

Donegal Studies - History of Donegal - Landlords of Donegal

Landlords of Donegal

Many of the families who owned the major portion of the land in Donegal right up to the end of the 19th century could trace their presence in the county to the first half of the 17th century, to the Ulster Plantation and the Cromwellian settlement, amongst them the Murrays of Broughton, the Conynghams, and the Brookes. The whole of South West Donegal along with some of the best land in the county in former Magh Eine, now known as the northern part of the Barony of Raphoe was set aside for Scottish settlers, while the southern part of Raphoe Barony was given to English settlers. The northern third of the Cenel Chonaill territory, now known as the barony of Kilmacrennan was left for servitors and native Irish.

Following the defeat of the O'Donnells in the first decade of the 17th century no time was lost in dividing up their lands through the Plantation. Donegal Castle was given to Sir Basil Brooke, an officer in the English Army, along with the older castle at Lough Eske and the precincts of Donegal Friary. The castle as one sees it today is in essence Brooke's castle, with only the tower reminding us of the O'Donnells. The O'Donnell lands around Ballyshannon were given to Sir Henry Folliott, the captain of the English garrison in the town. Interestingly Lughaidh Ó Cléirigh, the biographer of Aodh Ruadh, was allowed to keep the Ó Cléirigh hereditary lands until 1609, but this was only a short reprieve; "being a mere Irishman and not of English descent or surname " he was dispossessed at the end of that year.

The Brookes, unlike their relations in neighbouring Fermanagh, did not use the grant of land to build a local empire. The Brookes also failed to emulate other major landowners in the county who were to retain their lands until the Land Acts of the late nineteenth century brought an end to the Irish landlord system; the major part of the land in the south of the county was held right through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by three main families: the Murray of Broughton, the Conollys and the Conynghams.

One George Murray of Broughton, in South West Scotland was one of a group of Scotsmen who received much of the the land in the South west of the county. By 1618, however, these were forfeit, and the Baronies of Banagh and Boyleagh were granted to a relation of his, John Murray from Cockpool, created Earl of Annandale in 1624. The Murray of Broughtons got the land back in the 1660s, after a longrunning and complex legal dispute. The Murray of Broughton or Murray Stewart Estate, between Donegal, Ardara and Killybegs covered large parts of the parishes of Killaghtee, Killymard, Killybegs, Kilcar and Inishkeel, and totalled about 65,000 statute acres.

In addition to Murray of Broughton Estate there were the Conollys who owned the town and parish of Ballyshannon as well as pockets of land elsewhere in Donegal - east of Donegal Town, part of Killybegs Town, and the southern part of Sliabh Liag - and in between the Marquis of Conyngham who owned most of the land from Mountcharles and Inver up to the Rosses. The most famous member of this family was William 'Speaker' Conolly, the Speaker of the Irish House of Commons 1715-1729 who built the palatial Castletown House in Co. Kildare using revenues gathered from his Donegal Estates.

At the time of the Plantation the lord deputy of Ireland Sir Arthur Chichester was granted 170,000 acres in Inishowen [in 1610], in effect taking over all of the O'Doherty lands following the killing of Cathaoir Ó Dochartaigh in 1608. The English authorities hoped that Chichester would do for this part of Ireland what Richard Boyle had done for his similar sized estates in Cork and Waterford, introducing English tenant farmers, building and sustaining Protestant towns such as Bandon or Youghal. This did not happen, although Derry matured into a sizeable and relatively prosperous city. Chichester sublet to energetic and ambitious English soldiers, such as the Henry Hart, Henry Vaughans and George Cary, whose successors retained much of Inishowen for almost four centuries. Joyce Cary, the 20th century writer, is descended from the Carys who were granted a lease in the Redcastle area soon after the Plantation.

In the north of the county the Earls of Leitrim were one of the major landowners, and the 3rd Earl of Leitrim has, along with John George Adair, gone down in history as an example of the wrong sort of landlord. Other prominent landowners included Wybrant Olpherts a Dutch officer in Cromwell's army, the Stewarts in the Letterkenny and Ramelton area, the Duke of Abercorn in the north-east of the county, and in the early 19th century Lord George Hill.

Lord George Hill has generally been regarded as a 'good' reforming landlord, yet there was a chasm in understanding between Hill and his tenants. Hill was a junior member of the Hill family who gave their name to Hillsborough in Co. Down, and bought his property in Gaoth Dobhair between 1838 and the early 1860s, leaving him with a landholding of 24,189 acres or 55% of the parish.

In 1856, less than a decade after the Famine, a group of men, under the banner of the Molly Maguires, raided the house of James Lillico, a Scotsman who worked as a shepherd in the townland of Altan near Dunlewey.

They were protesting at the spread of sheepgrazing in Gaoth Dobhair or Gweedore which was driving local tenants off the land, according to the *Daily Express* at the time "like the American Red Men". This was the first action in what became known as the 'Gweedore Sheep War'. The smallholders in the area faced ruin both because of the loss of what good land there was in the area to grazing, and to the imposition of police taxes. The Sheep War happened on the cusp of the old and new worlds. The outrage of local people at what was happening was due at least partly to a view of land as not being private property, but as being a communal resource, yet they had to resort to a form of modern organised resistance, similar to trade unionism, to fight it. While the smallholders paid a heavy price, by 1860 their resistance could be said to have been successful, with most of the sheepgraziers gone from the area.

The events in Gaoth Dobhair were eclipsed a year later when John George Adair, the landlord of the Glenveagh estate, and builder of Glenveagh Castle, evicted forty seven families from their smallholdings in Derryveagh. In November of the previous year Adair's steward, James Murray, was murdered in an isolated part of the estate near Glenveagh Cottage. Murray was, according to a local magistrate, a "violent and hard-tongued man", and had no shortage of enemies. His murderer was never brought to justice, but Adair, alleging a conspiracy amongst his tenants, used the killing to evict his tenants. The scene was covered by local and national papers, the *Londonderry Standard* recording

" The first eviction was one particularly distressing, and the terrible reality of the law suddenly burst with surprise on the spectators . . . Long before the house (of a widow named McAward) was reached loud cries were heard piercing the air, and the figures of the poor widow and her daughters were observed outside, where they gave vent to their grief in strains of touching agony. "

One hundred and fifty of the people walked to Dublin where they were to take ship to a new life in Australia. A number of relief funds had been set up in Sydney and Melbourne some years earlier to help Irish emigrants to come to Australia. Some of the descendants of victims of the Derryveagh evictions have been traced, and a group of them visited the area in the early 1990s.

The landlords of the south of the county come out of the Famine better than many of their compatriots throughout Ireland, or indeed in the north of the county. Few of them earned the respect of their tenants as did John Hamilton of Brownhall, a large estate south of Donegal Town on the shores of Donegal Bay. Hamilton, "this recklessly generous landlord" as a recent biographer calls him, had around 1,200 tenants on his Brownhall lands, with a further 1,100 on the other side of the Croaghs in Glenfin. The name 'Brownhall' seems to have come from the family's original home of Broomhill in Lanarkshire. The Hamiltons trace their line from Gilbert of Hamildone, and were related by marriage to the Stuarts, the royal line of Scotland.

John Hamilton's concern for his tenants from the time he inherited the estate in 1821 until his death in 1884 was well recognised during his life. As early as 1841 Fr. Eugene McCafferty wrote that he hoped "that the Lord may grant you happy and lengthened days here among a people to whom you are and always have been so useful". His successor as parish priest of Donegal and noted opponent of landlordism, Fr. John Doherty, wrote, a few years before Hamilton's death that "his many social virtues, the kindness of his disposition, and the natural warmth and goodness of his nature have endeared him to his tenantry". Hamilton himself claimed that not a single one of his tenants had to go to the Workhouse, and only one died of starvation. Perhaps the most eloquent testimony to how his tenants felt about him is the causeway to St. Ernan's island, where his house was located, built by them as a token of their esteem.

Bea Trench

National President

1974-1976





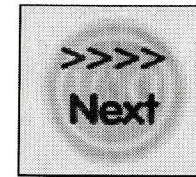
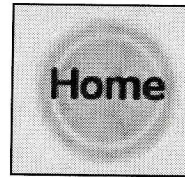
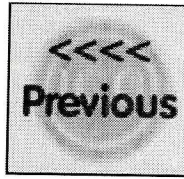
Bea Trench (nee Opren) trained as an artist in the R.H.A. Schools in Dublin and the Slade School in London.

In 1940 she married Chalmers Trench ("Terry") and they lived in Drogheda. She taught Art in Primary Schools in the country and was on the panel of Art Lecturers set up by An Foras Eireann. Her Art Appreciation and Painting Courses at An Grianan were very Popular. She became the unofficial artist for ICA publications designing covers for our magazines, certificated, notelets, posters and tea towels. She was a member of Drogheda Town

<http://www.ica.ie/millennium-exhibition/16.html>

Association until the family moved to Slane, when she joined Slane Guild.

She died in 1980.





SLANE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday, April 27 2005

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Who's online

There is currently 3 guests and 0 members online

Calendar

April 2005

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

This Month

Contributing authors

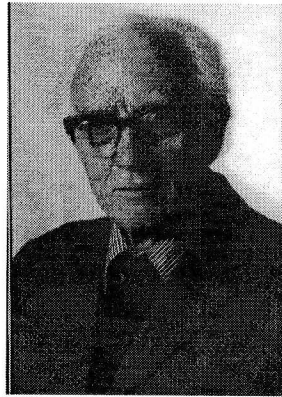
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CHALMERS (Terry) TRENCH

Chalmers Trench, known also as Terry or C.E.F. Trench, was born in Galway on 27th Nov. 1909, moved to Blessington, Co. Wicklow, and to Dublin, and was educated at Baymount Preparatory School, Dublin, and Repton School, Derbyshire, at the Universities of Frankfurt-am-Main, Cambridge and Dublin, and on the Aran Islands in Galway Bay. He was founder in 1931 of An Oige (Irish Youth Hostel Association).

After marriage to the artist Bea Orpen on the 5th July 1940 he moved to Drogheda, where he engaged in industry. Together they established the Drogheda Municipal Art Collection. He has been living in Slane since 1961 and has four children. Terry has written "Fifty Years Young", "The story of An Oige", "Slane"1976, "Slane Town Trail"1987, "Newgrange" and "Nearly Ninety".

A Tribute to Terry

It was with great sadness and shock that I learned of Terry Trench's death just before Easter. Marie Meade and myself had visited him a few weeks previously and were delighted to find him in very good form with the usual keen interest in home and world affairs.

Terry was an honorary member of Slane History and Archaeology Society. On consulting him some twelve years ago about the formation of the society he displayed immediate interest. He attended meetings regularly while physically able, wrote articles for our first publication "The Old Frequented Ways", conducted tours of local historic sites, delivered lectures and was invariably an immense source of knowledge and information. His publications on Slane are an invaluable record for all who are interested in the history and heritage of the area.

His linguistic skills were impressive. He had a great interest in the Irish language and loved to use it. He often enquired about the exact translation of a particular Irish word or phrase.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 18th May 2005
at 8.00 pm

in Conyngham Arms Hotel
Slane

Guest speaker: To
Be Confirmed.

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Terry, an erudite and widely read person loved to converse with Continentals. I heard him speak with French visitors in their own language. There are a few aspects of his personality which stood out for me:

1. His enormous interest in, and enthusiasm for all things even in later years when his health began to fail.

2. The perfection he sought and achieved in all his undertakings especially in his literary accomplishments. He insisted on accuracy. "We must get our facts correct".

3 The assistance and guidance he willingly gave to the History Society in its embryonic years. If confronted with a question which puzzled him he would consult his extensive library. After a long search, should the answer elude him, he would exhaust every other channel until light appeared. We will all miss him in Slane. He was part of the Village for forty-four years. Everyone knew Mr.Trench – the tall scholarly gentleman with the long brown overcoat and distinctive accent who lived in Cillghrian.

On behalf of Slane History and Archaeology Society I wish to extend the sincere sympathy and earnest prayers of the members to Terry's family. Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.

Shiela Crehan (Sec. of Slane H.A.S.)

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The Conynghams of Slane and Mountcharles

by: Helen Meehan

The motto of the Conyngham family is "Over fork over". Its origin dates back to the time of Macbeth. According to the legend when King Malcolm Canmore of Scotland was being pursued by Macbeth he took refuge in Conyngham's hay field. Conyngham saved his life by hiding him in the hay and calling to his workmen "over, fork over".

Paterson in his "Families of Ayrshire" says that the first portion of the name Conyngham, sometimes spelt Cunningham or Cunnigham, is Gaelic, while "ham" or "hame" is a Saxon termination meaning staid or dale. Paterson contends that the Gaelic word "Cuineog" means a churn and this district of Ayrshire was famous from a remote period for its dairy produce. Another writer, Chambers, contends that the first part of the name is derived from "Coinin", a rabbit.¹

Conyngham was the surname of the Earls of Glencairn who had lands in Ayrshire in the Irvine-Stewarton-Saltcoats area.

Rev. Alexander Conyngham

At the Plantation of Ulster several members of the Conyngham family, brothers, uncles and nephews, came to Ireland. One branch of the family settled at Springhill in Derry,² others settled in the north of Co. Donegal

where today we still have Newtowncunningham and Manorcunningham. The first of the family to come to the south of Co. Donegal, however, was a clergyman - Rev. Alexander Conyngham - who was appointed rector of Killymard and Inver in 1611. His grandfather William had been appointed Bishop of Argyll in 1539 - his own elder brother who inherited Conynghamhead from his father, also named William, was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia.³ Rev. Alexander married Marion, daughter of George Murray from Broughton in Wigtonshire. At the Plantation George got a small grant of land in the Glenties-Portnoo area. There is no record that he ever lived there, indeed until his death in 1613 he busied himself settling the lands of his brother-in-law Patrick Vance in Killymard. He left his family in the guardianship of a cousin, John Murray of Cockpool. This John was a favourite of James I and by 1619 had succeeded in buying out most of the small patentees in Banagh and Boylagh who had been unable to fulfil the conditions of the Plantation.⁴ He had title to these confirmed in 1620 - five years later he was made Lord of Annandale. Rev. Alexander settled at Mountcharles and held an estate by

22-35 (1999)

lease from Annandale. In 1629 a Commission was appointed by Lord Falkland the Viceroy to see if Annandale had observed the conditions of the Plantation. Rev. Alexander was one of the Commissioners along with Sir George Gore and Dean Adair. Annandale's rent was doubled and he was fined but he was allowed to keep the land.⁵ The following year Rev. Alexander was appointed Dean of Raphoe. On his death in 1660 he was buried in Raphoe Cathedral.

Rev. Alexander and his wife Marion had 27 children, of these 4 boys and 5 girls survived infancy. The girls married into local planter families. Alice married Alexander Nesibitt of Woodhill, Ardara - his family came from Dirlaton in Haddingtonshire. Catherine married firstly James Leslie of Fermanagh. After his death she married Tom Dunbar, a master in Enniskillen school - later Portora.⁶

Helen married Andrew Lindsay from Ballydeeran in nearby St. John's Point.⁷

Isabel married John Leslie, who became Bishop of the Isles 1628, Raphoe 1633, and of Clogher 1661-1671.⁸

Margaret married Rev. Alexander Montgomery Prebend of Doe, from whom are descended the Montgomery families of Beaulieu, Convoy and Ballyleck.⁹

The Dean's second son, William, held land in Ballidavitt, Lerrum (Lacrom) and Drumsteblyn, all in the parish of Killymard. In his will dated 1700 he bequeathed these to his

nephew Alexander Conyngham of Aighan.¹⁰

The will of Alexander of Aighan, son of the Dean, is dated 1701 - the will of his daughter Elizabeth is dated 1710. To his son Richard Alexander left the five ballbooes of Loughmule (Loughmult) and the 2 ballbooes of Reavleen. His eldest son Andrew was given the land in Killymard which formerly belonged to William of Ballidevitt and Ballybodonnell. Andrew's daughter and heiress Catherine married a Hamilton and in this way the Ballybodonnell property passed to the Hamiltons.¹¹

George the 4th son of Rev. Alexander is seldom mentioned possibly because he lived in Co. Longford at Killinlesseragh. In his will dated 1684 he left his estate in that county to his wife who was a daughter of Sir Frances Hamilton of Killishandra, Co. Cavan.¹²

Sir Albert Conyngham

On the death of Dean Alexander in 1660 his eldest son Albert succeeded to his property in Mountcharles which he had leased from Earl of Annandale. When 2nd Earl of Annandale died childless in 1658 a dispute arose among his relations about his will. Although the courts declared in favour of Richard Murray of Broughton court cases dragged on for years. To pay the cost of these law suits Richard sold off much of his estate and in this way Albert got hold of the Mountcharles estate. He had title to it confirmed later by Charles II. The Conyngham

3000 acres of the Curragh as compensation for the suffering of his family in the Williamite Wars in which his grandfather had raised a regiment of dragoons at his own expense. Two years later he demanded £10,000 due to his family for raising a regiment in King William's time for which he desired Lord North the Prime Minister to get him a pension of £3,000 per annum in Ireland for 31 years. These requests were turned down.²⁵

Henry of Slane

Sir Albert had married Margaret, daughter of Dr. Henry Leslie, Bishop of Meath. Their daughter Mary married Richard Jones of Dallanstown, Co. Meath. Jane married James Binnell, Accountant General of Ireland, and Catherine married William Connolly – Connolly, who was said to have been born humble in Ballyshannon, became legal agent for Derry Corporation. In 1691 he bought the Manor of Limavady and was M.P. for Donegal in William's Parliament of 1692. In 1723 he built Castletown.²⁶

Sir Albert's son Henry succeeded to his title and Mountcharles property. He began his military career in the regiment of William Stewart of Ramelton, later Lord Mountjoy, before joining his father's Inniskilling Dragoons. On his father's death he became Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment. In 1693 he became a Colonel in a newly raised regiment of Dragoons that became known as the 8th Hussars.

Baron Fleming of Slane had backed the Jacobite side in the Williamite Wars. His lands were confiscated and sold in 1701.²⁷ Among the 16 who bought the parts of his estate was Henry Conyngham. Apart from his Mountcharles estate Henry had other land interests in Donegal as well. In 1698 he took a 21 year lease on the Murray property in South West Donegal at £300 per annum and a 99 year lease on the Loughros Proportion. When Henry went to Spain with his regiment his wife looked after his interests.²⁸ Henry represented Killybegs in the 1692 Parliament and although he represented the county in the 1695 one the Conyngham family had control of the Killybegs Borough until it was abolished at the time of the Act of Union.²⁹

Henry served under Lord Peterborough in the War of the Spanish Succession becoming a Major General in April 1705. He was killed in action at St. Estevan de Litera near Lerida in January 1706.³⁰ On the memorial to his father that he had erected at Coolooney is written:

Now, his only Son, the same
Henry, Son of Albert, Officer of the
Forces of this most Serene Queen
Anne of England,
sent into Spain under the
leadership of Lord Peterborough,
with small troops, viz. 1150
Britons and Belgians, after a
severe contest put to flight 5000
French near Lerida
in the Kingdom of Arragon
Mortally wounded in that
Glorious Affray

He died the day after
To wit, the 10th day of January
In that year of our Lord 1705/6.³¹

Henry had married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Williams, 2nd Baronet of Minister Court Kent and widow without issue of Charles Petty Lord Shelburne from whom she inherited a large fortune. In his will dated 1706 Brigadier Henry Conyngham left his possession in Dublin, Slane and Mountcharles to his son William. He also asked his executors to raise £1,600 and fit up the house at Slane for reception of his wife and children.³²

From the beginning of the 18th century the Conyngham no longer regarded Mountcharles but Slane as their principal seat.

William died unmarried in 1738 and his brother Henry succeeded to the property. Henry had been M.P. from 1727 but was raised to the Peerage of Ireland as Baron Conyngham of Mountcharles 1753. Further honours came his way in 1756 when he was created Viscount Conyngham and in 1781 he became Earl and Baron of Mountcharles. Henry was married to daughter and heiress of Solomon Meretto but they had no family and all titles except Baron Conyngham became extinct on his death.³³

The Burtons

Henry of Slane had one daughter, Mary, who married Francis Burton of Buncraggy, situated east of Kildysert and south of Ennis. His father Francis was M.P. for Ennis

from 1692 to his death in 1714. He was succeeded by his son Francis who represented Co. Derry 1721-27 and Clare until his death in 1743. On the death of Henry the first Baron and Earl, Francis Pierpoint Burton, son of Francis and Mary, succeeded him as 2nd Baron. Their 2nd son William inherited the Conyngham estates in Co. Donegal and Slane. Both had to adopt the surname Conyngham.³⁴

From the time the Conyngham family acquired the Slane property and became increasingly successful on the wider political stage many only made brief appearances in Donegal. A notable exception to this was William Barton Conyngham. When he resigned from the army he was Lieutenant Colonel in the 12th Regiment of Dragoons. He was appointed Commissioner and Comptroller of the Barrack Board at £600 p.a. and two years later he was appointed Teller of the Irish Exchequer and a member of the Privy Council. He was a member of the Irish House of Commons from 1761 and in Government circles was considered "a sensible man".³⁵ After his resignation from the army he had more time to pursue his antiquarian interests both in Ireland and abroad. In 1780 he founded an Antiquarian Society. Among its members was Rev. M. Archdall who dedicated his "Monasticon Hibernicum" to him. Burton Conyngham was elected to the Royal Dublin Society in 1768. He was a founder member of the Royal Irish Academy and served as its treasurer for many years. He was

very active on the Dublin Wide Streets Commission and in recognition of his services to it the road from the west into the city was named Conyngham Road in his honour.³⁶

Burton Conyngham is chiefly remembered today for his interests in the north west fisheries. When Arthur Young came to Donegal on his 1776 tour of Ireland he wrote of his visit to Mountcharles on Donegal Bay:

August 10th: got to Alexander Montgomery's Esq., at Mount Charles, Lord Conyngham's agent, by breakfast; found he was so deeply engaged in the fisheries on this coast, that I could not have got into better hands; with great civility he gave me every intelligence I wished; as an introduction to it, he took me for a ride to the bays on the coast, where the fisheries are most carried on, particularly Inver bay, Macswine's bay, and Killibegs bay. The coast is perfectly sawed by bays; the lands are high and bold, particularly about Killibegs, where the scenery is exceedingly romantic, and if the multiplicity of hills upon hills, and rocks, were planted, would be one of the most beautiful spots that can be imagined. The state of the fisheries may be judged from the number of boats employed in the several stations:

	1775	1776
Inver bay	52	72
Killibegs and Fintra . .	50	60

This Alexander, father of the future Baronet Sir Henry Conyngham Montgomery of the Hall

is not to be confused with Alexander Montgomery M.P. of Convoy, known as Old Sandy, who represented the county from 1769 until his death in 1800.

When writing to Lord Townshend on his proposal to settle immigrants – loyal Americans – in Donegal, he wrote of the town he had on the Bay of Donegal and a great salt works and red herring house. On the Conyngham estate in the Rosses he built a town on the island known in Irish as Inis Mhic a Duirn and renamed it in honour of the Lord Lieutenant Rutland with whom he was friendly. On this island he built houses, quays, salt works and warehouses for the herring fisheries as well as a dockyard. A ferry plied to the island from Alt an Chorain which was renamed Burton's Port.³⁷

To connect Rutland with Mountcharles he had a new road constructed. The road didn't follow the present N56 until it joins the N262 at Frosses crossroads. Instead it followed the road now known as the Old Road from Mountcharles – passed north of the village of Frosses and joined the present N262 beside the Tullyhumber Bridge over the Eanymore. After crossing the Blue Stack Mountains the road crossed the Owentocher Road – he named the new bridge over it Sir Albert's Bridge in honour of his great grandfather. Another substantial bridge had to be built across the Gweebarra at Doochary. The road was greatly praised in the European Magazine of March 1794. He had inns built at Doochary, Dungloe and

Lackbeg.³⁸ He raised £20,000 himself to finance the Rosses project and petitioned Parliament for £20,000 more from public funds. Gratten's Parliament granted this in Donegal Fishery Bill of 1785.³⁹ After the first few years the project failed because the shoals of herring deserted the north west coast of Donegal. Burton Conyngham was an improving landlord in the best sense of the word. He wasn't married and on his death in 1796 his estates reverted to his nephew Henry, son of his brother Francis Pierpoint and Mary Clements who wasn't interested in his Donegal improvement schemes.⁴⁰

The Mountcharles Estate

The village of Slane grew up near the Castle. Burton Conyngham had many improvements made to the castle. The village of Mountcharles grew up under the patronage of the Conyngham family also. Their house there, known as the Hall, is described thus in Al Rowan's "Buildings of North West Ulster":

THE HALL: A tall square house built before 1778 for Lord Conyngham and looking rather as if a Dublin town house had been transported to the countryside. There are two fronts, harled, with stone quoins and trim and a high solid parapet that competely hides the roofs, giving the building a rather bald appearance. Three-storey on a basement. The entrance front (N) is of three bays, the garden facade of five, with hardly any windows at the sides. The architectural detail is

unusual. The front door is in a Venetian window pattern with rusticated Tuscan pilasters, hidden now by a charming Gothick porch of Regency wrought-iron work. The garden door is finer (and later?) with a lugged architrave and pediment above. Inside, the details look c.1750: square window reveals, not splayed; lugged six-panel doors; and a Tuscan-columned recess in the dining room.

Farther along the shore Conyngham built Salthill House as a place of residence for their agents. As well, the family had a hunting lodge – sometimes it's referred to as a summer house – in Glenties where Dr. McCloskey now lives.

The section on Inver Parish in Mason's Statistical Survey of Ireland 1816 was compiled by Rev. Alexander Montgomery, Rector, and landed proprietor of the nearby Bonnyglen Estate. He said that the Conyngham were the largest land-owners in the parish but unfortunately were absentees. He added that the rent was moderately set on the estate. He listed the Quarterlands which comprised the estate as the Rock, Raneel, Drumcoo, Drumconner, Drimborty, Lettermore, the Hall and Townytallon. The family also owned land in neighbouring parishes. In Killymard they owned the Glen, Beef Park where his cattle were fattened, Horse park where horses were kept, and Scrawhill. In Killaghtee, Ballyederlan, Darney and Menamy belonged to Lord Conyngham, in the Ardara area he

owned the lands around Rosbeg, Mullinvea, Kilclooney and Magheramone. In Inniskeel he owned 62,973 acres between Glenties and Downstrands. He also owned the Tyrallen Estate in Stranorlar.⁴¹

From the early 18th century the estate was managed by agents and the Hall was leased for long periods. Alexander Montgomery, the agent when Young visited, was a younger brother of Archdeacon James, who inherited the family estate at Cloverhill and Bonnyglen. The family continued to lease the Hall after Alexander's death in 1796. His eldest son, Henry Conyngham Montgomery, pursued a military career and became an M.P. in 1808. When he was raised to the Peerage he took the title of Montgomery of the Hall.⁴² The family was known by this name until the title lapsed in 1939 even though the family had ceased to live there from about 1818.

According to the Parliamentary Gazetteer the population of Mountcharles was 508 in 1831 and 539 in 1841. The Market House was opened in 1844. Mountcharles also had the Session House for the Barony of Banagh and later a dispensary, schools and a police barrack.

The Marquis of Conyngham

Several members of the Conyngham family could be said to have married their way to the top but one in particular added to the family fortune as well as fame by sleeping her way to the top. Henry, son of

Francis Pierpoint who inherited the property both of his father and uncle Burton Conyngham married Elizabeth Denison. Writing in a booklet – one of the Jolly Pamphlets – the anonymous author spoke of Lady Conyngham's luck in "attracting the notice of him by whom all wish to be noticed" – George IV. In 1821 he visited Slane Castle – a gold ring he gave Lady Conyngham is still kept there.⁴³ The anonymous author of the booklet which was written in the style of a tabloid of today ended by saying that "her husband was content so let it be". Henry had honours heaped on him – he was created Baron and Viscount and finally a Marquis on the Peerage of Ireland and a peer of the United Kingdom as Baron Minister of Minister Abbey Kent. His Lordship was a General Officer in the army, Lieutenant for Co. Clare, Constable of Windsor Castle, Lord Stewart of the Household and one of the representative peers of Ireland. His elder surviving son was Lieutenant for Meath and an M.P. when only 21 years of age. Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs when only 26 and Lord of the Treasury by the time he was 30. Shortly after he was appointed Post Master General and when he became the 2nd Marquis was Lord Chamberlain as well.⁴⁴

No doubt their success caused jealousy and in her memoirs the Duchess D'Abrantes wrote of the Lady taking care of herself in bed until it was time to go to the ball and being a Venus de Milo devoid of

expression she described the Marquis as ugly – like a comb – all teeth and back.

Politically the Marquis favoured the Union. In 1799 he wrote from Slane expressing his horror at the Rebellion (1798) and desiring Union with Britain.⁴⁵ When the Catholics of Donegal met in January 1828 to press for Catholic Emancipation their petition was transmitted to Marquis Conyngham to be presented by him to the House of Lords and to Earl Mountcharles to be presented in the Commons.⁴⁶ The Marquis was one of the group who were in favour of Catholic Emancipation but not in favour of Repeal.

The first Marquis purchased Bifrons near Canterbury and he was buried there. Francis Nathaniel became 2nd Marquis on the death of his father in 1832. His first address to the House of Lords was reported in full in the Dublin Evening Post. Reports about the 2nd Marquis and his wife Lady Jane Paget, daughter of Marquis of Anglesy, appeared in the "Social Columns" of the papers. Early in 1833 they were reported as having dinner with the King and Queen. At the coronation of Queen Victoria the Marquis was in the Coronation procession. Later Queen Victoria attended family christenings. Meantime paper reports from Donegal complained about the neglect of their Donegal tenants.

Affairs of the estates in Ireland were in the hands of agents. The chief agent was Mr. Benbow who was M.P. for Dudley – he visited

Donegal once per year. Each estate was managed by a sub-agent. Most of the complaints refer to the Rosses and Glenties estates. The Conyngham papers aren't available so we have no way of knowing exactly when the Rundale was broken up. However, it is said that the Mountcharles estate was already squared before 1839.⁴⁷

The early 1830's was a time of distress along the north west seaboard. The potato crop failed after a wet stormy summer. The Marquis donated £50 to the Relief Fund and obtained a large quantity of potatoes which were sold in Killybegs at a reduced price.⁴⁸

In September 1846 when relief for victims of the Great Famine were being organised Sir Patrick Route Commissioner General in Sligo told Trevelyn Head of the Treasury that Killybegs with its fine harbour for ships would be the main relief depot for the north west working in conjunction with the mills at Mountcharles. The mill was actually owned by the Marquis. When the landlords of Tyrhugh, Banagh and Boyleagh met at the courthouse in Donegal Town in September 1846 to see how they could help in the crisis neither Conyngham nor his agents were there. In December 1846 the Quakers, who were working to help the starving poor, sent James Tuke on a fact finding mission to Donegal. His report of January 1847 stated that the people on the estate of the Marquis were the poorest, not a shilling had been spent on reclamation nor was there likely to

be any drainage. It also noted that absentees like the Marquis hadn't done anything for their tenants. This actually applied to the estate in Templecrone. He had donated £100 to Inver Relief Committee and through his agent Leonard Cornwall he had donated money to the Killaghtee Committee also.

As if in answer to this criticism he applied to have a pier constructed at Salthill. In some official papers it is referred to as the Pier at Seaview – the name by which that part of Salthill was known locally at the time. The application was made by his agent Leonard Cornwall in March. The first tenders were too high or were submitted by unqualified persons, but in July the scheme finally got off the ground. A grant of £1,337 was obtained – the total cost of this substantial stone pier 450 ft. in length, which gave excellent accommodation and shelter in Donegal Bay, was £2,113.⁴⁹

Much has already been written and published about the Marquis and his Rosses estate – indeed at the height of the famine he had them put up for sale. Robert Russell was the agent there at the time of the Famine. Such was the depth of feeling against him that he was moved to the Mountcharles estate.⁵⁰

Russell is the only agent who has a bad reputation in folk memory in the Mountcharles area. One story tells that when he evicted a poor Protestant widow she asked him what she would do with her children. He replied that it had nothing to do with him – she could throw them

into the tide for all he cared. On his way home he was met by messengers telling him that his only son and a companion had been drowned off Salthill Pier that day. Several places are pointed out as the place where he learned the news. The son is buried in Inver. Other stories are told of people who were threatened with eviction by Russell and when they went to Slane to see the Marquis in person they were saved from losing their farms.

When the 2nd Marquis died in 1876 he was succeeded by his son George Henry as 3rd Marquis. George Henry was married to Lady Jane Stanhope, daughter of Earl of Harrington. His younger brother, Francis Nathaniel, was M.P. for Clare. He was active in Home Rule and enjoyed the confidence of the Land League. He was a supporter of Isaac Butt in Parliament, but not of Parnell.⁵¹ He died in 1880 and the 3rd Marquis died two years later in 1822.

The Land League Times

The harvest of 1879 was the third bad harvest in succession and by early 1880 there was much distress among the poor. Early in January a meeting was called in Mountcharles Town Hall (built by the Marquis) to set up a Relief Committee. A resolution, which was proposed by Mr. Charles Cannon, was to the effect that a respectful memorial be addressed to the Most Noble the Marquis of Conyngham, praying him to obtain a loan from the Board of Works for his poorer tenants, and

thus enable them to tide over the present difficulty. To this resolution Mr. William Cannon spoke at some length, pointing out the utility of such funds and the security which the tenants offered, which, he said, there could be nothing better than their Ulster Tenant-Right, which they enjoy in its entirety. The memorial being read, was very largely signed by the tenants, of whom between four and five hundred were present. It was then proposed by Mr. Charles Cannon, and unanimously agreed to, that a deputation should wait on Mr. Robert Russell, J.P., Salthill, the resident agent, and submit the memorial for his inspection and approval. They were received by Mr. Russell in the most courteous manner.

Subjoined is a copy of the memorial:

“TO THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF CONYNGHAM:

“May it please your Lordship – We, the undersigned tenantry, resident on your lordship's estate in the parish of Inver, County Donegal, beg most respectfully to bring under your lordship's notice the great distress which at present unfortunately exists among us.

“This distress, we humbly submit, is mainly due to the want of fuel, the depression in the price of cattle, pigs, sheep, and agricultural produce, and the almost total failure of our crops for the past few seasons.”⁵²

At the Mountcharles Relief presentment session for Banagh in February it was announced that the

Marquis had obtained £1,500 from the Board of Works for his Banagh estate and £1,500 for his estates in Boyleagh.⁵³

In the spring of 1880 Robert Russell resigned due to ill health and in April a body of the tenantry of the Marquis met Osborne at his office in Salthill on his first appearance as successor to Russell to run the Marquis' estates. Tom Porter, Dunkineely, addressed him on behalf of the tenants and sympathised with him on entering the position at such a crucial time. The Marquis had ordered him to allow 10% off rent if paid now. If already paid it would be allowed next time.⁵⁴

Later in 1880 when Rev. T. Doherty, P.P., Donegal Town, was writing against bad landlords in the Derry Journal he was at pains to point out that no one included Hamilton, Tom Brooke or Marquis Conyngham in the condemnation.

The bitter war between landlord and tenant that took place on estates such as Hills and Olpherts in the north of the county did not take place in the Donegal Bay area. From 1879 branches of the Land League were set up nationwide. The Parish of Inver was the last in south Donegal to organise a branch – it was set up in Frosses in May 1881.⁵⁵

Henry George the 3rd Marquis died in 1882 and was succeeded by his son Henry Francis who had recently married Frances de Moleyns, daughter of Baron Ventry. The following year the Mountcharles Tenants Right Association was set up and a letter explaining aims in the

Donegal Journal began:
MOUNTCHARLES TENANT
RIGHT ASSOCIATION

To the editor of the Derry Journal
Sir—Would you kindly give
insertion in your next issue of the
Journal to the following facts which
we wish the public at large to
understand. The majority of the
tenants on the Marquis of
Conyngham's Mountcharles estate
are of opinion that we want to do
away with the custom of the estate as
regards the bog, but that opinion is
quite wrong and groundless. We
want to maintain the old custom,
leaving to the landlord the right to
give bog to the tenant, and the tenant
to pay trespass to the man on whose
land he cuts the turf. The agent (Mr.
Osborne) wants to break the custom.

It ended:

The Conynghams were the best
landlords in the north of Ireland, and
we still hope when our young
Marquis understands our claim he
will be no worse than his
predecessors. Signed by the
members of the Committee. 15th
January, 1884.

Other letters to the papers on the
same subject complain that as well
as being deprived of turbary rights
by Osborne the wrack collecting
customs were being changed by him
as well. One correspondent claimed
that Osborne only sought to deprive
tenants who had gone into the Land
Courts seeking rent reduction. Lists
from these court proceedings show
that a substantial number of
Marquis' tenants had their rents
lowered in these courts.³⁶

Over the years reports of evictions
on the estate were sometimes
mentioned but the numbers were
small when compared to the
numbers evicted on many other
estates.

The Wyndham Land Act of 1903
was the most beneficial of the Land
Acts until then and in 1906 J.
Pomoroy, who was then Marquis'
agent, applied on behalf of Marquis
to have the Mountcharles estate
bought out.⁵⁷ Henry Francis had died
in 1897 and Victor George was
Marquis when land was bought out.
He was killed in action on the last
day of World War I – his name
appears on the War Memorial in
Mountcharles Church of Ireland. His
family had donated the land for the
church in 1861 and had given land
for many of the schools in the parish
as well. The Marquis was paid
£64,008 by the Congested Districts
Board for the Glenties and
Downstrands estates.⁵⁸

Henry George was succeeded as
6th Marquis by his brother Frederick
William. Henry George didn't trust
him to hold on to the property and
left Slane to his first born male issue.
That was Frederick William Henry
who now lives in tax exile in the Isle
of Man. His son Henry
Mountcharles is the present occupant
of Slane Castle. He flirted briefly
with Irish politics. He leads a busy
life trying to keep the home fires
burning⁵⁹ – which he does quite
successfully.

One sometimes wonders if his
ancestors would turn in their graves
or would they praise his business
acumen because Slane Castle is now
known to many only as a venue for
pop concerts.

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family brought the Rosses and most of Lower Boylagh as well.

Albert had pursued a career in the army. He was friendly with Charles II and at the Restoration was appointed by him Master of Ordnance in Ireland.¹³

He had this post until 1688 when he was relieved of it by James II who had by then good reason to doubt his loyalty.

In 1666 Albert was raised to the peerage and he took the title of Lord Mountcharles seemingly in honour of Charles II.¹⁴ In 1675 he was granted a patent to hold a fair there.

"Mountcharles, alias Tounytallon, a Friday market and four fairs on 19th May, 11th September, 11th November and 17th March. Pursuant to patent signet and dated at Whitehall 9th December 1675 - granted to Sir Albert Conyngham Kt. - July 27th 1676".

"Cogagh an da Rí", or in English the Williamite Wars, began in Ireland when the Ulster Protestants resisted the entrance of the Army loyal to King James in to Derry at the end of 1688. William was proclaimed King in Enniskillen on 11th March 1689.¹⁵ The Protestants, under Sir Albert and the Gores held the coastline from Killybegs to Ballyshannon. By June Sir Albert had embodied 600 men. In August the Williamite commander Col. Wolseley wrote ordering him to raise a regiment and seek a commission.¹⁶ Sir Albert already had a list of officers made out from June - these were mostly from Donegal, 30 miles from Sligo.

On New Year's Day 1690 these soldiers, known as the Inniskilling Dragoons, were authorised as the 6th Regiment of Dragoons in the Royal Army under Sir Albert Conyngham.¹⁷ According to tradition Sir Albert trained his soldiers on the shore at Salthill, near Mountcharles, before setting off to the war.

In the spring they saw action in Co. Cavan and on the arrival of King William in Ireland went to the review at Loughbritland. At the Boyne four troops of Conyngham's 6th Dragoons provided an escort to William and one of these is named as Private McKinley.¹⁸ William remarked before the battle "I have heard of your great bravery and now I shall be an eye-witness to it". After the battle Conyngham and 337 surviving men went on to Finglas and from there south west to Birr and Clonmel. In August they were busy collecting supplies around Limerick for William's siege train before coming back to Sligo and Donegal for the winter. In January 1691 one troop was stationed at Killybegs.¹⁹ From Mountcharles Sir Albert wrote to Clarke, William's Secretary of War, seeking supplies etc. for his army. In particular they needed horses for the next season's campaign. On the 4th May Sir Albert wrote again from Mountcharles but two weeks later he was in Belturbet, Co. Cavan.²⁰ His dragoons suffered heavy losses at Aughrim.

On 21st July Sir Albert wrote to General Clarke, Secretary of War, saying he would need to go to Ballinrobe to meet Baldearg

O'Donal. Baldearg, a Brigadier in the Spanish Army, came to Ireland after the Battle of the Boyne. He was allowed to raise an Ulster Corps by the Jacobites but was given neither guns nor money to pay the men. He became disillusioned - he claimed he had better claim to the title of Earl of Tyrconnel than Talbot had. He began to make terms with William's General Ginkel. Although many of his men didn't like this change of allegiance some were won over by Williamite money. Sir Albert and Baldearg planned to take Sligo. Many books say they were attacked outside Colooney by Rapparees. Sligo town was still held by the Jacobites under the command of Sir Teague O'Regan and the soldiers who surprised Sir Albert were part of his army. Sir Albert was killed in the battle and the story is told that the Irish soldier who attacked him said "Sir Halbert you are and by this halbert you shall die". Sir Albert was buried in Collooney church and the memorial reads:²¹

Sacred to the memory
of Sir Albert Conyngham, Knight,
Master of Ordnance
under the Earl of Mount
Alexander

He was a man of prime
intelligence, of tireless activity,
Of eminent honesty and of loftiest
urbanity,

And among the cultured who
were not College-bred
Of learning and knowledge above
the ordinary.

In the glorious revolution under
the invincible

Prince of Orange
having commiserated the plight
of down-trodden
Religion and Liberty
At his own charges he raised a
Regiment of Dragoons.

How many dangers he, a military
Officer, bravely faced,

What an unforeseen, what a
mournful death he encountered
for country, for kindred and for
all the law-abiding, cannot by
any means be hidden from thee,
Wayfarer, nor from
generations yet unborn.

He died for his country in the
town near this spot
on the 5th day of September, A.D.
1691.

Henry Conyngham, Colonel of
the Regiment, Major General,
his eldest son, erected this
monument.²²

After Sir Albert's death the Lieutenant Colonel of the Dragoons, Robert Echlin, became Colonel - indeed they were often referred to - long after his resignation in 1715 - as Echlin's Dragoons. Although they were highly thought of in official circles as efficient troops a dispute about their pay during the Williamite Wars wasn't settled for years. When Helen Lindsay - sister of Sir Albert - died in 1699 arrears of her late husband's pay were still unpaid.²³

In 1702 when King William was on the Continent, Queen Mary gave £2,000 from the Privy Purse as part of the arrears.²⁴

In 1769 Lord Conyngham, grandson of Sir Albert, requested

274 OBITUARY.—Arthur Clifford, Esq.—M. H. Beach, Esq. [March,

Yarmouth, in the Isle of Wight. He retired from Parliament entirely within a year or two after.

Sir Henry Montgomery married at Calcutta, June 21, 1800, Sarah-Mercer, third daughter of Leslie Grove, of Grove Hall, co. Donegal, Esq., and had issue four sons and three daughters:—1. Marian-Emily, married since her father's death (see p. 266) to Grantham-Munter, youngest son of Sir Joseph Yorke; 2. Sir Henry-Conyngham Montgomery, who has succeeded to the Baronetcy; he was born in 1803, was married in 1827 to Miss Pigot, daughter of Major-Gen. Pigot, and is in the Civil Service at Madras; 3. Alexander-Leslie, a Lieut. R.N.; 4. Hugh, a Lieut. in the Horse Artillery, Madras; 5. Alfred; 6. Matilda; and 7. Isabella-Eliza.

He became the happy possessor and completing of Scottish and English Episcopacy at part of Scotland, by stability and usefulness of which were much promoted. In this respect, and the his character, induced him to elect him to be election not unanimous, but earnestly desired. He was confirmed with equal hopes, by whom he was the 9th February, 1806. His merits will be remembered by his friends and his mild and conciliating which he exercised the duties of his office was generally felt

—by the energy in particular. The impressive solemnity with which he performed the religious duties appertaining to that office has been frequently remarked, and was indeed remarkable. His piety was pure and unaffected, and, therefore, in the private duties of his profession, in visiting the sick and in consoling the afflicted, he was particularly admired and eminently useful.

Dr. Sandford was the author of "Lectures on Passion Week," 1797, 8vo. dedicated to the Queen; "Sermons designed chiefly for Young Persons," 1802, 12mo.; "A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Episcopal Communion at Edinburgh," 1807, 4to.; "A Sermon for the Lancastrian Schools," 1813, 8vo. He was also a contributor to the Classical Journal.

His remains were interred on the 21st Jan. in the burying-ground adjoining St. John's chapel. The funeral was private; nevertheless the number of persons who attended to pay the last tribute of respect was very great. The Episcopal clergymen of the diocese preceded the corpse, which was followed by a numerous body of noblemen, gentlemen, and clergymen of the city, including those of the Established Church, as well as Dissenters. The Rev. Mr. Lane, Bishop Sandford's son-in-law, read the service. The Bishop married a Scottish lady; and the Rev. Daniel Keyte Sandford, M.A. of Christ Church, Oxford, and now Professor of Greek in the University of Glasgow, is his eldest son.

SIR CHARLES BURTON, BART.

Jan. 6. At Pollerton, co. Carlow, Sir Charles Burton, third Baronet, of that place.

GENT. MAG. March, 1830.

son and successor and Baronet, who Hon. Catherine

Clare, third and youngest daughter and coheir of John second Baron Desart: He married, in 1807, Susannah, daughter of Joshua Paul Meredyth, Esq., and sister, we presume, to the late unfortunate spendthrift of the same name; whose portrait was introduced into Haydon's picture of the Mock Election at the King's Bench prison, and of whom we gave some memoirs in vol. xcviii. i. 648, 379.

SIR H. C. MONTGOMERY, BART.

Jan. 21. At Dieppe, aged 64, Sir Henry Conyngham Montgomery, of the Hall, co. Donegal, Bart.

The branch of the family of Montgomery, of which Sir Henry was the representative, is descended from William fourth son of the first Earl of Eglintoun, and has been seated in the county of Donegal for more than two centuries. Sir Henry was born March 15, 1765, the elder son of Alexander Montgomery, of the Hall, Esq., by Mary, only daughter of James Allen, of Castle-Dobbs, co. Antrim, Esq. The name of Conyngham he derived from his great-grandmother, who was one of the twenty children of the Very Rev. Alexander Conyngham, Dean of Raphoe, great-grandfather of the first Earl Conyngham. Early in life Sir Henry entered the cavalry in India, and, during his service there, his zeal, activity, and abilities in the execution of several important trusts, were publicly put on record in a General Order, published by the Governor-general in Council, at Fort William, Calcutta, when, after a period of twenty years' service, he retired with the rank of Major. On his return to England he was appointed Inspecting Field Officer and Commandant of the Yeomanry and Volunteers (with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the army) in the county of Donegal, by his late Majesty.

In February 1807 Lieut.-Col. Montgomery was returned to Parliament on a vacancy for the borough of St. Michael's, in Cornwall. The Parliament was dissolved in April following, and he was not again returned; but on the death of Henry Vaughan Brooke, Esq., in November of the same year, he succeeded in obtaining the much more distinguished post of a Knight for his native county of Donegal. He was created a Baronet on the 3d of October 1808. At the General Election of 1812, however, Lieut.-Gen. George Vaughan Hart took Sir Henry's place as County member, and the latter was returned for

MONTGOMERY of The Hall, Donegal

3 Oct 1808 UK

1 Henry Conyngham Montgomery 15 Mar 1765 21 Jan 1830 64 MP for Mitchell 1807 and Yarmouth IOW 1812-1816 21 Jan 1830

2 Henry Conyngham Montgomery 10 Mar 1803 24 Jun 1878 75 PC 1876 24 Jun 1878

3 Alexander Leslie Montgomery 14 Mar 1807 13 Jun 1888 81 13 Jun 1888

4 Hugh Conyngham Gaston Montgomery 18 Oct 1847 3 Nov 1915 68 3 Nov 1915

5 Alexander Montgomery 2 Aug 1859 13 Nov 1939 80 to Extinct on his death 13 Nov 1939

MONTGOMERY-CUNINGHAME of Corsehill, Ayr

26 Feb 1672 NS

1 Alexander Cuninghame c 1643 Mar 1685 Mar 1685

2 Alexander Cuninghame 1730 1730

3 David Cuninghame 4 Jul 1770 4 Jul 1770

4 Walter Montgomery-Cuninghame Mar 1814 Mar 1814

5 David Montgomery-Cuninghame Nov 1814 Nov 1814

6 James Montgomery-Cuninghame Mar 1837 Mar 1837

7 Alexander David Montgomery-Cuninghame 8 Jun 1846 8 Jun 1846

8 Thomas Montgomery-Cuninghame 30 Aug 1870 30 Aug 1870

9 William James Montgomery-Cuninghame 20 May 1834 11 Nov 1897 63 MP for Ayr 1874-1880 11 Nov 1897

10 Thomas Andrew Alexander Montgomery-Cuninghame 30 Mar 1877 5 Jan 1945 67 5 Jan 1945

11 Andrew Malcolm Martin Oliphant Montgomery-Cuninghame 14 Jul 1929 18 Feb 1959 29 18 Feb 1959

12 John Christopher Foggo Montgomery-Cuninghame 24 Jul 1935

effect is to increase the range of probability of the date by 200 years towards the present (lower limits remaining unchanged). Thus the 95% probability ranges of the two dates are, including the age-lapse, 65 B.C. to 675 A.D. for the charcoal sample and 290 A.D. to 630 A.D. for the bone sample (99.7% probabilities of 200 B.C. to 810 A.D. and 205 A.D. to 715 A.D. respectively). A date for the burial and the charcoal deposit at the end of the Earlier Iron Age or the beginning of the Later Iron Age seems very probable.¹

On completion of the excavation of the destroyed area of the mound and the recording of the burials, the site was reconstructed by replacing as much of the disturbed as was available and with the addition of clay brought in from a building site.

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Abbreviations

J.G.A.H.S. Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society
 J.R.S.A.I. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.
 N.M.A.J. North Munster Antiquarian Journal
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FOOTNOTE

1. I wish to thank Mr. Richard Warner, Ulster Museum for the calibration of these dates and for his advice and help with the interpretation of the results.
2. I wish to thank Miss Maura Scannel, Head of the Herbarium, National Botanic Gardens, Dublin for these identifications.

Fleming and Conyngham of Slane

C. E. F. TRENCH

Killurian, Slane

This is an account of what happened to one particular estate in County Meath in the sixty or more years following the rebellion of 1641. It illustrates, in some detail relating to this one estate, the changes which took place in landownership over a major part of Ireland during that period.

It was common practice, and not only in Ireland, for the property of defeated rebels to be confiscated. In Ireland the practice was followed with particular vigour, in support of the policy to replace Catholic rebel landowners, such as the 'Old English' as well as the Gaelic aristocrats, with Protestant planters or 'adventurers' from England or Scotland, or with soldiers whom the crown was committed thus to reward for their services, the rewards in some cases being of vast dimensions.

Slane was no exception to this general pattern, though the ultimate owners were not planters nor adventurers, but purchasers of the forfeited lands at a later date.

I have written elsewhere (*Slane*, 23, 39) that Slane Castle came into the possession of the Conyngham family in 1641 and that they purchased the confiscated Fleming estates in that year. This is far from correct. In fact the estates changed hands, at least on paper, passing backwards and forwards seven times between 1641 and 1703, when Henry Conyngham first purchased a small fraction of them.

Briefly, the Fleming estates were forfeited in 1641, restored in 1663, forfeited again in 1688, granted to General Ginckel in 1692, sold by him to 'Irish protestant purchasers' in 1698, resumed to the crown in 1700, and sold by the trustees of the forfeited estates in 1703.

I have also stated (*Slane*, 22) that Richard le Fleming, who came to Ireland with de Lacy was made baron of Slane and I have followed Burke in referring to Randall and Christopher as 21st and 22nd barons of Slane.¹ However, more modern authorities agree with Cockayne's reckoning that the starting point of the peerage was in the period 1363-70, and that the earlier lords of Slane were barons by tenure and are not to be counted as they had not been formally created peers of the realm.² This makes Randall and Christopher 16th and 17th barons respectively, and I accept this reckoning in what follows.

In the year 1640, William Fleming, 14th baron of Slane, was the proprietor of large estates in Meath, and smaller estates in Louth, Monaghan, Cavan and Roscommon. His estates in Meath extended,

but by no means continuously, from the Boyne at Slane to Drumconrath and Ardagh at the northern extremity of the county, and across the Boyne to the parishes of Fennor and Duleek and as far south as Galtrim and Culmullin.

Whatever their racial origins in Flanders, the Flemings are ranked with the 'Old English' in Ireland, whose position is admirably presented by Clarke. Descendants of the original Anglo-Norman settlers, usurpers of the land of the native Irish, they steadfastly maintained their loyalty to the crown, while joining forces with the Catholic Irish in rebellion in 1641.³

For his part in the rebellion, Slane, along with other great lords of the pale, was attainted for high treason and his estates were forfeited and vested in the king. Subsequently, under the Cromwellian Act of Settlement of 1652, the mass of Irish Papists was given a general pardon, but this did not apply to Slane. Slane had been a member of a committee of the Irish lords who in February 1641 objected to the Irish parliament being treated as if it were subordinate to the parliament in England (Clarke, 146). In the summer of that year, with Lord Gormanston and many others in Leinster, he had been involved in an abortive plan to raise an army, at the request of Charles I, to seize Dublin Castle, and to declare for the king against the English parliament (*ibid.*, 159).

In October, rebellion having broken out in Ulster and spread widely, Slane, with most of the lords of the pale, had approached the lords justices, and, professing their loyalty to the king, had asked to be provided with arms for their own defence, a request which had met with no meaningful response (162-3). As the rebels advanced from the north, the nobility and gentry had feared that an assault by government troops would result in the extirpation of catholicism and themselves along with it, and Slane, with other representatives of the Old English had joined with the Ulster Irish, and had arranged to appoint captains and raise troops (181), later declaring in a petition to the king their loyalty to him and their reasons for taking up arms in self-defence (188).

So Slane had played a leading part in the rebellion and although he had died before the end of that year, 1641, he had been outlawed posthumously and his lands declared forfeit. His son, Charles, 15th baron, had carried on fighting and is named as one of the four lords of the pale (the others were Gormanston, Trimleston, and Nettervill) to be driven out of Trim by Sir Charles Coote in late April 1642.⁴ Thus it came about that William, Lord Slane, and his son, Charles, for their part in the rebellion, were excepted from pardon by Cromwell. Charles entered the service of Louis XIV with 10,000 men and lost his life in that service in Italy in 1661.⁵

Charles's brother, Randall, 16th baron, was restored to his estates,

as were many other peers and large landowners, under the Act of Settlement and Distribution of Charles II's reign, namely by a decree dated 27 March 1663.⁶ Randall is to be remembered for the beautifully inscribed tomb which he erected in 'St Erc's Hermitage' in the grounds of Slane Castle and on which he commemorates his two wives, Ellenor, daughter of Sir Richard Barnewall of Crickstown, and Penelope, daughter of Henry Moore, earl of Drogheda.⁷ Penelope was the mother of Christopher, 17th baron of Slane, who was seven years old when his father died in 1676.⁸

Penelope's mother, Alice, Countess Dowager of Drogheda, was Christopher's guardian during his minority. In a petition which she presented to the king on his behalf, she declared 'that his father, Randall, late lord baron of Slane, was declared an innocent papist and was restored to all the lands whereof he or his ancestors were seized on or before 23 October 1641, by decree dated 30 April [1663]* . . . and prayed that as it appears by the said decree his father had always demeaned himself a loyal dutiful subject and faithful to the crown, His Majesty would, in consideration thereof and for the further preserving a family whose ancestors were always faithful subjects, be pleased to direct a patent to pass of all the lands so decreed to his father'.⁹

In this petition the lands are listed townland by townland to a total of 12,635 Irish acres, namely 11,228 acres in Meath, 205 in Louth, 1,002 in Cavan, and 200 in Monaghan. These figures were evidently agreed when the lands were confirmed to Christopher by patent of 20 March 1682.

In 1688 everything was forfeited again. Bereft of his lands, Christopher continued to support the Jacobite cause. He sat in James II's parliament of 1689 and fought at the Boyne. Along with many of the Jacobite aristocracy, including Lord Bellew of Duleek (who died of wounds) he was taken prisoner at Aughrim.¹⁰ He was attainted on 16 April 1691 and followed James to France. By an act of parliament of 1708 he was restored to his peerage, but not to his estates, which had finally been disposed of by the trustees of the forfeited estates and interests in Ireland. Christopher died without

* The date given by Lodge is 1664. Dr Clarke, in a letter to the present writer, notes that this clearly seems to be a simple error, as the Court of Claims ceased operation in August 1663 and its successor was not instituted until three years later. Also, there is a record of a decree issued on 30 April 1663 to Randall, Lord Baron of Slane, in respect of lands in County Meath, held in fee, and totalling 13,665 acres, and a decree issued on 19 July 1663 to Ann, Lady Dowager Slane, in respect of an unspecified amount of land in East and West Meath and 'Monaghan city', held for life from Lord Slane. (19th Report of D.K.P.R.O.I., Appendix, 'Abstract of the decrees of the Court of Claims for the trial of Innocents', items 215, 539).

male issue in 1726, and his only daughter died unmarried. So ended this Fleming line.

Out of the Irish estates forfeited in 1688, enormous grants of land were made to a number of foreigners who had contributed to the success of William of Orange. Amongst the major grantees was the Dutch general, Godard, baron de Ginkel, who commanded the Williamite forces and who was created earl of Athlone. He was granted 26,480 acres¹¹ of which 12,931 comprised the estates of Christopher Fleming, late Lord Baron of Slane, as identified by inquisitions held in Clonee (for Meath), Ardee (for Louth), and Belturbet (for Cavan), between April and August 1692. The figures for Louth and Monaghan correspond exactly, and for Cavan very closely, with those given in the Countess Dowager's petition. In Meath there is a matter of 232 acres which are counted in Lord Slane's land in the petition, but in the grant to Ginkel are listed, including seventeen houses in Slane and Braystown, in a total of 1,247 acres stated to have been formerly the estate of the late King James and so intermixed with Lord Slane's estate that William threw them in with the grant to Ginkel. In addition, Ginkel was granted 457 acres in Roscommon, found by inquisition held at Athlone to have been part of Slane's estate.¹²

The grant to Ginkel, made in 1693, was confirmed by an act of the Irish parliament in 1695, and was the only grant to be confirmed in this way.¹³ Nevertheless, it was set aside by the Act of Resumption five years later, by which the English parliament resumed all but a small fraction of the Irish forfeitures and vested them in trustees. Meanwhile, however, in June 1698 Ginkel had already disposed of the land, breaking the great estate for the first time and selling small parcels to seventeen persons for a total sum of £17,684.12s.9d.¹⁴ These seventeen were part of a group of about a hundred persons known as 'the Protestant purchasers' who had between them paid nearly £60,000 to grantees and whose purchases the Act of Resumption rendered invalid. The purchasers were given compensation for about one-third of what they had paid out and were left to their own devices to recover the balance. The lands were 'exposed to sale at Chichester House Dublin [predecessor of the eighteenth century parliament house on the same site] on 3 April 1703 by cant [or auction] to the best bidder,' but there was little or no competition and they were in fact sold back to the seventeen (or sixteen, see later) who had purchased from Ginkel.

The total of profitable acres forfeited in Co. Meath and sold by the trustees was 92,452, the largest acreage forfeited in any county but Cork,¹⁶ and Slane lost more in Meath than anyone but the late King James and more in Cavan than any other owner.

The main source of information on the sale of the forfeited lands is

the abstract of conveyances in the *Irish records commissioners' reports, 1821-5*, pp 348-96. Simms summarizes this information (177-92), and lists the sales of Christopher, Lord Slane's lands as amounting to 9,614 profitable Irish acres in Meath, 1,123 in Louth, 1,236 in Cavan, 104 in Monaghan, and 457 in Roscommon, a total of 12,534 acres. There is a mistake in the commissioners' report in respect of a sale of 998 acres to John Graham of Drogheda. The heading in the margin of the printed report indicates that the land in question is in Drogheda, i.e. Co. Louth. This is an error. The purchaser was in Drogheda, but the land was all at the northern end of Meath, in the parish of Drumconrath, a fact which would not be apparent to anyone unfamiliar with the townland names in that area. So the correct figure for Louth is 125 acres, and the 998 acres must be added to Meath, making Simms's adjusted figure 10,612.

I have been unable to agree with this figure exactly. Simms gives the number of purchasers as sixteen (156). I find sixteen purchasers who make up 10,032 acres, but there is a seventeenth purchaser who is of particular interest to us, and whom I shall deal with in greater detail. For it is in connection with the sales of the forfeited estates in 1703 that the name of Conyngham first appears with reference to Slane. Like most of the purchasers of these estates, the Conynghams were already established in Ireland before the forfeitures of 1688. They have been in Donegal since the reign of James I when Alexander Conyngham arrived from Scotland. He was in 1611 the first protestant minister to Enver and Killymard, in the diocese of Raphoe, and he was appointed dean of Raphoe in 1631. He settled at Mount Charles, which estate he leased from John Murray, earl of Annandale, the owner of 'a vast estate' in Scotland. Conyngham subsequently acquired the Mount Charles property through his marriage to the earl's grand-niece, Marian, daughter of John Murray of Broughton, in Scotland. By her he had twenty-seven children, the second son being Sir Albert Conyngham, Kt.

Sir Albert's son, Henry, was the first of the family to acquire property in Meath, namely in the baronies of Slane, Upper and Lower.¹⁷ On 10 April 1703 Brigadier Henry Conyngham purchased 806 profitable acres in the townlands of Rochestown (220 acres), Roestown (128 acres, with the tucking mill and corn mill thereon), Stackallan (198 acres), Abelstown (113 acres), Barnwelltown (40 acres), Corballis (107 acres), and all other lands in the tenure of John Blackley, as tenant to said trustees.' For these 806 acres, Conyngham paid £1,766 and a rent of £160. This lot came out of the estate of James II, the previous proprietors having been Richard Fleming, James Fleming, Robert Barnewall, and Richard Barnewall.

This sale was registered on 18 June 1703. Five days later a further sale to Conyngham was registered, of 1,422 acres for

£4,637.19s.3d. and a rent of £23.18s.7½d. This lot was from 'the estates of Christopher Lord Slane and the late King James II.' This is a case where the estates of Lord Slane and King James are so intermixed that they are not readily differentiated, but I give the acreage purchased by Conyngham and in brackets the corresponding acreage granted to Ginkel out of Slane's forfeited estates, as follows: the manor, capital messuage (i.e. the dwelling occupied by the proprietor) and castle of Slane, the town and lands of Slane and Slane Hill, 991 Irish acres (799), Harlinstown 215 (144), Mullaghdillon 180 (174), Cashel 36 (64), total 1,422 (1,181). Something approaching this last figure has to be added to the 10,032 acres of the sixteen purchasers, to make up the total of the very large acreage of Slane's estates sold in Meath.

There is in the P.R.O.I. a large MS volume, bound, entitled 'Forfeited Estates of Ireland 1688'.¹⁸ The volume is undated but is listed by the P.R.O.I. as 'probably after 1837'. It gives details of the sales and the actual payments. In respect of Conyngham's purchase of 806 acres for the net sum of £1,776, it records that he paid one-third previous to the execution of the conveyance and obtained the usual credit for the remainder, but that he only paid a further £600.15s.9½d., leaving a balance of £577.16s.10¾d. which 'does not appear to have been ever paid in order to complete said purchase.' Similarly, in respect of the purchase of 1,422 acres for the net sum of £4,637.19s.3d. it is recorded that Conyngham paid £1,545.19s.9½d., and later another one-third, leaving a like sum which 'appears to remain unpaid.'

Whatever he paid, Brig. Conyngham had by his two purchases acquired 2,228 profitable Irish acres (Simms, p. 184, reckons 1,838), or 3,609 statute acres, just over half of what became the total Conyngham holding in Meath by the 1870s.¹⁹ The Meath lands and the Donegal lands are detailed in an enormously complicated settlement executed by Conyngham on 21 August 1704 for the benefit of his wife, Mary, Lady Shelburne, and their three sons and three daughters.²⁰ Mary was the daughter of Sir John Williams, bart., of Minster, Kent. (Minster gives the Marquis Conyngham his title of Baron Minster in the U.K. peerage, whence his seat in the House of Lords).

Of his sons, Albert is named as the eldest in the settlement and is recorded by Archdall as having died young.²¹ He is ignored in later peerages. The second son is clearly called Williams, after his mother, in the settlement and in Archdall, but William in later peerages. He died without issue surviving. The third son, Henry, created Baron Conyngham in 1753, died without issue. Of the eldest daughter, Susanna, we know only the date of her baptism, and of the second daughter, Margaret, only that she died young. That left the third

daughter, Mary, as heiress. She married Francis Burton, and their son succeeded to his uncle's title and estates, and to his name, and from him descends the present Conyngham line.

NOTES

1. Sir Bernard Burke, *Dormant and Extinct Peerages* (London, 1883), 217.
2. G.E.C., *The Complete Peerage*, edited by G. H. White, XII, Part I (London, 1953), 2.
3. Aidan Clarke, *The Old English in Ireland 1625-42* (London, 1966).
4. Clarke, 211. Some confusion is caused by the use of the title Slane without further identification. The Index to Clarke names only William Fleming, Lord Slane, but at least the last two references under this heading relate to William's son, Charles.
5. Burke, 217.
6. *Bks survey & dist.* — Taylor set in R.I.A. Reference to the decree is not given in Q.R.O. set in P.R.O.I. I have not found any corroboration of the date of this decree. It is not among the decrees recorded for that date in the abstract referred to in my footnote to page 71.
7. C. E. F. Trench, *Slane* (Dublin, 1976), 28-31.
8. Burke, 217.
9. Lodge's Records of the Rolls, VIII, 165-7 (P.R.O.I.).
10. J. G. Simms, *Jacobite Ireland 1685-91* (London, 1969), 227.
11. J. G. Simms, *The Williamite Confiscation in Ireland 1690-1703* (London, 1956), 88.
12. Lodge's Records of the Rolls, IX, 18-23 (P.R.O.I.).
13. Simms, *Williamite Confiscation*, 89.
14. *Report of the commissioners appointed by parliament to enquire into the Irish forfeitures* (London, 1700), 24-5.
15. *A book of postings and sale of the forfeited and other estates and interests in Ireland . . . 1700-03* Dublin, 1703).
16. *Enquiry commissioners' report*, 10.
17. Robert Douglas, *The Peerage of Scotland* (Edinburgh, 1764), 24-5; Mervyn Archdall, *Lodge's Peerage of Ireland* (London, 1789), VII, 185-6; *The Complete Peerage*, I (London, 1910), 165.
18. *A list of the lands forfeited to the crown in consequence of the rebellion of . . . 1688* (P.R.O.I. Q.R.O. O.W.).
19. U. H. H. de Burgh, *Landowners of Ireland* (Dublin, [1878]), 96.
20. Conyngham settlement (N.L.I. MSS. D.27,630).
21. *Lodge's Peerage of Ireland*, VII, 185-6.

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SLANE

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SLANE village, set on a steep hillside running down to the Boyne a mile or so west of Knowth, is an enchanting little place which packs a surprising amount of interest. The scene is set at the village centre, where four three-storey eighteenth-century houses stand at the four corners of a crossroads, each virtually identical (with arched entrance courtyards to the side) and built of rough-cut grey limestone. The story goes that they were built by four spinster sisters who wanted to keep an eye on one another's comings and goings.

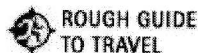
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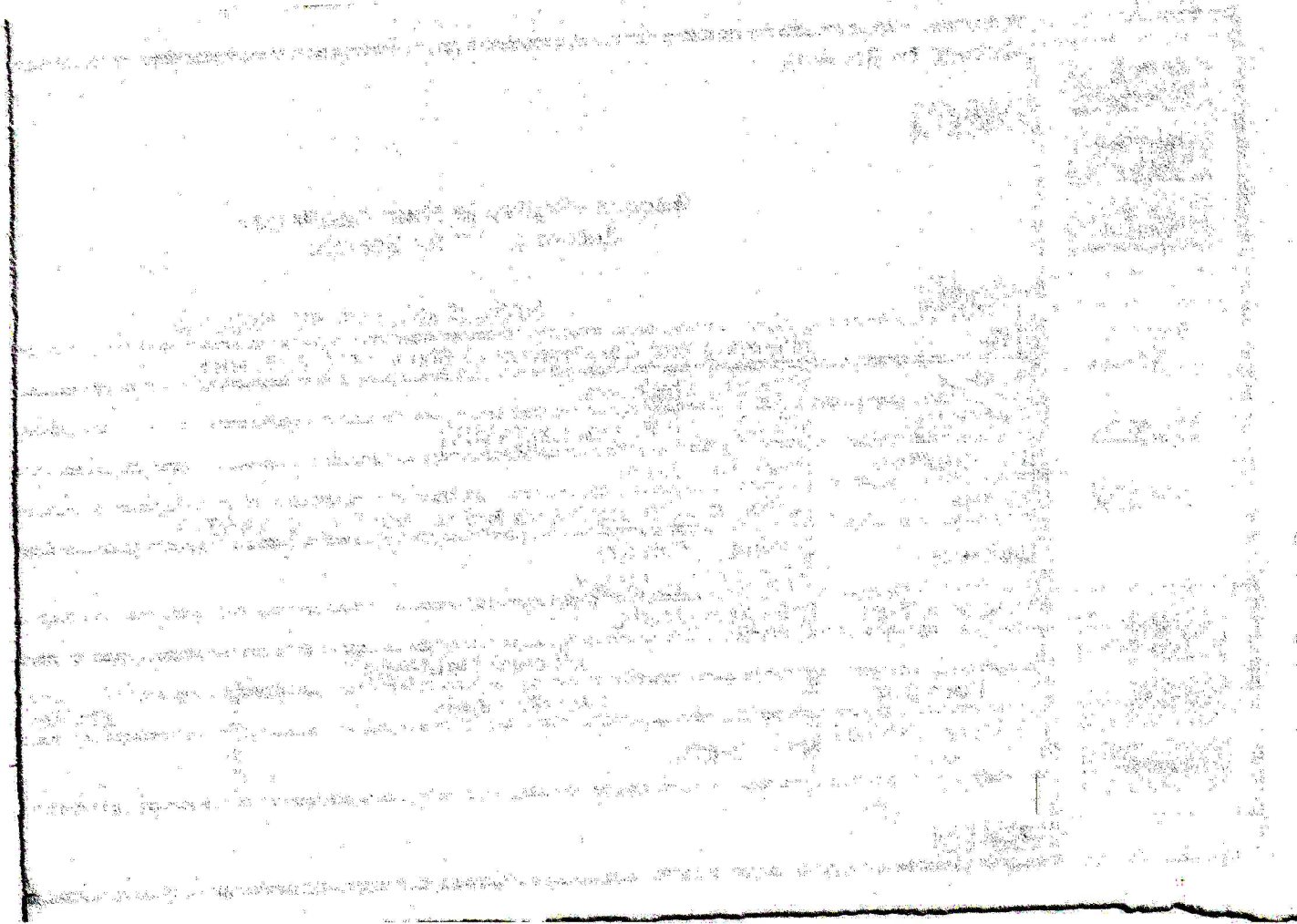
Down by the river, the Georgian theme is continued in the fine **mill**, built in 1766, across the road from which stands a large Gothic gate to Slane Castle, whose lands stretch out westward along the river. **Slane Castle** suffered an enormous fire in the spring of 1992 and is strictly out of bounds to the public. Some restoration work has been completed but it's a painstaking and expensive task and it seems as if the castle will remain closed to the public for the foreseeable future. During the reconstruction period, the owners have appealed to tourists not to enter the grounds at all, for their own safety. Approximately once a year, however, the castle does open its gates to half of young Ireland for massive, open-air rock concerts promoted by the entrepreneurial Henry Conyngham, Lord Mountcharles, who has a warm relationship with Ireland's rock business - including U2, who recorded *The Joshua Tree* in one of the rooms at Slane. The only other way of getting a glimpse of the castle grounds is to go to the tiny **nightclub** held in the castle basement every Saturday night (tel 041/982 4207).

On a more traditional level, the castle is the seat of the **Conyngham family** and is a classically ordered mass of mock battlements and turrets with a neo-Gothic library. The best architects of the day - Wyatt, Johnston and Gandon - were involved in the design, and the grounds were laid out by Capability Brown. Inside, there's a substantial art collection and many mementos of King George IV, who is said to have spent the last years of his life involved in a heady liaison with the Marchioness Conyngham: some claim that this relationship accounts for the exceptionally fast, straight road between Slane and Dublin.

Further out in the castle grounds, and not for public consumption beyond a glimpse from the river towpath, is **St Erc's Hermitage**. Lord Mountcharles recently gave this to the nation, but it will be some time before it opens to the public.

Walking north from the crossroads, uphill, you can climb to the top of the **Hill of Slane**, where **St Patrick** lit his Paschal Fire in 433 AD, announcing the arrival of Christianity. This was in direct defiance of Laoghaire, High King of Tara, who had ordered no fire-making until Tara's own hillside was set alight. Fortunately for St Patrick, Laoghaire was promptly converted, welcoming the new religion throughout the country. The summit commands magnificent views of the whole Boyne Valley. Near the top, the ruined **Friary Church** (1512) and separate college building are worth investigating. The church has a well-preserved **tower**, with a very narrow and steep flight of sixty-odd steps: if you make it up you're rewarded with a broad panorama of the eastern counties, though Slane itself is all but hidden from view. In the graveyard there is a very unusual early Christian tomb with gable-shaped end-slabs. This is supposed to be the final resting place of **St Erc**, Patrick's greatest friend and servant whom he made Bishop of Slane. The **college** was built to house the four priests, four lay-brothers and four choristers there to serve the church; assorted pieces of carved stonework can be found if you mooch round its ruins.





The Flemings and the Conynghams

By Terry Trench

The landownership changes which took place in Slane during sixty or more years following the rebellion of 1641 reflect what was taking place over a major part of Ireland during that period.

It was common practice, and not only in Ireland, for the property of defeated rebels to be confiscated. In Ireland the practice was followed with particular vigour, in support of the policy to replace Catholic rebel landowners, such as the "Old English" as well as the Gaelic aristocrats, with Protestant planters or 'adventurers' from England or Scotland, or with soldiers whom the crown was committed thus to reward for their services, the rewards in some cases being of vast dimensions.

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Richard Le Fleming and his forces had joined with De Lacy and the Normans in the invasion of Ireland in 1169. He had made his way up to Meath, seized the castle on the Hill of Slane and the lands attached to it, and been made baron of Slane. By the year 1640, his descendant William Fleming, 14th baron of Slane, was in possession of large estates in Meath, and smaller estates in Louth, Monaghan, Cavan and Roscommon. His estates in Meath extended, but by no means continuously, from the Boyne at Slane to Drumconrath and Ardagh at the northern extremity of the county, and across the Boyne to the parishes of Fennor and Duleek and as far south as Galtrim and Culmullin.

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Charles Coote in late April 1642. Thus it came about that William, Lord Slane, and his son Charles, for their part in the rebellion, were excepted from pardon by Cromwell. So Slane had played a leading part in the rebellion and although he had died before the end of that year, in 1641, he had been outlawed posthumously and his lands declared forfeit. His son, Charles, 15th baron, had carried on fighting and is named as one of the four lords of the pale (the others were Gormanstown, Trimleston and Netterville) to be driven out at Trim by Sir Charles Coote in late April 1642. Thus it came about that William, Lord Slane, and his son Charles, for their part in the rebellion, were excepted from pardon by Cromwell. Charles entered the service of Louis XIV with 10,000 men and lost his life in that service in Italy in 1661.

Charles's brother, Randall, 16th baron, was restored to his estates, as were many other peers and large landowners, under the Act of Settlement and Distribution of Charles II's reign, namely by decree dated 27th March 1663. Randall is to be remembered for the beautifully inscribed tomb which he erected in St. Erc's Hermitage in the grounds of Slane Castle and on which he commemorates his two wives, Ellenor, daughter of Sir Richard Barnewall of Crickstown, and Penelope, daughter of Henry Moore, earl of Drogheda. Penelope was the mother of Christopher, 17th baron of Slane, who was seven years old when his father died in 1676.

Penelope's mother, Alice, Countess Dowager of Drogheda, was Christopher's guardian during his minority. In a petition which she presented to the king on his behalf, she declared 'that his father Randall, late lord baron of Slane, was declared an innocent Papist and was restored to all the lands whereof he or his ancestors were seized on or before 23 October 1641, by decree dated 30 April 1663 ... and prayed that as it appears by the said decree his father had always demeaned himself a loyal dutiful subject and faithful to the crown, his Majesty would, in consideration thereof and for the further preserving a family whose ancestors were always faithful subjects, be pleased to direct a patent to pass off all the lands so declared to his father'. whereof he or his ancestors were seized on or before 23 October 1641, by decree dated 30 April 1663 ... and prayed that as it appears by the said decree his father had always demeaned himself a loyal dutiful subject and faithful to the crown, his Majesty would, in consideration thereof and for the further preserving a family whose ancestors were always faithful subjects, be pleased to direct a patent to pass of all the lands so declared to his father'.

In this petition the lands are listed townland by townland to a total of 12,635 Irish acres, namely 11,228 acres in Meath, 205 acres in Louth, 1,002 in Cavan and 200 in Monaghan. These figures were evidently agreed when the lands were confirmed to Christopher by patent of 20 March 1682.

In 1688 everything was forfeited again. Bereft of his lands, Christopher continued to support the Jacobite cause. He sat in James II's parliament in 1689 and fought at the Boyne. Along with many of the Jacobite aristocracy, including Lord Bellew of Duleek (who died of wounds) he was taken prisoner at Aughrim. He was attainted on 16 April 1691 and followed James to France. By an act of parliament of 1708 he was restored to his peerage, but not to his estates, which had finally been disposed of by the trustees of the forfeited estates and interests in Ireland. Christopher died without male issue in 1726, and his only daughter died unmarried. So ended this Fleming line.

Out of the Irish estates forfeited in 1688, enormous grants of land were made to a number of foreigners who had contributed to the success of William of Orange. Amongst the major grantees was the Dutch general, Goddard, baron de Ginkel, who commanded the Williamite forces and who was created earl of Athlone. He was granted 26,480 acres of which 12,931 comprised the estates of Christopher Fleming, late baron of Slane.

This grant, made in 1693, was confirmed by an act of the Irish parliament in 1695, and was the only grant to be confirmed in this way. Nevertheless, it was set aside by the Act of Resumption five years later, by which the English parliament resumed all but a small fraction of the Irish forfeitures and vested them in trustees. Meanwhile, however, in June 1698 Ginkel had already disposed of the land, breaking the great estate for the first time and selling small parcels to seventeen persons for a total sum of £17,684.12s.9d. The Act of Resumption rendered these sales invalid and the lands were put up for sale on 3 April 1703 by auction to the best bidder; but there was little or no competition and they were in fact sold back to the seventeen who had purchased them from Ginkel.

The total of profitable acres forfeited in Co. Meath and sold by the trustees was 92,452, the largest acreage forfeited in any county but Cork, and Lord Slane lost more in Meath than anyone but the late King James and more in Cavan than any other owner.

It is in connection with the sales of the forfeited estates in 1703 that the name of Conyngham first appears with reference to Slane. Like most of the purchasers of these estates, the Conynghams were already established in Ireland before the forfeitures of 1688. They have been in Donegal since the reign of James I, when Alexander Conyngham arrived from Scotland. He was in 1611 the first Protestant minister to Enver and Killymard in the diocese of Raphoe, and he was appointed dean of Raphoe in 1631. He settled at Mount Charles, which estate he leased from John Murray, earl of Annandale, the owner of 'a vast estate' in Scotland. Conyngham subsequently acquired the Mount Charles property through his marriage to the earl's grand-niece, Marian, daughter of John Murray of Broughton, in Scotland. By her he had twenty seven children, the second being Sir Albert Conyngham, Kt.

Sir Albert's son, Henry, was the first of the family to acquire property in Meath, namely in the baronies of Slane, Upper and Lower. On 10th April 1703 Brigadier Henry Conyngham purchased 806 profitable acres in the townlands of Rochestown (220 acres) Roestown (128 acres, with the tucking mill and the corn mill thereon) Stackallan (198 acres), Abelstown (113 acres), Barnwelltown (40 acres), Corballis (107 acres) and all other lands in the tenure of John Blackley as tenant to said trustees. For these 806 acres Conyngham paid £1766 and a rent of £160. This lot came out of the estate of James II, the previous proprietors having been Richard Fleming, James Fleming, Robert Barnewall and Richard Barnewall.

This sale was registered on 18 June 1703. Five days later a further sale to Conyngham was registered, of 1,422 acres for £4,637.19s.3d. and a rent of £23.18s. 7½d. This lot was from 'the estates of Lord Slane and the late King James'. This is a case where the estates of Lord Slane and the late King James are so intermixed that they are not readily differentiated, but I give the acreage purchased by Conyngham as follows: The manor, capital messuage (i.e. the dwelling occupied by the proprietor) and castle of Slane, The town and lands of Slane and Slane Hill, 991 Irish acres, Harlinstown 215, Mullagh Dillon 180, Cashel 36, total 1422. This figure, added to the 10,032 acres of the other sixteen purchasers, approximately makes up the total of the very large acreage of Slane's estates sold in Meath.

In respect of Conyngham's purchase of 806 acres for the net sum of £1,776, it is recorded that he paid one-third previous to the execution of the conveyance and obtained the usual credit for the remainder, but that he only paid a further £600.15s.9 ½d, leaving a balance of £577.16s.10 ¾d which 'does not appear to have been ever paid in order to complete the said purchase'. Similarly, in respect of the purchase of 1,422 acres for the net sum of £4,637.19s.3d., it is recorded that Conyngham paid £1,545.19s 0 ½d. And later another one-third, leaving a sum which 'appears to remain unpaid'.

Whatever he paid, brig. Conyngham had by his two purchases acquired 2,228 profitable Irish acres or 3,609 statute acres, just over half of what became the total Conyngham holding in Meath by the 1870s. The Meath lands are detailed in an enormously complicated settlement executed by Conyngham on 21 August 1704 for the benefit of his wife, Mary, Lady Shelburn, and their three sons and three daughters. Mary was the daughter of Sir John Williams, bart., of

Minster, Kent. (Minster gives the Marquis Conyngham his title of Baron Minster in the U.K. peerage, whence his seat in the House of Lords).

Of his sons, Albert is named as the eldest in the settlement and he is recorded as having died young. The second son, called Williams after his mother, died without issue surviving. The third son, Henry, created Baron Conyngham in 1753, died without issue. Of the Brigadier's eldest daughter, Susanna, we know only the date of her baptism, and the second daughter, Margaret, only that she died young. That left the third daughter, Mary, as heiress. She married Francis Burton, and their son succeeded to his uncle's title and estates, and to his name, and from him descends the presents Conyngham line.

NOTE: The above is extracted from a lengthier and more detailed article by the present writer which appeared under the title of 'Fleming and Conyngham of Slane' in Ríocht na Midhe, vol. VII, no.2, 1982-83, with precise details of the sources for the information given therein.

NB Page numbers are 69–75; author as C.E.F.Trench. Pagination as (7), 2.

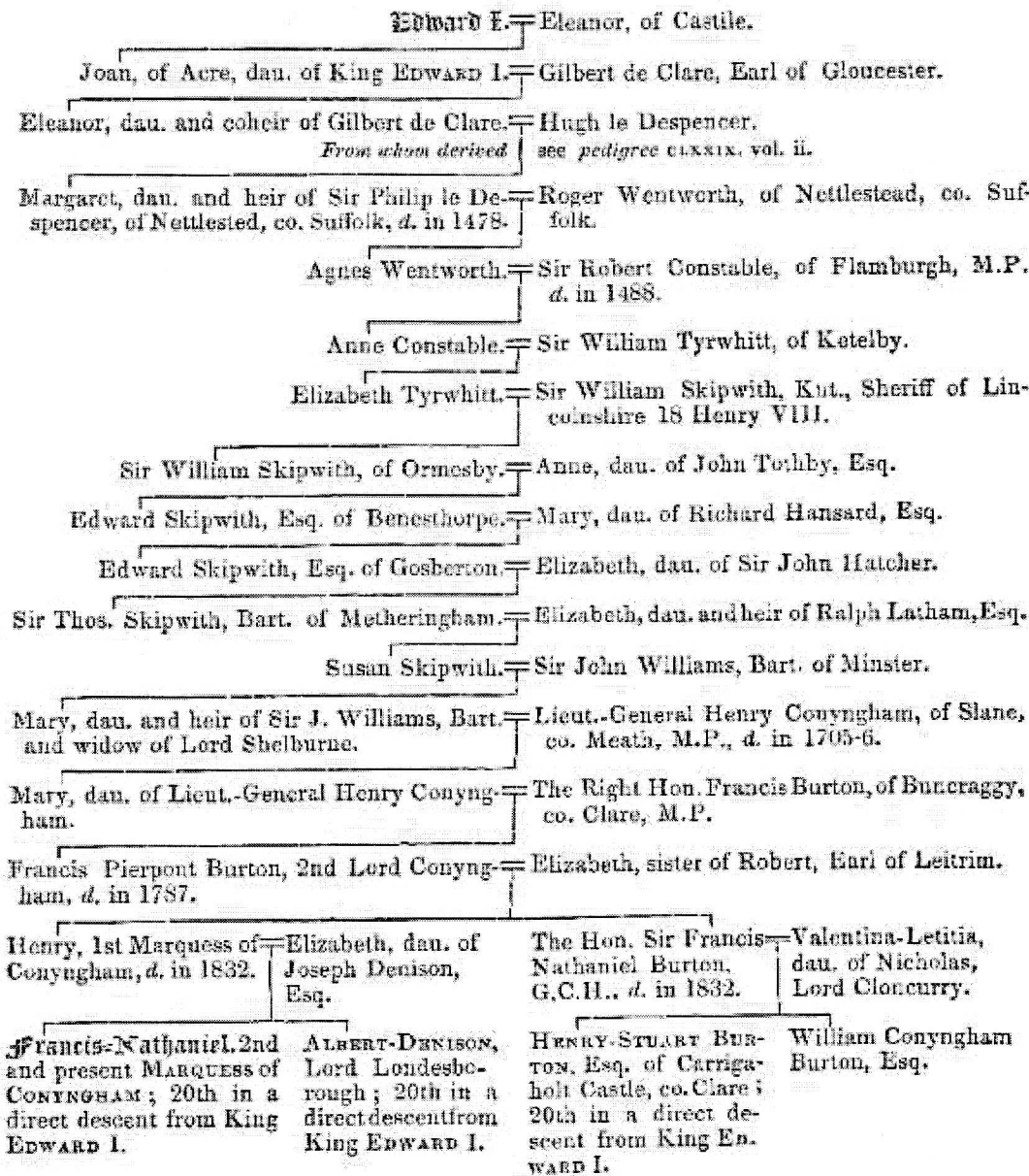
Conyngham and Burton,

PEDIGREE CCVII.*

Burke

Royal Families

2



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3. **Full Record** **Title:** Fifty years young : the story of An Óige /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Date:** 1981.

4. **Full Record** **Title:** Dermot Chevenix Trench and Haines of Ulysses /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Date:** 1975.

5. **Full Record** **Title:** Slane /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Date:** 1976.

6. **Full Record** **Title:** William Burton Conyngham (1733-1796) /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Date:** [1987?]

7. **Full Record** **Title:** Slane /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Edition:** New ed. **Date:** 1987.

8. **Full Record** **Title:** Slane /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Edition:** New revised ed. **Date:** 1995.

9. **Full Record** **Title:** Drogheda Municipal Art Collection : catalogue /
 Mark **Date:** [1995]

10. **Full Record** **Title:** Nearly ninety : reminiscences /
 Mark **Author:** Trench, Chalmers. **Date:** 1996.

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Manna

No. of Man. 78 = 2,461 acres
 acre of 68 = $\frac{2,975}{5,436}$

Included - letting to JWS Flower (Bifon case)

Occupier: War Dept

Compensation for £275 for manna.

Derogations re. 6.46 £2 for 1/2 acre from

GHE spot values Est, kyj let to Ministry of Works for 24/6/47 at £400 pa.

Rateable value £238

Sold for demolition 7/50 for £ pkyj.

Laundry + Laundry Cottage 138 - map. Sold to lessees 22.10.1954 for £2000
 - = 136 built
 Linton Road, Chelmsford Essex

Savills ^{London} took status Feb 1945
 Alfred Smith & Co, Ltd Agents & Chartered Surveyors
 51A Lincoln's Inn fields, WC2

Nov. 1968 new lease (lease buy) Alfred Smith, Curtis & Hanson
 Chartered Surveyors, 63 Lincoln's Inn fields WC2
 No 20 Grosvenor Hill W.1.
 Whole estate except Gosn Hall + Sheeps Court Farm was
 Transferred to Canby Ltd, Guernsey
 contract dated 18.6.1976

clw

Myhman
 Bundle 6 ^{Docum 3} Interview with maps 15.9.1942 Phoenix
 Jarvis, M. Cleave. T Measday 166 14 pecks
 Mortgage taken at 1914. (or at least referred to)
 for Gould + Collins to Phoenix Arizona

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John Hill Collection

JH/TRA/23/1 Scotland

JH/TRA/23/1 Scotland

Contains four items being brochures of the Ballathie House Hotel, a bill, and a letter from John and Dawn Forsyth.

JH/TRA/24 Travel 1975

JH/TRA/25 Travel 1976

Contains one file

JH/TRA/25/1 France 27/4/76-14/5/76

JH/TRA/25/1 France 27/4/76-14/5/76

Contains 30 items. The contents relate to a holiday in France from 4-5/76. They include an itinerary; logs of car journeys; ferry ticket and bill, hotel and restaurant bills, and garage bill for car repairs, Arras, 28/4/76; correspondence between JH and Mrs J. Drew of Grasse; Michelin maps nos 76, Aurillac - St Etienne, and 989, France, and Michelin Guide to Paris, 2nd ed.; a brochure for La Vielle Ferme Hotel, Macon; and 10 picture postcards.

JH/TRA/26 Travel 1977-

Contains three files

JH/TRA/26/1 France 4/82

JH/TRA/26/2 Scotland 1995

JH/TRA/26/3 Tuscany 19--?

JH/TRA/26/1 France 4/82

Contains seven items. The contents relate to a holiday in France in the first half of 4/82 and include: Michelin map no. 989, France, scale 1:1000,000; 'Chateaux, hotels independents et hostelleries d'atmosphere', 1981; 'Relais du silence', 1981; Transfer showing international road signs and with imperial/metric conversion tables Automobile Association; 'Motoring abroad '82'; SNCF travel wallet with documents relating to journey from Nice to Calais and Sealink ferry ticket, Calais-Dover.

JH/TRA/26/2 Scotland 1995

Contains nine items being a brochure of Glamis Castle, a brochure for Pitlochry Festival Theatre, a guide map to Royal Scotland, and printed ephemera from Ballathie House Hotel, Perthshire.

JH/TRA/26/3 Tuscany 19--?

Contains two items being a booklet of postcards and a leaflet on Brolio Castle. JH visited Tuscany in 1997 [see JH/PHO/46/4]. The material in this file however appears to have originated from an earlier trip.

**SERIES JH/WAR
JH'S MILITARY SERVICE IN WWII
1929-1946, 1967-2000**

Contains 12 files

JH/WAR/1 Diaries 1939-1943

JH/WAR/2 Correspondence 1939-1943

JH/WAR/3	651 Squadron, RAF. Notes and reports on the Tunisian campaign 1942-1943
JH/WAR/4	Miscellaneous publications, contemporary 1929, 1939-1945
JH/WAR/5	Maps 1932-1949
JH/WAR/6	Press cuttings, contemporary 1943-1946
JH/WAR/7	The Air O.P. Officers' Association 1967, 1978-1991, 2000
JH/WAR/8	Museum of Army Flying 1982-1989
JH/WAR/9	Army Air Corps 1976, 1982, 1996-1998
JH/WAR/10	Press cuttings, post-war 1974, 1983-1989
JH/WAR/11	Miscellaneous post-war publications and documents 1971, 1983
JH/WAR/12	Royal Regiment of Artillery (Royal Artillery) 1995-2000

John Hill served in the Royal Artillery in World War II, rising to the rank of captain and seeing active service as an Air Observation Post (OP) pilot. The series contains transcripts of his personal journal of his military service, together with contemporary documents, maps, and published material, and some post-war material. The latter includes papers relating to old comrades' organisations, military museums and heritage centres, and miscellaneous publications and cuttings.

JH joined the 64th (7th London) Regiment, Royal Artillery [Territorials] on 1/9/39 and was initially based at Golders Green where he was occupied in registering and training new recruits. In 2/40 he relinquished his RA commission and was posted to the 5th (SR) Battalion Scots Guards, a ski battalion with whom he undertook training in Chamonix in anticipation of deployment to Finland. The Finnish campaign did not materialise and JH resumed his RA commission at the end of 3/40. From 9/40 to 1/41 he underwent gas warfare training at the Army Gas School, Tregmantle.

Towards the end of 1941 JH underwent flying training and qualified as an Air Observation Post pilot, joining 651 (AOP) Squadron, RAF, in 1/42. From 4/42-9/42 JH was based in the War Office (SD4 and AIR I).. On 1/11/42 he sailed for Algiers to participate in the Tunisian Campaign. On 22/4, en route by land to begin an attachment to One Division, JH was injured by shell-fire and evacuated to England where he was treated in the Military Hospital (Head Injuries) at St High's College, Oxford. He left hospital on 19/10/43 and was subsequently invalided out of the Army.

JH/WAR/1 Diaries 1939-1944

23 MS bound notebooks and a quantity of unbound MS pages representing JH's journals kept during the years 1940-1944 [part 1, being the original text for the period 31.8.1939 to 25.2.1940 is absent, believed to be still in JH's possession]; list entitled 'Journals Kept in Time of War'; typescript transcriptions of JH's journals, 1939-1944; photocopy of a typescript by JH entitled 'The Fifth Scots Guards Skiing Battalion. An interlude in the phoney war 7 February 1940 - 18 March 1940, as seen from the ranks of X Company' [based on JH's journal for this period]; 11 miscellaneous loose items, including typescript dinner menu for the Officers' Mess, Glasserton House (undated), and typescript of an irreverent pastiche of an extract from the Winch Drill for the Balloon Barrage; MS notebook on gunnery; envelope labelled 'Note on Finland's Role in World War II' containing photocopy of MS notes by JH.

JH/WAR/2 Correspondence 1939-1945, 1973-1987

Contains one sub-file being correspondence arising out of JH's wartime career and experiences.

JH/WAR/2/1 Correspondence with Patrick Talbot-Smith 1939-1943

JH/WAR/2/1 Correspondence with Patrick Talbot-Smith 1939-1943

Contains 22 items and consists chiefly of letters from Major Patrick Talbot-Smith, Royal Artillery, and includes one letter written by Talbot-Smith on the verso of JH's mess bill for 31/12/39. The correspondence is chiefly concerned with military life and activities and opens on 4/11/39 with Major Talbot-Smith in the 64th (7th London) Regiment based at Mystole, Chartham, Kent, to where he had been posted from Golders Green [where he first met JH?]. JH was at this time attending a course at the School of Artillery, Larkhill. By 12/41 Talbot-Smith had moved to GHQ Home Forces, where he was a staff officer but returned to the 64th by the following year. On 4/3/43 he writes from HQ RA 15th (Scottish) Division Home Forces, saying that "the Div. is going shortly to be very good involved" and reports that "the G.O.C. is Monty's protegee". By 22/6/43 he is commanding 495 Field Battery, Alnwick and has learned that JH has been injured and returned to England. Writing to JH at the Military Hospital (Head Injuries) at St Hugh's College, Oxford, Talbot-Smith reports that he is on the staff of the RA Branch, 21 Army Group HQ, and appears not to be very happy about it. By 28/9/43 he is more cheerful, being connected with "urgent affairs of strategy (on practically a Prime Ministerial level)". The last letter is dated 4/10/43. Talbot-Smith is still with 21 Army Group, now based at Wentworth Country Club and writes to JH at High Barn, Esher, referring to working at the level of the Prime Minister and Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

JH/WAR/3 651 Squadron, RAF. Notes and reports on the Tunisian campaign 1942-1943

Contains nine items. The contents relate to JH's experiences as an Air Observation Post pilot in 651 Squadron RAF, a squadron the personnel of which were drawn from both the RAF and the Army. They include:

Bound foolscap notebook entitled 'Airmanship' containing notes made by JH while undergoing training as an Air Observation Post pilot; MS headed 'Duplicate copy Report on 1st day's fighting in Battle of Bou Arada', 18/1/42 [sic], by JH, AI Section, 651 Sqn, RAF; MS entitled 'Bou Arada Battle'; MS entitled 'Air OP 651 Sqn RAF AI Section. Report on Bou Arada Battle', by JH, 28/1/43. In three sections; typescript, '651 Squadron - Summary of Operations in N.W. Africa. 12 Nov. 42 to 11 Dec. 42'; 'Operations by Captain M.J. Magrath with 6 Armd. Division R.A. 23-26 April 1943, inconclusive' (typescript list of sorties); 'Air-mindedness in ground troops (528)' (typescript of para. 203 of an unidentified report, recording notes supplied by "a gunner officer who took part in the Tunisian campaign with an Air OP Squadron, RAF" [i.e., JH]); 'The Air Observation Post, Royal Artillery' (two copies of a typescript [1944]), one of which is annotated in MS "draft talk for BBC broadcast to Germany - but not given because D-Day 1944 intervened!".

JH/WAR/4 Miscellaneous publications, contemporary 1929, 1939-1945

Contains 13 items. Publications contemporaneous with JH's war service or believed used by him at that time, comprising: War Office: Manual of map reading, photo reading, and field sketching, HMSO, 1929, reprinted and amended 1939; James Beresford & Son Ltd: "Beresford Stock" light trailer fire fighting pumping unit. Instruction handbook P45/B, n.d.; letter, Flight Lt Ian Forsyth to JH, 31/1/45, accompanying "the 'gen' on the Auster", with two copies of a summary specification and six reprints from periodicals ('The Motor', 'Flight', 'The Aeroplane', and 'Taylorcraft News') describing the Auster and its use in military reconnaissance and as a private aircraft; The War in maps. Its background and course, ed. George Goodall, George Philip & Son Ltd, c. 1940; 'Last Will and Testament of Adolf Hitler' [spoof], printed by A. Bloom & Sons Ltd, Houndsditch, n.d.

JH/WAR/5 Maps 1932-1949

Contains 18 sub-files

- JH/WAR/5/1 Maps. Great Britain, 5th edition style Second War revision 1940
- JH/WAR/5/2 Maps. Great Britain, popular edition style, Second World War revision 1940. One inch
- JH/WAR/5/3 Maps. Great Britain, 2nd provisional edition 1941
- JH/WAR/5/4 Maps. Great Britain, military edition, War revision 1940; 1939-1943
- JH/WAR/5/5 Maps. Ten Mile Map of Britain, military edition 194-?
- JH/WAR/5/6 Maps. Great Britain, Royal Air Force edition 1932-1935
- JH/WAR/5/7 Maps. France (1) 1943-1944
- JH/WAR/5/8 Maps. France (2) 1942-1943
- JH/WAR/5/9 Maps. France, Army/Air 1943
- JH/WAR/5/10 Maps. France and Belgium 1943
- JH/WAR/5/11 Maps. Belgium and N.E. France 1943
- JH/WAR/5/12 Maps. Germany, 2nd edition (1) 1944
- JH/WAR/5/13 Maps. Germany, 2nd edition (2) 1944
- JH/WAR/5/14 Maps. Germany, Army/Air, 1st edition 1943
- JH/WAR/5/15 Maps. Netherlands, 2nd edition 1939
- JH/WAR/5/16 Maps. Italy 1943
- JH/WAR/5/17 Maps. Africa 1936

JH/WAR/6 Press cuttings, contemporary 1943-1946

Contains 17 items being press cuttings contemporaneous with JH's war service, being: copy of 'The Times', 4/9/39, Royal Edition' [later reprint?]; 'Tunis expedition. Africa battle in film & book', article by Darryl F. Zanuck, c. 1/43, source unknown; 'Illustrated London News', 12/6/43, pp. 645-648 (referring to the Tunisian Campaign) and pp. 662-664; three cuttings, sources unknown, one dated 30/9/43, referring to the use of the Auster aircraft in military operations; 'No quarter. Struggle for Cassino slopes', source unknown, c. 1944; The 'Times', 17/3/44, two cuttings, one listing recent awards to Canadian Army and RAF personnel, the other referring to the same set of awards and noting the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to members of the Royal Regiment of Artillery; official despatch of Lt General K.A.N. Anderson, First Army, on Operations in North West Africa from 8/11/42 to 13/5/43, Supplement to the London Gazette of 5/11/46, 6/11/46; 'From March to September. A mounting crisis', Chronology of events, 15/3/39 to 3/9/39, [The 'Times', c. 9/39]; four maps cut from issues of [The 'Times'], c. 30/8/39 to 4/9/39, one is untitled and shows the borders of Germany and Poland, the others are headed 'The Frontiers of Poland', 'The War - Poland', and 'Germany and her neighbours'; half-tone, source unknown, c. 10/39, showing a queue of aliens waiting to register at Golders Green Aliens Office; cartoon by Lee, 'Sunday Graphic', 10/12/39, showing a scene from the fairy-tale 'Babes in the Wood' in which Hitler and Stalin are depicted as the murderers pulling apart two children - a boy labelled 'Baltic' and a girl labelled 'Balkans' - and simultaneously declaring "This is a one-man job". In the surrounding trees lurks a wolf [depicting Turkey?], and perched in the trees is a hawk [Mussolini] and a dove [Chamberlain]. The cartoon is captioned 'Rift in the loot'.

JH/WAR/7 The Air O.P. Officers' Association 1967, 1978-1991, 2000

Contains 14 items. The contents include: correspondence; invitations to events organised by the Association; order of service and other material relating to the Drumhead Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance, 1/9/91, commemorating the Association's 50th anniversary; Secretary's Notes [newsletter], 7/78, 8/81, 9/83, 9/85, 9/87, 9/88; and a copy of Newsletter 2000.

JH/WAR/8 Museum of Army Flying 1982-1989

Contains 27 items. The contents include correspondence, press cuttings, and printed material relating to the development of the Museum. As well as making donations to the appeal fund, JH gave items of uniform and service kit and original photographs dating from his World War II military service to the Museum's collections.

JH/WAR/9 Army Air Corps 1976, 1982, 1996-1998

Contains five items being copies of 'The Army Air Corps Journal, 1976 and 1998, a programme of events marking the Corps' Silver Jubilee in 1982, and two items relating to JH's membership of the Army Air Corps Association.

JH/WAR/10 Press cuttings, post-war 1974, 1983-1989

Contains ten items being: obituary of Gen. Sir Charles Keightly, 'Times', 19/6/74; obituary of Lt Gen. Sir Otway Herbert, 'Times', 9/4/94; obituaries of Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris, 'Times', 7/4/84, and 'East Anglian Daily Times', 7/4/84; two articles from the 'Sunday Telegraph', 20/5/84 and 13/5/84, relating to the biography of Sir Arthur Harris by Dudley Saward; 'A Plane man's guide to the horse', 'Times', 6/12/86, a feature on Capt. D.M.K. Marendaz, formerly of the Royal Flying Corps; 'Novel flying visit for veteran of the RFC', 'Times', 28/4/89, a feature on Cecil Lewis; 'The tiny aircraft with a big future in services', 'East Anglian Daily Times', 15/2/84, a feature on Wing Commander Ken Wallis and his autogyro; 'Survivors of torpedoed ship meet again after 40 years', 'East Anglian Daily Times', 18/5/83, a feature on John Button and Ronnie Goff, survivors of the sinking of the hospital ship 'Newfoundland' in the Mediterranean in 1943.

JH/WAR/11 Miscellaneous post-war publications and documents 1971, 1983

Contains two items being: HQ British Troops Malta: British Troops Malta Command Study 1971. The Campaign in Northern Tunisia November 1942-May 1943, 2/71; 'Jack Parham: Flying for fun; an affair with an aeroplane', privately printed, 1983.

JH/WAR/12 Royal Regiment of Artillery (Royal Artillery) 1995-2000

Contains two sub-files

JH/WAR/12/1 64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery Comrades Association 1996-2000

JH/WAR/12/2 Royal Artillery Museum 1995-2000

JH/WAR/12/1 64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery Comrades Association 1996-2000

Contains two items being copies of the Newsletter of the Association, 8/4/96 and 25/4/2000.

JH/WAR/12/2 Royal Artillery Museum 1995-2000

Contains six items being correspondence, progress reports and brochures relating to the Royal Artillery Heritage campaign to establish a Royal Artillery Museum on the site of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

[Guide compiled by Bridget Gillies, 10/06]

7 December 2006
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Contributed by vcfairfield
 Background to story: Army
 Article ID: A2812187
 Contributed on: 06 July 2004

Over the Seas Two-Five-Four!
 We're marching right off,
 We're marching right off to War!
 No-body knows where or when
 But we're marching right off
 We're marching right off - again!
 It may be BER-LIN
 To fight Hitler's KIN
 Two-fifty-four will win through
 We may be gone for days and days — and then!
 We'll be marching right off for home
 Marching right off for ho-me
 Marching right off for home — again!

Merry-merry-merry are we
 For we are the boys of the AR-TIL-LER-Y!
 Sing high — sing low where ever we go
 TWO-FIVE-FOUR Battery never say NO

INTRODUCTION

The 64th Field Regiment Royal Artillery, Territorial Army has roots going back to the 1860's. It first saw action in France during the Great War 1914 to 1918 when it took part in the well known battles of Loos, Vimy Ridge, River Somme, Ypres, Passchendale, Cambrai and Lille. Its casualties numbered 158 killed.

Again in the Second World War it was called upon to play its part and fought with the 8th Army in Tunisia and then with the 5th and 8th armies in Italy. It was part of the first sea borne invasion fleet to land on the actual continent of Europe thus beginning its liberation from Nazi German domination. Battle honours include Salerno, Volturno, Garigliano, Mt Camino, Anzio, Gemmano, Monefiore, Coriano Ridge, Forli, Faenza, R. Senio Argenta.

Its peacetime recruits came mainly from the Putney, Shepherds Bush and Paddington areas of London up to the beginning of World War II. However on the commencement of hostilities and for the next two years many men left the regiment as reinforcements and for other reasons. As a result roughly one third of the original Territorials went abroad with the regiment, the remainder being time expired regular soldiers and conscripted men.

Casualties amounted to 84 killed and 160 wounded.

In 1937 I was nineteen years old and there was every indication that the dictators ruling Germany in particular and to a lesser degree Italy, were rearming and war seemed a not too distant prospect. Britain, in my opinion had gone too far along the path of disarmament since World War I and with a vast empire to defend was

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becoming alarmingly weak by comparison, particularly in the air and on land. It was in this atmosphere that my employers gathered together all the young men in their London office, and presumably, elsewhere, and indicated that they believed we really ought to join a branch of the armed forces in view of the war clouds gathering over Europe and the hostile actions of Messrs Hitler and Mussolini. There was a fair amount of enthusiasm in the air at the time and it must not be forgotten that we British in those days were intensely proud of our country. The Empire encompassed the world and it was only nineteen years since we had defeated Imperial Germany.

The fact that we may not do so well in a future war against Germany and Italy did not enter the heads of us teenagers. And we certainly had no idea that the army had not advanced very far since 1918 in some areas of military strategy.

In the circumstances I looked round for a branch of the forces that was local to where I lived and decided to join an artillery battery at Shepherds Bush in West London. The uniform, if you could call the rather misshapen khaki outfit by such a name, with its' spurs was just that bit less unattractive than the various infantry or engineer units that were available. So in February 1937 I was sworn-in, with my friend Ernie and received the Kings shilling as was the custom. It so happened that soon afterwards conscription was introduced and I would have been called up with the first or second batch of "Belisha Boys".

I had enlisted with 254 Battery Royal Artillery and I discovered, it was quite good so far as Territorial Army units were concerned, for that summer it came fourth in Gt Britain in the "Kings Prize" competition for artillery at Larkhill, Salisbury. In fact I happened to be on holiday in the Isle of Wight at the time and made special arrangements to travel to Larkhill and join my unit for the final and if my memory serves me correctly the winner was a medium battery from Liverpool.

My job as a "specialist" was very interesting indeed because even though a humble gunner — the equivalent of a private in the infantry — I had to learn all about the theory of gunnery. However after a year or so, indeed after the first years camp I realised that I was not really cut out to be a military type. In fact I am in no doubt that the British in general are not military minded and are somewhat reluctant to dress up in uniform. However I found that many of those who were military minded and lovers of "spit and polish" were marked out for promotion but were not necessarily the best choices for other reasons. There was also I suppose a quite natural tendency to select tall or well built men for initial promotion but my later experience tended to show that courage and leadership find strange homes and sometimes it was a quiet or an inoffensive man who turned out to be the hero.

Well the pressure from Hitler's Germany intensified. There was a partial mobilisation in 1938 and in the summer of that year we went to camp inland from Seaford, Sussex. There were no firing ranges there so the gunners could only go through the motions of being in action but the rest of us, signallers, drivers, specialists etc. put in plenty of practice and the weather was warm and sunny.

During 1939 our camp was held at Trawsfynydd and the weather was dreadful. It rained on and off over the whole fortnight. Our tents and marquees were blown away and we had to abandon our canvas homes and be reduced to living in doorless open stables. Despite the conditions we did a great deal of training which included an all night exercise. The odd thing that I never understood is that both in Territorial days and when training in England from the beginning of the war until we went abroad there was always a leaning towards rushing into action and taking up three or four positions in a morning's outing yet when it came to the real thing we had all the time in the world and occupying a gun site was a slow and deliberate job undertaken with as much care as possible. I believe it was the same in the first World War and also at Waterloo so I can only assume that the authorities were intent on keeping us on the go rather than simulating actual wartime conditions. Apart from going out daily on to the firing ranges we had our moments of recreation and I took part in at least one football match against another battery but I cannot remember the result. I always played left back although I really was not heavy enough for that position but I was able to get by as a result of being able to run faster than most of the attacking forwards that I came up against.

The really odd coincidence was that our summer camp in Wales was an exact repetition of what happened in 1914. Another incident that is still quite clear in my

memory was that at our Regimental Dinner held, I believe in late July or early August of 1939, Major General Liardet, our guest of honour, stated that we were likely to be at war with Germany within the following month. He was not far out in his timing!

Well the situation steadily worsened and the armed forces were again alerted. This time on the 25th August 1939 to be precise. I was "called up" or "embodied" along with about half a dozen others. I was at work that day at the office when I received a telephone call from my mother with the news that a telegram had been sent to me with orders to report to the Drill Hall at Shepherds Bush at once. This I had expected for some days as already more than half the young men in the office had already departed because they were in various anti-aircraft or searchlight units that had been put on a full war footing. So that morning I cleared my desk, said farewell to the older and more senior members who remained, went home, changed into uniform, picked up my kitbag that was already packed, caught the necessary bus and duly reported as ordered.

I was one of several "key personnel" detailed to man the reception tables in the drill hall, fill in the necessary documents for each individual soldier when the bulk of the battery arrived and be the general clerical dogsbodies, for which we received no thanks whatsoever. The remainder of the battery personnel trickled in during the following seven days up to September 2nd and after being vetted was sent on to billets at Hampstead whilst we remained at the "Bush".

The other three batteries in the regiment, namely 253, 255 and 256 were mustered in exactly the same manner. For instance 256 Battery went from their drill hall to Edgware in motor coaches and were billeted in private houses. The duty signallers post was in the Police Station and when off duty they slept in the cells! Slit trenches were dug in the local playing fields and four hour passes were issued occasionally. There were two ATS attached to 256 Battery at that time a corporal cook, and her daughter who was the Battery Office typist.

I well remember the day Great Britain formally declared war on Germany, a Sunday, because one of the newspapers bore headlines something like "There will be no war". Thereafter I always took with a pinch of salt anything I read in other newsheets.

At this time our regiment was armed with elderly 18 pounders and possibly even older (1916 I believe) 4.5 howitzers. My battery had howitzers. They were quite serviceable but totally out of date particularly when compared with the latest German guns. They had a low muzzle velocity and a maximum range of only 5600 yards. Our small arms were Short Lee Enfield rifles, also out of date and we had no automatics. There were not enough greatcoats to go round and the new recruits were issued with navy blue civilian coats. Our transport, when eventually some was provided, was a mixture of civilian and military vehicles.

Those of us who remained at the Drill Hall were under a loose kind of military discipline and I do not think it ever entered our heads that the war would last so long. I can remember considering the vastness of the British and French empires and thinking that Hitler was crazy to arouse the hostility of such mighty forces. Each day we mounted a guard on the empty building we occupied and each day a small squad marched round the back streets, which I am certain did nothing to raise the morale of the civilian population.

There were false air raid alarms and we spent quite a lot of time filling sandbags which were stacked up outside all the windows and doors to provide a protection against blast from exploding bombs. In the streets cars rushed around with their windscreens decorated with such notices as "DOCTOR", "FIRST AID", "PRIORITY" etc, and it was all so unnecessary. Sometimes I felt more like a member of a senior Boy Scout troop than a soldier in the British Army.

After a few weeks the rearguard as we were now called left the drill hall and moved to Hampstead, not far from the Underground station and where the remainder of the battery was billeted in civilian apartments. They were very reasonable except that somebody at regiment had the unreasonable idea of sounding reveille at 0530 and we all had to mill about in the dark because the whole country was blacked out and shaving in such conditions with cold water was not easy. Being a Lance Bombardier my job when on guard duty was to post the sentries at two hourly intervals but the

problem was that as we had no guardhouse the sentries slept in their own beds and there was a fair number of new recruits. Therefore you can imagine that as there were still civilians present, occasionally the wrong man was called. I remember finding my way into a third or fourth floor room and shaking a man in bed whom I thought was the next sentry to go on duty only to be somewhat startled when he shot up in bed and shouted "go away this is the third time I have been woken up tonight and I have to go to work in a few hours time!"

Whilst we were at Hampstead leave was frequent in the evenings and at weekends. Training such as it was, was of a theoretical rather than a practical form. However we very soon moved to "Bifrons House" in Kent, an empty stately home in very large grounds near Bridge and about four miles south of Canterbury. Here we resided until the middle of 1940.

In this position we had a bugler who blew reveille every morning while the Union Jack was raised, and lights out at night. The food was quite appalling in my opinion. It was prepared in large vats by a large and grimy cook and by the time it was distributed was almost cold due to the unheated condition of the dining area. Breakfast usually consisted of eggs eaten in the cold semi darkness and the yolks had what appeared to be a kind of plastic skin on them that was almost unbreakable. Indeed all meals were of the same poor standard and there was no noticeable improvement during our stay here.

The winter of 1939/40 was very long, very cold and brought a heavy fall of snow which stayed with us for several weeks. Christmas day was unforgettable. I had a touch of 'flu and the first aid post where another soldier and myself were sent to was an empty room in a lodge house. There was not a stick of furniture, no heating, the floors were bare and we slept on straw palliasses on the floor. I recovered very quickly and was out in two or three days! On one day of our stay at Bifrons, on a Saturday morning there was a Colonels inspection and as a large number of sergeants and bombardiers were absent from among the gun crews I was detailed to take charge of one gun and stand in the frozen snow for the best part of an hour on what was I believe the coldest day of the winter. And so far as I remember our Commanding Officer decided not to include us and eventually we were dismissed and thawed out around the nearest fire.

In general however I think most of us quite enjoyed our stay here. It certainly was not like home but we made ourselves comfortable and parades finished about 1630 hours which gave us a fair span of time until "lights out". At weekends we spent the Saturday evening in the pub in nearby Bridge and occasionally walked or begged a lift to Canterbury which was four miles away. In our spare time we played chess and various games of cards. From time to time we were entertained by groups of visiting artists or had sing-songs in typical army fashion. Looking back it was in some ways I suppose like an of beat low class boarding school with the battery numbering some two hundred and fifty men billeted in the bedrooms and stables of the house. Nevertheless we did a lot of training. We even went out in the cold snow covered countryside at night in our vehicles as if we were advancing or retreating, for two or three hours at a time. We had to take a certain preselected route which was very difficult to follow because with everything hidden beneath the snow, with no signposts and with trying to read an inch to the mile map at night with a hand torch giving only a very restricted light because of the blackout the odds against making a mistake were fairly high. We would come back cold and hungry to a mug of hot tea or cocoa and a bite to eat. By day we practised other aspects of artillery warfare either as part of the battery as a whole, sometimes with our signallers but more often as not as a group of specialists going through the many things we had to learn, time after time. When the weather improved this was a most enjoyable way of spending the morning or afternoon session for we could take our instruments out to an attractive bit of the countryside within walking distance of our billets and do some survey, map reading or a command post exercise.

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London District on 3 September 1939

London District: HQ Horse Guards, S.W. 1

The County of London, Warley (Foot Guards only), Rainham Rifle Range, Purfleet, Woolwich (for Territorial Army troops), the Guards depot at Caterham, Pirbright, and (for regular troops) Windsor.

Regular Troops in the District

Regular Troops

The Life Guards: Hyde Park Barracks
Royal Horse Guards (The Blues): Windsor
1st Battalion, The Coldstream Guards: Chelsea Barracks (Attached to 7th
1st Battalion, The Scots Guards: Chelsea Barracks
1st, 2nd Battalions, The Irish Guards: Wellington Barracks
2nd Battalion, The Welsh Guards: The Tower of London
'K' Battery, The Royal Horse Artillery: St. John's Wood
The Guards Depot: Caterham

Militia in the District

5th Infantry Training Group: Pirbright

Territorial Army Divisions and Brigades in the District

22nd Heavy Armoured Brigade (Part)

3rd, 4th County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters): St. John's Wood

1st London Division: HQ Finsbury Barracks, City Road, E.C. 1

HQ Royal Artillery: Finsbury Barracks, City Road, E.C. 1

64th (7th London) Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)

HQ, 253rd (18th London) Bty: Fulham, S.E. 18

254th (19th London) Bty: Shepards Bush, W. 12

90th (City of London) Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)

HQ, 357th (1st City of London), 358th (2nd City of London)

HQ Royal Engineers: The Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea

220th (2nd London) Field Company, RE: Chelsea

223rd (2nd London) Field Park Company, RE: Chelsea

1st Battalion, The Queen Victoria's Rifles, The King's Royal Rifle Corps

1st London Divisional Signals: 20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park

1st London Infantry Brigade: HQ RHQ The Grenadier Guards, Birdcage Walk

8th (1st City of London) Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City)

9th (2nd City of London) Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City)

1st Battalion, The London Irish Rifles, The Royal Ulster Rifles

2nd London Infantry Brigade: HQ Finsbury Barracks

1st Battalion, The London Rifle Brigade, The Rifle Brigade (Pr

1st Battalion, The London Scottish, The Gordon Highlanders: 59

1st Battalion, The Queen's Westminsters, The King's Royal Rifle

3rd London Infantry Brigade: HQ RHQ The Grenadier Guards - Attached

1st Rangers, The King's Royal Rifle Corps: 16 Chenies Street,

2nd Rangers, The King's Royal Rifle Corps: Montague Street

1st Tower Hamlet Rifles, The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's C

2nd Tower Hamlet Rifles, The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's C

2nd London Division

HQ Royal Artillery

117th Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)

HQ, 255th (20th London) Bty: Fulham, S.W. 6
256th (17th London) Bty: Paddington, W. 2
138th Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 359th (3rd City of London), 360th (4th City of London)
HQ Royal Engineers
501st Field Company, RE: Chelsea
502nd, 503rd Field Companies, RE: New Barnett
504th Field Park Company, RE: New Barnett
2nd Battalion, The Queen Victoria's Rifles, The King's Royal Rifle Corps
2nd London Divisional Signals

4th London Infantry Brigade
11th Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment):
12th Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment):
2nd Battalion, The London Irish Rifles, The Royal Ulster Rifles

5th London Infantry Brigade
2nd Battalion, The London Rifle Brigade, The Rifle Brigade (Princess of Wales's):
2nd Battalion, The London Scottish, The Gordon Highlanders: 10
2nd Battalion, The Queen's Westminsters, The King's Royal Rifle Corps

6th London Infantry Brigade: - Attached
1st Battalion, Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment, The Middlesex
2nd Battalion, Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment, The Middlesex

The Officer Producing Group: HQ RHQ The Welsh Guards, Birdcage Walk
The Inns of Court Regiment: 16 Stone Building, Lincoln's Inn
2 (O.P.) Sections, 11th (Honourable Artillery Company) Royal Horse Artillery:
The Honourable Artillery Company Infantry Battalion: Finsbury Barracks
The Artist's Rifles, The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own): Armoury House,

Other Territorial Army Troops in the District

11th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery (Honourable Artillery Company) (T.A.)
HQ, A, B Btys: Armoury House, Finsbury, City Road, E.C. 1
12th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, (Honourable Artillery Company) (T.A.)
HQ, C, D Btys: Armoury House, Finsbury, City Road, E.C. 1
91st (4th London) Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 361st (5th London), 363rd (7th London) Btys: Lewisham, S.E. 13
92nd (5th London) Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 365th (9th London) Bty: Kennington Lane, London, S.E. 11
368th (12th London) Bty: Woolwich, London, S.E. 11
139th Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 362nd (6th London), 364th (8th London) Btys: Lewisham, S.E. 13
140th Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ: Clapham Common, S.W. 4
366th (10th London) Bty: Kennington Lane, London, S.E. 11
367th (11th London) Bty: Woolwich, London, S.E. 11
53rd (London) Medium Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 209th, 210th (London) Btys: Barnsbury
64th Medium Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 211th, 212th (London) Btys: Barnsbury
52nd (6th London) Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 205th (13th London), 206th (14th London), 207th (15th London), 208th
62nd Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A. (T.A.)
HQ, 245th-248th Btys: Stockwell, S.W. 9
The Mobile Divisional Signals (1st County of London Yeomanry (Middlesex, Duke of Cornwall's)
The London Corps Signals, RCS: Putney Bridge
216th, 217th, 218th (1st London) Field Companies, RE: Bethnal Green
219th (1st London) Field Park Company, RE: Bethnal Green
221st, 222nd (2nd London) Field Companies, RE: Chelsea
294th, 295th, 296th Field Companies, RE: Barnett
297th Field Park Company, RE: Barnett

Supplementary Reserve Troops in the District

102nd (London) Army Troops Company, RE: Bethnal Green
151st, 152nd (Great Western) Railway Construction Companies, RE: Paddington St
HQ Railway Stores RE: Lambeth
156th (Southern) Railway Stores Company, RE: Lambeth
HQ Line of Communication Signals, RCS: Clapham Park
No. 1, No. 4 (City of London) Companies

No. 2 Company, Air Formation Signals, RCS: Putney Bridge
Nos. 28, 29, 30 (London) Construction Sections, RCS: London

Ec 07984 103027

Victor Chas Fairfells Oct 16/1917 AD Southeast North Spurge
died 12/1884 age 67. Aylesbury

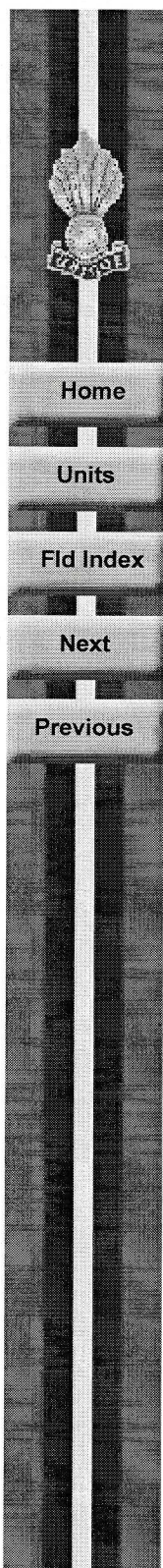
64 (7th London) Field Regiment RA(TA)

Locations

3 Sep 39	London District	Fulham, UK
Nov 40	56 Inf Div	UK
Nov 42	56 Inf Div	Iraq
Mar 43	56 Inf Div	N Africa
Sep 43	56 Inf Div	Salerno
Apr 44	56 Inf Div	N Africa
Jul 44	56 Inf Div	Italy

Batteries

3 Sep 39	253 (18th London), 254 (19th London)
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A London Regiment of the Territorial Army. Its not that they weren't interesting, its just that Dad had...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 2

I had enlisted with 254 Battery Royal Artillery and I discovered, it was quite good so far as Territorial...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 3

The summer was warm and sunny and each morning around breakfast time a huge fleet of enemy aircraft...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 4

The following day, a Sunday we all took part in "Boat Stations" drill at 0900 hours as usual...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 5

I must also explain here that before leaving Cape Town the Regiment was split into two sections with some...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 6

The next day we moved up to Basra, past river banks lush with green vegetation, which stretched inland for...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 7

On the 6th, I was Battery Orderly Sergeant and spent all the morning on various duties, then cleared...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 8

During one evening in the sergeant's mess, we took part in a long discussion on the various facets of...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 9

Leaving Mafrqa at the usual early hour we drove over the Albanon Hills, down the Jordan Valley across the...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 10

From Buq Buq onwards the water had been "brackish" but at Tobruk it appeared that the...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 11

Sadly our Commander Royal Artillery, who was in charge of all the Divisions artillery was killed in a road...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 12

The following day I went to Tripoli and visited the church there and was able to sign the visitors book on...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 13

A number of Bofors Antiaircraft guns were bolted to the deck and were in constant action against enemy...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 14

Good beds, chairs to lounge in on deck, an issue of 50 De Reske cigarettes and meals such as liver and...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 15

I think one of the reasons may well have been that in the British military hospitals nurses were given...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 16

On January 2nd, I obtained a days pass and caught the tram into Cairo, had a good look round and later...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 17

Three major obstacles had to be overcome on the way north, these being the Voltorno and Garigliano rivers...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 18

I had landed in the middle of a determined German attack against the UK/US armies and that morning there...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 19

The result was that a small party was formed of an officer, sergeant major and battery quartermaster...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 20

I had further duties to perform as orderly and guard sergeant but in the atmosphere of springtime in Egypt...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 21

At some time during the day I heard the King's speech about the second front, but much more exciting to...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 22

I awoke to find that I had been posted battery orderly sergeant which in the circumstances was a fairly...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 23

We received a lot of enemy shellfire during the day which screamed past our farmhouse and the battery...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 24

We travelled late at night so as not to be detected by the Germans as we were moving somewhat to one side...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 25

About this stage of the war I also lost my command post officer for a few weeks as he was seconded to...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 26

Our position for this operation was close to the River Lamone and that night we managed a fairly good rest...

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On the 6th our Division, the 56th, completed the first part of its tasks towards the final battle in Italy...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 28

At this time there was talk of forming a mixed column of infantry, armour and artillery to press on up into...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 29

On May 23rd we all moved off in the morning, through Trieste and up into the hills not very far from the...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 30

Then we all strolled over to see an ENSA show with mainly Italian actors and actresses and later in the...

64th (7th London) Field Regiment Royal Artillery 31

We've had our days of feasting in the army in the past But this Christmas at Gradisca Is for most of us...

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


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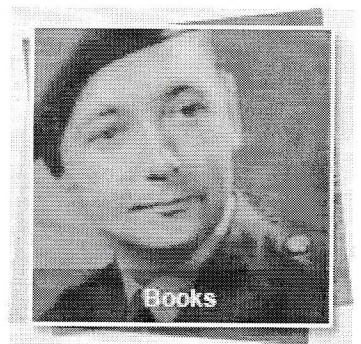
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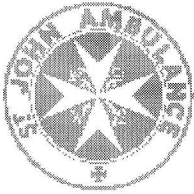
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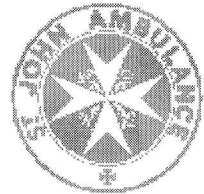
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Isle of Man



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for Life



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for Life

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Isle of Man County Structure

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Chairman of the Isle of Man Council
Vice-Chairman of County Management Board

The Marchioness Conyngham

County Commander

Chairman of County Management Board
Vice-Chairman of the Isle of Man Council

R.E.N. Oake Esq., KSt.J, QPM, LL.B

**County
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Training &
Marketing**

Martin

**County
Commissioner
Operations**

**Brenda
Quayle**

**County
Medical
Officer**

Dr Joe Swan

**Deputy
County
Medical
Officer**

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Nursing
& Social
Care
Officer**

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**Coun
anc
O**

Bria

Blackburn

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Mellon

**County
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Gellard,
PhD**

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Commissioner
Youth**

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Equipment
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Team**

**All
Div**

**Personnel &
Fundraising
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**Personal
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Advisor**

David Quayle

**IT
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Derek
Bridson**

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Home

Badger Buzzz

Gallery



**This Web Page was created 30 March 2003
Most recent revision 8 September 2004**

Kent Messenger Nov 3 1961

"How fate has dealt with many of Kent's stately homes
- Some have been pulled down, others put to new uses"

Bygon - pulled down
Cale Hill pulled down 8 yrs ago.
Mystoke converted into flats

Knights free house
20 Harwood St WCI.
or Cooper & Wacker
antennas.

Mystoke sale part of as 20 bedrooms

For sale by Virgil Bonfruct 1937
his grandfather had bought it for the Fagge family

Lounge Hall,
4 reception
billiard room
8 part bed room
Nurses suite
incl Nurse's bedroom
9 secret kit or
box room.

/arts/

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28 February 1999

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Monopoly money for the seriously wealthy

GAUTENG's rich and powerful do have funny ways of enjoying themselves. There they were on Wednesday night, 170 black-tied guests, seriously business A list (well, the previously advantaged section of it), munching sushi and sipping drinks at the superb old Herbert Baker house and national monument Glenshiel on the Westcliff Ridge, as they played "auction-auction" for charity.

What's more, there was a real English aristocrat, Marchioness Conyngham (who also answers to Annabelle), wielding the hammer on the rostrum.

She is the Isle of Man representative of Christie's, the London auctioneers, and also owns a house in Plett, which explains her connection.

That expression "auction-auction" will need an explanation. What the well-heeled were doing was bidding on 10 exquisite items of jewellery which had already been sold by Christie's in London in December.

Whoever bid closest to the prices paid at the London auction won a R25 000 diamond given by De Beers to honour the 900th anniversary of the Order of St John, the benefiting charity.

Sue and Doug Band, Peter and Cliffie Joubert (whose pearls with a beautiful clasp were as nice as anything on sale), Nat Sheila Camerer and husband Alex, the Charles Rathbones (she's the lovely Penny Smythe), Philip and Stephanie Howell, John and Gwendoline Hall, Graham and Barbara Lindop and June Guthrie were among many guests whose faces are more familiar to the business than the social pages.

They bid huge (play- play) sums in sterling for items like 14,56-carat diamond solitaire rings and antique necklaces



LADY WITH THE HAMMER
 Marchioness Conyngham prepares for the charity 'auction' for the Order of St John Picture by SEFALE



If you have thoughts about this article then have your say in one of our discussion forums or send an e-mail to our editor suntimes@tm

which went for upwards of R500 000 in London.

But such amateurs were eventually outfoxed by a jewellery insider as the diamond went to Chris of the well-known Charles Greig family.

Christie's Jo'burg rep, Harriet Hedley, had worked her butt off setting up the sparkling do, and the night's host was Ian Haggie, who, like Marchioness Conyngham, is a prior of the Order, of which there are 20 000 members worldwide, with Queen Elizabeth as "sovereign patron".

His father, the late Gordon S Haggie, bought Glenshiel from its original owners, Sir William and Lady Dalrymple, in 1941, when the grounds ran right down the ridge to Jan Smuts Avenue.

Since 1950 the house has been held in trust for the Order (probably better known to you as the St John's Ambulance Brigade), whose headquarters it still is.

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THEY JOINED FOR
THEIR
MARRIAGE

30 DECEMBER 1998
22 JANUARY 1910

ANITA MARGARET ANN AINSWORTH

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JOHN FRANCIS AINSWORTH



Irish Examiner.com

Ireland's link with House of Lords to be severed

by Andrew Bushe

A CENTURIES LONG tradition of British hereditary peers living in the Republic and holding the right to seats in the House of Lords will be lost when the current session of the Westminster parliament ends on Thursday.

Only one hereditary peer who lives south of the border tried to maintain the link. The third baron Kilbracken, 79, stood as a Labour candidate in a complicated election system that allowed 75 out of about 750 hereditaries to stay on in a transitional House of Lords.

A distinguished journalist and champion of Irish causes, Lord Kilbracken - John Raymond Godley - who lives in Killegar, Co Cavan, got only three votes. Kilbracken worked as a reporter for the Daily Mirror and the Sunday Express and later as a foreign correspondent. He has been a champion of many Irish causes in the House of Lords. In 1972 he renounced his British citizenship in the wake of the Bloody Sunday massacre in Derry and he handed back the Distinguished Service Cross he was awarded as a fighter pilot during World War II.

Amongst peers with homes here who didn't stand in last week's election were Lord Altamount, owner of Westport House, Co Mayo, with its only privately owned zoo in the country, the Duke of Devonshire, owner of Lismore Castle in Co Waterford, and Lord Revelstoke, owner of Lambay Island off Dublin.

Thursday will also mark the end of Lord George Bingham's chances of ever taking a seat when he inherits the Earldom of Lucan from his missing father. Lord "lucky" Lucan vanished in November 1974 after the murder in London of the family nanny Sandra Rivett. Another unsuccessful candidate in the election was the fourth Earl of Iveagh, who recently sold his Farmleigh mansion off Phoenix Park in Dublin to the Government for £23million. The Guinness heir got 40 votes from his rule by right of birth colleagues.

His father was the only man to have held seats in both

the Lords and the Seanad when he was appointed as one of the Taoiseach's 11 nominees by Liam Cosgrave. Slane based "rock" peer, Lord Mount Charles might also have created a similar record involving the Dáil. He unsuccessfully stood as Fine Gael candidate in Meath in 1992. His Irish earldom did not allow him to attend the Lords but on the death of his father, the seventh Marquess of Conyngham, he will also inherit the UK title of Baron Minster. It would have conferred on him the right to a Lords seat. His father never took his Lords seat. His grandfather did but never spoke. "You have to go back two generations if you want to find an active involvement by my family," he said.

He regards it as a sad occasion. Irish based peers may have seemed anachronistic but they had a unique perspective of both countries and the relationships between them. "Despite arguments that the hereditaries were a bunch of Tory buffers I have always seen the House of Lords as being, in a sense, independent." Remaining on as one of ten hereditary peers made life peers under a deal with the Labour Government is Lord Longford, who sits in the upper house using his UK title, Lord Pakenham.

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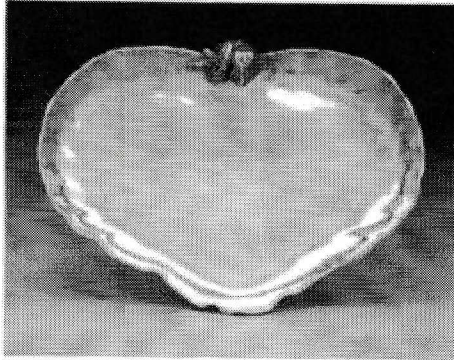
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Marked by Nicholas Sprimont, 1716–1770

Dish

Sweetmeat Dish

English (London)

England, (London), 1745–46

Silver

H. 4.2 x W. 19.9 x D. 15.1 cm (1 5/8 x 7 13/16 x 5 15/16 in.)

Weight: 283.5 gm (9 oz 2 dwt)

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston: Jessie and Sigmund Katz Collection

1988.1074

[larger image](#) | [interactive zoom](#)



Location: Not currently on view.

Description: The heart-shaped dish, formed from sheet, has fluted edges and rests on three gadrooned ball feet. At the top of the heart, a cast cluster of entrusted shellwork is inset. The surface is buffed, and engraving has been removed from the underside.

Provenance/Ownership History: Estate of Victor George Henry Francis, fifth Marquess Conyngham, sold Christie's, London, February 10, 1938, lot 10; Maj. W. M. Tapp; A. G. Lewis collection by 1951, New York; Lent by Mrs. Sigmund Katz, 1973, The Jessie and Sigmund Katz collection. (Accession Date: November 30, 1988)

Please note: The history of ownership is not definitive or comprehensive, as it is under constant review and revision by MFA curators and researchers. The information in this file is being reviewed and will be corrected and updated as research progresses.

By 1973, Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Katz [see note 1]; 1988, gift of Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Katz. (Accession date: November 30, 1988)

NOTES:

[1] From June 25, 1973, on loan to the MFA from Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Katz.

Full Object Record: Art of Europe

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Marked by Nicholas Sprimont,
1716-1770

Covered Tea Canister

English (London)

England, (London), 1744-45

Silver

H. 14.9 cm (5 7/8 in.); Weight: 377
gm (12 oz 2 dwt)

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston: Jessie
and Sigmund Katz Collection
1988.1077a-b

[larger image](#) | [interactive
zoom](#)



Location: Not currently on view.

Description: Each canister is of inverted pear form resting on a spreading base. The foot is raised and chased with an abstract undulating motif. Between the top of the raised section and the base of the body is a cast spacer of C-scrolls that is crudely soldered to both. The body of the vessel is raised and has three applied cast vertical ribs terminating in leaves. In the plain panels between them are applied stalks of plants: tea on the two smaller canisters, sugar cane on the larger. The rim, modeled with an undulating motif, is cast and applied. The raised cover is domed and chased with vertical fluting and surmounted with a cast finial - tea blossoms and berries on the smaller canisters, strawberries on the larger. The surface has suffered from overpolishing.

Provenance/Ownership History: Estate of Victor George Henry Francis, 5th Marquess Conyngham, sold Christie's, London, February 10, 1938, lot 36, purchased by Thomas Lumley, London; collection of Major W.M. Tapp by August 1938; A.G. Lewis Collection, New York, by 1951; Lent by Mrs. S.J. Katz, 1973; Gift of Jessie and Sigmund Katz to the MFA. (Accession Date: November 30, 1988)

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[provenance help](#)

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Congygha Buth Convents

Saville's Box

- 10.3.1882 *girl* = Blanche Frances
- 2.6.1886 Milled Marka
- 24.9.1887 Female Hervey
- 18.10.1888 Eliza Dorothy
- 8.4.1900 female
- 29.5.1901 Alan ~~has~~ Charles
- 21.9.1902 Frederick Francis

by 12.9.1939 via
Lt. Col. The Hon.
M. S. D. J. Wickford,
Inverness

Don't E. White
Purth ~~has~~

K9 IV by Lawrence ~~and~~
Dear face - owned by M. Charles

Structors Allen + Overy 43 to Threemiddle St ~~etc~~ 1000 are for ~~James Thompson~~

31.12.1926 Devereux Chambers, Temple WC2 by 1950.
Vesting deed - PSC + blank to effect gift of infant (17 years)

6.9.1937 Dwyer Marriages Referring to trustee
de Gotton continuing. Vesting Deed

Beneficiaries Hon Geo. Evan Michael Baillie MC of Ashford Hall Bakewell

Sir Francis Hugh Brooke Bt. of Dallyfad, Coolgreens, Co. Wickford } New
Trustees } Trustees.

Trustees for the purposes of the settled land Act 1925

10.11.1882 - 4.11.1954
Bt "Brooke" of
Summerstown Dublin
hon 21.8.1926

6.6.1941 Baillie died - Edinburgh. Bt. 12.1894 Baillie born - London

31.5.1943 Vesting deed. Rt Hon John Gutton + Sir Francis Hugh Brooke Bt } former Owners

John Frederic Gotton of Needwood, Burton-on-Trent } present
George Grenville Foreman } owners
Houses
Loshinick
named Olive Joan Frankel - Russell - Astley in 1927

7.5.1945 Vesting Deed. Estate owner has been ~~deceased~~ for life → now 21 (was ~~born~~ on 13.3.1924)

Gotton + Foreman conveyed property to him.

26.2.1902 Mortgage £26,000 - Dwyer + interest

Brideman + Walswell 1000 yrs

2.10.1888 Indenture of Conveyance

19.6.1890 Order of Exchange

2.3.1867 Indenture of Mortgage - £9600

17.2.1877 Indenture £9600

Baillie son of
Col. James Baillie Melles 1873
+ Nellie Lisak Bass - 1910
~~James Baillie~~ James Baillie - her
Married 1923. Let's Mand 1896
Louisa Emma Cavendish JP
has note - was was the wife of
Harold Macmillan

Death Certificates Bundle No 7.

23.3.1927 at Old Parsons, Osprey HOSBURN Aged 66
 Septic pneumonia certified by Hedman Porter M.B.
 Informer Mrs Fair, Sister-in-law, present at death.
 of Britford, Salisbury

6.6.1941 George Evan Michael Baillie son of James Evan Anne Baillie
 + Nellie Lisa Baillie (Baroness Anna) nee Melles.
 M.S. [made owner?] 2 days
 Septic Ulcer 20ys. operation for repair of 2 days
 Maud Baillie widow

Oct 1976	Area	Rent	price
Bifon	1163.73	£17598	£15.38
Minster	1096.59	16150	£14.73
Grass Hall	338.39	6400	£18.93
	<u>2598.39</u> acres	<u>40448</u>	<u>£15.52</u>
	@ £14	= £452 price	

29.6.77. Waukstalls Buidy, flat was WRMould tenant
 WRD 29.6.77.
 R. Hill tenanted land by part, Bekestone .88 acres £25.

Code letters

Code letters	proposed below would be
P yyy	2000
spky	1250
ryy	400
sayyy	1300
uyyy	9000
uyyy	
ekyy	7500
rtyy	4800
klyy	5600
sp a r k e t u y	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0	
stkyy	18500

1.12.1958 Mrs Ronald died (Tenant of Bifon Cottage?)
 25.3.1959 Mrs Whiggin.

1.2.1946 Soudy House desquisition
 8.3.1946 Waukstalls desquisition
 War dept had paid Compensation for
 £65 pa + £314.8 insurance

2.6.1947 John Gweller died
~~Death Certificate~~

~~10.3.1884~~

~~2.6.1886~~

~~24.9.1887~~

~~18.10.1888 Edna Dorothy~~

~~8.4.1900~~

~~29.5.1901 Alan Ian Chaly~~

~~21.9.1902 Roderick Francis~~