# Our Ballylough Research Journey

Finding out about our heritage







# Our Ballylough Research Journey

#### by June Traill and Catherine Charley

## Published in 2020 by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Museum Services.

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A project supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

#### **Front Cover Images**

(Main) The Ballylough area from Ballylough More, looking over the townlands of Ballylough and Cavan towards Bushmills and the Atlantic Ocean.

Copyright June Traill 2019.

(Top) Mrs Denny (née Traill) with her adapted car. It could be pulled by a horse during the war when there was no petrol because of rationing. Copyright Ballylough Collection. (Centre) Billy Parish Church. Copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

(Bottom) Seneril Bridge over the River Bush. Copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Image on this page is the view over the Ballylough area from Billy. Copyright June Traill 2019.

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# Ballylough

#### **Understanding Our Area**

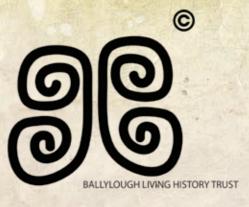
There is an inherent pride in the collation, recording and sharing of indepth - and, for many, unknown indigenous knowledge of our native places collated over the generations. The collection of local lore preserves and retains the tales and traditions of these and of previous inhabitants and ensures an understanding for many more still to come. In this endeavour, the Ballylough Living History Trust have collected and researched their area thoroughly and committed to paper not only their family and folklore research but also the topography and demography of the locale, as well as the unique built heritage extant in their environs, and in all of this are to be commended.

This European Union PEACE IV funded programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) under the heritage programme 'Understanding Our Area' has been carried out over the last two years and has afforded local people and families, not only to examine what was on the doorsteps, but also to be become cognisant of the methodologies and means by which this has also been made possible. This has provided a template and will prove invaluable to any student of local studies to roll out in their own projects and localities.

Finally for anybody who wrote, or supplied artefacts or photographs, or gave their permission for the use of these, or indeed shared in any way their knowledge of this area and of how best to research it, we are most thankful. A window of opportunity has been opened and we have seen and recognised many other areas worthy of our research and retention. I look forward to that and the addition of many more chapters to this story.

#### **Cllr Orla Beattie**

Chair of the Causeway Coast and Glens PEACE IV Partnership



# Introduction, Topography and History

Dear Reader

This booklet is not intended to be an academic publication, but a gentle browse into some of the interesting facts and figures about the Ballylough area. In late 2017 the group (made up of members of local families) applied to PEACE IV Understanding Our Area Programme being delivered by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Museum Services. We secured funding to support our work and that has resulted in this booklet. In this publication, we want to show how we went about our research work so other people elsewhere can get an idea of how community research projects can be done.

As the group's work on this project progressed, we quickly became aware of the enormity of the material that we had available to us. This booklet is an overview of where we have gone in our research to date and we hope it will be the first of several publications.

This porcellanite polished stone axe head was found in a field locally. It dates to the Neolithic period, around 5,000 years ago.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

As we progress through the material in the Ballylough Collection, we are realising how much potential there is to develop. The collection, also, seems to be constantly growing!

As with any advice on finding out about your area, it is wise to look closely at what you have around you — talk to relatives, friends, people in the area and those who have already done much research on your topics. Indeed, there are so many people we would like to thank for their support and help with the large variety of subjects we have broached. We are aware that we have not been able to get around all the people we would like to have had involved. We would welcome future offers of help to develop and assist with any of the areas.

We gathered as much material as we had to hand. We felt a key place to start was Ballylough House itself, as it has such a large collection (kept over many generations) pertaining to so many people in the area. We looked at some of the artefacts that are held by local families. In due course, it would be lovely to develop these pots of information in greater detail, especially with images and stories. Some local stories have been collected and a large catalogue (of over 3,000 objects and documents) has been started as a result of this project. We are holding an exhibition to showcase some of the things we have unearthed. We aim to raise awareness and interest amongst the local people in the area, and people connected to the area via family links.

#### **Engineering precision tool.**

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

### Some of the many items in the Ballylough Collection, including an academic medal and a fob compass.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

We will continue to photograph and document as much evidence as we can, before things get lost. If you have any items or pieces that you would like to add to the collection to enrich the story of Ballylough, please do get in touch. You will not have to donate them or hand them over, but we would be glad to copy them or photograph them. We can also photograph items and record stories. We are happy to gather information on items and keep the owners anonymous. Sadly, we have lost some of the greatest story tellers in the area in recent years, such as Willie Hanna, Calvin McKendry and Richard Traill. This project has motivated us to try and piece together some of the stories of the many generations of people who have lived in the Ballylough area.

This handbag was found in a field during ploughing.

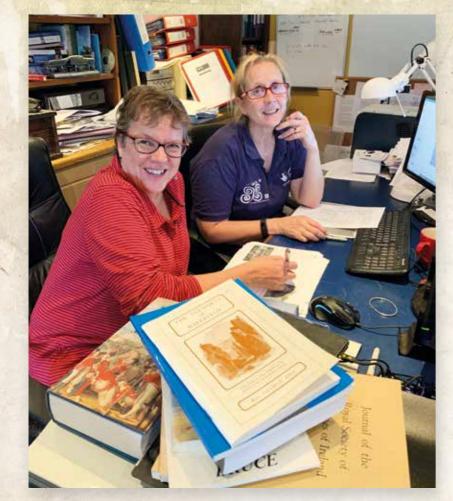
Copyright Ballylough Collection.

2nd World War fire bell and old axe.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

One of the many pieces of engineering equipment owned and used by William Traill, designer of the Causeway Tram (with case, above left).

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.



We have endeavoured to ensure all images, extracts and references that are subject to copyright are acknowledged appropriately. Please let us know if anything is amiss so we can right these in future publications. We apologise for any errors—again, please let us know.

We hope you find the following pages of interest.

#### **June Traill**

On behalf of Ballylough Living History Trust

This booklet has been put together by June Traill, with the support of Catherine Charley.

The contents are based on research carried out by the Ballylough Area Group over 2018, 2019 and 2020.

On right, June Traill, MBA, Project Lead - June, a professional project manager and keen hobby genealogist, has researched the Traills and the Ballylough area for over 20 years, since marrying into the family. June and David live in Ballylough House with four sons as well as their pet dogs, pigs and cats.

On left, Catherine Charley, editorial consultant writer, has worked with June on this publication. She has a lifelong interest in Ballylough. Catherine has a history degree and has written ten history related books for both adults and children. You can find more details on her website: www.catherinecharley.com. Copyright June Traill 2019.

Sweet pea image from art book, 1900s. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### **Ballylough Area Group**

The Ballylough Group met approximately every four weeks, which included training and workshops. Members of several of the local families assisted with the research and helped with artefacts. In total, 36 people took part in the project or contributed to it in some way.

Group member, Elizabeth Kane, with an aerial photograph from the 1970s showing the original cottages at the White Gate. Elizabeth had some lovely tales of local people and memories of the local school. She, also, provided the group with a copy of the photograph of Ballylough School, taken in the 1930s (on page 46). Copyright Ballylough Collection

Image of white flowers (daisies?) from a small art book dating c1900s. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

# **Ballylough Area Details**

The area that the group researched covered the following townlands:

- Ballylough
- Ballylough Beg
- Ballylough More
- Curramoney/Billy/Glebe
- Castlecatt
- Cavan

Front of buckle, with a thistle motif, found in field. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

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Back of buckle found in field. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

18.00

**Spoon found in field.** Copyright Ballylough Collection.

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**Stone with hole, found in area.** Copyright Ballylough Collection.



Pottery pieces found in area while field walking. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



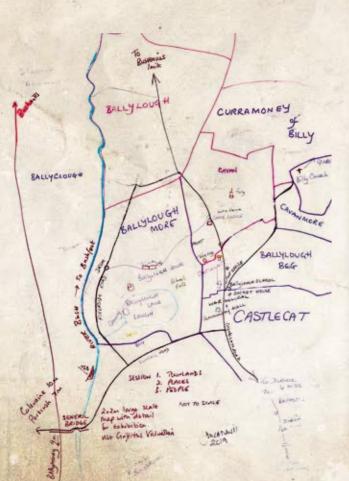
Flint pieces found in area while field walking. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

A sample of items given to the Ballylough Collection. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### Map of Ballylough Area

#### Sketch map of Ballylough area by June Traill, 2019. Not to scale.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.



#### Topography

The Ballylough area is rural and agrarian but lies just a few miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The sea links the north Antrim coastland to the Western Isles and mainland of Scotland. At the shortest distance, north Antrim is only twelve miles from the shore of Scotland. The Ballylough area is made up of bogs and fields. There is a freshwater lough/lake -Ballylough Lake. It is overgrown nowadays with grass, bog cotton and other plants, but is known to have been clear until the 1850s. The lake is up to nine metres deep in places. Since drainage work was carried out in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the water has dropped about a metre and a half. The area between the lake and the Moat Field is called 'Scraw Bog' (scraw is rush-like grass).



This is a 19th century charcoal drawing of the wooden canoe that was found at the bottom of Ballylough Lake. Artist unknown. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Another part is called 'Scraw Wells', as there are natural springs that flow into the lake.

The lake lies about fifteen metres above the River Bush. It is believed that boats came up the River Bush to where the current Seneril Bridge is (about a hundred metres from the lake). The goods would, then, have been carried up to the higher ground near the edges of the lake, before being rowed across the lough to the rath or castle. There is a waterway from the lake to the small river, St Columb's Rill, which is a tributary of the River Bush. St Columb's Rill originates in the Scraw Bog to the side of the field called the School Fall. This stream is believed to have been blessed by St Columba during his visit in the 500s AD, possibly on his way west. St Columb's Rill passes by Ballylough House and was used as the Traill family's main water supply until the 1970s. It then travels north past the Barr/Freeman farm, past Richmond's Farm, and on into Bushmills, where it has been used since the 1600s in the Bushmills Distillery for making Bushmills Whiskey. It proceeds further north, joining the Bush just opposite the front gates at Dundarave Estate.



This was found in the lake in the 19th century. It is believed to be part of a cooking pot. The wooden canoe was excavated around the same time. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



St Columb's Rill as it emerges under the little bridge where the road used to come into Ballylough Estate. A large tree is growing out of the bridge and needs to be removed. The arch structure is in good order. The water comes from springs close by in the Scraw Wells or Scraw Bog, as farmers call it now.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.



History

#### **5th-11th Centuries**

It was apparent, from our research, that there have always been extremely close links between this northern part of Ireland and the Scottish mainland and islands. The history of the area certainly reflects this. For example, from about the fifth century, this northeast coast of Ireland was part of a large maritime kingdom which included much of western Scotland. The kingdom was called Dál Riada (Dalriada).

Viking attacks in this part of County Antrim began in the late 8th century and lasted until about the 11th century. The raids by the Vikings possibly encouraged local people to build souterrains, some up to 100m long – perhaps as a temporary hiding place, or for concealing items. A souterrain from French sous terrain, meaning "under ground" - is an underground, stone lined structure, like a small room or tunnel. There are several souterrains listed in and around Ballylough.

#### **Anglo-Normans**

In 2009, Dr Colin Breen, of Ulster University, led an archaeological dig at Ballylough which produced evidence to show that there was an earlier castle before the ruins that are visible nowadays. Dr Breen says it is likely the original castle was built by the Savages, an Anglo-Norman family. Breen (2012, 29) states, 'Excavations have demonstrated that in the late thirteenth century a substantial fortified masonry structure was built on this site'. Breen notes 'this castle... dominated the local area in the fourteenth century'.

The Kingdom of Dalriada around 600 AD (shown by the dots).

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### **SAVAGE DIG**

In 2009, Dr Colin Breen of the University of Ulster carried out the 'Savage Dig' for a week at Ballylough. We have drawn on information from his archaeological work.





Making a trench on the Savage Dig. Copyright Dr Colin Breen.





Ruins of Savage castle found in trench. Copyright Dr Colin Breen.

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#### **The MacQuillans**

The Ballylough Castle ruins that can still be seen today, are the remains of the MacQuillan dwelling. There is controversy about the origins of the MacQuillans. It has been suggested that they were descended from the Anglo-Norman de Mandevilles (Curtis, 1938), or that, perhaps they arrived as mercenaries from the west of Scotland. As various groups challenged each other for power, the MacQuillans gained influence in north Antrim (maybe because, at an early stage, they were working for the Savages). By the early 1500s, the MacQuillans were one of the most powerful families in the area and controlled much of northeast Antrim. Breen says (2012, 38) 'there is evidence that [the MacQuillans] took Ballylough Castle in the middle of the fifteenth century and refurbished it initially as their primary residence before transferring to Dunluce [Castle] at the end of the century.'

View of the MacQuillan Castle ruins at Ballylough. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### **The MacDonnells**

The next family to have major influence in this north Antrim area were the Scottish MacDonnells. As the MacQuillans' power declined, the power of the MacDonnells ascended. Interestingly, we know Marshall Bagnall, a senior Elizabethan soldier in Ireland, recorded in 1568 that Ballylough Castle, 'old MacQuillan's house', was empty (Breen, 2012, 82). By 1585, politically shrewd Sorley Boy MacDonnell, based at Dunluce Castle, was in control of this area, with the support of the English Crown. Ballylough Castle probably continued to be empty and local folklore says much of it had been destroyed by fire. It is thought that the Stewart family were living at Ballylough, probably in what we now know as Ballylough House (which may have originally been the garrison house for the castle). It is understood that a Stewart family member was land agent for the MacDonnells.

#### **The Stewarts and the Traills**

In 1625, MacDonnell granted Ballylough to Archibald Stewart, together with Ballintoy. Our group were very excited to find this documented in PRONI.

In 1789, Ballylough House and Estate was bought by the Traill family, cousins of the Stewarts. The Traill family have now lived at Ballylough for over 200 years. It is said that the Traills are descended from Robert II, Stewart King of Scotland, via his second wife, Euphemia O'Beolan. Archibald Stewart was descended from Robert II's third wife. Significant members of the Traill family have included Dr Anthony Traill (1838-1914), who was Provost of Trinity College Dublin, 1904-1914, and his brother William Acheson Traill (1844-1934), an engineer who developed the first hydro-electric passenger tram-way, which ran from Bushmills to Portrush, for visitors to the Giants Causeway. Johns (1982, 22) says that W A Traill also owned the Causeway Hotel.



#### Photograph of the document from 1625 which granted Ballylough to Archibald Stewart, from the MacDonnells. The document is held in PRONI.

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D2977/3A/1/1/1A & B. Copied with kind permission of Lord Dunluce. Image copyright June Traill.

In 1903, the Land Purchase (Ireland) Act enabled tenant farmers to purchase much of the land in the Ballylough Estate. The Land Acts were a series of measures to deal with the question of peasant proprietorship of land in Ireland in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Five such acts were introduced by the government of the United Kingdom between 1870 and 1909. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land\_ Acts\_(Ireland) Ballylough was most affected by the Irish Land Act (1903).

#### Traills of Ballylough Timeline:

Anthony (1755-1831) – William (1791-1894) – Anthony (1838-1914)- William S (1868-1959) – Anthony O'B (1892–1982) – Richard (1931-2016) – David (current)

# **Getting Started**

Back in 2017, the opportunity arose to apply for funding for a large piece of work that a small group of us had been thinking about for a while. We were all interested in finding out about our area, the history, and the heritage (built, cultural and natural) and the potential of funding meant we would be able to grow the group substantially. The application process to Peace IV enabled us to think through, and prioritise, the ideas we had begun to formulate. We could develop a proper plan of action. We were successful with our application and, as a result, we were able to



1897 photograph of members of the Traill family with their staff on the front steps of Ballylough House. Provost Anthony Traill and his wife Kitty sit in the middle. The baby is their grandson Charles Anthony Brett. Copyright Ballylough Collection. undertake the necessary training and workshops to provide us with the skills and knowledge to carry out our work.

During the initial 'start-up' workshops, in March 2018, we discussed subject areas that the group wanted to research. These workshops threw up several themes that the group members were interested to explore in greater detail. We held four initial meetings, over two days on a weekend, to ensure that everyone, who was interested, got a chance to attend. Leaflets about the meetings had been dropped into every address in the vicinity and a notice was published in the local newsletter, *The Bush Telegraph*. The gatherings were facilitated by the Ballylough Living History Trust and took place at Ballylough House, meeting in the buildings, gardens and main house.

Many proposals and ideas were put forward and a list of key ideas was drawn up. It was agreed that the following areas would be researched:

- family names
- field names
- connections to other areas and families
- how to do family research
- Iocal buildings
- history of the area and where we fitted into the bigger picture

At the conclusion of the project we were satisfied that we had managed to explore all of these.

#### **Initial Research**

Before the workshops and training started the group carried out some initial research, for example looking at online sites, getting details from their own families and finding existing family resources, such as family bibles.

# Some of the online sites we first looked at were:

- ancestry.co.uk
- findmypast.co.uk
- genealogy.ie

# After training we were able to add other sites like:

- freeukgenealogy.org.uk
- familysearch.org
- freeBMD.org

Ancestry.co.uk were extremely helpful with providing us with a free upgrade to an old Family Tree Maker programme that we had, and after a few months' subscriptions, we returned to Ancestry to start logging the families:

- 3384 Records in the Traill family tree since September 2018
- 20+ other Ballylough family trees created and being worked on

Family Bibles. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Barr Family wedding photograph. Copyright Elizabeth Kane.



Hugh Barr's farm 1970s. Copyright Elizabeth Kane. OWNERSHIP. Registered 22nd January 1937. No.551/1937.Transmission and Transfer.Consideration £500. JOHN BARR of Ballylough, Bushmills, County Antrim, Farmer, is registered as owner in fee-simple of the lands herein.

Murover kaj-

#### OWNERSHIP

HUGH WILLIAM BARR of Ballylough, Bushmills,

Registered 12th February 1963. No. 2132/1963. Consideration Natural love and affection. County Antrim, Farmer, 1s registered as owner

in fee-simple of the lands herein.

Document belonging to the Barr Family. Copyright Elizabeth Kane. **Getting Started** 

Hugh Barr's mother lived in the cottages at White Gate.

Copyright Elizabeth Kane.

Hugh Barr with sisters Jeanie, Tilda and youngest Margaret. Copyright Elizabeth Kane.





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24th May 1949.

Mr. John Barr, Ballylough, Bushmills.

----

Dear Sir,

Will you please call on Thursday first and bring with you the last receipt for rent paid to Mr. Traill in respect of the Ballylough farm.

Yours faithfully,

**Documentation from the Barr Family Farm.** Copyright Elizabeth Kane. CHIEF CROWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE, BOYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE, ULSTER, BELFAST.

10th May, 1949

Dear Sir,

Ministry of Health and Local Government Housing on Farms Act (N.I.) 1948

With reference to your application for a grant under the above Act, it will be necessary for me to be satisfied that you have a good title to the property and are in a position to execute a document in the form prescribed in the Schedule to the Act.

I shall be glad, therefore, if you will put me in touch with your Solicitors so that your title may be approved of, or, if you prefer to send your deeds to me, I will examine your title and retain the documents pending completion of the work.

It may be, however, that some legal requirement will have to be fulfilled, and, if this should be the case, it would be necessary for me to communicate with your Solicitors, whom you should name when replying.

Yours faithfully,

y N-Golighe

A Chief Crown Solicitor.

Mr. John Barr, Ballylough, BUSHMILLS, CO. AVTRIM.

# **Getting Started**

#### **General Training**

Different aspects of heritage training were provided through PEACE IV Understanding Our Area Programme with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CCGBC) Museum Services. At times we were joined on these workshops with representatives from other groups. There were four workshops, each about two hours. The subjects covered included documentation, caring for archives, protecting material (from pests, damp etc), storage advice and interpretation. CCGBC Museum Services provided additional support and advice on many aspects of our project, such as advice on writing and designing our booklet.

#### **Specialist Training**

Through PEACE IV Understanding Our Area Programme, specialist training workshops were run on genealogy research and on DNA research. These took place in early 2019. We were also taken for a day's visit to PRONI (Public Records Office of Northern Ireland).

Some of the training sessions for the group were held at Ballylough House.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.







#### **Genealogy Training and PRONI Visit**

The genealogy training, funded through the PEACE IV Understanding Our Area Programme, was delivered by Dr William Roulston, Ulster Historical Foundation. The venue was Ballymoney Town Hall. There were three two-hour (7-9pm) workshops/sessions on 24th January, 31st January and 7th February 2019. The first was 'Getting Started – Placenames, Surnames and Archives'. We were encouraged to look at the three Cs – Civil records, Church registers and Census returns. In the second week we looked at Valuation records (Griffith's Valuation, Tithe Valuation) and landed estate papers. The final week we covered Wills and testamentary papers, school records and printed sources, such as directories, newspapers etc.

Dr Roulston took members of our group to visit the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), Belfast. We were introduced to the building, its facilities, collections and processes. We each had to take forms of identification (a passport or driver's licence), have our photo taken and be issued with a pass, which gave access to various departments. We were shown how to look up the collections, where to collect items once ordered, and where we were able to read them. We were not able to copy all documents, but cameras are now allowed, where previously they were not. We were shown many samples of material including the original deeds for Archibald Stewart when he was granted Ballylough and Ballintoy in 1625. This was a velum document written in script. The group later made several independent visits to follow up on their initial introduction, and to study documents in more depth. As a result of this work the group have built a good working relationship with PRONI and are investigating ways in which to assist with scanning of multiple documents in the future.

**PRONI Building in Belfast.** Both images copyright June Traill 2020.

#### **DNA Training and Testing**

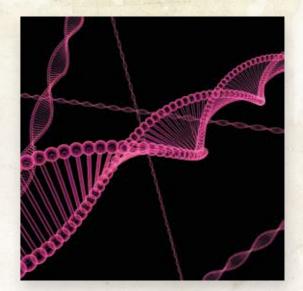
The subsequent DNA training was facilitated by Martin McDowell, Education and Development Officer with the North of Ireland Family History Society, which has been running a DNA project. This is part of a wider project on Family Tree DNA, through which NIFHS are analysing results. For more information you can go to: https://www.familytreedna.com/. Ancestry.co.uk kindly gave June Traill a free Family Tree Maker software update to enable us to start our research. We looked at a small number of families in the immediate area of Ballylough. PEACE IV Understanding Our Area funding then enabled us to purchase ten kits and share each other's ancestry map with the group. We used eight kits in the end for our group. The results were fascinating.

The initial session, in January 2019, lasted approximately 3 hours. We were given an in-depth information workshop on DNA testing and the format our testing session would take. This workshop was opened to everyone in the PEACE IV programme. The second session, in February, was approximately 2 hours. At this, the group (eight people for this part), signed agreement papers to say they understood the process and, then, carried out the actual test. This involved creating an account with an online DNA service, logging our DNA kits and spitting into a tube.

#### **DNA Research Findings and Family Trees**

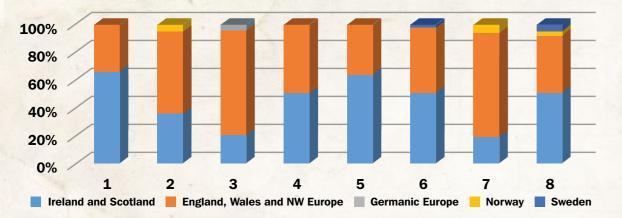
In April 2019, the group then came back together to go through how to log in, upload and read our results. We were able to upload the raw DNA data created by Ancestry.co.uk to various other DNA websites. We looked at Ancestry.co.uk, Gedmatch and Family Tree DNA reports. They gave us a variety of breakdowns of ethnicity and lists of potential relatives.

When we worked up our trees in ancestry.co.uk we were, then, able to register our DNA to match our trees (only one DNA can be done at one time currently). This, then, shows positive (or no) links to other connections through the individual's lines.



#### DNA.

Copyright Pixabay - Free for commercial use - https://pixabay.com/illustrations/dnamolecules-biology-module-1015661/. Following up on the results, new connections were uncovered. There were plenty of connections to families and people who the group had no idea they were linked with. As an example, June Traill's own search provided her with 2500+ 2nd – 5th cousins. None of the names, at an initial glance, were recognised by her!





Ethnicity Summaries	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8
Ireland and Scotland	66	35	20	51	64	51	19	51
England, Wales and NW Europe	34	60	76	49	36	47	75	41
Germanic Europe			4					
Norway		5					6	3
Sweden						2		5
								-
Communities Summaries								
Scotland	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Southern England							Х	1
Tenessee & Southern States Settlers	Х				Х			
Ohio River Valley, Indiana, Illinois & Lowa Settlers				Х	Х			

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#### Other DNA Related Research

The group found a website called Irishorigenes.com, where we discovered a lot more about how DNA can be used to look at origins. The website has a great deal of information on surnames, migration and DNA specific heritage. Visit https://www.irishorigenes.com/ about-me-biosketch for interesting information on DNA and Celtic origins. The website has been set up by Dr Tyrone Bowes, an experienced biotechnologist, from Ireland, who has always been interested in his ancestral origins. He was awarded a Ph.D. in Neuroimmunology and started his ancestral quest with genetic

8 GENERATIONS YOU b1920 - today 1	
Mum & Dad b1880 - 2005 2	<b>*†</b>
Grandmas & Grandpas b1820 - 1985 4	<b>*†*†</b>
Great Grandparents b1780 - 1970 8	<b>*†*†*†</b>
Grt Grt Grandparents b1740 - 1950 16	<b>*Ť*Ť*Ť*Ť*Ť</b> *Ť
Grt Grt Grt Grandparents b1700 - 1930 32	<u> </u>
Grt Grt Grt Grt Grandparents b1660 - 1910 64	<b>#†</b> # <b>†</b> # <b></b>
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genealogy in 2003. By combining his interests of biology, history, and geography he has been able to piece together the clues of his ancestral origins. In 2010 he launched Scottish Origenes and English Origenes websites as well. Ballylough Living History Trust bought the full set of the Irish Origenes maps to show at the end of project exhibition. These include maps of 'Medieval Surnames of Ireland' and the 'Clan Territories of Ireland'.

It is amazing to think that a person has 32 great-great-great-grandparents and 128 great-great-great-great-great-grandparents! Copyright June Traill 2019.

# Family and Folklore Research

#### Key Historical Records Researched by the Project Group

Indepth lists of sources and research materials are on pages 52 and page 59.

The records we looked at to find out about the history of families and key family names in the area included the following:

- MacQuillan —from books, manuscripts and pamphlets.
- Stewart—mainly from books, PRONI and records.
- Traill— books, internet, PRONI, house archives: letters, diaries, documents, manuscripts, photo albums, newspaper cuttings and pictures.
- Ballylough Estate families—white papers in the Archaeological Society publications, book by Dr Colin Breen, *Dunluce Castle* (2012), manuscripts and papers in PRONI and held at Ballylough.
- Families associated with the Ballylough Area Ancestry.com, Griffith's Valuation, civil records, church registers, census returns, wills, school records and newspapers.

Cover of a photograph album in the Traill family collection with pictures of Madras, India, dated 1893.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

hold and enjoy the said demised inter all ministrators or Assigns manie year first above written. and the sincluded in the exception . William. Trail.

## Signature in 1856 of William Trail (1791-1874).

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D4081/various. Image copyright June Traill.



Diary belonging to Selina Traill (1869-1963, née Frizell), wife of William S Traill (1868-1959).

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Suitcase of items handed in to the Ballylough Collection. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### 1860s bonnet and sleeve.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Frizzell family photographs. Copyright Ballylough Collection. **Richmond family photograph.** Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### **Surnames for the Ballylough Area and Census Findings**

We researched surnames in the area from various sources including manuscripts, books, internet searches and local knowledge. We, also, researched the records for households in Ballylough for both the 1901 and the 1911 censuses.

1901 is the earliest surviving census for Ballylough. This listed 135 names for Ballylough and Ballylough Beg. There are 39 family names.

#### **1901 Census shows 39 family names:**

Atchison, Beverland, Cargill, Carnegie, Conway, Curry, Dallas, Douglas, Edgar, Hanney, Harding, Jameson, Macollum, McBride, McFadden, McGougan, McIvor, McKendry, McKenzie, McKeown, McKergan, McKinley, McMullan, McNaul, Mill, Murphy, Patterson, Rankin, Richmond, Stewart-Moore, Stirling, Taylor, Traill, Walker, Watters, Watton, Wilmot.

1911 listed 146 names— 34 family names: Atchison, Bennet, Bennett, Beverland, Callaghan, Campbell, Carnagie, Carnegie, Devers, Douglas, Fleming, Galbraith, Jamison, McIvor, McBride, McCurdy, McKendry, McKenzie, McKeown, McMullan, McVicker, Mill, Neill, Patterson, Rankin, Richmond, Scally, Smith, Steele, Sterling, Taggart, Walker, Wilmot.

In 1911, the Traills owned Ballylough House, but, interestingly, none are listed for Ballylough area in the 1911 census. When we searched the 1911 census for the rest of Ireland we found the children to be staying at Benvarden (an estate about three miles away) with their 'grandmother' (Margaret Tracey). Anthony is working in Dublin and we know Kitty, the Provost's wife, had only recently died. There is a copy of the lease at that time in the Ballylough Collection. (NB Margaret Tracey (née Stewart-Moore) is not actually the children's grandmother, but Kitty's sister—so even a census is not always accurate!)

The 1821 – 1851 censuses are fragmented and not complete.

The 1901 census (taken on 31st March) and 1911 census (taken on 2nd April) are online. They are for all 32 counties. The 1921 census will be released in 2021.

#### CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1901.

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#### Form 'A' from census of 1901 for Ballylough.

Reproduced with permission of www.census.nationalarchives.ie

A census was a collation of information completed by every household throughout the country.

'A' Form - It gives the relationship to the head of house, their name, sex, marriage status, literacy, religion, occupation and place of birth.

In 1911 the census asked women to say how many years they had been married and how many children they had had and how many were still alive.

'B1' Form – Giving information on the houses and buildings – name of head of house, types of buildings/ uses, class and how many people lived in each room.

'B2' Form – collated information on outbuildings, offices, stables etc.

There were other forms for institutional and shipping details, e.g. for schools, workhouses, hospitals etc.



We found this photograph in the Ballylough Collection with 'James Wilmot Gamekeeper' written on it (no date). On researching the 1901 and 1911 censuses we found out that James Wilmot was the gamekeeper at Ballylough Estate at the time of both censuses. His wife (Esther, née Reid), was noted as Hessy (1901) /Hessie (1911) and as a housekeeper. In 1901 they are recorded as having seven children and in 1911 as having four children. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

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	Family and Folklore Research	

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#### Census 1911 Form A for James Wilmot.

Reproduced with permission of www.census.nationalarchives.ie

# Fami

#### School Records Ballylough National School, Castlecatt

When we carried out our research, we found that the Ballylough National School was occasionally referred to as Castlecatt National School as well. The three types of records we found were the school registers, the school attendance registers, and the organiser's observation books.

The school registers are in book form, held in PRONI and coded SCH/837. The school registers listed the names of the pupils, together with the dates of entry and often their leaving dates. Both the girls' register, and the boys' register, up until 1923, have been photographed by the Ballylough group. An example of a page in the Ballylough National School Register is on the right. Data protection dictates that later records may be read, but not copied. The group will endeavour to copy later records as they are allowed.

#### Some Of The Surnames Found:

Samuel McKeown	06/08/1913
Bertie Cochrane	03/12/1914
Jno [John] McCulla	03/09/1908
James McKeown	13/06/1913
Dan Patton	28/02/1912
John Patton	17/07/1908
Wm [William] Jas. [James] B Kelly	26/09/1913
John McKendry	02/05/1916
Samuel Patterson	23/09/1916

#### **Ballylough Living History Trust (BLHT) Project**

The school records are being transcribed and as part of an ongoing project at Ballylough. Anyone interested in helping with the transcription would be very welcome. We intend to produce a small booklet about the National School in the future. If you have any photos or other materials, stories, etc, please get in touch.

The attendance registers are held in PRONI. The first student to be registered was a Lizzie Blair on the 4th April 1888. She is listed as coming from Clunty, a neighbouring townland. When we carried out this research in PRONI, in May 2019, regulations meant that we were only permitted to copy the registers until 1923.

#### The first student at Ballylough National School, 4th April 1888, was Lizzie Blair.

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REGISTER OF INFANTS IN Age Religious enomination. Date of Register. Pupil last RESU PUPILS' NAMES. Entrance, Birth Day.

Details found in the attendance registers include page number, the date of enrolment, the pupil's name and a record of his/her education. Registers record dates of leaving and the number of days a pupil attended.

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#### Extract from Ballylough National School register.

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: ED/14/A/356. Image copyright June Traill.

REGISTER OF INFANTS IN Ballylough NATIONAL SCHOOL. Date of Annual Examination Occupation or Entrance, PUPILS' NAMES. RESTRENCT Means of Livis 18.99 Birth Day. of Parents. X. p. 21 April 4443 Henry Carnegie & Pres. Ballylough. aborne 46 Willie Dyel 8 9.6 Lurfahun Labour Samuel Graham. haboard 128 × 184 1.50 Cavan Krea. Caboure Tillie Iraham Cavan temer 2 1 23 Hunt \$ 22 Cluntico Raboures Fames Hell Farmer Belly 114 X Ruzz Laboures hitegate Knocknadruk, Raboure Inochnadruk daboures Whitegate. Anadruk Laboures Labourer Coachma Ballylough Vidow Carnmoon Labour itegate Rabour 89 200

#### Extract from Register of Infants, Ballylough National School.

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The organiser's observation book gives us a small insight into the education in the school and, also, provides information on the teachers, such as where they were trained and when they were taken on by the school.

#### Ballylough National School Organisers' Observation Book.

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The information we were able to glean on people, from the book, included the names of teachers at the time of the inspections. So, on the 21st August 1914, Miss Apsley was teaching Kindergarten Methods. The organiser was an E Pedlow. On another page Mrs McNaul was observed teaching cookery on the 26th January 1911 by H Bunker. Mrs McNaul spent a year in Coleraine Tech to train for the subject.

We discovered that the school taught 'LAUNDRY'. On the day of observation Miss Apsley was teaching. She trained herself at training college and the observer was H Bunker. The observer made comments and recommended changes.

Visited from 10.15 to 12.10 3th day of augt 190 2 Name of Teacher giving Instruction in Special Branch. Date of Special Branch taught. Training in Subject. Appointment to this School. Principal, Assistants, m. Cochrace needwork 1909-11 1917 Incidental visit Proficiency of Classes SUGGESTIONS. I possible have underclothing for garments precimens to be cept as thous Very Good

In this example, Mrs Cochrane is the teacher on 3rd August 1922. She was observed teaching needlework. It notes that she was trained in the subject 1909-1911. She was appointed to the school in 1917.

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**Ballylough Schoolchildren c 1931.** Photograph courtesy of Elizabeth Kane.

# Names of children in Ballylough School photograph of about 1931.

**1st Row:** Edwin Getty, Alan Graham, James Glass, Stewart McKendry, Mac Atcheson, Dan Kane.

**2nd Row:** Margaret Barr, Jeannie Moore, Jim Getty, Dorothy Getty, Mamie McKendry, Lizzie Walker, Alice Wilkinson, Minnie McKeown, Margaret McCurdy, Dorothy McCurdy, Myrtle Wysener, Sarah McAuley, Betty Twaddle, Mary Law, Violet Houston, George Graham.

**3rd Row:** Henry Moore, Sinclair Callaghan, Jeannie Barr, Annie Twaddle, Annie Patterson, Annie Hill, Frances Patterson, Teenie Neill, Tillie McLean, Mary Moore, Maggie McAuley, Jeannie Neill, Annie McKeown, Evelyn Getty, George Elliot, Harry Elliott.

**4th Row:** Willie Callaghan, Tommy McKeown, Molly Twaddle, Jeannie McLean, Annie Moore, Rena Getty, Belle Graham, Nellie McAuley, Molly Hanna, Hester Elliott, Tilda Barr, Maggie Walker, Sylvia Kane, Annie Callaghan, Tillie Mary Kane.

**5th Row:** Willie McKeown, Tommy Laverty, Noel Christie, Norman McKeown, Jim Walker, Tommy Elliott, Jim Laverty, Willie Hanna, Jim Kane, Stanley Callaghan, Hugh Barr, Sam Kane.

Back Row: Jim Christie, Eddie Wilmont, Johnny Stewart.

Information courtesy of Elizabeth Kane.

When the Library Board sold the National School in the 1970s some of the records were taken to the Causeway School. Other records were placed in PRONI.

Most of the contents (such as desks) either went to the Causeway School or were disposed of in some way.

Mrs McKendry has some lovely stories about the school. She was a teacher and still has good memories of her time there. It closed in the mid-1970s. The building is now a private residence.

# **Griffith's Valuation and General Valuation**

Griffith's Valuation is the name widely given to the Primary Valuation of Ireland, a property tax survey carried out in the mid-nineteenth century under the supervision of Sir Richard Griffith. The survey involved the detailed valuation of every taxable piece of agricultural or built property on the island of Ireland and was published county-by-county between the years 1847 and 1864 (source http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffithvaluation/). This continued to be the basis of the valuation into the 20th century and was used for the General Valuation of 1923. Transcriptions of the original valuations are found on the askaboutireland website. Copies of the Griffith's valuation maps, and the valuation books on the area, thereafter, are in the Ballylough Collection, and provide information on who was living on the properties from year to year between 1895 and 1950.



This is a working document used by the group during their research. The Griffith's Valuation map (sourced from www. askaboutidreland.ie) was used to record changes in field names, those farming them, and their uses. Image copyright June Traill.



Extract from Griffith's Valuation Map for Ballylough More and Ballylough Beg. Reproduced with permission of www.askaboutireland.ie

#### These are the names of the families that were listed in the Griffith's Valuation in 1859:

Auld, Boley, Carnegie, Connors, Dallas, Dever, Downey, Forbes, Gilmore, Graham, Hanna, Hannay, Hemphill, Hill, Howard, Johnston, Kane, Kilbride, Kilpatrick, Longmore, Lyons, Martin, McAfee, McBride, McClean, McCoy, McCurdy, McDaid, McDonnell, McFadden, McGee, McIver, McKelgan, McKendry, McKeon, McKeown, McMeehan, McMullan, McVey, Moore, Mullins, Mulvannan, Murphy, O'Neill, Orr, Park, Patterson Quaddle, Rantin, Redmond, Richmond, Smyth, Stewart, Taylor, Thompson, Trail, Walker, Wallace, Warner, Wilmot.

#### The Ballylough 'area' that we looked at is in the following Griffith's Valuation areas:

- Ballylough
- Ballylough Beg
- Ballylough More
- Curramoney/Billy/Glebe
- Castlecatt
- Cavan

The maps and valuation records give us an indication of where the families may have lived. More information can be gained from http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation

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#### This is a 1895 valuation extract with updates. Original information is from the 1859 valuation and then transcribed, every so many years, and updated in different coloured inks.

#### County: Antrim

**Barony:** There are 331 barony divisions in Ireland and this is thought to be originally a Norman land unit. A county has on average between 7 and 10 baronies, though this may differ in a few cases.

**Union:** Introduced 1838 as part of the Poor Law system. There were initially 130 unions in the country.

**Parish:** These are civil parishes. Grouped together to form a barony.

Ballylough is in the Barony of Lower Dunluce, the Parish of Billy, the Union of Ballymoney (amended from Coleraine), the Electoral Division of Bushmills and the Rural District of Ballymoney. Amendments and additions in blue (1904) and pink (1908).

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GENERAL VALUATION OF IRELAND. No. 18 Constitution No. 18 Constitution COUNTY OF Antrian UNION OF Ballymania UNION OF Ballymania Union District of Ballymania El ctoral Division of Ballymania

This is the front cover of the 1923 General Valuation for Ballymoney No. 18, which has details of the Ballylough area. This book is held in PRONI.

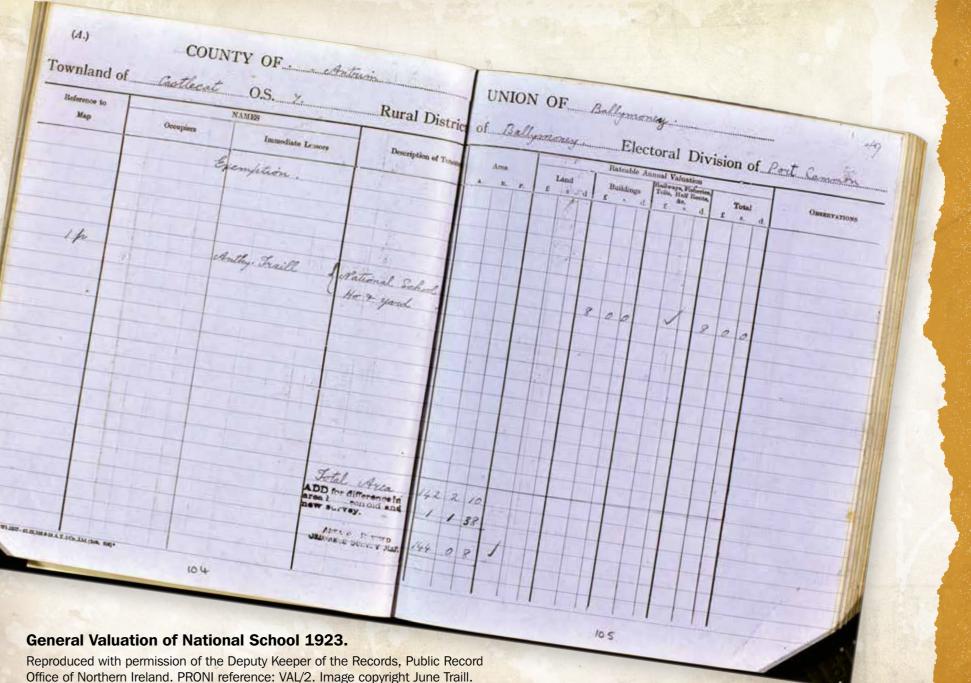
Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: VAL12B/4/20A. Image copyright June Traill.

#### Extract from General Valuation of 1923. Amendments and additions in blue (1925), pink (1928) and green (1924 and 1949).

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: VAL/2. Image copyright June Traill.

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**Family and Folklore Research** 

#### **Archives in Ballylough**

There are 3000+ items/pages/pieces currently at Ballylough House, which we are cataloguing and refer to as the 'Ballylough Collection'. The group estimates well over 2000 more items are to be found in homes in the area as well. We have had access to many of these, courtesy of their owners. Robert Thompson, author of *Bushmills Book of Remembrance* 1914-1918 (2014) and other publications, alone, would have an extensive archive of material. Our collection includes:



Lawrence Family. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Ballylough books and records – cataloguing, scanning and transcriptions in progress:

- Family History by Elsie Ritchie 375 pages of family research of the Traills
- Traill family history from diary of Robert Traill 1639 and manuscripts – 90 pages
- Game Book from early 1900s 40 pages
- 15 Photo albums from late 1800s 400 pages
- 150+ Pictures (oil and photographs) from 1600s
- 50+ Postcards from 1800s
- Letters, cuttings, documents from early 1800s c300
- Ancient family trees from early 1800s 4 major
- Estate books from 1842 c200 pages
- Map survey from 1824
- Scrolls, manuscripts and rolled documents from 1779
- 4 Diaries from 1916 100 pages each
- Medical notebooks belonging to Anthony Traill 100 pages
- Obituaries and newspaper cuttings from early 1800s – about 20
- Miscellaneous flyers, printed pieces and notes c200

Front and back of seal of 1794 Stipend to A Traill (seal is 15cms wide). Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

FROM THE PROVOST OF TRINITY COLLEGE, PROVOST'S HOUSE. DUBLIN. Dear Su 17:1:1912 the Shan just recovered from the only illness I soon had in my 74 year of active life, you may perhap, wish to insert my photograph in your "Inish Like", along with the pictur of the beautiful "Buch Trees " at my Country Residence Jour Fray Anthony Traill

**Provost Anthony Traill.** Copyright Ballylough Collection.



Letter from Provost Traill to editor of *Irish Life*. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



#### Wedding photographs in an album from 1920s.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

# Family and Folklore Research

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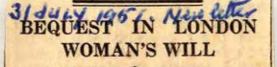
Document from James [Traill] Bishop of Down and Connor to Reverend Anthony Traill, admitting the latter to the Archdeaconry in the Diocese of Down, 1782. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Wichdeacon of Conner

of April in the year

Example of newspaper cutting in collection, from Belfast Telegraph, January 1983.

Reproduced with kind permission of Belfast Telegraph.



#### Pearls formerly owned by **Co.** Antrim family

Mrs. Edith Kathleen Dickson, of Mrs. Edith Kathleen Dickson, of 149, Auckland Road, Upper Nor-wood, London S.E. 19, and formerly of Parkside, 8, Farquhar Road, Upper Norwood, widow of Frank Dickson, R.B.A., died on March 7 last, leaving £8,348 gross (£8,311 net value). She left her property to her son Ian saying: "If my son has no wife or children to whom to leave my real pearl necklace of 102 nearls will he make provision in pearls, will he make provision in his will to have the same valued and offer it to be bought by the head of the Traill family, of Bally-lough House, Bushmills, Co. Antrim, as it belonged, I believe, to a great grandmother, French, of Monivea Castle, Co. Galway, whose daughter married William Traill, of Bally-lough, in 1836, and so then it should revert back to that family.'

Reproduced with kind permission of the News Letter.

#### BY EDDIE MC9LWAINE An Ulster Log

#### The rock 'n roll tramcar

PRINCESS DIANA will be glad to hear that the 100th anniversary of the celebrated Giant's Causeway Tram is about to be celebrated.

It was her great grandfather, the former Earl Spencer who inaugurated this, one of the world's first electric trainways way back in September 1883.

And, down the years, the future Queen has often heard stories of how the old boy enjoyed himself that day a century ago when he went journeying in a rock 'n roll tramcar and sat in the Causeway's Wishing Chair,

Alas, the Causeway Tram ran for the last time in 1949 and happy holidaymakers were no longer able to go riding along those eight miles of overhead trolley wires.

But today they can read retired engineer John McGuigan's book "The Giant's Causeway Tram" which has been reissued by the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland to commemorate the special anniversary.

John, who travelled often on the tram, saw his research into the tome as a labour of love when he first undertook it 19 years ago. He remembers that,

during the Second World War, the tram operated all the year round.

On weekdays commuters used it and at weekends American soldiers were regular travellers.

The tram, he says, would be a marvellous tourist attraction if its trolley was still echoing out along the coastal run

1983 - READER HOLIDAYS 1983 . HOLID

The Causeway Trams - a book to mark 100 years

year and pieces by him

and Tommy are featured

on an international

"Songs of Peace" LP.

John Richardson of the RPS tells me copies of the book priced £4.50 are available from Whitehead Excursion Station.

OFF on tour to West

Germany today are the

folksy Sands family. But

this time brothers Tommy.

Colum and Ben are

travelling without their

sister Anne. For the girl,

married to Dublin

journalist John Keane,

has just given birth to a

"We'll be toasting the

new arrival at every stop,"

said Tommy. Anne

already has another

daughter, -2%-year-old

their credit are favourite

entertainers in Germany.

Colum's album

"Unapproved Road" went

down a treat there last

The Sands with 12LP# to

Germany

calling

baby girl.

Soracha

#### May Ball ballot

THE May Ball at the Dunadry Inn, is one of the social occasions of the summer promoted by Antrim Lions, And this year it will live up to its reputation as never before with a draw for a Skoda 120L taking place on the

Lion Ken Oliver tells me his club hope to raise £10,000 for the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults from the sale of ballot tickets at £1 a

The car was donated to the club by the Northern Ireland Skoda Dealer Network. It will be on show at the shopping centre in Antrim tomorrow where tickets will be available.

If you have difficulty setting one give car dealer

dealers will be putting their wares on display. Afterwards donations will be made to the Lisburn Multiple Sclerosis Group and the Irish Rugby Football Union Fund for Injured Players.

#### Doctor in the race

THE attractive members of Belfast Ladies Athletic Club will have a more than passing interest in the Belfast Marathon on Monday.

Not that any of them are actually taking part their attention will be focused on the efforts of Dr. Michael Scott of the City Hospital one of the leading cardiologists in Northern Ireland who just happens to be their club chairman

If he falls by the wayside, the attention of the girls will switch to another runner, ciub secretary Michael

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赤色云的 2 + H.P Platon Bictics 

First World War cartoons in the Ballylough Collection. Signed G.B.B. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### **Archives in PRONI**

Many of the documents and manuscripts previously held at Ballylough House have been deposited in PRONI – there are over 800 items there. In addition, PRONI has over 2000 documents, after filtering, which have been deposited by other people. These give interesting additional information on the area. Some of our catalogue searches resulted in the following sources for further research:

# (Right) The signature of Alexander McDonnell, 3rd Earl of Antrim, on the bottom of one of the PRONI McDonnell papers which pertains to Ballylough.

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D2977/3A/1/1/1A. Copied with kind permission of Lord Dunluce. Image copyright June Traill.

- Ballylough Co Antrim 106 documents
- Ballylough Beg 7 documents
- Traill 370 documents
- Ballylough/Traill estate papers collection c650 documents and 2 volumes – D4081
- Castlecat 12 documents Castlecatt 47 documents
- Crone (the butler c 1900) 47 documents
- Ballylough School 8 documents
- Anderson some 2000 documents needs filtering
- Peacocke 28 documents Peacock 109 documents
- Hamilton maxed over 13,000 documents
- Traill married into Hamiltons of Killyleagh and Clandeboye Estate –2000+ docs– a project in itself
- Pim 153 documents Pimm 3 documents
- Frizzell 23 documents Frizzel 3 documents
- Young returned over 7500 records
- Allen 2877 documents/records
- Barker 255 documents
- Pelly 6 records
- Brett 532 needs filtering

- Stewart-Moore 142 documents
- Ffrench/ffrench 8 documents
- O'Brien 755 documents
- Watts Gayer 6 documents Gayer 49 Documents
- Jones 2082 documents needs filtered
- Creith 1 document
- Adams 1084 documents
- Miller 1467 documents
- McKendry 58 documents
- McCurdy 157 documents
- Park is tricky as it also picks up the word park over 10000 results
- Richmond 2466 documents
- Thompson 3861 documents Thompson + Ballylough
   15 documents
- 15 documents
- Stewart + Ballylough 78 documents
- Ballylougmore 47 documents
- Ballyloughbegg 7 documents Ballyloughbeg 7 documents
- Billy 407 documents Billy Parish 10 documents including 1655 Molesworth maps

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#### **Documents concerning property in Castlecatt.**

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, PRONI reference: D4081/1/2/4/12. Image copyright June Traill.

Je is of their seals wigned their warnes William Trails James Mikendry

#### **Documents concerning property in Castlecatt.**

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D4081/1/2/4/12. Image copyright June Traill.

Lease of Touses & Bog in Gwanmon & Castleratt

William Trail by Hor one life Form Now 1838 James M Rendy Rent L- 10-0

#### **Documents concerning property in Castlecatt.**

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D4081/1/2/4/12. Image copyright June Traill.



#### Bundle of papers.

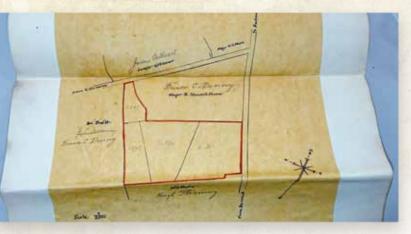
Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D1326/12/17. Image copyright June Traill.

DATED 1922 LIEUT. COL. WM. S. TRAILL 1st part RT. REV. H. S. O'HARA 2nd part MRS. FRANCES C. DENNY 3rd part -----Draft/ FEE FARM GRANT -----

#### Fee Farm Grants.

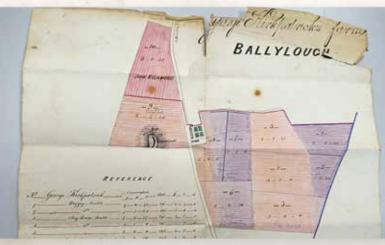
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#### A rough detailed map of the demesne by the land steward in 1843 for William Trail.

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#### A map detailing the demesne by the land steward in 1843 for William Trail.

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D915/18/24A. Image copyright June Traill.

6 Jany 1740. No Stewarts' letter hi Los antrin . Relative Staking away In chest from Bally bugh & Ballywayan In Naghten 9 agen Harris W

Note on back of letter of 6th January 1740 summarising that papers had been removed from a metal chest at Ballylough House (this chest was believed to have come from the Spanish Armada Galleas *La Girona*, which had sank, in 1588, off the north Antrim coast).

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D2977/5/1/5/23. Image copyright June Traill.

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#### Will of Alexander Stewart, 7th April 1742.

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: T514/4. Image copyright June Traill.

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#### Rent Book 1837.

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#### **Poor Law Valuations.**

Reproduced with permission of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. PRONI reference: D915/12/1. Image copyright June Traill.

#### **Ballylough Estate Papers**

The collection is made up of documents, letters, diaries, farm books, maps and images. We have set up a museum standard cataloguing system (using standard procedures and guidelines) following training provided by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Museum Services. This provides each item with its own unique reference number. Items are scanned or photographed then logged onto the system using an Excel spreadsheet. With so much material, we have hardly scratched the surface. Information on the various buildings on and around the Ballylough Estate was the main thrust of our initial research. The earliest paperwork we have found at the property, so far, is from the 1600s.

Front and back of seal on 1766 Gayer stipend. Agnes Gayer was married to Anthony Traill. Her father and brother were clerks at the Irish Parliament in Dublin, very important posts.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

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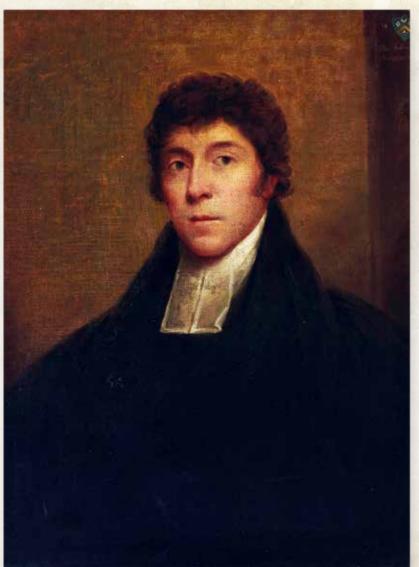
Portrait of Agnes Gayer Wife of Archdeacon Anthony Traill.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Portrait of Archdeacon Anthony Traill (1789).

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

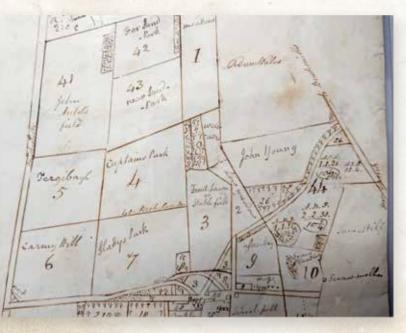
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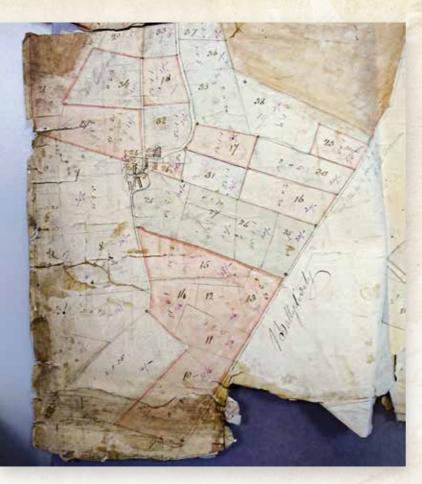


In order to keep the collection in some sort of order, and to protect it as we go, we have had to go through it at a much slower pace than had been anticipated. There is enough material for a future publication on the collection. We would love to try and get funding to produce something in a few years' time.

We have given some examples in this booklet from the collection. These include extracts from different generations of Traills' game books, accounts books, maps and papers used for estate farm operations. We have included many references to family names, as these particularly interested the group. We, also, have listed some details of field names.



Old field maps found in Ballylough Collection. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



#### **Field Names**

The group produced a large 2m x 2m map which our research has populated with names of fields and names of people from various documents, estate papers and local knowledge. This formed part of the exhibition at the end of our project.

#### **Game Book**

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#### Extract from Game Book at Ballylough House.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

This Game Book is dated from 21st September 1931. It belonged to Anthony O'Brien Traill (AO'BT), a note in it explaining that it is a Christmas gift from his mother. It names the guns (who was shooting), the place they were shooting, and the 'bag' - what they shot. This book has been scanned as part of this project and we can perhaps transcribe it in future years.

# Some of the names (those in bold were regulars):

AO'BT, WST [William Stewart Traill, his father],
Lady McNaghten [sic], Harry Allen, Scott,
HEO'BT [Henry Edward—his Uncle], James
Leslie, CA Brett [cousin], Sir Frances & Lady
McNaghten [sic], Seymour, Batcham, Redmond
Young, R Booth, P S Anderson [father in law].

Syndicate (made up of Mrs Cuningham, CAB, PSA, Lady McNaghten [sic], L Denny, WST, AOBT, Turtle, Malcomson, Bartlett, Hume SM, McK, Jim SM, Peacock, Jack, Cramsie), Samual Young, Lyle, Dr Graham, AM Stewart, Andrews, Chichester, Hazlett, Uprichard, Reed, Strong, Savill, Bell, Sir H ONeill, Dermot Packenham, Maxwell, Marjorie, Richard [this was Richard Traill's first walk out and appears to be with his father on 18th December 1944].

Anthony O'Brien Traill also names the dogs that go out with them, exclaiming at one point 'Bitch on heat!' (June Traill says that anyone who has been out on a shoot with a dozen dogs knows the chaos this can bring!). The weather is talked about a lot, and on 8th January 1945, Marcus McCollum 'was taking game for himself' and sacked.

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#### Extract from Game Book at Ballylough House.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

The book (which Marjorie Traill, William Traill and others appear to have filled in while Anthony was away) records visits to hospital and, in 1943, it notes 'no petrol'.

On 7th December 1944, AO'BT writes 'I came back from five years and two months active service abroad in Egypt and Burma. Found three pheasants in safe. Walked around with Hume [Stewart-Moore?] saw Hen pheasants, teal and woodcock. Borrowed 12 bore from Ballydivity, so scarce. Got 500/12 through Billy Williamson from hunters, most obliging.'

Notably, after any hunt, the bag could have contained as much as 12 or more hares, 36 pheasants, some rabbits, 14 wildfowl and the occasional wild cat or fox.

#### **Accounts Book**

Anthony O'Brien Traill recycled an old army account book (with pages removed) and started it in 1919. It detailed the income and expenditures of the estate. It has many family names (in bold below) in the entries:

INCOME: Balance by **Brett**. Lodged in Ulster Bank Belfast £72, Transferred from Dublin £4, **SMT** [Selina Margaret Traill] rents from Newtown Castle Bourne £6, balance of May rents £80 from **A B Stuart**. From **A S Brett** balance £7. Cheque for timber **J NEVIN** £12. ½ year's rent from Ballintoy cheque **J A Byrne** £33. From **Mrs F C Denny** year's rent for Whinns £27. **James H** 

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Anthony O'Brien Traill recycled an old army account book and started it in 1919. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Savage rent for 4 farms £79. A B Stuart rents £200. Wm Moffat & Sons ½ year's rent of Kinnefut (?) £9. A B Stuart Ballylough rents £100.

EXPENDITURE: **H B Brandon** for preparing accounts £7. W Erskine Mayne maps £1. **Miss M French Traill** annuity £37 – lent £53 @ 6%. **Mrs Francis Denny** lent 250 @ 5% £5. **Mrs H A Brett** on £250 @ 5% £4. **Mrs A M Goodman** £250 @ 5% £4. **Maj H O'Brien** on £250 £5. **A F Traill** on £250 £5. **James J Fox** for tobacco £3. **Abraham Neill** poultry food. £12. **Mrs A Hitchcock** on 250 £5. **Thomas Richardson Marlfield** £27. **Mrs H A Brett** (née Traill) £17.

John McCandless Ltd plumbing to date £11. Henry Leity\* Co Antrim War Memorial £5. Joseph Braddell & Sons £2. Henry Seity\* University of Dublin War memorial £1. Elizabeth Stewart Moore on £1000 @6% £15. Frances Denny on £1400 £19. Miss M French £3.

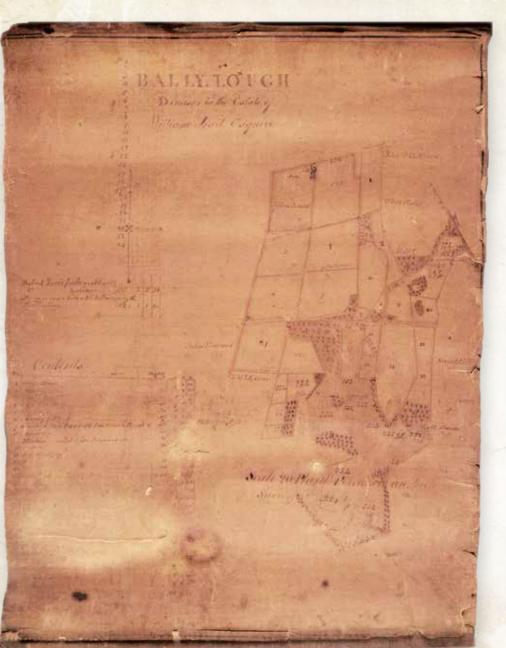
In 1922, the book has usual rents in and annuities, insurances & taxes out - a notable expenditure of £200 for a car (down payment).

In 1925, William Savage, Alfred Savage, HC Lyle, Thompson, Edwards MaCartney appear in the income columns. The car seems to be costing a bit with car tax £12, Birch & Workman tyres £12, McMillan car insurance £10, Birch & Workman first instalment for car £61, Jos Braddell & Sons car (X?) £1, Millburn Motor £2, Birch & Workman another instalment on car £60.

In the back of the accounts book is an index and lodged in the pages are various loan documents and certificates, dated and with names. In 1933 **Anthony O'B** divides the book into page per field/area:

- Cricket Field grass
- Torgubuth (?) ploughed
- Carney Hill grazing
- Stable Field ploughed for sets
- School Fall Ploughed (very heavy work)
- Moat planted trees mentions a TRACTOR
- Long Cross -let to R Thompson @ £2 per acre for crop
- Maxwells let to Atcheson sown out
- Pheasantry let to R. Thompson – grazing £1

\* June Traill says that Henry Leity and Henry Seity could be the same person, but it is difficult to read the writing and workout if the surnames begin with an L or an S. June says that this is a very good example of one of the difficulties that people can come across when researching family history.



#### Map of Ballylough Estate

The map is dated 1824—'For William Trail Esq.' Names we can read are: John Auld, Wert Wales, Alex McCurdy, Robert ?, John Kowara, T McKeever, Robert Hume (? name unclear). There appears to be an entrance opposite the front gate into the field opposite. The crannog appears on the map, but none of the buildings are clearly marked—so this seems to be about the land and planting. The corn stooks are clearly marked. The large beech hedge is also clearly marked running roughly from the top gate of the walled garden by the house to the bottom gate and on to the pond (NW—SE) and about 50m.

# **1824 Estate Map rolled up (labelled for the Ballylough Collection).**

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

#### 1824 Estate Map.

Reproduced with kind permission of Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

#### **Travel Diary**

We were all interested in the small A5 travel diary, full of watercolours of the artist's journey. The artist is not identified, but we think she or he was travelling through France and Switzerland. The group thought the date of the diary was perhaps between the two world wars.

#### Watercolour image from travel diary. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

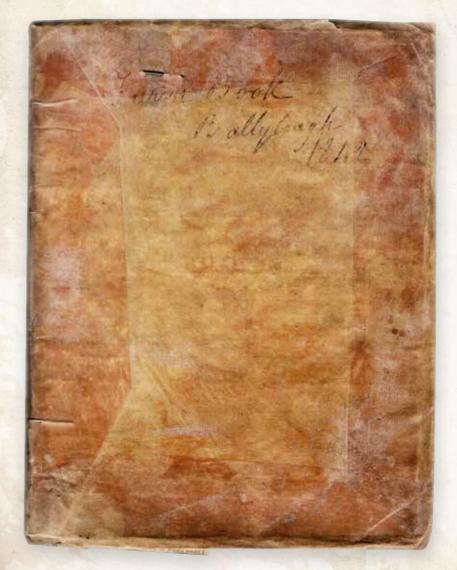
GAME BOOK

Some of the many books in the Ballylough Collection, with page of travel diary open on top. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

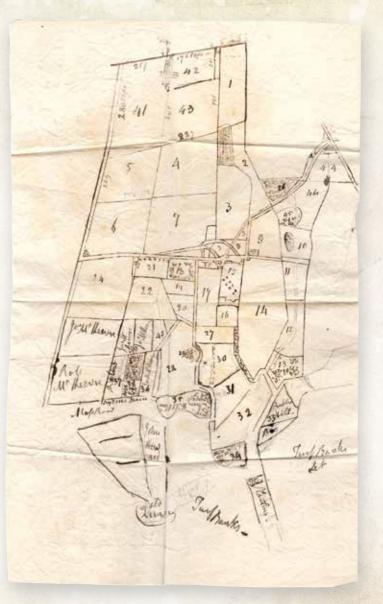
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#### **Estate Operations Farm Book**



Cover of Estate Operations Farm Book from 1842. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



Map of Ballylough Estate found in Estate Operations Book.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

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spired in order to affect a complete charge in the node of truting cattle amongst the small faroness of this country ; and the first step in this essential improvement is to encourage by avery possible means, the cultivation of green enous for house-feeding; grants of a little seed, of home dust and lime for compast, so as to avoid the necoulty of eneroaching on the manure for the potato crop-offer themselves as means for effecting the object in the est instance, and once commanced in carnest, one woold How that a relayer into the present paragerrating manner of managing this branch of farming need not be approv-heuted. The entitotion of rape, as another and hu-portant means of providing for earth in spring, sheat or encouraged. In neuropy reclaims to apring, should be or marsh land this cosp scens to be more valuable than my other for ground being effectually drained, and the surface lag or ploughed, and broken fine, and manared with a are of earth and lime, or with ashes produced ming even the clay subsell, their crop may be raise ab smerring evertalacty. The seed may se seens broot cast, or better in drills with the turnip machine, at tw spart, so as to minit the horse hoe between theme former case 160b per Irish acre, and in the latt quantity-abund be somu as not after the mit of May as pougible. Grass seeds are some with rape at this sensor, out the leaves of the rape ave adow and "scald" the genes, which, in consequent A common practice in Holland, and which ought

A course practice in Hollmoi, and which unght to be universally practical in this country, is to propare, say a perch or two of ground in a counter of the field or garden, by digging it deeply, and breaking the earth line, diffing a good sapply of manner, then to now the seed in hursed shallow drills, five set six inches apart; bull é yound of seed will alford soficient plants for transplanting unsee than half an area of ground, when the plants

142. Farming operations - Sales-Skerving ?! Sherten March 5. gave A. Thompson grewofthe potatoes form and Kendry gave me the sower beaus double 22 arm This was full vent y In arthing Set with potatoes in R. Kensfield - thete red nought in the Cast or incarrides of my Tweedish Swenigh to she ( where g logan They day the 4 bog men time for Jams-park -Sowed Stable field - a rolled it west they. 5× 6 placepher in the true in Tant park 348 Power way in angue " + finished assie \_ is some wans to harrande

Sample page from Estate Operations Farm Book, 1842.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

One of the estate operations farm books is dated 1842 and details – diligently – memos, paper clippings, records, map and letters all about animal husbandry, crops and vegetable growing. The group felt this was a poignant book due to the fact it was written in the run up to the great famine. The variety of crops and vegetation perhaps helped the area get through the famine.

Anthony Traill bought the estate in 1789, he died in 1831. His son William then took over the estate. William would have been in his early 50s when this happened. It was a turbulent time as he took the estate over in 1831, lost his daughter Agnes in 1833, and his wife Louisa at the start of 1834. He remarried in 1836 and had five children by the time he started this book – there is likely to have been a previous one, but we have not yet found it.

Notes are often in pen and dipped ink. Letters are scattered through the leaves and are random. Below is a partial transcription of the notes in the farm estate book. (One of our key interests was family names, so these have been written in bold here for ease of reference.)

A letter dated 27th June 1842 'Kilmarnock' discussing how an antler plough should work. Mr Drummond from Stirling is to have one soon. Cost £5-5-0.

The first heading in the book is 'farming operations – Dates and observations'

1842 March 5th {I} gave R. Thompson a few of the potatoes from America and McKendry gave me.

Stable Field (No. 1) – oats, clover & grass, Ladys Park (No. 3) -ploughed, hay 1843 oats, 1844 green crop, 1845 cloves and grass, Carney Hill oats, Tergibbuth - 1842 in grain, after green crop. In 1843 lain lawn. John Auld's Field in grass, Capts Park – in grass, also 1842 & 1843. Asses bog oats in 1842 & ...Well Acre - in hay 1840, 41 & 42. **Robert Kerr's Field** - Sheep Walk Field – ploughed out of very ol lea.

#### 9th Thompson put out 700 dutch cabbage

15th – gave Thompson first of his garden seeds & bit pot from Dr Dunlop [!?]

16th - He sowed beans double rows in one hand

22 - onions

23rd – Set early potatoes in **R. Kerrs** field. Brought in the last and remainder of my Swedish Turnips. March 24th TURF CUTTING BEGAN THIS DAY – the 4 job bog men.

26 - Got lime for Sand park [we think that is field opposite where Richmonds are now]

April 3rd – Sowed Stable field and rolled next day. Sowed more in Argie.

21st Began ploughing in Tongibbuth (?) at 3 o'clock ploughed 7 days and 1/3 with 3 horses to plough 5 ½ acres (or 22 horses) [per day? Eventually 140 drills were put in.]

25th Brought in all of our potatoes from the field with the horses & it was too late – they should have been brought in long before this.

These are more estate places and people's names, and field names. Here are further short extracts we found in the book:

- ... Duck Coy ... Lee Bog ... Orchard West ... Captains Park
- ... R. Kerr's field at Lodge
- ... asses bog
- ... Lodge field
- ... straw house
- ... sheep field
- ... Thompson sowed sea Kale seed, & asparagus I think,
- ... Early Turnip,

... June 4th Got seaweed and put in heap to heat covered over with earth ... Celery, Orchard Bog, Broccoli, rape into Orchard bog, School Fall July 25th NEW POTATOES from garden, 28th from field,

The pround , harrowed a sollain che of the fidness & to Buchels wet askes -a towed take wollind any 2 6 ×4 Cattle mi milk in 2 days\_ Bullack Calp in Jucall year all. Draft Bullock

Folded paper in book is a bill/note of livestock sales in August 1842. It details 8 head of cattle in turnips £52, 2 head of cattle in straw yard £12, 1 bull £30, 15 sheep £24 and 1 ram £4, 8 lambs £8, 3 farm horses £33-10-0 and 3 pigs £4-10-0.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

*March 16th 1843* [the book is a bit more organised] – *set first potatoes in Stable Field*, *ploughed School Fall bog*.

White Belgium Carrots, parsnips, drills of Lucerne, comprey, cow grass, vethes, ash larch, put out oziers near hog yard, larch and scotch in West Bog, planting next to **Jack McKendry's(?)** bog, began sawing in Carney Hill, flax – 3 plots 31p and 1/3 long by 1p, riga or Miga flax seed, **Mr Lecky's** seed, clover seed, oats, prepare dung hills for Swedish tunips, sowed bushels of vetch in Capt Park, finished **J Auld** field, ashes onto part of Lady's field, sowed will acre, **Millburn** cow calved, wheat, Mangel worrsell in assess bog......

In 1845 William notes:

'two men should set 60 perches of a ridge of potatoes in a day in moderately light soil – one man would scale easily for two men –'

'Recipes for cattle – swelled from green food – 4 ounces of carbonate soda dissolved in water gives relief' The last entries for 1845 are:

25th [Sept] began potato digging in Argie – and all Nov B–**R Kerr's** field.

Nov 12 Pulling early carrots – put up hovel a stack of straw value £3

Nov 20 Put earth on small potato pits in Carney Hill

Nov 25 Brought in some potatoes now month in the pits and first as good as the day they were pitted –

.....then nothing – just blank pages – we know the blight was reported to have destroyed more than a third of the entire potato crop (Donnelly, 2001) https://en.wikipedia. org/wiki/Great\_Famine\_(Ireland).

William then enters just one line '1846 – Feb 7th we had our first lamb – ' It is likely then that the fallout from the famine overtook proceedings.

The book finishes William's (2nd Traill of Ballylough, 1791-1874) input in 1846, with this one line and starts again in 1919 with William (4th Traill of Ballylough, 1868-1959) writing: Sept 1919 'Decided to take over from land steward – **J McKendry** and run farm for a year myself, gave **McKendry** notice on 1st Nov meantime trying to get hold of things'

1919 Oct 10th Finished cutting oats at noon, put up 4 stacks & cleared Capts Park by 6:30pm.

During October William notes the weather more:

*'wet and stormy, worse weather' putting up fallen stacks, horse walk, strawhouse door repaired, Fair – got in corn, got up 5 stacks from 11am till night. Thatching straw – til dinner time, thrashed 96 stone & 40 battles of straw. 19th Sunday, two carts to Portrush for coal, finished argyle potatoes, November ploughing, thrashing and bringing in produce.* 

January 1920 Jersey cow from **Mrs Stewart** calved. Dragging logs, carting turnips, oats for crushing. 2 carts Coleraine with corn. 3 carts to Ballymoney £8-10-0 a ton turnips.

In November 1930, in Anthony O'Brien's writing (5th Traill of Ballylough 1897-1982):

'My father made over the estate to me having sold large portions under the Land Act. He retained the capital for his own use. The land was all let for grazing. I was offered 17/6 per acre for some of the rest. I then decided to try and work the place myself. I took on **Hugh McKendry** as head man with a view to making him land steward in event of my being away.'

## **Ballylough Folklore**

As part of this project we carried out several audio sessions with families in the area. Most of the people who told us stories were in the 50 – 90 age bracket and have lived here all their lives. It was fascinating to hear the same stories being repeated by different families, some who had not seen each other since their childhoods.

#### Ghosts

These stories are told by local people in the Ballylough Area.

**Mae Rae** - The Mae Rae story came from the local farmers in the area who would be told to get home before dark or Mae Rae 'would get you'. The story of Mae Rae seems to have been used locally to scare children into going home before dark. Identical stories about Mae Rae were collected by the group from three different farming families in the area. When asking the local people, during oral story telling recording sessions, about Mae Rae, the most common response was that she was a red headed ghost who had been murdered in the tunnels at Ballylough that lead to Dunluce. Several different families recorded the same story and alleged that she had been a servant. For information, we should note here that we are not aware of any such tunnels and the typography of the land would make any such tunnels unlikely, due to the high number of bogs, waterways and rocks.

It is interesting that when some of our group looked at Stirling Coyne & Willis 'The Scenery and Antiquities of Ireland' (c1841, Vol II, Chap VI), they found that the writers referred to a Maw Roi, a fairy (or banshee), who kept the Dunluce Castle floors clean.



MacQuillan Bride, ghost created for 'Halloween at Ballylough' Festival (2018).

Copyright June Traill 2018.



Tree illuminations during Halloween Light Festival at Ballylough. Copyright June Traill 2019.

Family and Folklore Research

**The White Lady** – The White Lady is locally regarded as the MacQuillan bride from a wedding in the 1580s (see story below). It is said that she survived the McDonnell slaughter of about 1586 but, after her death, she returned to haunt the Ballylough Castle. It is thought that she comes back to warn people that someone close to them will die.

The white lady was last seen, by a student, running through the forest at dusk in 2018.

**The Grey Lady** – It is locally thought that the Grey Lady is the mother of the MacQuillan bride, although some said she was the bride (and in their story the bride was slaughtered during the wedding). The Grey Lady, too, is to be seen haunting the environs of Ballylough Castle and, it is said, that her presence, also, warns of pending death within one's family. A Traill family member recalls her grandmother telling her that she saw the Grey Lady in the walled garden when she was staying at Ballylough House as a young girl.

The Grey Lady was last seen by Richard Traill a few days before his mother passed away.

MacQuillan and MacDonnell wedding re-enactment organised by Ballylough Living History Trust. Copyright June Traill 2018. An Old Man - An old man was seen sleeping in the master bedroom in Ballylough House by a guest in autumn 2019. He was lying on a bed under a tartan rug. We had not heard of this ghost before.

#### Wedding Massacre

Long before *Game of Thrones* became a hit series, and the Red Wedding became one of the most talked about parts of the eight series long fantasy written by George Martin, Ballylough had its own bloody wedding story. There is no proven record of this event found by the group. The story is related by the Traill family members.

It is said that, in about 1586, the MacQuillans and the MacDonnells held an arranged marriage at Ballylough in an effort to bring about better relationships between the feuding clans. At the wedding banquet all the MacQuillans were slaughtered by the MacDonnells. The surviving MacQuillan bride inherited all the MacQuillan lands—some 20,000 acres, which, then, the MacDonnells took under their own control.

'The Red Wedding'. Drawing of MacQuillan Bride and MacDonnell groom for storytelling workshops in 2018. Copyright June Traill 2018.

#### Paper by Dr Kay Muhr (Ulster Local History Trust)

Dr Muhr has written a paper (Muhr, 2009) on the place-names and Scottish Clan Traditions in North-East County Antrim. Dr Muhr refers to the story that the Traills have passed down the generations, 'Tradition also says that a Scotch chief of the MacDonnell family formed a marriage alliance with MacQuillan of Ballylough' (Ordnance Survey Memoirs (OSM) XVI:70).

A further narrative was the 'Massacre of Wine Hill'. Significantly, we also have a field near to Ballylough known as Whinny Hill. Muhr writes:

'It was owning to a quarrel between a Scotch chief of the McDonalds, and one of the chiefs of Ballylough, that the massacre of the Wine Hill near Bushmills, at which there was a small military fortification, took place...The two clans the McQuillans and the McDonnells has been for some time fighting about a tract of land. At length the latter...made overtures of peace and invited the former to a great feast to be held on top of this hill. Much wine was provided, and the guests artfully arranged so that every McDonnell should have a McQuillan at his left hand. Each of the former had also a dagger concealed in his garments. After dinner at a given signal the innocent and unsuspecting guests were at once murdered. The blood which flowed from the short struggle mingled itself with the wine of the feast and, flowing over the brow of the hill, gave it the name of Wine Hill which it has retained ever since. It is situated in the townland of Eagry, in the holding of Robert Doon. In cultivating its borders from time to time there have been found many human bones (OSM XVI, 53).

Muhr's paper provides much information about the MacQuillans in the area. A copy of the paper is at Ballylough. (BALBE0224)

The main text in this book uses MacDonnell and MacQuillan, following Dr Colin Breen. However the group have encountered other spellings, reflecting the challenges of researching across a wide range of original source material.

# Built Heritage Research of Ballylough Area

## **Billy Parish Church (Glebe)**



Billy Parish Church. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Built heritage was one of the areas that the initial introductory workshops in March 2018 prioritised. We were interested in looking at the history of buildings in the area and identifying some stories about them. Billy Parish Church was a key place to start as it is a focal point of the area and many of us were aware that it was built on an early pagan site. Using Griffith's Valuation, we studied further local buildings, as Griffith's gave us a starting point to decide what to look at. The townland is given afterwards in brackets.

The old church of 'Bile' is mentioned in the taxation of Pope Nicholas IV in 1290 and the wall of the graveyard, south of the present church, contains part of that church's north wall. The present parish church was consecrated in 1815. We found that, in 1834, it was decided to buy a parish hearse, which cost £9. Half a crown was to be paid by any person using the hearse and a second half crown lodged as security for its safe return. The hearse was last used in 1900 and was donated by the Select Vestry to the Transport Museum at Cultra in 1958. The Traill family of Ballylough House have always been closely involved with the church, and many members of the family are buried in the graveyard. In 1890, W A Traill gifted £1,000 to build the Chancel.

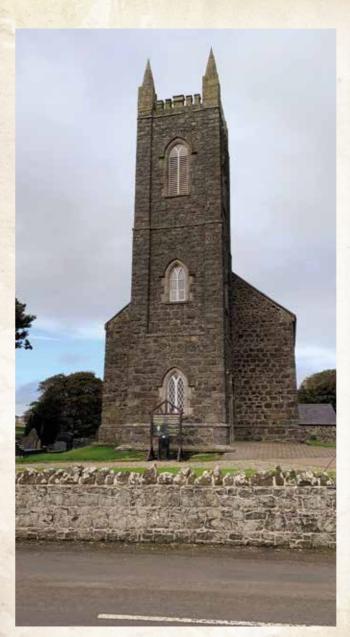
#### Short History of the Parish of Billy by Rev Adam A Johns (1982, Impact Printing, Coleraine and Ballycastle)

There is a wonderful book on the history of Billy Church and the Parish, by a former rector of Billy, Reverend Adam A Johns. Johns was rector of Billy and Derrykeighan from 1963- 2004. Johns includes many interesting anecdotes about the church, parish, parishioners and other inhabitants of the area, and refers to information taken from the vestry minutes. He takes us on a virtual walk around the parish memorials (tablets, windows, etc) listing: Anderson, Healy, Stuart, Trail, Trail, McConaghy, Dunn, Creery, Fallis, Camac, Walker, Magee and others.

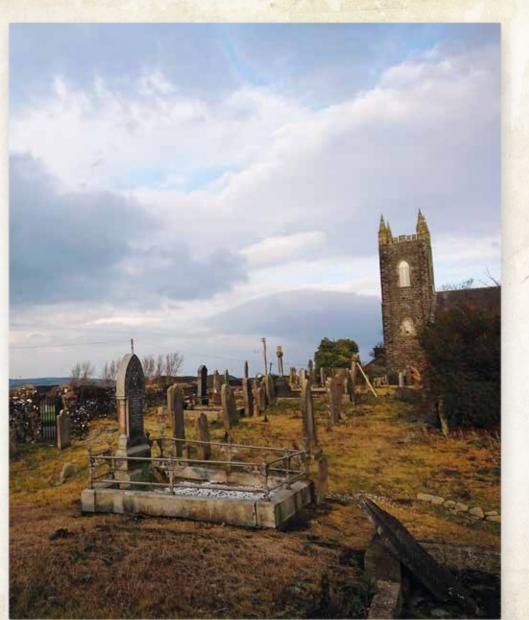
Johns, also, gives an insight into local events such as the opening of the electric tramway (1883), a royal visit to the Giant's Causeway (1869, Prince Arthur, 3rd son of Queen Victoria) and the cost of posting a letter from Dublin to Ballymoney in 1786 (4d). Johns notes that the Giant's Causeway's annual visitors in 1982 were around 150,000. Now the National Trust has more than 1,000,000 visitors a year.

#### The meaning of the name 'Billy'

Billy is derived from the Gaelic word Bile meaning a large ancient tree. Johns (1982, 3) says 'But this was no ordinary tree. "Bile" was only applied to a tree held in veneration by the people. Perhaps it was one under which the chiefs of the clan used to be inaugurated or at a place where games were celebrated. It is likely that this goes back to the time of the Druids to whom the oak was sacred. It may be that the first church erected at Billy was on the site of, or convenient to, the old tree, as this would have been a meeting place, possibly of an Irish Celtic Church.'



Billy Parish Church. Copyright David Traill 2019.



**Billy Parish Church.** Copyright June Traill 2019.

#### **Ballylough House (Ballylough More)**

It is believed that, from about 1586 - when a grant was given to Sorley Boy MacDonnell which included the lands between the rivers Bush and Bann (McNeill, 1983, 104) - Ballylough House was home of the Stewarts, who were the MacDonnells' land agents. Then, since 1789, it has been the home of the Irish branch of the Traill family, cousins of the Stewarts. It is likely that there was a building, where Ballylough House now stands, from as long ago as when the original castle was built in 1270s. Perhaps it was the garrison house for the castle. Materials in the lowest part of Ballylough House indicate that there was a building here from at least the 1600s. When Anthony Traill arrived in 1789, the family raised the roof and added two floors. Anthony Traill also built an extension out the back and enlarged the basement. The original wooden roof pegs are still evident in the roof spaces.



Ballylough House. Copyright June Traill 2019.

## **Ballylough/Castlecatt School**



#### **Ballylough National School.**

Copyright cc-by-sa/2.0-Ballylough National School by Kenneth Allen – geograph.org.uk/p/176523.

The school seems to have two different names in the records – it is sometimes referred to as Ballylough National School and sometimes as Castlecatt School. The school was built by Anthony Traill in 1887, when the school at Billy was closed. It was named Ballylough School then. However, it lies in Castlecatt, so no doubt some people referred to it as the school in Castlecatt, or the Castlecatt School (this is not unusual in records of local schools). The last principal was Mrs E Hamilton. In 1968 the school was closed, and the building was adapted to an outdoor pursuits centre—the first of its kind in County Antrim.

Castlecatt/Castlecat can be found spelt in two different ways. The group discussed the spelling and decided to use two 't's in this publication, i.e. Castlecatt.

## Castlecatt Post Office (Ballylough Beg)

In 1928, the post mistress was Miss Mamie McKendry. Students who walked to school and back in the earlier part of the 20th century remembered buying sweets here. Castlecatt Post Office was granted a sub-post office in 1955. This is now a private house.

## The Basket House (Castlecatt)

A cottage industry was founded in the Basket House by Mr and Mrs Leslie Denny to assist employment for the local population. "In the loom of life let us weave joy and happy memories" was the slogan that was framed and displayed in the Basket House. Mrs Denny sent apprentices from the local area to firms in England to learn new skills and bring back their new skills to the north coast. The Basket House and Mrs Denny's enterprise deserves a project on its own. The group would like to hear from anyone with information or evidence of the Basket House during that period. Mrs Denny, née Traill, appears as quite a character not only in the estate papers, but also in Johns' book on Billy. Mrs Denny played the organ, was a Trustee of the War Memorial, was involved with the school and, also, the Basket House. We have the photograph of her in her pony and trap vehicle. This was adapted from a car during the Second World War as fuel was rationed (she chopped the engine off!). Mrs Denny was married in 1898 and died at the Basket House in 1962.



Mrs Denny (née Traill) with her adapted car to be pulled by a horse during the war, when there was no petrol because of rationing.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

## **Plantation Cottage (Ballylough More)**

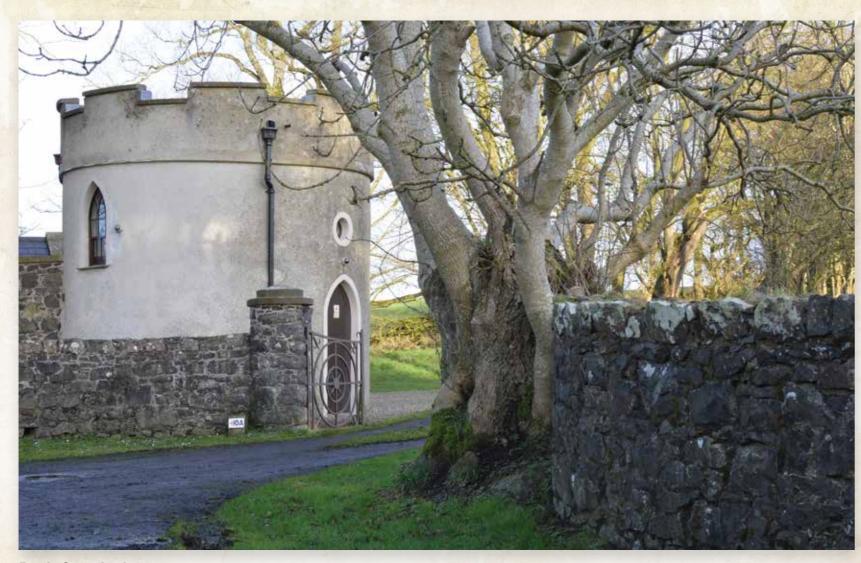
Plantation Cottage is a small house, near the back gate of the Ballylough Estate, that has been lived in by Traills, Hannas and latterly Mr and Mrs Richard Traill. Originally Plantation House was built as a gamekeeper's cottage. It was a two bedroomed cottage and towards the end of the 20th century had a conservatory and additional bedroom added.

## Front and Back Gate Lodges (Cavan and Ballylough More)



Front Gate Lodge. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

The Front Gate Lodge in the front drive was built in 1811 by Anthony Traill, when the entrance to the property was moved from Castlecatt to where it is now. The Gate Lodge was home to Mr and Mrs William Hanna for 63 years.



Back Gate Lodge. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

The Back Gate Lodge (aka Drum Gatelodge) was built as a single round tower building. The Taggart family lived in the gate lodge right up until the 1960s. It was vacant until The Irish Landmark Trust renovated it as a self-catering holiday property.

## **Traill Folly (Cavan)**

The Traill Folly is a monument opposite the front gate lodge and to the west of Billy Parish Church, which was erected by William Traill around the 1830s. The local people say it was to give employment to the local population.



Traill Folly looking towards Bushmills. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



**Traill Folly from top with Billy in background.** Copyright Ballylough Collection.



Traill Folly towards Ballylough. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

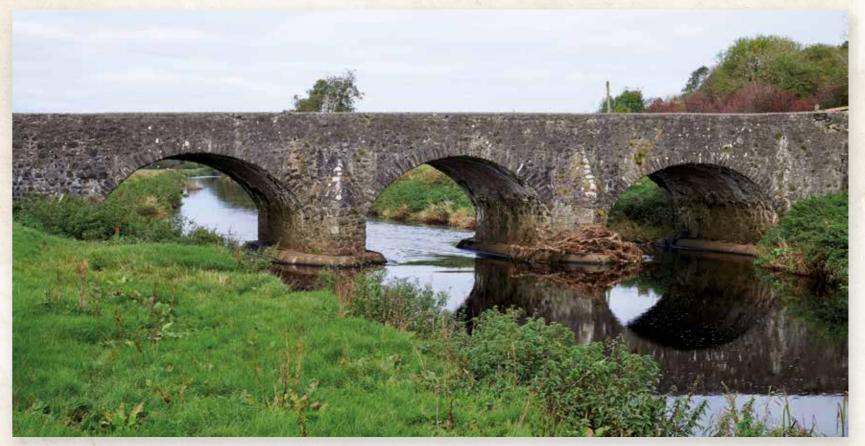
#### **Thatched Cottages (Castlecatt)**



**Thatched Cottages.** Copyright Anne Wilkinson.

The thatched cottages at Castlecatt were sadly destroyed when the new road was built (in the 1970s?). All the residents the group spoke to, and all the group members, remembered the cottages. They were directly opposite the Ballylough School. Thank you to Anne Wilkinson, who was born Anne Callaghan, for bringing the original thatched cottage painting to Ballylough for us to use in the Understanding Our Area project. Finding an image of the cottages was one of the key things to come from the original group sessions. Anne also contributed to the oral histories.

## Seneril Bridge



Seneril Bridge over the River Bush on a calm autumn day. The 'washed up debris' on one of the central piers shows the reason the arches are so high.

Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

The group think the Seneril Bridge is dated about 1600. After talking to local historians, and with knowledge of a nearby fort, we suspect the site was a crossing even earlier than that. We were told it was likely to have been a wooden structure originally.

### **Ballylough Castle (Ballylough More)**



During an archaeological dig, in 2009, at Ballylough Castle, Dr Colin Breen and Dr Colm Donnelly (with their team from Ulster University and Queen's University), unearthed some stone walls together with some artefacts. Breen has written about these findings in a book called Dunluce Castle: History and Archaeology (2012). The ruins that are visible nowadays are the remains of the MacQuillan Castle, from the 15th century. Breen thinks an earlier castle was built by the Savages, an Anglo-Norman family. Dr Tom McNeill also carried out research on the property in the 1980s. So far, the findings are not straight forward and we anticipate carrying out further digs to look more closely at the castle and its environs.

Ballylough Castle - the ruins that are visible nowadays are the remains of the MacQuillan Castle, from the 15th century. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

## The Rath (Ballylough More)

Here is an example of what a rath looked like. This is Multivallate Ringfort at Rathrar Rathbarna Enclosure Complex, Co Roscommon, Ireland.

Copyright West Lothian Archaeological Trust.



In 2009, Dr Colin Breen found a portion of a large rath, not far from the location of the existing castle remains. When the archaeologists uncovered the ditch, they found the remains of the wooden (burnt) palisade in the bottom of it. We are, currently, not aware of the date of this rath. We have been told that while some raths could be pre-historic, most appear to be predominantly Early Medieval c AD 400-1200. A rath (ringfort) was normally a circular entrenchment, sometimes fortified with stones or wooden palisades. A rath would have served as a fortification and residence for a wealthy farmer, or a tribal chief.

### The Crannog (Ballylough More)



There is a large crannog built on the side of the lake. It measures about 30m in diameter. Crannogs are artificial islands, built in existing water. They were built up by piling in posts or using stones as retaining walls, and then filled in with earth, timber, stone etc. It seems the crannog at Ballylough was built on layers of earth. There may have been an additional high fence to keep animals out. No one seems to know exactly why, or when, the crannog was built. We hope to carry out further investigations to find out more about it.

Here is an example of a crannog, from the Irish National Heritage Park, Co Wexford. Copyright David Hawgood, CC BY-SA 2.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=13976927.

## **Ballylough Smoke House (Ballylough More)**



Smoke House. Copyright Alice McCabe 2015.

The Ballylough Smoke House is still intact, and still in use – though, sadly, no longer as a smoke house! The house is thought to have been built around 1790 to smoke meat. One of the rooms was later used to store boats. There is a solid stone staircase going up from the outside into the building.

### Lime Kilns (Ballylough Beg and Curramoney)



Lime Kilns. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

There appear to be two lime kilns in the area. We would love to find some old photographs, if possible. Many of the buildings on the Ballylough Estate were built with hot lime mortar.

## Corn Stooks (Ballylough More)

Original corn stooks are rare nowadays. We managed to find information about some in one or two other locations in Ireland. Therefore, we believe, that those at Ballylough are well worth preserving. There are ten standing and the remains of about another four can be made out in nearby piles of stones.



The corn stooks are about a metre high. Copyright Ballylough Collection.



There are approximately fourteen corn stooks. Copyright Ballylough Collection.

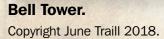


Remains of corn stooks at Ballylough.

Reproduced with kind permission of the Traill family. Image copyright Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

### Barn, Bell Tower, Cottages and Coach Houses (Ballylough More)







Barn. Copyright Alice McCabe 2015.



Gardeners' cottages by the walled garden behind Ballylough House. Copyright Alice McCabe 2015.

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The barn, bell tower and coach houses are in the upper yard and lower yard in the Ballylough Estate and date back to the end of the 1700s. Some of the smaller cottages and farm buildings are possibly older. At Ballylough House several buildings were erected, or extended, in the 1820s by Anthony Traill. At White Gate Farm there is a large barn of similar build. The coach houses, in the upper yard, still have their stone arches. The group would have liked to have spent more time on researching these buildings. For example, what was the purpose of the lower yard bell tower? We have been told, locally, that it was situated over a cookhouse and that the bell called in people, who had been working on the estate, at the end of the day for a meal. Others think that, where the wall buttress is rounded, there might have been a forge. There is evidence of a large fireplace of some kind.



Worker's cottage with Bell Tower. Copyright June Traill 2018.



Workers' cottages. Copyright June Traill 2018.

#### **Castlecatt War Memorial Hall and Other War Memorials**



**Castlecatt Memorial Hall.** Copyright June Traill 2018.



**Castlecatt Memorial Hall.** Newspaper cutting found in Ballylough Collection. Reproduced with kind permission of *Larne Times* (27th November 1926).

#### **Castlecatt War Memorial Hall (Castlecatt)**

The Castlecatt War Memorial Hall was built in 1926 by William Traill and his sister, Mrs Denny, in memory of the First World War fallen. Mr Traill signed the stewardship over to Mrs Denny and three other Trustees for the use of the community. The original Trust documents give indications of what the hall could be used for and how the Trustees were to manage the property for the use of the community. In 1957, the then Trustees leased the Hall for 20 years to the Orange Order. The building is now in need of repairs. A transcription of a report published in the *Northern Whig*, 20th November 1926, is posted by Nevin Taggart on this website: http://nalil.blogspot.com/2017/11/bushmills-war-memorial-hall-at.html

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#### Other War Memorials – to remember those who served in First World War and Second World War

Johns (1982) records First World War and Second World War Memorials in Billy Parish Church:

In honoured memory of the men of Billy Parish who gave their lives in the Great War 1914-1918

- Charles Allen
- John Cochrane
- Thomas L Craig
- Johnston Kane
- Thomas McConaghy
- William McCurdy
- Robert Moore
- William Moore
- Arthur Ross
- Harry Stewart-Moore

"No words express the measure of our thankfulness to you our dead."

#### Second World War 1939—1945

- Thomas John Hanna
- William Kerr
- John McCaughey
- Douglas McLernan

"Lest we forget"

The names of those who served in the two world wars in the local area have been collated by Robert Thompson and, in 2003, he produced a great little book *Bushmills Heroes* 1914-1918.

Our group felt that it would be right to recognise all that served. Many returned home after many years away, perhaps with injuries, and after seeing fighting in many different places. Our research found that many had even served during both World Wars. There is further work to be done and, indeed, this is the subject of a future project in conjunction with Frank McLernon, who is actively involved in local community projects. We would like to see these other names commemorated on the War Memorial at Castlecatt.

Those left behind tended the farms and kept life going to the best of their ability. Sadly, they are unlikely to be recognised for their efforts.

# **Books, Websites, Acknowledgements**

There are many books and papers on the history and archaeology of the area. Here is a list of the resources we have used and some further things we think would interest our readers:

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#### **Websites and Items from Websites**

Some of the websites that we visited for information:

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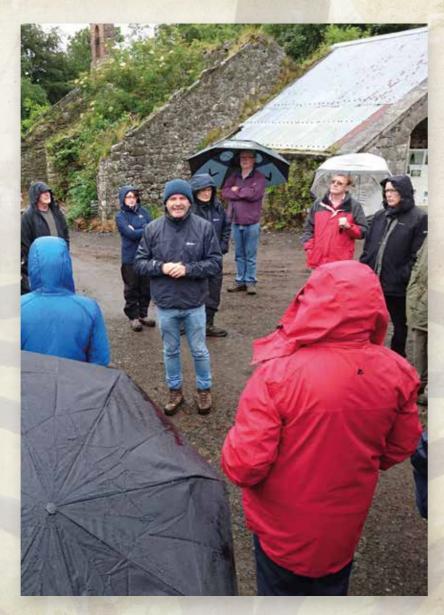
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- Marj Hanna
- Nigel Henderson
- Canon Adam Johns
- The Traill family
- The McKendry family
- The Creith family
- The Richmond family
- The Scott family
- The Thompson family

Also, the 2018 and 2019 interns with Ballylough Living History Trust who have helped with the logging, photographing, scanning and cataloguing of material: Eleanor (Scottish Law student), Clement (University Student from France), Leah (University student from France), Hannah (Archaeologist from America), Megan (Scottish Grow2work exchange), Roz (Scottish student), Paul Roudie (French law student) and Jean (our oldest volunteer, just 72 years, from Portland).

We would also like to thank The Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.



Archaeologist Dr Colin Breen takes a group around Ballylough. Copyright June Traill 2017.



June and some of the volunteers. Copyright David Traill 2019.

# Timeline

**Late 1300s** – Ballylough Castle probably built by Savage family (Anglo-Normans).

**1400s** – Ballylough Castle held by MacQuillans and probably rebuilt by them. The ruins we see today are attributed to the MacQuillans (the ruins of the Savage castle are underneath these).

**1500s** – MacDonnells controlled area (based at Dunluce Castle).

**1568** – Ballylough Castle recorded as empty (probably burned).

MacDonnell's land agent probably lived in Ballylough House (likely to have been former garrison house for castle).

**1625** – MacDonnells granted Ballylough to Archibald Stewart (MacDonnells' land agent).

1789 – Traills bought Ballylough from Stewarts.



Drone Operator ID details. Name: June TRAILL. Operator ID: OP-4GM4JXL. Valid for: 1 year. Expiry date: 20/11/2020.

This confirmation of operator ID is your certificate of registration as an operator. Flyer ID details. Name: June TRAILL. Flyer ID: FLY-GFWXKQ. Valid for: 3 years. Expiry date: 20/11/2022.

#### **Back Cover Images**

(Main) Ballylough More looking over Ballylough House, Ballylough Castle and the crannog.

Copyright June Traill 2019.

(Top) Castlecatt Memorial Hall was opened in November 1926.

Reproduced with kind permission of Larne Times.

#### (Centre) Bell tower on the Ballylough Estate.

Copyright June Traill 2018.

(Bottom) Photograph taken in 1897 of the Traill family and staff.

Copyright Ballylough Collection.

Image on this page is the view over the Ballylough area from Billy. Copyright June Traill 2019.



The Ballylough area, near the village of Bushmills in County Antrim, is rural and agrarian but lies just a few miles from the Atlantic Ocean.

Among the fields and bogs there are archaeological traces of a rath, evidence of a crannog, and visible ruins of a castle. The sea links the north Antrim coastland to the Western Isles and mainland of Scotland (just twelve miles away at its nearest point to the Antrim coast).

This interesting book was put together by members of the local community who joined together to research the history of the people who lived here and to find out more about the area from the buildings, documents, photographs and artefacts that have been left behind.