

VAT Reg No: IE8214012S
Our Ref: RLE/3577
17 September 2001

Mr Robert L Elliott
19535 Misty Morning Drive
Monument
CO 80132-9401
U S A

Dear Robert

I am pleased to inform you that an initial assessment has now been carried out on your behalf and a preliminary report of our findings is enclosed for your consideration.

I wish to apologise for the delay that was caused by an increase in the number of enquiries to our centre.


You will note from the preliminary report that for the most part the parish and civil registers do not date back to the relevant period and that no conclusive information has emerged from our search. Due to the conditions prevailing in Ireland in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the absence of records is common. The only Wesleyan Methodist registers available for Ballyshannon date from 1835 – 1932 (baptisms), and 1890 – 1956 (marriages).

You will note that our researcher conducted extensive searches of the sources currently available at this centre and unfortunately we did not locate a record of the birth/baptism of John Elliott son of Francis Elliott and Mary Knox. In the absence of parish records, it is difficult to positively identify the Elliott and Knox records in the sources as relevant to your ancestors. If you wish to commission searches of the specific sources referred to in the preliminary report, you will find details of the fees in the attached summary sheet. The fees set out in the summary are reduced as we cannot be certain of the relevance of the records.

Should you have any further queries or seek clarification on any matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely


Susan McCaffrey

PRELIMINARY REPORT

Name: John Elliott
Date of Birth: circa 1800
Place of Birth: Ballyshannon
Denomination: Probably Wesleyan Methodist

We have now completed our initial assessment regarding the feasibility of carrying out research on your family ancestors and the following is a list of the sources consulted.

Location

Ballyshannon is a town straddling the civil parishes of Kilbarron and Inishmacsaint lying within the Barony of Tirhugh.

An attached explanatory sheet describes the administrative divisions used in Ireland. These include baronies, civil parishes and townlands.

Surname Variants:

The standard surname Elliott has other variations including Eliott and Elliot. All variations of the surname have been taken into consideration during this search. Until the start of the twentieth century, for the vast majority of families in Ireland, the question of the precise spelling of their surnames was completely irrelevant. Local accents, translation and anglicisation of Irish names, illiteracy, poverty and lack of standard spelling all combined to produce an enormous range of variations on what are basically the same surnames. Names changed from generation to generation, in the same generation and even in the records of the same individual.

Church Records:

Before state registration of births, marriages and deaths in 1864, virtually the only direct sources of family information are local parish registers. In general, Church of Ireland parish registers pre-date Presbyterian and Roman Catholic records. For the most part, how far back a family can be traced depends on the dates of the surviving parish registers for the area.

Enclosed is a list of all Church available registers for County Donegal including a list of those currently held on our database. We note that you have already consulted parish registers for the Ballyshannon/Kilbarron area.

As the Established Church, the Church of Ireland, claimed the right to administer baptism, marriages and burial ceremonies and in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries especially, due to prevailing laws, the records of births, marriages and deaths of other denominations are often found in the registers of the Church of Ireland

A search of the records on our database uncovered three records in the name of Knox who were married in the years 1839, 1841 and 1843 in the Ballyshannon Presbyterian Church. It is not possible to be sure of the relevance of these records.

Civil Records:

State registration of all births, marriages and deaths began in Ireland in 1864; non-Roman Catholic marriages are registered from 1845.

This source is too late to contain reference to your ancestor's birth or marriage. A search of the death registers for the Ballyshannon area located four entries in the name of Elliott from Alla for the years 1864, 1865, 1876 and 1881.

Gravestone Inscriptions:

We hold a number of gravestone inscriptions from various graveyards around the County including the inscriptions for the Ballyshannon area. A search of this source has located inscriptions for three Elliot (died between 1901 and 1972) and two Knox (died between 1923 and 1974) burial plots.

Householders Index:

We continued our investigation by consulting the Householders Index to establish the number and location of Elliott properties in County Donegal in the civil parishes of Kilbarron and Inishmacsaint. This index was compiled from Griffith's Primary Valuation (1857-1858) and the Tithe Applotment Books (1824-1838). According to this index there were seven Elliott, two Knox and one McSharry Properties and the distribution of properties was as follows:

Kilbarron Elliott [6], Knox [2] and McSharry/McSherry [2].

Inishmacsaint Elliott [1]

Griffith's Primary Valuation:

Arranged by groups of parishes in Poor Law Unions. This source gives the names of owners and occupiers of both buildings and land from which the above index was compiled.

We continued by conducting a search of this source to establish the details of the Elliott entries referred to above. The properties held in the names of Archibald, Anne, Edward, John, Joseph, and William Elliott were held in the town of Ballyshannon, the townlands of Alla, Lissacholly and Rosscat.

Tithe Applotment Books:

The Composition Act of 1823 specified that tithes due to the Established Church, the Church of Ireland, which had hitherto been payable in kind, should now be paid in money. As a result, it was necessary to carry out a valuation of the entire country, civil parish by civil parish, to determine how much would be payable by each landowner. This was done over the ensuing fifteen years, up to the abolition of tithes in 1838. According to the Householder's Index there were Tithe payments in the name of Elliott and Knox in the civil parish of Kilbarron. We hold a copy of these books for County Donegal on microfilm and a search may be conducted for details of these entries.

Census Records:

The earliest surviving Census return for County Donegal is the 1901 Census. This lists all those present in the household on the night of the Census (31st March 1901), their relationship to the householder, religion, occupation, age and other details.

The 1911 Census is now available on microfilm. A search of these returns is not recommended, as it would be difficult to establish the relevance of any records uncovered.

Passenger Lists:

We have available a list of passengers sailing from Londonderry to the US/Canada on the J. & J. Cooke Line and the McCorkell Line from 1847 to 1871. We also hold a list of passengers sailing from Ireland and Liverpool between 1803 and 1855. A search of this source failed to locate any relevant entries.

William Conolly's Ballyshannon Estate:

In 1718, Lord Folliott sold this estate to Conolly who was his legal advisor. The estate was surveyed in 1718 by a man named Hogan. In addition a rent roll for the manor of Ballyshannon for the years 1726 survives. Details from both sources are available at this centre. The Conolly Estate had lands in the parishes of Kilbarron, Inishmacsaint and Drumhome. A search of this source has located references to Knox however there were no entries in the name of Elliott.

Census Substitutes:

The following census substitutes dating back to the 1600's were searched for reference to Elliott and Knox.

1871 - 1876 Landowners in Ireland:- Return of owners of land of one acre and upwards. This source records 32,614 owners of land in Ireland in 1876, identifying them by province and County; the entries record the address of the owner, along with the extent and valuation of the property. We hold a record of the landowners for County Donegal. There were two entries for Thomas Elliott from Alla.

Spinning Wheel Premium Lists: A list of farmers in County Donegal to whom a grant was paid in 1796 to encourage the growth of flax. Grants were paid in the form of looms or spinning wheels. There was one Elliott entry of possible relevance.

List of Freeholders: This is a list of the owners of freeholds in Donegal, registered between 1760 and 1769. There was one entry in the name of Thomas Elliott of possible relevance.

Hearth Money Rolls: Compiled circa 1665 and lists householders who were eligible to pay the hearth tax.

Muster Rolls (1630): These are lists of landlords with large holdings in Ulster, and the names of able-bodied men they could assemble to fight if the need arose.

SUMMARY SHEET

Sources

Church Registers:

Marriages:	\$24.00
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Civil Registers:

Deaths:	\$32.00
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Gravestone Inscriptions:

3 Elliott Inscriptions	\$24.00
2 Knox Inscriptions	\$16.00

Griffith's Primary Valuation:

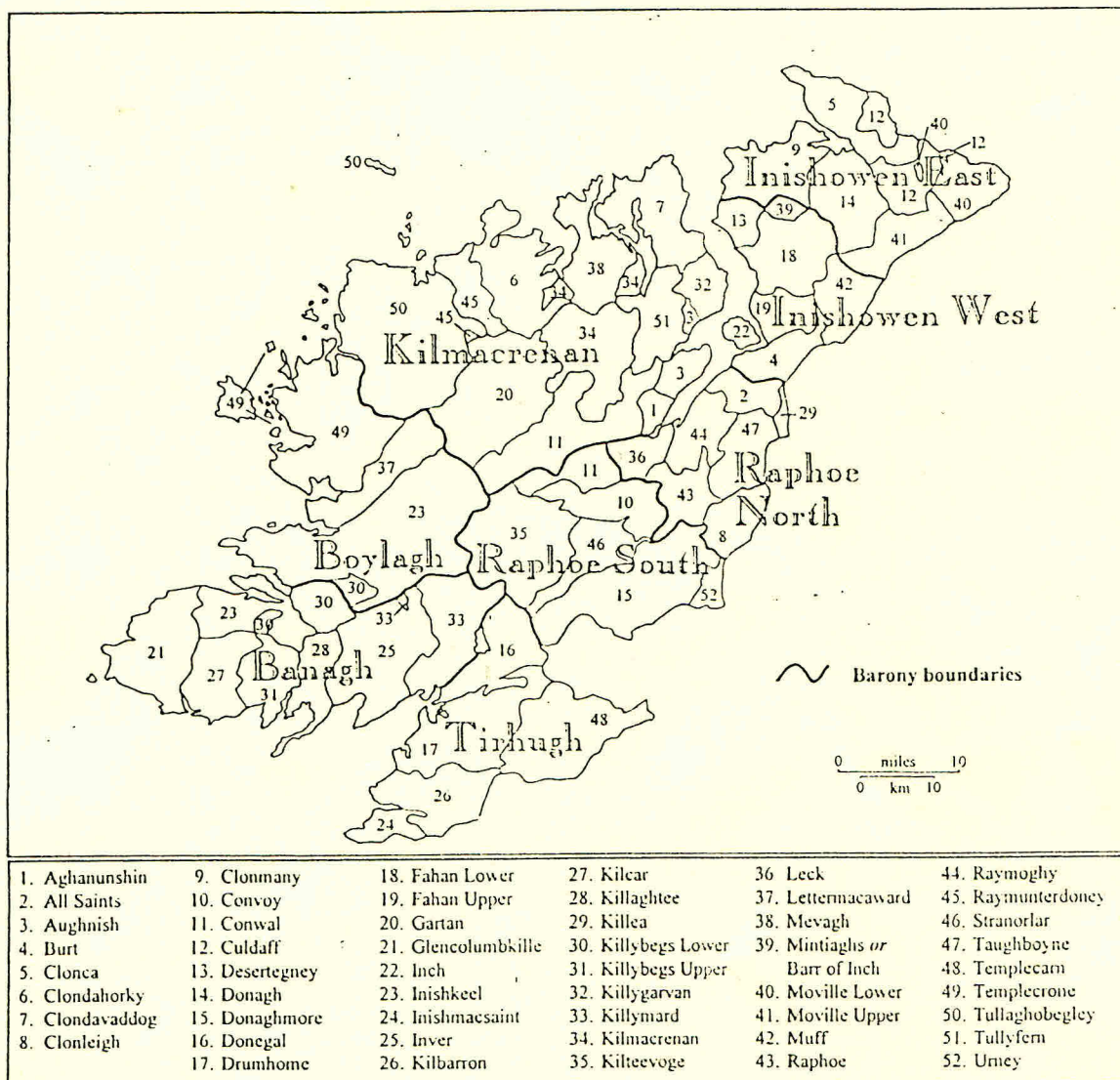
Property of Elliott	\$25.00
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Tithe Applotment Books:

Property of Elliott	\$25.00
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Census Substitutes:

Three sources and Conolly Estate Records	\$32.00
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Baronies and Civil parishes of Donegal.

Administrative Divisions

Civil parish

This is the most widely used land division. The civil parish, in use since the 17th century, was based on monastic and church settlements and used extensively in surveys. This division generally coincides with the Church of Ireland parishes. There are fifty-two civil parishes in County Donegal. (See attached Map).

Records compiled by civil parish include: Hearth Money Rolls, 19th century Census Records, Tithe Books, Griffith's Valuation.

Barony

Civil parishes are collected together to form *baronies*. This term originated in Celtic Ireland from the tribal land divisions of the *tuatha*. This is now an obsolete division, but in the 19th century it was widely used. There are eight baronies in Donegal - Inishowen East and West, Kilmacrennan, Boyleagh, Banagh, Tirhugh and Raphoe North and South. Records organised by barony include the 17th century surveys, early 19th century Tithe Books and mid 19th century Griffith's Valuation.

Records organised by barony include: 17th century surveys, 19th century Tithe Books, Griffith's Valuation.

Poor Law Union

Under the Poor Relief Act, 1838, Ireland was divided into districts or Unions in which the local rateable inhabitants were to be financially responsible for the care of all paupers in their areas. By 1850, 163 workhouses were built throughout the country. These workhouses were usually situated in a large market town and served surrounding parishes and townlands, in many cases they ignored existing boundaries of parishes and counties. Land divisions within Poor Law Unions were divided into Dispensary Districts in which a dispensary and a doctor was located. After civil registration began in 1864 these Dispensary Districts also became Registrars Districts. The Registrar was responsible for collecting all the registrations of births, marriages and deaths within each District.

Records organised by Poor Law Union include: Indexes to civil births, marriages and deaths, Griffith's Valuation.

Townland

The townland is the smallest and most ancient administrative division of land. It is usually referred to a landmark strongly associated with a locality, ie, a mountain, a bog, a village, a church or a fort. It is usually what most researchers try to identify when carrying out genealogical research. Townlands are grouped together to form civil parishes. The number of townlands within a parish may differ greatly from one parish to another.

Church Area	Births	Marriages	Deaths
Ardara and Durkineely Includes records for the following: Ballyederland St. John's Point Inver	1853 - 1899	1853 - 1899	NE
Donegal Mission	1833 - 1899	1864 - 1899	NE
Ballintra Includes records for the following: Ballyshannon Bundoran	1835 - 1899	1875 - 1899	NE
Inishowen Includes records for the following: Carndonagh Moville Glack	1852 - 1899	1873 - 1899	NE
Ramelton Includes records for the following: Castletin Rathmullan Stranorlar	1829 - 1867	NE	NE

PARISH	BAPTISMS	GAPS	MARRIAGES	GAPS	BURIALS	GAPS
Church of Ireland						
All Saints	1877-1899		1845-1899		1820-1899	
Ardara	1829-1899		1829-1899		1830-1899	
Burt	1829-1899		1829-1899		1829-1899	
Clondahorky East	1871-1899		1845-1899		1884-1899	
Clondavaddog	1794-1899		1794-1899		1794-1899	
Clonleigh	1868-1899		1845-1899		1855-1899	
Convoy	1871-1899		1844-1899		1881-1899	
Desertegny	1878-1899				1879-1899	
Donaghmore	1818-1899	1819-1824 1829-1884 1896-1899	1817-1899	1718-1764 1764-1783	1825-1899	
Donegal	1808-1899		1812-1899		1812-1899	
Drumhome	1719-1899		1691-1899		1696-1899	
Dunfanaghy CI	1869-1899				1873-1899	
Dunlewy	-----		1853-1899		-----	
Fahan Lower	1817-1899		1816-1899		1822-1899	
Fahan Upper	1762-1899	1824-1835	1814-1899	1814-1817	1832-1899	
Glenalla	1871-1899		1871-1899		-----	
Glencolmcille	1827-1899		1845-1899		1827-1899	
Glenties	1898-1899		1856-1899		1898-1899	
Inch	1868-1899		1846-1899		1668-1899	
Inniskeel	1826-1899	1700-1818	1827-1899	1699-1818	1826-1899	
Inver	1805-1899		1805-1899		1819-1899	
Kilbarron	1814-1899				1834-1899	
Kilcar	1819-1899		1819-1899		1818-1899	
Killaghtee	1868-1899		1857-1899		1874-1899	
Killea	1877-1899		1845-1899		1880-1899	
Killybegs Lr.	1828-1899		1810-1899		1820-1899	
Killybegs Upr.	1809-1899		1810-1899		1820-1899	
Killygarvan	1706-1899	1799-1881	1707-1899		1707-1899	
Killymard CI	1827-1899		1845-1899		1819-1899	
Kilmacrennan CI	1706-1899	1832-1871	1818-1899		1818-1899	
Laghey	1877-1899		1847-1899		1877-1899	
Lettermacaward	1889-1899		1846-1899		1890-1899	
Lough Eske	1876-1899					
Mevagh	1876-1899		1846-1899		1877-1899	
Millford	1879-1899		1860-1899			
Monellan	1872-1899		1874-1899		1885-1899	
Mountcharles	1877-1899		1861-1899			
Raphoe CI	1771-1899	1783-1808	1771-1899		1771-1899	
Raymunderdoney	1778-1899		1845-1899		1880-1899	
Rossnowlagh	1879-1899		1845-1899			
Taughboyne	1820-1899		1820-1899		1820-1899	
Templecrone	1878-1899		1849-1899		1851-1899	
Tullaghobegley	1848-1899	1837-1848	1845-1899		1850-1899	
Tullyaughnish	1798-1899	1820-1823	1788-1899		1799-1899	

Presbyterian Registers not indexed

	<u>Births</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Buncrana	1836-1899	1845-1899	none
Fahan	1899	1845-1899	none
Inch	none	1845-1899	none
Knowhead	1826-1899	1846-1899	none
Monreagh	1845-1899	1894-1899	none
Ait	none	1845-1899	none
2nd Castlederg	1830-1899	1861-1899	none
Sion or Sion Mills	1866-1881	1866-1884	none
Urney and Sion Mills	1881-1899	1881-1899	none

Church of Ireland Registers not indexed * gaps in registers

	<u>Births</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Aghanunshin	1878-1899	1845-1899	1878-1899
Castlederg	1807-1887	1807-1845	1839-1881
Clonca*	1877-1899	1845-1899	1877-1899
Clonleigh	1872-1899	1845-1899	1877-1899
Clonmany	1891-1899	1845-1899	1893-1899
Conwal	1876-1899	1845-1899	1878-1899
Culdaif*	1668-1790, 1875-99	1713-21, 1845-99	1714-18, 1876-99
Donagh	1874-1899	1846-1899	1878-1899
Finner	1815-1899	1817-1899	1815-1899
Gartan	1881-1899	1845-1899	1889-1899
Glencely	1872-1899	1859-1899	none
Inch*	1815-28, 1868-99	1816-1899	
Inishkeel*	1699-1700, 1818-99	1699, 1818-43, 1851-99	1699-1899
Inishmacsaint	1813-1885 (extracts)	1813-99 (extracts)	1813-1887
Kilbarron*	1735-93, 1812-99	1735-1801, 1815-48, 1865-99	1735-1801, 1813-23, 1830-99
Kilteevogue	1818-1879	1845-96	1825-1899
Leck	1878-1899	1846-1899	1878-1899
Meenglass	1877-1899	1864-1899	1877-1899
Monellan	1853-77, 1899	1836-45, 1874-99	1849-1881
Moville Lower*	1876-1899	1845-1899	1893-1899
Moville Upper	1804-1899	1814-1899	1815-1899
Muckgoss	none	1869-1899	1892-1899
Muff	1837-1899	1837-1899	1847-1899
Newtowncunningham	1877-1899	1845-1899	1820-1899
Raymochy*	1844-1899	1845-83, 1883-99	1873-1899
Stranorlar	1802-1884	1821-1893	1821-1899
Templecam	1825-1899	1825-1899	1825-1899
Tullaghobegley	1821-37, 1843-99	1821-35, 1845-99	1850-1899
Urney*	1815-1899	1814-1899	1815-19, 1827-99

ROMAN CATHOLIC	BIRTHS	GAPS	MARRIAGES	GAPS	BURIALS	GAPS
Aughnish	1873-1899		1873-1899			
Cloghan	1854-1899		1855-1899			
Drumoghill	1856-1899		1856-1899			
Dunfanaghy	1877-1899		1864-1899			
Inver	1861-1899		1861-1899			
Kilbarron	1858-1899	EXTRACTS	1860-1899			
Kilmacrenan	1862-1899		1863-1899			
Letterkenny	1853-1899		1843-1899			
Raphoe	1870-1899		1876-1899			
Rathmullan	1859-1899		1873-1899			
St. Johnston	1843-1899		1844-1899			
Stranorlar	1877-1899		1877-1899			
Tamney	1846-1899		1847-1899			
Termon	1858-1899		1880-1899			
KILCAR	EXTRACTS					
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN						
Convoy			1868-1899			
Gortlee			1872-1899			
Milford			1866-1899			
Stranorlar RP			1846-1899			

Computerised Church Registers

PARISH	BAPTISMS	GAPS	MARRIAGES	GAPS	BURIALS	GAPS
METHODIST						
Ardara & Dunkineely	1860-1899		1863-1899			
Ballintra	1810-1899		1875-1899			
Ballyshannon	-----		1897-1899			
Donegal Mission	1833-1899		1864-1899			
Inishowen	1862-1899		1873-1899			
Ramelton	1829-1899					
PRESBYTERIAN						
Ballindrait	1819-1899	1861-1873	1845-1899			
Ballylennon	1829-1899	1838-1861 1873-1878	1831-1899		1830-1899	
Ballyshannon	1836-1899		1837-1899			
Burt	1873-1899		1845-1899			
Carndonagh	1830-1899		1830-1899			
Carnone	1834-1899		1846-1899			
Carrigart	1844-1899		1846-1899			
Convoy PR	1822-1899		1846-1899			
Crossroads	1811-1899		1819-1899		1854-1899	
Donaghmore	1803-1899		1820-1899		1825-1899	
Donegal	1865-1899		1845-1899			
Dunfanaghy	1830-1899		1830-1899			
Fanad	1827-1899		1827-1899			
Greenbank	1862-1899		1864-1899			
Killetter	-----		1859-1899		-----	
Kilmacrennan PR	1844-1899		1846-1899			
Knowhead			1848-1899			
Letterkenny PR	1821-1899	1829-1845	1821-1899			
Malin	1866-1899		1845-1899			
Millford	1838-1899		1845-1899			
Monreagh			1869-1899			
Moville	1833-1899		1845-1899			
Moville New			1865-1899			
Newtoncunningham	1830-1899		1830-1899		1880-1899	
NW Donegal Mission	1864-1899					
Pettigo			1845-1899			
Ramelton First	1806-1899		1807-1899			
Ramelton Second	1808-1899	1811-1823	1808-1899		1850-1899	
Ramelton Third	1839-1899					
Raphoe PR	1828-1899		1830-1899			
Rathmullan			1845-1899			
Ray	1854-1899		1845-1899			
St Johnston	1838-1899		1835-1899			
Stranorlar PR	1821-1899	1859-1861 1874-1881	1831-1899		1831-1899	
Trenta	1836-1899		1830-1899		1843-1899	