

Descendants of William O'Brien and Mary Sexton of Watergrasshill, Ireland

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Chapter 1

The O'Briens in Ireland

The family of William O'Brien and Mary Sexton came to America from the town of Watergrasshill in County Cork, Ireland.^[1;2;3] The village of Watergrasshill is situated mostly within the civil parish of Ardnageehy and partly within Kilquane, in the larger barony of Barrymore, on the main road between Cork and Dublin.^[4] The name Watergrasshill was originally "Watercress Hill," and in Irish is *Cnocán-na-biolraighe* (Knockaun-na-billery).^[5]

Watergrasshill was a small town of 801 inhabitants in 1841, when William and his family lived there prior to their emigration to the U.S. By 1871 the population had dropped to 143.^[6] Some of this population loss was likely due to the famine, but the arrival of the railroad may also have played a role. The Great Southern and Western Railway reached the City of Cork in 1849.^[17] Two people performing land valuations included their impressions of Watergrasshill and its transformation. D. Quinn wrote in Feb 1849:

This Town is Poor, but a great deal is done in the way of "Carmen's Stages," it being on the Dublin line to Cork and half way (11 miles) from the latter City to Fermoy – a good deal of benefit is done the Town by these persons —^[16]

J. Montgomery wrote in Dec 1852 and sometime prior:

2 coaches & Bianconis¹ can pass through the village daily & change Horses here – one or two individuals are thus making pretty well by this – by the rent for stabling &c – & when the railway to Cork is finished, it will lose a good part of this advantage —

It has lost a great deal of it now – (1852) but it is the best of the little villages in this neighborhood although poor enough – Poor Rates are low – only 1/7th for 1832 & none at all in 1837 – Those made a moderate valⁿ. considering these circumstances.^[16]

¹Charles Bianconi was an Italian entrepreneur who operated passenger coaches between cities throughout Ireland.^[17]

There are few Irish records available covering the early 19th century. Civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths didn't fully occur in Ireland until 1864.^[8] Census records prior to 1901 were mostly lost in a 1922 fire at the Public Records Office.^[9] However, there are O'Briens in Watergrasshill who appear in name directories and Griffith's Valuation records from the time period when William's family lived in the area. It's possible that these sources may reveal some small details about the family's life in Ireland.

F. Jackson's *County and City of Cork Post Office General Directory, 1842–43* includes a "William O'Brien, gent." with a seat at "Transtown mills" and post town at "Watergrass hill."^[10] Land valuation records for Trantstown in 1847 and 1850 show a John O'Brien leasing a paper mill, house, offices (outbuildings), and land from Lady Augusta Henrietta Fitzgerald.^[11;12] A revised valuation in July 1850 indicates that John O'Brien no longer resided there, and that the mill became idle in 1847.^[13] Residents in Trantstown reported that a Mr. O'Brien owned the mill and employed many people there, but he sold his house when the mill closed down.^[14] The timing of John O'Brien's departure from the mill property around 1850 coincides with the arrival of William O'Brien's family in Boston.

There is no William O'Brien who appears in the valuation records as occupying land in Trantstown. It's possible that John O'Brien was William's son, and that he took over the running of the mill from his father. There is a "W^m. Brien" listed in the town of Watergrasshill who was leasing a house with a yard and garden. The Feb 1849 revision has William's name crossed out and the word "Vact." written, indicating that the house was vacant and William had moved away.^[15] There are no other William O'Briens or similar name variants listed in Watergrasshill, although other [O']Briens in town include Denis, Owen, Patrick, and Margaret.[add citation]

Watergrasshill was a poor town in the 1840s that was largely sustained by horse travel between Dublin and Cork. With the loss of that business to the railway, the effects of the famine, and the closure of the paper mill in nearby Trantstown, it made sense for the O'Brien family to look for new opportunities in America.

[include a description of Griffith's Valuation, House Books, etc.]

[add context for Potato Famine driving emigration]

[include maps locating Watergrasshill within Ireland and showing local area]

Chapter 2

Name and Lineage

O'Brien is the Anglicized spelling of the surname *Ua Briain* in Classical Irish, and *Ó Briain* in Modern Irish. The *Ua* or *Ó* part of the name means a "grandson" or generally any descendant of the named person. In this case, O'Brien derives from the first name of Brian Boru (born c. 941 and died 23 Apr 1014), High King of Ireland. Boru's descendants formed one of the major dynasties in Ireland.^[18]

Brian Boru was born a member of the Dál gCais clan (Dalcassians). This clan controlled much of what is now County Clare in Ireland.^[19] Due to modern genetic testing, it is possible to determine whether a living person is a descendant of Brian Boru, a member of his clan, or an unrelated O'Brien who came from a family that adopted the surname. This is facilitated by the Y-DNA testing of Brian Boru's direct descendant, Sir Conor O'Brien, 18th Baron Ichiquin.^[20]

Unlike other chromosomes, the Y chromosome is passed from father to son without significant recombination. This means that a living man's Y-DNA is nearly identical to that of his direct male line ancestor from many generations in the past. While rare, mutations on the Y chromosome do occur. These variations are called single nucleotide polymorphisms, or SNPs. It is possible to map groups of people onto branches of a tree based on the SNPs they have in common. These branches are known as haplogroups, and they're named after the Y-DNA mutation that defines them.^[21]

The Y-DNA testing of Sir Conor O'Brien has revealed that Brian Boru's Dalcassian clan and its descendants are located within the R-L226 haplogroup. Furthermore, Brian Boru's defining mutation places him and his descendants in the sub-group of R-L226 known as FGC5659. There is another group of non-Dalcassian O'Briens known as the "Northwest Irish/Lowland Scots" O'Briens, who are in haplogroup R-M222.^[20]

A Y-DNA test of William O'Brien's male line^[29] reveals that there is no relation to either the Dalcassian or Northwest Irish O'Briens. William's branch is located within haplogroup R-Y11179. This haplogroup does not

have ancient Irish origins but can be traced back to the Anglo-Norman family with the surname “Barry” that occupied large parts of County Cork subsequent to the English invasion of Ireland in the 1100s.^[27] More recent research indicates that these Barrys were probably from the Hainaut region of what is now Belgium, rather than French Normandy.^[26]

Several websites provide age estimates to determine when William O’Brien’s line may have split off from the Barry family. The closest match on FTDNA is a man with a Barry surname. FTDNA’s “TiP Report” estimates that the Barry match and William O’Brien’s descendant have a common ancestor within the past 8 generations at 60.41% likelihood, within 12 generations at 90.11% likelihood, and within 18 generations at 98.28% likelihood.^[30] On the website *YFull*, which allows uploading Y-DNA kits for additional analysis, the closest match is the same Barry individual from the previous comparison. *YFull* predicts that the two matches have a most recent common ancestor at a median of 425 years ago with 95% certainty, placing the common ancestor around the year 1600.^[31]

Somewhere in William O’Brien’s ancestry, the O’Brien name was assigned to (or adopted by) a man of Barry descent. This is known as a non-paternity event (NPE). It is likely impossible to determine when or how this occurred, as useful records in Ireland rarely go back far enough past the early 1800s. However, the Barry family had a major presence in the area where William came from, receiving grants of land in County Cork from the English king and the title Earl of Barrymore.^[28] More information may arise as additional men submit Y-DNA tests and the timeline for the O’Brien/Barry split can be further narrowed. It is also important to note that the Y-DNA results only pertain to the direct male line. William’s descendants still have Irish roots, owing to the Irish spouses of his children. William’s own mother is unknown, but it’s quite likely she had ancestral Irish origins.

[include haplogroup tree showing O’Brien branches vs Barry branches]
[more background on Barry history in County Cork]

Chapter 3

First Generation

3.1 William O'Brien

1. **WILLIAM¹ O'BRIEN** was born probably in County Cork, Ireland, about 1791.^[32] He died in Boston, Massachusetts, 28 December 1856,^[34] and was buried at North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts.^[35] He married, likely in County Cork, **MARY SEXTON**.^[37;38;41;42] No further information about Mary is known.

William may be the William O'Brien listed in the 1842 Cork County Directory as owning Trantstown Mills, a paper mill close to the village of Watergrasshill.^[10]

In 1855, William was living in Boston's North End neighborhood with his son Edward, his daughter Abigail, and three of his grandchildren.^[32;68] William does not appear in the 1850 census. Since Edward immigrated to Boston in 1851^[1], it's likely that William arrived with him at that time. William's wife Mary does not appear in any census records from this time. She may have died in Ireland before 1851, or not accompanied her husband to America for reasons unknown.

William only lived in Boston for five years before dying of pleurisy. He was living at 207 North Street in the North End at the time.^[34]

Children of William¹ and Mary (Sexton) O'Brien, all likely born in Watergrasshill:

- i. ANN² (O'BRIEN) DAILEY, b. abt. 1813^[43]; d. 23 Sept. 1898; m. MICHAEL DAILEY.^[41] Unknown if she had any children. She does not appear until the 1880 census, when she was living with her brother Edward. She may have arrived in the U.S. sometime between 1870–1880. No record of husband Michael Dailey being in the U.S.
- 2 ii. ABIGAIL (O'BRIEN) DOOLEY, b. abt. 1815; m. MICHAEL DOOLEY.
- 3 iii. JOHN O'BRIEN, b. abt. 1820; m. 20 Nov. 1853, MARY MAHONEY.
- 4 iv. EDWARD O'BRIEN, b. 10 Oct. 1822; m. BRIDGET LINNEHAN.

- 5 v. MARY (O'BRIEN) WARD, b. abt. 1828; m. 31 Oct. 1850, DAVID WARD.
- 6 vi. MICHAEL O'BRIEN, b. 15 Dec. 1832; m. (1) 10 July 1854, BRIDGET COLBERT; m.
 (2) 19 April 1874, MARY FIELD.

Chapter 4

Second Generation

4.1 Abigail (O'Brien) Dooley

2. **ABIGAIL² (O'BRIEN) DOOLEY** (*William¹*) was born probably in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, about 1815.^[33] She died in Boston, Massachusetts on 4 January 1897^[38] and is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Massachusetts.^[39] She married, likely in County Cork, **MICHAEL DOOLEY**.^[38] He was born probably in County Cork.^[40] Michael died sometime before 1 May 1865,^[44] possibly on 1 January 1857,^[45] and is buried in North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts.^[36]

Children of Abigail² and Michael Dooley, both likely born in Watergrasshill:

- i. **HANNAH³ (DOOLEY) (COONEY) CUSICK**, b. prob. Watergrasshill abt. 1837;^[134] d. Boston 14 June 1911;^[138] m. (1) 14 Aug. 1859, **JEREMIAH COONEY**;^[136] m. (2) 5 Oct. 1884, **MICHAEL CUSICK**.^[137] No known children.
- 7 ii. **MARGARET E. (DOOLEY) (SIMONDS) FERNALD**, b. 27 Dec. 1840, m. (1) **WILLIAM SIMONDS**; m. (2) 21 Aug. 1873, **ROBERT A. FERNALD**.

4.2 John O'Brien

3. **JOHN² O'BRIEN** (*William¹*) was born probably in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, about 1820.^[49] He died in Boston, Massachusetts on 22 April 1863^[47] and is buried in Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Watertown, Massachusetts.^[48] He married **MARY MAHONEY** on 20 November 1853 at St. Mary's Church, Boston.^[49] She was born in Ireland about 1829^[50]–1832^[51] to James^[51] or Patrick^[50] and Mary (____) Mahoney.^[50]

John arrived in the U.S. sometime prior to his marriage to Mary Mahoney in November 1853. He appears in the 1860 federal census in Boston's North End neighborhood, living with wife Mary and four children. Also living with the family was Amelia Rease, age 19, born in Pico W. P.^[65] (this is

probably Pico Island in the Portuguese Azores). Other nearby families are listed with servants born in the Portuguese Azores, indicating that Amelia may have been a servant for the O'Brien household.

John was living at 35 Fleet Street in the North End when his son John Joseph was born in 1861. His occupation was listed as "grocer."^[67;68] John's brother Edward lived at the same address, and Edward's son Edward was born just nine weeks after John's son John Joseph.^[67]

Four of John's children died of tuberculosis¹ in the ten years between 1879 and 1889, as had John himself in 1863.^[47] This illness disproportionately affected Irish immigrants in Boston:

...[t]he death rate from consumption was greatest among the colored, and among the white ... it was greatest among those whose mothers were born in Ireland or who were themselves natives of Ireland, being more than 3 times the corresponding rate for those whose mothers were born in the United States, and almost double the rate for those who were themselves natives of this country.^[69]

[add info about Mary marriage to Bowser]
[Catholic Mt Auburn Cemetery info]

Children of John² and Mary (Mahoney) O'Brien, all born in Boston and all except for John Joseph O'Brien buried at Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts:^[48]

- 8
 - i. WILLIAM³ O'BRIEN, b. 9 Nov. 1854; m. 27 Sept. 1881, JULIA T. McCARTY.
 - ii. MARY O'BRIEN, b. 11 Jun. 1856;^[53] bap. St. Stephen (Boston) 13 June 1856;^[54] d. 18 March 1883 (phthisis).^[55]
 - iii. JAMES EDWARD O'BRIEN, b. 1 Feb. 1858;^[57] bap. St. Mary (Boston) 3 Feb. 1858;^[58] d. 11 April 1879 (consumption). Occupation frame polisher,^[59] perhaps working at brother John Joseph's frame shop.
 - iv. ELLEN "NELLIE" O'BRIEN, b. 27 Aug. 1859;^[61] bap. St. Stephen 28 Aug. 1859;^[61] d. 1 Oct. 1882 (phthisis).^[62] There does not seem to be a civil birth record for her.
- 9
 - v. JOHN JOSEPH O'BRIEN, b. 29 Jan. 1861, m. 6 Feb. 1890, EMMA A. MAHONEY.
 - vi. MARGARET O'BRIEN, b. 18 May 1862;^[85] bap. St. Stephen 19 May 1862;^[85] d. 23 Oct. 1863 (marasmus).^[63]
 - vii. ANNA O'BRIEN, b. bet. 19 Aug.–18 Sept. 1863;^[64] d. 28 Feb. 1866 (bronchitis).^[64]

¹The terms "phthisis" and "consumption" were used at the time to describe what is now called tuberculosis.^[66]

4.3 Edward O'Brien

4. **EDWARD² O'BRIEN** (*William¹*) was born in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, on 10 October 1822.^[1] He died in Boston, Massachusetts, on 25 August 1881^[95] and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[39] He married **BRIDGET LINNEHAN**, probably in County Cork, Ireland, sometime before immigrating to the U.S. in June 1851.^[1;70] Bridget was born in Ireland about 1831, the daughter of Andrew Linnehan and Ann (____) Linnehan. She died in Boston, Massachusetts, on 5 April 1867 of pneumonia at the age of 36.^[71]

Edward's profession is listed as "teamster."^[88;92] Prior to the use of motorized vehicles, this term referred to a person paid to transport goods by horse-drawn wagon.^[94]

Edward lived at first in Boston's Roxbury^[78] and North End^[81] neighborhoods. In 1870 he paid \$3,000 for the property at 185 London St. in East Boston.^[88;89] Edward acquired a second East Boston property in 1874, when he purchased 307 Havre St. for \$3,325 at public auction.^[75;76] Both properties were passed onto Edward's heirs upon his death, although the combined value was only \$3,700 at that time.^[73] His heirs still held title to the properties until at least 1922,^[90] when the 185 London St. property was being rented out as apartments.^[91] Edward's niece, **FRANCES ELIZABETH³ (O'BRIEN) WICKENS**, lived there for a time.^[93] Edward's daughters, Annie M. and Margaret, continued to live at the house on 307 Havre Street up until their deaths in the 1930s.^[82;63] The properties were likely important sources of wealth for multiple generations of the O'Brien family.

Living with Edward in 1880 were his adult children Annie, Margaret, and Edward J., his sister Ann² (O'Brien) Dailey, and niece Delia J. Graham, the daughter of Bridget's sister Mary. Edward's household also included Michael Malanny, age 65, and his wife Ann, age 62, although their connection to Edward is not known.^[72] None of Edward's children ever married.

There is a large monument at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden marking where Edward is buried along with his wife Bridget, sister Ann, three of his children, and several extended family members. The plot is located at North Monument Ave., Path 17, Grave 34 East (see map in the appendix).^[87;39]

Children of Edward² and Bridget (Linnehan) O'Brien, all born in Boston:

- i. **MARY ANN³ O'BRIEN**, b. 13 Oct. 1852;^[78] bap. Holy Cross (Boston) 16 Oct. 1852;^[79] d. 25 Nov. 1852;^[80] bur. North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Cambridge, Middlesex County, Mass.^[35]
- ii. **ELLEN O'BRIEN**, b. 27 Nov. 1853;^[60] bap. Holy Cross 3 Dec. 1853;^[61] d. 10 March 1857;^[62] bur. North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery.^[36]
- iii. **ANN MARIA "ANNIE" O'BRIEN**, b. 9 Nov. 1855;^[83] bap. St. Stephen (Boston) 17 Nov. 1855^[84]; d. 24 May 1937;^[82] bur. Holy Cross Cemetery.^[39] She

was appointed administratrix of father Edward's estate after he died intestate.^[73]

- iv. MARGARET A. "MAGGIE" O'BRIEN, b. 22 Aug. 1859;^[85] bap. 29 Aug. 1859;^[85] d. 6 March 1933;^[63] bur. Holy Cross Cemetery.^[39]
- v. EDWARD J. O'BRIEN, b. 7 April 1861;^[81] d. 7 Jan. 1884 (typhoid fever);^[86] bur. Holy Cross Cemetery.^[39]

4.4 Mary (O'Brien) Ward

5. **MARY² (O'BRIEN) WARD** (*William¹*) was born probably in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, about 1828.^[96] She died in Boston, Massachusetts, on 23 March 1908^[42] and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[39] She married **DAVID WARD** in Boston on 31 October 1850.^[96] David was born in Mayfield, Fulton County, New York, about 1822 to David and Mary A. (____) Ward.^[97] He died of cancer in Boston on 19 December 1881.^[97]

David Ward was a cook. He was working at "Quincy House" in 1876,^[98] "Maverick House" in 1877,^[99] and at a saloon in 1880.^[100] David and Mary purchased the property at 101 Bennington St. in East Boston for \$2,200 in 1871.^[101;102]

Children of Mary² (O'Brien) Ward and David Ward, all born in Boston:

- i. MARY ANN³ WARD, b. 24 July 1851;^[103] bap. Holy Cross (Boston) 27 July 1851;^[103] d. 6 Jan. 1854.^[104]
- ii. SARAH WARD, b. 9 Dec. 1853;^[105] bap. Holy Cross 17 Dec. 1853;^[106] d. 10 April 1873 (meningitis).^[107]
- 10 iii. HANNAH (WARD) FLYNN, b. 13 Sept. 1860; m. 23 Sept. 1885, JOHN J. FLYNN.

4.5 Michael O'Brien

6. **MICHAEL² O'BRIEN** (*William¹*) was born in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, on 15 December 1832.^[2] He died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 25 June 1891^[37] and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[36] He married, first, **BRIDGET COLBERT** on 10 July 1854,^[108] and second, **MARY FIELD** on 19 April 1874.^[110] Bridget Colbert was born in Ireland about 1832 to Patrick and Ellen (____) Colbert.^[108] She died in Boston on 21 October 1873 of phthisis (tuberculosis)^[109] and is buried with the family of Michael's brother, John J. O'Brien, at Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[48] Mary Field (aka Mary Feely) was born in Ireland about 1845^[110] to Patrick Field and Mary Sheehan.^[111] She died in Boston on 6 January 1915 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.^[111]

Michael was an oysterman or oyster opener.^[112;116] In 1871 he purchased the property at 243 Border St. in East Boston for \$3,600.^[113;114] He may have been operating a ferry service from this waterfront location.^[115]

[add burial info]

[children with same name]

Children of Michael O'Brien and Bridget (Colbert) O'Brien:

- i. ELLEN³ "NELLIE" O'BRIEN, b. bet. 2 Jun 1857–1 Jun 1858;^[117;118] d. unk.
 Very few records are available for Ellen. Her most likely date of birth was 16 July 1857, parents listed as Michael and Bridget, address at 30 Ferry St. in Boston.^[119] This corresponds with a baptismal record at St. Stephen in Boston on 18 July 1857, parents Michael O'Brien and Bridget Colman.^[120] "Colman" could be a misspelling of "Colbert." Ferry St. and St. Stephen Church place the family near Michael's other siblings in Boston's North End neighborhood.^[122]
 No plausible marriage or death records for Ellen have been found. She was alive as of 1891 as she appears on the list of father Michael's heirs in his probate file.^[121]
- ii. MARY ANN O'BRIEN, b. 18 Aug. 1859;^[123] d. 10 June 1861.^[124]
- 11 iii. MICHAEL O'BRIEN, b. 24 March 1864; m. (1) 4 July 1883, LILLIAN A. ALLEN; m. (2) 13 April 1899, MARY A. MACDOUGALL.
- 12 iv. FRANCES ELIZABETH "FANNIE" (O'BRIEN) WICKENS, b. 16 Dec. 1866; m. 1 Jan. 1891, JOHN B. WICKENS.

Children of Michael O'Brien and Mary (Field) O'Brien:

- v. MARY O'BRIEN, b. 10 Nov. 1875;^[125] d. 20 Nov. 1875.^[126]
- vi. JOHN JOSEPH O'BRIEN, b. 30 Oct. 1876;^[127] d. 21 Sept. 1881.^[128]
- 13 vii. EDWARD FRANCIS O'BRIEN, b. 30 Oct. 1879; m. 23 June 1909, MARY FRANCES GILL.
- viii. FRANCIS JOSEPH "FRANK" O'BRIEN, b. 17 Mar 1883;^[129] bap. Most Holy Redeemer (East Boston), 18 March 1883;^[130] d. 1 May 1914.^[131]
 Frank worked first as a gas fitter^[132] and then was a meter tester for the New Bedford Gas & Edison Light Co.^[131;133] He was living at 95 S. Sixth St. in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts, when he died.^[133] He never married.^[131]

Chapter 5

Third Generation

5.1 Margaret (Dooley) (Simonds) Fernald

7. **MARGARET³ (DOOLEY) (SIMONDS) FERNALD** (*Abigail², William¹*) was born in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, 27 December 1840.^[3] She died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, 1 March 1918.^[146] She married, first, probably between 1855–1860, **WILLIAM SIMONDS**,^[140] and second, on 21 August 1873, **ROBERT A. FERNALD**^[141] (aka Robert A. Ireland).^[144] William Simonds was born in Ireland about 1841^[142] to Nicholas Simonds and Catharine (Keenan) Simonds.^[139;157] Robert A. Fernald was born in Boston about 1849 to George Fernald and Joanna (Whidhent) Fernald.^[141;158] He died in Boston on 14 June 1917.^[143]

Margaret's second husband, Robert A. Fernald, was a tugboat captain who ran the New England Dredging Company fleet.^[143] Sometime between 1855 and 1860 Robert's family started using the surname "Fernald" instead of "Ireland."^[144;145]

Children of Margaret³ (Dooley) (Simonds) Fernald and William Simonds:

- 14 i. **CATHARINE⁴ (SIMONDS) MCCARTHY**, b. 19 Dec. 1860; m. 7 April 1879, **JOHN MCCARTHY**.
 - ii. **FRANCIS SIMONDS**, b. 4 June 1863;^[147] d. 27 June 1865.^[148]
 - iii. **MARGARET JOSEPHINE SIMONDS**, b. 10 Aug. 1865;^[149] d. 24 July 1866.^[150]
- 15 iv. **ABIGAIL J. SIMONDS**, b. 23 Jan. 1867; m. 13 April 1890, **JOHN H. ROGAN**.

Children of Margaret³ (Dooley) (Simonds) Fernald and Robert A. Fernald:

- v. **ANNA FERNALD**, b. 25 June 1874;^[151] d. 5 May 1875.^[152]
- 16 vi. **CAROLINE EMMA (FERNALD) MCGURIN**, b. 16 March 1876; m. 19 Oct. 1893, **JOHN JOSEPH MCGURIN**.
- 17 vii. **SARAH HELEN (FERNALD) LEONARD**, b. 5 March 1879; m. 30 Sept. 1902, **CHRISTOPHER LEONARD**.

- 18 viii. ROBERT ATWELL FERNALD, b. 19 June 1882; m. 28 June 1911, AGNES M. LEONARD. [sister of Christopher?]

5.2 William O'Brien

8. **WILLIAM³ O'BRIEN** (*John², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts on 9 November 1854.^[153] He was baptized at St. Mary (Boston) on 12 November 1854.^[154] He died in Boston on 28 October 1889.^[155] He married, on 27 September 1881, **JULIA T. McCARTY**. Julia was born in Boston on 12 May 1855 to Charles McCarty and Hanna Mahony.^[?] She died on 9 December 1888.^[156]

William was a "property man" (*i.e.*, props master^[160]) for theaters in Boston. He worked first at the Globe Theatre^[161] and then the Howard Athenæum.^[162] The Howard Athenæum, in the old Scollary Square in Boston's West End neighborhood, was known as "The Old Howard." It was the location for many major musical and drama performances but had difficulty competing with the other Boston theaters in the late 1800s. By the time William started working there, The Old Howard had shifted more toward vaudeville and eventually burlesque. The theater was shut down several times by police in the 20th century and finally burned down from a suspicious fire in 1961.^[163]

William's wife Julia died at age 33 of "hæmoptysis" (coughing up blood; probably a complication from tuberculosis) just 3 years after their daughter Nellie was born.^[156] William himself died of tuberculosis the following year after being ill for 18 months.^[155] He signed his will on 21 August 1889, about 2 months before he died. In the will, he appointed his brother, John J. O'Brien, guardian of his daughter Nellie and executor of his estate. William's life insurance policy provided \$2,000 of which \$1,500 was to be placed in a bank account for Nellie to have when she reached adulthood.^[164]

Children of William³ O'Brien and Julia T. McCarty:

- i. ELLEN LOUISE⁴ "NELLIE" O'BRIEN, b. 9 Nov. 1885;^[165] bap. St. James the Greater (Boston), 12 Nov. 1885;^[166] d. 14 June 1926;^[167] unm.

After her parents died, Nellie lived with her uncle John J. O'Brien in Medford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts^[168] where she was working for a time as a saleslady at a department store.^[169] She left Medford for Boston around 1913.^[170] She may have been attending nursing school at this time, as in 1919 she was in Tewksbury, Mass., working as a nurse at the State Infirmary there.^[171;173] By 1924 she had returned to Medford and still worked as a nurse.^[172] Nellie died at Rutland Heights State Hospital, Rutland, Mass., in 1926.^[167] Since the hospital was used as a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients,^[174] it's possible that Nellie died of the same illness that killed her parents.^[167]

5.3 John Joseph O'Brien

9. **JOHN JOSEPH³ O'BRIEN** (*John², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 29 January 1861.^[67] He was baptized at St. Stephen (Boston) on 1 February 1861.^[175] He died in Brookline, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 15 May 1938.^[176] He is buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Boston.^[177] He married, in Boston on 6 February 1890, **EMMA A. MAHONY**.^[178] Emma was born in Boston on 27 September 1862 to Edward Mahony and Catherine Josephine Kenney.^[179] She died in Brookline on 11 July 1950.^[180]

John began working as a picture frame manufacturer around 1880^[183] at age 18 or 19 and continued in that profession until about 1917.^[184] He operated his frame business on the second floor of the building at 69 Cornhill in Boston,^[184;185] taking over from the previous owner, B. F. Sargent.^[181]

Cornhill was a street located at what is now the Government Center complex. At its heyday, many booksellers and publishers located themselves on Cornhill and it became known as one of Boston's intellectual centers.^[182] The street was mostly destroyed during the city's urban renewal phase in the 1960s. The only remnants of the original Cornhill are the Sears Block and Sears Crescent (location of the famous "steaming teakettle").^[182]

A fire in 1904 caused major damage to John's frame shop, mostly from the water used to put out the fire. Efforts to fight the fire were complicated by an avalanche of snow falling off the roof and nearly burying the firefighters, and an intoxicated man trying to help by climbing the stairs of the building and hanging onto the firehose.^[185] John was able to recover the business and continued operating out of this location for many years afterward.^[184]

John, his wife Emma, and several of their children are buried in the Mahony plot owned by Emma's father Edward at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Boston's Roslindale neighborhood.^[177]

[house locations: Boston, Malden, Brookline]

Children of John Joseph³ O'Brien and Emma A. (Mahony) O'Brien:

- i. MILDRED LORETTA⁴ O'BRIEN, b. 14 Nov. 1890;^[186] d. 26 May 1891.^[187]
- 19 ii. FRANCIS JOSEPH O'BRIEN, b. 2 April 1892; m. Malden, Mass., 12 Sept. 1921, MARY HELENA FLYNN.
- 20 iii. PAULINE M. (O'BRIEN) BAINE, b. 9 June 1894; m. 1930, CHARLES LUCIUS BAINE.
- 21 iv. MILDRED LOUISE (O'BRIEN) FRENCH, b. 29 Sept. 1896; m. Medford, Mass., Feb. 1925, ALBERT JOSEPH FRENCH.
- v. EDWARD O'BRIEN, b. Medford, Mass., 5 July 1898;^[222] d. Medford, 24 Dec. 1898.^[223]
- vi. ALMYRA LOUISE O'BRIEN, b. Medford, 27 June 1901;^[192] d. Medford, 13 July 1902.^[193]

5.4 Hannah (Ward) Flynn

10. **HANNAH³ (WARD) FLYNN** (*Mary², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 13 September 1860.^[194] She died in Boston in 1919.^[195] She married, in Boston on 23 September 1885, **JOHN J. FLYNN**^[197] (aka John H. Flynn^[196]). He was born in Boston about 1861 to James Flynn and Anna (____) Flynn.^[197] He died in Boston on 8 April 1920.^[198]

Hannah spent most of her life at the house originally owned by her parents at 101 Bennington St. in East Boston.^[101;100;200] She purchased the adjacent property at 103 Bennington St.^[203] and other East Boston properties on Morris St.^[201] and Wesley St.^[202]

Although they remained married, it does not appear that Hannah and her husband lived together after the birth of their two children.^[204] In the 1900 census, Hannah is living at 101 Bennington St. with her children and her mother Mary.^[199] In the 1910 census, she is at the same address, now living with her son Harry, her daughter Alice, Alice's husband Edward Clahane, and her granddaughter, Marion.^[200] Hannah's husband John purchased the property at 236 Lexington St. in East Boston in 1908 and resided there for the remainder of his life.^[205;198] After his death, the property passed to Hannah and John's daughter, Mary Alice.^[206]

John J. Flynn was a trader,^[197] a bartender,^[209] and a clerk at a liquor dealer.^[207;208]

Children of Hannah³ Ward and John J. Flynn:

- 22 i. **MARY ALICE⁴ (FLYNN) CLAHANE**, aka Alice V. Flynn, b. Boston 10 Aug. 1886; m. Boston 18 Nov. 1908, **EDWARD WILLIAM CLAHANE**.
- ii. **HARRY JOSEPH FLYNN**, b. Boston 6 June 1889,^[209] d. Boston 15 Jan. 1967;^[210] unm.

His WWI draft card lists his occupation as "Collector" and employer as "R. H. Hinkley & Co." He claimed a draft exemption due to being the main support for both his parents.^[211] In the 1930 census, he was living with his sister and brother-in-law and working as a salesman in advertising.^[212]

5.5 Michael O'Brien

11. **MICHAEL³ O'BRIEN** (*Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 24 March 1864.^[213] He died in Boston on 3 July 1904.^[213] He married, first, in Franklin, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 4 July 1883, **LILLIAN A. ALLEN**,^[215] and second, in Boston, on 13 April 1899, **MARY A. MACDOUGALL**.^[217] Lillian Allen was born in Sevenoaks, Kent County, England, about 1866 to William Allen and Elizabeth (____) Allen.^[215] She died in Norwood, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 2 Octo-

ber 1891.^[216] Mary Macdougall was born in Ingonish, Victoria County, Nova Scotia, Canada, about 1871 to Daniel Macdougall and Mary McLean.^[217] She died in Boston in 1928.^[218]

Michael's occupation in 1899 was "moroccodresser,"^[217] a job that involves dressing leather in a tannery.^[219] Michael's death record states his occupation as "Gas Meter maker."^[214]

Children of Michael³ O'Brien and Lillian Allen:

- i. ARTHUR FRANCIS⁴ O'BRIEN, b. Norwood, Norfolk Co., Mass., 2 Oct. 1883;^[220] d. Boston, 28 Sept. 1904.^[221]
- ii. EDWARD WILLIAM O'BRIEN, b. Norwood, 18 Dec. 1884;^[222] d. Boston, 25 April 1887.^[223]

A mention of Edward's death from the *The Boston Globe*: "Edward O'Brien, aged 2 years, living with his grandfather at 243 Border street, East Boston, was run over by Sturtevant's lumber team in front of his residence this afternoon, and instantly killed."^[224]

- iii. ELIZABETH O'BRIEN, b. Norwood, 29 July 1886;^[225] d. Norwood, 5 Oct. 1886.^[226]

Children of Michael³ O'Brien and Mary Macdougall:

- iv. FRANCES L. O'BRIEN aka Frances May O'Brien, b. Walpole, Norfolk Co., Mass., 18 Jan. 1901;^[227] d. Boston, 20 Dec. 1903.^[228]

Chapter 6

List of Persons

1. William¹ O'Brien
2. Abigail² (O'Brien) Dooley
3. John² O'Brien
4. Edward² O'Brien
5. Mary² (O'Brien) Ward
6. Michael² O'Brien
7. Margaret³ (Dooley) (Simonds) Fernald
8. William³ O'Brien
9. John Joseph³ O'Brien
10. Hannah³ (Ward) Flynn
11. Michael³ O'Brien
12. Frances Elizabeth³ (O'Brien) Wickens
13. Edward Francis³ O'Brien
14. Catharine⁴ (Simonds) McCarthy
15. Abigail J.⁴ (Simonds) Rogan
16. Caroline Emma⁴ (Fernald) McGurin
17. Sarah Helen⁴ (Fernald) Leonard
18. Robert Atwell⁴ Fernald

19. Francis Joseph⁴ O'Brien
20. Pauline M.⁴ (O'Brien) Baine
21. Mildred Louise⁴ (O'Brien) French
22. Mary Alice⁴ (Flynn) Clahane

Notes

- [1] Edward O Brien primary declaration of intention (1854), no. 487, District of Massachusetts; Record Group 21: Records of the District Courts of the United States; National Archives at Boston, Waltham, Massachusetts; viewed at "Massachusetts, State and Federal Naturalization Records, 1798–1950," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 23 Mar 2020), image 858.
- [2] Edward O Brien petition for naturalization (1868), Massachusetts Superior Court, Suffolk County; Oct term 1868 (Letters L–Z), Film # 007795438, viewed at "Primary and final declarations of intention and naturalizations, 1864–1888 and card index 1856–1884," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS9H-83DG-G>) : viewed on 23 Mar 2020), image 1859.
- [3] Watergrasshill & Glenville Parish (Watergrasshill, Ireland), "Historical Baptisms from 1836–1901," database, "Margaret Dooly" baptism, 27 Dec 1840; *Watergrasshill & Glenville Parish Archives*. <http://www.wghparish.ie/index.php/archives/baptisms-1836-1901/easytablerecord/1-baptisms/7008> : viewed on 17 Apr 2019.
- [4] Samuel Lewis, *A Topographical History of Ireland*, vol. 2 (London: S. Lewis & Co. 1837), 695.
- [5] Patrick Weston Joyce, *Irish Local Names Explained* (Dublin: The Educational Co. of Ireland, Limited, 1922), 93.
- [6] *Census of Ireland, 1871*, Part 1, Vol. 2 (Dublin: Alexander Thom, 1873), 140; viewed at *Histpop - The Online Historical Population Reports Website* (<http://www.histpop.org/>) : viewed on 23 Mar 2020.
- [7] Central Statistics Office (Cork, Ireland) "Census 2011 – Population Classified by Area," 36; accessed at *Central Statistics Office*

- (https://www.cso.ie/en/media/csoie/census/documents/census2011vol1andprofile1/Table_5.pdf): viewed on 23 Mar 2020.
- [8] John Grenham, *Tracing your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin: Gill Books, 2019), 1.
- [9] *Ibid.*, 18.
- [10] F. Jackson, *The County and City of Cork Post Office General Directory, 1842–43* (Cork: F. Jackson), 125; viewed at *Cork City Libraries* (<http://www.corkpastandpresent.ie/places/streetandtradedirectories/1842-3jacksonscountycityofcorkpogeneralldirectory/>): viewed on 23 Mar 2020.
- [11] “Perambulation Book, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, Parishes of St. Michaels, Templeusque, and Killaspugmullane,” Parish of Killaspugmullane, Townland of Trantstown, p. 22 (hand-written), No. 22a, John O’Brien, dated 4 Aug 1847; viewed at “Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831–1856,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L94N-1CR6>): viewed 26 Mar 2020), film #007246728, image 109.
- [12] “Perambulation Book, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, Parish of Killaspugmullane,” Townland of Trantstown, No. 7a, John O’Brien, dated 26 Jul 1850; viewed at “Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831–1856,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L94N-1CR6>): viewed 26 Mar 2020), film #007246728, image 118.
- [13] “1st House Book, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, P. of Killaspugmullane (Revised),” Townland of Trantstown, p. 5 (hand-written), No. 7a, John O’Brien, original date Aug 1847, revised date 27 Jul 1850; viewed at “Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831–1856,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-894J-SZCB>): viewed 26 Mar 2020), film #007246783, image 420.
- [14] Bina Harte, “The Old Paper Mill of Trantstown,” recounted to the author by Jeremiah Harte, *The National Folklore Collection, UCD, The Schools’ Collection, Volume 0382*, p. 31; viewed at *dúchas.ie* (<https://www.duchas.ie>), The Schools’ Collection > Co. Cork > Cnoc na Biolarraighe, image 31.
- [15] “House Book, Town of Watergrasshill, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, Feby 1849,” *Houses in Town of Watergrasshill, Parish of*

- Ardnageehy, Townland of Tinageragh, No. 44 (original), Lot 29 (revised), Wm Brien; viewed at "Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831–1856," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-994N-YC62> : viewed 26 Mar 2020), film #007246869, image 442.
- [16] "House Book, Town of Watergrasshill, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, Feby 1849," title page; viewed at "Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831–1856," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-994N-YC62> : viewed 27 Mar 2020), film #007246869, image 433.
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- [18] O'Brien Clan Foundation, "Brian Boru: Historical View," webpage, *O'Brien Clan Foundation* (<https://www.obrienclan.org/historical-view.html> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020).
- [19] O'Brien Clan Foundation, "Brian Boru: Early History," webpage, *O'Brien Clan Foundation* (<https://www.obrienclan.org/early-history.html> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020).
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- [21] Blaine T. Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne, *Genetic Genealogy in Practice* (Arlington: National Genealogical Society, 2016), 23-25.
- [22] E. Barry, *Barrymore : records of the Barrys of County Cork from the earliest to the present time, with pedigrees* (Cork: Guy and Co. Ltd., 1902), 1.
- [23] *Ibid.*, p. 17.
- [24] *The Parliamentary Gazetteer of Ireland*, Vol. 1 (Dublin, London, and Edinburgh: A. Fullarton and Co., 1846) 227.
- [25] James Barry, email to members of the *Family Tree DNA* "Barry Project" on 17 Dec 2019.

- [26] James Barry, *Barrymore DNA: The Genetic Records of the Barrys of County Cork and Beyond* (2020) pp. 2–4; downloaded from *Academia.edu* (https://www.academia.edu/42454916/Barrymore_DNA_The_Genetic_Records_of_the_Barrys_of_County_Cork_and_Beyond: viewed on 31 Mar 2020).
- [27] *Ibid.*, p. 9.
- [28] *Ibid.*, p. 4.
- [29] “Big Y – Results,” dynamic database of matches, kit #904650 *Family Tree DNA* (<https://www.familytreedna.com/my/big-y#/matches> : viewed 29 Mar 2020). Of the 29 total matches, 25 of them have surnames Barry, Berry, or Bearry. There are no O’Brien surnames or spelling variants in the match list.
- [30] “Y-DNA TiP Report,” comparison of kit #904650 with kit #441938 at 111 markers, dynamic database of matches, *Family Tree DNA* (<https://www.familytreedna.com/my/y-dna-matches> : viewed 29 Mar 2020).
- [31] “SNP matches,” dynamic database of matches, comparison of YFull member YF63552 with member YF65192, *YFull* (<https://www.yfull.com/snp/matches/> : viewed 29 Mar 2020).
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- [33] 1855 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, Boston, ward 1, p. 60 (left side), dwelling [blank], family 549, for Abby Dooley in Edward O’Brien household; accessed at “Massachusetts, State Census, 1855,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 33.
- [34] Massachusetts Town and Vital Records, Death Records, 1856, no. 4206, William O’Brien; accessed at “Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1856 > image 96.

- [35] Diana Berberena, Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, letter to Gavin E. O'Brien, dated 27 May 2019. This letter includes burial information for two individuals. William O'Brien, buried 12/30/[1856], age 76 years into O'Brien Family Grave G W124 Range N17 west, owner Edward O'Brien. Mary Ann O'Brien, buried 11/1852, age 1 month, 12 days old.
- [36] Diana Berberena, Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, letter to Gavin E. O'Brien, received 11 Jul. 2019.
Michael Dooley: North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Range 14 East, Grave 96
Ellen O'Brien: North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Range 17 West, Grave 124
Michael O'Brien: Holy Cross Cemetery, 28 North Maple, Grave 27 West
- [37] Massachusetts Vital Records, Death Records, 1891, no. 4862, Michael O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1891 > image 1303.
- [38] Massachusetts Vital Records, Death Records, 1897, no. 121, Abigail Dooley; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1897 > image 1431.
- [39] Carol Gordon, Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, emails to Gavin E. O'Brien in Apr. 2019.
Holy Cross Cemetery plot locations as follows.
Ann (O'Brien) Dailey: North Monument, Path 17, Grave 34 East
Abigail (O'Brien) Dooley: North Monument, Path 12, Grave 38 East
Mary (O'Brien) Ward: North Monument, Path 12, Grave 38 East
- [40] Abigail (O'Brien) Dooley and Michael Dooley had two children in County Cork, Ireland, prior to their immigration to the United States.
- [41] Massachusetts Vital Records, Death Records, 1898, no. 7910, Ann Dailey; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1898 > image 1832.
- [42] Massachusetts Vital Records, Death Records, 1908, p. 576, no. 2762, Mary Ward; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), 1908 > Boston > image 2737.

- [43] 1880 U.S. census, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Enumeration District (ED) 576, East Boston, p. 24, Havre Street, house no. 307, dwelling no. 153, family no. 267, Ann Dailey in household of Edward O'Brian; accessed at "1880 United States Federal Census," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 30 Mar 2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston > 576 > image 24.
- [44] 1865 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, city of Boston, ward 1, dwelling 1570, family 3692, for Abby Duley in William Simonds household; accessed at "Massachusetts, State Census, 1865," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 203.
Abigail's marital status is listed as "widowed."
- [45] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1857, no. 7, Michael Dooley; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L975-M988> : viewed on 30 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston > Deaths 1856-1857 > image 351.
He is listed as "married" but wife's name is not included. Age 36. Address is 12 Pearl Pl.
- [46] City of Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, marriage records, 1853, no. 2642, John O'Brien and Mary Mahoney; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Marriages, 1853 > image 157.
John is listed as 33 years old and Mary as 24.
- [47] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1863, p. 49, no. 1270, John O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1863 > image 756.
Cause of death: phthisis.
- [48] Bill McEvoy, compiler, "Sand Banks Cemetery Project," Excel spreadsheet of plot locations, sourced from burial books and cemetery lot cards of the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston; accessed at *The Historical Society of Watertown* (<http://historicalsocietyofwatertownma.org/HSW/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Resources > Sand Banks Cemetery Project > downloadable Excel spreadsheet.

- [49] St. Mary (Boston) Marriages, 1836-1854, p. 205, John O'Brien and Mary Mahoney; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/54105/205/1424477986> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020).
- [50] Massachusetts Vital Records, marriage records, 1853, p. 156, no. 2642, John O'Brien and Mary Mahoney; accessed at "Massachusetts, Marriage Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1853 > image 779.
- [51] Massachusetts Vital Records, marriage records, 1867, no. 267, Thomas Bowser and Mary O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Marriage Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1867 > image 743.
- [52] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1894, no. 755, Mary (Maloney) Bowser, wife of Thomas; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1894 > image 1047.
Parents are listed as John and Ellen Daley; this does not match previous records.
- [53] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1856, p. 111, no. 4896, Mary O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _up through 1910 > 1856 > image 818.
- [54] St. Stephen (Boston) Baptisms, 1854-1862, p. 134, Mary O'Brien, accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/53641/134/1423778090> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020).
- [55] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1883, p. 73, no. 1916, Mary F. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1883 > image 847.
- [56] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1883, no. 1916, Mary F. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records,

- 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1883 > image 67.
- [57] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1858, p. 40, no. 1761, James Edward O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _up through 1910 > 1858 > image 777.
- [58] St. Mary (Boston) Baptisms, 1850-1858, p. 491, James Edward O'Brien; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/54102/491/1424471476> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020).
- [59] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1879, no. 2167, James E. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1879 > image 77.
- [60] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1853, p. 81, no. 3620, Ellen O'Brine; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 5 Apr 2020), _up through 1910 > 1853 > image 749.
- [61] St. Stephen (Boston) Baptisms, 1854-1862, p. 312, Ellen O'Brien; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/53641/312/1423781683> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020).
- [62] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1882, no. 6860, Ellen F. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1882 > image 233.
- [63] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1863, p. 149, no. 3752, Margaret O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1863 > image 855.

- [64] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1866, no. 621, Anna O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1866 > image 19.
- [65] 1860 U.S. census, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Boston, ward 1, p. 383, dwelling 1535, family 3004, John O'Brien household; accessed at "1860 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/>:viewedon31Mar2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston Ward 1 > image 384.
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- [68] City of Boston, Massachusetts, *A Catalogue of the City Councils of Boston, 1822-1890, Roxbury, 1846-1867, Charlestown, 1847-1873 and of the selectmen of Boston, 1634-1822, also of various other town and municipal officers* (City of Boston Printing Department, 1909), 7–40; accessed at *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/stream/catalogueofcityc00bost#page/6/mode/2up> : viewed on 2 Apr 2020).
- [69] John S. Billings, M.D., United States Census Office, *Vital statistics of Boston and Philadelphia covering a period of six years ending May 31, 1890* (1895), 30; accessed at *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/vitalstatistics00shungoog/page/n22/mode/2up> : viewed on 2 Apr 2020).
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Photos available at https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/201238724/edward-o_brien.
- [88] Massachusetts, Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, 1870, vol. 1009, p. 38, Cutcliffe Jr to O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts Land Records, 1620-1986," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9Z3-938P> : viewed on 5 Apr 2020), Suffolk > Deeds 1870 vol 1008-1009 > image 394.
Edward's probate file states he owned "Lincoln St. East Boston," however, this was probably a misspelling of "London St." as there was no Lincoln St. located in East Boston.^[77]
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- [109] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1873, no. 99, Bridget O'Brien (m.n.) Colbert; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 7 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1873 > image 982.
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- [113] Massachusetts, Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, 1872, vol. 1088, p. 159, Appleton, Gdn. To O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts Land Records, 1620-1986," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9Z3-MLGY> : viewed on 2 Apr 2020), Deeds 1872 vol 1088-1089 > image 171.
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"O'Brien Michael, oyster opener, h. 243 Border"
- [117] 1870 U.S. census, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Boston Ward 1 (East Boston), p. 292, dwelling 1271, family 2399, Ellen O'Brien in Michael O'Brien household; accessed at "1870 United States Federal Census," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/>:viewedon9Apr2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 292.
- [118] 1880 U.S. census, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Boston, Enumeration District (ED) 578, p. 2, dwelling 8, family 16, Nellie O'Brien in Michael O'Brien household; accessed at "1880 United States Federal Census," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/>:viewedon9Apr2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston > 578 > image 2.
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- [120] St. Stephen (Boston) Baptisms, 1854-1862, p. 193, Ellen O'Brien; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/53641/193/1423779290> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020).
- [121] Massachusetts Probate Court, Suffolk County, 1891, vol. 648, p. 380, petition for administration of Michael O'Brien estate by Mary O'Brien; accessed at "Suffolk County (Massachusetts) probate records, 1636-1899," database with images, *FamilySearch*

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- [122] C. Pinney, *Plan of the city of Boston* (Boston: L. Prang & Co.), plate 15, showing Ferry St.; accessed at *Norman B. Leventhal Map Center* (<https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:6h446v44g> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020).
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- [124] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1861, no. 1632, Mary A. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1861 > image 69.
- [125] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1875, no. 852, Mary O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020), _up through 1910 > 1875 > image 932.
- [126] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1875, no. 7956, Mary O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1875 > image 1036. Cause of death: Bronchitis. Address: 243 Border St.
- [127] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1876, no. 4509, John Joseph O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020), _up through 1910 > 1876 > image 973.
- [128] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1881, no. 6616, John O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 9 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1881 > image 982. Cause of death: Diphtheria. Address: 243 Border St.
- [129] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1883, p. 38, no. 1669, Edward Francis O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records,

1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), _up through 1910 > 1883 > image 1071.

The name in this birth register is likely an error. "Edward Francis O'Brien" is the name of his older brother, and he was baptized as "Francis Joseph O'Brien."

[130] Most Holy Redeemer (East Boston) Baptisms, 1883-1900, p. 2, Franciscus Joseph O'Brien; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/rd/55184/2/1424603942> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020). Sponsors: Jeremiah Field and Mrs. Ann Daley.

[131] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1914, p. 377, no. 725, Frank J. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), 1914 > New Bedford.

[132] 1900 U.S. census, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Boston Ward 1, Enumeration District (ED) 1160, p. 12, dwelling 150, family 260, Frank O'Brien in Mary O'Brien household; accessed at "1990 United States Federal Census," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/>:viewedon10Apr2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > District 1160 > image 24.

[133] W. A. Greenough & Co., compilers, *New Bedford and Fairhaven Directory* (Boston: W. A. Greenough & Co., 1913), p. 772, Frank J O'Brien; accessed at "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), Massachusetts > New Bedford > 1913 > New Bedford, Massachusetts, City Directory, 1913 > image 774.
"O'Brien Frank J meter tester 125 Middle h 95 S Sixth" - see also p. 1010 (image 1014) of the same directory for the full name of the New Bedford Gas & Edison Light Co. located at 125 Middle St.

[134] 1855 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, Boston, ward 1, p. 60 (left side), dwelling [blank], family 549, for Hannah Dooley in Edward O'Brien household; accessed at "Massachusetts, State Census, 1855," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 33.

Hannah Dooley, age 18, born in Ireland

- [135] Massachusetts Vital Records, *Index to Deaths, 1911 - 1915, Cassibo - Enemark*, vol. 60, Hannah (Dooley) Cusick, 1911 vol. 13 p. 631; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Index, 1901-1980," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), 1911-1915 > Cassibo - Enemark > image 302.
- [136] Massachusetts Vital Records, marriage records, 1859, no. 1734, Jeremiah Cooney and Hannah Doolly; accessed at "Massachusetts, Marriage Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1859 > image 666.
- [137] Massachusetts Vital Records, marriage records, 1884, no. 2686, Michael Cusick and Hannah Cooney; accessed at "Massachusetts, Marriage Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1884 > image 1030.
- [138] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1911, p. 631, no. 5659, Hannah Cusick; accessed at "Massachusetts Deaths, 1841-1915," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-DT59-PGR> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), 2393942 (004283225) > image 2213.
- [139] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1873, no. 2126, William Simons; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-9975-96WP> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), Suffolk > Boston > Deaths 1871-1873 > image 533.
- [140] In the 1855 Massachusetts state census, William Simonds and Margaret Dooley were living with their respective families. In 1860, William and Margaret's first child was born (Catharine Simonds). No marriage record can be found in Massachusetts. Another possibility is that they were married in Ireland prior to arriving in the U.S., although Margaret would have been only 15 years old or younger.
- [141] Massachusetts Vital Records, marriage records, 1873, no. 2971, Robert Fernald and Margaret Simonds; accessed at "Massachusetts, Marriage Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (https://www.ancestry.com : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1873 > image 983.

Margaret's parents' names are incorrectly listed as "John" and "Nancy Dooley."

- [142] 1855 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, Boston, ward 1, p. 62 (right side), dwelling 187, family 575, for William Simonds in Nicholas Simonds household; accessed at "Massachusetts, State Census, 1855," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 34.
- [143] Robert A. Fernald obituary, *The Boston Globe*, 15 Jun 1917, p. 15; accessed at *Newspapers.com*, database with images (<https://www.newspapers.com/clip/33980133/robert-a-fernal-d-obituary/> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020).
- [144] 1855 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, Boston, ward 8, dwelling 575, family 769, for Robert Ireland in George H. Ireland household; accessed at "Massachusetts, State Census, 1855," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 08 > image 54.
- [145] 1860 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, Boston, ward 10, p. 186, dwelling 739, family 1432, for Robert Fernald in Joana Fernald household; accessed at "Massachusetts, State Census, 1860," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 10 > image 186
- [146] Margaret E. Fernald obituary, *The Boston Globe*, 2 Mar 1918, p. 12; accessed at *Newspapers.com*, database with images (<https://bostonglobe.newspapers.com/clip/48493997/obituary-for-margaret-e-fernal-d/?xid=637> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020).
- [147] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1863, no. 4335, Francis Simonds; accessed at "Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1863 > image 780.
- [148] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1865, no. 2139, Francis Simonds; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1865 > image 768.

- [149] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1865, no. 4421, Margaret Josephine Simons; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), Boston > Births, Marriages and Death > image 55407.
- [150] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1866, p. 77, no. 2292, Margaret J. Simonds; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1866 > image 687.
- [151] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1874, no. 2243, Anna Fernald; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), Boston > Births, Marriages and Death > image 56910.
- [152] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1875, no. 2910, Anna Fernald; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1875 > image 853.
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- [154] St. Mary (Boston) Baptisms, 1850-1858, p. 304, William O'Bryen; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/54102/304/1424466134> : viewed on 11 Apr 2020).
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Cause of death: Consumption; Occupation: Property Man; Address: 96 Tyler St.
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Cause of death: haemoptysis; address: 16 Somerset St.; parents: Charles and Hannah

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"O'Brien, William, property man, Howard Athenaeum, house 82 Hudson"

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Address: 82 Hudson St.
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"O'Brien Nellie removed to Boston"

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"O'Brien Nellie L, nurse, S I b do" [State Infirmary, boards ditto - see abbreviations on p. 38, image 26]

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There was no Boston city directory available for 1879 and John does not appear in the 1878 directory. He was probably still living in his parents' household.

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"O'Brien John J picture frame mfr 69 Cornhill B 45 Court"
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Cause of death: "Ac. Tub. Meningitis, 2 days."
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Rectory of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Medford
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Cause of death: "Pneumonia"
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Cause of death: "Cerebro-spinal Meningitis"
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Salutation St.
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155 London St. Occupation: gas meter maker.
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Michael O'Brien occupation: mill hand. Lillian Allen parents: William and Elizabeth Allen.
- [216] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1891, no. 33, Lillian A. Allen; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images (<https://www.ancestry.com/> : viewed on 20 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1891 > image 998.
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Mary Macdougall married Wilson Bushen in 1910:
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Michael's occupation: tanner.
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Cause of death: "Pul. Tuberculosis 10 mos."; father's occupation: "Machine Operator."
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Father's occupation: tanner.
- [223] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1887, no. 3868, Edward F. O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (https://www.ancestry.com : viewed on 24 Apr 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1887 > image 942.
Cause of death: accident; address: 243 Border St.

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Cause of death: pneumonia; address: 182 Marion St.