



Guerin Family

In the late 1960's my Grandfather, Patrick Joseph Guerin (1889- 1975) and my father Paul Guerin (1927- 1981), sat down and drew up the family tree as much as they could. What I am attempting to present here is the information they recorded at the time plus new information that is available via the internet, in particular the records of the Irish Family History Foundation and the Irish National Archives 1901 and 1911 census. The former lacks the full co-operation of all counties but has the birth, death and marriage records of most of the 32 counties. As will become clear the lack of those from Waterford are most unfortunate as they hold the key to some of what we require to push the family tree further back than 1830.



The other archives that have been of particular use are those of Limerick City Council. Rates books, electoral lists and the burial records of Mount St. Laurence Cemetery where most of the city's dead were buried from 1855 until well into the 20th century.

There are personal histories recorded by Paul Guerin, recalled by Patrick Joseph Guerin (PJG) for James and John (Jack), his older brothers, but not for any of the other members of his family. This was clearly an unfinished project. They do give some give interesting clues to the family history but they represent a missed opportunity. Some of what PJG recalled was over 70 years old when he was very young and, as will become clear, some is inaccurate. Dates that can be corrected by official records are indicated in the body of the text.

There were census records taken every ten years in Ireland from 1821, all but a few fragments are lost. The 1821-61 records were lost in the Customs House fire in the civil war, 1922, those of 1871-91 were systematically pulped in 1911 in a mistake at the General Record Office, Dublin. Whatever the causes for the destruction, the result is the same. We can only, therefore, rely on the 1901 and 1911 census returns for any details of the family history.

Another thing to bear in mind is that; in 1850 the country was just emerging from several years of famine. It is reckoned that as many as 10% of all births, deaths and marriages were not recorded. With this in mind I began to examine the various possibilities of where the family might have originated.

My thanks also go to various family members who have provided their records and recollections.

Also to the Irish Railway Records Society, The Irish Jesuits Archives, The Irish Christian brother's archive. There were many on-line sources I interrogated including Ancestry.co.uk , Irish Origins.net and the Mormon Family Records. There were contributions from, the National Archive at Kew and the National Library of Ireland. I received great help from various church and school authorities in Ireland, my thanks to them all for their time and patience.

The maps have, by and large come from the Ordinance Survey of Ireland website. There is an on-line map record there where modern maps and aerial photographs are super-imposable on historical maps from 1850's and circa 1900. Using these I was able to better trace the changing names of places, and roads. Also the location of buildings that no longer exist but play an important part in our story.

I have tried to keep the narrative as chronological as possible and to keep using names rather than 'his' and 'hers' which can be difficult to follow. I hope this makes the story easier to follow but I apologise if it is not easy to follow at all times.

If when you read the text you think of additions or corrections then please let me know. This is a working document and should merely form a framework. As more records come on-line and as I receive more information in the course of my investigations then I shall re-edit the text.

Contents

| | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Guerin Roots | Page 3 |
| 2. The Kilkenny Guerins | Page 8 |
| 3. Limerick | Page 15 |
| 4. Tralee | Page 21 |
| 5. Return to Limerick | Page 26 |
| 6. Curtin History | Page 36 |
| 7. Limerick Part 3 – Incl Buckley Family | Page 44 |
| 8. Guerins, MacCurtins & Evans | Page 52 |
| 9. Guerin Name Research | Page 56 |