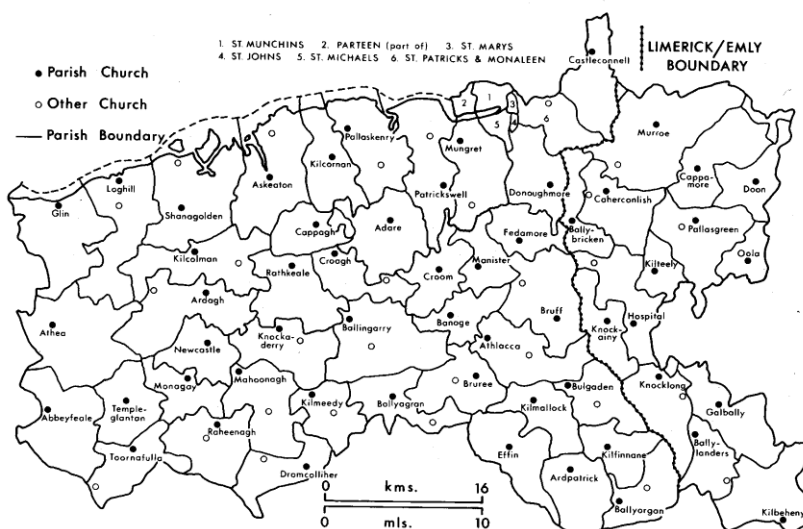


The Careys of Ballingarry



Carey farmland in the townland of Common, Ballingarry parish

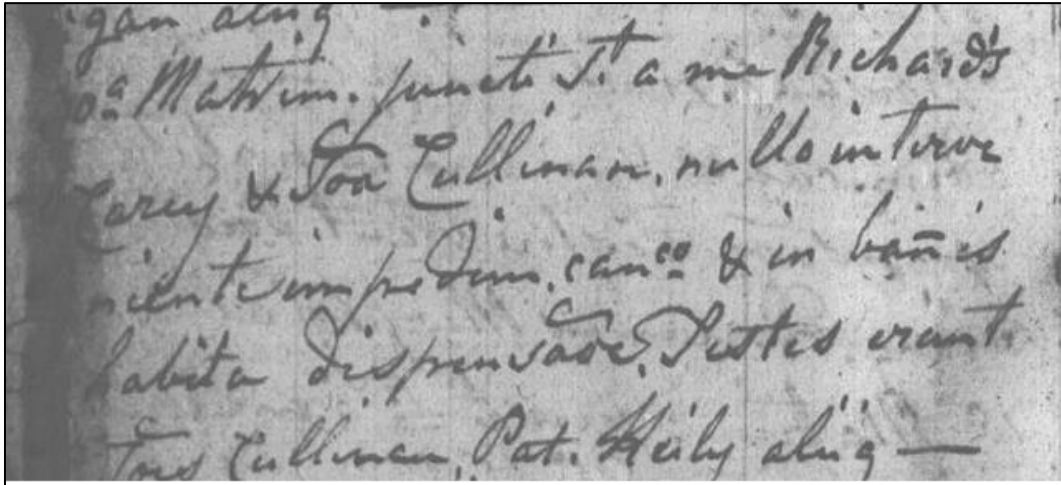
John Carey's parents were married in the parish of Mahoonagh in County Limerick, Ireland in 1826. John's brother, Patrick was christened in Mahoonagh in 1838. No christening record has been found for John Carey, but the Mahoonagh parish register has gaps in the late 1830s.



Mahoonagh is a parish in the west of County Limerick. It is sometimes called Castlemahon. There are two main villages in the parish, Mahoonagh and Feohanagh. Mahoonagh is an ancient Irish name, which means "*place of the tree stumps*".

The first appearance of the Carey family in the Mahoonagh occurred when Richard Carey married Johana Cullinane:

Richard Carey married Johana Cullinane on 30 January 1826 in Mahoonagh. The witnesses to the marriage were John Cullinane and Patrick Kiely.



Marriage record for Richard Carey and Johana Cullinane in Mahoonagh

Richard and Johana's son, Patrick was christened in Mahoonagh in 1838:

Patrick, son of Richard Carey and Johana Cullinane on 12 October 1838 in Mahoonagh.

Careys are shown as witnesses and sponsors in the Mahoonagh parish register:

11 March 1814 John Carey was a witness at the marriage of James Heligan and Margaret Connel.

7 August 1815 James Carey was a sponsor for the baptism of Mary, daughter of Demetrius Hayes and Mary Carey.

Carey children baptized in the parish of Mahoonagh were:

Bridget, christened 25 January 1822, daughter of Jeffrey Carey and Mary Gibbon.

Mary, christened 25 December 1824, daughter of Jeffrey Carey and Mary Gibbon.

John, christened 3 March 1843, son of Thomas Carey and Margaret Connors.

Mary, christened 29 March 1847, daughter of Thomas Carey and Margaret Connors.

Honora, christened 18 September 1852, daughter of Thomas Carey and Margaret Connors.

In Griffith's Valuation, a tax valuation of landholders, for Mahoonagh in 1851 there is only one Carey listed. Thomas Carey is found in the townland of Curragh in lot 4:

Occupier: Thomas Carey

Immediate Lessor: John Meagher

Description of tenements: House and land

Area: 3,1,30

Net annual value: 2 L., 2 s., 0 d.

Parish of Ballingarry

Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of Tenement	Area A R P	NET ANNUAL VALUE		
	True Land & Occupiers	Immediate Lessors			Land	Buildings	Total
					£ S D	£ S D	£ S D
3 a	Common on Patrick Sullivan	In fee	House and garden	0 0 25	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
					1 3 39	0 6 0	
3 b	Patrick Casey	"	Land	58 0 13	12 12 0	-	13 15 0
						1 2 27	0 11 0
3 c	Patrick Hurley	Patrick Casey	Garden	0 0 35	0 1 0	-	0 1 0
							0 7 0
3 d	Edw. Gooling	"	House	-	-	0 7 0	0 7 0
							0 10 0
3 e	Alice Cagney	"	House	-	-	0 8 0	0 8 0
							0 8 0
3 f	Vacant	"	House	-	-	0 5 0	0 5 0
							0 6 0
3 g	Vacant	"	House	-	-	0 10 0	0 10 0
							0 7 0
3 h	William Roche	"	House	-	-	0 5 0	0 5 0
							0 5 0
3 i	Thomas Kealy	"	House	-	-	0 7 0	0 7 0
							0 5 0
3 j	Thomas Cagney	"	House	-	-	0 5 0	0 5 0
							0 8 0
4 a	John Sullivan	In fee	House and land	5 0 2	0 10 0	0 8 0	0 18 0
							0 15 0
5 a	James Sullivan	"	Ho. office land	13 3 11	0 19 0	0 5 0	0 5 0
							0 5 0
5 b	Michael Ceady	William Scanlon	House	-	-	0 5 0	0 5 0
							0 8 0
5 c	William Cagney	"	House & garden	1 0 28	0 7 0	0 8 0	0 15 0
							0 2 0
5 d	William Russell	"	House & garden	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 6 0	0 8 0
							0 2 0
7	William Scanlon	In fee	Waste of road &c	0 2 0	-	-	-
							0 5 0
8	-	"	Land	1 2 38	0 5 0	-	0 5 0
							198 3 38
9 a	John Cagney	"	Commonage	1 2 38	-	-	-
							0 7 0
9 b	Barth. Lester	"	Land	1 3 16	0 6 0	-	0 13 0
							0 6 0
10	Patrick Casey	"	House and garden	0 0 12	0 1 0	0 6 0	0 7 0
							0 16 0
11	Richard Casey	"	Land	3 3 17	0 16 0	-	0 16 0
							0 4 0
12	Geoffrey Casey	"	House and land	0 3 14	0 4 0	0 7 0	0 11 0
							0 2 0
13	John Casey	"	House and garden	0 1 20	0 2 0	0 5 0	0 7 0
							0 1 0
14	Michael Concho	"	House and garden	0 0 22	0 1 0	0 8 0	0 9 0
							0 12 0
15	Margaret Concho	"	Land	3 1 15	0 4 0	-	0 4 0
							1 10 0
16	John Keary	"	Land	12 3 6	1 10 0	-	1 10 0
							0 5 0
17	James Keary	"	Land	2 0 9	0 5 0	-	0 5 0
							0 8 0
18	Daniel Sallette	"	Land	9 1 21	0 8 0	-	0 8 0
							2 0 0
19	William Roche	"	Land	8 3 3	2 0 0	-	2 0 0
							0 1 0
20	John Bridgeman	"	Land	0 0 37	0 1 0	-	0 1 0
							0 4 0
21	Thomas Bridgeman	"	Land	0 3 3	0 4 0	-	0 4 0
							0 6 0
22	Thomas Bridgeman	"	Land	1 1 27	0 6 0	-	0 6 0
							0 5 0
23	Thomas Bridgeman	"	Land	1 0 15	0 5 0	-	0 5 0
							0 8 0
24	Michael Costello	"	Land	1 2 30	0 8 0	-	0 8 0
							0 14 0
25	Thomas Bridgeman	"	Land	2 1 20	0 14 0	-	0 14 0
							1 2 0
26	Thomas Bridgeman	"	House and land	2 0 33	1 2 0	0 15 0	1 7 0
							0 7 0
27	Rev. G. G. Gullivan	"	Ho. office & garden	0 3 21	0 7 0	1 0 0	1 7 0
							3 10 0
28	Rev. G. G. Gullivan	"	Land	6 3 7	3 10 0	-	3 10 0
							0 1 0
29	Thomas Myrtle	"	House & garden	0 0 35	0 1 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
							3 5 0
30	Margaret Beggane	In fee	School ho. office	-	-	3 5 0	3 5 0
							0 13 0
31	Thomas Beggane	"	Land	1 1 26	0 13 0	-	0 13 0
							0 1 0
32	Patrick Costello	"	Land	0 0 18	0 1 0	-	0 1 0
							0 5 0
33	John Bridgeman	"	Land	0 2 7	0 5 0	-	0 5 0
							0 1 0
34	Rev. G. G. Gullivan	"	Land	0 0 6	0 1 0	-	0 1 0
							0 14 0
35	William Gung	"	Land	2 1 30	0 14 0	-	0 14 0
							0 10 0
36	Margaret Beggane	In fee	House	-	-	0 10 0	0 10 0
							0 9 0
37	Daniel Costello	"	Ho. office land	1 2 7	0 19 0	0 9 0	2 10 0
							1 2 0
38	Vacant	Margaret Beggane	Land	3 2 21	1 2 0	-	2 10 0
							0 4 0
39	-	"	House	0 2 7	0 4 0	-	0 4 0
							0 6 0



*Ordnance Survey map of Commons, showing the Carey's property at Lot 10.
This map was created at the time of Griffiths Valuation in 1852*

Richard Carey, Geoffrey Carey and John Carey are found in the townland of Common (An Coimin) or Commons in the parish of Ballingarry in the Griffith's Valuation of 1852. Ballingarry is situated a few miles east of Mahoonagh. Ballingarry means the "*town of the garden*". Ballingarry was a booming town in the early 1800s, and the important industries were weaving and linen. The town's economy was badly impacted by the Famine. The countryside around Ballingarry is dominated by the hill of Knockfierna, which means "*the hill of truth*". Common had about 88 houses, a school house, police barracks, and a commonage area of 198 acres. Patrick Carey was also shown as having land other than a house in the area.



Sunrise over Knockfierna

Knockfierna was a site of ancient importance. The site includes the Knockfierna Giant's Grave, the Knockfierna Cairn, the ancient Knockfierna Ogham Stone, and the Lisnafeean Fort. An ancient javelin head was found on Knockfierna. "*Knockfierna Cairn, according to Lewis, was the site of the ancient temple of Stuadhraicin. The authority for this statement is not given but the heath-covered hill for about a mile west of the dome is known locally as the 'Strickeens'.*"

"The area is classified as heathland and dominated by Ling, Bell Heather, Cross Leaved Heath, Bilberry, Gorse, Cranberry, Bog Rosemary, Bracken, Rushes, Sedges, Bog Cotton, Purple Moor Meadows, Foxtail, Fexcues, Mosses, Lichen (dozens of species), Fern, Woodrush, Purple Orchid, Meadow Saffron and Yellow Foxglove and the Hen Harrier. The fauna includes butterflies, caterpillars, hawks, darter, etc." (Knockfierna the Hill of Truth) The view from the top is described: "Most memorable was a fine August day when my husband

and I stood on top of Knockfierna, a hill of only 950-feet and yet commanding a tremendous all-round view of wide windy acres of rich Munster land, and beyond them the Shannon Estuary, the Kerry hills...To know that every year it has been the custom of our ancestors to assemble on these hills in festivity and high spirits, to look out over the plains and pick out the landmarks, it to understand better Irish history."
(*The Festival of Lughnasa, by Maire McNeill*)



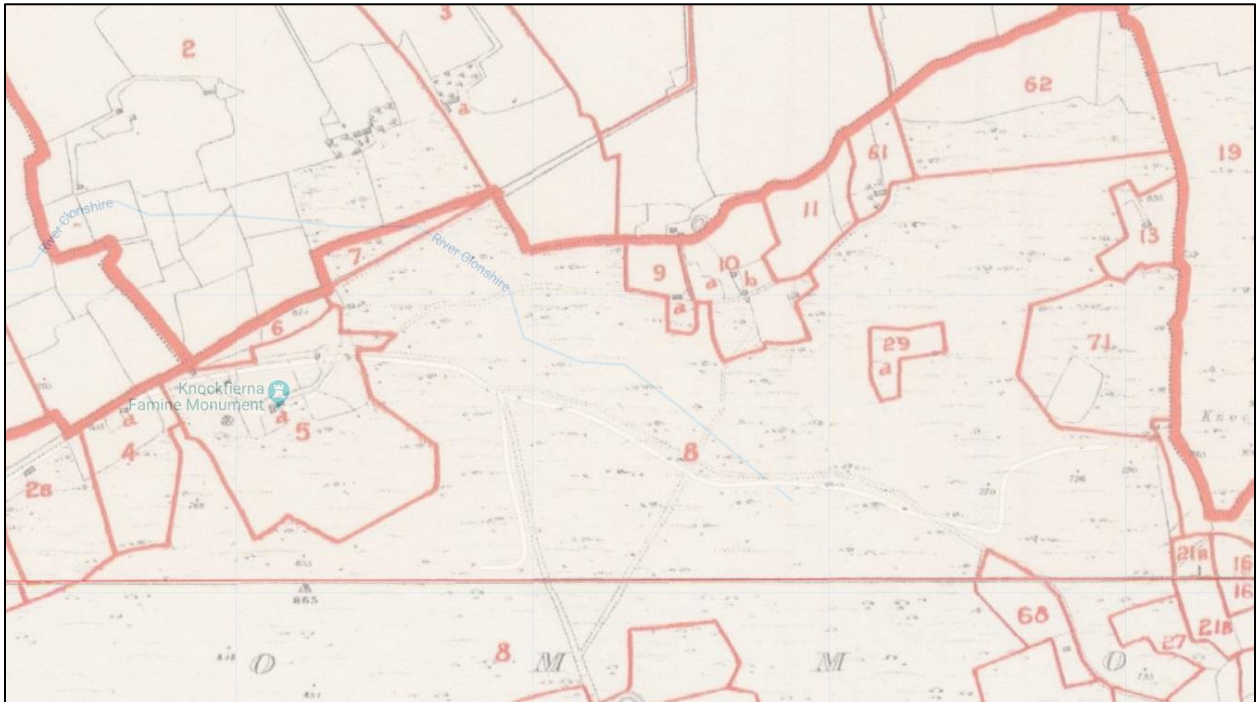
Famine house, Knockfierna

The Careys farmed the fertile ground in Ballinaha and Common at the base of Knockfierna. The commonage area on Knockfierna was hilly and rocky, and not good for farming. It was literally in the Carey's backyard. Knockfierna is now the site of a park dedicated to the famine houses – houses that were built and occupied on commonage land by those who were evicted by ruthless landlords in the potato famine. Many were evicted from the nearby Cox estate in Ballynoe, a townland just south of Commons. "*Knockfierna had a lot of common ground, meaning that it was not owned by a landlord, so many evicted families moved to the upper slopes between 1830-1845. The hill was densely populated with over two hundred stone cabins and a total population of over one thousand persons. These people had plots of land, and depended on potato crops totally so when the crop failed in consecutive years they faced death or emigration.*" (*Knockfierna, the Hill of Truth*)

The *Limerick Reporter* for May 1847 recounts events that took place in the area during the Famine: "*Seven carts of flour and four loads of Indian meal from Croom were being escorted by police to Ballingarry, when 500 men and women attacked the convoy near Kilmacow. When they were told the supplies were for the Relief Committee at Ballingarry, they took only one cart-load...On the same day as the attack, 300 people from Knockfierna Hill drove off fifty cattle and only gave up when they were promised work by the curate.*" The famine memorial is located very near the Carey's property: "*You will see pre-famine unfinished field patterns, walls and potato ridges (lazy beds). These ridges show that the last crops were never dug out because of the potato blight. A megalithic tomb is visible on the northern slope of Knockfierna and the remains of a cairn on the summit. The Mass rock is on the northern side of the pinnacle which was used during the Penal times (1700-1800).*"

A local history describes Commons at the time: "*Much of Cnoc Firinne is a commonage, and in the bad times people used to come from all parts and build Scalps (Scailpeanna) to live in. These were very numerous during that time. The poor men did a day's work when they got the chance. Their wages were four pence a day. During the famine times when there was nothing to eat but turnip leaves, one poor man died of hunger because he was too honest to steal and too proud to beg. Stealing was very rife in those*

days. Some were noted for stealing...A family named Dore, who were powerful strong men were noted for doing things of this kind. Flour used to be taken out in sack loads from a mill in Limerick to some of the small towns and very often this used to be held up near Kilmacow Cross by the Knockfierna boys and the flour taken. This became so common that soldiers were sent to Knockfierna to prevent such occurrences. They camped in Dan Sheahan's field and to this day the field is called "The Camp Field". There was also a police barrack in Knockfierna, but the police ceased to live in it over one hundred years ago. The Barrack is now owned by Mr. David Biggane." (Old Stories from Knockfierna During the Famine Times; Knockfierna & District Annual Journal, Vol 5, 1993)



Ordnance Survey map of Commons. The Carey's lot is Lot 10. The current site of the Knockfierna Famine Monument is very near, on Lot 5.

The large open commonage area is literally in the Carey's backyard.

The Careys owned a small lot of land, which they subdivided. They owned it in fee, and did not pay rent or live in the commonage area in a famine house. They showed great resiliency to have survived, as the area was hard-hit by the famine. Richard's house was small - 15 1/2 feet by 21 1/2 feet, and he owned 3/4 acres of land. This is a cottier or farm laborer's size property. Altogether, with Richard, John, Patrick, and Jeffrey, they owned about four acres. Richard and Jeffrey could have been working as farm laborers in Mahoonagh in the mid-1820s, then returned home to work the family property. In 1850 John Carey was listed as a milk supplier in Ballingarry parish, so the Careys were dairy farmers at this time, and this may have allowed them to survive the potato famine better.

Their property in Griffiths is shown as "in fee", which means that "real estates or freeholds of inheritance are described as in fee". (The Archives of the Valuation of Ireland 1830-1865, Frances McGee) The

property had likely been inherited from their ancestors.



Knockfierna cottages in stages of restoration

The following facts lend support to Ballingarry as the Carey's home:

- Jeffery (Geoffrey) Carey emigrated to America with Richard, lived near the Careys in Chicago, and is most likely Richard's brother. He was born about the same time as Richard. His obituary lists Ballingarry as his birthplace.
- John Carey's sister, Margaret married a man from Mahoonagh near Ballingarry, Thomas Clifford, who was christened in the parish in 1845, the son of Jacob Clifford and Joan Fitzgerald.
- Patrick Carey's wife, Bridget O'Brien came from the nearby parish of Ballingarry. Bridget O'Brien's obituary read: "*Bridget Carey, March 27, 1889, aged 70 yrs., wife of Patrick, nee*

O'Brien, native of Ballingarry, Co. Limerick." Patrick Carey and Bridget O'Brien were married 1 September 1859 in Ballingarry.



Fireplace in the ruins of a Knockfierna famine cottage

Other Careys are found in Griffith's Valuation in 1852 in these townlands:

Ballynahaha

Mary Carey

Michael Carey

Thomas Carey

Bridget Carey

Ballynoe

John Carey

Durraclogh

John Carey

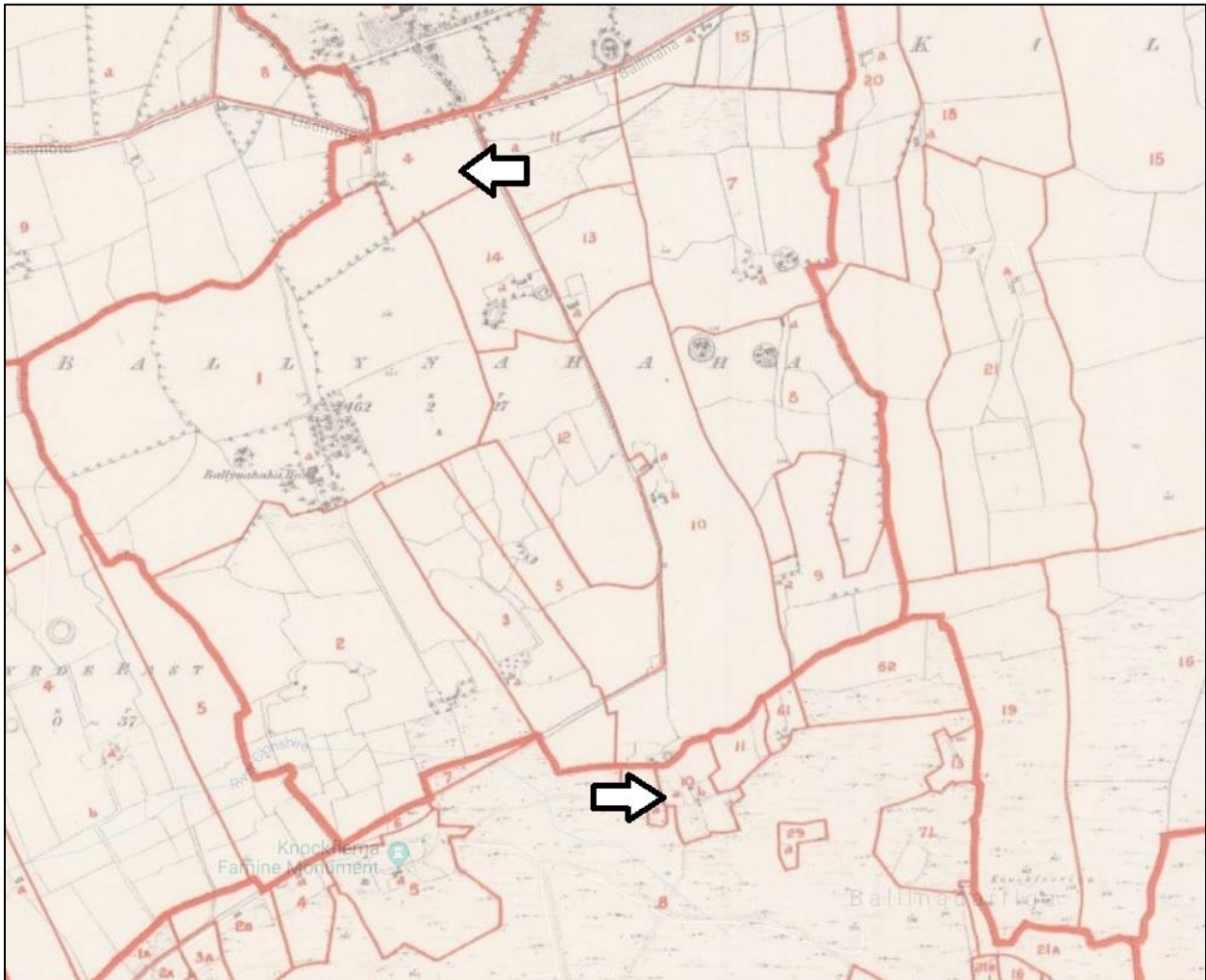
Castle Street, Town of Ballingarry

Geoffrey Carey

Parish of Ballingarry

167
5

Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of Tenement	Area	NET ANNUAL VALUE				
	Townlands & Occupiers	Immediate Lessors			Land	Buildings	Total		
				£	£	£	s	d	
Ballykeran West Ord S. 37									
1	a	Earl of Clare	Super	Herd's Ho. office land	108 0 39	63 5 0	1 10 0		53 15 0
2	a	John Grady	Earl of Clare	Land	15 1 8	9 0 0	-		
3	a	John & Bell	Earl of Clare	Ho. office and land	20 1 2	9 15 0	1 0 0		10 15 0
3	b	Patrick Kennedy	John & Bell	Ho. office and land Gate Lodge	51 0 28	18 15 0	7 10 0		26 5 0
							0 12 0		0 12 0
				Total	194 3 37	80 15 0	10 12 0		91 7 0
Ballyknockane Ord S. 30									
1	a	William Scaulan	Super	House, office, gate-lodge and land	138 0 26	85 15 0	25 5 0		111 0 0
2	b	Robert Wall	William Scaulan	House	-	-	0 10 0		0 10 0
3		William Harman		Land	5 3 3	4 4 0	-		4 4 0
					1 2 27	0 18 0	-		2 18 0
				Total	145 2 26	90 17 0	25 15 0		116 12 0
Ballynahaha Ord S. 30									
1	a	David Bennett	William Scaulan	Ho. office land	103 3 7	63 0 0	11 0 0		74 0 0
2	b	David Bennett	David Bennett	House	-	-	0 15 0		0 15 0
3	a	John Kennedy	William Scaulan	Ho. office land	11 1 36	6 7 0	1 18 0		8 5 0
3	b			Land	18 1 4	10 10 0	-		10 10 0
4	a	Mary Barry		Ho. office land	-	3 5 0	0 10 0		3 15 0
4	b	Thomas Barry		Ho. office & land	-	3 5 0	0 10 0		3 15 0
4	c	Bridget Barry		Ho. office & land	39 1 39	6 10 0	1 0 0		7 10 0
4	d	Michael Barry		Ho. office & land	-	6 10 0	0 10 0		7 0 0
5	a	William Scaulan	John Pigott	Land	23 1 20	11 10 0	-		52 10 0
5	b	Patrick Lynch	William Scaulan	Herd's Ho. office land	92 1 20	41 10 0	0 15 0		52 10 0
5	c	David Bennett		House	-	-	0 14 0		0 14 0
5	d			House	-	-	0 14 0		0 14 0
5	e			House	-	-	0 15 0		0 15 0
5	f	William Harman		House and garden	0 0 14	0 1 0	0 15 0		0 16 0
5	g	Patrick Donnelly		House	-	-	0 14 0		0 14 0
6	a	William Deau		House and land	18 1 4	4 5 0	0 10 0		4 15 0
6	b	William Bishop		House and land	-	4 5 0	0 10 0		4 15 0
7	a	William O'Brien		Ho. office & land	40 3 5	22 3 0	1 12 0		23 15 0
8	a	Thomas O'Brien		Ho. office & land	29 3 10	17 10 0	1 5 0		18 15 0
9	a	John O'Brien		Ho. office & land	14 3 9	7 2 0	0 13 0		7 15 0
10	a	John Bagnery	William Scaulan	Ho. office & land	-	12 2 0	1 8 0		13 10 0
10	b	Michael Bagnery		Ho. office & land	43 3 16	12 2 0	0 13 0		12 15 0
11	a	Margaret Murphy		House and land	1 1 13	0 8 0	0 6 0		0 14 0
12	a	Michael Donohoe		Ho. office & land	24 3 30	15 5 0	1 0 0		16 5 0
				Total	462 2 27	247 10 0	28 2 0		275 12 0
Ballynaroogabeg (East) Ord S. 37									
1	a	Daniel O. Power	Revs. J. Harman	Ho. office & land	79 3 39	46 0 0	16 0 0		62 0 0
1	b	William O'Hara	Daniel O. Power	House	-	-	0 8 0		0 8 0
1	c	Patrick O'Connell		House	-	-	0 7 0		0 7 0
2	a	Daniel O. Power	Revs. J. Harman	Land	57 0 11	29 5 0	-		29 5 0
				Total	131 0 10	75 5 0	16 15 0		92 0 0



Map of Ballyhaha and Commons. The Carey's property in Ballinahaha is shown at the top, and the Carey's property in Commons is shown at the bottom. The distance between the two properties is about 700 yards, or 1/3 of a mile (0.6 km), an easy walk.

Records created in 1849 in preparation for Griffith's Valuation give more details on the Carey's property. These records are the House Book, Land Book, and Tenure Book.

A House Book record created in 1849 gives details about the size of their houses. The unit of measure at this time in Ireland was in feet. Richard's house was 21 1/2 feet long by 15 1/2 feet wide, and 5 1/2 feet tall. The height may be measured from the ground, with the house dug in to the ground inside. The quality rating for the house of 3C+ indicates that it was an old thatched roof house of stone walls with mud mortar, or mud walls of the best kind. It was old, but in repair.

Jeffrey's house had belonged to Bridget Carey before 1849, but her names was lined out in 1849 and Jeffrey's name was added. The lot was Jeffrey's by 1852. His house was smaller - 10 1/2 feet long by 15 feet wide, and 5 feet tall. The quality rating of 3C indicates that it was an old thatched roof house of stone

wall with mud mortar, or mud walls of the best kind, which was old and out of repair.

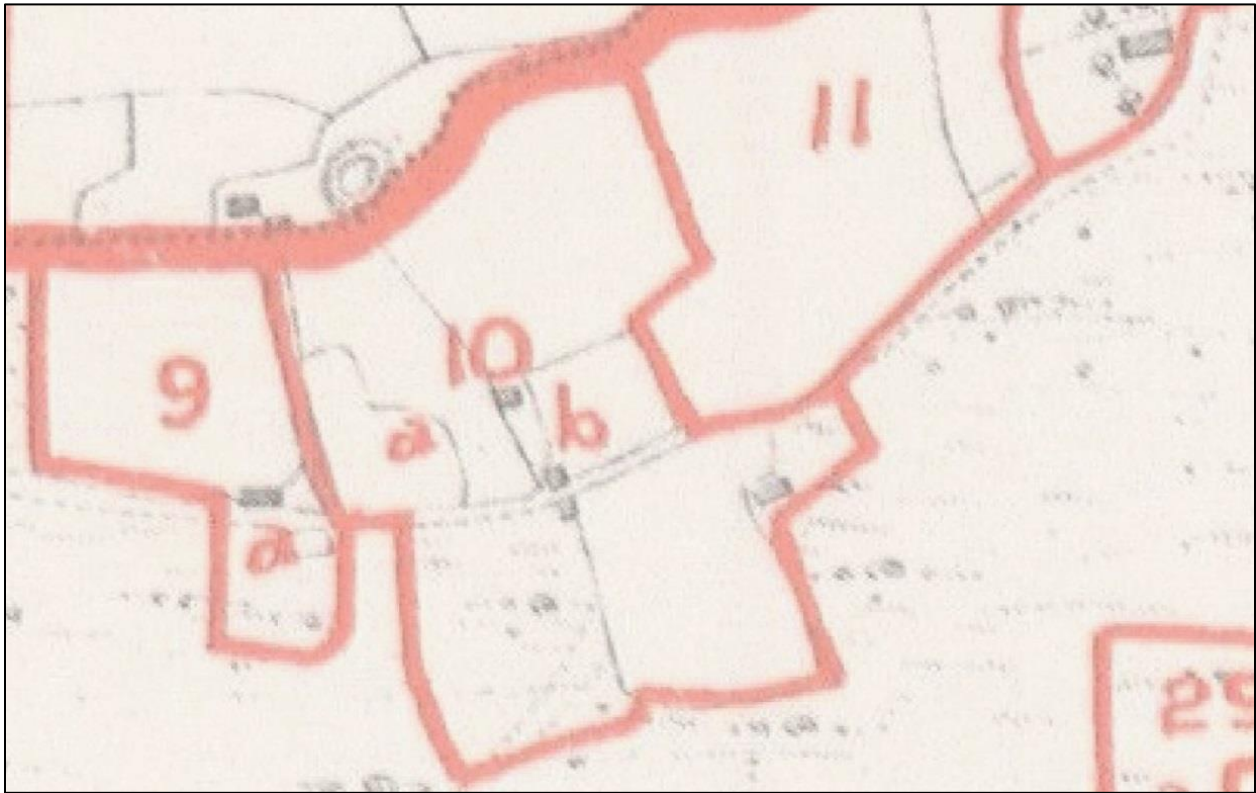
John Carey's house was bigger, although he had the smallest property. It was 30 1/2 feet long by 16 feet wide by 5 feet tall. The quality rating of 3B indicates that it was a medium-age thatched roof house of stone walls with mud mortar, or mud walls of the best kind, which was of medium age, slightly decayed, but in good repair. John was living in a newer and larger house than Richard and Jeffrey.

Jeffrey emigrated to Chicago with Richard in about 1863, and is believed to be his brother. They were both about the same age. Patrick owned the land on which Richard, Jeffrey and John's houses stood, but Patrick owned no house. In another related record, he is shown to be living with John, and is most likely the father. John must be the oldest son, as the land passed to him.

Houses in Townland of *Commons*

No.	Name and Description.	Quality Letter.	Length.	Breadth.	Height.	Number of Measures #	Rate per Measure.	Amount. £ s. d.	No.	Name and Description.
1A a	Michl Hartz House	3B	31.0	15.0	5.6	46	4 1/2	0.15.4	10C	John Carey House
	Office	3C	12.0	8.0	4.0	9	1	0.0.9	11B	Patrick House
								0.16.1		
4B	John Sullivan House	3C+	21.0	14.0	5.6	29	3 1/4	0.7.10	5C	Maest House
	Office	3B-	16.6	17.0	6.6	28	2 1/2	0.5.10	18	Maest House
								0.13.8		
5A	James Sullivan House	3B-	40.0	15.0	6.6	60	4 1/2	1.2.6	27	Maest House
	Office	3B-	29.0	14.0	6.6	40	2 1/2	0.8.4		
								1.10.10		
6B	Michl Ready House	3C	19.0	13.0	5.0	24	2 1/2	0.5.0	26 a	Patrick House
7A	William Hogan House	3B-	24.6	16.0	6.0	39	4 1/4	0.13.9	28 a	Maest House
7B	William Russell House	3C+	18.6	16.6	5.6	30	3 1/4	0.8.1	30 a	Michl House
10A	Richard Carey House	3C+	21.6	15.6	5.6	33	3 1/4	0.8.11	30 b	Michl House
	Jeffrey									Office
10B	Patrick Carey House	3C	10.6	15.0	5.0	15	2 1/4	0.2.9		Office

House Book, Common townland, 1849



Close-up of the Carey's property on Lot 10 in Commons, showing the locations of buildings on the property

A Land Book record shows the quality of the land the Careys owned. It is shown as clay, and moory arable. The value of the house and land did not exceed five pounds, so would not have been taxed. Thomas and Patrick Carey had owned "*heathy pasture*" land nearby, but did not own it by 1852.

Commons					Townland of Commons				
No.	Quantity.	Value of the land as shown by the survey.	Amount of Rent, assessed having been deducted.	Amount of Rent, assessed having been deducted.	No. of Lot.	Description of Lots.	Quantity.	Amount of Land.	Amount of Rent, assessed having been deducted.
						Brought forward	33 0 35	12 7 11	
						William Hogan			
						Moorly Arable	1 0 11.0	0 12 6	
						6 10 th Russell House & Garden	1 2 13.0	0 5 9	
						House	0 0 0		
						Thomas & Patrick Carey			
						Moathy Pasture	1 2 386.0	0 10 5	
						10 th D. Russell	6 0		
						In Common			
						Moathy, rocky Pasture	198 3 381.0	9 19 11	
						John Cagney			
						Clay, and moory Arable	1 2 2810.0	0 16 9	
						Patrick Carey			
						Clay, and Moory Arable	2 2 1313.0	1 13 6	
						allied Carey House & Garden	0 5 3 16.0	0 12 10	
						6 th Bridget Carey House & Garden	0 2 8 16.0	0 5 4	
						John Carey			
						Moorly Arable	1 1 2612.0	0 16 11	
						House			
						Brought forward	243 0 0	28 0 10	

Land Book, Common townland, 1849

The Tenure Book gives details about the lease or ownership of the land. This record provides some very interesting details. Patrick and Richard Carey owned the land in fee, free forever, since 1827. Since Edward Carey occupied the land in the 1826 in the Tithe Applotment, perhaps 1827 is the year he died, and the land passed to his family member. Bridget, then Jeffrey also owned the land since 1827. John leased his house from Patrick, and they lived together, as indicated by the small arrow near their names.

County of <i>Limerick</i> Barony of <i>Donnellough</i> Parish of <i>Ballingary</i> Townland of <i>Common</i>				Tenure Books 1841 27 2,299,160			
No.	Occupiers.	Immediate Lessor.	Description of Tenement.	Content of Page.	Rent.	Taxes and year last.	OBSERVATIONS.
9 th	<i>John Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence to George Lynch 1847</i>
10 th	<i>Patrick Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence</i>
a	<i>Rich. Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>House & garden</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		
b	<i>William Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>House & garden</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		
c	<i>Patrick Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>House & garden</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence to John Carey 1825</i>
d	<i>John Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>House & garden</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence to John Carey 1825</i>
e	<i>Michael Donoghue</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence to John Carey 1839</i>
f	<i>John Donoghue</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence to John Carey 1839</i>
g	<i>John Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		<i>paid 20 pence to John Carey 1844</i>
a	<i>Richard Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>House & garden</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		
b	<i>Patrick Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>forever</i>		

Tenure Book, Common townland, 1849

POPULATIONS OF COMMON KNOCKFERIA

KNOCKFERIA WAS THE MOST POPULATED DISTRICT IN THE AREA AT THE TIME OF THE FAMINE, AND WAS POPULATED BY COMMON TOWNLAND, KNOCKFERIA BEING THE AREA FROM THE TINKER'S CROSS, SOUTH BY THE RED ROAD, & ON THE SOUTH SIDE BY THE ROAD FROM THE TINKER'S CROSS TO KNOCKFERIA. (YEAR) 1851 POPULATION 229 HOUSES OCCUPIED 123 YEAR 1851 POPULATION 91 HOUSES OCCUPIED 47

CATHERINE HARTE	MICHAEL READY	WILLIAM ROCHE	JOHN HENSON	JAMES DOYNE
JOHN KEATING	WILLIAM HOGAN	JOHN BRIDGEMAN	JOHN HEDDERLEY	PATRICK BRIDE
PATRICK CULLIHANE	WILLIAM RUSSELL	MARGARET LEARY	EDMUND JARRETT	JOHANNA WHITE
PATRICK CASEY	WILLIAM SCARLON	TOMAS FITZPATRICK	THOMAS ROCHE	WILLIAM WHITE
ROBERT HUTLEY	JOHN CAGHEY	PATRICK CANNODY	JOHANNA O'LEARY	JOHN PARTIGAN
ELZA COFFEY	BARTH. USTON	JOHN BRIDGEMAN	DANIEL COSTELLO	JOHANNA NORMAN
MICHAEL KIRBY	PATRICK CAREY	MICHAEL COSTELLO	MARGARET TRACY	HONORA MCGEE
ALICE CAGNEY	RICHARD CAREY	PEY O'CONNOR	WILLIAM ROCHE	JOHN GARTY
DOUGLASS BULLIVAN	GEORGE CAREY	JOHANNA MCGRAH	MELTY KENNEDY	MICHAEL BARRY
PATRICK BUCHAN	JOHN CAREY	MARGARET BODANE	MARGARET BODANE	JOHN LESTON
WILLIAM ROCHE	MICHAEL DOYNE	PATRICK COSTELLO	MARGARET MURPHY	ALICE CANTRELL
HONORA HANLEY	MARGARET DOYNE	WILLIAM GURRY	JAMES O'BRIEN	DANIEL O'BRIEN
			JAMES MIZHAN	JOHN BRIDE

A memorial on Knockferia lists the inhabitants of Common in 1851, including Richard, Patrick, Geoffrey, and John Carey



Ballingarry parish appears to be the Carey's ancestral homeland. The earliest mention of the Careys of Ballynaha was in 1808, when *J. Keary of Ballynaha, land*, was selected for the Grand Jury. (*Ballingarry, Granagh and Clounagh, County Limerick, Archival Records, 1800-1900*). A description of Ballynaha hints at a more ancient heritage: "*In the west part is O'Brien's Fort and in the southern part are Keary's two forts.*" (*Ballingarry, Granagh and Clounagh, County Limerick, Archival Records, 1800-1900*) The southern part of Ballynaha is where Common is located. Could the gently sloping Carey land be the location of Keary's two forts? The land is ideally suited to overlook the valley.



View from a Knockfierna famine house

The Careys in Ballynaha leased land from William Scanlan, who seemed to be the immediate lessor for most of the land in Ballynaha in Griffiths. He is shown as William Scanlan, Esq. in the Tithe Applotment

in Ballynaha in 1826. This is the landlord, and he was known as "Counsellor Scanlan". Born in Ballingarry in 1799, Scanlan was a member of the Protestant gentry in Ballingarry. He was the son of Michael Scanlan, the High Sheriff for County Limerick, and the grandson of Michael Scanlan of Ballynaha, and Maine in the parish of Mahoonagh. Scanlan's connection to Mahoonagh may explain Richard and Geoffrey living in Mahoonagh, possibly as they worked on another of the landlord's property before returning to the Carey land. (*Scanlan of the Barony of Upper Connello, Co. Limerick*; *Brian de Breffny and Alicia E. Evers*)

No.	Name and Description.	Quality Letter.	Length.	Breadth.	Height.	Number of Stories.	Rate per Square.	Amount.
								£ s. d.
1a	David Bennett							
	No	1C+47	21	2 1/2	9	1 1/2	6.14.0	
	No	1C+20	14	6 1/4	2	1 1/2	1.8.6	
	No	1C+14	4	6 1/4	1	1 1/2	0.3.8	
	No	1C+46	21	17	9	1 1/2	5.11.1	
	0	3C+2	14	17	6	3/4	0.6.9	
	0	3C+10	20	7	8	2 1/2	0.15.0	
	0	3B	50	20	6	8	1.9.9	
	0	3B	35	20	6	10	1.6.7	
							18.6.2	
1b	Vacant							
	No	1B	30	17	6	7	5.8.1	1.15.3
2a	John Kennedy							
	No	2B	16	20	6	10	2.9.10	
	0	2B	28	12	5	3	0.6.2	
	0	1B	30	17	8	5	1.3.6	
2b	John Foley							
	No	3C	16	15	6	2	0.7.7	
3a	Mary Carey							
	No	2B	18	19	7	3	0.19.1	
	0	3B	8	10	4	8	0.0.10	
	0	2B	19	14	6	2	0.7.6	
							0.6.11	
4	Thomas Carey							
	No	2B	20	19	7	3	1.1.4	
	0	3B	21	11	5	6	0.4.9	
							1.6.1	
3c	John Carey							
	No	2B	31	19	7	5	1.13.2	
	0	2B	26	16	6	4	0.10.3	
	0	2B	12	13	5	6	0.3.5	
							2.6.10	
3d	Wm Carey							
	No	3B	32	20	6	6	1.4.0	
	0	3B	14	13	5	6	0.3.0	
							1.7.0	
5a	Patt Murphy							
	No	1B	26	17	8	4	1.10.0	
5b	Vacant							
	No	1B	26	17	8	4	1.10.0	
5c	Vacant							
	No	1B	26	17	8	4	1.10.0	
5d	William Hamon							
	No	1B	26	17	8	4	1.10.0	

House Book for Ballynaha, 1849

The Carey family in Ballynaha shared Lot 4, and are found in a House Book created in 1849, which gives details of their homes and farm buildings. These homes were newer than the homes in Commons.

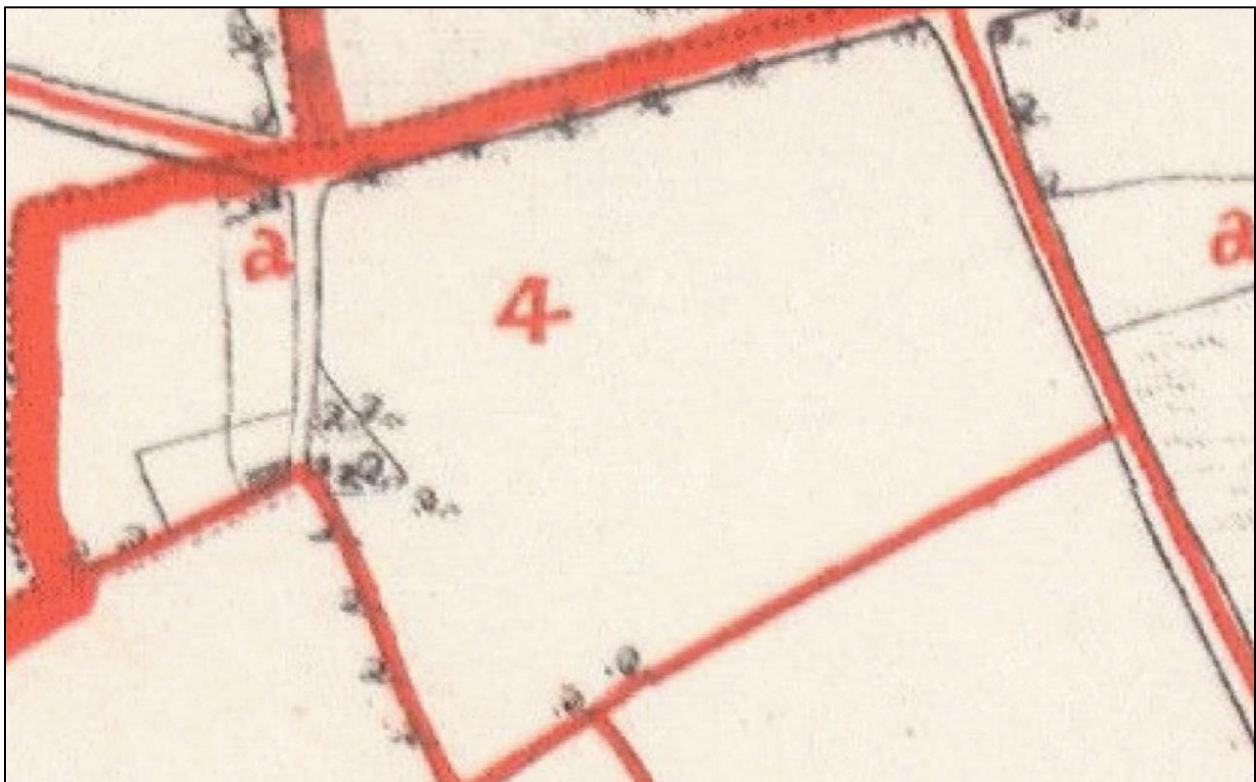
Mary Carey had a house in Lot 4a that was 18 feet long by 19 feet wide and 7 feet tall. The house was rated 2B, which was a thatched roof house of stone or brick with lime mortar, in medium condition, slightly decayed, but in good repair. She also had two outbuildings, which may have been a barn, stable or piggery. One was 8 feet long by 10 feet wide, and only 4 feet tall. It was rated 3B, a thatched building of stone walls with mud mortar or mud walls of the best kind, in medium condition, decayed, but in good repair. The other outbuilding was 19 1/2 feet long by 14 1/2 feet wide and 6 feet long, and 6 feet tall. It was rated 2B, a thatched building of stone or brick in medium condition, in good repair. The property was assessed at £1.6.11.

Thomas Carey lived in Lot 4B, with a house that was 20 feet long by 19 feet wide by 7 feet tall. The house was rated 2B which was a thatched roof house of stone or brick with lime mortar, in medium condition, slightly decayed, but in good repair. There was one outbuilding, 21 feet long by 11 feet tall by 5 1/2 feet tall. It was rated 3B, a thatched building of stone walls with mud mortar or mud walls of the

best kind, in medium condition, decayed, but in good repair. The property was assessed at £1.6.1.

John Carey lived in Lot 4C, with a house that was 31 1/2 feet long by 19 feet wide by 7 feet tall. The house was rated 2B which was a thatched roof house of stone or brick with lime mortar, in medium condition, slightly decayed, but in good repair. There were two outbuildings. One was 26 feet long by 16 feet wide by 6 feet tall. The other was 12 feet long by 13 feet wide by 5 1/2 feet high. Both buildings were rated 2B, a thatched buildings of stone or brick in medium condition, in good repair. The property was assessed at £2.6.1.

Michael Carey lived in Lot 4D, with a house that was 32 feet long by 29 feet wide by 6 1/2 feet tall. The house was rated 3B, a thatched house of stone walls with mud mortar or mud walls of the best kind, in medium condition, decayed, but in good repair. There was one outbuilding, 14 feet long by 13 feet wide by 5 1/2 feet tall. It was rated 3B, a thatched building of stone walls with mud mortar or mud walls of the best kind, in medium condition, decayed, but in good repair. The property was assessed at £1.7.0.



Close-up of the Carey's property on Lot 4 in Ballinahaha, showing the locations of houses and buildings on the property

Side notes in the *Observations* column of the Tenure Book for Commons townland show some connections between the Careys in Commons and the Careys in Ballynaha.

free	forever	paid £3 fine
free	forever	
free	for 1824	
free	forever	
→ free	forever	paid £3 fine to John Carey.
→ free	forever	paid £1 fine to Mary Carey 1825.
		paid £10 fine to J. Geoman for 1/4
} free	forever	paid £12 fine to Edm Carey 1839.

Details from the House Book for Commons, 1849

- The *Observations* columns for Patrick, Richard, and Bridget, then Jeffrey show no additional notes.
- The land only owned by Patrick Carey has a note "paid £3 fine to John Ceary" in the *Observations* column.
- The house and garden leased by John Carey from Patrick Carey has this note in the *Observations* column "paid £1 fine to Mary Ceary 1825".
- The Donohue neighbors in Lot 11 have this note in the *Observations* column "paid £12 fine to Edmd Ceary 1839".

In Ballynaha, Edmond Carey was shown in 1826, but is gone by 1849, and is likely deceased. Mary Carey is still shown in Ballynaha. The observation notes do show a land connection between the Ballynaha Careys and the Commons Careys. The Carey homes in Commons were older than the Carey homes in Ballinaha - did this mean that the family had originally lived in Commons, and expanded to Ballinaha, to flatter land about a 1/3 mile away?

Careys are mentioned in the early Ballingarry parish register as witnesses and sponsors:

- 16 April 1825 Edmund Carey was a sponsor for Margaret, daughter of John Meaher and Marie Aheren.
- 24 June 1825 Margaret Carey was a sponsor for John, son of John Sullivan and Mary Rennahan.
- 7 February 1825 John Carey was a witness for the marriage of James O'Leary and Catherine Aheren.
- 21 February 1826 Jeffrey Carey was a sponsor for James, son of George Lynch and Mary Carey.

7 May 1826 Richard was a sponsor for John, illegitimate son of James Connell and Honora O'Donnell.
 7 September 1827 Thomas Carey was a sponsor for James, son of Michael Kelly and Bridget Costeloe.
 1 May 1827 Edmund Carey was a sponsor for Winifred, daughter of David Lillis and Elizabeth White.
 5 May 1827 Thomas Carey was a witness for the marriage of Thomas Kelly and Helena Fitzmaurice.

There are several Careys found in the Ballingarry Tithe Applotment of April 1827. They are concentrated in the townland of Ballynahaha (which means the "town of the kiln"), with one addition - John Carey is found in the townland of Ballinoe. There are no Careys found in Mahoonagh in the Tithe Applotment.

The Tithe Applotment is a census taken of land holders. It was taken in Ballingarry in 1826. The land was assessed, and the assessed tithes were paid to the support of the Church of Ireland (Protestant), no matter the religion of the land holder. Ballinahaha is shown in this record as Ballinaha.

Landholder	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
James Quinn	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
John Reidy VC	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
Thomas Carey VC	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
John Deneely	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
Paul Sullivan	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37

Tithe Applotment for Ballinaha, first page

STATEMENT IN BRITISH CURRENCY OF THE AMOUNT OF				COMPOSITION OF TITHES OF THE												
The Vicarial payable to Rev. THOMAS GIBBINGS, and Rectorial to Mrs. CATHARINE				GRAVES, JOHN SOUTHWELL BROWS, Jun. and MICHAEL L.												
LANDS WHERE SITUATE.		OCCUPIERS' NAMES.	Number of Acres.			Value per Acre.			Total Value.			Composition per Acre.		Total Amount of Composition.		
Ploughland.	Sub-denominations.		A.	R.	P.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.
Ballinaha		James Mahony	6	1	1/2	5	17	1	5	10	9	0	11	0	6	2
		Edm. Carey Hill	1	2	1/2	5	11	1	2	15	5	1	1	0	3	1
		Simon Sheahan & Co	5	3	1/2	6	17	11	5	59	15	1	1	3	7	0
		Daniel O'Brien	15	6	1/2	6	17	2	1/2	13	15	1	0	0	15	6
		Daniel D. Commons	1	3	1/2	5	11	1	1	7	8	1	3	0	1	6
		Thos. O'Brien Firon	30	6	1/2	5	11	11	3	31	6	1	1	1	13	7
		Thos. O'Brien	40	1	1/2	5	11	2	2	36	15	5	1	0	2	1
		John Carey & Co	11	3	3/4	5	15	2	2	3	12	2	1	0	2	2
		Edward Carey	16	1	1/2	5	17	1	1	13	16	11	0	11	0	15
		Edmond Kennedy	3	1	3/4	5	14	3	2	6	1	2	0	2	0	2
		William Scanlon Esq	22	2	1/2	5	17	11	2	32	12	3	1	1	1	5
		Edmond Kennedy	3	1	1/2	5	15	2	2	7	7	8	1	1	0	8
		James Doyle	1	2	1/2	5	5	5	0	2	9	0	3	0	0	0
		Edward Carey	1	3	5	5	11	1	1	1	11	5	0	7	0	1
		Mich. Dwyer & Co	1	1	1/2	5	5	5	0	5	1	0	3	0	0	0
George Lynch	1	3	1/2	5	5	5	0	5	5	0	3	1	0	0		
Timothy Halloran	1	1	1/2	5	5	5	0	6	11	0	3	0	0	0		
Ballinacorney		William Scanlon Esq	1	5	5	1	5	5	23	13	10	1	7	11	12	
		Aug. Scanlon Esq	1	1	3	5	17	1	13	9	2	0	11	7	15	

Tithe Applotment for Ballinaha, second page

This is the complete list of occupiers in 1826 for Ballynahaha in the Tithe Applotment:

- Lot # Occupier
- 246 Timothy Duane
- 247 John Riedy & co
- 248 **Thomas Carey & co** (acreage: just over 45 acres)
- 249 Own Deneely
- 250 Danl Sullivan
- 251 Thomas Mahony
- 252 **Edmd Carey, hill** (Note: the word hill is a descriptor or agnomen to differentiate people of similar names. In this case it means that Edmond Carey lived on the hill. Acreage: just over 4 acres. The nearest "hill" was Knockfierna)
- 253 Simon Sheahan & co
- 254 Daniel O'Briene
- 255 Daniel " , Commons
- 256 Thos O'Briene, Firon
- 257 Thos & Wm O'Briene

258 **John Carey & co** (acreage: just over 11 acres)

259 **Edward Carey** (acreage: just over 3 acres)

260 *Edmond Kennedy*

261 *William Scanlon, Esq.*

262 *Edmond Kennedy*

In Ballynaha, in the sub-denomination of Commons:

263 *James Doyle*

264 **Edward Carey** (acreage: just over 2 acres)

265 *Michl Donahoe & co*

266 *George Lynch*

267 *Timothy Halloron*

In the townland of Ballinoe:

829 *Patrick Cullinane*

831 *William Cullinane*

xxx **John Ceary**



Knockfierna cottage

The population of Common townland was 629 in 1841, in 123 houses. In 1851, just after the famine, the population dropped to 464 people in 87 houses. By 1901, the population was just 91 people in just 26 houses.




Carey farmland in Commons, with a view towards Ballinaha

Michael Carey of Ballynahaha and his family are found listed in a pension application of 1917. Michael's son Thomas filed for an old age pension. Since his birth was not recorded in the parish register, an extract from the 1851 Irish census (later destroyed) was used, and lists his entire family. Thomas was 14 years old at the time of the census, making his year of birth 1837. His parents were Michael and Ellen Carey. His sisters were Alice, Mary and Catherine Carey. A handwritten note instructs that the siblings be listed in order of birth. The family lived in Ballynahaha townland, Ballingarry parish, County Limerick. Another handwritten note in the margin says "*Found, Michl Carey married 1836 & 1841, wife Margt married 1841, son Thos 14 yrs, no trace of first wife*". It seems that Thomas' mother Ellen died, and Michael married again to Margaret in 1841. Thomas and Ellen must have been married in 1836. Michael must have been born in about 1810, so was about the same age as Richard and Jeffrey Carey. Michael is not listed on the Tithe Applotment of 1826, but is found in the later Griffiths Valuation of 1852. His father may be Thomas, who is listed in both valuations, as Michael's only son was named Thomas.

Can 5/17/98 Application No. 27856

Date of receipt, 24/1/97 Disposed of, 1

EXTRACT FROM CENSUS RETURN OF 18


 Full Name of Applicant, Thomas Carey
 Address, Bedford, Milltown, Co. Kerry

Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, Michael & Ellen Carey
 Name of Head of Family (if other than Father) with which Applicant resided in 1857

Relationship and Occupation, _____
 Residence in 1857 :
 County, County Limerick
 Barony, Bannette Upper
 Parish, Cullingarr
 Townland, Ballynahaha
 Street (if in a town) _____

Place of Record Keeping, _____
 Return received by GP 26/1/17 Fieldford

Extract made by _____
 Certified by _____
 Form explained by _____
 Copy despatched to Applicant's Address _____

G.S. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

1917 Pension Application for Thomas Carey of Ballynahaha (www.findmypast.co.uk)

The Tithe Applotment records show four Careys living in Ballinahaha: Thomas, Edmond, John and Edward. There is only one Carey - Edward, living in the Commons area near Ballynahaha, therefore he is likely to be the father of Patrick Carey, who owned inherited land in Commons later. The Edward Carey in Commons, and the Edward in Ballynahaha are probably the same person, as no differentiator or agnomen was used to identify them as separate individuals in the same townland area. It seems that Edward owned a small amount of property in Commons which was passed on to Patrick before 1849. From the tenure books, we know that the land in Commons passed to Patrick, Richard, and Bridget in 1827. Perhaps

Edward died, the land passed to his son, Patrick, who subdivided it for his sons. Bridget is most likely Edward's widow. We also know that Richard Carey had a son, Edward, who may have been named for his grandfather.

1826 (Tithing Applotment)	1849 (House Book)	1852 (Griffiths)
<i>Ballynahaha</i>	<i>Ballynahaha</i>	<i>Ballynahaha</i>
Thomas Carey	Thomas Carey	Thomas Carey
Edmond Carey	Mary Carey (Sullivan, widow of Edmond)	Mary Carey
John Carey	John Carey	Bridget Carey (widow of John)
Edward Carey	Michael Carey (son of Thomas?)	Michael Carey
<i>Commons</i>	<i>Commons</i>	<i>Commons</i>
Edward Carey (same as above)	Patrick Carey	Patrick Carey
	John Carey	John Carey
	Richard Carey	Richard Carey
	Bridget Carey	Jeffrey Carey

There is a mention of John Carey of Ballingarry in the Limerick Leader in 1850, when he was selected as a milk supplier to the Union Workhouse at Croom:

Limerick Chronicle, June 29, 1850

*"At a meeting of the Croom guardians, on Tuesday, George Fosbery, Esq., in the chair, the following were declared contractors: - Alexander Brothers of Limerick for timber, John Cronin of Newcastle for groceries, rice, &c.; John Costelloe of Rathkeale for brushes; and **John Carey of Ballingarry** for milk."*



The land which was the Careys in Ballinaha

Some Careys are found in the *List of Defaulters Summoned to the Petty Sessions of Ballingarry for 21 November 1829*:

The borrower was *Honora Carey of Ballinaha*

Her guarantors for the loan were: *Michael Carey of Ballinaha*, and *Michael Ready of Ballinaha*

Source: *Poverty Relief Loans on www.findmypast.ie*

The borrower and guarantors had to be at least 21 years old at the time of the loan. Honora Carey may be the same person who acted as a sponsor in two of the weddings listed below. Honora Carey was a witness at Jeffrey Carey's wedding to Mary Donahue in 1827 - possibly a sister to Jeffrey and Richard.

Careys are found in the Ballingarry parish registers baptisms and marriages:

Edmund, christened 26 June 1825, son of John Carey and Bridget Donohue.

Jeremiah Carey of Effin married Mary Kelly of this parish 31 July 1825.

Johanna Carey married John Rennahan 7 February 1826. Witnesses: John Carey and Mary Carey.

Mary, christened 4 June 1826, daughter of Edmund Carey and Mary Sullivan. Sponsor: Margaret Carey.

Mary, christened 9 July 1826, daughter of Jeremiah Carey and Mary Kelly.

Sponsor: John Carey and Honora Kelly

Elizabeth, christened 4 September 1826, daughter of Thomas Carey and Mary Collins. Sponsor: Mary Carey

Anna, christened 23 September 1826, daughter of Patrick Carey and _____ Dwyer.

Jeffry Carey married Mary Donohue 25 February 1827. Witnesses: Honora Carey and John Carey.

Mary Carey married Michael Mallone of Knockaderry 25 February 1827. Witnesses: Edmond Carey and Margaret Carey.

Denis, christened 2 August 1827, son of Andrew Carey and Mary Keily.

Sponsor: Jeremiah Carey

Mary, christened 5 October 1827, daughter of Jeremiah Carey and Mary Kelly.

Bartholomew, christened 11 November 1827, son of John Carey and Bridget Burns.

Margaret, christened 28 November 1827, daughter of John Carey and Bridget Donohue.

Catherine Carey married Daniel Donohue 19 February 1828.

John, christened 25 May 1828, son of Thomas Carey and Helen Connell. Sponsors: John Carey and Margaret Carey.

Margaret Carey married James McCarthy of Adare 18 February 1832. Witnesses: Honora Carey and John McCarthy.

Mary Carey married William Hartigan 16 February 1833. Witnesses: Mary Carey and Patrick Hartigan.

John Carey married Mary Houlihan 24 April 1833. Witnesses: Daniel Carey and Bridget Houlihan.

Mary Carey married Patrick Condon 11 February 1834. Witnesses: James Condon and Mary Carey.

Richard Carey of Castletown married Helen Healy 26 February 1834.

John Carey married Bridget Hartigan 9 February 1834. Witnesses: William Hartigan and Mary Carey.

Catherine Carey married John Shaughnessy 3 March 1835.

There are gaps in the Ballingarry parish register in the 1830s and 1840s.

Patrick Carey married Bridget O'Brien 1 September 1859. Witnesses: Mary Carey and Catherine Heenan.

John, christened 3 February 1850, son of Patrick Carey and Ellen Kieff.

Edmond, christened 9 April 1852, son of Patrick Carey and Ellen O'Keefe.

James, christened 28 June 1857, son of Thomas and Margaret Carey.

Michael, christened 11 April 1857, son of Michael Carey and Bridget Hayes.

In the 1860s more Careys are found in Irish civil records:

Mary, christened 20 January 1861, daughter of Michael Callahan and Alice Carey.

Michael, christened 10 January 1862, illegitimate son of Patrick Cary and Mary Sheely.

Bridget, christened 1 March 1862, daughter of Michael Callahan and Alice Carey. Sponsor: Ellen Carey

Patrick, christened 20 February 1863, son of John Cary and Bridget Shelly

Mary was born 12 April 1864, the daughter of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer and Kate Morrissey. The same day, Mary was christened 12 April 1864, daughter of John Carey and Catherine Morrissy.

Sponsors: Daniel Cagney and Mary Morrissy.

John was born 26 January 1866, the son of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer and Catherine Morrissy. The same day, John was christened 26 January 1866, son of John Carey and Catherine Morrissy

Edward was born 4 December 1867, the son of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer, and Catherine Morrissy.

The same day, Edward was christened 4 December 1867, son of John Carey and Catherine Morrissy of Ballinaha. Sponsors: John Carey and Helen Tuomy

Thomas was born 1 December 1868, the son of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer and Mary Sullivan.

Bridget was born 25 January 1869, the son of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer and Catherine Morrissy. The same day, Bridget was christened 25 January 1869, daughter of John Carey and Catherine Morrissy, Ballinaha.

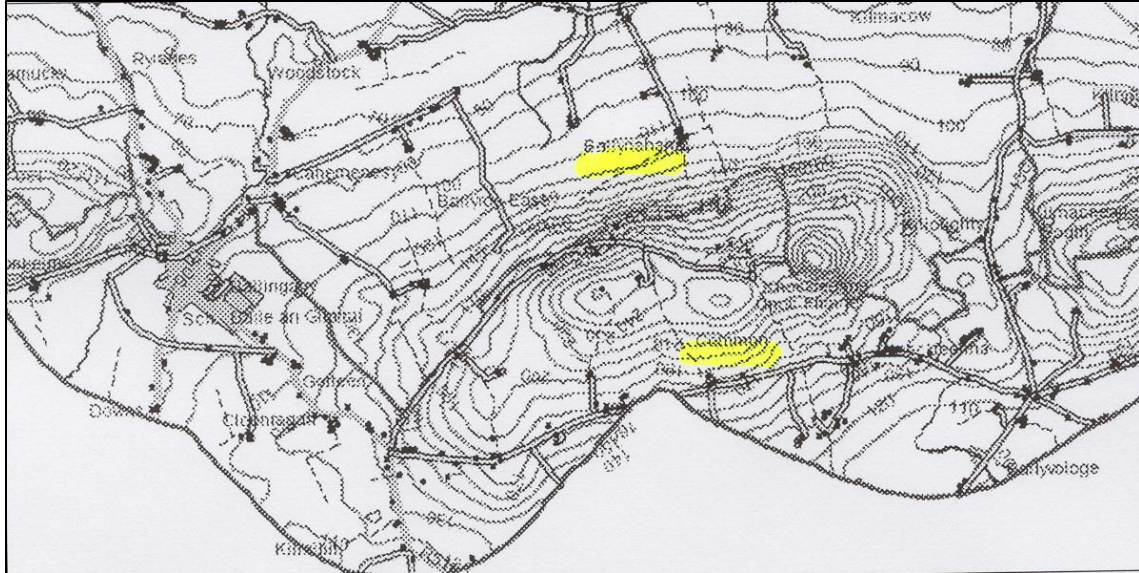
Margaret was born 15 June 1871, the daughter of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer and Mary Sullivan; died 19 June 1871 in Ballinaha.

Thomas was born 2 June 1872, the son of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer, and Mary Sullivan; died 10 June 1872 in Ballinaha.

Michael was born 15 March 1873, the son of John Carey of Ballinaha, farmer and Mary Sullivan; died 8 April 1873 in Ballinaha.

John Carey of Ballinaha was born in 1845, and died 15 April 1874 in Ballinaha, just 29 years old.

201	Fifteenth April 1874 Ballinaha	John Carey	Male	Married	29 Years	Farmer	Prous Abscess in Neck 2 years Unattended No Medical attendant	Thomas Dowling Present at Death Droiclogh	Seventeenth April 1874	John Brown Reg ^{ty} Registrar.
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Ballygarry topographical map with Common and Ballynahaha highlighted.

Knockfierna is to the east of Common, and the town is to the west.



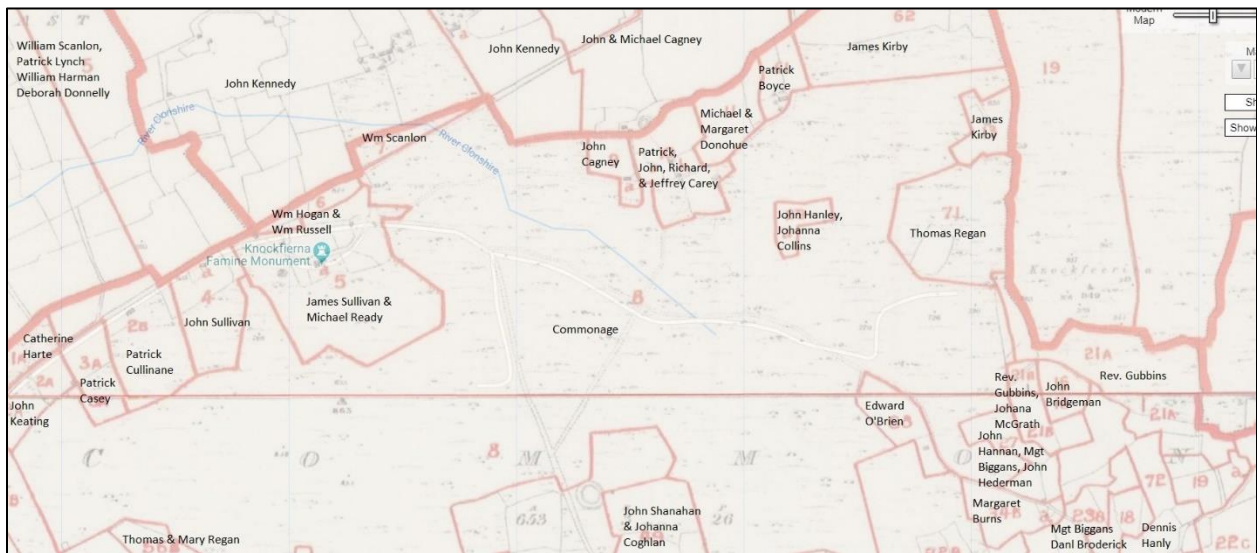
Knockfierna

Ballygarry is dominated by the hill of Knockfierna. A history in the late 1800s describes Ballygarry in this way: *"The village of Ballygarry lies just within the upper or southern division of Connello Barony, about half-way between Bruree and Askeaton. Its population is roughly 400; in 1837 there were 1,685 inhabitants, these being largely weavers, boot, brogue and patten makers, turners or makers of piggins, harness makers, carpenters, wheelwrights, smiths, nailers and chain makers...Markets were held twice weekly, and fairs four times a year. The glory of Ballygarry has departed...The town is divided into two*

sections by the Grinoch (grannach, gravelly) stream. This flows between two hills or ridges, up the lower slopes of which the streets climb, Main Street toward Knockfierna, Turret Street passing up over a shoulder of the ridge opposite. " Records of Ballingarry, G.F. Hamilton



View from the top of Knockfierna



The neighbors in Commons townland in 1852

After Griffith's Valuation, additional valuation lists were created to show changes in ownership, and it is possible to trace the ownership of the land in Common. The next valuation was taken in about 1862, and shows only Richard and Geoffrey Carey. Patrick and John are not listed here. This may be an accidental omission, as they appear in the next update. Michael Donohoe was now shown as owning Lot 10c.

County of _____		Barony of _____		Parish of _____		Electoral Division of _____						
Reference to Map.	NAMES.		Description of Tenement.	Area.		RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUATION.			Tot			
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.		A.	R.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
	<i>Coarimon town</i>											20
a	<i>Richard Carey</i>		<i>No. Land</i>				0	10	0	5	0	0
10	<i>Geoffrey Carey</i>	<i>Tro fee</i>	<i>No. Land</i>	5	0	33	0	10	0	5	0	0
	<i>Michael Donohoe</i>		<i>Land</i>				0	5	0			0
11	<i>Michael Donohoe</i>	<i>Inf fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	3	1	5	0	5	0			0
12	<i>James Hurley</i>	<i>Inf fee</i>	<i>No. Land</i>	2	3	25	0	5	0	5	0	0
	<i>James Hurley</i>		<i>Land</i>	5	1	14	1	0				0

Valuation List, about 1862

Richard is found twice in the Petty Sessions Court records in 1862, being fined when his farm animals got out:

Name	Comp	W ^m Holden	Your Cow wandering on the public Road at Ballyneale on the 23 rd July 1862	Fined three pence & one shilling Costs
<i>Richard Carey</i>	<i>of</i>			
<i>Knockfierna</i>	<i>Def^t</i>			

Defendant: Richard Carey of Knockfierna, witness Wm. Holden, was charged with "Your cow wandering in the public road at Ballyneale on the 23rd July 1862", and fined three pence and one shilling costs. Date of record: 23 July 1862. (Irish Petty Sessions Court Registers, 1828-1912 on findmypast)

Name	Comp	Luke Kelly	Your Ass wandering on the public Road at Kilinchile on the 22 nd Aug	Fined three pence & one shilling Cost
<i>Richard Carey</i>	<i>of</i>			
<i>Knockfierna</i>	<i>Def^t</i>			

Defendant Richard Carey of Knockfierna, witness Luke Kelly, was charged with "Your ass wandering on the public road at Kilinchile on the 22nd" and was fined three pence and one shilling cost. Date of record: 30 August 1862. (Irish Petty Sessions Court Registers, 1828-1912 on findmypast)

In the next Valuation List update, about 1863-5, Jeffrey Carey has been crossed out in 1865, and Bridget Carey owned his house and land. Patrick Carey was shown at 10b, and is also crossed out, and Bridget owned his land. This may indicate that Patrick died in about 1865, and his widow Bridget inherited the house. Jeffrey's date reflects his immigration to America in 1863. Richard was still shown as owning his land, but has also immigrated.

COUNTY OF <i>Limerick</i>			PARISH OF <i>Callinacorney</i>			UNION OF <i>Callinacorney</i>			ELECTORAL DIVISION OF <i>Callinacorney</i>				
NAMES			Description of Tenement	Area			RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUATION						
Tenements and Occupiers	Immediate Lessors			A.	R.	P.	Land			Buildings			T.
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£
<i>Common</i>				<i>238</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Richard Carey</i>		<i>Richard</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>2</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Quapp Carey</i>		<i>Quapp</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Jeffrey Carey</i>		<i>Jeffrey</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Bridget Carey</i>		<i>Bridget</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Patrick Carey</i>		<i>Patrick</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Michael Donohoe</i>		<i>Michael</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Michael Donohoe</i>	<i>Infec</i>	<i>Michael</i>	<i>Woods</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

Valuation List, about 1863-5

The next list, in about 1866, shows Richard crossed out, and his land passing to John. Bridget was also crossed out, and her land also passed to John. Michael Donohoe's land has gone to Daniel Cagney.

Valuation List

County of *Limerick*

Parish of *Common*

Union of *Common*

Electoral Division of *Common*

NAMES.			Description of Tenement.	Area.		RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUATION.		
Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.	Statute Measure.		Land.		Buildings.	Total.	
				£	s.			£
<i>Common</i>								
<i>John</i>								
<i>Michael Carey</i>	<i>Mr. Hume</i>	<i>2 8 19</i>	<i>16.15</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>20.5</i>			
<i>Richard Carey</i>	<i>Mr. Hume</i>		<i>0.10</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.15</i>			
<i>Richard Carey</i>	<i>Mr. Hume</i>		<i>0.9</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.4</i>			
<i>John</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>5 0 33</i>	<i>0.5</i>		<i>0.5</i>			
<i>John</i>	<i>Land</i>		<i>0.5</i>		<i>0.5</i>			
<i>Michael Donohoe</i>	<i>Land</i>		<i>0.5</i>		<i>0.5</i>			
<i>Michael Donohoe</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>3 1 15</i>	<i>0.15</i>		<i>0.15</i>			
<i>James Hillis</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>2 3 23</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.0</i>			

Valuation List, about 1866

John Carey of Ballinaha appeared in the Dog License Registers books starting in 1869, with a black and white terrier. He is found in the Dog License Register again in 1873, with a black terrier. (*Ireland Dog License Registers on www.findmypast.com*)

In the next Valuation List update, John Carey continued to own the land. In about 1873, the house is shown as down, and John owned only land. At the same time, in 1871 he begins to appear in the Carey Lot 4 in Ballynahaha, with a house, offices, and about 26 acres. This supports the connection between the Careys of Common and Ballynahaha.

County of <i>Connells Upper</i> Parish of <i>Ballingarry</i>			County of <i>Down</i> Union of <i>Broon</i>		Electoral Division of <i>L</i>			
NAMES			Area		RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUATION			
Townlands and Occupiers	Immediate Lessors	Describing	A.	R. P.	Land	Buildings	Total	
			£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Common</i>								
<i>John Carey</i>		<i>No Land</i>			<i>0 10 0</i>	<i>0 5 0</i>		<i>0 15</i>
<i>John Carey</i>		<i>No Land</i>			<i>0 15 0</i>	<i>down</i>		<i>9 15</i>
<i>Patrick Carey</i>	<i>In Fee</i>	<i>No Land</i>			<i>0 5 0</i>	<i>4 5 0</i>		<i>0 10</i>
<i>Ms</i>		<i>Land</i>						
<i>Daniel Cagney</i>		<i>Land</i>			<i>0 5 0</i>			<i>0 5</i>
<i>Daniel Cagney</i>	<i>In Fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1 28</i>	<i>0 5 0</i>			<i>0 5</i>
	<i>4-3-3</i>		<i>1.3</i>	<i>1 15</i>	<i>0 15 0</i>			<i>1 5 0</i>

Valuation List, about 1871-5

Bridget Carey of Ballinaha died 8 February 1878. She was shown as the widow of a farmer. Her age at death was 70 years old, making her born in about 1808. John Carey was present at her death.

<i>11</i>	<i>Sixth February 1878</i>	<i>Bridget Carey</i>	<i>Female Widow</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>Widow of a Farmer</i>	<i>Deary of Natural obs. destruction of Bowels Certified 14 Days</i>	<i>John J. Carey Minch Occupier Ballinaha</i>	<i>Thirteenth February 1878</i>	<i>John J. Carey Minch Deary Registrar</i>
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Death certificate for Bridget Carey of Ballinaha on 6 February 1878. This is likely the wife of Richard Carey's brother John, who was born about 1800.

Throughout the 1880s and 90s, John Carey continued to own land only in Common, and a house in Ballynahaha. Since it is unlikely that this is the same John Carey (who would have been born in about 1800), John must have had a son named John. There is a death certificate for John Carey senior of Ballynahaha who was born in 1837.

John Carey of Ballinaha continued to appear in the dog license registers from 1878 to 1919, with a brown and white or black terrier, then greyhound, then black collie. (*Ireland Dog License Registers on www.findmypast.com*)

In 1894, John Carey of Ballinaha married Mary Casey. John, a bachelor and farmer, married Mary, a spinster and farmer on 16 June 1894 in Ballingarry. John was shown as the son of John Carey, also a farmer. Mary was the daughter of Cornelius Casey, a farmer of Ballyelan.

In the 1901 census for Ballynahaha, John Carey was shown as head of the house, with his parents John and Kate Carey living with them:

John Carey, head, Catholic, can read and write, age 35, farmer, married, born Co Limerick, speaks English

Mary Carey, wife, Catholic, can read and write, age 40, housekeeper, married, born Co Limerick, speaks English

Ned, son, age 4

Con, son, age 2

Kate, daughter, age 5

Mary, daughter, age 3

Margaret, daughter, age 1

Eliza, daughter, age 1 month

John Carey, father, Catholic, cannot read and write, age 60, retired farmer, married, born in Co Limerick, speaks English and Irish

Catherine Carey, mother, Catholic, cannot read and write, age 65, married, born in Co Limerick, speaks English and Irish

The house is described as having five rooms, with three windows in the front of the house. John Carey was the owner. The walls were of stone, brick or concrete, not mud or wood. There were four outbuildings - a stable, cow house, piggery and fowl house. It is interesting to note that John and Catherine, the grandparents both spoke English and Irish, but the next generation spoke only English. The next generation had also learned to read and write, but presumably in English only.

John Carey, senior, of Ballynahaha died 25 January 1906, age 69, probably of prostate disease.

	1906					Signed (19)	Kilmeacore	1906	Registrar.
234	Twenty fifth January Ballynahaha	John Carey	Male married	69 years	Farmer	Probably Prostatic Disease. No medical attention	Mary Carey Daughter in law Present at the death Ballynahaha	Second February 1906	A. Carey M. Conry Registrar.
	1905								

Death certificate for John Carey of Ballynahaha 1906

In the 1911 census for Ballynahaha, John Carey was shown with his family:

John Carey, head, Catholic, age 45, farmer, married 17 years

Mary Carey, wife, age 50

Catherine Carey, mother, age 80, widow

Ned, son, age 15

Cornelius, son, age 12

Catherine, daughter, age 16

Margaret, daughter, age 11

Eliza, daughter, age 10

Hannie, daughter, age 8

This would make this John Carey born in 1866. Therefore it is probable that Patrick and Bridget Carey (born about 1780) had a son John (born about 1800), son Richard (born about 1802), and son Jeffrey (born 1807). John had a son, John, born in 1841 who married Catherine Morrissey (born in 1836). They had a son, John, born in 1866, who married Mary in 1884.

Their son, Edmond (Ned) was shown owning the land in Common until at least 1970. He inherited it from his father who died in about 1945. Mike Burke, a grandson of Con Carey, Ned's brother, shares this information about the family: Mike's grandfather, Con emigrated to Chicago: "*He emigrated there in 1925 but had returned by 1930. While there he met his wife, Catherine McMahan, also from Ballingarry parish. They both returned to Ireland to get married.*" Con Carey fought in the Irish War of Independence with the 4th Battalion, West Limerick Brigade of the Irish Republican Army from 1917-1922, and received the Service medal. (*Ireland Military Pensions and Medals; www.findmypast.co.uk*) Ned Carey also fought in the Irish War of Independence with the 4th Battalion, West Limerick Brigade, and received a Service Award. (*Ireland Military Pensions and Medals; www.findmypast.co.uk*)



Con Carey and wife, Catherine in Chicago

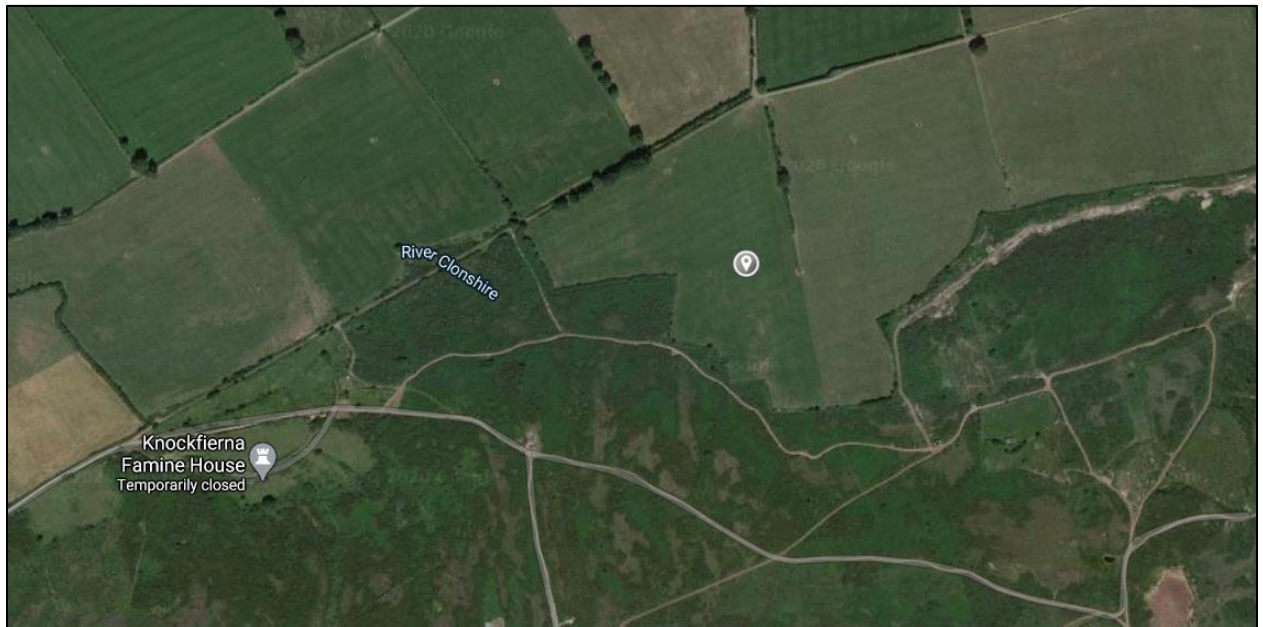
He also remembered his great-aunt Maggie Carey: "*She never married but moved to live with Con and Catherine after Ballinaha was sold. I remember going on holidays as a child there and Maggie playing card games with me – she was a lovely gentle person. Edmond (Ned) who took over the farm in Ballinaha was killed around 1970 – he cycled out in front of a car. Ballinaha was sold then. I also remember Eliza (Lizzie) – again a quiet, gentle woman.*" (E-mail from Mike Burke, 2012)



Neighbor lady, Mike Burke, and Maggie Carey

COUNTY OF <i>Limerick</i>		UNION OF <i>brook</i>		Rural District of <i>brook</i>		Electoral Division of <i>brook</i>						
Land of <i>Common</i> O.S. <i>38 50 37</i>												
Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of Tenement	Area	RATEABLE ANNUAL VALUATION							
	OCCUPIERS	IMMEDIATE LESSORS			LAND	Buildings	HIGHWAYS, Fisheries, Docks, Harbours, &c.	Total				
				A	R	P	E	A	D	E	A	D
	<i>Edmund</i>											
	<i>John Carey</i>											
	<i>John Carey</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>5 1 33</i>				<i>0 16 0</i>				<i>0 16 0</i>
	<i>John Carey</i>							<i>0 5 0</i>				<i>0 5 0</i>
	<i>John the Carver</i>							<i>0 5 0</i>				<i>0 5 0</i>
<i>ABC 63a 63 50 37 60 63 70</i>	<i>James Hartigan</i>	<i>In fee</i>	<i>Gr & Land</i>	<i>10 3 5</i>				<i>5 8 0</i>	<i>0 5 0</i>			<i>5 13 0</i>
								<i>2 0 0</i>				<i>2 3 0</i>

Valuation List 1932-1970



Current overhead view of the Carey land in Common (at the marker)

The Carey farmland at Lot 10 in Common is owned by the Cagneys, who are dairy farmers. The land is used as pasturage. The house was taken down in 1873. The land is accessible from the Knockfierna walking trail. The hike takes about 45 minutes. The trail is bordered by bracken, ferns, gorse, heather and thistles. There is a beautiful view of the valley below towards Ballinaha, with light misty rain creating rainbows over the valley.



*The Carey farmland from the trail on the right side of the picture,
the green pasture land bordered by bracken and ferns*

A small path splits off from the trail on the left side, leading to the back of the Carey property.



Carey property overlooking the valley



The land was owned by the Careys until the death of Ned Carey in 1970. It was purchased by the Cagneys who own the large dairy farm in the picture.



View across the Carey farmland



Boundary stone on the Carey farmland



Piles of stones on the lot line which may have come from the old farm buildings



View to the back of the property, with more stones along the lot line



Walking up the small path to the walking trail, about 50 yards above the Carey land is an old stone house from the time that the Careys were here. This may have been similar to one of the houses that the Careys had.



*The Careys survived difficult times here, but the Carey farmland was amazingly beautiful, with a view of forty shades of green in the valley, and even a rainbow.
(Taken by Alice Carey Boyd, September 2023)*

The Carey house and farm in Ballinaha were sold after 1970 to the Cagney family, who own it today. The house was razed, but a garden wall and original gate remain. The Cagneys transplanted daffodils from the Carey land, and also moved a large stone, which they had inscribed for the Millenium. The following pictures were provided by Mike Burke, who visited the farm in Ballinaha.



The entrance to the Carey farm and land (photo by Mike Burke, 2012)



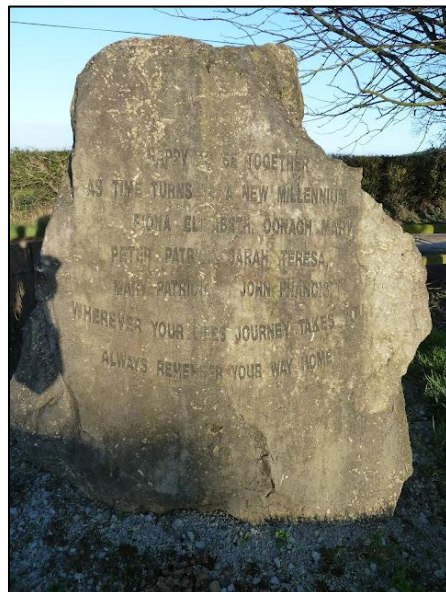
*Daffodils transplanted from the Carey farm to the Cagney's
(photo by Mike Burke, 2012)*



*The old garden wall on the Carey's property - with Knockfierna in the background
(photo by Mike Burke, 2012)*



*The original gate to the Carey's farm in Ballinaha
(photo by Mike Burke, 2012)*



*The stone removed from the Carey land - the last line says,
"Wherever your life's journey takes you
Always remember your way home."
(photo by Mike Burke, 2012)*



*The view up the lane to the Carey's farm
(photo by Mike Burke, 2012)*

Recent DNA testing on a direct line male descendant shows a deep Celtic ancestry for the Carey family: [Carey DNA](#).

Family Group Record of Patrick Carey and Bridget Dwyer

Patrick Carey was born in about 1780 of Ballingarry, Limerick, Ireland, and was most likely the son of Edward and Bridget Carey of Ballinahaha Commons. The J. Keary (John or James?) of Ballynaha in the Grand Jury List in 1808 may be Patrick's brother. Thomas is of an age to be another brother, with Patrick, John, and Thomas as the sons of Edward and Bridget Carey. Patrick married Bridget Dwyer in about 1800.

Patrick and Bridget had the following children:

1. **John**, born in about 1800 of Ballingarry; married Bridget; had son, John (b. 1841, who married Catherine Morrissey in 1863).
2. **Richard**, born in about 1802 of Ballingarry; married Johana Cullinane 30 January 1826 in Mahoonagh; had children James, Patrick (b. 1838 in Mahoonagh); John Joseph, Michael, Edward and Margaret; died in about 1865 in Chicago.
3. **Jeffrey**, born in 1807 of Ballingarry; married Mary Gibbon, had daughters Bridget (1822) and Mary (1824); married Mary Donohue (1827) had sons, Patrick (b. 1830) and Thomas (b. 1840); died 26 May 1884 in Chicago. Jeffrey lived with his son, Thomas, in Chicago at 79 Ewing St, 81 Ewing St, and was at 225 Ewing St when he died. His obituary read "*Carey, Jeffery, May 26, 1884, father of Thomas and Patrick Carey, aged 79, native of Ballingarry, Co. Limerick. Funeral from his son's resid., 225 Ewing Street to Calvary.*" At that time, John J Carey, Richard's son, lived at 250 Ewing St. In the 1890s, when John Carey died at 250 Ewing St, Thomas is shown at 245 Ewing St.
4. **Anna**, baptized 23 September 1826, daughter of Patrick Carey and Bridget Dwyer in Ballingarry (mother's first name not legible in the parish register). One sponsor was _____ Keffe.

Another possible child is Mary, who immigrated with Richard and Jeffrey. Mary may also be Jeffrey's wife.

SOURCES: Ballingarry parish register online at nli.ie; Mahoonagh parish register online at nli.ie; Griffith's Valuation; Tenure Books; Land Books; House Books; Tithe Applotment, FHL# 256569; research by Limerick Genealogy; limerick.brsgenealogy.com; http://home.att.net/~wexlababe/tithes_ballingarry_parish.htm: Ballingarry, Granagh and Clouncagh, County Limerick, Archival Records, 1800-1900, Christy Kerins; 1901 census Ballingarry, 1911 census Ballingarry; e-mail communication, Mike Burke, 2012; Knockfierna the Hill of Truth, Knockfierna Heritage Society.

