



Landlords and Tenants

land and estate records for Irish family history

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Ireland was the most surveyed part of the British Empire and the surviving maps and records of land occupation are a core resource for tracing your ancestors. Given the absence of census records these documents have become an essential tool. But until recently these sources were poorly understood, difficult to access and interpret.

Most researchers are now familiar with Griffith's Valuation, but still fail to get the full value of the source. Moreover a wealth of data has been recently released online which transforms access and how we can use these records, especially:

- the Landed Estate Court Rentals 1850-85
- the Valuation House, Field, Tenure & Quarto Books 1824-56
- the Cancelled Volumes 1850-1950

But many other types of records have been released online right back to the Cromwellian surveys in the 1650s.

Most importantly, the vast archives of estate records are beginning to become available, including the records of the Landed Estates Court. Understanding why these records were created is the key to getting a successful research outcome.

17th century surveys:

[Down Survey 1656-58 \[http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/\]](http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/)

[Civil Survey 1654-56](#) (Tipperary, Donegal, Londonderry, Tyrone, Limerick,

Kerry, Meath, Waterford, Cork, Kilkenny, Dublin, Kildare, Wexford)

[http://www.irishmanuscripts.ie/servlet/Controller?action=digitisation_backlist]

[Books of Survey & Distribution 1636-1703](#) (Roscommon, Mayo, Galway, Clare)

[http://www.irishmanuscripts.ie/servlet/Controller?action=digitisation_backlist]

Valuation Office

Griffith Valuation

- [AskaboutIreland \[http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/\]](http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/)
- Findmypast ([Valuation data](#), [Maps](#)) [<https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/griffiths-valuation-1847-1864>]
- [Ancestry \[https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1269\]](https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1269)

[Valuation Field & House Books 1824-56 \[https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/ireland-valuation-office-books\]](https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/ireland-valuation-office-books)

Cancelled Books

- [Northern Ireland \[https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/searching-valuation-revision-books\]](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/searching-valuation-revision-books)
- [Republic of Ireland \[http://www.valoff.ie/en/\]](http://www.valoff.ie/en/)

Frances Magee, *The archives of the valuation of Ireland 1830–65*

Estate records

[Landed Estates Court Rentals \[https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/landed-estates-court-rentals-1850-1885\]](https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/landed-estates-court-rentals-1850-1885)

[Landedestates.ie](http://landedestates.ie) (Connaught & Munster only)

Fiona Fitzsimon's "Records of the Land Commission", *History Ireland*, Vol. 22 (2014)

[<https://www.historyireland.com/volume-22/records-irish-land-commission/>]

[National Library of Ireland](#)

- [Sources list \[http://sources.nli.ie/\]](http://sources.nli.ie/)
- [Catalogue list \[http://www.nli.ie/en/ManuscriptListResult.aspx\]](http://www.nli.ie/en/ManuscriptListResult.aspx)

[National Archives of Ireland \[http://www.nationalarchives.ie/\]](http://www.nationalarchives.ie/)

[The National Archives of the UK \[http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/\]](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/)

[Registry of Deeds](#)

[<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/185720?availability=Family%20History%20Library>]