

Discover Ulster-Scots in Cavan and Monaghan

For more than 400 years, Ulster has been shaped by a blend of people and cultures which makes it special – a place apart. The unique mixture of Irish, English and Scottish influences makes Ulster different from Britain, but different from the rest of Ireland as well.

The Scottish ingredient in the mix is supplied by the Ulster-Scots, who came to these shores from the lowlands of Scotland in huge numbers from 1606 onwards. Along with their Presbyterian faith, they brought with them a unique culture, heritage and language.

This Discover Ulster-Scots trail will introduce you to the Ulster-Scots of Cavan and Monaghan, their historic legacy and their community today.



Publication supported by Cavan County Council and Monaghan County Council



Uncover the historic sites and fascinating stories of the Ulster-Scots of Cavan and Monaghan



1: CASTLE SAUNDERSON



Though now a ruin, Castle Saunderson is still an impressive structure. The original castle was built by Robert Saunderson, the son of a Scottish settler in County Tyrone, in the second half of the 1600s. It was burned by Jacobite troops in 1739 and was restored or rebuilt subsequently. In 1739, the situation of the castle was described as having 'an uncommon air of grandeur'.



It is thought that it was in the late 1700s that Francis Saunderson (as the family now spelled its surname) built a new house here. In the mid 1830s this house was remodelled in the then fashionable Tudor style. The house was abandoned in the early 1920s and fell into a state of dereliction. In the 1980s the interior was restored, but this was destroyed in a subsequent fire.



The recently-restored Gothic church in the demesne probably dates from the 1830s and may stand on the site of an earlier place of worship. Both the church and churchyard contain memorials to members of the Saunderson family from the 17th century onwards, including the headstone (above left) to Col. Edward Saunderson, the leading Unionist politician, who died in 1906.

Opened in 2012, the International Scout Centre is located in a modern building in the grounds of Castle Saunderson. In 2017, a Castle Trail was created with signage that tells the story of the family and location.



2: DRUM & ROCKCORY



Drum was one of the earliest areas of Scottish settlement in County Monaghan. By 1630 the surnames found in this district included those of Johnston, Graham, and Irwing, names particularly associated with the Scottish Borders. The Ulster-Scots character of the area remains strong today and Drum is considered to be the only Protestant village in the Republic of Ireland.



Some time before 1675, one of the earliest Presbyterian congregations in Monaghan was established at Drum. The current Drum Presbyterian Church is located a short distance from the village and is a good example of a rural meeting house. The adjoining National School has a Presbyterian ethos.



The Protestant Hall in the village of Drum has a plaque to John Dewell who was born in Drum and died in Canada at the age of 103. He founded the town of Millbrook in Ontario. The local musical tradition is strong with Drum Accordion Band now in existence for more than half a century.

Rockcory takes its name from Walter Cory, a Cromwellian soldier who acquired lands in this part of County Monaghan in the 17th century. The present appearance of the village is largely due to the efforts of Thomas Charles Stewart Cory in the early 1800s. He provided the site for Rockcory Presbyterian Church. A plaque on the former school records that one of its former pupils was John Robert Gregg (1867–1948), who devised a widely used system of shorthand.



3: GLASLOUGH



Glaslough is an attractive village in north County Monaghan, close to the border with counties Armagh and Tyrone. Originally a MacMahon stronghold, Glaslough was granted to Thomas Ridgeway in 1609. In the years that followed, a settler population, mainly Scottish in character, emerged in this area.

In 1655, the Glaslough estate was purchased by John Leslie. Originally from Aberdeenshire, Leslie had come to Ireland in 1633 as the bishop of Raphoe before becoming bishop of Clogher in 1661. He died in 1671, just a few weeks short of his 100th birthday. The bishop was buried in the church that he himself had built – St Salvador's. The tower of this church survives, but the rest of this building was rebuilt in 1763.

Castle Leslie has been owned by the Leslies ever since and the family has produced many remarkable and distinguished individuals. The present house was built in the 1870s and in recent years has been transformed into an award-winning luxury hotel.

The village has a number of fine buildings and other interesting features. The monument with a bronze bust (above left) was erected in memory of Charles Powell Leslie, who died in 1871. He was a reforming and benevolent landlord and the monument was paid for by his tenants.



The Ballybay area witnessed the arrival of significant numbers of families of Scottish origin in the late 17th and 18th centuries. They brought with them their Presbyterianism and several congregations were established in this district.

Ballybay was one of the centres of the linen production in County Monaghan with an important market held each Saturday. The Jacksons, a prominent local Presbyterian family, played a crucial role in promoting the linen industry in Ballybay. The handsome market house in the town was built in 1848 with support from Ballybay's landlords, the Leslies.

The first Presbyterian congregation at Ballybay was established in the 1690s. The present meeting house at Derryvalley was built in 1786 and is a fine example of a late 18th-century Presbyterian place of worship. The minister at this time was Rev. John Arnold, who left for America in 1797 on account of his sympathies for the United Irishmen.

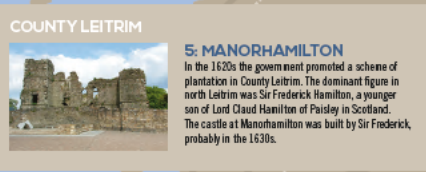
A dispute over his successor, Rev. James Morell, led to a split in the congregation and this resulted in the formation of Derryvalley Presbyterian Church in 1800. Following Morell's death in 1831, another dispute led to the creation of Second Ballybay Presbyterian Church in 1834.

A further Presbyterian church was nearby at Cahans, the first secession congregation in the area. The first minister was Thomas Clark, a native of Paisley, Scotland, who was ordained in 1751. Thirteen years later he led 300 Presbyterians, many of them members of his own congregation, to New York state.

In 1972, Cahans and Derryvalley amalgamated with First Ballybay. The former Cahans meeting house features plaques commemorating David Nelson, who was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1914, and Rev. Hope Masterton Waddell, who was the first Presbyterian from Ireland to serve as an overseas missionary.



4: BALLYBAY



COUNTY LEITRIM

5: MANORHAMILTON
In the 1620s the government promoted a scheme of plantation in County Leitrim. The dominant figure in north Leitrim was Sir Frederick Hamilton, a younger son of Lord Claud Hamilton of Paisley in Scotland. The castle at Manorhamilton was built by Sir Frederick, probably in the 1630s.

"Monaghan may be considered the boundary of the north in this direction, and here its peculiarities, and strongly-marked Scottish character, begin to be distinguished"
Sketches of History, Politics, and Manners, in Dublin, and the North of Ireland, in 1810 by John Gamble

"I had under my eye a number of neat and comfortable-looking farm-houses; and these I found to be the dwelling-places of a large number of Scotch families, whose forefathers settled here a century or two ago and their descendants still retain the character and habits of the original settlers..."
From *Sketches of the Highlands of Cavan...* (1856) by Rev. Randal McCollum, minister of Glasleek Presbyterian Church



6: BAILIEBOROUGH



Located in the east of County Cavan, Bailieborough is an attractive town with a fascinating history. It takes its name from Scotsman William Bailie who was granted 1,000 acres in this part of Cavan in 1610 as part of the Ulster Plantation.

Over the next two centuries the estate later passed through several families, before being acquired by the Youngs in 1813. The present appearance of Bailieborough owes much to the efforts of Sir William Young and his son John, Lord Lisgar. Bailieborough is dominated by a wide Main Street where the town's markets and fairs were once held. Some fine buildings stand on either side of this street, including the former courthouse, which was built in 1817. In 1833, a bridewell (a prison for minor offences) was added alongside the courthouse. The courthouse is currently being renovated as a community space with plans for the bridewell to be converted to a museum and interpretive centre.

Overlooking one end of Main Street is Moybogue Parish Church (Church of Ireland), which includes a stained glass window in memory of the James family, which produced the famous novelist Henry James. In the churchyard is a monument to Lord and Lady Lisgar. Beyond the far end of Main Street stands the former Institute, now the Masonic Hall. Built by the two local Presbyterian congregations in 1875, it was used for a number of purposes, including as a school for the education of Presbyterian boys.

Trinity Bailieborough Presbyterian Church was built in 1887 and features a blue plaque to the philanthropist and temperance reformer Anne Jane Carlisle. This church was a replacement for the older Second Bailieborough meeting house, which was located at Urchee, around a mile from the town on the road to Virginia. First Bailieborough Presbyterian Church, located at Corliss was founded in the early 1700s. The present meeting house was erected in 1795.



7: GLASLECK
This congregation was formed in 1830 and was known for many years as 'Shircock'. The first minister, Rev. Randal McCollum, was ordained in 1836 and in the same year the meeting house was built. He was a man of considerable energy; he farmed and taught, and was a prolific author. Falling numbers resulted in the closure of the church in 1998.



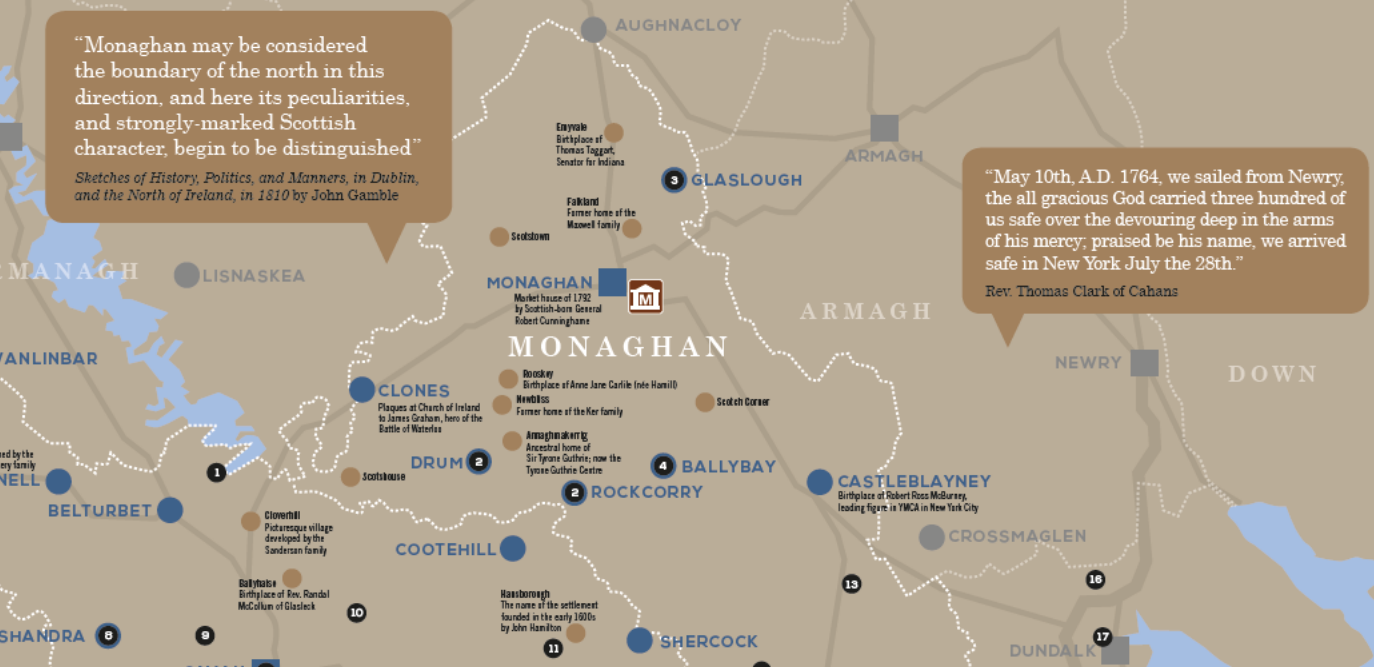
8: KILLESHANDRA
During the Ulster Plantation a branch of the Hamilton family was active in developing Killeshandra. By 1629 the town contained 34 houses and was the largest Scottish-founded settlement in County Cavan. Standing in an old graveyard on the edge of the town are the ruins of one of the best examples of a Plantation-era church in Ulster.



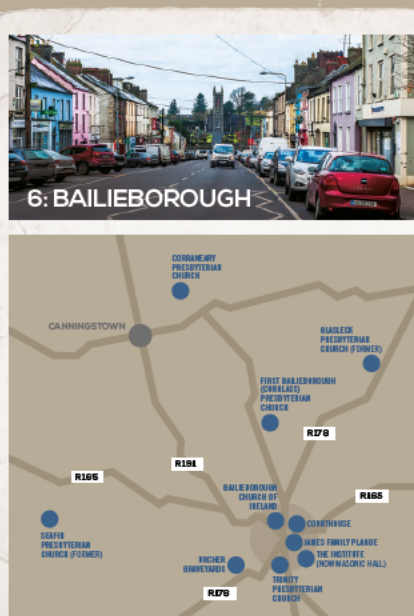
9: FARNHAM ESTATE
The Farnham estate was the home of the Maxwell family for over three centuries. The main part of the house surviving today is the large and elegant 3-storey addition of 1802. This survived the remodeling of the estate in 1961 and is now the most obvious link with the house's past. In recent years the estate has been developed into a hotel, spa and golf resort.



10: CORRVAHAN HOUSE
Corrvahan House is a handsome dwelling that was built c. 1840. From 1855 to 1972 it was home to several generations of the Leslie family. The present owners, the Elliott family, have overseen a careful programme of conservation. Corrvahan is open to visitors at certain times during the year. See the website (www.corrvahan.com) for more details.



"May 10th, A.D. 1764, we sailed from Newry, the all gracious God carried three hundred of us safe over the devouring deep in the arms of his mercy; praised be his name, we arrived safe in New York July the 28th."
Rev. Thomas Clark of Cahans



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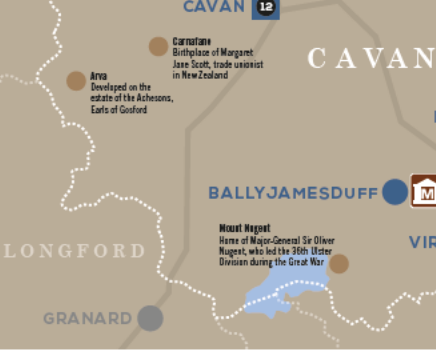
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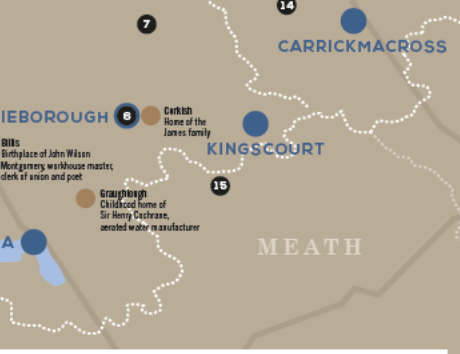
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11: CORRANEARY
Corraneary originated as a Seceder congregation in the late 1750s. Corraneary stood apart from the union of the Presbyterian and Secession synods in 1840, one of only a few Seceder congregations to do so. Eventually, however, the congregation was received into the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in 1955.



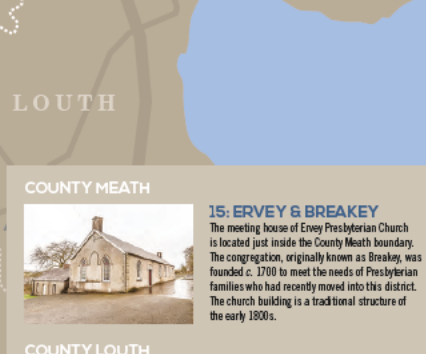
12: SCOTS CHURCH, CAVAN
The Presbyterian congregation in Cavan town was founded in 1833 and the meeting house was erected in 1836. A plaque on the front of the building is inscribed 'Scots Church'. This term reflected the Scottish origins of the Presbyterian Church and was also used to emphasise doctrinal orthodoxy. The manse stands on an adjoining site.



13: BROOMFIELD
Broomfield, founded in 1841, was one of a number of congregations established in the region at this time. Dwindling numbers resulted in the congregation's amalgamation with First Castleblayney in 1973 and the meeting house at Broomfield closed. Subsequently, the building was refurbished and today is used as a farm shop and café.



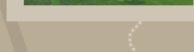
14: CARRICKMACLIM
The congregation of Corrally, originally known as CarrickmacLinn, was formed c. 1700 in response to a recent influx of settlers from Scotland to south Monaghan. The ruins of the former meeting house can be seen in the graveyard at CarrickmacLinn. In 1839, a new place of worship was constructed a few miles away at Corrally.



15: ERVEY & BREAKEY
The meeting house of Ervey Presbyterian Church is located just inside the County Meath boundary. The congregation, originally known as Breakey, was founded c. 1700 to meet the needs of Presbyterian families who had recently moved into this district. The church building is a traditional structure of the early 1800s.



16: FAUGHART
In 1318, a Scottish army led by Edward Bruce was defeated decisively at the Battle of Faughart. Bruce was killed in the fighting and his body afterwards quartered with his head sent to Edward II. A strong tradition persisted, however, that he was buried in the graveyard at Faughart. A rough rectangular stone marks the supposed site of Bruce's grave.



17: DUNDALK
Agnes Burns, the sister of Scotland's bard, Robert Burns, married William Galt in 1804. In 1818, William was appointed land steward of the Forcrose estate at Stephenstown. The former home of the Galts is next to Stephenstown Pond Amenity Park. Both Agnes (d. 1834) and William (d. 1847) were buried in the graveyard adjoining St Nicholas's Church in Dundalk.

Signature and portrait of Sir James Hamilton



2 PLANTATION FAMILIES IN CAVAN

Given its distance from Scotland and the many changes in estate ownership, progress in establishing Scottish communities in Cavan was slow initially. While many families moved directly to Cavan from Scotland, others relocated from the Scottish settlements in County Down owned by Sir James Hamilton. However, when Hamilton sold his estate in Cavan in 1622 many of them returned to County Down.

By 1630 there were some 200 Scottish men living on Scottish-owned estates in Cavan and probably 60–80 Scottish families. Elsewhere in Cavan there were perhaps another 40 or so Scottish men. The number of Scots living in Plantation Cavan, therefore, was smaller than in any other Ulster county with the exception of Monaghan. Further Scottish families arrived in the decades that followed however, and there was a significant influx at the end of the seventeenth century.

Disappointingly, very little physical evidence for the Scots in Plantation Cavan survives. From written surveys, we know something of the range of buildings erected by the Scottish undertakers. A number of substantial dwellings were constructed, including castles or fortified houses by Sir Alexander Hamilton, Sir James Craig and Sir James Hamilton. The last of these was five storeys high and was described in 1619 as 'strongly built and surely wrought'.

Several ministers from Scotland were among those who arrived in the county in the early 1600s. They served within the Church of Ireland – the only Protestant denomination on the island at that time. The most high profile of these clergymen was Rev. George Creighton, the minister in the parish of Lurgan. He was a son of the laird of Brunston in Scotland, and a brother of Thomas who was involved in the Plantation in neighbouring Fermanagh. George himself was active in the development of the town of Virginia.

Ulster graveyard



6 ULSTER-SCOTS AT WORSHIP: CAVAN

Services conducted along Presbyterian lines would seem to have been held in Cavan in the 1650s, but the earliest congregation, Croaghan, near Killeshandra, was not founded until the 1670s. At the beginning of the 1700s a congregation was established at Croglass (First Ballyborough). Here the Presbyterians received support James Hamilton of Ballyborough Castle who is said to have opened his home for their meetings. Congregations were also formed at Cotehill and Ballyjamesduff in the early eighteenth century.

Thanks to the pioneering ministry of Rev. Thomas Clark of Cahans, the Secession Church also made progress in Cavan. A congregation was formed at Corraney, near Ballyborough, in the 1750s. Another early Secession congregation, Ucher, was the forerunner of what is now Trinity Ballyborough. To begin with these congregations shared a minister. The first was Rev. John Craig who emigrated to America in 1793. He was succeeded by Rev. Francis Carlile, from Tinternell, near Monaghan Town, who died in 1811 and was buried at Ucher.

In the 1800s further congregations were established at Ballisla, Cavan Town, Drumleeran, Glasleck, Kilmont and Searin. As is the situation Monaghan, most of the Presbyterian congregations founded in Cavan are still in existence today. However, in recent decades a number of churches have been forced to close due to a fall in the membership.

A Cavan native of Scottish ancestry who made a significant contribution to another denomination was James Croighton (1739–1819). Born at Moyne Hall near Cavan Town, he became the Church of Ireland curate at Swanlinbar. Initially Croighton opposed John Wesley's Methodism, but later embraced it and began an itinerant ministry. In 1783, Croighton accepted Wesley's invitation to join him in London where he became a prominent figure in the Methodist Church. Croighton's brother Robert was another early supporter of Methodism in Cavan; Robert's great-grandson was Melville Elijah Stone, founder, in 1876, of the *Chicago Daily News*.

Badge of the Society of the United Irishmen



11 ULSTER-SCOTS IN THE 1790S

Influenced by the American and French revolutions, the Society of United Irishmen was founded in 1791. The aims of the Society were parliamentary reform and the elimination of London interference in Irish matters. After efforts to suppress it, the Society reorganised itself as a secret organisation and began to prepare for rebellion.

Many Ulster-Scots in Cavan and Monaghan were drawn into the revolutionary intrigues of the 1790s. Although there was no general uprising in these counties in 1798, there was a strong undercurrent of radicalism and significant support for the United Irishmen in Ballyborough, Ballybay, Clones, Cotehill and elsewhere.

Several local Presbyterian ministers were known to be supporters of the United Irishmen. In April 1797 it was reported that the minister of Cotehill, Rev. Thomas Stewart, and his daughter were in attendance at the swearing-in of United Irishmen. Rev. John Arnold, minister of First Ballybay, was forced to flee to America in 1797 on account of his United Irish sympathies. The minister of First Ballyborough, Rev. Robert Montgomery, is said to have brandished his sword in the pulpit as he espoused the movement's ideals.

There was strong support for the United Irishmen among the membership of Montgomery's congregation with Jack Gibson and Robert Kelly occupying positions of leadership. A Presbyterian named Hugh Hamill from Rossley, near Newbliss, was reported to have been the leading figure in the United Irishmen in west Monaghan.

Several members of the Presbyterian Jackson family at Ballybay became heavily involved in the United Irishmen. It was said that weapons were manufactured at a linen mill owned by the John Jackson at Crieve near Ballybay. In Dublin, John's brother Henry, a successful ironmonger, was heavily involved in radical politics. He was arrested in March 1798, but was allowed eventually to go into exile in America. Rev. Hans Hamilton, the minister of Dunlop in Argyll.

Down Survey map of County Monaghan, 1656



3 THE EARLY MOVEMENT OF SCOTS INTO MONAGHAN

County Monaghan was not part of the official scheme for the Plantation in Ulster. Here a land settlement of 1591, which divided the county among native Irish freeholders, was confirmed in 1606. There were, however, several settler estates in the county in the early 1600s and on some of these small Scottish communities emerged.

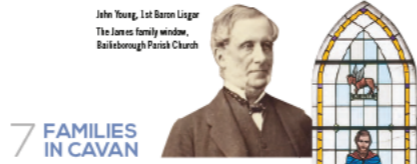
A number of Scottish families settled on the estate of Edward Aldridge in the Drum area. The names found here included Johnston, Graham, and Irwing (Irwin or Irvine) – surnames particularly associated with the Scottish Borders. It is interesting that the part of Monaghan today with the highest proportion of Protestants was one of the earliest areas in the county to be settled by families from Scotland.

In addition, Ulster-Scots families were moving into Monaghan from other parts of the north of the island. Their ancestors had arrived in earlier waves of immigration and now they were looking to Monaghan for new opportunities. This movement strengthened the Ulster-Scots community in Monaghan, especially in the north of the county. However, in the south of the county there were now also pockets of Ulster-Scots settlement.

The transfer of extensive areas of the county into the ownership of individuals with Scottish roots no doubt contributed to this rise in the Ulster-Scots population. For example, in 1696 William Cairnes, whose ancestor had moved from the south-west of Scotland to County Donegal in the early 1600s, purchased an extensive estate focused on Monaghan Town. He is known to have encouraged families to relocate to his estate, in part to promote the local linen industry. Other landowners in Monaghan with Scottish ancestry included the Leslie family of Ballybay, the Leslies of Castle Leslie, Glaslough, the Kers of Newbliss and the Hamiltons of Cornacassa.

One Scotsman who built up a landed estate of his own in early seventeenth-century Monaghan was John Burnett. His background is not entirely clear, but it would appear that he was a Catholic from Aberdeenshire. He lived at Ballyleck where he built a 'castle or chief house'.

John Young, 1st Baron Lisgar



7 FAMILIES IN CAVAN

The Ulster-Scots community in Cavan and Monaghan spans the full spectrum of society. They are represented strongly among the rural farming community, as well as in the business sector. In the past they included the owners of some of the major landed estates in the counties as well as those associated with the management of these properties.

The Maxwells were associated with the Farnham estate for nearly 350 years. The Ulster story begins with Robert Maxwell who was appointed bishop of Kilmore in 1643. In 1664 Maxwell purchased an estate in Cavan. His descendants acquired further lands and the family became the leading landowner in the county, owning some 30,000 acres in the nineteenth century.

The Youngs of Ballyborough claimed descent from a Scottish minister who moved to Ulster in the early 1600s. William Young was a director and shareholder in the East India Company. In 1814, he bought the Ballyborough estate. His eldest son, John, had a distinguished political and diplomatic career, becoming Chief Secretary for Ireland in 1852 before going on to serve as Governor-General of New South Wales and later Governor-General of Canada. He was created Baron Lisgar of Lisgar and Ballyborough in 1870.

Henry James (1843–1916) is widely regarded as one of America's most gifted authors. His brother William was a major figure in the philosophical movement known as pragmatism, while their sister Alice was best known for her diaries. The siblings' great-grandfather was William James (1736–1822), a Presbyterian tenant farmer in Corkish, near Ballyborough, who married Susan McCartney, daughter of the agent of the Ballyborough estate. A stained-glass window in Ballyborough Parish Church commemorates several generations of the family.

Sir Tyrone Guthrie



12 WRITERS AND POETS

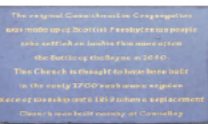
Cavan and Monaghan have produced a number of authors of Ulster-Scots background who employed Ulster-Scots words and phrases in their writings. John Wilson Montgomery (c. 1834–1911) was born into a farming family at Billis, near Virginia. In 1856 he became master of Ballyborough workhouse. He contributed poems to local newspapers and was known as 'Sweet Bard of Ballyborough'. Subsequently, Montgomery became the master of the workhouse in Downpatrick and later the clerk of the Poor Law Union of Downpatrick. He continued to write poetry and published a number of books, including *Rhymes Ullidan* and *Finside Lyrics*. He retired to Bangor where he published *Round Mearne* in 1908.

William Robert Anketell (1820–89) was born into a family of landed gentry based at Anketell Grove, near Enryvale. Through his mother he was related to the Stewarts, Marquesses of Londonderry. He was the author of a number of books, including *The Adventures of Mick Callaghan, MP, A Story of Home Rule* (1874), in which one of the characters speaks excellent Ulster-Scots.

Born near Ballybay, Rev. Randal McCollum (1802–74), spent his entire 38-year ministry as pastor of Glasleck Presbyterian Church. A prolific writer, his best known work was *Sketches of the Highlands of Cavan and of Shirkly Castle in Farney taken during the Irish Famine* (1856), which provides much interesting information on rural life in Ulster at that time.

William Maxwell (1732–1818) of Falkland in Donagh parish became a friend of the famous lexicographer, Dr Samuel Johnson. Maxwell preserved many of Johnson's best known sayings, including his remark that 'A second marriage is the triumph of hope over experience'. The famous theatrical director Sir Tyrone Guthrie (1900–71) was descended from the Moorhead family of Anaghmakerring, near Newbliss. Following his death there the ancestral home – now known as the Tyrone Guthrie Centre – became a retreat for writers.

Plaque at Carrickmacross recording the arrival of Scots after the Battle of the Boyne



4 THE LATER MOVEMENT OF SCOTS INTO MONAGHAN

The movement of Scottish families into Monaghan continued in the second half of the 1600s. There was a surge in the numbers of new arrivals in the 1690s, following the end of the Williamite War. It has been estimated that perhaps as many as 50,000 Scots crossed into Ireland in the final decade of the seventeenth century, many of them forced to do so by harvest crises in their native land.

A proportion of these families moved directly to Monaghan and then up tenancies in the county. This movement continued into the early 1700s and even as late as 1714 we find the Catholic bishop of Clogher writing: 'from the neighbouring country of Scotland Calvinists are coming over here daily in large groups of families'.

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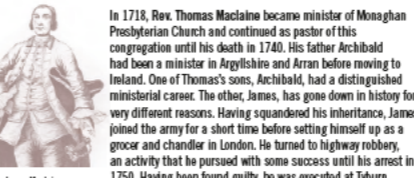
Best of Charles Powell Leslie III



8 FAMILIES IN MONAGHAN

For sheer longevity, few Ulster-Scots families in Monaghan match the Leslies of Castle Leslie, who arrived in Glaslough in 1665 and have been there ever since. Members of the family have made a huge contribution to the history of Monaghan. In the village of Glaslough stands a monument to Charles Powell Leslie III. He had succeeded his father to the estate when he was just a boy. For nearly three decades he was the MP for County Monaghan. Leslie organised relief efforts during the Great Famine of 1845–9 and also promoted improved farming practices. Thanks to his generosity, many local farmers were given the opportunity to study the most up-to-date agricultural techniques in Scotland. Leslie died in 1871 and the monument was erected by 'a grateful tenantry' in 1874.

James MacLaine



In 1718, Rev. Thomas MacLaine became minister of Monaghan Presbyterian Church and continued as pastor of this congregation until his death in 1740. His father Archibald had been a minister in Argyllshire and Arran before moving to Ireland. One of Thomas's sons, Archibald, had a distinguished ministerial career. The other, James, has gone down in history for very different reasons. Having squandered his inheritance, James joined the army for a short time before setting himself up as a grocer and chandler in London. He turned to highway robbery, an activity that he pursued with some success until his arrest in 1750. Having been found guilty, he was executed at Tyburn.

Robert Whitla, a pawnbroker and draper in the Diamond, Monaghan Town, produced four sons who became medical practitioners: James, William, Robert George Sinclair and Meredith Runtree. The most successful was William Whitla (1851–1933) who became a distinguished doctor in Belfast and taught at Queen's College (later University). His books on medical subjects brought him worldwide recognition. Knighted in 1902, he became pro-chancellor of Queen's in 1924.

Colonel Edward Saunderson (1837–1908)



13 ULSTER-SCOTS AND POLITICS

Prior to the second half of the 1800s, representative politics in Ireland was controlled by a small number of influential families and Members of Parliament were drawn from the ranks of the Anglican landed gentry. These families included the Saundersons of Castle Saunderson in Cavan and the Leslies of Castle Leslie in Monaghan.

The introduction of the secret ballot and the extension of the franchise changed this and the 1885 general election showed how much the balance of power had shifted with only candidates in favour of Home Rule returned henceforth for the two counties. Interestingly, one of the MPs for Cavan in this era was raised in an Ulster-Scots household near Portlaryney, County Down. Samuel Young was elected for the constituency of Cavan East in 1892. Remaining remarkably energetic well into his nineties, he was still an MP at the time of his death in 1918.

During the period of the Home Rule crisis, 1885–1914, the great majority of Ulster-Scots in Cavan and Monaghan were unionists. In 1912, some 10,500 people in Monaghan signed the Ulster Covenant and the accompanying Women's Declaration, while around 8,000 signed these documents in Cavan. It has been estimated that more than 83% of Protestant males over 16 in Monaghan signed the Covenant, while the figure for Cavan was over 71%. In 1921, Ireland was partitioned and, despite the opposition of unionists in Cavan and Monaghan, these Ulster counties, along with Donegal, were included in the Irish Free State, later the Republic of Ireland.

In recent decades two local Presbyterians have served as TDs for the constituency of Cavan-Monaghan. In 1992, Seymour Crawford, an elder in the Newbliss congregation, was elected to Dáil Éireann and held his seat until he retired in 2011. At the general election held in that year Heather Humphreys, a native of Drum, was returned. She has held a number of positions in the Irish cabinet, including Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation.

Plaque at former Broomfield meeting house



5 ULSTER-SCOTS AT WORSHIP: MONAGHAN

Settlers from Scotland and their descendants have played important roles in all religious denominations in Ulster. Nonetheless, for historic reasons, there is a strong correlation between Presbyterianism and Ulster-Scots communities. One of the earliest centres of Presbyterianism in Monaghan was around Glaslough in the north of the county. In the 1650s Thomas Gowan from Caidermuir in Scotland ministered here. The other early centre of Presbyterianism in the county was in the Drum area where a congregation had been established by 1675.

A congregation was established at Ballybay in the 1690s. At around the same time a congregation was founded in Monaghan Town and shortly after that the congregation of Stonebridge, near Clones, was formed. In the south of the county we also see the beginnings of organised Presbyterianism in this period with the formation of the congregation of Carrickmacross, now known as Conally, around 1700. By 1718 Castleblayney had its own Presbyterian congregation and by 1725 so did Clontibret.

From the middle of the 1700s a number of congregations of the Secession Church – a branch of Presbyterianism which had originated in Scotland in the early 1700s – were established in Monaghan. A key figure in the development of the local Secession Church was Rev. Thomas Clark of Cahans, a native of Paisley in Scotland. He was described as 'tall, dark and gaunt, wearer of a Highland bonnet, and with a broad Scottish accent'.

The first half of the nineteenth century was a period of expansion for Presbyterianism in Monaghan. New congregations were established at Ballybay, Broomfield, Corlea, Drumree, Loughmouna, Rockcree and elsewhere. Most of the Presbyterian congregations founded in Monaghan continue to exist today. However, falling numbers have resulted in the closure of some. These decisions have been taken with great reluctance, given the sacrifices that had been made by earlier generations in establishing and maintaining these congregations.

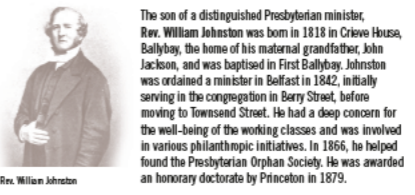
Anne Jane Carlile portrait and Ulster History Circle blue plaque at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Ballyborough



9 PHILANTHROPISTS AND REFORMERS

The daughter of David Hamill and his wife Martha Armstrong, Anne Jane Carlile (1775–1864) was born in Rossley, County Monaghan. She married Rev. Francis Carlile, minister of the Secession congregations of Cornarey and Ucher (now Trinity Ballyborough). Following his death in 1811, Anne Jane moved to Derry and then, in 1826, to Dublin where she became involved in various philanthropic causes, notably the temperance movement. She relocated to Cotehill a few years later. Her involvement in the temperance cause resulted in her travelling widely around Britain and Ireland and she became a highly respected figure in the movement. Her portrait can be seen at Trinity Ballyborough, where there is also a blue plaque in her honour.

Rev. William Johnston



David Graham Barkley (1835–1903) was born in Ballybay and grew up in Maghera, County Londonderry. He joined the Bengal Civil Service and rose to become a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Punjab. He later lived at Annadale in Belfast in a house he named Lahon. He was a generous supporter of the Presbyterian Church and in tribute to him the Barkley Window in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, was erected. He also served as President of the Linen Hall Library. His nephew was the Presbyterian minister, Rev. James Barkley Woodburn, author of *The Ulster Scot* (1914).

Salem, New York State



14 MONAGHAN AND THE WIDER WORLD

The movement of Ulster-Scots to America began in the late 1600s and intensified in the course of the eighteenth century. In 1719, a resident of Clones noted that 'there is a hundred families gone through this town this week past for New England'. While most emigrants left individually or in families, others departed as part of a larger venture.

The 'Cahans Exodus' is one of the more significant episodes in the story of eighteenth-century Ulster emigration to America. In 1764, Rev. Thomas Clark, minister of Cahans, led 300 Presbyterians, to Narrow Water, near Newry, from where they sailed to America. Most of them settled at a place they called New Perth (later renamed Salem) in upstate New York.

A largely forgotten, but influential figure in the relationship between the Old World and the New was William Knox who was born in 1732 in Clones into a family that claimed descent from the famous Scottish reformer John Knox. Emigrating to America as a young man, he was appointed provost marshal of the colony of Georgia where he acquired a large plantation. He moved to London in 1762 and became a prominent defender of the British government's policies towards Colonial America – policies which in the end resulted in the War of Independence.

Even greater numbers of Ulster-Scots left Monaghan in the nineteenth century and their destinations now also included Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Robert Ross McBurney (1837–98) was born in Castleblayney, the son of the local doctor, and emigrated to America in 1854. His biographer wrote that he was of 'sturdy Scotch-Irish stock'. McBurney became the leading figure in the YMCA in New York City, serving as its secretary during a period of considerable expansion. In 1943, the branch in 7th Avenue (now in West 14th Street) was renamed the McBurney YMCA in his honour.



DISCOVER ULSTER-SCOTS IN CAVAN AND MONAGHAN

Cavan and Monaghan are the most southerly counties in Ulster, connecting the 'Wild Atlantic Way' with 'Inland's Ancient East'. The Iron Mountains of Cullagh at Swanlinbar in west Cavan contrast with the gentle rolling drumlin landscapes of Carrickmacross in east Monaghan, with over 300 lakes in between.

Busy market towns and small villages still retain a sense of heritage and Scottish influence, shown in placenames like Ballyborough, Scotshouse and Scotstown. For over 400 years both counties have had an Ulster-Scots community, with an enduring Presbyterian dimension – and a history waiting for you to discover and enjoy.



10 BUSINESSMEN AND ENTREPRENEURS

Many Ulster-Scots from Cavan and Monaghan became prominent in business. Gustavus Hume (1732–1812), son of Robert Hume of Lissanore in the parish of Templeport, County Cavan, became a respected medical practitioner in Dublin and was one of the founders of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland. He was a passionate enthusiast for the nutritional benefits of porridge oats, earning him the nickname 'Stirabout Gusty'. In addition to his medical career, Hume was a property developer, building architecturally distinguished houses and laying out streets in Dublin, including Hume Street and Ely Place. His son Thomas became physician to Sir Arthur Wellesley (later Duke of Wellington) during the Napoleonic War.

The only son of William Cochrane of Graughlough, near Virginia, Sir Henry Cochrane (1836–1904) moved to Belfast and then to Dublin where he worked in the wine and spirit business. In 1867, he joined forces with the Belfast-based aerated water manufacturer, Dr Thomas Cantrell. The firm of Cantrell & Cochrane was hugely successful and became the world's largest manufacturer of bottled mineral water. For many years Cochrane served as an alderman of Dublin Corporation and in 1903 he was made a baronet.

Born near Ballybay, Sir Robert Anderson (1837–1921) moved to Belfast in his mid teens. With John B. McAuley, he founded the partnership of Anderson & McAuley, which established one of Belfast's best known department stores. He was Lord Mayor of Belfast in 1907–9 and 1914–5. In the early 1900s he developed new links with the county of his birth: in 1907 he purchased the house and demesne at Mullaghmore, while in 1910 he opened a factory for the manufacture of shirts and blouses in Monaghan Town.

Bank of the People \$8 bill



15 CAVAN AND THE WIDER WORLD

From at least the early eighteenth century Ulster-Scots in Cavan were aware of the possibilities that America held for immigrants. In 1718, Rev. James Tate of Croghan Presbyterian Church was a subscriber to the famous petition signed by over 300 Ulstermen declaring their readiness to emigrate to New England; in the end Tate remained in Cavan.

Emigration could have a major impact on individual congregations. In 1739, it was reported that many members of First Ballyborough had gone to America because of unrest and insecurity. Regarded as the creator of the modern detective story, Edgar Allan Poe is said to have descended from a tenant farmer from Dring in the parish of Kildalan who emigrated to Pennsylvania c. 1750.

People from Cavan could end up in the most unusual of situations abroad. For instance, Henry Ballin, believed to have been from the county, joined the Russian navy and became a leading figure in the Black Sea fleet, taking part in engagements with the Austrian navy in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

In the nineteenth century many Ulster-Scots families from Cavan emigrated to Canada. Born near Killeshandra, the son of a land surveyor, James Beatty (1798–1892) moved to New York as a youth before moving on to Toronto. He was involved in many different enterprises, including the establishment of the Bank of the People and the foundation of a successful newspaper, *The Leader*. In 1867, he was elected to the first federal parliament of Canada.

Other Cavan families emigrated to Australia and New Zealand. Margaret Jane Scott was born in Carnafane in 1869 and emigrated to New Zealand with her family in 1880, settling near Christchurch. She went on to become a prominent trade unionist, a leading campaigner for women's employment rights, and one of the most high profile female public servants in New Zealand.



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1 THE PLANTATION IN CAVAN

The early seventeenth century was a period of immense change in Ulster at many different levels – social, economic, demographic and religious. Cavan was one of the six counties that were included in the scheme for the Plantation of Ulster. Three baronies in Cavan were set aside for English and Scottish undertakers (so named because they agreed to undertake the planting of their estates with settlers).

Much of Cavan remained in Gaelic Irish hands in the early 1600s, while sevicars – men who had served the Crown in an official military capacity – were also recipients of land grants. Socially, economically and culturally, therefore, Cavan was a county of considerable diversity in the early seventeenth century and the Scots were just one element in this mix.

The baronies of Clankee and Tuillynoco were allocated to Scottish undertakers. The principal undertaker in Tuillynoco was a Hadingtonshire landowner, Sir Alexander Hamilton of Inverwick. His son, Sir Claud Hamilton of Creichness, moved to Cavan to take charge of these lands. The town of Killeshandra developed on the Hamilton estate and by 1629 it contained 34 houses and was the largest settlement founded by Scots in Plantation Cavan. In the barony of Clankee the undertakers included William Balliol of 'Fimnylon' – possibly Finlayson in Renfrewshire, Scotland – who gave his name to the town of Ballyborough.

Most of the original Scottish undertakers in Cavan sold their lands within a few years of the commencement of the Plantation scheme. In Clankee three of the original grantees were replaced by Sir James Hamilton, the owner of an extensive estate in County Down, and two of his brothers, John and William. John Hamilton founded a settlement to which he gave the name Hansborough after his father, Rev. Hans Hamilton, the minister of Dunlop in Argyll.