

Co. Dublin.

Transcribed Summer 1973

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Old Connaught graveyard has now been closed for many years. Considering its age, there are very few memorials. One feature is the large number of simple iron and wooden crosses, originally these had painted inscriptions which, through age and weathering, cannot now be read. Some concrete headstones have also lost their inscriptions for the same reason. The graveyard is now (1973) in very good condition having been cleared of unsightly shrubs and overgrowth by the Dublin County Council. During the clearing, all sunken memorials were lifted and reset in their original positions, it is apparent from stain marks on some of the headstones that they had sunk up to 2' in the ground. All visible headstones have been transcribed in the report which follows. The oldest date is upside down on the O'NEALE headstone, the date is 1661, this part inscription is now visible as the stone has been reset. The fact that there are two inscriptions on this stone could indicate that the O'Neals used a second hand one! Another unusual headstone is a British Army World War I type, this records not only the soldier's name (Kavanagh) and number, but, also, the pseudonym (Ashford) under which he served.

The earliest reference to Old Connaught noted by me, is that in Archbishop Allen's Register, c.1172-1534, Royal Society of Antiquaries (Editor McNeill). This mentions Old Connaught (Celltuca - Kiltuc in Shanganagh Castle grounds) as being one of the parishes of the Diocese of Dublin in 1179.

Rev R.S. Maffett, B.A., writing in the J. Memorials Association, vol. V, 31 (1903) states that when he visited the graveyard in 1899, the caretaker told him that there were "on average twenty-four burials each year". The illustration of the King memorial inscription is taken from that article. The caretaker was then paid £2. per year.

Lewis, Topographical Dictionary of Ireland, 1837, under Connaught Old, mentions the tithes (£240) then payable but gives no information of a historical nature. His only reference to the old church is "The ruins of the parish church form a picturesque object." Lewis further states "that the parish belonged to Miss Roberts, she resided at Old Conagh Hill. According to Rev. Maffett, the Roberts' burial place is Donnybrook Old churchyard. Ball, in his History of the County of Dublin, part 3 (1905) gives useful information on the subsequent history of the lands. Scott, Stones of Bray (1913) quotes largely from Ball's work, but has some additional information on the district.

Memorials marked + below are also in the J. M.A., op.cit.

ASHFORD. British Army type. P. Kavanagh served as/3-25292 Private/P. Ashford/Royal Inniskilling Fus/1st March 1918, a. 25

BERNEY. Erected by/Margaret Cullen/of Bray/in memory of her beloved father/John Berney/who died 28th April 1903/aged 68 years/also her beloved mother/Bridget Berney/died 10th Nov 1896/aged 69 years/also her sister Catherine/and her two brothers/James and Peter who died young.

BOOTH. Erect d/by/Thomas and Timothy Booth/of Bray/in memory of their beloved father/James Booth/who died 9th Nov 1866 aged 33 years/and their grandmother Elizabeth Booth/died 12th August 1836 aged 83/also their brother James died 22nd June 1889/aged 25 also their beloved mother/Jane Booth who died 13th Sep 1891 aged 50 years/also their grandfather Thomas Booth/died 30th March 1892 aged 38.

BOTTS. Here lyeth the bodys of Thom^s/and Joseph Botts Thomas depard^d/this life the 2nd of Octo^r and his/brother Joseph the 6th in the year/1822 Thomas aged 21 and Joseph 19/years also their father Thomas Bot^ts/died April the 17th 1829 aged (55?)

BREEN. Erected by/his loving wife/in memory of/John Breen/who died 30th May 1881/and is interred in Little Bray/also their darling children who both died young. (Comment by bjc, presumably, the children are buried here - in a family plot?)

BUTLER. Erected by Anne Butler in memory/of her beloved husband/here lie the remains of/Charles Butler/who departed this life/January the 3rd. 1825, aged 37 years/Also the above named Anne Butler who died 22nd/Nov 1837 aged 52 years/and of her granddaughter M.A. Daly/who died young.

1 BYRNE. Dudley Byrne/departed this life/the 3rd of April 1829/aged 70 years/Lord have mercy on him Amen.

+2 BYRNE. Hear(sic) lyeth ^e Body/of Elias Byrne des^d/De^c?/br 12th 1772 Ag^d/22 yrs May he rest in/Pace (sic). This stone not seen by me, inscription copied from J. M.D. (vol V, 31)

3 BYRNE. This stone was erected by/Bridget Byrne in memory of her/ beloved husband Christopher/Byrne who departed this life/June the 22nd 1814 aged 43 years.

4 BYRNE. Here lieth also/the body of Hugh Byrne/James Connor dep^d this life/July the 11th 1807 aged 35 years/aged 2 years/also his two children/also Patrick Murphy/died 15th Nov 1871 aged 67/and Elizabeth Murphy/died 18th June 1872 aged 65/both of Bray. (Comment by bjc. The reference to Hugh Byrne appears to have been added, at a later date, to the top of the Connor stone. The 'aged 2 years' presumably refers to Connor's children.)

+ CHRISTIE. Three memorials within a low iron-railed enclosure. a) is a monument with inscriptions on three panels, b) a ledger slab and c) a marble cross on plinth. The cross is is now in fragments with the pieces stacked on the plinth; I was unable to verify the inscription which is taken from J. M.D. op.cit.

- a) North panel: To the memory of/Mrs Hanna Christie/who for upwards of 70/years lived not for herself but for others/and ceased from her labours,/May 5th MDCCCLIV/Her sorrowing and grateful children,/erected this well merited memorial/of her high maternal worth/and pure Christian benevolence./Prayer.
- West panel: Also in memory of/Hannah Amelia/wife of/the Rev L.W.King L.L.D./and daughter of Mrs Hanna Christie/who died on the 23rd of July 1861/aged 54 years.
- b) East slab: (illustration taken from J. M.D. op.cit.)

"JUXTA HOC MONUMENTUM
DEPOSITUS EST
REV. L. W. KING L.L.D. EX-SCH. T.C.D.
OLIM SCHOLAE ENNISHIENSIS
DOCTOR ARCHIDIACALUS
KILANE NATUS 23 MAR. 1797
BREGES OBIT 23 JUL. 1873
CERTA SPE VITAE FELICIORIS
FULTUS
MULTIS ILLE BONIS FLEBILIS OCCIDIT."

'The centre memorial is a flat stone, the sides of which rest on low blocks of granite. At the head of the stone, in each corner, there is a cherub carved in relief. Inside the text, which is placed in the form of an inverted block U, an incised line forms a lozenge, in the centre of which is a cross, with an interlaced S on the main shaft, and resting on an H low down, a J being in the upper acute angle of the lozenge; at the sides of the cross are respectively J.N. and R.J. The lettering is in ordinary capitals.'



In hope of a glorious resurrection!/Here lieth the remains of Simon Christie,/who died in the 56th year of his age, on/the 3rd day of Nov: A:D 1795-and of/his daughter, Margaret Hughes who/died in the 33rd year of her age, on the/ 13th day of Sept A:D 1799-and of/Mary his wife who died in the 54th year/of her age, on the 27th day of Mar A:D 1800. (Lower down on stone:) Erected by Robt Christie, of the Town of/Bray, son of sd Simon & Mary, in memory of/them, his sister & also his brother John/who died at sea in the 30th year of his age. A:D.1799

c) In memory of/Rev^d Luke White King L.L.D./who died at Bray 22nd July 1873 (prayer)/and of his grandson/George Lucas Stephen/ infant son of C.H. King M.A./who died 27th December 1873/prayer.

Old Connaught, continued

CLIFTON. Pray for the soul of/Robert Clifton/died October 24th 1879/aged 27 years/to whose memory this stone has been/erected by his fond wife/Mary Anne Clifton

CONNOR see BYRNE, 4.

CORMICK. Have Mercy O Lord on the soul of/Bridget Cormick who departed this/life on the 17th March 1827/she was a tender mother/and an affectionate wife/and a most sincere friend.

CULLEN see PERNEY.

CURRAN. In loving memory/of/John Curran/of Old Connaught Bray/who died 14th March 1882 aged 52 years/and of his brother/Thomas Curran/who died 15th Dec 1882 aged 45 years/and of John Henry O'Reilly/(Jack)/who died 2nd Sept 1885 aged 6 years/Kathleen Harriett O'Reilly/died 19th February 1907 aged 43 years.

DALY see BUTLER.

DILLON see O'NEAL.

- 1 EGAN. Erected by John Egan in/memory of his beloved daughter Mary who departed this life June 23 1890 aged 13 years. (Comment by bjc: a further inscription, painted on this concrete headstone, of 8 or 10 lines is now illegible.)

- 2 EGAN. A rough much weathered wooden cross with the inscription in metal letters on a small panel reads: EGANS BRAY (No date)

FITZPATRICK see O'KELLY, b).

FLANAGAN. Pray for the souls of/William Flanagan who died on the 4th January 1878/and of Mary who died on the 4th May 1882 parents of/the Rev Joseph Flanagan P.P./(St. Margaret's & Finglas)/this stone/will ask their neighbours of Bray/to piously remember them/and theirs resting here.

FLEURY. Here lieth the body/of/John Fleury/who departed this life on/the 26th September/1825/aged 5 years.

GOUCH. In loving memory/of/my dear husband/John Gouch who died 27th March 1913/Immaculate Heart/pray for him.

GREHEN see O'KELLY, b).

HACKETT see SHORTT.

HALL. Erected by/Patrick Hall/in loving memory of his/mother Mary Hall/who died November 20th 1901 aged 75 years/also his father John Hall/who died February 10th 1907/aged 84 years/also his wife Elizabeth Hall/who died March 11th 1925/aged 80 years/also the above Patrick Hall/who died 11th May 1930 aged 84 years.

- 1 HEALY. Erected by/Thomas Healy Kill O Grange/in memory of his beloved wife/Catherine Healy/who died 16th Dec 1886 aged 47/ the above Thomas Healy/died 22 Dec 1914 aged 75 years.

- 2 HEALY. Erected by Pat Healy/in memory of his father/Pat Healy departed this life/Jan/ 11th 1823 aged 74 years.

HUGHES see CHRISTIE, b).

JORDAN. Two headstones side by side, a) left and b) right:

- a) This stone and burial place/belongs to Ralph Jordan of the Town of Bray here lieth his/daughter Cath^e died 4 May 1808/aged 6 months also Eliza Jordan/died 6 June 1813 aged 4 yrs
- b) Of your charity pray for the soul/of/Mary/the beloved wife/of/ Ralph Jordan of Glendalough/who died April 1860 aged 37 yrs/also in memory of their daughter/Kate/who died July 1857 aged 9

KAVANAGH see ASHFORD.

KENTING. Here lieth the body of/William Kenting/who died on the 26 February 1815/aged 74 years/and likewise the body of/John Kenting his broth r who died on the 10 June/ 1817 aged 74.

KELLY. This stone and burial place/belongeth to Hugh Kelly of Old Court/here lieth the remains of Barney Kelly/who departed this life Nov^r 10 1814/aged 31 years/also the remains of Margaret/and Rosita Kelly.

KENNEDY. In/memory/of/M.Kennedy/R.I.P. (no date, late 19th. cent?)

- 1 KENNY. Here lieth the body of Pat/Kenny who dep^d this life/Aug^t the 5th 1817 aged 72 y^{rs}/also his wife Elizabeth/Kenny/who dep^d this life Sept^r the/10th 1802 aged 62 years.

- 2 KENNY. Erected/by/Thomas Kenny Bray in/memory of his dearly beloved mother Anne who died 2nd Sep 1885 aged 60/yrs also his son Peter who was drowned/26 August 1899 aged 9 years.

KING see CHRISTIE, b) and c).

KINSELLA. The painted inscription on this wooden cross has flaked in a large number of places, conjectured in brackets.
Erected by/Mar(y K)ins(ell)a in/lovin(g memory of her/ belove(d hus)band Patrick/(wh)o d(ied) April 9 18(99?) aged .../
also the above Mary Kinsella/who died Aug 26 1929 aged ..

LAWLESS. Erected by/Mathew Lawless/in memory of his 2 sons/
Thomas and Mathew/who died young. (Mid. 19th century type)

LEESON. Here lieth the body of Edwatd/Leeson who departed this life/the 17th of Feb 1813/aged 28 years/M y his soul rest in peace Amen.

LYNCH. Erected/by/Elizabeth Lynch/in memory of her belovedhusb-and/who was accidentally killed at Bray/Railway Station 27th December 1898/aged 50 years/also her children/Bernard who died 12th Dec^r 1880/aged 4 years & 3 months/Cecelia who died 5th Nov^r 1886/aged 1 year & 8 months/and Harry and Patrick whodied young/also Anne the beloved wife of/Robert Lynch/who died 27th June 1902 aged .../Elizabeth Lynch/daughter of the above/who died 1th March 1941 aged 61 years.

- 1 MAGEE. Erected by John Magee Kingstown/in memory of his beloved mother/Mary who died Nov^r 1858/also his father John Magee/who died Feb^y 1861/and his beloved daughter Mary/died 19th March 1877 aged 12 years/and 3 of his children who died young/also the above John Magee/died January 14th 1900 aged 73.

- 2 MAGEE. Erected/by/James Magee of/Kingstown/in memory of his beloved wife/Ellen who died 30th Jan 1884/aged 26 years/also his grandfather Henry Magee/died 2nd Feb 1877 aged 80 years/also his beloved daughter/Mary Bridget/who died 8th Aug 1887 aged 7 yrs/also the above James Magee/died 5th April 1909 aged 55 years.

MOORE see MURPHY, 2.

- 1 MURPHY see SUPON.

- 2 MURPHY. In fragments. This stone was erected by/James Murphy of Dalkey in/memory of his beloved wife/Isabella Murphy who departed/this life the 28 January 1821/aged 52 years/also his son Jas^s Murphy/who departed this life Jly 6th 1826/aged 22 years/also his daughter Cathⁿ Moore/who departed this life Sep^r 4th 1826/aged 30 years.

- 3 MURPHY. 1887/(Ed)ward Murphy who died March/15th 1836/aged 12 yrs.

- 4 MURPHY see BYRNE, 4.

NOWLAND. To the memory of/John Nowland/who departed this life/the 20th of ... 180./aged 4(?) years.

O'KELLY. Two memorials, a) is a headstone with b), a box at foot:

- a) Sacred to the memory of/Edmund William O'Kelly/late of Bray/in the County of Wicklow/who died on the/4th day of April 1870/aged 70 years/also his relict/Mary Josephine O'Kelly/who depd this life/on the 12th day of September 1871/aged 64 years/Beati sunt Mortui/qui in Domino Moriuntur.
- b) This stone and burial place belongth to/Mr Joseph Fitzpatrick of Bray/here lieth the remains of his son/Joseph who depd this life July 7th 1802 aged 18 months/here also lie the remains of Eliza his/daughter who departed this life Aug 6th 1807 aged 4.

CRUX
CHRISTIE
NOSTRA
CORONA!!



CRUX
CHRISTIE
SALUS
MUNDI!!

MISERERE NOBIS

Here lies the body of Elizabeth/Fitzpatrick mother to the/children who departed this/life May 7 1818 aged .. yrs/also her beloved husband Joseph Fitzpatrick/who died 9th June 1835 aged 65 years/also Michael Fitzpatrick his brother/Elizabeth Grehan daughter of Joseph Fitzpatrick/also Edmond William/O'Kelly who depd/this life the 6th April 1870 aged 50 years/son in law/to the above/Joseph and Elizabeth Fitzpatrick.

- O'NEAL. This stone was erected/by Patrick Dillon in memory/of Con O'Neal of Bray who/depd this life May 5th/1812 aged 64 years.

- +O'NEALE. Headstone with an additional inscription, carved upside down at foot - a 2nd hand stone reused? Here lieth the/body of Hugh O'Neale/who deceased the 25th April 1719 aged/56 years. Then, lightly carved and upside down: er Erected here 10/February 1661.

O'REILLY see CURRAN.

O'TOOLE. In memory of/Henry John O'Toole/who died Sept 9th 1872/aged 22 years/and his sister Mary/aged 16 years/May they rest in peace Amen/this stone was/erected by their beloved/father Charles O'Toole/of Shanganagh A.D. 1873/also his beloved wife, Margaret O'Toole who died June 30th 1880/aged 65 years.

PENDERGAST. This stone and burying place belongeth/to John Pendergast/and to his posterity/here lieth the body of/John Pendergast who de/ported this life the 2(3?) of, 1759 Alls (sic) his wife/Margaret Pendergast who/departed this life/.. of April 1758.

SHORTT. Erected by Bridget Mary Shortt/of Bray in loving memory of/her grandmother Bridget Hackett who died 2nd April 1879/also her brother William Shortt/died 17th July 1885/and her father John Shortt/died 20th September 1901/also her sister Mary Walsh/died 5th May 1912.

SKELTON. Two headstones side by side, a) left and b) right:
a) Erected/by/Anne and Michael Skelton/in loving memory of their parents/William Skelton/died April 30th 1913 aged 62 years/and Catherine Mary/died February 14th 1921 aged 62 years/also their brother William Godfrey/died March 3rd 1919 aged 27 years here also lie the remains of their infant sister/Kathleen/and their grandparents/Michael and Anne Toole.
b) British Army type. W.R./269250 Sapper/W.Skelton/Royal Engineers/3rd March 1919 aged 27.

SUTTON. Erected/by/John Murphy/of Bray/in memory of his beloved sister/Rosanna Sutton/who died 28th April 1910/aged 24 years.

TOOLE see SKELTON.

WALDRON. Erected/by/Patrick Waldron/in memory of his beloved wife/Ellen/who died on the 11th March 1913/aged 25 years/ Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on her soul.

1 WALSH see SHORTT

2 WALSH. Here lieth the/body of George/Walsh decessd/Decm^{br} 21 1756/aged 74 years.

WOGAN. In loving memory of/Sarah Wogan/who died March 24th 1930/ Margaret Wogan/who died Sept 22nd 1921/and of Elizabeth Wogan. R.I.P. (no date for latter's death)