



Ballymool House, Home of the Boyd Family, 1950s



Castle Mrenglaiz



Demolition of Lifford Jail, 1907



Extract from Electoral Register, 1936-37



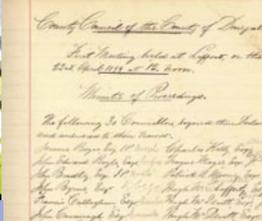
The Electoral Acts, 1922 to 1936, the Local Government Electors (Amendment) Act, 1936, the Local Government (Extension of Franchise) Act, 1937. This Register is in force for the year ending 31st May, 1937.



Denis O'Flanagan and Senator O'Flaherty, Board of Health, 1920s



Election of Neil Blaney, Dail By-Election, 1948



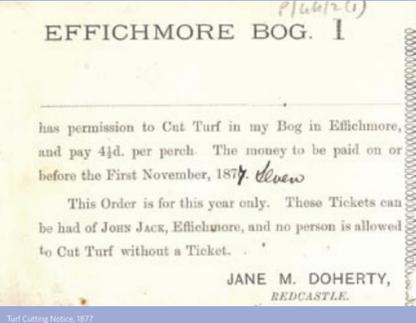
Inauguration, Mulroy Bridge, 2007



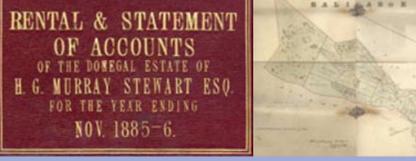
Minutes of Meetings



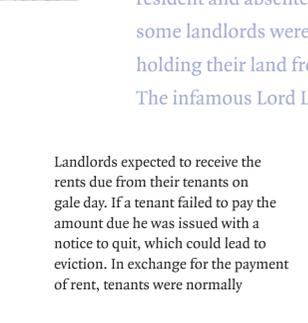
Carlton Hotel, formerly Redcastle House, 2008



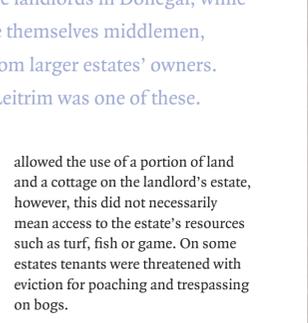
Turf Cutting Notice, 1877



Murray Stewart Estate, South Donegal, 1885-86



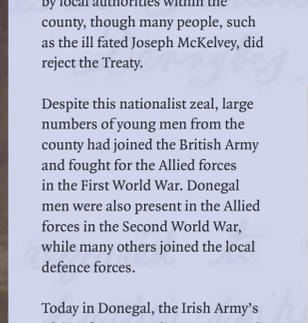
Notice to Quit, Doherty Estate, Inishowen, 1866



Redcastle House, Home of the Cochrane Family, c.1900



Joseph McKelvey, executed during the Civil War, 1922



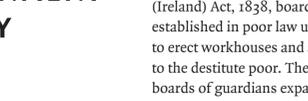
James Grove and Friends, c.1914



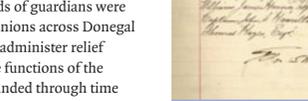
James Grove and Friends, c.1914



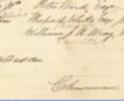
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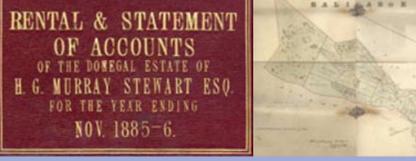
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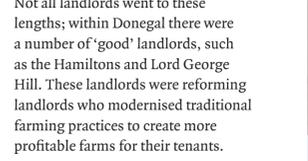
Murray Stewart Estate, South Donegal, 1885-86



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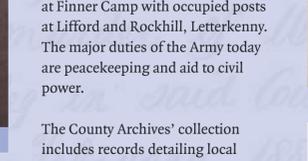
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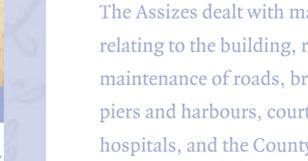
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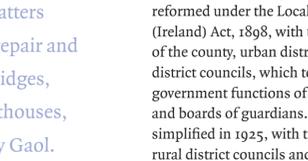
Murray Stewart Estate, South Donegal, 1885-86



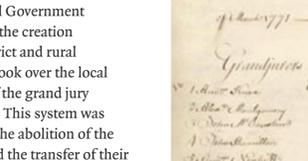
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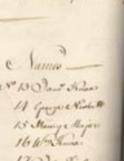
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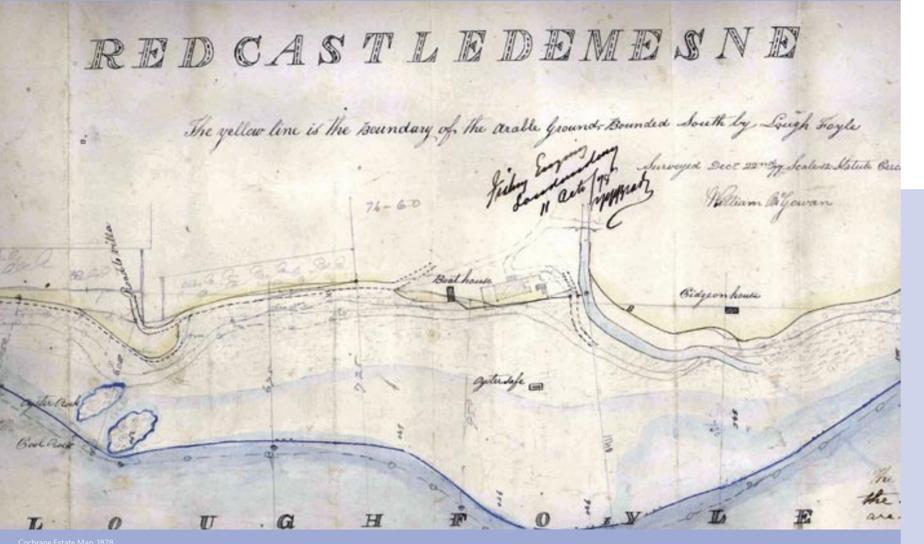
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Murray Stewart Estate, South Donegal, 1885-86



Cochrane Estate Map, 1878



Murray Stewart Estate, South Donegal, 1885-86



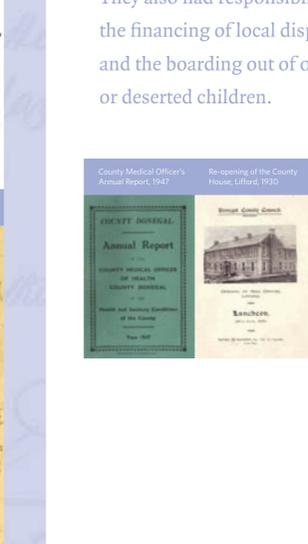
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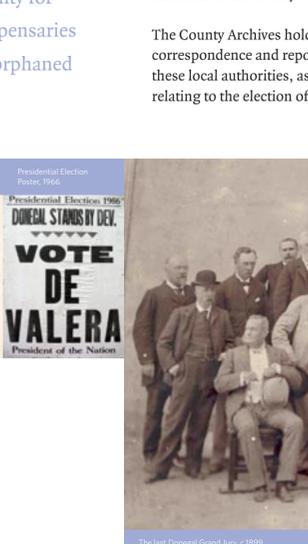
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CONFLICT

The late nineteenth century in Ireland was dominated politically by the home rule movement, founded by Glenfinn native Isaac Butt, and the land war. A combination of these two movements ultimately resulted in various land purchase acts, which redistributed the land of Ireland from the landlord to the tenant.

However, efforts to introduce a form of Irish Home Rule failed and the 1916 Easter Rising led to the rapid development of revolutionary nationalism throughout Ireland over the next few years.

A Truce in July 1921 was followed by the controversial Anglo-Irish Treaty in December 1921.

Donegal was largely pro-Treaty in the subsequent Civil War. This was evidenced by the resolutions passed by local authorities within the county, though many people, such as the ill fated Joseph McKelvey, did reject the Treaty.

Despite this nationalist zeal, large numbers of young men from the county had joined the British Army and fought for the Allied forces in the First World War. Donegal men were also present in the Allied forces in the Second World War, while many others joined the local defence forces.

Today in Donegal, the Irish Army's 28th Infantry Battalion is stationed at Finner Camp with occupied posts at Lifford and Rockhill, Letterkenny. The major duties of the Army today are peacekeeping and aid to civil power.

The County Archives' collection includes records detailing local authorities' handling of and reaction to conflict, and a number of private records, such as letters from Isaac Butt, photographs of Finner Camp and the James Grove First World War letters.

In Donegal, as elsewhere during the War of Independence, local authorities demanded the withdrawal of British forces and acknowledged the authority of Dáil Éireann.

LANDLORDS AND TENANTS

Landed estates in Donegal comprised a wide range of acreages, from the larger estates owned by landlords with extensive properties across Ireland, such as the Marquis of Conyngham, to smaller local landlords. There was a range of both resident and absentee landlords in Donegal, while some landlords were themselves middlemen, holding their land from larger estates' owners. The infamous Lord Leitrim was one of these.

Landlords expected to receive the rents due from their tenants on gale day. If a tenant failed to pay the amount due he was issued with a notice to quit, which could lead to eviction. In exchange for the payment of rent, tenants were normally

allowed the use of a portion of land and a cottage on the landlord's estate, however, this did not necessarily mean access to the estate's resources such as turf, fish or game. On some estates tenants were threatened with eviction for poaching and trespassing on bogs.

Not all landlords went to these lengths; within Donegal there were a number of 'good' landlords, such as the Hamiltons and Lord George Hill. These landlords were reforming landlords who modernised traditional farming practices to create more profitable farms for their tenants.

The County Archives holds a range of material relating to landed estates in Donegal. The records include estate rentals and maps, lists of tenants, correspondence and photographs.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & DEMOCRACY

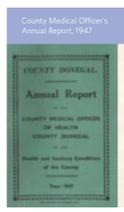
From Norman times the administration of local functions in Donegal was carried out by the Grand Jury. The Grand Jury was made up of the county's largest landowners, who were summoned to meetings, known as Assizes, by the County Sheriff. The Assizes dealt with matters relating to the building, repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, piers and harbours, courthouses, hospitals, and the County Gaol. They also had responsibility for the financing of local dispensaries and the boarding out of orphaned or deserted children.

After the introduction of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1838, boards of guardians were established in poor law unions across Donegal to erect workhouses and administer relief to the destitute poor. The functions of the boards of guardians expanded through time to include local government functions such as public health and sanitation and the building of labourers' cottages.

At the same time many urban areas had their own local authority in the form of town commissioners or corporations which provided public services such as public lighting, street sweeping, road repairs and the removal of nuisances.

This system of local government was reformed under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, with the creation of the county, urban district and rural district councils, which took over the local government functions of the grand jury and boards of guardians. This system was simplified in 1925, with the abolition of the rural district councils and the transfer of their functions to the county councils.

The County Archives holds minutes, correspondence and reports from each of these local authorities, as well as information relating to the election of their members.



County Medical Officers Annual Report 1947



Re-opening of the County House, Lifford, 1930



Presidential Election Poster, 1966



DUNEGAL STANDS BY DEK. VOTE DE VALERA President of the Nation



List of Grand Jury Members, 1771



Occupation of Ballysherry RIC Barracks, Updated



Defence Forces in Training, 2008



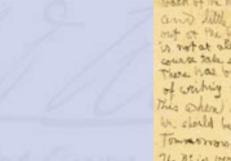
James Grove and Friends, c.1914



Land League Membership Card, 1880



Letter from James Grove to his mother after the Battle of Gallipoli, 1915



Handwritten note