	Fitzgerald, John	[1779]	1867	88
Wexford	?	Fitzgerald, John	[1818]	1877	59
Cork	?	Dowling, Patrick	[1823]	1895	72
Cork	?	McCarthy, Dennis	1804	1888	[84]
Tipperary	?	Flynn, Thomas (h)	1813	1897	[84]
Wexford	?	Flynn, Ann (w)	1825	1895	[70]
Limerick	Ballinlough	Murphy, Thomas R.	1818	1894	[76]
Limerick	Cullen	Garan, James (h)	[1808]	1873	[65]
Limerick	Kilteely	Garan, Mary (w)	[1806]	1871	65
Roscommon	?	Cunningham, Michael	[1814]	1887	[73]

Saint Patrick (Corning)

County	Parish	Name	Born	Died	Age At Death
Cavan	?	Donahue, James (h)	1812	1904	[92]
Cavan	?	(Murphy), Mary (w)	1834	?	?
Cavan	?	Flanigan, James	[1808]	1884	76
Cavan	Dean	Smith, Bryant (h)	[1809]	1886	77
Cavan	Annagalle	Smith, Mary (w)	1834	?	?
Tyrone	?	Toy, Mary	[1810]	1883	73
Derry	?	Morin, James (h)	[1830]	1910	80
Roscommon	?	Morin, Margaret (w)	1841	1912	[71]
Donegal	Stranorlar	Gallagher, Hannah	[1821]	1900	79
Donegal	Stranorlar	Gallagher, Manus (h)	1826	1900	[74]
Leitrim	Fenagh	Gallagher, Marg. (w)	[1830]	1893	63
Longford	Lissoy?	Grannan, Patrick	1810	1893	[83]
Longford	Columkill	Conlin, James (h)	?	1879	?
Longford	Columkill	Conlin, Mary (w)	[1817]	1889	72
Longford	?	Farrell, Andrew	[1802]	1894	92
Longford	?	Grannan, Patrick	1810	1893	[83]
Queen's Co.	Mount----?	Downey, Thomas	[1804]	1871	67
Queen's Co.	Mountmellik	?	[1805]	1876	71
Queen's Co.	?	Kelly, James	?	1860	?
Wicklow	?	Jones, John	[1809]	1887	78
Kilkenny	?	Kelly, Margaret	1827	1876	49
Kilkenny	?	Buckley, Catherine	[1818]	1906	88
Kilkenny	?	Kelly, Margaret	[1800]	1870	70
Kilkenny	Windgap	Shea, Michael (h)	[1810]	1888	78
Queen's Co.	Mountmellik	Shea, Catherine (w)	[1813]	1877	64
Kilkenny	Gordon	Walsh, Edward	[1829]	1874	45
Kilkenny	?	Walsh, James	?	1904	?
Carlow	?	Kehoe, Bridget	[1834]	1909	75
Wexford	?	Kehoe, James	1822	1887	[65]
Wexford	?	Byrne, James I. (h)	1814	1873	[59]
Wexford	?	Byrne, Anastasia (w)	1807	1872	[65]
Wexford	Islandford(?)	Pinion, John (h)	1814	?	?
Wexford	Islandford(?)	Pinion, Bridget (w)	[1813]	1893	80
Leitrim	Fenagh	Fanning, Thomas (h)	1812	1871	[59]
Leitrim	Ballinamore	Fanning, Bridget (w)	1810	1893	[83]
Leitrim	Ballinamore	Kelly, James	[1824]	1890	66
Galway	?	?	[1821]	1871	50
Clare	?	Curran, Anna	1847	1905	[58]
Cork		Walsh, Catherine	1838	1912	[74]

Saint Patrick (Glencoe)

County	Parish	Name	Born	Died	Age At Death
Cavan	Mulchoren	Riley, Patrick	[1804]	1850	46
Down	?	Fagan(?), Michael	[1835]	1880	45
Tyrone	Fintery	Mines, Patrick	[1822]	1904	82
Tyrone	?	Mines, Rosanna	[1830]	1910	80
Tyrone	?	Mines, James	[1822]	1904	82
Tyrone	Fintona	Toy, Andrew	[1811]	1859	48
Tyrone	Fintona	Toy, John	[1810]	1852	42
Meath	Kells	Bennett, Patrick	[1806]	1880	74
Meath	Kilmead	Garegan, Margaret	[1801]	1851	50
Meath	Kells	Kellett, Michael	1805	1870	[65]
Meath	Kells	Kellett, William	[1775]	1853	78
Kildare	?	McDonnell, William	1811	1853	41
Kildare	?	Kelly (h)	1787	1848	[61]
Kildare	?	Kelly, Bridget (w)	1787	1859	[72]
Queen's Co.	?	Delaney, William	1788	1888	100
Queen's Co.	?	Larkin, Ann	[1810]	1848	38
Wexford	?	Byrne, Miles	[1792]	1852	60
Wexford	?	Byrne, Dennis	[1783]	1853	70
Wicklow	?	Byrne, Bridget	[1799]	1852	53
Wexford	?	Cavenagh, Elizabeth	[1840]	1881	41
Wexford	?	Donnolly, Matthew	1849	1876	27
Wexford	Kilmuckridge	Donnolly, Thomas	1843	1873	30
Wexford	?	Donnolly, Patrick	1793	1866	73
Wexford	?	Donnolly, William (h)	1805	1886	[81]
Wexford	?	Donnolly, Mary (w)	1811	1859	[48]
Wexford	?	Molloy, Elizabeth	1807	1896	[89]
Wexford	?	Meloy, William (h)	[1780]	1855	75
Wexford	?	Meloy, Margaret (w)	[1772]	1845	73
Wexford	Monaseed	O'Connor, Michael	1833	1862	29
Leitrim	Kellibret	Bennett, Ann	[1808]	1876	68
Roscommon	Clontuskard	Murray, Thomas	[1809]	1853	44
Sligo	Ballenecor	Langton, Michael (h)	1792	1847	55
Sligo	Ballenecor	Langton, Bridget (w)	?	1888	?
Tipperary	?	Lamb, Edward	1811	1887	76

Saint John (Loogootee)

County	Parish	Name	Born	Died	Age At Death
Tyrone	?	McLaughlin, James	1796	1878	82
Donegal	?	Meehan, Thomas (h)	?	1904	?
Donegal	?	Meehan, Anna (w)	1827	1891	[64]
Donegal	?	Nugent, Margaret	1808	1867	[59]
Longford	?	Callahan, Patrick (h)	[1819]	1889	70
Leitrim	?	Callahan, Anna (w)	?	?	?
Longford	?	Farrell, James (h)	[1812]	1869	57
King's	Tullamore	Farrell, Margaret (w)	1799	1869	[70]
Kilkenny	?	Cushing, Mary	?	1911	?
Kilkenny	?	Larkin, Patrick	1808	1867	[59]
Wicklow	?	Morin, Michael (h)	1832	?	?
Wexford	?	Morin, Catherine (w)	1847	1904	[57]
Wexford	?	Breen, John	1830	1902	[72]
Mayo	?	O'Maley, Sarah	[1805]	1878	73
Mayo	Athnagola	Derrig, Catherine	[1830]	1885	55
Galway	?	Hobin, Henrietta	[1816]	1866	50

Saint Rose (Mount Pleasant)

County	Parish	Name	Born	Died	Age at Death
Armagh	?	McCabe, Bernard	[1805]	1862	57
Cavan	?	McGovern, John	[1805]	1882	77
Clare	?	Raney, Mary	1820	1891	71
Kilkenny	Craig	Reid, William	[1808]	1860	52
Leitrim	?	Doyle, George	[1797]	1854	57
Longford	?	Farrell, Andrew	[1802]	1856	54
Longford	?	Summers, Margaret	[1827]	1863	36
Longford	BallyMcCormick	Ward, Andrew	[1819]	1859	40
Mayo	?	Parks, Brigitte (w)	1820	?	?
Mayo	?	Parks, Hugh (h)	1820	?	?
Westmeath	?	Dunn, Ellen	1801	1879	77