

Irish Kennedy Heritage Group



Lackeen Castle

The mission of the Irish Kennedy Heritage Group is to research, preserve and disseminate the history of the Irish Kennedys.



Chief Rody Kennedy

Mailing List No. 76 Dec.. 2019

Fáilte / Welcome.

A hearty welcome to our most recent members.

Pat Kennedy from Tankardstown, Co. Meath. (see story of Kate Kennedy underneath)

Kate Rivett-Carnac from South Africa made contact through our website. Her grandmother Kathleen Kennedy had emigrated to South Africa via England around 1878 and Kate remembers her mother referring to a place called Annagh and a Big House being burned.

Luckily those 2 memories were enough to place Kate's ancestors as Kennedys of Annagh in Lower Ormond and to put Kate in contact with one of our members Reddy O Regan who also goes back to the Kennedys of Annagh. The cousins are now in constant contact

A Kennedy story from the San Francisco Herald

Many families in Ireland are familiar with “emigrated to America” recorded beside an ancestors name when they research their family history. Sometimes it is accompanied by “never heard from again” while on other occasions “ a descendant visited in the 1960,s or similar” gives the reassurance that at least said ancestor got there safely.

There are also those of course who left a big imprint on their new country and impacted on society in the U.S.A. Pat Kennedy, from Co. Meath joined our group quite recently and provided information about his 1st cousin twice removed, Kate Kennedy who certainly left her mark around San Francisco in the 1860,s



Kate Kennedy
(c.1827-1890)
Born in Meath before immigrating to San Francisco, Kennedy was a teacher who took her fight for equal pay all the way to California's Supreme Court.

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Kennedy, Kate (May 31, 1827-Mar 18, 1890), San Francisco teacher and reformer, champion of equal pay for women, was born in Gaskinstown, County Meath, Ireland, the second of seven children – all girls but the oldest – of Thomas Kennedy, a gentleman farmer, and his wife, Eliza King. Kate showed early promise as a student, graduating at the head of her class in the convent school at Navan. When, after her father's death in 1841, the family fortunes declined, she successfully taught five of her sisters at home. The ruinous famine of 1846-1847 drove even the middle classes out of Ireland, and in 1849 Kate, with her brother and one sister, sailed to New York, where the two girls secured work in the needle trades. The rest of the family came to New York in 1851, but within a few years, drawn by accounts of California as the land of opportunity, they all moved to San Francisco. The "Kennedy clan" made a permanent impact on San Francisco life. Three sisters married into prominent California families: the Cushings, Moffits, and Lynches. Lizzie Kennedy Burke, the second youngest daughter, was for fifty-seven years a distinguished teacher; her daughter, Katherine Delmar Burke, became the founder and principal of the highly respected Miss Burke's School for Girls.

Like her sister, Kate Kennedy followed a teaching career. During her years in New York she spent her spare time in study to prepare herself for public school work. Arriving in San Francisco in January 1856, she taught for a year in the small town of Suisun, then began a connection with the San Francisco school system that was to last for three decades. Devoted to her work, she never married. She soon became known as an able and inspiring teacher, firm in discipline but kind and understanding. In 1867 she was appointed principal of the North Cosmopolitan Grammar School, but because she was a woman she was paid only the same salary she had received as principal of a primary school. An ardent feminist with a strong bent for reform, she thereupon began a fight for "equal pay for equal work." Her agitation won broad community support, and in 1874 the state legislature, largely in response to this campaign, passed a bill requiring that "females employed as teachers in the public schools of this State shall in all cases receive the same compensation as is allowed male teachers for like services when holding the same grade certificates."

A vital public speaker, never afraid to express her views, Kate Kennedy lent her support to a variety of reforms, from woman suffrage to the cause of labor. Five years in the sweated textile industry of New York had confirmed the strong sympathies for the disinherited she had developed during the potato famine. She studied economic problems, joined the Knights of Labor, and aided strikers. But her efforts soon concentrated on the single-tax program of Henry George. A close friend and deep admirer of George, she joined his Land Reform League shortly after its organization in 1878 and advocated his theories on the platform and in the press. She planned to retire from teaching in 1887 to devote her full time to the single tax.

But meanwhile, in 1886, she had been nominated by a Labor party convention in San Francisco for the office of state superintendent of public instruction (San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 28, 1886). Though her actual vote proved negligible, her nomination had prevented a Labor endorsement of the regular Democratic candidate. In March 1887 the board of education, avowedly on political grounds, demoted Miss Kennedy to a smaller school with a lower salary and, when she refused to accept the transfer, dismissed her. Despite failing health, she brought suit against the board and won a bitter three-year legal battle, the state supreme court delivering in 1890 an opinion which became the legal foundation of teacher tenure in California. A teacher, it ruled, "cannot be placed in a lower grade or dismissed except for misconduct or incompetency": and political activity, even in unpopular causes, could not be so construed.

Though she had won vindication, Kate Kennedy's health was broken, and she died of chronic nephritis in Oakland, Calif., shortly after the court decision. Brought up as a Catholic, she had long since left both church and creed in favor of a broad faith based on the golden rule. She was buried, without ritual, in San Francisco's Laurel Hill Cemetery, the only speaker being her friend and fellow single-taxer Judge James Maguire, who as a legislator had helped to push through her equal pay bill in 1874. After the cemetery was abandoned in 1940 her remains were reinterred in Cypress Lawn in Colma, Calif. The Kate Kennedy Schoolwomen's Club, founded in San Francisco in 1911 to further teachers' rights, was named for her, and a public school in the NoeValley district of San Francisco bears her name.

[A volume of Kate Kennedy's single-tax essays, *Doctor Paley's Foolish Pigeons and Short Sermons to Workingmen* (1906), was published post-humously by her brother. The best biographical sources are Alice Clare Lynch, *The Kennedy Clan and Tierra Redonda* (1935), and a long sketch by Leonora Beck in the *Standard* (N.Y.), Dec. 19, 1891. See also Miriam Allen deFord, *They were San Franciscans* (1941), chap. 14; Baily Millard, *Hist. of the San Francisco Bay Region, vol. III* (1924); death certificate in Alameda County

Health Dept., Oakland, Calif. Information on the 1886 election campaign was provided by the Calif. State Library, Sacramento.]

William T. Doyle

My thanks to Pat for forwarding the above article by William T. Doyle and published in San Francisco Herald.

Irish Kennedy Clan Gathering 2020

Plans for our 2020 Gathering were on the agenda at our recent Committee meeting. We are aware of quite a few international visitors who are planning their overseas trips around our Gathering.

We decided to keep with our by now established **2nd Sunday of July – 12th July 2020** for our Gathering in Chief Rody Kennedy's Anglesey Lounge, Rearcross with some local trips for that afternoon, with a longer day trip suggested for Tuesday 14th July. We hope to fill in some more details early in 2020.

All Kennedys and their descendants, relatives, friends and wellwishers are invited.

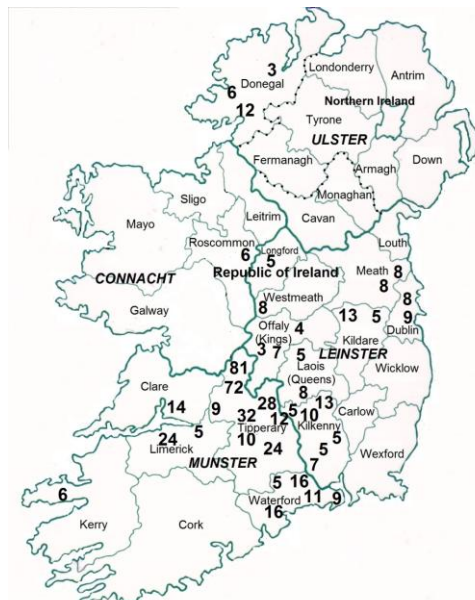
The Kennedy Surname. (Cinnéide)

The 1st person to have the name Cinnéide (helmeted head) was Brian Ború's father. Brian as Ard Rí, High King of Ireland decreed that families should use surnames. Brian had an older brother Donnucuan and Donnucuan's son Mahon was the first to adopt the Kennedy surname calling himself Mahon Ó Cinnéide which is the Irish for grandson of Cinnéide. For the following 600 years the O Cinnéides prospered establishing themselves as Lords of Ormond before their displacement by the arrival of Cromwell in the 1650s.

All of this and much more is in Brian's book "The Irish Kennedys -The story of the Rebellious O Kennedys"

Kennedys by Counties in Ireland

We often say that if your name is Kennedy the chances are that you can trace your ancestry back to Co. Tipperary. The following map and chart lends some credence to this assertion. The map uses information from the 'so-called' Census of 1659. It provides a list of the numbers and locations of Kennedy families in the areas at that time in what now is the Republic of Ireland. In order to avoid confusion with unrelated Scottish Kennedys, Ulster is omitted. It should be noted that the numbers are based on incomplete information. What remains of the Census contains no information on the entire Counties of Cavan, Galway, Mayo, and Wicklow and none on four baronies of County Cork and nine baronies of County Meath. In the long period that the importance of the Census documents remained undiscovered, some parts may have been used by the kitchen maids to help light the master's fire.



Number of Kennedy Families in what is now the Republic of Ireland. Census of Ireland 1659 (Part)

Top ten Kennedy occupier first names for Irish Republic counties
In Griffiths Valuation C1850

	Daniel	Denis	Edward Edmond Edmund	James	John Sean Shane	Martin	Michael	Patrick	Thomas	William
Carlow	1	1	2	4	14		2	3	12	1
Cavan				7	8		2	6	4	
Clare	3	3	3	13	28	1	12	30	2	1
Cork	2	8	6	13	20		12	7	12	13
Donegal	6	6	10	21	26		5	23	6	11
Dublin			8		23		22	11	9	4
Galway		3	3	6	32	11	24	57	24	5
Kerry	13		1	29	51	1	22	45	45	4
Kildare		4	3	7	10			7	3	7
Kilkenny			4	23	42	5	28	32	8	13
Laois	2	1	2	11	18	3	11	10	7	4
Leitrim				2	3			3	5	
Limerick	3	6	12	12	30	2	16	31	8	8
Longford			1	3	8		3	6	4	2
Louth				4	4			1	1	
Mayo	1		2	9	18	10	14	18	10	7
Meath			3	5	7		5	18	16	2
Monaghan			2	1					3	
Offaly	4	5	8	18	31	6	9	15	6	16
Roscommon			4	13	25	2	11	24	7	5
Sligo				9	11	3	14	29		4
Tipperary Lower Ormond	6	3	4	21	39	8	12	16	12	20
Tipperary Upper Ormond	4	3	4	8	10	3	8	10	6	6
Tipperary North	4	12	8	52	75	4	50	65	23	25
Tipperary South	2	12	19	54	37	6	19	38	47	12
Waterford		1	7	12	26	2	16	22	20	9
Westmeath		1	1	6	6			6	9	6
Wexford	2	2	9	10	14		9	11	11	9
Wicklow	3		1	15	12		7	12	7	5
Total	56	71	127	398	628	67	333	556	327	199

The very best of luck if you are searching for your ancestor John or perhaps Patrick Kennedy who you know came from Ireland but you are not quite sure where. Find more in “The Dispersal of the Irish Kennedys – across the Irish Republic from North Tipperary”.

Data Protection Regulations.

You may have heard that the Data Protection laws are changing within the E.U. (possibly worldwide, not sure) from 25th May 2018 with the introduction of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). If at any stage, you no longer wish to receive newsletters or other communications from the Irish Kennedy Heritage Group please email me and I will delete your contact details from the database. We only hold your contact details so that you can receive information on I. K.H.G. news, meetings and events.

Your contact details will not be shared with any other party. You can unsubscribe at any time by emailing me.

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

In order to make all earlier editions of the original mailing list generally available, Sean Kennedy has kindly volunteered to publish an **Internet Blog** that will provides appropriately edited posts in order from the first issue. You will find the Blog if you click on <https://tikhg.blogspot.com>

IRISH KENNEDYS BOOKS

Internationally all books can be obtained via “The Irish Kennedys” web page at <https://theirkennedys.weebly.com>

The Irish Kennedys books may be obtained in Ireland from:

Chief Rody Kennedy’s Bar and Shop. Rearcross. Tipperary. Ph. 062 79104

The Bookworm Bookshop. THURLES. Tipperary. Ph. 504 22257.

The Bookshop. NENAGH. Tipperary

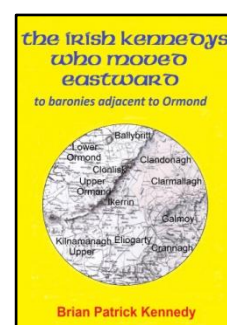
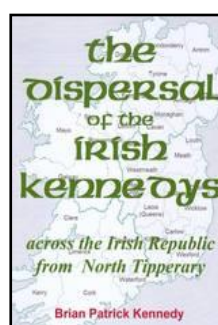
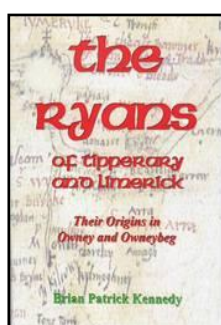
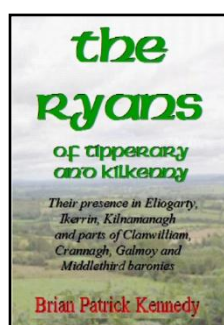
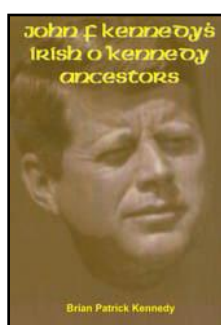
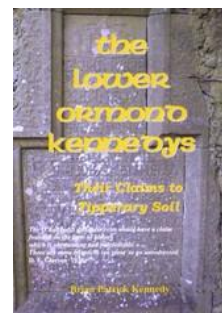
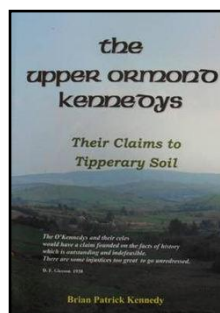
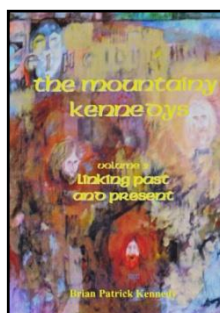
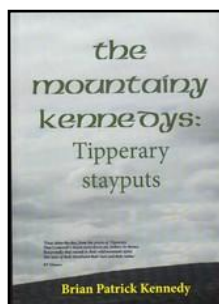
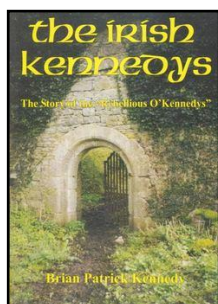
The Kennedy Homestead, DUNGANSTOWN. Wexford. Ph. 051 388 264

Phyllis Kennedy, Garnafana, TOOMEVARA. Tipperary. Ph. 067 26069

Harvest Fresh, Main St. Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary. Ph. 3536727060.

Alan Hanna's Bookshop, 270 Rathmines Road Lower, DUBLIN 6

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtsQKz-VAUw&feature=youtu.be>

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