

Griffith's Revision Books c.1860-c.1930

The task of surveying and valuing properties in Co. Londonderry was completed by 1858. Some areas in the west of the county had been surveyed as early as 1856. The valuations were published in printed form in 1858 and 1859. In Co. Antrim the completion dates were two or three years later. Thereafter, properties were valued periodically from circa 1860 until circa 1930 and any changes were recorded in field notebooks which are generally referred to as the Griffith's Revision Books. As well as recording changes in their field books, the valuers continually updated the valuation maps which had been produced circa 1859. New valuation maps were produced periodically for both rural and urban areas. Over time these changes often led to a change in the numbering of properties both within the books and on the maps. Each of the books normally cover a period of approximately ten years. Although properties were supposed to be valued annually, my experience of using these books suggests that often a period of up to two, or even three or more, years could elapse between visits.

Each time a valuer visited a street or a townland he recorded any change in the quality or dimensions of an individual property, or the name of a new occupier or immediate lessor of a property, or any differences in the acreage and value of a property. All changes were dated by year. Because there was always more than one year written in a book, the valuers used a different colour of ink for different years. With the passage of time some of these dates, particularly those in green, can be difficult to decipher today. Again, because of the fading of colours, it can be difficult to distinguish between some of the reds and purples.

The dates that are written down in the revision books should be treated with caution. Any date written in the books is the date after the event had taken place, not necessarily the date when it took place. For example, often you will see Reps. John Smith 1882 meaning that John Smith was dead by 1882 and the property has not yet passed to his wife, son or whoever. This does not necessarily mean that John Smith died in the year 1882. On the other hand if the valuers were visiting his townland or street near to the time of his death then it is in fact an accurate date. Despite this reservation, the Griffith's Revision Books are a vital source in tracking many people throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

However, not everyone who lived in a street or townland during this period will always have their name recorded. This is particularly the case in streets, such as William Street in Londonderry, where people often moved around both within the street and to and from other streets. In short, some did not stay long enough in one place to be picked up the valuers on their periodic visits. For this reason there is not always a perfect match between the revision books for c.1900 and the 1901 Census Returns. The latter, of course, give a more accurate picture of who was living in a place in 1901, despite the fact that persons absent from a house on the day of the census were not recorded.

Another group of people who are often missed by the valuers on their visits were the labourers who rented their houses from farmers. Again this group was fairly mobile and individuals could have come and gone in between the visits of the valuers. Furthermore you might be searching the revision books for particular persons and not find them because they were live-in servants in a farmer's house. Remember the revision books only record the names of the persons who [in census terms] were heads of households.

The revision books are held in PRONI under the reference VAL/12/B. The accompanying valuation maps are also held in PRONI. There is a VAL/12/D series which are 6 inch maps covering the countryside and there is a VAL/12/E series which are large scale town maps. The arrival of an online eCatalogue on the PRONI website has made it much easier to search for the appropriate revision books for a particular townland or street and locate the accompanying valuation maps. Below you will find two examples, one for a rural area and one for an urban area, that will show you the kind of information that the revision books and maps contain and also provide guidance on how to search for these two sources on the PRONI eCatalogue on the Internet. [\[1\]](#)

RURAL EXAMPLE

Here is an example relating to the townland of Moyletra Toy near Garvagh. Before you search the PRONI eCatalogue for the VAL/12/B revision books covering Moyletra Toy you need to know in which DED it was situated. You can find this information in the *Townlands in Co. Londonderry and their Administrative Divisions* database at the *Administrative Divisions* link in the top menu of this website. This would tell you that Moyletra Toy was in the Grove DED in the Poor Law Union of Ballymoney [Coleraine after 1898]. If I type Grove in the "Any Text" box and VAL/12/B* in the "PRONI Ref:" box, as shown on the next page it will give me the PRONI reference for the books and the dates covered by each book. There are in fact 4 books VAL/12/B/29/1A-D covering the period 1864-1929.

Search the eCatalogue

Search using one or more of the fields below.

Any Text : [Show Help](#)

☒ Description and Title ☐ Description Only ☐ Title Only

☒ Match ALL words ☐ Match ANY word ☐ Match Phrase

Date : Year To Year [Show Help](#)

Month Month

Day Day

PRONI Ref : [Show Help](#)

Results per Page : Sort By :

Search Results: Overview

<input type="button" value="First"/>	<input type="button" value="Previous"/>	[1 - 4]	<input type="button" value="Next"/>	<input type="button" value="Last"/>
PRONI Reference	Date(s)	Title/Description	Item	
VAL/12/B/29/1A	1864-1885	Electoral Division of Grove, The*, Parish	Y	View
VAL/12/B/29/1B	1886-1897	Electoral Division of Grove, The*, Parish	Y	View
VAL/12/B/29/1C	1898-1910	Electoral Division of Grove, The*, Parish	Y	View
VAL/12/B/29/1D	1911-1929	Electoral Division of Grove, The*, Parish	Y	View

Here are copies of some pages from some of these books. In order to read these pages you may have to read them on your computer screen at 150% or even higher.

Page 29 from the [1864-1885] book [VAL/12/B/1A] shows a Robert Pollock arriving in the townland around 1882. He takes over a house and land that appears to have been occupied by a William Lamont up until 1871. Lamont's holding was number 19 and he was living there at the time of the original Griffith's Valuation c.1860. Lamont was replaced by James Church who is the landlord of the townland. We do not know, therefore, who was actually living in the house between 1871 and 1882. Note that the date and Robert Pollock's name were entered in purple as were all dates in the book that were entered in 1882.

Barony of Coleraine				County Londonderry				Parish of Disertoghie				Union of Ballymoney				Electoral Division of The Grove				29
Reference to Map.	NAMES.		Description	Area.			RATABLES ANNUAL VALUATIONS.						Total.			OBSERVATIONS.				
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.		A.	R.	P.	Land.			Buildings.										
	Moyletra Vay	Ron.		15	1	19	7	15		12	0		8	15						
V 18 a	Hugh Holmes	James Church	Hos. Mrs. Island	19	2	20	8	0	0	1	5	0	9	5	0					
	Robert Holmes	Hugh Holmes	Hos. (Ship)							2	0	0	2	0	0	33. New Street House				
	Mary Holmes	Hugh Holmes	House							0	5	0	0	5	0					
c	Unoccupied	Same	House							0	5	0	0	5	0					
19 a	Robert Pollock William Lamont	James Church James Church	Hos. Off. Island	11	3	20	5	5	0	1	0	0	6	5	0	71. 82				
	James Church James Church	James Church James Church	House							0	5	0	0	5	0	71. 82				
20	James Church James Church	James Church James Church	Hos. Off. Island	13	0	25	9	5	0	1	0	0	10	5	0	82. 84				
21 a	John Paul	James Church	Hos. Off. Island	63	2	30	32	15	0	3	0	0	35	15	0	1866. 68				
21 b	Mary Park	James Church	House	20	0	25	10	10	0	1	15	0	11	10	0	1866. 71. 73. 79				
	Robert Gray	James Church	House							0	5	0	0	5	0	1866. 68. 71.				
	John Mitchell	James Church	House							0	5	0	0	5	0	71				
22 a	Robert Jones	James Church	House							0	10	0	0	10	0	1866. 71. 73				

Robert Pollock is listed in the 1901 Census living on this holding with his sons John and William and a daughter Margaret. William was married to a Nancy Faulkner and they had seven children living with them. There was also an eighth child who was listed in his grandfather William J. Falconer's house.

Robert Pollock died in 1909 and as the page below, from the [1898-1910] book [VAL/12/B/29/1C], shows William Pollock replaced his father Robert in holding No. 19. The date of the change from Robert to William was 1910. Note that the date is written in the slightly darker shade of blue on the right of the page. The lighter shade of blue refers to the "In fee" change in 1907. This was as a result of the buying out of the farm under the Land Purchase Act – hence the LAP stamp. Light blue is also used to record the arrival of the Aghadowey Creamery in 1902 and purple is used to record the Grove Orange Hall in 1908. With time, as these colours fade, it will be difficult to distinguish between the dates and the changes. Incidentally, the dates of the changes are approximate. I suspect that in many cases the actual date of the change was probably earlier. These dates signify the times when a valuer visited a townland.

VAL/12/B/29/1C [1898-1910]

County of Londonderry

RURAL DISTRICT OF Ballymena

Barony of Coleraine

Parish of Donaghadee

Electoral Division of The Grove

Reference to Map.	NAMES		Description of Townland	Area Statute Measure.		RATINGS ANNUAL VALUATION.			Total	OBSERVATIONS	
	Townlands and Compilers.	Immediate Lessees.		Acres	Square Feet	Land	Buildings	Other			
10350 19	Robert Pollock	James Church	No. 19 & Land	11	3 20	5	5	0	6	5 0	1907 1910
10351 20	James Church	Do. [LAP]	No. 19 & Land	13	0 25	9	5	0	10	5 0	
10352 21	Robert Pollock	James Church	No. 19 & Land	63	2 30	32	15	0	35	15 0	1907
10353 22	Aghadowey Creamery	Do. [LAP]	Separating Buildings						5	10 0	1902 (P.O. 1902)
10354 23	Robert Pollock	James Church	Grove Orange Hall						2	0 0	1908 (P.O. 1908)
10355 24	Robert Pollock	James Church	No. 19 & Land	20	0 25	10	10	0	12	5 0	1907 1910 Compens.
10356 25	William Church	Do. [LAP]		13	2 35	5	5	0	6	0 0	
10357 26	Robert Pollock	Do. [LAP]		13	1 5	5	0	0	5	10 0	1907
10358 27	Nancy Pollock	Do. [LAP]	No. 19 & Land	2	1 30	3	5	0	4	0 0	1907

99

This next page below [VAL/12/B/29/1D] covering the years 1911-1929 shows William Pollock's name stroked out in 1912 against farm No. 19 and the new name of Robert Falkiner inserted. Robert was William's brother-in-law.

VAL/12/B/29/1D [1911-1929]
(A.) COUNTY OF *Lombardy*

VAL/12/B/29/1D [1911-1929]
UNION OF *Coleraine* 5L

Townland of *Moyletra Toy* O.S. *26* Rural District of *Coleraine* Electoral Division of *The Grove*

Reference to Map.	NAMES.		Description of Tenement.	Rateable Annual Valuation.												OBSERVATIONS.			
	Occupiers.	Intermediate Lessors.		Area.			Land.			Buildings.			Railways, Fisheries, Public Works, &c.				Total.		
				a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
15	<i>Ernest Jones</i>	<i>Infra</i> L.A.P.	<i>No off. land</i>	3	3	30	1	15	0	0	10	0	2	5	0	2	5	0	A
16 a	<i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i>	<i>Infra</i> L.A.P.	<i>Off. land</i>	11	2	20	4	15	0	1	10	0	6	5	0	6	5	0	1911 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929
17	<i>Hugh</i> <i>John Holmes</i>	<i>Infra</i> L.A.P.	<i>Do. off. land</i>	4	3	5	3	10	0	0	15	0	3	15	0	3	15	0	A 1911
18 a	<i>Hugh</i> <i>John Holmes</i>	<i>Infra</i> L.A.P.		19	0	20	8	0	0	1	0	0	9	5	0	9	5	0	1911
18 b	<i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i>	<i>John Holmes</i>	<i>No off. land</i>																1911 1922 A
19	<i>William Pollock</i> <i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i> <i>John Holmes</i>	<i>Infra</i> L.A.P.	<i>No off. land</i>	11	3	20	5	5	0	1	0	0	6	5	0	6	5	0	1911 1923

114

115

The page below [VAL/12/B/29/1D] shows that William Pollock had moved to another farm in the townland No. 27b in Barnagaw. Barnagaw was a local unofficial place-name for the southern end of Moyletra Toy. However, the 1911 Census clearly shows William Pollock and his family still living in No. 19. The 1911 Census was taken at the beginning of April. This means that the change must have occurred later in that year.

(A.)

VAL/12/8/29/1D [1911-1929]
COUNTY OF *Londonderry*

VAL/12/8/29/1D [1911-1929]
UNION OF *Coleraine*

56

Townland of *Moyletra Toy* O.S. *2* Rural District of *Coleraine* Electoral Division of *The Grove*

Reference to Map.	NAMES.		Description of Tenement.	Rateable Annual Valuation.												OBSERVATIONS.
	Occupiers.	Intermediate Lessors.		Area.			Land.			Buildings.			Buildings, Fences, Tolls, Halls, Bells, &c.			
				a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
120	<i>Robert Holmes</i>	<i>Infra</i>	<i>No off. land</i>	13	1	5	5	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	1911 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929
125	<i>Thos Gibson</i>	<i>Infra</i>		8	1	35	3	0	0	0	15	0	3	10	0	A
126	<i>Thos Gibson</i>	<i>Infra</i>		11	0	0	5	0	0	0	15	0	5	15	0	A
127 a	<i>James Pollock</i>	<i>Infra</i>					2	15	0	0	15	0	2	10	0	1911 1923
127 b	<i>James Pollock</i>	<i>Infra</i>		22	1	20	7	15	0	1	0	0	8	15	0	1911 1923
127 c	<i>James Pollock</i>	<i>Infra</i>					2	15	0	0	15	0	2	10	0	1911 1923
Total				63	2	13	19	2	5	0			29	10	0	1911 1923

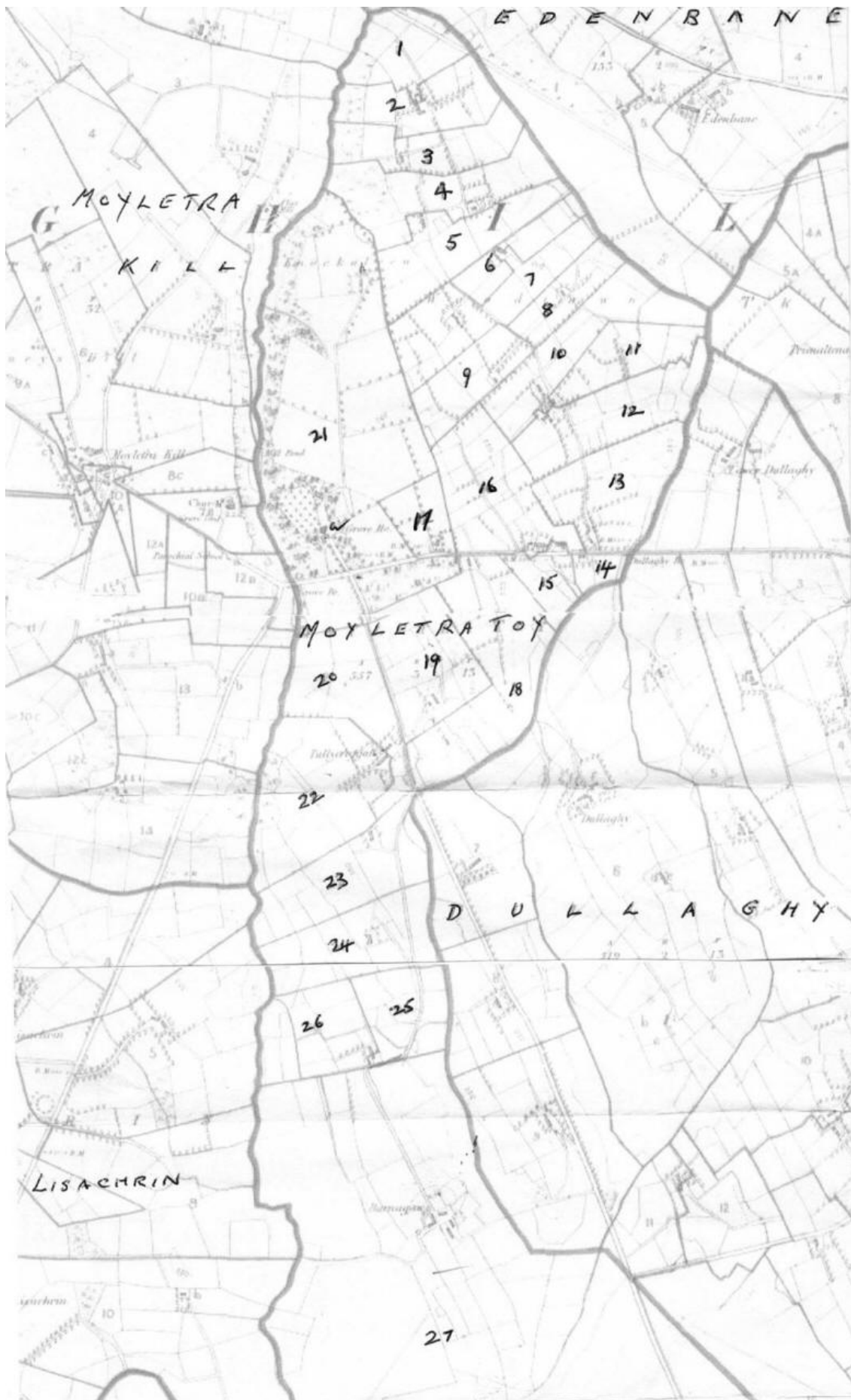
VAL/12/8/29/1D A.T. & S. Ltd. 200. 96.

118

566 2 6

119

Clearly, all of this would make more sense if we looked at a map. The PRONI: VAL/12/D/5/26C [1858-1881] map is shown on the next page. This is one of the valuation maps that accompany the Griffith's Revision Books for this townland and all other townlands within The Grove DED. I already knew that Moyletra Toy was covered by sheet 26.




PRONI: VAL/12/D/5/26C [1858-1881]

How would you find the correct map for a townland that you were studying? First find out the sheet number of the map that covers it. To do this, go to either the *Co. Londonderry or the North & Mid Antrim Townlands* database at the *Administrative Divisions* link in the top menu of the website. Here you will find the sheet number or numbers of every townland within each county. In the case of Moyletra Toy it is 26. The six inch maps that accompany these revisions books always begin with the PRONI catalogue reference VAL/12/D. Because all Co. Londonderry valuation maps will have a number 5 in the reference number, the PRONI reference for this map will be VAL/12/D/5/26. The equivalent for the Co. Antrim sheet 26 would be VAL/12/D/1/26. However, normally, there will be more than one map covering the years between the 1860s and the 1900. So when we search the PRONI eCatalogue we need to use an * as shown in the screenshot below. The * creates a wildcard search and will “bring out” all of the maps covering the period after 1860. Below is an the Moyletra Toy example.


Search the eCatalogue

Search using one or more of the fields below.

Any Text : [Show Help](#) 


☒ Description and Title ☐ Description Only ☐ Title Only

☒ Match ALL words ☐ Match ANY word ☐ Match Phrase



Date : Year To Year [Show Help](#) 

Month Month

Day Day

PRONI Ref : [Show Help](#) 

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Search Results: Overview

[Results](#)

 [First](#)
 [Previous](#)
[1 - 10 of 12]
[Next](#) 
[Last](#) 

PRONI Reference	Date(s)	Title/Description	Item	
VAL/12/D/5/26A	[c.1858]-[c.1876]	[Coleraine Union]. Coleraine Rural District.	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26B	c.1858-[c.1881]	[Ballymoney Union]. [Coleraine Rural District	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26C	c.1858-[c.1881]	[Ballymoney Union]. [Coleraine Rural District	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26D	c.1860-[c.1879]	Magherafelt Union. [Magherafelt Rural District	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26E	[c.1877]-[c.1906]	[Ballymoney] Coleraine and [Magherafelt	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26F	[c.1880]-[c.1904]	[Ballymoney, Coleraine] and Magherafelt	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26G	[c.1882]-[c.1899]	Ballymoney [Coleraine and Magherafelt].	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26H	1895-1899	Ballymoney [Coleraine and Magherafelt] Unions.	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26J	1895-c.1915	[Ballymoney, Coleraine] and Magherafelt	Y	View
VAL/12/D/5/26K	1895-c.1915	[Ballymoney, Coleraine and Magherafelt Unions	Y	View

There are ten maps here covering the years 1858-c.1915. It is not really necessary to match the dates of the maps exactly with the dates of the books, except, in the odd case, where there were substantial changes in the numbering of holdings. Unfortunately sheet 26 covers an area that is divided between different Poor law Unions. The townlands in the southern part of the map are in the Poor Law Union of Magherafelt and those in the northern part are in Ballymoney Poor Law Union [which after 1898 are transferred to Coleraine Poor Law Union].

It is necessary, therefore, to choose the maps showing the correct Poor Law Union for Moyletra Toy i.e. either Ballymoney or Coleraine. For example, we definitely do not want sheet 26D since it concentrates on Magherafelt Poor law Union. I chose 26C which is the map shown on the previous page. To be honest, at times making a choice can be difficult so it best to order a number of maps around the date that you want and you will usually find one that is suitable.

An alternative would be to use the Google maps on the askaboutireland.ie website. For copyright reasons I cannot show you a copy of this map here. However, it is worth noting here that the Google maps appear to date from the 1860s/1870s and I get the impression that they are VAL/12/D maps. Clearly if you want a later map you will have to use the maps in PRONI.

Note that the Griffith's Revisions Books are necessary to connect names and properties listed in the c.1860 Griffith's Printed Valuation with the names and houses listed in the 1901 and 1911 Census. You can do this for Moyletra Toy at the *Case Studies of Families and Localities* link in the top menu of this website.

URBAN EXAMPLE

This example relates to Church Street, Coleraine which is also the subject of one of the locality studies in the top menu of the website. Searching for the street in the revision books is similar to the process outlined above for the townland of Moyletra Toy. However, there is a significant difference. If I simply typed Coleraine into the "Any Text" box I would end up with ninety results because Coleraine will bring out all DEDs within the Coleraine Poor Law Union. However, If I type in Electoral Division of Coleraine and click on the button "Match Phrase" I will get the result shown below.

PRONI Reference	Date(s)	Title/Description	Item	
VAL/12/B/30/9A	1859-1865	Electoral Division of Coleraine, Parish	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9B	1866-1874	Electoral Division of Coleraine, Parish	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9C	1874-1884	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9D	1874-1884	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9E	1885-1892	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9F	1885-1892	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 2	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9G	1893-1899	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9H	1893-1899	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9J	1893-1899	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 2	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9K	1900-1912	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9L	1900-1912	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9M	1900-1912	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 3	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9N	1913-1931	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 1	Y	View
VAL/12/B/30/9P	1913-1931	Electoral Division of Coleraine pages 2	Y	View

The search produced fourteen books covering the period 1859-1931. Note that there are in fact seven sets of books covering the period but for some dates there can be up to three separate books. When I order these books in PRONI I will get all of these books because they constitute a set. I will then have to identify the books, within each period, that contain Church Street.

I will also need accompanying maps. The 1859 VAL/2/D/5/15 map which accompanies the Printed Griffith's Valuation of 1859 will probably match the numbering in the books for the earlier period, but I will have to look at the VAL/12/E series of large scale town maps for the later period. Note that, as far as I know, these large scale maps are not available on the askaboutireland.ie website.

Again I would use the PRONI eCatalogue. The screenshot below shows that I have typed the word Coleraine in the "Any Text" box and VAL/12/E* in the "PRONI Ref." box.

Search the eCatalogue

Search using one or more of the fields below.

Any Text : [Show Help](#)
☒ Description and Title ☐ Description Only ☐ Title Only
☒ Match ALL words ☐ Match ANY word ☐ Match Phrase

Date : Year To Year [Show Help](#)
Month Month
Day Day

PRONI Ref : [Show Help](#)

Results per Page : Sort By :

The result of this search is shown on the next page.

PRONI Reference	Date(s)	Title/Description	Item	
VAL/12/E/156	1882-c.1935	Coleraine	N	View
VAL/12/E/156/1	1882-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	N	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/1	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/2	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/3	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/4	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/5	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/6	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/7	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/8	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/9	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/10	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/11	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/12	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/13	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/14	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/15	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/1/16	[1882]-1907	Coleraine: 10 Feet to one mile 1:500	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/2	1907 - c.1935	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	N	View
VAL/12/E/156/2/1	1907-[c.1935]	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/2/2	1907-[c.1935]	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/2/3	1907-[c.1935]	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/2/4	1907-[c.1935]	Coleraine: [Missing]. 5 Feet to one mile	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/2/5	1907-[c.1935]	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/2/6	1907-[c.1935]	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/3	1919	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	N	View
VAL/12/E/156/3/1	1919	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/3/2	1919	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/3/3	1919	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View
VAL/12/E/156/3/4	1919	Coleraine: 5 Feet to one mile 1:1056	Y	View

 First
  Previous
 [1 - 30 of 38]
 Next
  Last

There are maps of the town for four different dates - 1882-1907, 1907-c.1935 and two different sets of maps for 1919: one at a scale of 5 feet to the mile and one at a scale of 25 inches to the mile.

Note that the 1907-35 map is at a scale of 5 feet to the mile and the 1882-1907 is at a scale of 10 feet to the mile.

Note also that these large scale maps have a number of sheets covering the town - the 1882-1907 map has 16 sheets - the 1907-1935 map has 6 sheets [sheet 4 is missing] the 1919, 5 feet to the mile, map has 6 sheets and the 1919, 25 inches to the mile, map has 4 sheets.

Up until the 1882 map the valuers had been recording any changes on the VAL/2/D/5/15 map that accompanied the original Griffith's Valuation in 1858/59 so I was able to relate the changes in the revision books to this map.

For the later part of the nineteenth century and the early part of the twentieth century, I used sheets VAL/12/E/156/9 and VAL/12/E/156/4 which covered Church Street. The 1882 map, in particular, showed me how the numbering of the street had changed from the original 1859 numbers. Similar changes took place at that time in most of the towns that I have studied within Cos. Londonderry and Antrim.

Over the next few pages you will see copies of these three maps showing Church Street in Coleraine. Then there will be some sample pages from the books which you should be able to relate to some the buildings shown on these maps.



PRONI: VAL/2/D/5/15

The page below from the VAL/12/B/30/9D [1874-1884] Revision Book is still using the map numbers from the above 1859 map – Nos. 9 to 13 on the map. To give you some idea where this is in the street – No. 13 is modern-day Dixons. Note also that the valuers are including the local street numbers which, to some extent, will be used in the later maps.

Barony of <i>St. Lawrence</i> of <i>Coleraine</i> County <i>Down</i>				Union of <i>Coleraine</i> Electoral Division of <i>Coleraine</i> 257												
Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of Tenement	RATABLE ANNUAL VALUATION.										OBSERVATIONS.		
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.		Area.	Land.			Buildings.			Total.					
				A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
		<i>Coleraine</i> <i>Parish</i> <i>St. Paul's</i>														
		<i>St. Paul's</i> <i>Church</i> <i>St. Paul's</i>														
9 17		<i>David Woff</i>	<i>Daniel Taylor</i>							15	0	0	15	0	0	73 78 80
10 19		<i>Rev. John Church</i>	<i>same</i>							9	0	0	9	0	0	
		<i>Joseph Shenton</i>								18	0	0				
11 21		<i>John Hagler</i>	<i>Wofford</i>							18	0	0	18	0	0	74 75 84
		<i>William Hagler</i>														
		<i>William Hagler</i>														
		<i>David Hagler</i>	<i>same</i>							14	0	0	14	0	0	72 81 83 84
		<i>William Hagler</i>														
12 23		<i>Robert Hagler</i>	<i>Wofford</i>							48	0	0	48	0	0	75 77 80
		<i>William Hagler</i>								50	0	0	50	0	0	81 78 82
		<i>John Hagler</i>	<i>Wofford</i>							40	0	0	40	0	0	
		<i>William Hagler</i>								16	0	0	16	0	0	
		<i>William Hagler</i>								20	0	0	20	0	0	81 82

The next page [overleaf] from the VAL/12/B/30/9N [1913-1931] Revision Book shows that the valuers are now using numbers that are more like the street numbers. However, if you look closely there is not always a perfect match. This, unfortunately, is not uncommon in streets at this time and can lead to all sorts of problems when trying to find the exact location of a property in the street.

66.

(B.) COUNTY OF Londonderry

Townland of _____ O.S. TP 4

UNION OF Coleraine

BOROUGH of Coleraine

Urban District of Coleraine

Electoral Division of Coleraine

Reference to Map.	Local No.	NAMES.		Description of Tenement.	Rateable Annual Valuation.					OBSERVATIONS.				
		Streets and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.		Land.	Buildings.	Railways, Fisheries, Tolls, Hall-Rents, &c.	Total.						
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
		<u>Church Street</u>												
19		<u>Thomas J. Hills</u> <u>John Caldwell</u>	<u>Richard J. Hazlett</u>	No. off-ryd.				18	0	0				18 0 0 1927
21	19	<u>McGrath Bros.</u>	<u>Mrs. Williamson</u>	Shop, rooms, &c.				15	0	0				15 0 0 1928 3 28 p. 14-1905
23	23	<u>Robert McIntosh</u> <u>John J. Baxter</u>	<u>Thos. Keenan</u>	No. off-ryd.				48	0	0				48 0 0 1928 1921
25	25-29	<u>John J. McKenny</u>	<u>John Joseph McKenny</u>	No. shore & garden				50	0	0				50 0 0 1928 1921
27	27	<u>John J. McKenny</u>	<u>John Joseph McKenny</u>	No. (upper part)				18	0	0				18 0 0 1928 1921
27-29	27-33	<u>Johnston and Armstrong</u>	<u>Mrs. Barr</u>	No. Shop off-ryd.				64	0	0				64 0 0 1926 1927 28 30

Note that the map covering the period 1882-1907 is at a much larger scale. Note also that the 1859 numbers have been stroked out and replaced with a new set of numbers which are retained in the 1907 map shown overleaf. The fact that the 1859 numbers appear on this map at all would suggest that the valuers were still using these old numbers at the beginning of the 1880s.



PRONI: VAL/12/E/156/9

This map c.1907 is now using the new numbering system. The property that had been 13 in 1859 is now 25. This was occupied by David Dixon from 1930. Next door, No. 23 had been No. 12 in 1859. William Baxter, chemist, who had first moved into these premises c.1875, had been replaced by Robert McIntosh, hardware merchant, in 1925. Only Dixons remain today.



PRONI: VAL/12/E/156/4

If you want to search for the Griffith's Revision Books and the accompanying maps in other towns and villages, then you will use the process outlined above. As the example above shows, you will often find that the later town valuation maps for the larger urban areas such as Londonderry and Coleraine are at a much larger scale, are easier to read and show very clearly the change in numbering of properties which took place from the late 1880s onwards.

Further example

If you click on the *Cases Studies of Families and Localities* link in the top menu and then click on the Frizzell family of Ballymoney link on that webpage it will take you to another page where you can see the relevant pages from the Griffith's Revision Books for Charlotte Street, Union Street and Church Street in Ballymoney covering the period c.1887 to c.1920s.

Valuers' Notebooks

Also of interest are a series of valuers' note-books [VAL/12A]. These first appeared in 1894 and record the details behind the revising valuer's decision to revise, upwards or downwards, the valuation of those premises where an addition or other alteration had been made. Sometimes, they also contain further information about occupants.

Northern Ireland General Revaluation, 1935

If you want to carry on looking for people and where they lived after 1930 then you will have to switch to the general revaluation of Northern Ireland which was published in 1935 - see separate paper.

[1] I should warn you that searching and ordering revision books on the online catalogue in the PRONI office differs slightly from searching the eCatalogue online through the Internet. The Internet version is simply a searching system, the version at PRONI is both a searching system and an ordering system. At PRONI I type in VAL/12B [with no asterisk]

in the PRONI Ref. box and this brings up all of the revision books for all of the counties in Northern Ireland. I then scroll down the list until I find the set of revision books that I want. It is easier to find the books if you already know the full PRONI reference number for the particular books you wish to order. In fact you can order the books without a search. If you have a problem the PRONI staff will help you.

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