

Grupa Mna
An Oileain



Tír Boghaine
Woman's
Group



An Clár/Contents

	Leathanach
The Quilt.....	1
An Clár—Contents.....	2
Scéal Mhaitiú agus Nuala.....	3
Matthew and Nuala' s Story.....	5
Records of Rinnakill Conolly Estate Tenants; 1848; 1857; 1867.....	6
Map of Rinnakill 1835.....	7
Map of Rinnakill 2 1836.....	8
Griffiths Valuation Map Rinnakill 1857.....	9
Section of Daonradh Theilinn 1878 (Lyons Clan).....	10
Matthew Lyons Family in Teelin.....	11
Teelin Lyons Family Pictures.....	13-14
Another Version of the Matthew and Nuala Story.....	15-16
A list of Matthew and Nuala' s Descendents on Aranmore.....	16-19
Bríd Bhán.....	19
Beefan/Garveross Rental Records; 1850's; 1857.....	20
Beefan/Garveross Griffith Valuation 1857.....	21
List of Lyons Tenants in Glencolmcille Parish 1857, copied from the Internet.....	22



**THE VIEW FROM THE LYONS HOLDING HEADLAND. RHANNAKILLA 2008.
S.Ó.G.**

MAITIÚ Ó LAIGHIN—MATHEW LYONS
RANN NA CILLE AGUS ÁRA MÓR
 MAR A D'INNIS RÓISE RUA AN SCÉAL DO PHÁDRAIG UA CHÁIMHSÍ

Seán Ó Cnámhsí, Johnny Mór, an t-ainm a bhí ar ár gcomharsa bhéal dorais. Ba as íochtar tíre dó, ach tháinig sé a chónaí ar an oileán anseo i ndiaidh a phósta. Bhí an dá theach ag taobh a chéile agus ba mhinic muid amach is isteach chuig a chéile i rith ár saoil. Ba lách garach an lánúin iad agus bhí muidinne mar an gcéanna leo. Nuala Ní Léithín ab ainm don bhean a bhí ag Johnny Mór seo, agus ó tharla gur iníon í le Maitiú Ó Léithín ní bhfuair sí d'ainm riamh san áit ach Fanny Mhaitiú. Tá sí marbh le trí bliana déag is fiche anois. Ba mhinic í féin agus a fear céile sa teach againn ag airneál agus ba mhinic muidinne sa teach acusan mar an gcéanna. Ba bhreá an lánúin iad ina n-am.

Go ndéana an Rí a mhaith ar an Bhúistéir, ba mhinic a tharraingíodh sé scéal ar an dóigh a dtáinig Maitiú Ó Léithín chun an oileáin an chéad lá riamh. Ba as Gleann Cholm Cille é agus is cosúil go dtáinig sé go haonach an Chlocháin Léith an lá seo a dhíol bréidín. Bhí sé de nós aige dul thart ar aontaí san am agus bhíodh stáinnín aige ar thaobh na sráide. Am inteacht i dtrátha bhliain an Drochshaoil a bhí ann, nó ní raibh an tiarna Charley ar an oileán go fóill agus ní raibh aon phost leitreacha chun an oileáin go dtí go dtáinig seisean chun na háite. Is cosúil go deachaigh an cailín seo a raibh Nuala Nic Grianna uirthi amach chun an aonaigh ar ghnoithe inteacht agus go deachaigh sí a cheannacht cuid den bhréidín ó Mhaitiú Ó Léithín. De réir an scéil ní raibh siad i muinín an chomhráidh fán bhréidín amháin. Bhí dúil acu ina chéile agus d'fhan siad i mbun comhráidh níos faide ná ba ghnách le custaiméirí eile. Ach ní raibh ansin ach tús dóibh. An lá aonaigh dár gcionn chuaigh Nuala amach chun an Chlocháin Léith arís agus lean siad den chomhrá a bhí orthu an mhí roimhe sin. D'fhás cumann eatarthu agus d'éirigh sé ní ba dhlúithe ina dhiaidh sin. Ní raibh scaradh ar Mhaitiú agus ar Nuala ón lá sin amach. Tháinig ceist a bpósta aníos i ndiaidh

aonach nó dhó eile agus dúirt Nuala nach dtiocfadh léithise imeacht óna muintir gan a gcead. Bhí deifre ar Mhaitiú fán scéal. Bhí Máirt Inide ag tarraingt orthu anois agus bhí rún aige gnoithe an phósta a bheith socraithe aige roimh theacht an Chargais. Ag fágáil an aonaigh dó ar an Chlochán Liath leag sé síos do Nuala cad é a bhí le déanamh aici le scéala a thabhairt dó fá thoil a muintire.

“Gabh thusa chun an bhaile,” ar seisean, “agus cuir an scéal ina láthair. Más rud é go bhfuil siad sásta, cuir scéala aníos chugamsa.”

Ach bhí deacracht eile sa scéal. Ní raibh dada léinn ag ceachtar acu le leitir a scríobh chuig a chéile, agus i gcás ar bith ní raibh post leitreacha chun an oileáin. Ach ní raibh Maitiú buailte go fóill.

“Más rud é go bhfuiltear sásta den phósadh, las thusa tine ar an chnoc is airde in aice leat agus beidh mise ag coimhcad amach fána coinne.”

Rinne Nuala mar a hiarradh uirthi. An chéad oíche mhaith a bhí chucu las Nuala an tine le scéala a thabhairt d’fhear an bhréidín go raibh glactha leis in Árainn mar chliamhain. Bhí Maitiú ag coimhcad amach ó imeall Ghleann Cholm Cille agus ba léir dó an teachtaireacht. Anuas chun na Rosann leis ar béal maidine agus chan díol bréidín a bhí ag cur bhuartha air an tráth seo. Pósadh é féin agus Nuala Nic Grianna ar a chéile gan mhoill ina dhiaidh sin agus rinne siad baile ar an oileán dóibh féin ina dhiaidh.



Figure 16. Rinnakilla, Teelin, late nineteenth century (Lawrence Collection, National Library of Ireland).

The house in the field to the rear of the two-storey house is the Lyons home. It is from this house that Maitiú Lyons came. About 1835 the Rundale System came to an end when the land was Striped and it was then that this house was built and Maitiú may have helped to build it. The nearer house on the sea-side of the road is Paddy Eamonn Haughey's house; this is the house in which I now live! Maitiú's sister, Margaret married Paddy Eamonn Haughey and it was they who built this house in the 1860's. The old man in the picture minding the pig is my Great-great-grandfather, Sean-Fhelim Ua Gallchobhair. This picture was taken in 1890 and I “borrowed” it from “Occasions of Faith” by Lawrence J. Taylor. S.Ó.G.

MATTHEW LYONS—MAITIÚ Ó LAIGHIN
AS TOLD BY RÓISE RUA TO PÁDRAIG ÚA CNÁIMHSÍ
Translation

John Bonar, Johnny Mór, that was the name of our next door neighbour. He was from the lower country and he came to live on the Island after he got married. The two houses were beside one another and many `s the time that we were in and out to one another throughout our lives. They were a very generous couple and we were the same with them. Nuala Lyons was Johnny Mór`s wife`s name and since she was a daughter of Maitiú Lyons everyone called Fanny Mhaitiú. She is dead for twenty-three years now. Many `s the time herself and her husband were raking in our house and many `s the time that we were in theirs as well. They were a grand couple.

The Lord have mercy on the Butcher, but he would often draw on the story about how Maitiú Lyons came to the Island the first day ever. He was *weaver* from *Teelin* in Glencolm-kille and it seems that on this day he came to Dungloe to sell webs of Bainín. He used to go `round on the Fairs and he`d have a wee Stand on the street. It was the time of the Famine and the Landlord, Charley had not yet come to the Island and there was no Letter Post until he arrived. It seems that this girl by the name of Nuala Greene went out to the Fair on some earn or other (*she was selling woollen socks*) and she started to bargain with Maitiú Lyons about some tweed. As the story goes that their conversation got on to matters other than the tweed. They seemed to have a notion of one another and the conversation lasted longer than with other customers. And that was only the beginning! The following Fair Day, Nuala went to Dungloe again and met up with Maitiú Lyons again and the “come hither” from the previous fair continued. Their friendship got closer and closer and there was no separation of them after that. After a few more Fairs the question of Marriage arose and Nuala said that she could not leave her parents without their blessing and permission. The situation was urgent for Maitiú; Shrove Tuesday was coming and he wanted them to be married before Lent! As he left the Fair he instructed Nuala as to how she would get a message to him about her parents consent.

“You go home and put the situation to them. If they are happy and give their consent, send a message to me”.

But there was a difficulty; neither of them could write and if they could, there was no Post on the Island. But Maitiú was not beat yet. He said

“If your folks are happy about the Marriage, build a Bonfire on the highest point on the Island and I will have one built on Glen Head. You signal their consent by lighting yours and I will light mine in reply that I am on my way to Aranmore”. (*Maitiú had relations in Garbhross who helped him to build the Bonfire on Glen Head*).

Nuala did as she was instructed. The first clear night she lit the Bonfire to inform the Weaver that he was acceptable to her parents as a son-in-law. Maitiú seen the message from his sentry point on Glen Head *and lit his own Bonfire in reply to signal that he was on his way*. At the break of day the following morning, Maitiú headed for the Rosses and it wasn't selling Bainín that was on his mind. Nuala and Maitiú were married shortly afterwards and they made their home on the Island.

The text in italics are additions that I added from the Teelin version of the story. There is a good version of the story in the Aranmore book. Unfortunately my copy has gone missing. Maitiú Lyons may not have had any formal education but he was a multi-talented person. He was a Weaver by trade; he also had Sea-faring, Fishing and Farming skills and coming from Teelin at that time he would also have a knowledge of Smuggling and Poteen Distilling! All this made him a good “Catch” for Nuala Greene and a valued member of the Aranmore Community! S.Ó.G.

The information below is taken from “Glencolumkille 300BC—1901AD by Aidan Manning. It lists the Rinnakill Conolly Estate Tenants in the years 1848, 1857 and 1867. (The figures beside the names are shillings.) My interpretation of the names are: **1848**, Widow Edward Lyons probably is Matthew Lyons mother. **1857**. Bridget Lyons (same person as Widow Lyons above) is in the home, but the holding has been sub-divided! Patrick Haughey (Paddy Eamonn) is married to Bridget Lyons daughter, Margaret and they are living in the house on the neck of the Rhannakilla Pier (the one the left) and have the part of the farm that now belongs to me. Bridget Lyons son, Michael, is living in a little cottage by Rhannakilla Pier at the shore (the one on the right). There is a map of Rinnakill on Page 8 and it shows the lie of the land and houses. **No. 3** is the Lyons Holding and the sub-division is not shown. The letters **a, b, and c** indicate the positions of the three houses on the holding. **1867**, Edward Lyons II is now in charge of the Lyons homestead (he is a brother of Matthew) and Patrick Haughey Jr. and his wife, Margaret and family are living in this newly-built house? S.Ó.G.

Rinnakill

1848

Condy Haughey 44; Connell (Doragh) Haughey 44; Connel (Róe) Haughey, Snr. 44; Pat Haughey, Snr. 44; Pat Haughey, Jr. 22; Bartley Haughey, Jr. 44; Condy Haughey, Jr. 22; Pat Keeny 67; Pat Lyons 67; Elinor Haughey 33; Widow Edward Lyons 33; Phelim Gallagher 67; Connel M'Shane 48; Bryan Diver 21

1857 GV of buildings

Condy Haughey 10; Bartholomew Haughey 10; Patrick Haughey 7; Bridget Lyons 8; Michael Lyons (ho)(from Bridget Lyons) 5; Edward Cunnea (ho)(from Patrick Haughey) 5; John Harte 20; Patrick Gallagher (store house) 10; Philin Gallagher 10; Nabba Haughey (ho) 5; Bell Haughey (ho)(both from Philip Haughey) 5; Condy M'Shane 10; Neal M'Brerty (ho)(from TC) 5; Bryan Diver 5; Patrick Keany 10; John Keany 5; Ellen Haughey 5; Patrick

203

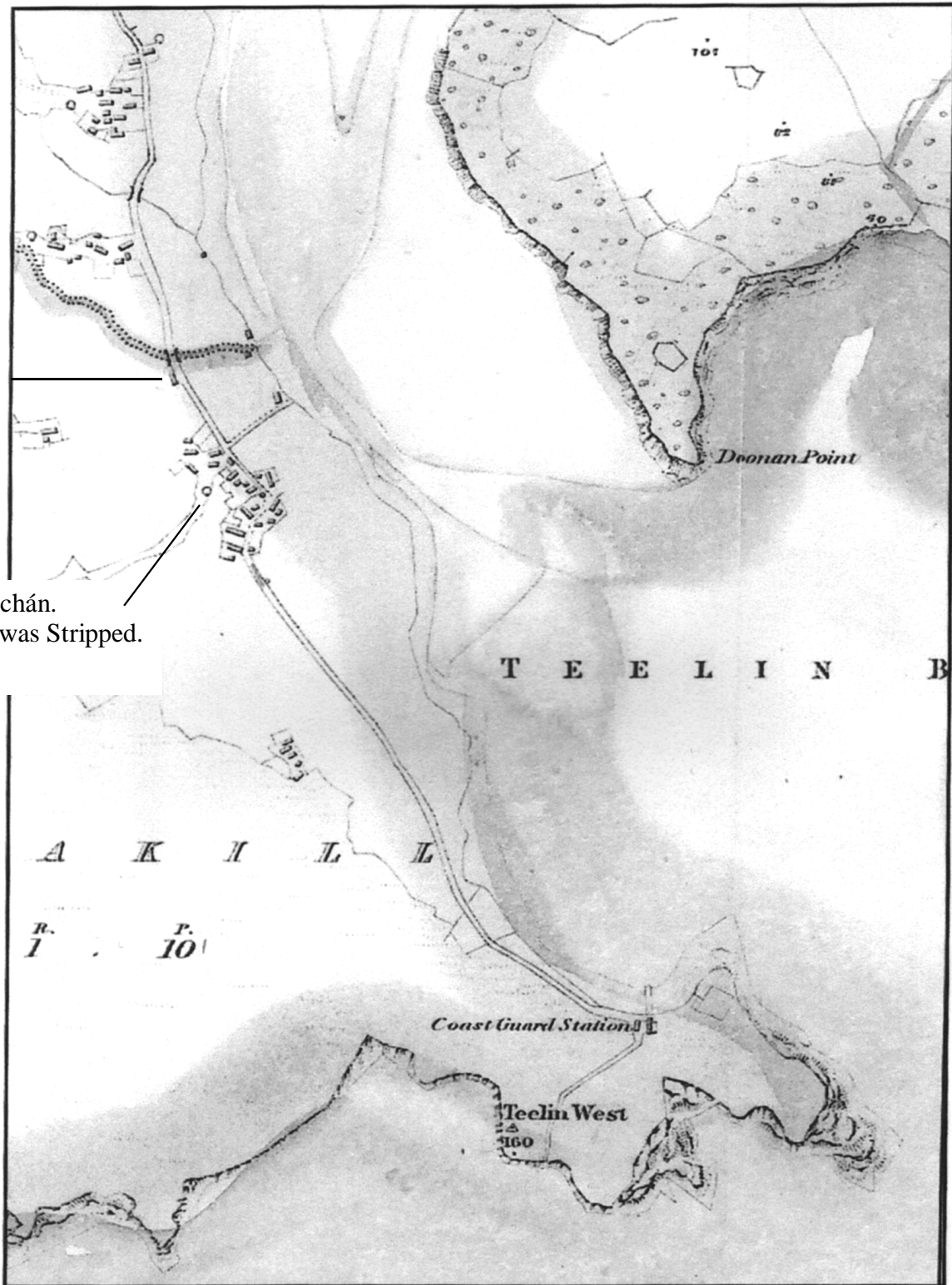
Haughey 10; Condy Haughey 10; Patrick Lyons 10; George V. Wilson (Teelin Bay Salmon Fishery)

1867

Pat Lyons 63; Connell Haughey (Roe) 55; Patrick Haughey, Snr. 55; Eleanor Haughey 41; William B. Ritchie (fish curing establishment) 20; Pat Keeny 110; Phelim Gallagher 83; Bryan Diver 24; Connell M'Shane 59; John Haughey 55; Edward Lyons 41; Pat Haughey, Jr. 27; Bartholomew Haughey 55; Connell Haughey (Dubh) 55; Patrick Gallagher (salt store) 1

N.B. The Pat/Patrick Lyons listed on Lands 14 and 15 in years 1857 and 1867 are not related to Matthew Lyons as far as I know. S.Ó.G.

I found the Map below in “Glencolmcille: A Parish History” by Conall Mac Cuinneagáin. It gives a rough idea of the layout of Rhannakilla in Rundale before the land was laid out in farms after 1835? S.Ó.G.



An Teach Mór

Rhannakilla Clachán.
Before the land was Stripped.

The six-inch Ordnance survey map of 1835 shows the original Coastguard Station by the original slip and the clusters of houses along the road to Carrick

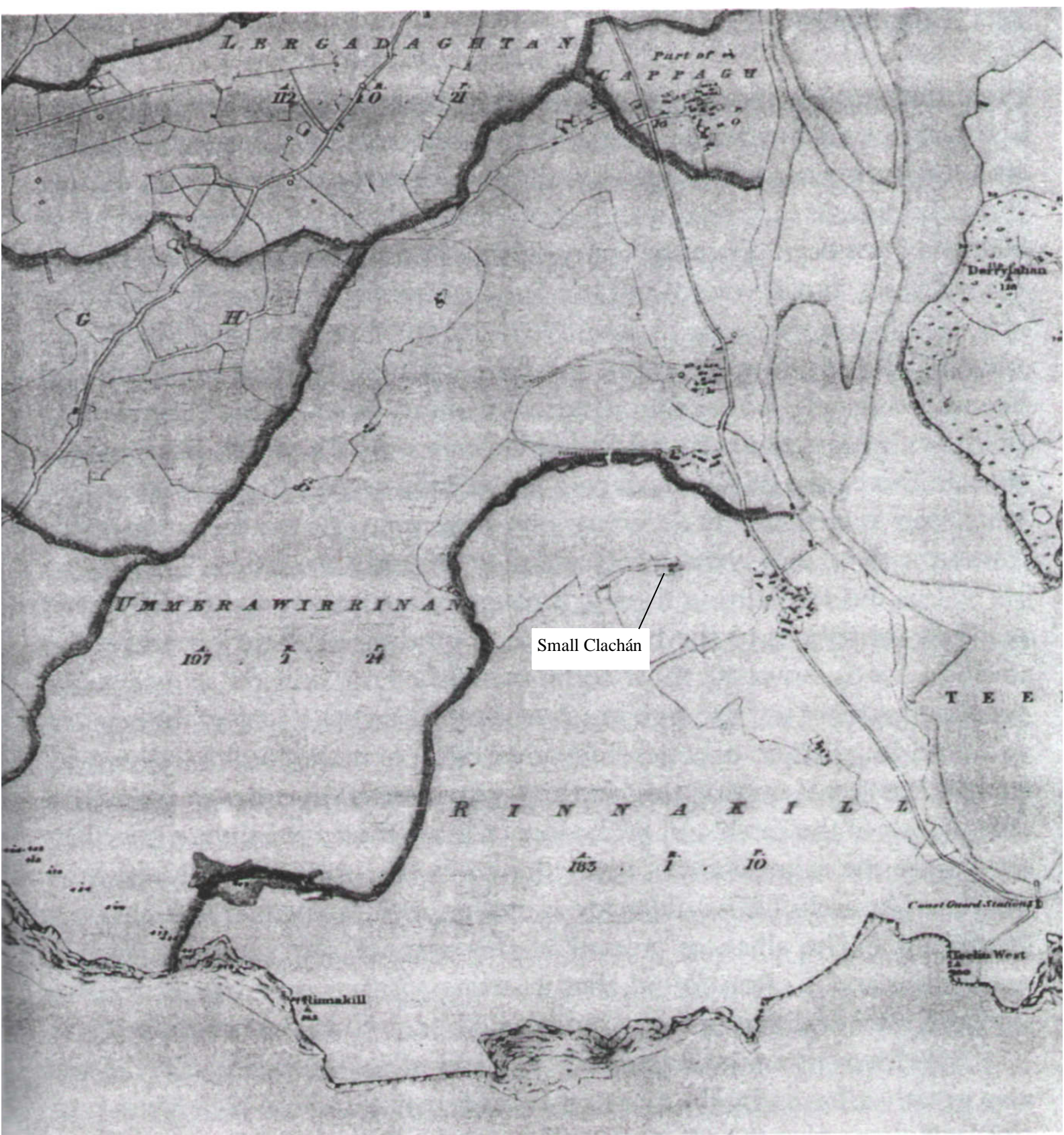
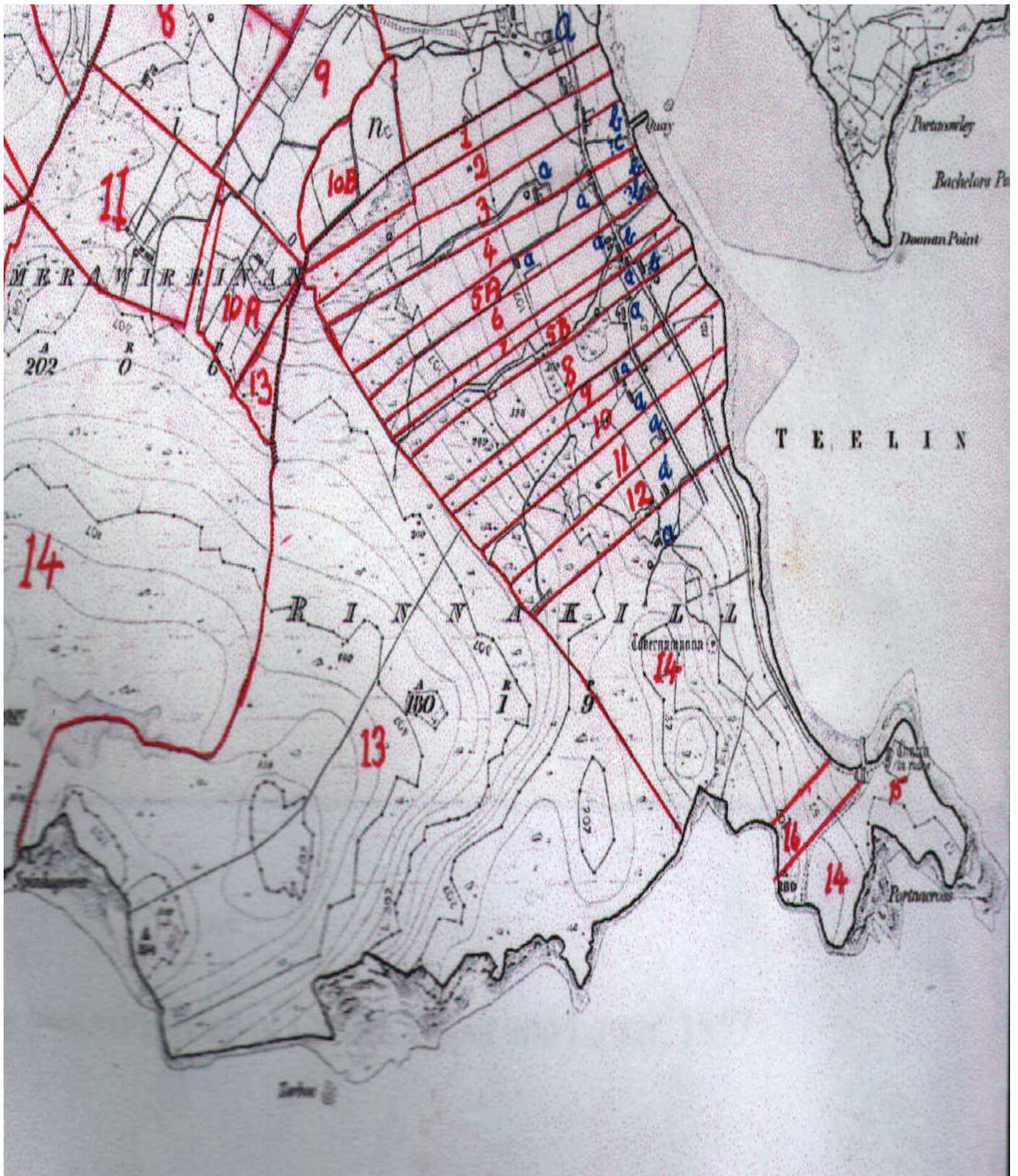


Figure 4. Ordnance Survey Map of 1836.

This is different view of the Rinnakill Map on the previous page. It shows the small Clachán (2/3 houses) mentioned on Page 11. There was a Lyons house there from early in the 19th Century. Maitiú Lyons would have lived there before the land was striped into small holdings? I “burrowed” this Map from “Occasions of Faith” by Lawrence J. Taylor. S.Ó.G.



This is the Rinnakill section of the Griffith Valuation 1857 Map from “Glencolmkille: A Parish History” By Conall Mac Cuinneagáin. The Griffith Valuation in this book gives full explanations for the numbers and letters. The Numbers refer to the farm holdings and the Letters refer to the houses on these holdings! Farm No. 3 is the Lyons Holding. The sub-division between Patrick (Paddy Eamonn) Haughey and Margaret Lyons is not yet shown. House b. on the map is that of Paddy Eamonn and Margaret and house c. is that of Michael Lyons. Also note that the **Quay** at the foot of the Lyons Holding was completed in 1839, around the time that Maitiú went to Aranmore. See Page 110 in “Glencolumbkille: A History 3000BC—1902AD” by Aidan Manning. S.Ó.G.

Rann na Cille

<u>Husband</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Age</u>
Bartley Haughey	Anne Heekin	Patrick	19
		James	16
		John	14
		Mary	12
		Brigid	9
		Anne	7
		Bartley	5
		Conne	2
		Hannah	
Edward Lyons	Mary Kennedy	Brigid	15
		John	13
		Mary	10
		Margaret	7
		Edward	4
		Catherine	2
Barney Haughey	Mary Cunningham	Mary	10
		Patrick	7
		Brigid	5
		Margaret	3
Michael Cannon	Nanny Lyons		
Condy Haughey	Catherine Byrne	Bridget	25
		Patrick	23
		Mary	20
		Ellen	17
		Connell	15
		Margaret	12
		Hannah	9
		John	6
Patrick Haughey	Margaret Lyons	Margaret	20
		Connell	17
		Anne	12

The above page is taken from Daonradh Theilinn 1878 (Church Census). Note **Edward Lyons II**, his wife Mary Kennedy and their family. **John** aged 13 married Sarah Hegarty, Ummeriwirnan and among their family were Jimmy, the fiddler; John, married in Malinmore; Ned, married in Montana; Mary Parkes, married in America and Bidy, married to John Royan, Aughera . **Margaret (Péigí)** aged 7 married Con Beag Chondy Chonaill Haughey, Rhannakilla. **Edward III (Ned)** aged 4, married Anne Maloney, Aughera and lived in the home. Catherine (Kate) Buckley, married in America. There was also a **James** in this family. He was married in Belfast and he had a son, Barney, whom Ned and Anne reared. Barney joined the Gárda and he served as a detective in Galway. He died in the 1970's. **Patrick Haughey (Paddy Eamonn)** listed last, married Margaret Lyons, a sister of **Edward Lyons II**. listed above. The farm was sub-divided between **Edward II** and Margaret; Edward got the larger part. S.Ó.G.

DETAILS OF THE FAMILY OF MATTHEW LYONS IN TEELIN.

First an Historical Note: On the night of the 11-12th of February 1813 a Great Drownings occurred at Bruckless Bay and as many as 400-500 Herring Fishermen from Inver to Loughros Point were drowned. The Teelin-Kilcar area was the worse hit. ("There were 90 widows on the two sides of Teelin Bay", I heard the late Conall (Darby) McShane say!) (I had a visit from Jimmy Haughey of Curris and Portrush to-day 05/09/2007 and he told me that he heard his father, Johnny Haughey of Rhannakilla and Curris say that a Granduncle? of Johnny's survived the Bruckless Drownings. He had come out from Garveross and that he had a house with no land in Rhannakilla. I now believe that this man was Matthew's father—**Edward I** listed below?). Jimmy Haughey's story brought another piece of information to my mind. My father told me that there was a small Clachan of 2/3 houses on the grazing above the Lyons home and that it was there Jimmy Haughey's Grandfather, James, was reared as a young boy in the 1860's!

The lands at Teelin were Striped about 1835 and **Edward I**, would have built a new house then. See picture on page 3. The oldest records that we have are the Conolly Estate Rent Rolls of 1848. These show that **Widow Edward Lyons** in charge of the Holding in 1848. (It seems that **Edward Lyons I**, had died some time after Matthew went to Aranmore?) By the Griffith Valuation List and Map of 1857 **Bridget Lyons, Edward Lyons widow**, is in charge of the holding. Her son, Michael is living in a house at the shore on the north-side of the stream. Her daughter, Margaret has married Patrick (Paddy Eamonn) Haughey and they are living in a house at the neck of Rhannakilla Pier and **Bridget Lyons** has divided the holding between herself and her daughter, Margaret. By the 1867 Conolly Rent Rolls, **Bridget Lyons** has died and her son **Edward II**, has taken over, Patrick Haughey (Paddy Eamonn), his wife, Margaret and family are living in their newly-built house where I now live, but there is no mention of Michael Lyons!

According to Daonradh Theilinn 1878 (Church Census), **Edward II**, is now married to **Mary Kennedy** and their family are Brigid 15 years; **John 13 years**; Mary 10 years; **Margaret (Péigí) 7 years**; **Edward III 4 years**; Catherine 2 years; **James**, who was born about 1881.

John I married **Sarah Hegarty**, Ummeriwirnan, and their family were **John II, Edward, Jimmy, Biddy, Mary** and **Kate**. They lived in a small cottage on Briany (Jack) Hegarty's land in Ummeriwirnan. Briany (Jack) was Sarah's brother.

John II married Mary McNelis, Malinbeg and bought a house and farm in Malinmore and lived there. Their family were Paddy (deceased), Kevin, Anne, Séamus (deceased), Seán and Pete.

Edward went to Butte, Montana. He was married and had a family. One of his sons has a 500,000 Acre Ranch in Montana!

Jimmy lived in Teelin. He was a fisherman and a great traditional fiddler. He went to England in 1950 and lived, worked and played music in Rugby until he died on 17th January 1977. He is buried in the family grave in Carrick Graveyard. Séamus Ennis recorded music from Jimmy in 1949 and some of this music is on the "Donegal Fiddle" tape and CD.

Biddy lived in Teelin. She married John Royan, Aughera, in 1949. When her brother Jimmy went to England in 1950, her father, John, moved to live with them in Aughera and it was there that he died.

Mary went to America and there she married a Mr. Parkes from Malinbeg. She bought the house and farm in Rhannakilla (that I now own) for her father in 1929 and John Lyons, Jimmy and Bidy came to live here. After her father went to live with Bidy and John Royan in Aughera, she sold the house and land in Rhannakilla to my father in 1954. When she retired from work in America she returned to Donegal and lived in Carrick until she died. She is buried in the family grave in Carrick Graveyard.

Kate also went to America and married a Mr. Buckley there. She returned on several visits. She died in America.

Margaret (Péigí) married Con Beag (Condy Chonaill) Haughey in Rhannakilla. Their family were **Connie (Con Beag), Mary (Con Beag), Kate (Con Beag), Bridget (Con Beag) and Maggie (Con Beag)**.

Connie (Con Beag) was a fisherman and a great traditional fiddler. He played in a Band in the 1930's with his cousin and neighbour, Jimmy Lyons. He married Mary Catherine McNelis, Ballymore and their family are: **Joseph, Phonsie, Mary, Brendan, Gerard, Bríd and Seán Martin**.

Mary (Con Beag) married Denis Curran, Malinbeg and they had a son, **James**.

Kate (Con Beag) married Mick Keeney, Postman, Rhannakilla. Their family are: **Seán, Máire, Con, Peggy and Bríd**.

Bridget (Con Beag). National Teacher. She died in the Downings in the 1930's at a young age.

Maggie (Con Beag). Married Gus Tully in the U.S.A. Their family are: **Joseph and Mary**.

Edward Lyons III married Anne Maloney of Aughera. They had one daughter, Mary, who married an Irish Army soldier Mr. Neville and she lived in Athlone most of her life. Their family are **Stephen, Eddie, Tony and Colette**. Edward and Anne also reared a nephew, Barney Lyons, a son of James Lyons. Barney Lyons was a Detective in An Garda Síochána in Galway. He was in poor health and died at a young age.

James Lyons lived in Belfast and was married there. He had a son, **Barney**, who was reared by Edward Lyons III and his wife Anne Maloney. See entry above.

Seosamh Ua Gallchobhair,
Rinn na Cille,
Teileann,
Tír Chonaill.
02/02/2008



Mrs . Kate Lyons/Buckley and her sister Mrs. Mary Lyons/Parkes, outside Mary's Cottage, Carrick Upper. This picture was taken before 1973. Seán Keeney, Carrick, gave me the picture. S.Ó.G.



Biddy Lyons/Royan, her cousin, Mary Lyons/Neville from Athlone and her sister, Mary Lyons/Parkes. The picture was taken in Aughera. The date on the Kodak Print was August 1961. Seán Keeney gave me the picture. S.Ó.B.



Standing: Pat Royan and Biddy Lyons/Royan. Kneeling Centre: Dónal Maloney and John Royan. Sitting in Front: Jimmy Lyons. The picture was taken about 1949, before Jimmy Lyons went to England. Seán Keeney, Carrick, gave me the picture. S.Ó.G.



The Wedding of Biddy Lyons and John Royan. 1948?

The Wedding was celebrated in Biddy's home in Rhannakilla. The above picture was taken on the bridge outside the house. The names of the group are as follows: Front: Eddie Neville? Rhannakilla. Pete Lyons, Malinmore. Nan Lyons, Malinmore. Seán Lyons, Malinmore. Back: James Josie Maloney, Aughera. Mary Mhanais Donegan, Rhannakilla. Sarah Hegarty, Ummeriwirrnán. Biddy (Con Bhriany) McShane, Upper Cappagh. Lady? John Royan, The Groom. Lady? Biddy Lyons, The Bride. John Lyons, Malinmore. Johnny Carr, Cappagh. Mrs. Mary Lyons, Malinmore. Seán Keeney, Carrick, gave me the picture. S.Ó.G.

The information on pages 14-18 is taken from "Arranmore Links" by Barney and Aidan Gallagher. A full account of the descendants of Maitiú Ó Laighin/Mathew Lyons is to be found in this book. S.Ó.G.

LYONS

The first Lyons came to Arranmore from Teelin (Glencolmkille) The "Glen" peninsula a mountainous region suitable for sheep farming and from this grew the "home spinning and hand weaving for which the area is still famous.

Long ago it was customary for weavers from "Glen" to set up street-stalls in Dungloe where they sold their homespun blankets and tweeds on fair days (the 4th of each month).

To one of these fairs went Fanny Nuala Green and her companion - just for a day's outing. A day at the fair in those days was an exciting event. It was a break from the incessant struggle for existence. And it didn't cost much. The passage from the island to the mainland was free and the five mile journey from Burtonport to Dungloe was made on bare feet. Shoes were discarded, tied together and thrown across the shoulder at Burtonport and when the travellers reached the outskirts of the town, they washed their feet in a roadside stream and donned their shoes once more. It must have been a painful enough journey because the roads were not tarred; they were surfaced instead with knapped stones that were not even rolled.

However at the end of the journey there would be lashings of "tay", white bread (loaf) butter and red jam to be had in one of the "aetin houses" for the princely sums of fourpence (in old currency). And you could buy biscuits that someone described as being "almost as large as a harvest moon" for a halfpenny each and sugar-sticks as thick as a man's wrist, and sugar candy. Who could ask for more?

But the best entertainment was at the stalls (or stannins, as they were called) where articulate "stannin men" eulogised their wares and amused their listeners with funny yarns. Matthew Lyons from Teelin was there extolling, in his native tongue, the splendid quality of the tweeds and blankets. He eyed Nuala Green and her pal. They had met before and he had often thought of her. The girls decided on this occasion to have some fun by pretending they were going to purchase a blanket. This provided Matt with an opportunity he couldn't miss.

As an opening to a marriage proposal a discussion on a homespun blanket could hardly be more appropriate! The homespun blanket is intimate, luxurious, comfortable and above all, companionable. Each thread has been carefully and tenderly woven into place suggesting a lifelong togetherness. When we remember that the heated metal pot-lid was the only available bed-warmer at that time, an invitation to share the lifelong cosiness of a homespun blanket must have been well-nigh irresistible!

You can imagine therefore how flattered Nuala Green must have felt when Matt Lyons told her he'd rather have herself than the blanket. And he meant it, and proposed there and then. Taking account of his modus operandi we know he couldn't lose; he was on safe ground all the way; a rebuff could be treated as a joke and an acceptance seriously. The blanket covered a multitude! Matt was neither accepted nor rejected. Nuala told him earnestly that she couldn't give an answer until she had consulted her parents.

Between Arranmore and Glencolmkille there is a wide expanse of Boylagh Bay - all twenty miles of it - and in those days there were absolutely no means of communication. Matt however, had a plan. "Today is Monday", he said "I will be back home in Teelin by

Tuesday. This will give you time to discuss the matter with your parents. If the answer is "Yes" proceed to that hill in Arranmore that we can see clearly across the bay from Glen Head and light a fire on Wednesday evening at four o'clock. I will be waiting at Glen Head and will light a fire to let you know that your message has been received"

On Wednesday evening at the appointed hour Nuala Green carried a "battle of straw" to the top of Knock-na-Mona and lit her fire (this is a rather prosaic way of putting it; it would be more romantic to say "the flames of love leapt skyward from the summit of Knock-na-Mona"). Soon the answering signal was seen on Glen Head.

Next day Matthew Lyons and his men arrived in Arranmore. After the wedding they built a little cabin at Poolawaddy and lived happily ever after.

They had a large family.

1. Nell Matthew, 2. Con Matthew, 3. Jack Matthew, 4. Madge Matthew, 5. Paddy Matthew, 6. Peggy Matthew, 7. Anna Matthew and 8. Fanny Matthew Lyons.

1. **Nell Matthew Lyons** married **Paddy Og O Hara**. Family: (i) Brigid Paddy Og, (ii) Matthew Paddy Og, (iii) Nellie Paddy Og, (iv) Peggy Paddy Og and (v) Nuala Paddy Og O Hara.

(i) Brigid Paddy Og O Hara married **Dan Michael Hughdie Boyle**. Family: Fanny Dan, Mickey Dan, Nellie Dan and Paddy Dan Boyle.

Mickey Dan Boyle married **Caroline Maire Gallagher** on 13 August 1917.

Family: Brigid Mickey Dan Boyle who married **Joe Mc Ginley**.

Nellie Dan Boyle married **Willie Boyle** on 4 July 1945.

Paddy Dan Boyle married **Kitty Neily Boyle (Kelly)**. See page 21.

(ii) Matthew Paddy O Hara married **Mary Hughdan Gallagher** on 4 February 1899.

Family: Ellen Matthew, Francie Matthew, Hugh Matthew, Joe Matthew, Matt Matthew and Paddy Matthew O Hara.

Ellen Matthew O Hara married **Hughie Jimmy O Donnell**. Family: Jim Hughie and Mary Hughie O Donnell.

Hugh Matthew O Hara married **Mary Nancy Boyle**. Family: Hugh Mary Nancy O Hara-born in Chicago.

(iii) Nellie Paddy Og O Hara married **John Paudeen Eoin Gallagher**.

Family: See page 109.

(iv) Peggy Paddy Og O Hara married **Franny Paudeen Gallagher** on 10 December 1890. Family: See page 127.

(v) Nuala Paddy O Hara, born 1870, died 31 January 1954, married **Brian Mc Devitt**.

2. **Con Matthew Lyons** emigrated to the USA.

3. **Jack Matthew Lyons** married **Sophie Boyle** from the mainland.

Family: Eoghainin Sophia, Fanny Sophie, Mary Sophie, Nellie Sophie and Gracie Sophie Lyons.

Fanny Sophie Lyons was blind all her life but was an expert knitter.

Mary Sophie Lyons married **Charlie Eamon Gallagher** on 10 February 1902.

Family: Charles Charlie Eamon, Joe Charlie Eamon and Ned Charlie Eamon Gallagher.

Gracie Sophie Lyons, born 1884, died 17 July 1960, married on 22 February 1909 to **John Bow O Donnell**, died 9 November 1935 in the Arranmore Disaster. Family: Con Bow, Jack Bow, Mary Bow (died 1 May 2003), Nora Bow, Owen Bow (died 9 May 2003) and *Paddy Bow O Donnell*.

4. Madge Matthew Lyons married a **Mr. Paterson** whom, we suspect she met in Co. Tyrone when she was in service there. Herself and her brother Con went off to America on the same day and neither of them ever returned.

5. Paddy Matthew Lyons married **Grania Hughdie Manus O Donnell**.

Family: (i) Fanny Paddy Matthew, (ii) Hughdie Paddy Matthew, (iii) Matthew Paddy Matthew, (iv) Maura Paddy Matthew and Paddy Beag Lyons.

(i) Fanny Paddy Matthew Lyons married **Paddy Captain Boyle**.

Family: See page 43 and 49.

(ii) Hughdie Paddy Matthew Lyons married **Brigid Sean Eoin Gallagher** on 9 February 1899. Family: Annie Hughdie, Mary Hughdie, Paddy Hughdie and Brigid Hughdie Lyons.

Brigid Hughdie Lyons, born 1910, died 10 July 1979, married **John Darkie Rodgers**, born 1904, died 31 July 1994.

(iii) Matthew Paddy Matthew Lyons married **Sheila Frank Ward** on 10 April 1898. Family: Anthony, Frank, Grace, Joe, Kitty and Mary Lyons.

(iv) Maura Paddy Matthew Lyons married **Paddy Mickey Mc Ginley** on 2 March 1897. Family: Brigid, Fanny, Grace, Michael Paddy and Paddy Beag Mc Ginley.

Fanny Mc Ginley, born about 1901, emigrated to USA in 1925, was assistant to the island's female doctor.

Grace Mc Ginley married **Johndy Mickey Boyle** on 3 March 1928.

Family: Mary Johndy Boyle.

Mary Johndy Boyle married **Johnny Mc Nulty**. Family: Michael, Patrick, John, Anthony, Joseph, Stephen, Francis and Bridie Mc Nulty.

6. Peggy Matthew Lyons married **Frank Rodgers**. Family: (i) Matt Peggy, (ii) Nancy Peggy, (iii) Nellie Peggy Matthew, (iv) Paddy Peggy and (v) Margaret (Maggie) Peggy Rodgers.

(i) Matt Peggy Rodgers married **Una Mc Cauley** on 6 November 1897.

Family: Frank Matthew Rodgers, who was reared by his Aunt Kate when Una died.

(ii) Nancy Peggy Rodgers married **Neil Patrick O Donnell** on 9 January 1899.

Family: Ellen Nancy, Frank Nancy, Joss Nancy, Kitty Nancy, Maggie Nancy, Matt Nancy, Neily Bán, Owenie Bán and Patrick Nancy O Donnell.

Ellen Nancy O Donnell, born 24 December 1899, died 9 August 1991, married **Hugh Mickely Boyle** in Chicago. Family: Mary Boyle who married **Daniel Smith** in Chicago.

Family: Daniel, Mary Ellen, Janet and Michael Smith.

Frank Nancy O Donnell, born 11 November 1901, died 8 June 1985, married **Rose Mackin** in Chicago. Frank ran a tavern in Clarke St, Chicago and was known for his generosity to people in trouble. Family: Neil, James (J.P), Anne, Vincent and Mary Ellen O Donnell.

Neil O Donnell married **Janet Nicholson**. Family: Patricia, Tracy, Franklin, Doreen, Neil and Laura O Donnell.

- James (J.P.) O Donnell married **Roberta Ruud**. Family: Heather, Terry, Sean and Kevin O Donnell.
- Anne O Donnell married **James Clarke**. Family: Darlene, Diane, Denise, Dawn Elizabeth, Dawn Patricia and James Clarke.
- Mary Ellen O Donnell married **John Graham**. Family: John, Michael, Bridget and Colleen Graham.
- Joss Nancy O Donnell married **Brigid Dinny Mc Gowan**. Family: Denis Joss, Anne Marie and Neil Joss O Donnell.
- Denis Joss O Donnell married **Grace Pally Mc Hugh**.
- Kitty Nancy O Donnell married **Harry Riley** in Chicago. Family: Harry, Anne and Susan Riley.
- Maggie Nancy O Donnell married **Eddie Bell Gallagher**. Family: See page 118.
- Matt Nancy O Donnell married **Molly Sweeney**. Family: Mary Matt, Nancy Matt and Patrick Matt O Donnell.
- Nancy Matt O Donnell married **Seamus Costello**.
- Patrick Matt O Donnell married **Sandra**. Family: Matthew, Tara, Sinead and Aisling O Donnell.
- Neily Bán O Donnell married **Eveleen Keaveney** in Scotland. Family: Nancy, Mary and Marjorie O Donnell.
- Owenie Bán O Donnell married **Marie Sonny Gallagher**. Family: Barry Owenie Bán, Ellen Owenie Bán, Eugene Owenie Bán and Mary Owenie Bán O Donnell.
- (iii) Nellie Peggy Matthew Rodgers married **Doney Johnny Donal Rua Boyle** on 16 February 1907. Family: Bidy Doney Boyle.
- Bidy Doney Boyle, died 10 December 1992, married **John Dindy Coll**. See page 68.
- (iv) Paddy Peggy Rodgers married **Grace O Donnell**. Family: Anthony Peg, Con Peg, Frank The Tailor, John Paddy and Maggie Paddy Rodgers.
- Anthony Peg Rodgers, died 20 June 1969, married **Nellie Condy Conaghan**. Family: See page 79.
- (v) Margaret (Maggie) Peggy Rodgers, born 1875, died 9 April 1919, married on 13 February 1899 to **Hughie Frank Beag Mc Cauley**, born 1866, died 30 December 1937. Family: Frank Hughie, James Hughie, Maggie Hughie, Mary Hughie, Ellen Hughie and Condy Hughie Mc Cauley.
- Maggie Hughie Mc Cauley married **Joe Mickely Boyle**.
- Mary Hughie Mc Cauley, born 1908, died 16 May 1971, unmarried.
- Ellen Hughie Mc Cauley, born 1912, died 4 February 1979, married **Paddy Cassie Gallagher**. Family: See page 123.
- Condy Hughie Mc Cauley, born 1914, died 20 July 1919.
7. **Anna Matthew Lyons**, born 1841, died 10 June 1916, married **Francie Hugh O Hara**, born 1831, died 7 January 1913. Family: Anthony Francie, Bidy Francie, Gracie Francie, Madgie Francie, Matthew Francie, Paddy Francie and Peggy Francie O Hara.

Anthony Francie O Hara married **Madgie Sharkey** on 12 February 1914.

Family: Annie Anthony, Gracie Anthony, Peggy Anthony, Bridget Anthony and Michael O Hara.

Biddy Francie O Hara married **Paddy Manus Hughdie O Donnell**.

Family: Brigid Paddy Manus, Francis Paddy Manus, James Paddy Manus and Paddy Manus O Donnell.

Peggy Paddy Manus O Donnell married **Anthon The Strand Gallagher**.

Gracie Francie O Hara died in USA.

Madgie Francie O Hara married **Paddy John Donncha Boyle** on 12 March 1901.

Family: See page 33.

Matthew Francie O Hara married **Hannah Mickey Gallagher** in Scotland.

Peggy Francie O Hara married **Brian The Cooper Gallagher** on 20 December 1887.

8. Fanny Matthew Lyons married **Johnny Mór Bonner** in 1863.

Family: See page 57.

BRÍD BHÁN

Ní hionann liom-sa an sliabh 's a' baile 'tá 'mo dhéi,
'S, a Dhia, gan mé arís ann.

Nó insan teach mhór 'tá déanta ar thaoibh an róid,
Agus mé bheith gan bó gan caora.

Ní bhéinn in bhur gcró anois ar theacht an Domhnaigh,
Bhéadh an tAifreann do mo chóir 's mo dhaoíní.

'S dá mba liom-sa Éire anuas ó Loch Éirne
Gur i dTeilionn a bhéinn 'mo chomhnaidhe,

Bríd Bhán: Seo an céad rann de'n ámhrán a scríobh Bríd Bhán Ní h-Eachaidh, Rinn na Cille agus a fear céile Aindris Ua h-Eigheartaigh, iar díobhtha a ghabhail go Mín a' Bhainne ins na Gleanntaí thart fá'n bhliain 1800. Fuair mé na focla i g- "Ceolta Theilinn" a chur an Cigire Pádraig Mac Seáin le chéile. S.Ó.G.

The Lyons Clan in the Townlands of Beefan and Garveross, Glencolumcille.

I do not have a great knowledge of the Beefan/Garveross branch of the Lyons Clan, but that, which I could glean from sources, I have set below. Note: The Humes had leased Beefan and Garveross from the Conollys. In March 1857, the Rev. John Mc Naughton bought the lease. This information is taken from "Glencolumbkille: A History 3000B.C.—1901A.D" by Aidan Manning. S.Ó.G.

Beefan

1850s Hume rental

James Keegan (Heekin) 51; Condy Lyons 51; Edward Lyons 98; Cornelius Meenan 60; Matthew Lyons 51; Edward Gillespie 98

1857 GV of buildings

Condy Lyons 10; James Hekin (lo); Cornelius Meenan 5; Edward Gillespie 10; James Gillespie (lo); Matthew Lyons 5; Edward Lyons 10;

Garveross

1850s Hume rental

Matthew Lyons 102; James Keegans (Heekin) 51; Pat Keegans (Heekin) 31; James Lyons 34; Pat Lyons 34; Thomas Lyons 34; James M'Cunnigan 51; Maurice Lyons 51

1857 GV of buildings

Matthew Lyons 10; James Hekin 15; Patrick Hekin 10; James Lyons 5; Patrick Lyons 5; Thomas Lyons 5; James M'Cunnigan 10; Manus Lyons 10.



A ROUGH SEA IN TEELIN BAY. I FOUND THIS PICTURE ON THE INTERNET. S.Ó.G.

The page below is edited from the Griffith Valuation 1857 for the Townlands of Beefan; Beefan & Garveross Mountain and Garveross. Unfortunately, I do not have the Map to go with the list. I found the information below in "Glencolmcille: A Parish History" by Conall Mac Cuinneagáin. S.O.G.

		BEEFAN. (Ord. S. 80.)							
1	a	Condy Lyons, .	Rev. John Macnaughtan,	House and land,	109 1 2	2 17 0	0 10 0	3 7 0	
	-	James Hekin, .				Land,	1 0 0	—	1 0 0
	b	Cornelius Meenan,				House and land,	2 10 0	0 6 0	2 15 0
	c	Edward Gillespie,				House, office, & land,	2 15 0	0 10 0	3 5 0
	-	James Gillespie,				Land,	1 5 0	—	1 5 0
2	d	Matthew Lyons,	Same, .	House, office, & land,	3 0 20	2 0 0	0 5 0	2 5 0	
	-	Edward Lyons, .				Land,	3 12 0	—	3 12 0
	-	Edward Lyons, .				House, office, & land,	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 18 0
	-	Condy Lyons, .				Land,	0 8 0	—	0 8 0
	-	James Hekin, .				Land,	0 2 0	—	0 2 0
Total, .					118 1 22	16 17 0	2 0 0	18 17 0	
		BEEFAN & GARVE- ROSS MOUNTAIN. (Ord. S. 80.)							
1		Condy Lyons, .	Rev. John Macnaughtan,	Mountain, .	228 0 5	0 8 0	—	0 8 0	
		James Hekin, .				0 3 0	—	0 3 0	
		Cornelius Meenan,				0 5 0	—	0 5 0	
		Edward Gillespie,				0 7 0	—	0 7 0	
		James Gillespie,				0 3 0	—	0 3 0	
		Mathw. Lyons (Beefan)				0 5 0	—	0 5 0	
		Edward Lyons, .				0 10 0	—	0 10 0	
		James M'Cunnigan,				0 5 0	—	0 5 0	
		Manus Lyons, .				0 5 0	—	0 5 0	
		James Lyons, .				0 3 0	—	0 3 0	
		Patrick Lyons, .				0 3 0	—	0 3 0	
		Thomas Lyons, .				0 3 0	—	0 3 0	
		James Hekin, .				0 5 0	—	0 5 0	
	Patrick Hekin, .	0 5 0	—	0 5 0					
	Matthew Lyons,	0 10 0	—	0 10 0					
Total, .					228 0 5	4 0 0	—	4 0 0	
		GARVEROSS. (Ord. S. 80.)							
1 A	a	Matthew Lyons,	Rev. John Macnaughtan,	House, office, & land,	22 1 0	4 2 0	0 10 0	5 0 0	
- B					1 0 0	0 8 0	—		

No. and Letters of Reference to Map.	Names.		Description of Tenement.	Area.	Rateable Annual Valuation.		Total Annual Valuation of Rateable Property.	
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.			Land.	Buildings.		
GARVEROSS— continued.								
2 A	A a	James Hekin, .	Rev. John Macnaughtan,	House, offices, & land,	24 0 16	3 15 0	0 15 0	3 0 0
3 A	A a	Patrick Hekin, .	Same, .	House, offices, & land	10 1 3	3 15 0	0 5 0	3 15 0
4	A a	James Lyons, .	Same, .	House and land,	2 0 0	0 15 0	0 5 0	1 15 0
4	A a	Patrick Lyons, .	Same, .	House and land,	55 2 9	2 5 0	0 10 0	2 15 0
4	A a	Thomas Lyons, .	Same, .	House, office, & land,	55 2 9	2 5 0	0 10 0	2 15 0
Total, .					125 3 24	18 0 0	3 10 0	21 10 0

1857 Griffith's Valuation - Glencolumbkille Parish, Co Donegal

Transcribed and sent to me by Judy Philip. She is researching Osborne and Maxwell, so if you have similar research interests, please Email her <mailto:japhilip@ozemail.com.au>

Where a name appears twice or more, it does not necessarily mean that there are separate people carrying that name - it may indicate the same person with his name recorded against land and a house/outbuildings in different areas of the townlands.

For the full details of the entries, including landlords name, type of property and map references, please Email me <mailto:lbuckle@ihug.co.nz>

Please limit the requests to 5 entries at a time

Surname, First, Townland

Lyons, Bridget, Rinnakill

Lyons, Condy, Beefan

Lyons, Condy, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Edward, Beefan

Lyons, Edward, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Hannah, Ballard

Lyons, James, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, James, Garveross

Lyons, Manus, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Manus, Garveross

Lyons, Manus, Meenavean

Lyons, Matthew, Beefan

Lyons, Matthew, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Matthew, Garveross

Lyons, Matthew (Beefan), Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Michael, Rinnakill

Lyons, Owen, Gannev and Curreen

Lyons, Owen, Malinmore

Lyons, Patrick, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Patrick, Garveross

Lyons, Patrick, Rinnakill

Lyons, Thomas, Beefan & Garveross Mountain

Lyons, Thomas, Garveross

I found the above list Land Tenants of the Parish of Glencolumbkille 1857 on the Internet. Take note of the statement in **bold** at the top of the page—some of the names may be entered more than once! The names in **bold** would be all related to Maitiú Ó Laighin of Rhannakilla and Aranmore. S.Ó.G.

Seosamh Ua Gallchobhair,

Rinn na Cille,

Teileann,

Tír Chonaill.

10/09/2008.