Limerick Corporation



Bardás Luimnigh

Limerick Archives & Limerick Ancestry

The Granary, Michael Street, Limerick, Ireland Telephone: 353-(0)61-415125 or 312988 Fax: 353-(0)61-312985

Ref. 2000.557



Mr. Bob St. Louis 3352, Fear Street Eau Claire WI 54701 U.S.A.

18 October, 2000

Dear Mr. St. Clair,

Thank you for your query regarding your ancestor, Johanna Josephine Shinners. We are pleased to being you the following information.

Johanna Shinners was baptised on 01.08.1841 in Donoughmore R.C. church, County Limerick. She was one of five children of James Shinnors and Ellen Madden, as follows:

| Baptism Date: | Name: | Sponsors: |
|---------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| 03.02.1833 | Maria | Bridget Ryan, Michael Murphy |
| 30.09.1835 | Margaret | John Shinners, Elizabeth O'Brien |
| 13.02.1838 | John | Michael Jackson, Maria O'Brien |
| 01.08.1841 | Johanna | Michael Ryan, Maria Mears |
| 28.04.1844 | Michael | Patrick Ryan, Bridget Scott. |

You will notice that there is a difference of ten years between the age given by you for Johanna and the date given on the church records. This is a perfectly common occurence in 19th Century records as, in our experience, people genuinely did not know their own ages and, when faced with officialdom, they provided a rough estimation. As this period in history coincides with the famine, the accuracy or otherwise of a person's age was not a priority.

We searched for a marriage record for James Shinners and Ellen Madden but were unsuccessful. As you will note from the enclosed parish map, the church records for Donoughmore start in 1830. If James and Ellen married in the parish prior to that date, then their marriage was either not recorded, or the church register was lost. It is equally possible that the couple married in another parish where the church records did not start until later. As civil registration did not commence in Ireland until 1864, prior to that date we depend on church records for our research, and as you will appreciate, some church records are available earlier than others.

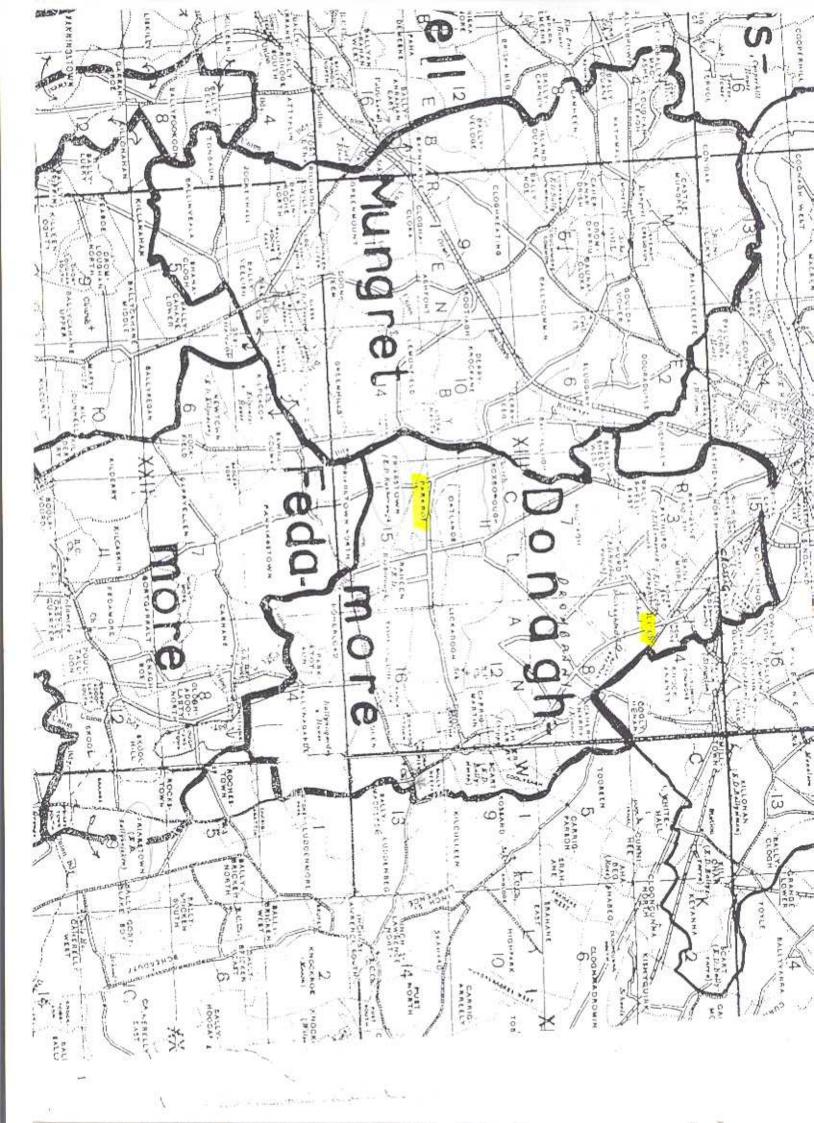
We did find an entry in 1826 for James Shinners of Parkroe, Donoughmore in a land survey entitled the Tithe Applotment, which was an assessment of land values for a church tax known as a tithe. The survey dates between 1825 and 1835 and only concerns land, not houses. The survey included the land-holder who would have leased his land, frequently as little as just one acre. As you can see from the enclosed extract from the Tithe Applotment Book, James Shinners paid rental of Irish & and ten shillings per annum for his plot of land and his tithe assessment is for one tenth of that amount, eight shillings and one penny.

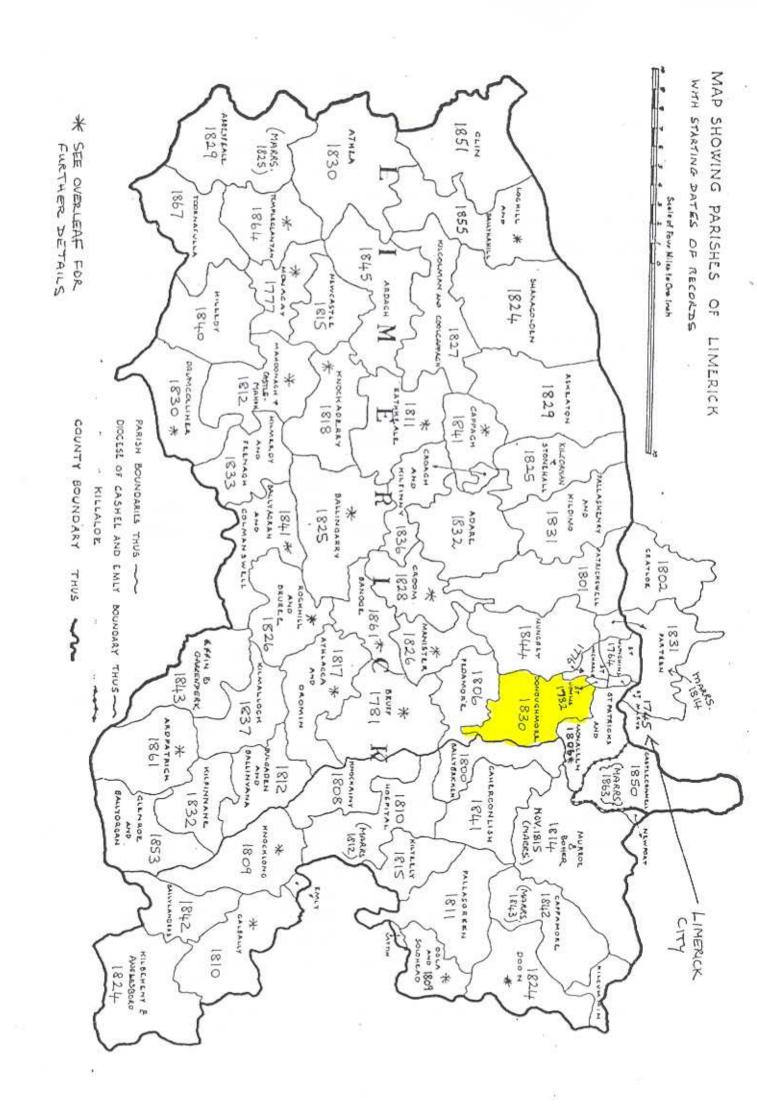
You mentioned in your questionnaire that you did not know if the parents of Johanna and Margaret had emigrated. We searched for death records after 1864 of James Shinners and Ellen Madden Shinners without success, so it is possible that they also emigrated, or at least moved from the Limerick area. If any further information comes to light, please let us know and we can investigate for you. We enclose an explanatory leaflet on how to find your immigrant ancestor's ship. It may be worth pursuing this in case the family emmigrated as a group. Also included is a list of U.S. sources, which you may find useful.

We hope you enjoy what we have found for you and would welcome any questions or comments that you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Jean Mueray





APPENDIX TO MAP SHOWING PARISHES OF LIMERICK

Notes:

Prior to 1826, Manister is included in Fedamore

Prior to 1841, Cappagh is included in Kilcornan

Prior to 1864, Templeglantine is included in Monagay

Prior to 1861, Banogue is included in Croom

Prior to 1855, Loughill is included in Glin

Prior to 1855, Ballyhahill is includeed in Shanagolden

Prior to 1861, Ardpatrick is included in Kilfinnane

Gaps in Records

St. Michaels July 1804 to Oct. 1807 (Marrs.)

St. Munchins 1792 to 1798

Bruff: 1790 to 1807

St Johns: 1797 to 1825 (marrs. from July 1821)

Ballingarry: 1828 to 1849 (bapts.)

Mar. 1836 to 1849 (marrs.)

Rathkeale: 1812 to 1821 & 1823 to 1831 (bapts. only)

Monagay: 1792 to 1829 (bapts.) except 1809-1813

Jan. 1832 to Aug. 1833 (bapts.)

Knockaderry: 1820 to 1838

Rockhill/Bruree: 1835 to 1840

Dromin & Athlacca: Sept 1837 to March 1849

Knocklong: July 1819 to August 1823

July 1830 to December 1831

Fedamore: July to Dec 1813 and Jan. 1822 to Jan. 1826

Solohead & Oola: 1828 to 1837 (Bapts.) & 1828-1832 (Marrs.)

Mahoonagh: Sept. 1830 to mid-June 1832

& July 1838 to Nov. 1839 (bapts.)

May 1839 to Feb. 1840 (marrs)

Dromcolliher: Oct. 1850 to Nov. 1851

Galbally: July 1820 to July 1821 (bapts.)
St. Patricks: Jan. 1828 to July 1832 (bapts.)

24 Dec. 1835 to 20 April 1835 (bapts.)

Croom: From 1806 for marriages. Some sporadic

earlier records exist from 1770 onwards.

Ballyagran: Several small gaps, particularly in the

1840s

Doon: 1839 for marrs. with a few in 1830

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OVERSEAS SOURCES OF FAMILY INFORMATION

The Family: Clients should be reminded that the single most useful (and enjoyable) source of information on their ancestor is their own family. Old letters, newspaper cuttings, testimonials from clergymen, family tradition - any of these may provide the vital link with a specific locality in Ireland.

U.S. SOURCES

Naturalization Records: These may contain the date and place of birth, place of residence, and the name of the ship on which the immigrant arrived. The information can be very variable, however. The records are still, for the most part, with U.S. District Court, any court of record in the States, or the district or supreme courts of the territories (before statehood). Some records are now in Federal Records Centers. Indexes for the states of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island before 1906 are available in the National Archives, Washington.

Cemetery Records: There are two classes of potentially useful records - gravestone inscriptions and sexton's records. These vary enormously in usefulness, but may sometimes include precise place of origin.

Printed Obituaries: Around the turn of the century it became a common practice to have an obituary printed in a local newspaper, particularly if a senior member of the family died. These are often useful for the information they give about the place of origin of the deceased.

Immigration and Passenger Records: These are now mostly in the National Archives, Washington. The two categories most likely to be of value are the Customs Passenger Lists, dating from 1820, and the Immigration passenger lists, dating from 1883. The former are easily accessible, at least up to 1855, but normally only give the country of origin. The latter include details of last residence.

Vital Records: State records of births, marriages and deaths began at different periods in the different states. Generally, they are quite late, starting only around the end of the nineteenth century, and thus of limited genealogical value. However, death certificates often give the parent's names of the deceased, information which is usually essential for further research.

Census Records: A census was carried out every ten years from 1790, but the quantity and quality of information surviving varies greatly from place to place. A survey can be found in Val D. Greenwood's 'The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy' (Baltimore: GPC, 1973). The National Archives holds most of the surviving records.

Church Records: These can be very informative. Most Catholic records are still in the parishes, and in most cases only the parish priest may search them. Other denominations' records may be in local custody or deposited with a wide variety of record-holding institutions.

Military Records: Both service records and veterans' records are of possible value. Mostly they may be found in the National Archives.

Local Histories: Directories and local histories published by subscription sometimes give full information about the subscribers' familes. See C.S. Peterson's 'Consolidated Bibliography of County Histories in 50 States in 1961' (Baltimore: Gpc, 1963).

Wills: These are mostly held and registered in the counties where originally probated.

NOTE: There are NO RECORDS at Ellis Island. To find out about immigrants please contact the Regional Archive Centers linear Lives

REGIONAL ARCHIVES SYSTEM

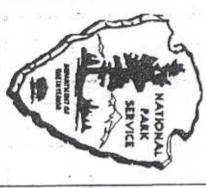
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THE LARGEST BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IS:

General: Reference Branch (NNRG), National Archives and Records Administration of 7th & Pennsylvania Avence NN, Washington, DC 20408

Ancestor's Ship Your Immigrant How to Find

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If your ancestor arrived between 1565 published lists. and 1819, search the indexes to

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If you know the name of your ancestor's

Search for that ship in indexes compiled by ship name

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THE STATE OF Search for the ancestor in indexes compiled by passenger

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If your ancestor was a slave: In the National Archives, manifests of ships irrporting Orleans, 1789-1808; or slaves into the ports of Savarmah, Mobile, and New ship can be obtained, however, if you know where when manifest. Circumstantial evidence of your anounce's He or she was not listed by name in the cargo and by whom the alave was first purchased. Thin search:

stave stups; or In museums, special collections containing manifests of

relating to the slave trade in America. In Mhearles, published compilations of documents

If your ancestor arrived between 1820 or the other indexes listed below. and 1954, search the National archive

Archives in Washington, D.C. A copy of the passenger list is probably at the National

National Archives Indexes

Gulf Coast. But they do not cover every year or every U.S. ports on the Atlantic, Pacific, Great Lakes, and indexes to the passenger lists are compiled by most

If you know your ascentor's port of entry: Search the index to passenger arrivals for that port

arrived when your ancestor did, then search those lists. Search the Registry of Vessel Arrivals, note which ships If you do not know the port of entry: Search all available If your ancestor arrived in New York, 1847 - 1896 indexes to passenger arrivals.

National Archives staff will search the indexes for you if you supply a passenger's name, port of entry, and month information is needed for staff to search individual lists. and year of arrival. Use NATE form \$1. More detailed

Published Indexes

or all periods of time, but they often complement the National Archives indexes. These specialized indexes do not cover all passengers

Search in indexes compiled by nationality or port of

The Morton-Allan Directory

This book lists the arrival date of every steamship from Europe entering New York, 1890 - 1930, and Baltimore, Boston, and Philadelphia, 1904 - 1926.

If you know the name of your ancestor's ship: Note every date when that ship arrived, then search those

If you know the date when your ancestor arrived: Note which ships arrived on that date, then search those lists

The Hamburg Emigration Index

central Europe, he or she may have embarked from indexed, 1854 - 1934. Hamburg, Germany. Emigration lists at Hamburg are If your ancestor emigrated from sestern, northern, or

the Letter-day Seirst Family History Library. Search a microfilm copy of the index at any branch of BARDAS LUIMNIGHE (Corporation of Limerick)

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