

## Finding Irish Parish Records using Fianna Information

By Joe Petrie

My Patrick Tobin family (Patrick, Judith Keefe, and their 3 sons) relocated to Northern Bay, Newfoundland from Gowran, Kilkenny, Ireland in very early in the 1800s. One of Patrick and Judith's grandsons, Richard Tobin (my great grandfather) married Honorah Catherine (Nora) Dooley of North Sydney in November 1869 in St. Joseph's. Richard and Nora initially settled in Channel, Newfoundland where they had their first 2 children (of 8): William Richard (my grandfather) and Mary Elizabeth (who was Sister Loretta of the Sisters of Charity of Halifax). The other 6 children were born in North Sydney.

Many years ago, I decided to find and research Kilkenney RC Parish records at the local Mormon Church Family History Center's Library (FHL) – principally to see whether I could find any other related Tobin family lines. (I kept hearing oral histories that indicated that five Tobin brothers relocated to Newfoundland and Canada at the same time.) The task was easier said than done. Why? First, because Gowran Parish Registers started after my Tobin family moved to Newfoundland, they were not in the Parish Registers. Second, Tobin was fairly common surname in Kilkenny. For example, the Tithe Applotment books list 170 records for Tobin. In fact, James Tobin was the only Gowran name – but there's no proof that James and my ancestor Patrick were related.

Using the Fianna Information, the same task would be easier and probably accomplished in a few hours. To help users, the Fianna information is available by County.

Today, I used the Google Chrome browser to search for the Fianna Information simply by typing: Fianna/County/Kilkenny followed by pressing the enter key. I clicked on the Rootsweb/Ancestry result. Then, I scrolled down to the following lines: County Kilkenny On-Line From FIANNA. Next I selected the Roman Catholic Parishes hyperlink. (Please note that you should simply replace Kilkenny with any Irish County Name to find another County's records.)

The Fianna List for Kilkenny RC Parishes follows:

Civil Parish	Catholic Parish	Dates	FHLC #
Aghaviller	Aghaviller	1847	not available
Killaloe	Ballycallan	1845-1880	926187
Derrynahinch	Ballyhale	1823	not available
Abbeyleix Aharney Attanagh Donaghmore Durrow Grangemaccong Rosconnell	Ballyregget	1856-1880	979702
Callan Earlstown Mallardstown	Callan	1821-1880	926189

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<b>Civil Parish</b>	<b>Catholic Parish</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>FHLC #</b>
Castlecomer Dysart	Castlecomer	1812-1880	926702 0926189-190
Blackrath Blanchvilleskill Clara Dunbell	Clara	1809-1828	926194
Castlecomer Rathaspick	Clough	1858-1880	926702 926191
Coolcraheen Kilmacar Mayne	Conaghy	1832-1880	926191
Ballybur Burnchurch Danesfort Ennisnag Kells	Danesfort	1819-1876	926193
Kilkenny	Dunnemaggan	1821	not available
	Durrow	1789	not available
Ballinamara Ballylarkin Fertagh	Freshford	1773-1880	979701
Erke	Galmory	1861-1876	979701
Kilkenny	Glemore	1831	not available
Blanchvilleskill Dungarvan	Gowran	1809-1880	926194
Graiguenamanagh	Graiguenamanagh	1867-1931	926114
Inistiogue	Inistiogue	1810	not available
Erke Fertagh	Johnstown	1814-1880	979700
Dunkitt	Kilmacow	1858-1880	926198
Knocktopher	Knocktopher	1782-1833 1834-1880	926203
Balleen Coolcashin Grangemacomg	Lisdowney	1771-1880 1817-1880	926199 979701
Aglish Arderra Fiddown	Mooncoin	1779,1856- 1880	979702

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Civil Parish	Catholic Parish	Dates	FHLC #
Castlecomer Muckalee Mothell Rathcoole	Muckalee	1801-1880	926200
Dunkitt	Mullinavat	1843-1880	926201
Grangesilvia Kilmacahill	Paulstown	1828-1880	926124
Rosbercon	Rosbercon	1817	not available
Rathpatrick	Slieverue	1766	not available
St. Canice	St. Canice's (Kilkenny)	1768-1810	926195
Rathcoole	<a href="#">St. John's Kilkenny</a>	1809-1880	979701
St John's		1817-1880	979701
St Mary's	<a href="#">St. Marys - Kilkenny</a>	1754-1810	926196
		1762-1858	926197
Kilkenny	<a href="#">St. Patricks - Kilkenny</a>	1800-1866	100158
	Templeorum	1803	not available
Ballyinch	Thomastown	1782-1833	926202
Columkille Famma		1834-1880	926203
Kilfane	Tullaherin	1782-1833	926202
Killarney		1834-1880	926203
Ballinamara	Tulleroan	1843-1880	926204
	Urlingford	1805	not available
Coolaghmore Killamery	Windgap	1822-1882	926205
Woolengrange	Woolengrange	1782-1833	926202
		1834-1880	926203

In addition, I searched for my Tobin ancestors in the three hyperlinked parishes (Saints John, Mary and Patrick) without success. I never searched for my Tobins in the Clara Parish but their records started after the Tobins relocated.

Please note that the Family History Library's (FHL) film numbers are not listed for every County. In addition, the film numbers may be incorrect. If you decide to search through FHL films, I'd recommend that you ask the FHL staff to search for the current number for the parish film(s).

Finally, Fianna has information for other denominations.

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