

## THE CUNNINGHAMS OF TIPPERARY TOWN

Ellen Cunningham was born in about 1750 of Tipperary town, County Tipperary, Ireland. She married William Kennedy in about 1775 in Tipperary.

Three Cunninghams are listed in Griffiths Valuation in Tipperary town in 1850: **John Cunningham** in Bohercrow, **John Cunningham** in Carrownreddy, and **William Cunningham** in Spital Land.

Only one Cunningham is listed in the Tithe Applotment of 1829 for Tipperary town: **Nicholas Cunningham** in Carrownreddy. This is the townland where several Kennedys are found in the later Griffiths Valuation (1850).

Widow Ryan	2 5 0	..	..	3 1
Timothy Carroll	1 3 0	..	..	3 8
Edward Dwyer	1 2 0	..	..	3 1/2
Nicholas Cunningham	1 0 20	..	..	2 4
Maurice Walsh	1 1 0	..	..	2 7/2
Thomas O'Sell	4 1 0	..	..	8 11/2
John O'Sullivan	1 1 0	..	..	2 7/2

*Tithe Applotment, Carrownreddy townland, Tipperary town*

The early parish registers for Tipperary town shown these Cunningham families:

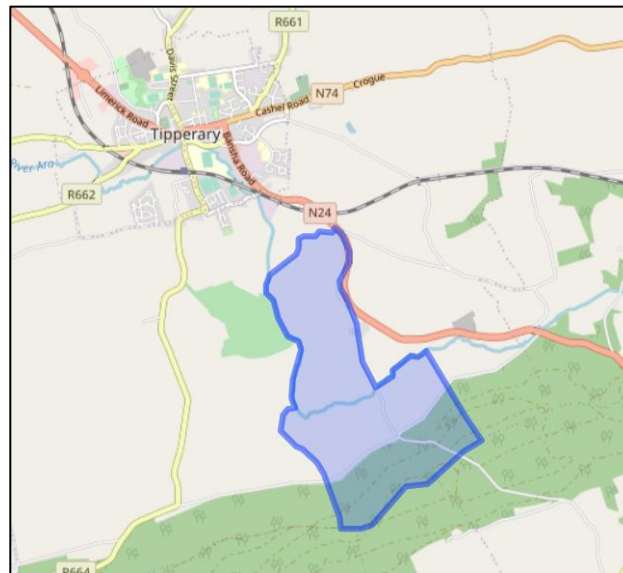
- **Michael Cunningham** and Catherine Synott had a son Martin baptized in 1810
- **Dennis Cunningham** and Joanna Reynolds had a daughter Margaret baptized in 1810, a son James baptized in 1815, and a son Thomas baptized in 1818
- **John Cunningham** and Bridget Clifford had a son Patrick baptized in 1811, a daughter Judith baptized in 1814, and a son John baptized in 1818.
- **William Cunningham** married Mary Crow in 1811.
- **Edmund Cunningham** married Elizabeth Heffernan in 1812.
- **John Cunningham** and Rebecca Williams had a daughter Margaret baptized in 1810, and a son Dennis baptized in 1812.
- **William Cunningham** married Eleonor Madden in 1817.
- **James Cunningham** and Joanna Fahy had a son baptized in 1818.

In the Religious Census of 1766, only one Cunningham is listed in the city of Tipperary - **John Cunningham**. He is listed as a Catholic. John Cunningham is likely Ellen's father. John would have been born in about 1720 of Tipperary.

In the Hearth Tax for Tipperary in 1666-7, no Cunninghams are listed in the town of Tipperary, but but these Cunninghams are found within a few miles of the town of Tipperary, all within the barony of Clanwilliam. The most likely option is found in Cordangan, just two miles from Tipperary town, and in

the same townland as William O'Duane. This is Tirlagh Connegan, and he could be John Cunningham's grandfather or possibly great-grandfather.

PARISH OF CORDANGIN.				
Cordangintowne				
James Bowlster	"	...	3	6
William O'Duane	"	...	1	2
Teige McWilliam	"	...	1	2
Roger McCragh	"	...	1	2
Walter Devereux	"	...	1	2
Mortagh Madin	"	...	1	2
Tirlagh Connegan	"	...	1	2
Rory Farrell	"	...	1	2
Teige McOwen	"	...	1	2
Redmond Bourke	"	...	1	2



*Cordangan townland*

*Parish of Cordangan (only about two miles south of Tipperary town)  
Tirlagh Connegan 1 hearth 2 s.*

*Parish of Templeniry and Cloneloffe (about five miles southeast of Tipperary town)  
Killoquirke  
Mortagh Cuningham 1 hearth 2 s.*

*Parish of Cullen (about six miles northwest of Tipperary town)  
Cullentowne  
Daniell Coningham 1 hearth 2 s.*

*Parish of Emly (about eight miles west of Tipperary town)  
Castle Loghnae*

*Patrick Cunnogh 1 hearth 2 s.*

The name Cunningham in Ireland may be of Irish or Scottish origin. It seems more likely that the Catholic Cunninghams of Tipperary town were of Irish descent.

The Irish Cunninghams came from Connacht: "*The Connacht Cunningham families are mostly native Irish and trace their descent from two sources - one branch from Fiachra, brother of the famous Niall of the Nine Hostages, which was located in County Sligo; the other a sept of the Ui Maine (often called Hy Many), a widespread group of septs centred in counties Galway and Roscommon.*"

The Scottish Cunninghams were part of the Plantation of Ulster: "*The name Cunningham, taken from the place of the same name near Kilmarnock in Ayrshire, was brought to Ireland by settlers from Scotland who arrived in Ulster during the 17th century Plantation of Ulster. Descendants of those settlers today form the bulk of those bearing the surname in that province, where it is most numerous.*"

*SOURCES: Tipperary RC parish register in [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie); Tithes Applotment, Tipperary; Griffiths Valuation, Tipperary; Religious Census of Tipperary, 1766; [www.irishroots.com/cunningham](http://www.irishroots.com/cunningham); Tipperary's Families, Being the Hearth Money Rolls for 1665-6-7, by Thomas Laffan.*