

A scenic view of a rugged, rocky coastline. In the foreground, a grassy ridge leads to a steep, dark rock cliff. The ocean is a vibrant turquoise color, meeting a cloudy sky. A small figure of a person stands on the ridge in the distance, looking out over the sea.

A Teen's Guide To Researching Your Irish Roots

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At some point in your life, you will have wondered where you originate from, whether you start at 16 or 60; it will be difficult to start out if you do not know what you are doing. Therefore, this guide should assist you in helping you retrace your Irish roots.

What you should remember starting out

Before you get started into using any subscriptions to the bigwig sites like Ancestry or Find My Past and I cannot stress this point enough but **ask your family to find out what they know!** There is no point trying to find stuff that people in your family already know. Write everything that you know about your family down. Another good tip would be to allocate a folder on a USB or perhaps a folder in cloud storage for instance: OneDrive, Google Drive or Dropbox to save any documents you gather. However, do not always rely on technology; it is always good to have a hard copy of documents. Therefore, put things in a binder folder as well, carry a notebook when meeting family so it is always easy to ask your family things or just to easily jot down a few things.

Civil registration in Ireland did not start until 1845 (with recording all weddings, civil and religious **EXCEPT** Roman Catholic churches) so pre-civil registration research may be a tad more difficult to research your family before that time due to the lack of records. Any luck you may have retracing your roots pre-civil registration, would be through church records, which you can find through sites like RootsIreland (www.rootsireland.ie) which has access to over 20 million Irish records (through a subscription). You can buy a one-day subscription (if you're very organised and have a list of what you need to find) as well as longer periods (1 month, 6 months or 12 months). However, there is also a site that can help you before you start into the subscription sites and the site is called Irish Genealogy (www.irishgenealogy.ie). The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht set up this site. A website that gives people the opportunity to search a wide range of record sources in their search of their Irish heritage. On Irish Genealogy, the site has images of records dating from 1864 up until 1918 only (as of 2019) due to not releasing any birth records under 100 years old.

For marriage records, they'll only release marriage records that are over 75 years old – 1943 (all information correct at the time of writing) and finally, deaths over 50 years old (1968). Irish Genealogy has access to some church records too, but only dioceses. Those dioceses are:

- Carlow (COI)
- Cork & Ross (RC)
- Dublin (COI)
- Kerry (COI)
- Dublin (RC)
- Kerry (RC)

*dioceses marked COI are Church of Ireland records & dioceses marked RC are Roman Catholic

As mentioned in on page 1, Irish Genealogy (www.irishgenealogy.ie) runs a website with indexes and images of birth, marriage and death records and the next three pages will demonstrate what is contained in a birth, marriage & death certificate.

Birth Certificates:

Superintendent Registrar's District 1. <i>South Dublin Union</i> Registrar's District 2. <i>25 1/2</i>										
BIRTHS Registered in the District of 3. <i>25 1/2</i> in the Union of 4. <i>South Dublin</i> in the County 5. <i>Dublin</i>										
6. <i>428</i>	7. <i>18 87</i> <i>26 upper</i> <i>St. William Street</i>	8. <i>Joseph</i> <i>Mary</i>	9. <i>Male</i> <i>42</i>	10. <i>George</i> <i>Blubbett</i> <i>26 upper</i> <i>St. William Street</i>	11. <i>Josephine</i> <i>Blubbett</i> <i>formerly</i> <i>Cranny</i>	12. <i>Barriester</i> <i>at Law</i>	13. <i>George John Blubbett</i> <i>26</i> <i>upper Fitzwilliam</i> <i>Street</i>	14. <i>first</i> <i>December</i> <i>18 87</i>	15. <i>Albert (Bogone)</i> <i>Asst. Registrar.</i>	16.

1. Location of Superintendent's district
2. The district within the superintendent's district
3. What district the birth was registered in
4. What union the district is in
5. What county the birth and the district are located in
6. Entry Number
7. Date and place of birth
8. Name (if any)
9. Gender
10. Father's name & residence
11. Name of Mother and Mother's maiden name
12. Father's rank or profession
13. Signature, Residence and Qualification of Informant
14. When registered
15. Signature of Registrar
16. Baptismal Name if added after Registration of Birth and date

Marriage Certificates

Marriage No. 5.10
 Registered by me, this 16th day of May 1916.
 7. Ambrayll
 Registrar.

19. 16. Marriage solemnized at the Roman Catholic ¹ Chapel of Wolmounton Prison in the Registrar's District of Norwell City in the Union of 3. Dublin in the County of 4. City of Dublin ^{2.}

No. (1)	When Married (2)	Name and Surname (3)	Age (4)	Condition (5)	Rank or Profession (6)	Residence at the Time of Marriage (7)	Father's Name and Surname (8)	Rank or Profession of Father (9)
10.	<u>3rd May</u> 8. <u>1916.</u>	<u>Joseph Plunkett.</u> 9.	<u>Full</u> 10.	<u>Bachelor</u> 11.	<u>gentleman</u> 12.	<u>Wolmounton Prison</u> 13.	<u>Count George Noble Plunkett</u> 14.	<u>Director of Dublin Museum</u> 15.
		<u>Grace Gifford</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Spinster</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>29 Oakley Road Palmira</u>	<u>Frederick Gifford</u>	<u>Teacher</u>

Married in the Roman Catholic Chapel of Wolmounton Prison according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church by me, **16. Eugene MacCarthy.**

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Joseph Plunkett
Grace Gifford. **17.** } in the Presence of us, { Eugene MacCarthy. **18.** John Smith
John Cantony Sgt. 3rd Bn. Royal Irish Regt }

1. Where the marriage was solemnised
2. What district the marriage was registered in
3. What union the district is in
4. What county the marriage and district are located in
5. Entry Number
6. What date the marriage was registered
7. Signature of registrar
8. Date of marriage
9. Name and surname of bride and groom
10. Age at time of marriage (“full” indicated the person was over 21, “minor” indicates that the person was between 18-21), in some cases, the person’s exact age can be written in this column)
11. The bride & groom’s status at the time of the marriage. This will either say bachelor/widower for a man & spinster/widow for a woman.

12. The bride & groom's rank/profession at the time of the marriage.
13. Where the bride & groom lived at the time of the marriage.
14. The bride & grooms father's name and surname.
15. The profession of the fathers of the bride & groom.
16. The person who officiated the marriage.
17. Bride & groom's signatures
18. Witnesses to the marriage

Death Certificates:

Básanna a Cláiríodh i gCeantar }* 1. <u>South Central</u> i gCeantar an Chláraitheora-Maoirseachta }* 2. <u>Dublin</u> i gContae }* 3. <u>Dublin</u>		Deaths Registered in the District of		in the Superintendent Registrar's District of		in the County of				
109	5. 1916. Fourth May	Joseph Plunkett	Male	Married	28	Poet.	Probable Cause	On The Authority	Fourteenth	A Leonard
4.	Kilmainham Gaol Kilmainham Dublin 8	6.	7.	8.	years	10.	of Death	of An tArd - "Chláraitheoir"	April.	14.
					9.		Gunshot Wounds	11.	13.	Interim Cláraitheoir Registrar.
								12.	19.2000	

1. District the death was registered in
2. Superintendent registrar's district
3. County the record is registered in
4. Entry Number
5. Date & Place of Death
6. Name & Surname of deceased
7. Gender
8. Condition (can be either for men: bachelor – never got married / widower – wife had passed away before the husband or for women: spinster – never got married / widow – husband has passed away before the husband)
9. Age at death
10. Occupation at time of death
11. Cause of Death
12. Signature, Qualification & Residence of Informant
13. When registered
14. Signature of Registrar

Census Records:

This section is going to be based on census returns & other available documents relating to a census document, that includes a buildings return and an enumerators abstract.

A census return details the people that were in a house on the day that the census was conducted, in a census return, information like name and surname, age, their religion, their kind of education (whether they could read or write etc...), their job, their marital status, where they were born and what language they spoke (be it Irish or English or both).

A house & buildings return details what condition their home/building was in whether they had straw or perishable material as a roof to asking how many windows was at the front of the house. It details what type of building it was and the landholder.

Finally, an enumerators abstract detailed what religion the residents were.

For census records, the years that you would have the best chance of finding your ancestors in would be the 1901 & the 1911

Censuses. There are some fragments of the 1821, 1831, 1841 & 1851 were destroyed when the Four Courts burnt down in 1922. The census returns for 1881 & 1891 censuses were pulped during WW1 due to the paper shortage. There was **no** census in 1921 due to the Irish War of Independence, the next one would be in 1926 (due for release in January 2027).

CENSUS RETURNS:

FORM A.												No. on Form B. 7	
RETURN of the MEMBERS of this FAMILY and their VISITORS, BOARDERS, SERVANTS, &c., who slept or abode in this House on the night of SUNDAY, the 31st of MARCH, 1901.													
Number.	NAME and SURNAME.		RELATION to Head of Family.	RELIGIOUS PROFESSION.	EDUCATION.	AGE.	SEX.	RANK, PROFESSION, OR OCCUPATION.	MARRIAGE.	WHERE BORN.	IRISH LANGUAGE.	If Deaf and Dumb; Dumb only; Blind; Imbecile or Idiot; or Lame.	
	1. Christian Name.	2. Surname.											
1	Joseph M.	Phunkett	Head of Family	Catholic	read & write	13	M.	Scholar	not married	City of Dublin	Irish & English	12.	
2	Josephine	Phunkett	Daughter	Catholic	read & write	9	F.	Scholar	not married	City of Dublin			
3	George	Phunkett	Daughter	Catholic	read & write	6	M.	Scholar	not married	City of Dublin			
4	Josephine	Phunkett	daughter	Catholic	cannot read	5	F.	-	not married	City of Dublin	English		
5	John Patrick	Phunkett	son	Catholic	cannot read	3	M.	-	not married	City of Dublin	English		
6	Ellen	Fitzhenry	servant	Catholic	read & write	30	F.	Nurse D.S.	not married	Cl. Wyford	Irish & English		
7	Elizabeth	Burke	servant	Catholic	read & write	31	F.	housemaid	married	Mountroth			
8	Mary	Murphy	servant	Catholic	read & write	44	F.	Cook D.S.	not married	Queen's Co. Carlow	Irish & English		

1. This is the person's Christian (birth) name
2. This is the person's surname
3. This is the person's relation to the head of the household
4. This is where each person lists their religion e.g. Roman Catholic, Protestant etc...
5. This lists whether they are able to read or write
6. This is where each person lists their age, the second age column is only for infants under 12 months.
7. Gender
8. What rank (if in army), profession/occupation each household member had
9. Each person's marital status
10. Where each person is from
11. This lists whether each member of the household can speak Irish or English (or both)
12. This is where any person puts in any disability they may have (Mind you, the column is worded in a very derogatory way...)

HOUSE & BUILDINGS RETURN:

HOUSES.											FAMILIES, &c.								
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	PARTICULARS OF INHABITED HOUSES.						11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.
No. of House or Building	Whether Built or Building	State whether Farm Dwelling, Public Building, Manufactory, Mill, Public-house, Lodging-house, or Shop, &c.	Number of Occupants and Persons sleeping as returned on Form B. S.	Is House inhabited	WALLS	ROOF.	ROOMS.	Windows in Front.	Windows in Side.	CELLAR OF HOUSE.	No. of distinct Families in House.	Name of the Head of each Family residing in the House.	No. of Rooms occupied by each Family.	Total Number of Persons in each Family.	Date on which Form A was collected.	Number of Persons in each Family who were sick or in Hospital, &c.	Name of the Landholder (if any) on whose Holding the House is situated, whether that name appears in column 13 or not.	No. on Form B. S. if House is on the Holding of a Landholder.	
(Col. 1.)	(Col. 2.)	(Col. 3.)	(Col. 4.)	(Col. 5.)	(Col. 6.)	(Col. 7.)	(Col. 8.)	(Col. 9.)	(Col. 10.)	(Col. 11.)	(Col. 12.)	(Col. 13.)	(Col. 14.)	(Col. 15.)	(Col. 16.)	(Col. 17.)	(Col. 18.)	(Col. 19.)	
1	Built	Public House	1	Y	1	1	3	5	10	2 nd	1	Thomas Keating	6	1	April 11 th 1880	..	Thomas Keating	4	
2	do	do building	1	Y	1	1	2	3	7	2 nd	1	Christopher Heagy	3	6	do	..	George & Phelan	2	
3	do	do	2	Y	1	1	2	3	7	2 nd	1	George Lyons	3	3	do	..	do do	2	
4	do	do	-	Y	1	1	2	2	6	2 nd	1	John Bradshaw	7	12	do	..	Thomas Keating	4	
5	do	do	-	Y	1	1	2	3	7	2 nd	1	Hugh Power	3	6	do	..	do do	4	
6	do	do	-	Y	0	1	2	2	5	3 rd	1	Richard Gillett	3	3	do	..	George & Phelan	2	
7	do	do	13	Y	1	1	6	25	33	1 st	1	George & Phelan	17	8	do	..	do do	2	
8	do	do	-	N	1	0	2	2	5	3 rd	-	-	-	-	-	-	Thomas Bishop	1	
9	do	do	-	N	1	1	2	2	6	2 nd	-	-	-	-	-	-	George & Phelan	2	

1. House No.
2. Whether the building has been built or is in the process of building.
3. What type of building the building is (whether it's a shop, post office, private dwelling etc...)
4. The number of out-offices & farmhouses with the building
5. The number of buildings that are unoccupied
6. If the walls were made of brick or concrete, 1 would be put in. If the walls were made from perishable material, 0 would be put in the box.
7. If the roof was made from slate, tile or iron, 1 would be put in. If the roof was made from perishable material, 0 would be put in the box.
8. If the building had 1 room only, 1 would be put in. If the building had 2,3 or 4 rooms, 2 would be put in. If the building had 5 or 6 rooms, 3 would be put in. If the building had 7,8 or 9 rooms, 4 would be put in. If the room had 11, 12 or 13 rooms, 5 would be put in. If the building had 13 or more rooms, 6 would be put in.
9. This stated how many windows were at the front of the house.
10. The total for columns 6, 7, 8 and 9 would go in here.
11. This was the class of house based on the total in column 10. If the total was 1 or 2, 4 th would be put in. If the total was 3, 4 or 5, 3 rd would be put in. If the total was 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12, 2 nd would be put in. If the total was 13 or over, 1 st would be put in (1 st class were the best kind of buildings)
12. The number of distinct families in the building
13. Name of the head of the family in each household
14. Number of rooms occupied by each family
15. Number of people in each family
16. Date of which the census return (usually Form A) was collected.
17. Number of people who were sick on the day of the census
18. Landholder's name
19. Number on Form M1 if the house is on the holding of a landholder

ENUMERATOR'S ABSTRACT:

No. on this Form.	Number on Form B	DWELLING HOUSES.			FAMILIES.	PERSONS.			RELIGIOUS PROFESSION.																		No. on this Form.						
		Inhabited	Un-inhabited	Building	Number in each House	Males	Females	Total Number of Persons	Roman Catholics		Protestant Episcopalians (See Note)						Presbyterians		Methodists		Independents		Baptists		Society of Friends or Quakers			Jews		All other Religions		Information	
									9	10	Returning themselves as of "Church of Ireland" or "Irish Church"		Others		11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	Males	Females									
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males			Females	Males	Females	Males											Females	Males		Females					
1	1	1	.	.	1	1	.	1	1	1	
2	2	1	.	.	1	1	5	6	1	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
3	3	1	.	.	1	2	1	3	2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
4	4	1	.	.	1	6	6	12	6	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
5	5	1	.	.	1	3	3	6	.	.	3	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
6	6	1	.	.	1	1	2	3	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6
7	7	1	.	.	1	3	5	8	3	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7

1. The number of the building on Form B (House & Buildings Return)
2. How many buildings were inhabited
3. How many buildings were unoccupied
4. How many buildings are being built
5. How many families are in the process of being built
6. How many men are in the household
7. How many women are in the household
8. The total number of people in the household
9. How many in the household are Roman Catholics
10. How many in the household are Protestant
11. How many in the household are Presbyterians
12. How many in the household are Methodists
13. How many in the household are Independents
14. How many in the household are Baptists
15. How many in the household are Society of Friends or Quakers
16. How many in the household are Jews
17. How many in the household are were of another religion that weren't listed in the enumerator's abstract
18. How many in the household withheld their religion

REGISTRATION DISTRICTS:

When searching on Irish Genealogy, these districts are where births, marriages & deaths were registered. The best way to figure out where to look is search a location that you know in your family (e.g. where your grandmother grew up) into Google Maps and use the directions function to each of these to see which was the closest.

Co. Antrim	Co. Donegal	Co. Kilkenny	Co. Meath	Co. Tyrone	Co. Clare
Antrim	Ballyshannon	Callan	Ardee	Armagh	Ballyvaughan
Ballycastle	Donegal	Carrick-on-Suir	Celbridge	Castlederg	Corrofin
Ballymena	Dunfanaghy	Castlecomer	Drogheda	Clogher	Ennistimon
Ballymoney	Glenties	Kilkenny	Dunshaughlin	Cookstown	Kildysart
Belfast	Inishowen	New Ross	Edenderry	Dungannon	Kilrush
Coleraine	Letterkenny	Thomastown	Kells	Enniskillen	Limerick
Larne	Londonderry	Urlingford	Navan	Gortin{dissolved}* Gortin	Scarriff
Lisburn	Millford	Waterford	Oldcastle	Irvinestown	Tulla
Lurgan	Strabane		Trim	[Lowtherstown]	
Co. Armagh	Stranorlar	Kings Co.	Co. Monaghan	Ornagh	Co. Cork
Armagh	Co. Down	[Co. Offaly]	Carrickmacross	Strabane	Bandon
Banbridge	Banbridge	Edenderry	Castleblaney	Co. Waterford	Bantry
Castleblaney	Belfast	Mountmellick	Clogher	Carrick-on-Suir	Castletown
Dundalk	Donaghmore[d]* Donaghmore	Parsonstown [Birr]	Clones	Clonmel	Clonakilty
Lurgan	Downpatrick	Roscrea	Cootehill	Dungarvan	Cork
Newry	Kilkeel	Tullamore	Dundalk	Kilmacthomas	Dunmanway
Co. Carlow	Lisburn	Co. Leitrim	Monaghan	Lismore	Fermoy
Baltinglass	Lurgan	Ballyshannon		Waterford	Kanturk
Carlow	Newry	Bawnboy	Queens Co.	Youghal	Killmallock
Enniscorthy	Newtonards	Carrick-on-Shannon	[Co. Laois/Leis]	Co. Westmeath	Kinsale
New Ross	Co. Dublin	Manorhamilton	Abbeyleix	Athlone	Macroom
Shillelagh	Balrothery	Mohill	Athy	Ballymahon	Mallow
Co. Cavan	Celbridge	Co. Limerick	Carlow	Delvin	Middleton
Bailieborough	Dublin North	Croom	Mountmellick	Granard	Millstreet
Bawnboy	Dublin South	Glin [dissolved]* Glin	Roscrea	Mullingar	Mitchelstown
Cavan	Dunshaughlin	Killmallock		Tullamore	Skibbereen
Cootehill	Rathdown	Limerick	Co. Roscommon	Co. Wexford	Skull
Enniskillen	Co. Fermanagh	Mitchelstown	Athlone	Enniscorthy	Youghal

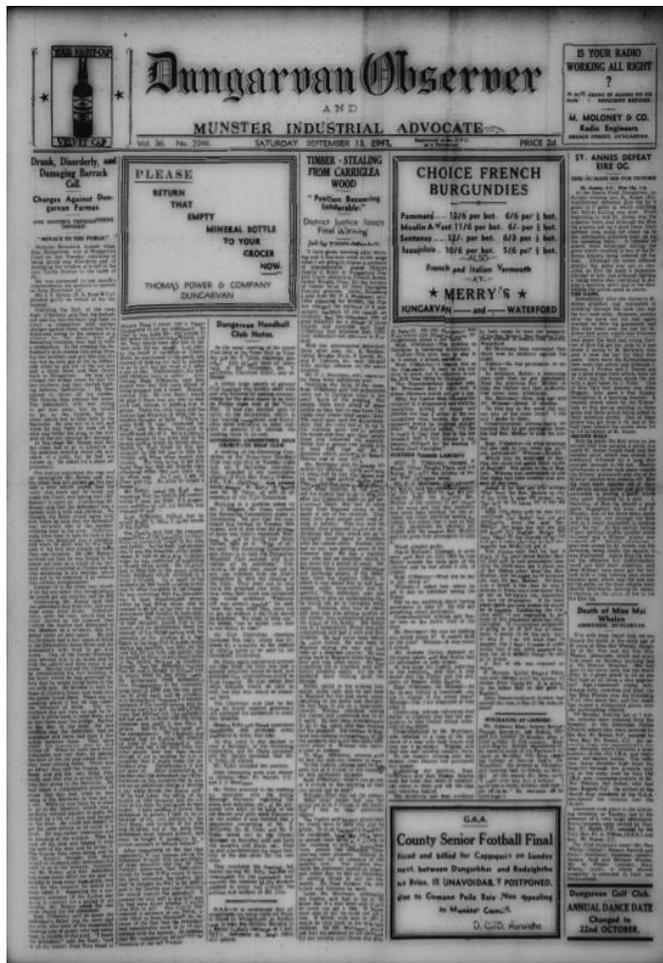
Granard	Ballyshannon	Newcastle	Ballinasloe	Gorey	
Kells	Clones	Rathkeale	Boyle	New Ross	
Oldcastle	Enniskillen	Tipperary	Carrick-on-Shannon	Shillelagh	
Co. Galway	Irvinestown	Co. Londonderry	Castlereagh	Wexford	Co. Mayo
Ballinasloe	[Lowtherstown]	Ballymeney	Roscommon	Co. Wicklow	Ballina
Ballinrobe	Lisnaskea	Coleraine	Strokestown	Baltinglass	Ballinrobe
Clifden	Co. Kerry	Londonderry	Co. Sligo	Naas	Belmullet
Galway	Cahersiveen	Magherafelt	Ballina	Rathdown	Castlebar
Glennamaddy	Dingle	Limavady	Boyle	Rathdrum	Castlereagh
Gortin {dis}*	Glin [dissolved]*	Co. Longford	Dromore West	Shillelagh	Claremorris
Loughrea	Kenmare	Ballymahon	Sligo		Killala
Mountbellew	Killarney	Granard	Tubbercurry		Newport*
Oughterard	Listowel	Longford			Swinford
Portumna	Tralee		Co. Tipperary		Westport
Scarriff			Borrisokane		
Tuam	Co. Kildare		Callan		Co. Louth
	Athy		Carrick-on-Suir		Ardee
	Baltinglass		Cashel		Drogheda
	Celbridge		Clogheen		Dundalk
	Edenderry		Clonmel		
	Naas		Nenagh		
			Parsonstown [Birr]		
			Roscrea		
			Thurles		
			Tipperary		
			Urlingford		
Dissolved Districts		*Donaghmore – After 1887 in Roscrea & Urlingford	*Glin – after 1892 in Listowel & Rathkeale	*Gort – after 1889 in Omagh & Strabane	*Newport – after 1886 in Westport

Other sources of information:

Certificates aren't the only places you can draw information from, other documents such as newspapers, Catholic parish registers from the NLI (www.registers.nli.ie), sign-up forms for people in World War 1 & World War 2 (which can be found on sites like Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk) or Family Search (www.familysearch.org). In this section, I will talk about these sources of information. The NLI (National Library of Ireland on Kildare Street in Dublin also offers a genealogy section where you can search on paid subscription sites like Ancestry, FindMyPast & Irish Newspaper Archive.)

NEWSPAPERS:

Newspapers may not be able to give you a lot of information but newspapers can quickly open a new lead for you to investigate.



This is the front page from the Dungarvan Observer for the Saturday 13th of September 1947. On closer inspection, you could potentially find a mention of your grandfather in a football final. If you are looking for obituaries, they are usually at the back of the paper and may give an address of the recently deceased; somewhere you might be able to visit in real life!

Source:

<http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie/departments/library/newspapers/observer/1947.htm>

PARISH REGISTERS:

June 1876				July 1876			
Date	Infans	Parentes	Patris	Date	Infans	Parentes	Patris
1876	James	James Durkan	Michael Durkan	1876	Michael	Thomas Ryan	Peterson Henry
1	Thomas	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	1	Bridget	Catherine Lamb	Thomas Lamb
2	Maria	James Durkan	Thomas Durkan	2	William	Michael A. Kelly	Michael Kelly
3	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	3	William	Catherine M. Kelly	Angela Kelly
4	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	4	William	Thomas Kelly	James Kelly
5	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	5	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
6	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	6	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
7	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	7	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
8	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	8	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
9	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	9	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
10	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	10	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
11	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	11	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
12	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	12	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
13	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	13	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
14	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	14	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
15	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	15	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
16	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	16	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
17	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	17	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
18	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	18	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
19	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	19	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
20	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	20	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
21	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	21	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
22	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	22	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
23	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	23	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
24	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	24	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly
25	Maria	Thomas Durkan	Thomas Durkan	25	William	Thomas Kelly	Catherine Kelly

This is an excerpt from the parish registers in Swinford (Co. Mayo) in June & July 1876. Parish registers vary in date range for different types of records e.g. as early as 1822 for marriages & 1845 for baptisms. These records are not indexed so you would have to know a good bit of information, before going to look at them.

In parish registers, you're able to take info* from these being the date, Infantes (Children), Parentes (Parents) & Patris (Sponsors)

*The columns headings are in Latin, translations are above

WW1 & WW2 REGISTRATION CARDS:

Order Social No. 191 Registration No. 134

1 Name in full Herman Soltz Age in yrs. 21

2 Home address 54 John New London Conn.

3 Date of birth Dec. 7 1896

4 Where were you born? New London Conn. U.S.

5 I am 1. A native of the United States.
 2. A naturalized citizen.
 3. An alien.
 4. I have declared my intention.
 5. A nonresident alien.
 (Strike out words not applicable)

6 If not a citizen, of what Nation are you a citizen or subject? —

7 Father's birthplace Polina Russia

8 Name of employer Proton Iron Works

9 Place of employment Proton Conn.

10 Name of nearest relative Mrs. Anna Soltz (mother)

Address of nearest relative 54 John New London Conn.

10 Race White
 (Strike out words not applicable)

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Herman Soltz
 (signature or Mark of Registrant)

P. M. G. O.
 Form 1 (blue)

REGISTRATION CARD. 3-122

If you are in an African descent, attach.

This is a registration card for WW1; this is what people would have to fill in if they wanted to be part of the army to fight.

In registration cards, you'll get not only a description of the usual facts (whether they were married, when they were born) but you'll also find things about like where they had lived, what country were they born in and a physical description of the applicant.

In service records, it will also give a history of the soldier's service, what regiment they may have been in and when they were discharged (when they left)