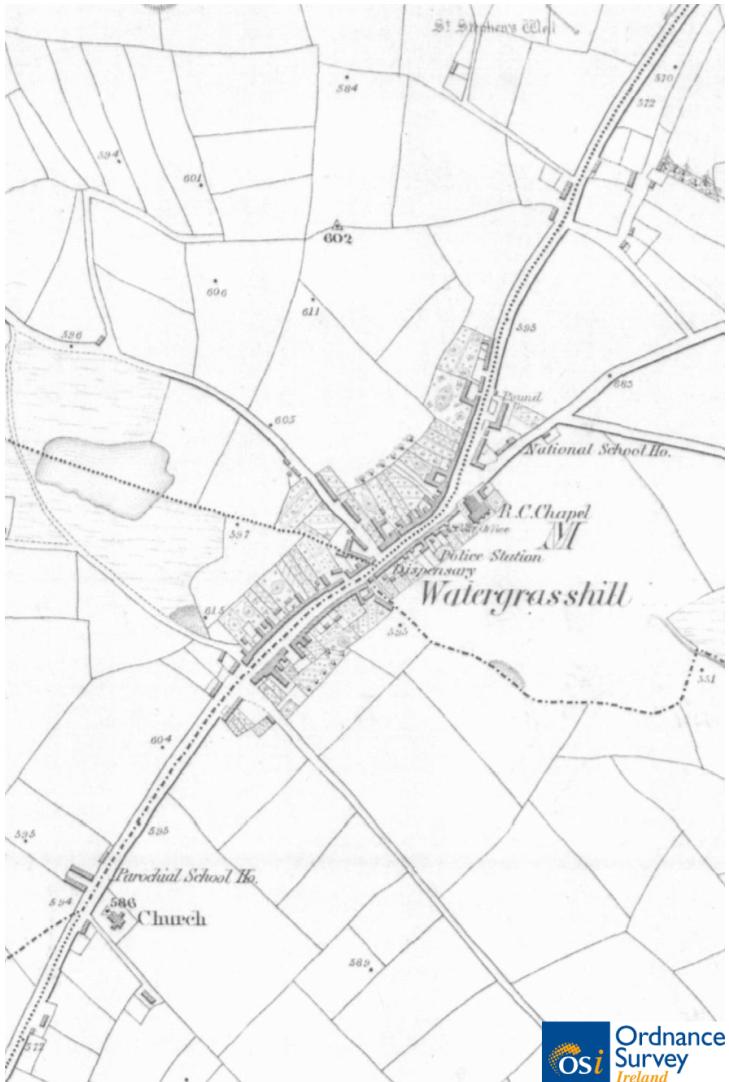


Descendants of William O'Brien



Descendants of William O'Brien

of Watergrasshill, Ireland, and Boston, Massachusetts

by Gavin E. O'Brien



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Map series "Historic 6" First Edition B&W (1829–41)," scale 1:5,000, map sheet CK053, centre coordinates ITM 576382,584458, published 18 Mar 2020.

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Preface

This family history begins with William O'Brien and his six known children, who came from the town of Watergrasshill in County Cork, Ireland. They all made the voyage to America and settled in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts. Most of William's children arrived in the final years of the Great Famine in Ireland (1849–1851). William came over as well, at the age of 60, although he did not live long after.

The O'Brien family fled famine in Ireland only to face severe losses from diseases like tuberculosis in the crowded tenements of Boston. Many of William's family lines died out completely or came close. Despite these hardships, the descendants of the original O'Brien immigrants remained in the Boston area for many years. They became business owners, railroad officials, military officers, musicians, teachers, factory foremen, and a variety of other professions.

Starting with William O'Brien as the first generation, I have followed three more generations of his descendants, including all known children and spouses. For privacy reasons, I omitted details other than birth name for anyone who may still be living.

I chose to focus my research on this particular line because it was not well known among my family members. Our Irish origins had always been a mystery. My father traced our ancestry back to William's son, John O'Brien. As I am currently living in Boston, I was well situated to take on the research using local resources.

This family history includes more details on John's line than William's

other children since I have access to more existing information on my own line, and because my primary audience for this book is my extended family. That said, I hope this research is also useful for my more distant cousins and anyone else who is interested in Irish-American genealogy.

My research on the O'Brien family history is ongoing. I still wish to locate more information on their origins in Watergrasshill and find the identity of William's parents. There is a mystery of how they came to acquire the O'Brien surname, which you can read about more in the DNA chapter. See the "Further Research" section of the Appendix for more detail about remaining family mysteries.

The first section of this book provides background information on where the O'Briens came from in Ireland, their first few years in Boston, and DNA evidence of deeper ancestry. The remainder of the book consists of family profiles using the style standardized by *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* (known as *Register* style).

Main Person Profiles

Each person has a generation number, which appears next to their first or middle name as a super-scripted numeral. The generations start with 1 for William O'Brien, 2 for his children, 3 for their children, and so on. The first sentence of a profile lists the individual's name followed by their line of descent from William, in parentheses. For example:

FRANCES JOSEPHINE⁴ O'BRIEN (*Edward³, Michael², William¹*)

This shows that Frances is the 4th generation removed from William O'Brien. Her line of descent from William goes from William's son Michael, to Michael's son Edward, to Frances herself.

Those individuals who have full profiles also get a profile number. The profile number appears as an Arabic numeral in the left margin where the children are listed at the end of the parent's profile. The presence of this number indicates that that child will have their own profile later in the report. The Roman numerals in the child list show the order of birth.

For example, here is how Abigail² O'Brien appears in the children list of her father, William¹ O'Brien:

2 ii. ABIGAIL O'BRIEN, b. abt. 1815 or 1825; m. MICHAEL DOOLEY.

The “2” shows that Abigail has her own profile and that hers is the second profile in the report overall. The “ii” indicates that she was the second child born to William O'Brien. Usually those who have children of their own will get their own profile. Others who do not have their own profile may have additional life details included as text under their entry in the children's list within their parent's profile.

The following abbreviations appear in the child section of main profiles:

abt.	about
b.	born
bap.	baptized
bur.	buried
Co.	County
d.	died
m.	married
unm.	unmarried

Navigation

Please note that if you are viewing this report electronically in PDF or ebook format, you are able to click blue text to navigate within the file. Citations appear as super-scripted numerals in brackets, like ^[22]. Clicking on these will take you to the source information. Sometimes there are additional details in the source like transcriptions or research notes. The final number at the end of each citation is a link back to the page where the citation appears.

The Table of Contents is also hyperlinked to take you directly to each chapter and section of the report.

Acknowledgements

I wish to first thank my father, Michael F. O'Brien, for doing initial research in Boston on John Joseph³ O'Brien and John² O'Brien. This inspired me to continue the family research once I eventually moved to Boston myself.

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in Boston was helpful throughout this process. In particular I wish to thank Melanie McComb, whose consulting sessions on Irish ancestors always pointed me in the right direction when I faced a brick wall.

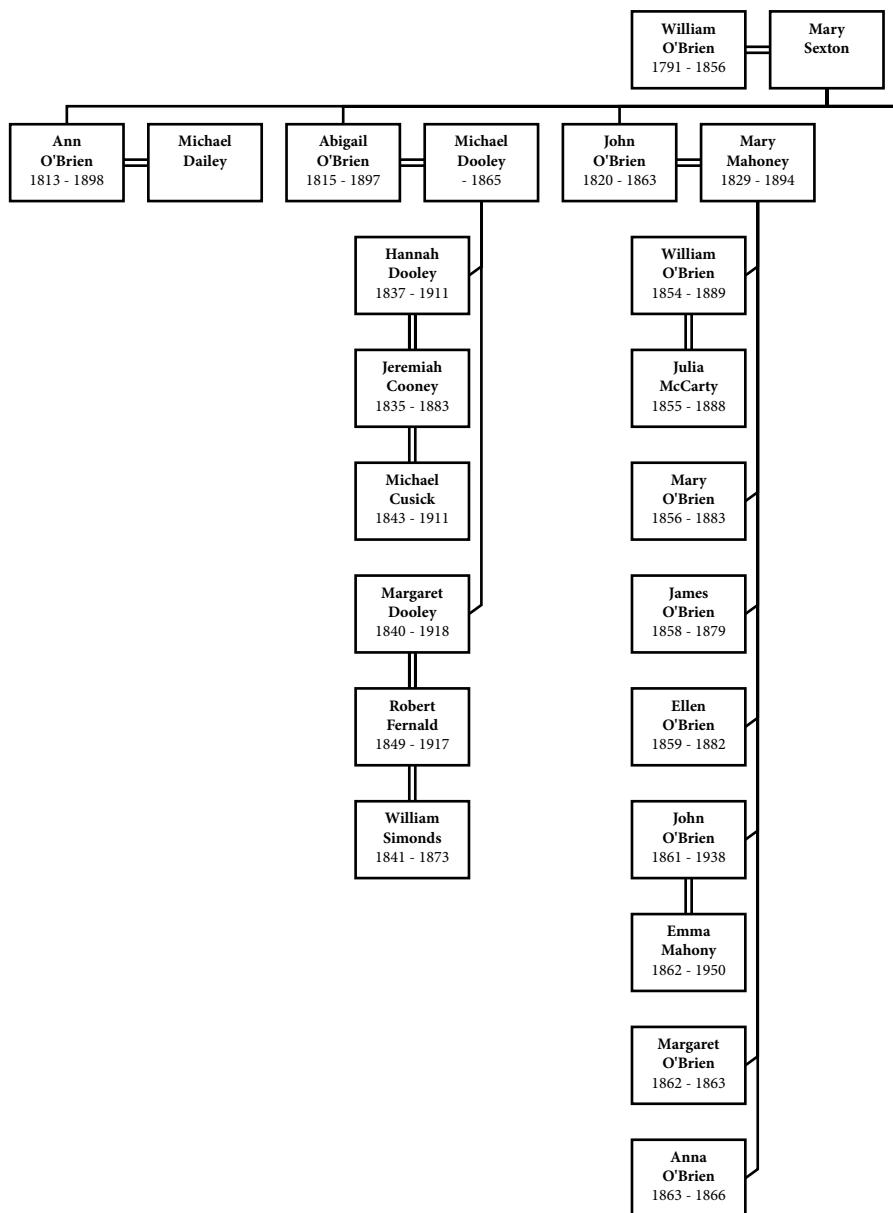
Without Bill McEvoy's extensive documentation of Catholic Mount Auburn Cemetery, I would not have found the burial location of John² O'Brien and his family. This information led me to discover several extended family members I hadn't known about prior.

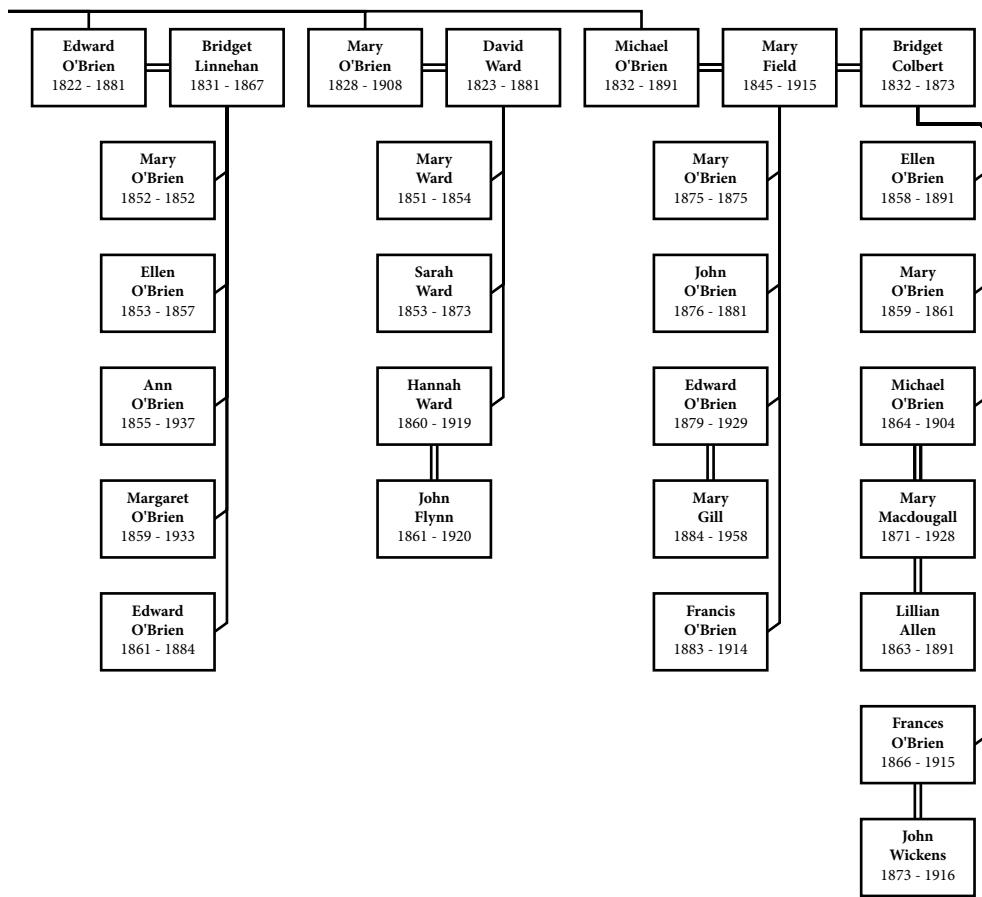
The Boston City Archives assisted me with employment and tax records.

Timeline Genealogy Ireland did a thorough search of County Cork records to find possible evidence of William O'Brien in Watergrasshill. The researchers pulled Valuation Office records and helped me decipher them to trace property ownership.

The Boston Catholic Cemetery Association and the Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston looked up burial plot information and locations. In particular, thanks to Diana Berberena for responded to my requests about Holy Cross Cemetery and North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery.

First Three Generations





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] The village 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.^[2] The name Watergrasshill was originally "Watercress Hill," and in Irish is *Cnocán-na-biolraighe* (Knockaun-na-billary).^[3]

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.^[4] 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.^[5] The rail bypassed Watergrasshill and replaced the coach traffic that the town relied on for its business. 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)



Figure 1.1: Map of Ireland with pin indicating the location of Watergrasshill.

from the latter City to Fermoy – a good deal of benefit is done the Town by these persons —^[6]

J. Montgomery wrote in Dec 1852 and sometime prior:

2 coaches & Bianconis* 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.^[7]

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.^[11]

The Catholic parish of Watergrasshill has baptismal records beginning in 1836 and marriages from 1864.^[9] There is a baptismal record for William's granddaughter, Margaret Dooley, in 1840 (Figure 1.2). This is the only definitive Irish record found for William's family.^[10]



Figure 1.2: Baptismal record of Margaret Dooley.

There are, however, O'Briens in Watergrasshill who appear in land 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.

* Charles Bianconi was an Italian entrepreneur who operated passenger coaches between cities throughout Ireland.

There is a “W^m. Brien” listed in the town of Watergrasshill who was leasing a house with a yard and garden.^[12] 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.^[13] See William O’Brien’s profile for more details about the available records.

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.^[14]

The final version of Griffith’s Valuation, published in 1853, shows only Owen O’Brien and Patrick O’Brien remaining in Watergrasshill.^[15] By 1901 it appears that all O’Briens had left Watergrasshill, as none are listed in the 1901 or 1911 census.^[16]

The departure of the O’Brien family from Ireland corresponded with the ending years of the Irish potato famine, also known as the Great Famine, which lasted from 1845–1849. During this time, there were between 1.5 and 3 million famine-related deaths in Ireland and 1 million people left Ireland for North America.^[17]

An excerpt from a Cork newspaper shows the dire conditions in Watergrasshill during the famine. The name “Brien” was a written variant of the O’Brien surname,^[18] so the man this story could very well be a member of William’s family.

FROM THE CONSTITUTION—FEBRUARY 18.

WATERGRASSHILL, NEAR CORK.

“Destitution and sickness are prevailing to an alarming extent in this district. Within the last fortnight a poor man, named BRIEN, actually lay dead for two days on the same bed, or rather on the same mop of straw, with his wife and children, who were too ill to aid in his removal. One of the children died last week. On visiting the hovel, a few days after the death of the child, the mother and two children were found recovering from fever—the only clothing they possessed was an old ragged cloak—On approaching the door, the mother started up, snatching the cloak from the children to cover herself for the moment. The neighbours were afraid to enter the hut, fearing

infection. The Relief Committee have established a Soup Kitchen in the village, and hope to be enabled to open another. The Rev. JOHN A. BOLSTER, Rector of the Parish, and the Curate, the Rev. S. B. YOUNG, are, also, endeavouring to provide a fund for clothing, and supplying nourishment to the sick. We trust that their benevolent exertions will be generously responded to, not only by the proprietors and landholders of the district, but by others who have ability to aid in this good work. In the Workhouse (Fermoy) during the last week, there were *seventy* deaths, out of about 1,500 inmates.”^[19]

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 and the effects of the famine, it made sense for the O'Brien family to look for new opportunities in America.

Chapter 1 Citations

- [1] For evidence of Watergrasshill origins, see Edward O'Brien's primary declaration of intention, Michael O'Brien's petition for naturalization, and Margaret Dooley's baptism.
- [2] Samuel Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*, vol. 2 (London: S. Lewis & Co. 1837), 695.
- [3] Patrick Weston Joyce, *Irish Local Names Explained* (Dublin: The Educational Co. of Ireland, Limited, 1922), 93.
- [4] *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.
- [5] Brian Igoe, "Charles Bianconi and The Transport Revolution, 1800 – 1875," blog post, published 14 Dec 2012; *The Irish Story* (<https://www.theirishstory.com/2012/12/14/charles-bianconi-and-the-tranport-revolution-1800-1875/> : viewed 27 Mar 2020).
- [6] "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:/61903/3:1:3QS7-994N-YCCK> : viewed 27 Mar 2020), film #007246869, image 433.
- [7] "House Book, Town of Watergrasshill, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, Feby 1849" title page.

- [8] John Grenham, *Tracing your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin: Gill Books, 2019), 1.
- [9] “About” page, Watergrasshill and Glenville Parish website (<https://wghparish.ie/about/> : viewed on 13 Mar 2021).
- [10] Watergrasshill, County of Cork, Diocese of Cork and Ross, Baptisms, Nov. 1840 to Jan. 1841, p. 27 (<http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000635355#page/27> : viewed on 12 Mar 2021).
- [11] John Grenham, *Tracing your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin: Gill Books, 2019), 18.
- [12] “Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831-1856,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-994N-TW7T> : viewed on 19 Sep 2020), Cork > Ardnageehey > Watergrasshill > image 4, citing “Wm. Brien” at lot 29-50.
- [13] “House Book, Town of Watergrasshill, County of Cork, Barony of Barrymore, Feby 1849,” Houses in Town of Watergrasshill, Parish of Ardnageehey, 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:/61903/3:1:3QS7-994N-YC62> : viewed 26 Mar 2020), film #007246869, image 442.
- [14] “Ireland, Valuation Office Books, 1831-1856,” Watergrasshill, image 6, image 6, citing “Denis Brien” at lot 11-18, “Owen Brien” at lot 26-5, “Pk. Brien” at lot 26-10, and “Margt Brien” at lot 34-22.
- [15] Richard Griffith, *General Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland*, County of Cork, Poor Law Union of Cork, Fermoy, and Middleton, Barony of Barrymore (Dublin: Alexander Thom, 1853), p. 46, citing Owen Brien at plot 23-3, Patrick Brien at plot 23-5, and Patrick Brien at plot 23-8, and p. 90, citing Owen Brien at plot 26-17 and Owen Brien at plot 26-17. There are two properties occupied by an Owen O’Brien and two properties occupied by a Patrick O’Brien. It’s unknown whether these are four separate individuals or if there may be multiple properties rented by the same individuals.

- [16] The National Archives of Ireland, “Census of Ireland 1901/1911 and Census fragments and substitutes, 1821-51,” database, <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>, Census Years > 1901 > Cork > Watergrasshill > Watergrasshill Town; The National Archives of Ireland, “Census of Ireland 1901/1911 and Census fragments and substitutes, 1821-51,” database, <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>, Census Years > 1911 > Cork > Watergrasshill > Watergrasshill Town, part of.
- [17] Cynthia E. Smith, “The Land-Tenure System in Ireland: A Fatal Regime,” *Marquette Law Review*, vol. 76 issue 2 p. 469 (Winter 1993) <http://scholarship.law.marquette.edu/mulr/vol76/iss2/6>
- [18] “Report on the O’Brien Family,” Timeline Research Ireland, 28 Jan 2021, report provided to Gavin O’Brien.
- [19] The *Constitution*, RLFC 3/2/6/21 (hand-written); “Famine Relief Commission Papers, 1845–1847” RFLC3/2, Incoming Letters: Baronial Sub-series, The National Archives of Ireland, Dublin Ireland; accessed at “Ireland, Famine Relief Commission Papers, 1844-1847,” *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1772/> : viewed on 7 Aug 2020), Incoming Letters: Baronial Sub-series (RFLC3/2/) > 1 - 200 > 21 > image 252.

Chapter 2

The O'Briens in Boston

The O'Briens were among the almost 1.5 million Irish who sailed to the United States between 1845 and 1855.^[1] William's two youngest children, Michael and Mary, were likely the first of the O'Brien family to make the voyage. Irish families often could only afford tickets for one or two people, and so would choose the youngest and healthiest children.^[2] Once in America, the children would send remittances back to Ireland until the rest of the family could be brought over.^[3]

Ship passenger lists for the Port of New York show a Mary O'Brien, age 20, and Michael O'Brien, age 15, arriving on the brig *Thomas Baker* from Galway, Ireland, on 3 July 1849. There were 93 total passengers aboard. The occupation listed for everyone on the passenger manifest is "farming."^[4]

Brigs like the *Thomas Baker* were two-masted ships with square sails.^[5] Prior to the famine, these ships were outfitted for cargo rather than passengers.^[6] The *Thomas Baker*, for instance, was a coal-hauling ship.^[7] Compared to the three-masted liners, brigs were cramped for the number of passengers they carried, with poor ventilation and five-foot ceilings.^[8] The voyage from Ireland to the United States took anywhere from four to eight weeks.

A larger group of the O'Briens arrived in Boston on 27 June 1851 on



Figure 2.1: Example of a clipper barque from 1854.

NAMES.	AGE.	
	Years.	Months.
Ellen O'Mally	26	
Margret Ford	25	
Mary O'Brien	20	
Michael O'Brien	15	

Figure 2.2: Passenger list of the *Thomas Baker* showing Mary O'Brien and Michael O'Brien.

Edmund O'Brien	24	Laborer
Willm. O'Brien	40	
Abby O'Brien	25	Servt.
Bridget O'Brien	20	
Margt. O'Brien	8	Child
Hanora O'Brien	10	Child

Figure 2.3: Passenger list of the *Chasca* showing O'Brien family along with ages and occupations.

board the vessel *Chasca*^[9]. The voyage from Liverpool, England, to Boston, Massachusetts, took 47 days.^[10] On board were Edward O'Brien (appearing as Edmund*), his father William, wife Bridget, sister Abby (O'Brien) Dooley, and Abby's two children, Margaret and Hanora (aka Hannah).[†] There were a total of 256 passengers on board,^[11] which must have made the ship quite crowded. The *Chasca* was a 658-ton clipper bark built in East Boston as a speedy cargo ship.^[12] Like the *Thomas Baker*, it was probably retrofitted to carry passengers in response to the large demand for transport to the New World during the famine years.

Both Abby's and Margaret's occupations are listed as "Servt." in the passenger manifest.^[13] About 2,000 Irish women in Boston were domestic workers in 1850. It was a popular trade for Irish immigrant women since they spoke English and didn't have many other opportunities for work available to them.^[14]

William's remaining two children, John and Ann, made separate voyages from Ireland to Boston but cannot be found in passenger records. John must have arrived sometime prior to his marriage in 1853.^[15] Ann

*Edward is also named as Edmund in daughter Mary Ann O'Brien's birth record. By the time his second child Ellen was born, he was going by Edward.

†Abby, Margaret, and Hanora/Hannah are incorrectly given the surname "O'Brien" instead of "Dooley" on the passenger list, but the approximate ages and names match those expected.

may not have arrived until 1870–1880 as she doesn't appear in any prior records.^[16]

Like other Irish immigrants from this time period, William O'Brien and his children likely came to America to escape the famine and build a better life. While the family may have avoided starvation in Ireland, the first few years in Boston presented new challenges. The O'Briens lived in crowded tenement buildings, suffered devastating losses from communicable diseases, and likely faced anti-Catholic discrimination from the city's dominant class of Protestants.^[17]

Moving frequently at first, the family lived predominantly in Boston's North End neighborhood during the 1850s and 1860s.^[18] In 1855, half of all residents of the North End were Irish.^[19] Landlords had subdivided the North End's old mansions and warehouses into crowded tenement houses for renting to the newly-arrived immigrants.^[20] Many of the tenements were not connected to sewage systems or had defective toilets, leading to high rates of infant mortality and diseases like smallpox, cholera, and tuberculosis.^[21]

In 1834, Irish immigrants founded the first Catholic church in Boston's North End — St. Mary's of the Sacred Heart, on the corner of Endicott and Cooper Streets^[22] (see 2.5). John O'Brien married Mary Mahony there in 1853.^[23] St. Mary's quickly reached capacity, and so in 1843, St. John the Baptist Church was founded in a converted pork storehouse on Moon St.^[24] John's children Mary³ and Ellen³ were baptized there. St. John's, too, became crowded, which in 1862 lead to the Catholics purchasing the New North Church at the corner of Hanover and Clark Streets and re-dedicating it as St. Stephen's.^[25] The O'Brien family followed many other Irish in moving from St. John's to St. Stephen's when it opened. The O'Briens' baptisms and marriages took place at St. Stephen's at least until Margaret Dooley's marriage there in 1873.^[26]

Irish immigrants to Boston had difficulty finding steady work, given that they were mostly rural farmers and did not have specialized trade skills.^[27] Many of them started out by opening a grocery store in their tenement house or somewhere close by.^[28] Indeed, John's occupation is listed as "grocer" on his son John Joseph's birth record.^[29]

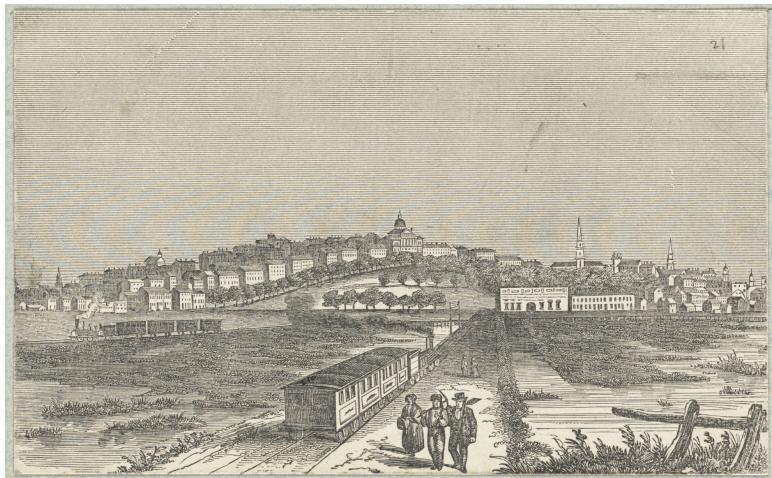


Figure 2.4: Wood engraving of Boston in 1849, showing what the city looked like when the O'Briens first arrived.

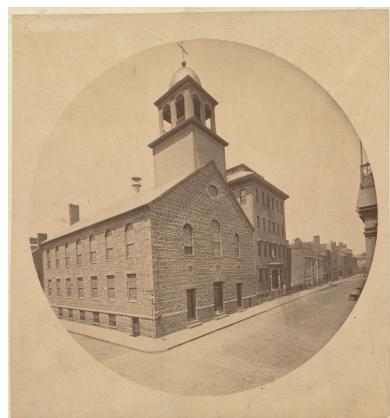


Figure 2.5: St. Mary's of the Sacred Heart Church.

John and his brother Michael both worked as oystermen.^[30] Before the advent of industrial-scale dredging operations, the traditional method of oyster harvesting used tongs. Oyster tongs consisted of a pair of metal rakes at the end of long wooden shafts. The oysterman would use the tongs to scrape oysters off the bottom of the sea bed and manually haul them onto the boat, up to 70 pounds at a time. The boats were small vessels rigged with one or two sails.^[31] Being an oysterman brought a degree of independence for an unskilled laborer. He typically owned his own boat and tackle, shucked the oysters at home to sell locally, and kept all the profits.^[32] This changed beginning in the 1870s when steam-powered oyster dredging ships arrived, and packing houses took over the oyster shucking process.^[33]

The natural oyster beds in the Charles and Mystic Rivers had long been depleted by the time the O'Briens arrived in Boston. Even the oysters around Cape Cod and Rhode Island were diminishing. The Boston oyster dealers replaced the naturally-growing oysters with seed oysters from Long Island Sound and New Jersey at first, and eventually from Virginia, “planting” them in the spring and then harvesting the fully-grown oysters in the fall and winter. Ships would bring the oysters into Boston from Wellfleet on Cape Cod, or other planted beds in Narragansett and Buzzard’s Bays. Sailors unloaded the oysters at the docks near Fanueil Hall and sold them to local dealers and peddlers.^[34]

Oyster shuckers worked seasonally from September to May. It was a difficult, low-paying job. In 1880 they were paid between 17 and 20 cents per gallon of oysters shucked. Steamships began bringing twice-weekly shipments of opened oysters to Boston from Norfolk, Virginia, making it more difficult to find local employment in the oyster trade.^[35]

It seems that Edward was the main provider for the O'Brien family during the early years in Boston. He may have had a successful trade in Ireland prior to his arrival in the United States. In 1855 he was housing his father and his sister Abby's family in addition to his own.^[36] Edward purchased a 2-person cemetery plot at North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery in 1852^[37] and a large 13-person plot at Holy Cross Cemetery in 1880^[38] where many of his family members were buried.



Figure 2.6: Oyster tongs.

In the early 1870s, most of William's adult children (Edward, Ann, Mary, and Michael) relocated to East Boston. John's sons, John Joseph³, James Edward³, and William³, moved to Boston's South Cove neighborhood (now part of Chinatown).

John's family was hit particularly hard by tuberculosis.* Four of his children died of the disease between 1879 and 1889, as did John himself in 1863. [39] In fact, John's line would have ended if not for his son John Joseph.

*The terms "phthisis" and "consumption" were used at the time to describe what is now called tuberculosis. See I. Berberis, N.L. Bragazzi, L. Galluzzo, and M. Martini, "The history of tuberculosis: from the first historical records to the isolation of Koch's bacillus," *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Hygiene* 58(1) (March 2017): E9–E12; accessed at National Center for Biotechnology Information, U.S. National Library of Medicine (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5432783/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020).

Tuberculosis 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.^[40]

Three of Michael's sons had jobs working in Boston's gas industry. Their roles included gas meter maker, meter tester, meter reader, and foreman. The Boston Gas Company constructed a large coal gas plant at Commercial Point in 1882. The company needed to hire a large number of unskilled laborers, and many of them were Irish immigrants.^[41] In the early 20th century, these jobs were highly valued, as the company (later called Boston Consolidated Gas) offered employee profit-sharing plans in 1906 and a pension plan in 1919. This provided job stability and wealth for the Irish working class.^[42]

The profiles later in this report include details about each descendant of William O'Brien through the 4th generation.

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Chapter 3

DNA Evidence

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.^[1]

Brian Boru was born a member of the Dál gCais clan (Dalcassians). This clan controlled much of what is now County Clare in Ireland.^[2] 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 living direct descendant, Sir Conor O'Brien, 18th Baron Ichiquin.^[3]

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.^[4]

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.^[5]

A Y-DNA test of William O'Brien's male line^[6] 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.^[7] More recent research indicates that these Barrys were probably from the Hainaut region of what is now Belgium, rather than French Normandy.^[8]

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 FamilyTreeDNA (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.^[9] 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.^[10]

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

* 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.

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.^[11] 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.

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Chapter 4

First Generation

1 William O'Brien and Mary Sexton

WILLIAM¹ O'BRIEN was born probably in County Cork, Ireland, about 1791.^[1] He died in Boston, Massachusetts, 28 December 1856,^[2] and was buried at North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts.^[3] He married, likely in County Cork, **MARY SEXTON**.[†] No further information about Mary is known.

A search of available records in the areas near Watergrasshill shows only one William O'Brien who could potentially be the one in question. This William O'Brien was leasing a house and garden in the townland of Tinageragh (part of the Town of Watergrasshill is located in this townland). He was paying 21 pence per year ground rent to Mary Barry.^[4] His house measured 29 feet in length, 17 feet in width, and 7 feet in height.^[5] The quality designation of "2B" indicates that it was a thatched house built with stone or brick and lime mortar, of medium age (between 25–50 years old), slightly decayed, but in good repair. It does not appear that William leased any farmland, so he was likely a tradesman or laborer.^[6]

[†]Mary Sexton named as mother in death records of her children Michael, Abigail, Ann, and Mary.

William appears in Valuation Office records occupying the same property between 1847^[7] and 1850.^[8] He must have departed his property prior to 2 April 1853, when Griffith's Valuation was published, as he is not included in the final valuation.^[9] These dates correspond with William O'Brien's known arrival with his family in Boston in 1851.

William left Ireland at age 60 with his son Edward, daughter-in-law Bridget, daughter Abby, and granddaughters Margaret and Hannah. They sailed on the ship *Chasca** from Liverpool, England, arriving in Boston on 27 June 1851 after a 47-day voyage.^[10]

In 1855, William was living in Boston's North End neighborhood with Edward and Abby.^[11] William's wife Mary does not appear in any census records from this time. She may have died in Ireland before 1851.

William lived in Boston for five years before dying of "pleurisy." He was living at 207 North Street in the North End at the time.^[12]

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

- i. ANN² O'BRIEN, b. abt. 1813,^[13] d. 23 Sept. 1898;^[14] m. MICHAEL DAILEY.^[15] 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 "ABBY" O'BRIEN, b. abt. 1815 or 1825; 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, 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.

*The *Chasca* departed Liverpool, England, on 11 May 1851 bound for Boston.

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Chapter 5

Second Generation

2 Abigail (O'Brien) Dooley

ABIGAIL² "ABBY" O'BRIEN (*William¹*) was born probably in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, about 1815^[1] or 1825.^[2] She died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts on 4 January 1897^[3] and is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[4] She married, likely in County Cork, **MICHAEL DOOLEY**.^[5] He was born probably in County Cork.^[6] Michael died sometime before 1 May 1865,^[7] probably in Ireland, as he did not accompany Abby to Boston.^[8]

Abigail immigrated to Boston on 27 June 1851.^[9] She was living for a time in the North End with her brother Edward and father William.^[10] Later she moved in with her son-in-law's family, the Simonds.^[11]

Children of Michael Dooley and Abigail² (O'Brien) Dooley, both likely born in Watergrasshill:

- i. HANNAH³ DOOLEY aka Hanora, b. prob. Watergrasshill abt. 1837;^[12]
d. Boston 14 June 1911;^[13] m. (1) 14 Aug. 1859, JEREMIAH COONEY;^[14]
m. (2) 5 Oct. 1884, MICHAEL CUSICK.^[15] No known children.
- 7 ii. MARGARET E. DOOLEY, b. 27 Dec. 1840, m. (1) WILLIAM SIMONDS; m.
(2) 21 Aug. 1873, ROBERT A. FERNALD.

3 John O'Brien

JOHN² O'BRIEN (*William¹*) was born probably in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, about 1820.^[16] He died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts on 22 April 1863 of “phthisis”^[17] and is buried in Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Watertown, Massachusetts.^[18] He married **MARY MAHONEY** on 20 November 1853 at St. Mary’s Church, Boston.^[19] She was born in Ireland about 1829–1832 to James or Patrick Mahoney and Mary (____) Mahoney.^[20] After John’s death, Mary married Thomas Bowser in 1867.^[21] Mary died in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 18 November 1894 of “apoplexy.”^[22] Mary and Thomas Bowser are buried with John O’Brien in Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery.^[23]

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.^[24] (this is probably Pico Island in the Portuguese Azores).

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”^[25] and “oysterman.”^[26] John’s brother Edward probably lived next door at 33 Fleet St.,^[27] and his son Edward was born at John’s address just nine weeks after John’s son John Joseph was born there.^[28]

Children of John 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:^[29]

- | | |
|---|--|
| 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. WILLIAM³ O'BRIEN, b. 9 Nov. 1854; m. 27 Sept. 1881, JULIA T. MC CARTY. ii. MARY O'BRIEN, b. 11 Jun. 1856;^[30] bap. St. Stephen (Boston) 13 June 1856;^[31] d. 18 March 1883.^[32] iii. JAMES EDWARD O'BRIEN, b. 1 Feb. 1858;^[33] bap. St. Mary (Boston) 3 Feb. 1858;^[34] d. 11 April 1879. Occupation frame polisher,^[35] perhaps working at brother John Joseph’s frame shop. iv. ELLEN “NELLIE” O'BRIEN, b. 27 Aug. 1859;^[36] bap. St. Stephen 28 Aug. 1859;^[37] d. 1 Oct. 1882.^[38] |
|---|--|

- 9 v. JOHN JOSEPH O'BRIEN, b. 29 Jan. 1861, m. 6 Feb. 1890, EMMA A. MAHONY.
vi. MARGARET O'BRIEN, b. 18 May 1862;^[39] bap. St. John the Baptist 19 May 1862;^[40] d. 23 Oct. 1863.^[41]
vii. ANNA O'BRIEN, b. bet. 19 Aug.–18 Sept. 1863;^[42] d. 28 Feb. 1866.^[43]

4 Edward O'Brien

EDWARD² O'BRIEN aka Edmund (*William¹*) was born in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, on 10 October 1822.^[44] He died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 25 August 1881^[45] and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[46] He married **BRIDGET LINNEHAN**,^[47] probably in County Cork, Ireland, sometime before immigrating to the U.S. on 27 June 1851.^[48] Bridget was born in Ireland about 1831^[49] possibly to William Linnehan and Jane (____) Linnehan.^[50] She died in Boston on 5 April 1867 of pneumonia at the age of 36.^[51]

Edward's profession is listed as "teamster."^[52] Prior to the use of motorized vehicles, this term referred to a person paid to transport goods by horse-drawn wagon.^[53]

Edward lived at first in Boston's Charlestown^[54] and North End^[55] neighborhoods. In 1870 he paid \$3,000 for the property at 185 London St. in East Boston.^[56] Edward acquired a second East Boston property in 1874, when he purchased 307 Havre St. for \$3,325 at public auction.^[57] Both properties were passed onto Edward's heirs upon his death, although the combined value had declined to \$3,700 at the time.^[58] His heirs still held title to the properties until at least 1922,^[59] when the 185 London St. property was being rented out as apartments.^[60] Edward's niece, Frances Elizabeth³ (O'Brien) Wickens, lived there for a time.^[61] Edward's daughters, Annie M. and Margaret, continued to live at the house on 307 Havre Street up until their deaths in the 1930s.^[62] 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., age

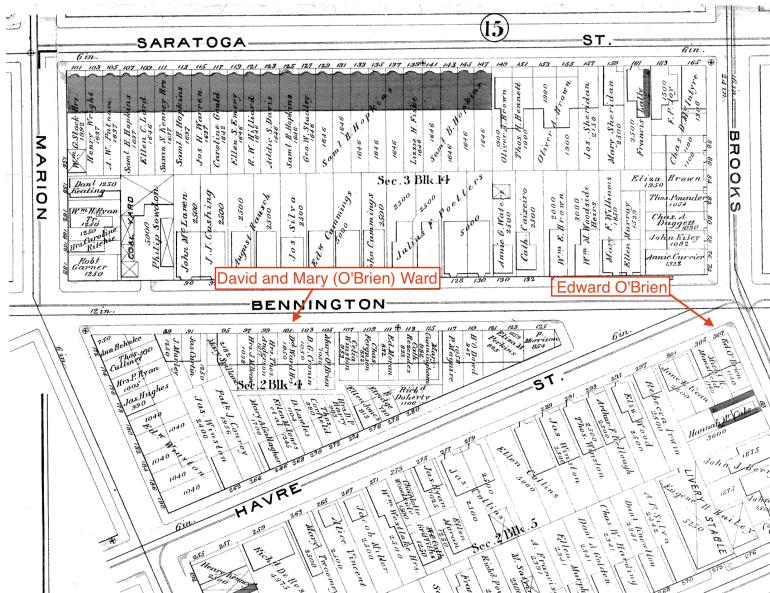


Figure 5.1: Map of Edward O'Brien and Mary (O'Brien) Ward's properties in East Boston.

11.^[63] Delia is probably Delia Jane Graham, daughter of William Graham and Mary A (Linehan) Graham.^[64] Mary could be Bridget's sister. Edward's household also included Michael Malanny, age 65, and his wife Ann, age 62, although their connection to Edward is not known.^[65] 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 (see further information in the appendix).^[66] The inscription on the monument indicates that it was erected by Ann Dailey.^[67]

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

- i. MARY ANN³ O'BRIEN, b. 13 Oct. 1852;^[68] bap. Holy Cross (Boston) 16 Oct. 1852;^[69] d. 25 Nov. 1852;^[70] bur. North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery, Cambridge, Middlesex County, Mass.^[71]
- ii. ELLEN O'BRIEN, b. 27 Nov. 1853;^[72] bap. Holy Cross 3 Dec. 1853;^[73] d. 10 March 1857;^[74] bur. North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery.^[75]
- iii. ANN MARIA "ANNIE" O'BRIEN, b. 9 Nov. 1855;^[76] bap. St. John the Baptist (Boston) 17 Nov. 1855;^[77] d. 24 May 1937;^[78] bur. Holy Cross Cemetery.^[79]
- iv. MARGARET A. "MAGGIE" O'BRIEN, b. 22 Aug. 1859;^[80] bap. 29 Aug. 1859;^[81] d. 6 March 1933;^[83] bur. Holy Cross Cemetery.^[82]
- v. EDWARD J. O'BRIEN, b. 7 April 1861;^[84] d. 7 Jan. 1884;^[85] bur. Holy Cross Cemetery.^[86]

5 Mary (O'Brien) Ward

MARY² (O'BRIEN) WARD (*William*¹) was born probably in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, about 1828.^[87] She died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 23 March 1908^[88] and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[89] She married DAVID WARD at Holy Cross Church in Boston on 31 October 1850.^[90] David was born in Mayfield, Fulton County, New York, in 1823^[91] to David Ward and Mary A. (_____) Ward.^[92] He died of cancer in Boston on 19 December 1881.^[93]

David Ward was not Catholic, but promised to raise his children with Mary as Catholic so that the couple could be married in the Catholic Church.^[94] David was a cook by trade. He was working at Quincy House in 1876,^[95] Maverick House in 1877,^[96] and at a saloon in 1880.^[97] David and Mary purchased the property at 101 Bennington St. in East Boston for \$2,200 in 1871.^[98]

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

- i. MARY ANN³ WARD, b. 24 July 1851;^[99] bap. Holy Cross (Boston) 27 July 1851;^[100] d. 6 Jan. 1854.^[101]

- ii. SARAH WARD, b. 9 Dec. 1853;^[102] bap. Holy Cross 17 Dec. 1853;^[103] d. 10 April 1873.^[104]
- 10 iii. HANNAH WARD, b. 13 Sept. 1860; m. 23 Sept. 1885, JOHN J. FLYNN.

6 Michael O'Brien

MICHAEL² O'BRIEN (*William¹*) was born in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, on 15 December 1832.^[105] He died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 25 June 1891^[106] and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[107]

Michael married, first, **BRIDGET COLBERT** at St. Joseph Church in Roxbury, Norfolk County, Massachusetts (now part of Boston) on 10 July 1854.^[108] Bridget was born in Ireland about 1832 to Patrick and Ellen (_____) Colbert.^[109] She died in Boston on 21 October 1873^[110] and is buried with the family of Michael's brother, John J. O'Brien, at Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.^[111]

Michael married, second, **MARY FIELD** (aka Mary Feely) at Most Holy Redeemer Church in East Boston on 19 April 1874.^[112] Mary was born in Ireland about 1845^[113] to Patrick Field and Mary Sheehan.^[114] She died in Boston on 6 January 1915 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.^[115]

Michael worked as an oysterman and oyster opener.^[116] In 1871 he purchased the property at 243 Border St. in East Boston for \$3,600.^[117] He may have been operating a ferry service from this waterfront location.^[118]

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

- i. **ELLEN³ "NELLIE" O'BRIEN**, b. bet. 2 Jun 1857–1 Jun 1858;^[119] 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.^[120] This corresponds with a baptismal record at St. John the Baptist Church in Boston on 18 July 1857, parents Michael O'Brien and Bridget Colman.^[121] "Colman" could be a misspelling of "Colbert." Ferry St. and St. John the Baptist 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.^[123]

- ii. MARY ANN O'BRIEN, b. 18 Aug. 1859;^[124] d. 10 June 1861.^[125]
- 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, b. 16 Dec. 1866; m. 1 Jan. 1891, JOHN B. WICKENS.

Children of Michael² O'Brien and Mary (Field) O'Brien:

- v. MARY³ O'BRIEN, b. 10 Nov. 1875;^[126] d. 20 Nov. 1875.^[127]
- vi. JOHN JOSEPH O'BRIEN, b. 30 Oct. 1876;^[128] d. 21 Sept. 1881.^[129]
- 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;^[130] bap. Most Holy Redeemer (East Boston), 18 March 1883;^[131] d. 1 May 1914.^[132]
Frank worked first as a gas fitter^[133] and then was a meter tester for the New Bedford Gas & Edison Light Co.^[134] He was living at 95 S. Sixth St. in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts, when he died.^[135] He never married.^[136]

Chapter 5 Citations

- [1] 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/search/collections/4472/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 33.
- [2] 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/search/collections/2101/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1897 > image 1431; "Registers of Passengers Arriving in Massachusetts Ports 1848-1891," Massachusetts State Archives, HS 3.02 1990X, record of 27 Jun 1851, vessel *Chascay*, entries for Edmund O'Brien and family; accessed at "Massachusetts, United States Records," images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSVN-998J-W> : viewed on 11 Nov 2020), image 793.
- [3] Massachusetts Vital Records, Death Records, 1897, no. 121, Abigail Dooley.
- [4] Carol Gordon, Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, emails to Gavin E. O'Brien in Apr. 2019.
- [5] Massachusetts Vital Records, Death Records, 1897, no. 121, Abigail Dooley.
- [6] Abigail (O'Brien) Dooley and Michael Dooley had two children in County Cork, Ireland, prior to their immigration to the United States.

- [7] 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/search/collections/9203/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 203. Abigail’s marital status is “widowed.”
- [8] “Registers of Passengers Arriving in Massachusetts Ports 1848-1891,” Massachusetts State Archives, HS 3.02 1990X, record of 27 Jun 1851, vessel *Chascay*, entries for Edmund O’Brien and family.
- [9] “Registers of Passengers Arriving in Massachusetts Ports 1848-1891,” Massachusetts State Archives, HS 3.02 1990X, record of 27 Jun 1851, vessel *Chascay*, entries for Edmund O’Brien and family.
- [10] 1855 Massachusetts state census, Suffolk County, population schedule, Boston, ward 1, p. 60 (left side), dwelling [blank], family 549, for William O’Brien in Edward O’Brien household; accessed at “Massachusetts, State Census, 1855,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/4472/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 33.
- [11] 1860 U.S. census, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, City of Boston, Ward 1, p. 397, family no. 3106, Abby Dooley household; accessed at “1860 United States Federal Census,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7667/> : viewed on 12 Nov 2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston Ward 1 > image 398.
- [12] 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/search/collections/4472/> : viewed on 29 Mar 2020), Suffolk > Boston Ward 01 > image 33.
- [13] 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.
- [14] 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/search/collections/2511/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1859 > image 666.
 - [15] 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/search/collections/2511/> : viewed on 10 Apr 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1884 > image 1030.
 - [16] 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).
 - [17] 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/search/collections/2101/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1863 > image 756.
 - [18] 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://historicalsociedadwatertownma.org/HSW/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Resources > Sand Banks Cemetery Project > downloadable Excel spreadsheet.
 - [19] St. Mary (Boston) Marriages, 1836-1854, p. 205, John O’Brien and Mary Mahoney.
 - [20] 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/search/collections/2511/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1853 > image 779; 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/search/collections/2511/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Up Through 1910 > 1867 > image 743.
- [21] Massachusetts Vital Records, marriage records, 1867, no. 267, Thomas Bowser and Mary O’Brien.
- [22] 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/search/collections/2101/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1894 > image 1047. Parents are listed as John and Ellen Daley; this does not match previous records.
- [23] McEvoy, “Sand Banks Cemetery Project.”
- [24] 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/search/collections/7667/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Massachusetts > Suffolk > Boston Ward 1 > image 384.
- [25] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1861, p. 11, no. 471, John O’Brien; accessed at “Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/5062/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _up through 1910 > 1861 > image 909; 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> : viewed on 2 Apr 2020).
- [26] Adams, Sampson, & Company, compilers, *The Boston Directory* (Boston: Adams, Sampson, & Company, 1861), p. 355, John O’Brien at 35 Fleet St.;

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- [27] Adams, Sampson, & Company, compilers, *Boston City Directory* (Boston: Adams, Sampson, & Company, 1861), p. 335, Edward O'Brien at 33 Fleet; accessed at *Boston Athenaeum Digital Collections* (<https://cdm.bostonathenaeum.org/digital/collection/p16057coll32/id/93/rec/57>: viewed on 19 Nov 2020).
- [28] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1861, p. 11, no. 471, John O'Brien.
- [29] McEvoy, "Sand Banks Cemetery Project"
- [30] 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/search/collections/5062/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _up through 1910 > 1856 > image 818.
- [31] 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).
- [32] 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/search/collections/2101/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1883 > image 847.
- [33] 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/search/collections/5062/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _up through 1910 > 1858 > image 777.
- [34] 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).
- [35] 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/search/collections/2495/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1879 > image 77.
- [36] 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).
- [37] St. Stephen (Boston) Baptisms, 1854-1862, p. 312, Ellen O'Brien.
- [38] 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/search/collections/2495/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1882 > image 233.
- [39] St. Stephen (Boston) Baptisms, 1854-1862, p. 312, Margaret O'Brien; accessed at "Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920," database with images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2726/i/53641/312/1423781685> : viewed on 5 Apr 2020). Records of St. John the Baptist Church are located in the volume for St. Stephen's Church; see note on Mary³ O'Brien's baptismal citation.
- [40] St. Stephen (Boston) Baptisms, 1854-1862, p. 312, Margaret O'Brien.

- [41] 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/search/collections/2101/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), _Pre 1903 > 1863 > image 855.
- [42] 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/search/collections/2495/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Boston > Deaths, 1866 > image 19.
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- [44] 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/search/collections/2361/> : viewed on 23 Mar 2020), image 858.
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- [46] Carol Gordon, Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, emails to Gavin E. O'Brien in Apr. 2019.
- [47] The author searched the Massachusetts marriage index from 1841-1855 for Edward O'Brien and Bridget Linnehan/Linnihan/Linehan/Linahan/Linnahan. No relevant records found. Massachusetts Vital Records, "Index to marriages A-Z 1841-1850" and "Index to marriages A-Z 1851-1855"; accessed at "Massachusetts indexes to births and marriages (1841-1920), deaths (1841-1971)," database with images, *FamilySearch*

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- [48] Edward O'Brien primary declaration of intention (1854), no. 487, District of Massachusetts; Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Superior Civil Court, Petitions for Naturalization, vol. 1, 1864, p. 118, entry for Edward O'Brien; accessed at "Massachusetts, State and Federal Naturalization Records, 1798-1950," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2361/> : viewed on 11 Jul 2020), Superior Court, Suffolk County, Massachusetts > Petitions, V 1, P 6-204, 1864 > image 184.
- [49] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1867, no. 1127, Bridget O'Brien, wife of Edward; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2495/> : viewed on 2 Apr 2020), Boston > Births, Marriages and Death > image 32429.
- [50] Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, Boston, 1875, no. 8644, Mary A. Graham; accessed at "Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FH6R-Y2N> : viewed on 29 Nov 2020), Suffolk > Boston > Deaths 1874-1875 > image 550.
- [51] Boston, Massachusetts Vital Records, death records, 1867, no. 1127, Bridget O'Brien, wife of Edward. Massachusetts, Suffolk County Register of Deeds, *Atlas of East Boston*, 1892, vol. 9, street index; accessed at *Suffolk County Register of Deeds* (<https://massrods.com/suffolk/suffolk-county-atlas/suffolk-county-atlas-pages/> : viewed on 4 Apr 2020), Research > Suffolk County Atlases > East Boston 1892 > Street Index.
- [52] Sampson, Davenport, and Company, compilers, *The Boston Directory* (Boston: Sampson, Davenport, and Company, 1876), 678, Edward O'Brien at 307 Havre, E.B.; accessed at "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2469/> : viewed on 4 Apr 2020), Massachusetts > Boston > 1876 > Boston, Massachusetts, City Directory, 1876 > image 678.

- [53] “teamster, n.” *Oxford English Dictionary Online* (<https://www-oed-com.ezproxy.bpl.org/view/Entry/198379> : viewed 5 Apr 2020)
- [54] Massachusetts Vital Records, birth records, 1852, p. 47, no. 2075, Mary Ann O’Brien; accessed at “Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/5062/> : viewed on 5 Apr 2020), _up through 1910 > 1852 > image 675.
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Chapter 6

Third Generation

7 Margaret (Dooley) (Simonds) Fernald

MARGARET³ DOOLEY (*Abigail², William¹*) was born in Watergrasshill, County Cork, Ireland, 27 December 1840.^[1] She died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, 1 March 1918.^[2]

Margaret married, first, probably between 1855–1860, **WILLIAM SIMONDS.**[†] William was born in Ireland about 1841^[3] to Nicholas Simonds and Catharine (Keenan) Simonds.^[4]

Margaret married, second, on 21 August 1873, **ROBERT A. FERNALD**^[5] (aka Robert A. Ireland).^[6] Robert was born in Boston about 1849 to George Fernald and Joanna (Whidhent) Fernald.^[7] He died in Boston on 14 June 1917.^[8] Robert was a tugboat captain who ran the New England Dredging Company fleet.^[9] Sometime between 1855 and 1860 Robert's family started using the surname "Fernald" instead of "Ireland."^[10]

[†]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.



Figure 6.1: Captain Robert A. Fernald.

Margaret arrived in Boston on 27 June 1851, traveling with her mother, sister, and other relatives.^[11]

Children of William Simonds and Margaret³ (Dooley) Simonds:

- 14 i. CATHARINE⁴ SIMONDS, b. 19 Dec. 1860; m. 7 April 1879, JOHN McCARTHY.
- ii. FRANCIS SIMONDS, b. 4 June 1863;^[12] d. 27 June 1865.^[13]
- iii. MARGARET JOSEPHINE SIMONDS, b. 10 Aug. 1865;^[14] d. 24 July 1866.^[15]
- 15 iv. ABIGAIL J. SIMONDS, b. 23 Jan. 1867; m. 13 April 1890, JOHN H. ROGAN.

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

- 16 v. ANNA FERNALD, b. 25 June 1874;^[16] d. 5 May 1875.^[17]
- vi. CAROLINE EMMA FERNALD, b. 16 March 1876; m. 19 Oct. 1893, JOHN JOSEPH McGURIN.
- 17 vii. SARAH HELEN FERNALD, 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. Agnes is the sister of Christopher Leonard, who married Robert's sister Sarah.*

* Matthew Leonard's marriage record states his parents' names as Christopher Leonard and Mary Harford. Agnes (Leonard) Fernald's marriage record states her parents' names also as Christopher Leonard and Mary Harford.

8 William O'Brien

WILLIAM³ O'BRIEN (*John², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts on 9 November 1854.^[18] He was baptized at St. Mary (Boston) on 12 November 1854.^[19] He died in Boston on 28 October 1889.^[20] He married, on 27 September 1881 at St. James the Greater Church in Boston, **JULIA T. McCARTY**.^[21] Julia was born in Boston on 12 May 1855 to Charles McCarty and Hanna Mahony.^[22] She died on 9 December 1888.^[23]

William was a “property man” (*i.e.*, props master^[24]) for theaters in Boston. He worked first at the Globe Theatre^[25] and then the Howard Athenæum.^[26] William appears in the Howard Athenæum program for *Oliver Twist!* for the week commencing 8 January 1883, being responsible for “properties and settings.”^[27]

The Howard Athenæum, in the old Scollay 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.^[28]

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.^[29] William himself died of tuberculosis the following year after being ill for 18 months.^[30] 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.^[31]

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

- i. ELLEN LOUISE⁴ “NELLIE” O'BRIEN, b. 9 Nov. 1885;^[32] bap. St. James the Greater (Boston), 12 Nov. 1885;^[33] d. 14 June 1926;^[34] unm.

After her parents died, Nellie lived with her uncle John J.



Figure 6.2: Program for *Oliver Twist!* at the Howard Athenæum listing William O'Brien for "properties and settings."

O'Brien in Medford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts^[35] where she was working for a time as a saleslady at a department store.^[36] She left Medford for Boston around 1913.^[37] 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.^[38] By 1924 she had returned to Medford and still worked as a nurse.^[39] Nellie died at age 40 at the state sanatorium in Rutland, Mass.^[40] She succumbed to tuberculosis,^[41] the same disease that killed her parents. Nellie's death certificate states that she had tuberculosis for 25 years.^[42]

9 John Joseph O'Brien



Figure 6.3: Label for John J. O'Brien Picture Frames.

JOHN JOSEPH³ O'BRIEN (*John², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 29 January 1861.^[43] He was baptized at St. John the Baptist Church in Boston on 1 February 1861.^[44] He died in Brookline, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 15 May 1938.^[45] He is buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Boston.^[46] He married, at St. Augustine Church in

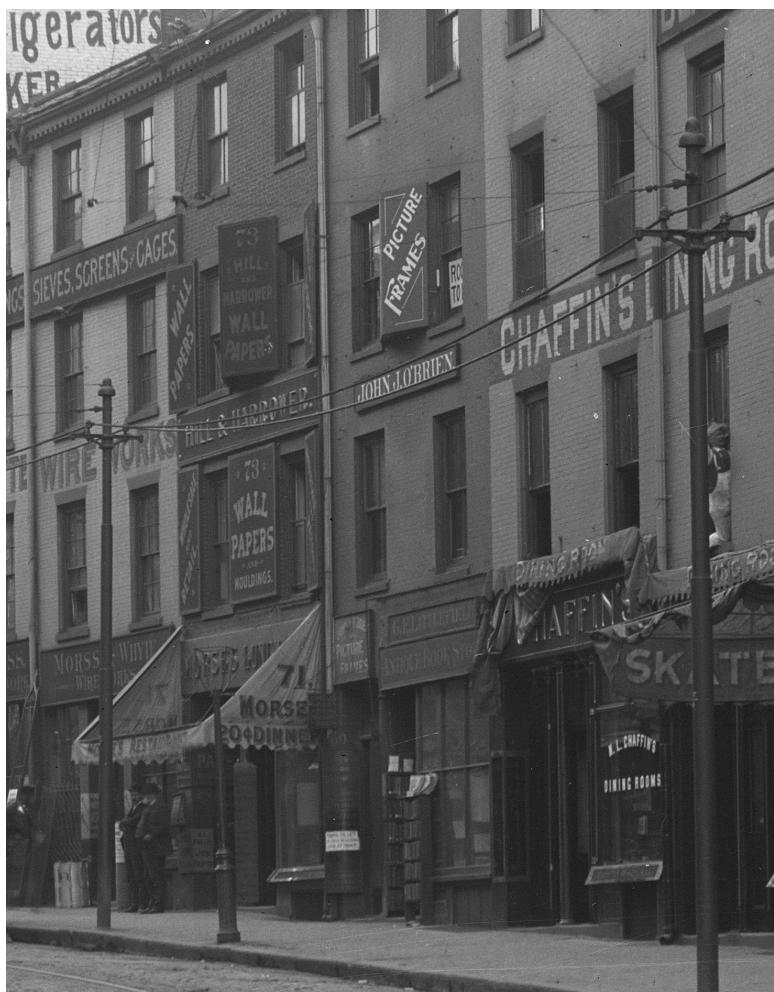


Figure 6.4: John J. O'Brien's frame shop at 69 Cornhill, Boston.

Boston on 6 February 1890, **EMMA A. MAHONY.**^[47] Emma was born in Boston on 27 September 1862 to Edward Mahony and Catherine Josephine Kenney.^[48] She died in Brookline on 11 July 1950.^[49]

John's father, John², died in 1863^[50] and his mother Mary married Thomas Bowser in 1867.^[51] Sometime between 1870 and 1876, the family moved from Hanover St. in the North End to Hudson St. in Boston's South Cove neighborhood.^[52] The family later relocated to 45 Court St. in Medford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and remained there for many years.^[53]

John worked as a picture frame manufacturer. He took over the business from the previous owner, B. Ferdinand Sargent,^[54] when Sargent relocated to Minnesota in 1881 or 1882.* John continued running the business until about 1917.^[55] The frame shop occupied the second floor of the building at 69 Cornhill in Boston.^[56]

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.^[57] 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").^[58]

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.^[59] John was able to recover the business and continued operating out of this location until at least 1916.^[60]

John, his wife Emma, and several of their children are buried in the Mahoney/Mahony plot owned by Emma's father Edward at Mt. Calvary

* Boston tax assessment records for 1881 (ward 7, pt. 2, p. 280) show a "Sargent" who lives at 4 Bolton Pl. occupying the property at 69 Cornhill. The tax assessment records for 1883 (ward 7, p. 292) show that the same property is now occupied by "O'Brien" who lives at 199 Hampden (crossed out) and 59 Hudson (written in pencil). The Boston city directory for 1881 lists a B. Ferdinand Sargent, "picture-frame manuf. 69 Cornhill, house 4 Bolton place, Chsn." The 1882 directory lists "Sargent B. Ferdinand, removed to Minnesota."

Cemetery in Boston's Roslindale neighborhood.^[61]

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

- 19 i. MILDRED LORETTA⁴ O'BRIEN, b. 14 Nov. 1890; ^[62] d. 26 May 1891. ^[63]
- ii. FRANCIS JOSEPH O'BRIEN, b. 2 April 1892; m. Malden, Middlesex C., Mass., 12 Sept. 1921, MARY HELENA FLYNN.
- 20 iii. PAULINE M. O'BRIEN, b. 9 June 1894; m. 9 June 1930, CHARLES LUCIUS BAINE.
- 21 iv. MILDRED LOUISE O'BRIEN, b. 29 Sept. 1896; m. Medford, Middlesex Co., Mass., Feb. 1925, ALBERT JOSEPH FRENCH.
- v. EDWARD O'BRIEN, b. Medford, 5 July 1898; ^[64] d. Medford, 24 Dec. 1898. ^[65]
- vi. ALMYRA LOUISE O'BRIEN, b. Medford, 27 June 1901; ^[66] d. Medford, 13 July 1902. ^[67]

10 Hannah (Ward) Flynn

HANNAH³ WARD (*Mary², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 13 September 1860.^[68] She died in Boston on 10 January 1919.^[69] She married, in Boston on 23 September 1885, **JOHN J. FLYNN**^[70] (aka John H. Flynn^[71]). He was born in Boston about 1861 to James Flynn and Anna (_____) Flynn.^[72] He died in Boston on 8 April 1920.^[73]

Hannah arrived in Boston on 27 June 1851, traveling with her mother, sister, and other relatives.^[74]

Hannah spent most of her life at the house originally owned by her parents at 101 Bennington St. in East Boston.^[75] She purchased the adjacent property at 103 Bennington St.^[76] and other East Boston properties on Morris St.^[77] and Wesley St.^[78]

Although they remained married, it does not appear that Hannah and her husband lived together after the birth of their two children.* In the 1900 census, Hannah is living at 101 Bennington St. with her children and her

* A review of Boston city directories between 1892 and 1919 shows Hannah and John J. Flynn at different addresses for every directory in which they both appear. Beginning in 1910 Hannah was living at 101 Bennington St. and John was living at 236 Lexington St.

mother Mary.^[79] 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.^[80] 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.^[81] After his death, the property passed to Hannah and John's daughter, Mary Alice.^[82]

John J. Flynn was a trader,^[83] a bartender,^[84] and a clerk at a liquor dealer.^[85]

Children of John J. Flynn and Hannah³ (Ward) Flynn:

- 22 i. MARY ALICE⁴ FLYNN, 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;^[86] d. Boston 15 Jan. 1967;^[87] 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.^[88] In the 1930 census, he was living with his sister and brother-in-law and working as a salesman in advertising.^[89]

11 Michael O'Brien

MICHAEL³ O'BRIEN (*Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 24 March 1864.^[90] He was baptized at St. Stephen's Church in Boston.^[91] He died in Boston on 3 July 1904.^[92]

Michael married, first, in Franklin, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 4 July 1883, **LILLIAN A. ALLEN**.^[93] Lillian was born in Sevenoaks, Kent County, England, about 1866 to William Allen and Elizabeth (Ashdown) Allen.^[94] She died in Norwood, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 2 October 1891.^[95]

Michael married, second, in Boston, on 13 April 1899, **MARY A. MACDOUGALL**.^[96] Mary Macdougall was born in Ingonish, Victoria County, Nova Scotia, Canada, about 1871 to Daniel Macdougall and Mary McLean.^[97] She died in Boston in 1928.^[98]

Michael's occupation in 1899 was "moroccodresser,"^[99] a job that involves dressing leather in a tannery.^[100] Michael's death record states his occupation as "Gas Meter maker."^[101]

Children of Michael³ O'Brien and Lillian (Allen) O'Brien:

- i. ARTHUR FRANCIS⁴ O'BRIEN, b. Norwood, Norfolk Co., Mass., 2 Oct. 1883;^[102] d. Boston, 28 Sept. 1904.^[103]
- ii. EDWARD WILLIAM O'BRIEN aka Edward F. O'Brien, b. Norwood, 18 Dec. 1884;^[104] d. Boston, 25 April 1887.^[105]
- iii. ELIZABETH O'BRIEN, b. Norwood, 29 July 1886;^[107] d. Norwood, 5 Oct. 1886.^[108]

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."^[106]

Children of Michael³ O'Brien and Mary A. Macdougall:

- iv. FRANCES L. O'BRIEN aka Frances May O'Brien, b. Walpole, Norfolk Co., Mass., 18 Jan. 1901;^[109] d. Boston, 20 Dec. 1903.^[110]

12 Frances Elizabeth (O'Brien) Wickens

FRANCES ELIZABETH³ "FANNIE" O'BRIEN (*Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 16 December 1866.^[111] She was baptized at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in East Boston.^[112] She died in Boston on 22 February 1915.^[113] She married, in Boston on 1 January 1891, **JOHN B. WICKENS**.^[114] He was born in Cape Sable Island, Shelburne County, Nova Scotia, Canada, on 12 March 1873^[115] to Charles Wickens and Jane (Smith) Wickens.^[116] He died sometime after 1 November 1916.^[117]

John Wickens's profession is listed as "mariner,"^[118] "fireman,"^[119] and "marine engineer."^[120] After his wife Frances died, he moved to Washington state and married Anna M. McGunigle.^[121] It is unknown where or when he died.

Children of John B. Wickens and Frances E. (O'Brien) Wickens:

- i. NELLIE⁴ WICKENS, b. Boston, 22 July 1893; ^[122] d. Boston, 23 July 1893. ^[123]
- 23 ii. EDITH A. WICKENS, b. Boston, 22 July 1894; m. Boston, 12 Oct. 1913, GEORGE H. GIGUERE.
- iii. FREDERICK JOHN WICKENS, b. Boston, 3 Nov. 1895; ^[124] d. Boston, 9 July 1896. ^[125]
- 24 iv. ALBERT FRANCIS WICKENS, b. Boston, 7 May 1898; m. New Jersey, 13 June 1922, MARY H. SCHALLER.
- 25 v. ETHEL MARY WICKENS, b. Boston, 17 June 1902; m. Wayne Co., Michigan, 20 Sept. 1923, HAROLD EDWARD HEUMAN.

13 Edward Francis O'Brien

EDWARD FRANCIS³ O'BRIEN (*Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 30 October 1879. ^[126] He died in Concord, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, on 26 August 1929. ^[127] He married, in Boston on 23 June 1909, **MARY FRANCES GILL** (aka Marie Frances Gill). ^[128] She was born in Boston on 3 March 1884 to John A. Gill and Catherine L. Howard. ^[129] She died in Boston on 15 July 1958. ^[130]

In 1910, Edward was living in Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut, and his occupation is listed as foreman at a gas company. ^[131] In 1920 he was living in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston, Massachusetts (58 Rockview St.), along with his wife, five children, his sister-in-law Beatrice C. Gill, a maid, and a lodger. At the time Edward was working as a water meter reader for the Boston Public Works Department, a job he began in January 1917. ^[132] He was also working as a clerk at the Back Bay (Boston) post office. ^[133]

Children of Edward Francis³ O'Brien and Mary Frances Gill:

- 26 i. CATHERINE MARY⁴ O'BRIEN, b. Connecticut, abt. 1910; m. 1937, FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MACDONALD JR.
- 27 ii. FRANCES JOSEPHINE O'BRIEN, b. Somerville, Middlesex Co., Mass., 26 March 1912; m. 1942, JOHN RANSOM DAY.

- iii. WALTER GILL O'BRIEN, b. Boston, 2 June 1914;^[134] d. Okinawa, Japan, 21 June 1945.^[135]

Lt. Walter Gill O'Brien served in the 6th Marine Division and was killed in action at Okinawa.^[136] Before enlisting in the Marine Corps, he graduated from Boston College Law School and worked for the Suffolk County Superior Court.^[137]

- 28 iv. EDWARD FRANCIS O'BRIEN Jr., b. Mass., 17 Sept. 1916; m. Milton, Norfolk Co., Mass., 1946, MARY A. METIVIER.
- 29 v. BEATRICE FIELD O'BRIEN, b. Boston, 11 August 1919; m. Boston, 1941, JOHN FRANCIS BRADY.
- vi. MARY LUCIA O'BRIEN, b. Boston, 14 March 1921;^[138] d. 1 Sept. 2011.^[139]

From Mary's obituary: "She was raised in Boston, graduated from Notre Dame Academy in Roxbury in 1938, Emmanuel College in Boston Class of 1942 and received her Master's in education from Boston College in 1957. Miss O'Brien worked as a school teacher 45 years. Mary taught school for the Archdiocese of Boston from 1942-1973 and then in Boston Public Schools and St. Mary's School in Lynn from 1973 to 1987."^[140] For a time (probably coinciding with her teaching for the Archdiocese), Mary was known as "Sr. Beatrice Marie, S.N.D." being a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur.^[141] Mary's obituary requested contributions to the Sisters in Everett, Mass.^[142]

Chapter 6 Citations

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Chapter 7

Fourth Generation

14 Catharine (Simonds) McCarthy

CATHARINE⁴ SIMONDS (*Margaret³, Abigail², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 10 December 1860.^[1] She died in Boston on 24 February 1890.^[2] She married, in Boston on 7 April 1879, **JOHN F. McCARTHY**.^[3] He was born in Ireland about 1858 to John McCarthy and Ellen (_____) McCarthy.^[4] The time and location of his death are unknown.

Catharine was baptized at St. Stephen Church in Boston on 22 December 1860.^[5] After her marriage, Catharine and John were living at 146 Marginal St. in East Boston. Next door at 148 Marginal St. were Catharine's mother, Margaret (Dooley) Fernald, and her grandmother, Abigail (O'Brien) Dooley. Catharine's husband John's occupation is listed as "painter."^[6]

Children of John F. McCarthy and Catharine⁴ (Simonds) McCarthy:

- i. HELEN⁵ McCARTHY, b. Boston, 23 June 1879;^[7] d. Medford, Middlesex Co., Mass., 17 April 1966;^[8] m. Boston, 9 Aug. 1899, WILLIAM H. WESTLAKE.^[9]

Child of William H. Westlake and Helen⁵ (McCarthy) Westlake:

1. *William Atwell Westlake*, b. Boston, 17 July 1900,^[10] d. Medford, Middlesex Co., Mass., 1 Jan. 1926; unm.^[11] William was a clerk in the shopping card department at Filene's department store. He drowned in upper Mystic Lake while ice skating on the morning of New Year's Day.^[12]
- ii. JOHN F. McCARTHY, b. Boston, 24 Aug 1881;^[13] d. Boston, 8 Oct 1881, of bronchitis.^[14]
- iii. WILLIAM McCARTHY, b. Boston, 1 Jul 1885;^[15] d. Boston, 11 Jul 1885, of asthenia/basilar meningitis.^[16]

15 Abigail (Simonds) Rogan

ABIGAIL⁴ SIMONDS (*Margaret³, Abigail², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 23 January 1867.^[17] She died in Dedham, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 8 May 1958.^[18] She married, in Boston on 13 April 1890, **JOHN H. ROGAN**. He was born in Massachusetts from 1866–1867 to William and Mary (_____) Rogan.^[19] He died sometime before 1958.^[20]

In 1900, Abigail and John were living with their three children at 21 Murdock St. in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. John's occupation is listed as "printer."^[21] The 1910 census shows the family had returned to Boston.^[22] By 1930, John was not living in Abigail's household. Abigail was on Holmes St. in Boston with her daughters Abigail, Mary, and Anna, all three of them working for the telephone company.^[23] It's possible that Abigail's husband John was the newspaper printer boarding at 95 Waltham St. in Boston.^[24]

Children of John H. Rogan and Abigail⁴ (Simonds) Rogan:

- i. WILLIAM H.⁵ ROGAN, b. Chelsea, Suffolk Co., Mass., 22 Jan. 1891;^[25] d. Broward Co., Fla., 1 Jan. 1963;^[26] m. Manhattan, Kings Co., N.Y., 18 Aug. 1918, IRENE HICKEY.^[27] William served in the U.S. Navy during WWI.^[28]
- ii. MARGUERITE E. ROGAN, b. Chelsea, 28 Apr. 1893;^[29] m. JOHN J. SHEA.^[30]

- iii. ABIGAIL JOSEPHINE "ABBIE" ROGAN, b. Chelsea, 26 Jan. 1898;^[31] d. Dedham, 9 March 1960; unm.^[32]
- iv. MARY ALICE ROGAN, b. Boston, 13 June 1904;^[33] d. Dedham, 8 Sept. 1971; unm.^[34]
- v. ANNE IRENE ROGAN, b. Boston, 2 Nov. 1907;^[35] d. Louisville, Jefferson Co., Ky., 10 Dec. 2001;^[36] m. JOHN P. DORAN.^[37]

16 Caroline Emma (Fernald) McGurin

CAROLINE⁴ FERNALD (*Margaret³, Abigail², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 16 March 1876.^[38] She died in Everett, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 28 August 1927.^[39] She married, in Everett on 19 October 1893, **JOHN JOSEPH McGURIN**. He was born in Boston on 22 January 1875 to William P. McGurin and Harriet F. (Saunders) McGurin.^[40] He died in Marshfield, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, on 10 January 1968.^[41]

Children of William P. McGurin and Caroline⁴ (Fernald) McGurin:

- i. ROBERT ALEXANDER⁵ McGURIN, b. Everett, 13 April 1894;^[42] d. Everett, 1955;^[43] m. Boston, 7 July 1913, ALTA M. SAUNDERS.^[44]
- ii. WALTER EDWARD McGURIN, b. Boston, 2 May 1896;^[45] d. Stoneham, Middlesex Co., Mass., 29 March 1974;^[46] m. BERNICE L. WOOD.^[47]
- iii. ALFRED JOHN McGURIN, b. Boston, 5 April 1898;^[48] d. Montfaucon, France, 22 Oct. 1918.^[49] Alfred was killed in action while serving with the 55th Artillery at the Battle of Verdun.^[50]
- iv. MARGARET A. McGURIN, b. Boston, 27 Dec. 1899;^[51] d. Everett, 17 Nov. 1992;^[52] m. HENRY J. PHILLIPS SR.^[53]
- v. SARAH H. "SADIE" McGURIN, b. Boston, 8 July 1901;^[54] d. Saugus, Essex Co., Mass., 6 Jan. 1999;^[55] m. JAMES P. MURPHY.^[56]
- vi. EDWARD JOSEPH McGURIN, b. Boston, 18 Dec. 1902;^[57] d. Ft. Lauderdale, Broward, Fla.;^[58] m. Boston, 8 Oct. 1922, HELEN DUFFY.^[59]
- vii. CAROLINE JOSEPHINE McGURIN, b. Boston, 2 July 1904;^[60] d. Boston, 2 April 1921; unm.^[61]
- viii. CATHERINE McGURIN, b. Boston, 9 Sept. 1906;^[62] d. Everett, 17 Dec. 1999;^[63] m. FRANCIS KELLEHER.^[64]

- ix. JOSEPHINE McGURIN, b. Boston, 30 Dec. 1908;^[65] d. Boston, 18 May 1926; unm.^[66]
- x. JOHN FRANCIS McGURIN, b. Boston, 2 April 1914;^[67] d. South Dennis, Barnstable Co., Mass., 3 Dec. 2005;^[68] m. BEATRICE M. TASSINARI.^[69]
- xi. CHARLES ALFORD McGURIN, b. Boston, 17 Aug. 1916;^[70] d. Peabody, Essex Co., Mass., 18 Dec 2004;^[71] m. CECELIA MULLEN.^[72]

17 Sarah Helen (Fernald) Leonard

SARAH HELEN⁴ FERNALD (*Margaret³, Abigail², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 5 March 1879.^[73] She died in Boston on 25 March 1943.^[74] She married, in Boston on 30 September 1902, **CHRISTOPHER T. LEONARD**.^[75] He was born in Boston on 29 July 1872^[76] to Matthew Leonard and Mary (Harford) Leonard.^[77] He died in Arlington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 9 September 1945.^[78]

Children of Christopher T. Leonard and Sarah Helen⁴ (Fernald) Leonard:

- i. MARY MARGARET⁵ LEONARD, b. Boston, 28 Dec. 1903;^[79] d. Holden, Worcester Co., Mass., 31 May 1993;^[80] m. EDWARD J. DUFFY.^[81] Supervisor for New England Telephone.^[82]
- ii. GEORGE THOMAS LEONARD, b. Boston, 9 Aug. 1906;^[83] d. Medford, Middlesex Co., Mass., 9 April 1989;^[84] m. ANN B. CLANCY.^[85]

18 Robert Atwell Fernald

ROBERT ATWELL⁴ FERNALD (*Margaret³, Abigail², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 19 June 1882.^[86] He died in Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona, on 25 May 1965.^[87] He married, in Boston on 28 June 1911, **AGNES M. LEONARD**.^[88] She was born in Boston on 5 October 1881^[89] to Matthew Leonard and Mary (Harford) Leonard.^[90] She died in Phoenix in October 1975.^[91]

Robert Fernald was a dispatcher for the Boston Tow Boat Co.^[92]

Child of Robert Atwell⁴ Fernald and Agnes M. (Leonard) Fernald:

- i. MARION ELIZABETH⁵ FERNALD, b. probably Rochester, Monroe Co., N.Y., 4 June 1914; ^[93] d. Scottsdale, Maricopa Co., Arizona, 23 Oct. 2008; ^[94] m. IVAN BOYD WEATHERUP. ^[95]

19 Francis Joseph O'Brien



Figure 7.1: Frank O'Brien visiting a priest friend in California.

FRANCIS JOSEPH⁴ “FRANK” O’BRIEN (*John²⁻³, William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 2 April 1892. ^[96] He died in Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 4 February 1958. ^[97] He married, in Malden on 12 September 1921, **MARY HELENA FLYNN** (aka Helena Catherine Flynn). ^[98] She was born in Charlottetown, Queens County, Prince Edward Island, Canada, on 27 April 1892 to Thomas Flynn and Mary Ann Greenan. ^[99] She died in Malden on 19 April 1981. ^[100]

Frank first worked as a clerk at his father John’s frame shop in Boston. ^[101] By 1915, Frank was working in the Accounting Department at Boston and Maine (B&M) Railroad. ^[102] He eventually became B&M’s Inspector of Transportation. ^[103] A member of the Brotherhood of Rail-

way Clerks, North Union Lodge, he was known as the “lodge poet.” Frank would write poems for each lodge member at the annual banquet.^[104] He was also a member of the B. P. O. E. (Elks), Medford Lodge #915.^[105]

Children of Francis Joseph⁴ O’Brien and Mary Helena (Flynn) O’Brien:

- i. FRANCIS JOSEPH⁵ “FRANK” O’BRIEN JR.
- ii. PAULINE M. O’BRIEN
- iii. MILDRED O’BRIEN
- iv. HELENA O’BRIEN
- v. THERESE CELINE O’BRIEN

20 Pauline (O’Brien) Baine

PAULINE⁴ O’BRIEN (*John²⁻³, William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 9 June 1894.^[106] She was baptized at St. Peter (Dorchester) on 17 June 1894.^[107] She died in Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 2 February 1967.^[108] She married, at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Medford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 9 June 1930, **CHARLES LUCIUS BAINE**.^[109] He was born in Guelph, Wellington County, Ontario, Canada, on 27 January 1870^[110] to William Conrad Baine and Mary Jane (Reed) Baine.^[111] He died in Brookline, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 1 March 1962.^[112]

Charles L. Baine served as secretary-treasurer of the Boot and Shoe Workers’ International Union from 1902 to 1931.^[113]

Charles L. Baine and Pauline (O’Brien) Baine did not have any children together.^[114] Charles had three children from a prior marriage.^[115]

21 Mildred Louise (O’Brien) French

MILDRED LOUISE⁴ O’BRIEN (*John²⁻³, William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 29 September 1896.^[116] She died in Medford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 27 February 1927. The cause of death was a pulmonary embolism following a caesarian section.^[117] She married, in Medford in February 1925, **ALBERT JOSEPH FRENCH**.^[118] He



Figure 7.2: Mildred O'Brien portrait photograph.

was born in Medford on 8 June 1900 to Joseph Swan French and Emily Selina (Luscombe) French.^[119] He died in Francestown, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, on 30 December 1980.^[120]

Child of Albert J. French and Mildred L. (O'Brien) French:

- i. ALBERT JOSEPH⁵ FRENCH JR., b. Boston, 30 Jan. 1927;^[121] d. North Hampton, Rockingham Co., N.H., 24 March 2013;^[122] m. (1) Ruth Seymour;^[123] m. (2) Inez (Higgins) Lyons.^[124]

22 Mary Alice (Flynn) Clahane

MARY ALICE⁴ FLYNN (aka Alice Veronica Flynn) (*Hannah*³, *Mary*², *William*¹) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 10 August 1886.^[125] She was baptized at Sacred Heart (East Boston) on 15 August 1886.^[126] She died in Boston on 13 October 1958.^[127] She married, in Boston on 18 November 1908, **EDWARD WILLIAM CLAHANE**.^[128] He was

born in Boston on 31 July 1888^[129] to Edward W. Clahane and Catherine (Nolan) Clahane.^[130] He died in Boston on 29 May 1962.^[131]

Alice's occupation on her marriage record is listed as "organist."^[132] In the 1940 census she was working as a musician for the W.P.A. (the federal Works Progress Administration).^[133] She was a member of the Musicians Union, Local #9.^[134] Edward Clahane's occupations varied from floor-walker at a dry goods store,^[135] insurance claims adjuster,^[136] and clerk at the Mass. Geodetic Survey.^[137] The family lived at 1137 Commonwealth Ave. in Boston's Allston neighborhood.^[138]

Child of Edward W. Clahane and Mary Alice⁴ (Flynn) Clahane:

- i. MARION GERTRUDE⁵ CLAHANE, b. Boston 26 Jan. 1909;^[140] d. Brookline, Norfolk Co., Mass., 9 April 1971;^[141] unm.

23 Edith A. (Wickens) Giguere

EDITH A.⁴ WICKENS (*Frances³, Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 22 July 1894.^[142] She died in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, on 9 February 1957.^[143] She married, in Boston on 12 October 1913, **GEORGE HECTOR GIGUERE**.^[144] He was born in Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts, on 25 February 1893 to John B. Giguere and Corinne (Lecours) Giguere.^[145] He died in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, on 19 July 1974.^[146]

By 1930 the family had moved from Boston to Detroit. George was working as a consulting engineer. The family owned their home, worth \$11,000, at 13002 Greiner Ave.^[147]

Children of George H. Giguere and Edith A. (Wickens) Giguere:

- i. GEORGE ELMER⁵ GIGUERE, b. Boston, 17 Jul 1914;^[148] d. Boston, 7 May 1916.^[149]
- ii. ROBERT E. GIGUERE, b. Boston, 17 Dec. 1915;^[150] d. Boston, 26 Sept. 1916.^[151]
- iii. DORRIS MARJORIE GIGUERE, b. Boston 23 March 1917;^[152] d. Bruce, Macomb Co., Mich., 10 July 1981;^[153] m. (1) Detroit, 17 July 1943,

ROBERT C. MAY,^[154] m. (2) Steuben Co., Ind., 6 July 1950, JOHN E. MEYERS;^[155] m. (3) JOSEPH LEONARD.^[156]

24 Albert Francis Wickens

ALBERT FRANCIS⁴ WICKENS (*Frances³, Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 7 May 1898.^[157] He died in Plainfield, Union County, New Jersey, on 17 September 1977.^[158] He married, in New Jersey on 13 June 1922, **MARY HELEN SCHALLER**.^[159] She was born in New York on 24 October 1892^[160] to Frank Xavier Schaller and Anna (Schauer) Schaller.^[161] She died in Rahway, Union County, New Jersey, on 8 April 1984.^[162]

In the 1930 census, Albert and family were living in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, where Albert was working as a shipping clerk at an automobile factory.^[163] In 1940 the family was still in Newark and Albert was working as a deputy tax collector at city hall.^[164]

Children of Albert Francis⁴ Wickens and Mary Helen (Schaller) Wickens:

- i. MARY E.⁵ WICKENS
- ii. BARBARA WICKENS
- iii. ALBERT WICKENS
- iv. PAUL WICKENS
- v. JEAN WICKENS
- vi. JOSEPH WICKENS
- vii. JOHN WICKENS
- viii. JAMES WICKENS

25 Ethel Mary (Wickens) Heuman

ETHEL MARY⁴ WICKENS (*Frances³, Michael², William¹*) was born on 17 June 1902 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts.^[165] She died on 27 July 1967 in Macomb, Macomb County, Michigan.^[166] She married, on 20 September 1923 in Wayne County, Michigan, **HAROLD EDWARD HEUMAN**.^[167] He was born on 12 May 1902 in Chicago, Cook County,

Illinois^[168] to John Heuman and Augusta (Martin) Heuman.^[169] He died in Clinton, Macomb County, Michigan, on 10 May 1993.^[170]

In the 1940 census, the family was living in Mount Clemens, Macomb County, Michigan, where Harold was working as a plant policeman at an automobile manufacturing company.^[171]

Children of Harold E. Heuman and Ethel Mary⁴ (Wickens) Heuman:

- i. VIRGINIA⁵ HEUMAN
- ii. EDWARD HEUMAN
- iii. HAROLD HEUMAN JR.

26 Catherine Mary (O'Brien) MacDonald

CATHERINE MARY⁴ O'BRIEN (*Edward³, Michael², William¹*) was born in Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut, in 1910.^[172] She died in Milton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 27 April 1964.^[173] She married, in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 2 October 1937, **FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MACDONALD JR.**^[174] They were married by Catherine's uncle, Walter H. Gill, a priest in Brockton, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.^[175] Frederick was born in Hyde Park, Norfolk County, Massachusetts (now part of the City of Boston^[176]) on 22 October 1908 to Frederick MacDonald and Jane A. (Kelley) MacDonald.^[177] He died in Weymouth, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 11 November 1983.^[178]

Catherine was a teacher when she married in 1937.^[179] Frederick graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was an architect for the First National Bank of Boston.^[180]

Children of Frederick A. MacDonald and Catherine M.⁴ (O'Brien) MacDonald:

- i. JANE MARIE⁵ MACDONALD
- ii. FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MACDONALD JR.

27 Frances Josephine (O'Brien) Day

FRANCES JOSEPHINE⁴ O'BRIEN (*Edward³, Michael², William¹*) was born in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, on 26 March 1912.^[181] She died in Norton, Bristol County, Massachusetts, on 8 July 1997.^[182] She married, in 1942, **JOHN RANSOM DAY**.^[183] He was born on 2 February 1912 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, to Edward P. Day and Jennie C. (Bowers) Day.^[184] He died in Milton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 20 January 1990.^[185]

In the 1940 census, Frances was living with her father, Edward O'Brien, and working as a bookkeeper at a life insurance company.^[186] John Day was a physician.^[187]

Children of John R. Day and Frances J.⁴ (O'Brien) Day:

- i. J. BRIAN⁵ DAY
- ii. EDWARD DAY

28 Edward Francis O'Brien Jr.

EDWARD FRANCIS⁴ O'BRIEN JR. (*Edward³, Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 17 September 1916.^[188] He died suddenly in Needham, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 12 December 1985.^[189] He married, in Milton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, in 1946, **MARY ANNE METIVIER**.^[190] She was born in Milton on 25 November 1917 to Wilfrid Metivier and Helen (Day) Metivier.^[191] She died in Needham on 29 August 1999.^[192]

Edward was the general manager of Calvert's Department Store in Needham, where he worked for 38 years. He was an Army captain in World War II and the Korean War. Edward also served as vice president and director of the Needham Cooperative Bank, a member of the Needham Board of Appeals, and a Needham Town Meeting member.^[193]



Figure 7.3: Calvert's Clothing Store, June 1979.

Children of Edward F.⁴ O'Brien Jr. and Mary A. (Metivier) O'Brien:

- CLARE⁵ O'BRIEN
- JULIE O'BRIEN
- TED O'BRIEN
- ELLEN O'BRIEN

29 Beatrice Field (O'Brien) Brady

BEATRICE FIELD⁴ O'BRIEN (*Edward³, Michael², William¹*) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 11 August 1919.^[194] She died in Needham, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 29 June 1976.^[195] She married, in Boston in 1941, **JOHN FRANCIS BRADY**.^[196] He was born in

Boston on 1 June 1914 to Patrick Brady and Delia (Burke) Brady.^[197] He died in Milton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 14 March 1983.^[198]

In 1951, Beatrice and John were living in West Roxbury. John was working as a maintenance electrician for the MTA (the Boston transit system now known as the MBTA).^[199] In 1965, the family was still living in West Roxbury, and John was working as an electrician for the Boston Housing Authority.^[200] The family likely relocated to Milton, then Norwell and Green Harbor.^[201]

Children of John F. Brady and Beatrice F.⁴ (O'Brien) Brady:

- JOAN⁵ BRADY
- WALTER BRADY
- PAUL BRADY
- BEATRICE BRADY

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- entry for Mary A Metivier, Milton, 1946, vol. 96, p. 159; accessed at “Massachusetts, Marriage Index, 1901-1955 and 1966-1970,” database with images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2966/> : viewed on 20 Jun 2020), 1946-1950 > McAnneny - Mytkowicz > image 280.
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Appendix A

Further Research

- **WILLIAM¹ O'BRIEN** probably came from the town of Watergrasshill in County Cork, Ireland. What can be found out about his family in Ireland? Can the O'Brien ancestors be traced further back? When and how did a male member of the Barry family acquire the O'Brien surname?
- **MARY¹ SEXTON** has unknown parents. She did not accompany her husband William to America, or else had died before his departure from Ireland.
- **ANN² (O'BRIEN) DAILEY** seems to have come to America later than the rest of her family members. What became of her husband Michael Dailey and did she have any children with him in Ireland?
- **JOHN² O'BRIEN** does not have a definitive arrival date in the U.S. It must have been sometime prior to his marriage in Boston on 20 November 1853.
- **ELLEN³ O'BRIEN**, daughter of Michael² O'Brien and Bridget (Colbert) O'Brien, appears in no records after her father's probate in 1891.

She is not buried in her family's cemetery plot in Malden. Perhaps she married and took a different last name.

- **JOHN JOSEPH³ O'BRIEN** owned a frame shop in Boston. What became of the shop after he retired? He last listed his profession as a picture-frame manufacturer in 1916. The 1920 census lists his profession as "none."

Appendix B

Cemetery Plot Lists

See also the O'Brien "virtual cemetery" on Find a Grave: <https://www.findagrave.com/virtual-cemetery/1084932>

For more information on Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery, see Bill McEvoy's book and the Historical Society of Watertown website:

http://historicalsocietyofwatertownma.org/HSW/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=124&Itemid=64

Women's maiden names and corrected names appear in brackets.

Table B.1: William O'Brien plot, North Cambridge Catholic Cemetery^[1]

Cambridge, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

Range 17, Grave 124 West (no marker found)

Name	Death/Burial Date
Mary Ann O'Brien	(d) 25 Nov 1852
William O'Brien	(b) 30 Dec 1856
Ellen O'Brien	(d) 10 Mar 1857

Table B.2: Edward O'Brien plot, Holy Cross Cemetery^[2]
 Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
 17 North Monument Path, Graves 32–34 East

Name	Burial Date
Edward O'Brien	26 Aug 1881
Edward J. O'Brien	10 Jan 1884
Ann [O'Brien] Dailey	25 Sep 1898
Mary [O'Brien] Ward	26 Mar 1908
Hannah [Ward] Flynn	12 Jan 1919
Margaret A. O'Brien	08 Nov 1933
Annie M. O'Brien	27 May 1937
Anna Gertrude Duckworth	29 Dec 1987
Arthur R. Duckworth	08 Mar 1994
Jeanne A. Benson	08 Apr 2010
Robert K. Benson	08 Aug 2014

Table B.3: Michael O'Brien plot, Holy Cross Cemetery^[3]
 Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
 28 North Maple Ave, Grave 27 West (no marker)

Name	Burial Date
Mary O'Brien	21 Nov 1875
John O'Brien	22 Sep 1881
Edward F. O'Brien	27 Apr 1887
Michael O'Brien	26 Jun 1891
Nellie Wickens	13 Jul 1893
Frank J. O'Brien	04 May 1914
Mary G. [Field] O'Brien	09 Jan 1915

Table B.4: Fernald plot, Holy Cross Cemetery^[4]
 Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
 12 North Monument Path, Graves 37, 38 & 2 Rear East

Grave	Name	Burial Date
37-Rear	Annie Fernald	7 May 1875
37-Rear	John F. McCarthy	9 Oct 1881
38-Rear	Jeremiah Cooney	20 May 1883
37-Rear	William McCarthy	12 Jul 1885
37-Rear	Catherine [Simonds] McCarthy	27 Feb 1890
38	Abrigain Dooley [Abigail O'Brien]	6 Jan 1897
38-Rear	Hanna [Dooley] [Cooney] Cusick	16 Jun 1911
37	Robert W. Fernald [Robert A. Fernald]	16 Jun 1917
37	Margaret E. [Dooley] Fernald	4 Mar 1918
37-Rear	Caroline McGurin	5 Apr 1921
37-Rear	Josephine McGurin	22 May 1926
38-Rear	Caroline E. [Fernald] McGurin	31 Aug 1927
37	Sarah [Fernald] Leonard	27 Mar 1943
38	Christopher T. Leonard	12 Sep 1945
38-Rear	John J. McGurin	13 Jan 1968
37	Edward Joseph Duffy	13 Apr 1983
38	Mary M. [Leonard] Duffy	3 Jun 1993

Table B.5: Wickens plot, Holy Cross Cemetery^[5]
 Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
 36 North Maple Ave., Grave 56 West

Name	Burial Date
Frederick J. Wickens	10 Jul 1896
Arthur O'Brien	30 Sep 1904
Frances [O'Brien] Wickens	25 Feb 1915
Elmer Giguere	28 Sep 1916
Robert E. Giguere	28 Sep 1916

Table B.6: John O'Brien plot, Catholic Mt. Auburn Cemetery^[6]
 Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
 Lot 103, Row 2 West (no marker)

Name	Burial Date
John O'Brien	26 Apr 1863
Margaret O'Brien	25 Oct 1863
Anna O'Brien	03 Mar 1866
Bridget [Colbert] O'Brien	21 Oct 1873
James E. O'Brien	12 Apr 1879
Ellen F. O'Brien	01 Oct 1882
Mary O'Brien	18 Mar 1883
Mary [Mahoney] [O'Brien] Bowser	18 Nov 1894
Thomas J. Bowser	27 Mar 1903

Table B.7: Mahoney plot, Mt. Calvary Cemetery^[7]
 Boston (Roslindale), Suffolk County, Massachusetts
 CL1-1 (Half Circle)

Grave	Name	Burial Date
1A	Catherine J. [Kenney] Mahoney	13 Mar 1913
1B	Elizabeth F. Mahoney	06 Jan 1936
2A	Edward J. Mahoney	15 Jul 1895
2B	Almira L. Mahoney	19 May 1910
3A	Agnes P. Garvin	18 Aug 1883
3B	William E. Garvin	25 Oct 1886
3C	Mary A. Garvin	12 Jan 1916
4A	Josephine L. Mahoney	17 May 1948
5A	Pauline M. [O'Brien] Baine	04 Feb 1967
6A	Mildred L. O'Brien	26 May 1891
6B	Edward O'Brien	26 Dec 1898
6C	Almira O'Brien	13 Jul 1902
6D	John J. O'Brien	17 May 1938
6E	Emma A. [Mahoney] O'Brien	13 Jul 1950

Table B.8: William O'Brien plot, Mt. Calvary Cemetery^[8]
Boston (Roslindale), Suffolk County, Massachusetts
C7-22-22

Name	Burial Date
Julia T. [McCarty] O'Brien	11 Dec 1888
William O'Brien	29 Oct 1889
Nellie L. O'Brien	15 Jun 1926



Figure B.1: William O'Brien grave, Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Boston (Roslindale), Suffolk County, Massachusetts.

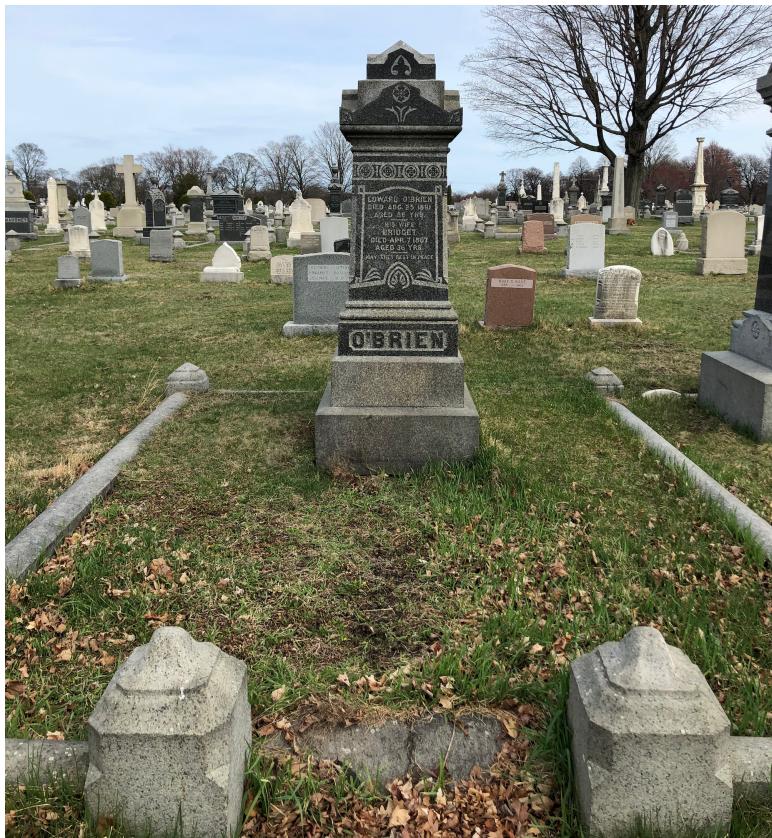


Figure B.2: Edward O'Brien family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.



Figure B.3: Robert Fernald's family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.



Figure B.4: Mahoney/Mahony family plot, Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Boston (Roslindale), Suffolk County, Massachusetts.

Appendix B Citations

- [1] 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.
- [2] The Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, Owner Profile, owner ID C15-61458 (Edward O'Brien) at Holy Cross Cemetery, printed 18 Jul 2019.
- [3] The Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, Owner Profile, owner ID C15-84952 (Michael O'Brien) at Holy Cross Cemetery, printed 18 Jul 2019.
- [4] The Catholic Cemetery Association of the Archdiocese of Boston, Owner Profile, owner ID C15-86405 (Robert Fernald) at Holy Cross Cemetery, printed 22 Jan 2021.
- [5] Holy Cross (Malden) Lot Sales and Burials, 1894-1898 (Book 8), p. 431, John Wickens; accessed at Massachusetts: Catholic Cemetery Association Records, 1833-1940 Online database. AmericanAncestors.org. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2020 (From records supplied by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston).
<https://www.americanancestors.org/DB2782/i/60368/431/10000381214>
- [6] 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://historicalsociedadwatertownma.org/HSW/> : viewed on 31 Mar 2020), Resources > Sand Banks Cemetery Project > downloadable Excel spreadsheet.

- [7] Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, printout of Mahoney plot (CLI-1-6D) originally given to Michael O'Brien and verified by Gavin O'Brien at the cemetery office, 28 Dec 2018.
- [8] Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, listing for William O'Brien plot (location C7-22-22, owner ID 14237) printed at the cemetery office for Gavin O'Brien on 12 April 2019.

Descendants of William O'Brien

1

William¹ O'Brien b. abt. 1791 d. 1856

+ Mary Sexton b.

Ann² O'Brien b. abt. 1813 d. 1898

+ Michael Dailey m. bef. 1880

Abigail² O'Brien b. abt. 1815 d. 1897

+ Michael Dooley d. bef. 1865

Hannah³ Dooley b. abt. 1837 d. 1911

+ Jeremiah Cooney b. abt. 1835 m. 1859 d. 1883

+ Michael Patrick Cusick b. abt. 1843 m. 1884 d. bef. 1911

Margaret E.³ Dooley b. 1840 d. 1918

+ Robert A Fernald b. abt. 1849 m. 1873 d. 1917

Anna⁴ Fernald b. 1874 d. 1875

Caroline Emma⁴ Fernald b. 1876 d. 1927

+ John Joseph McGurin b. 1875 m. 1893 d. 1968

Sarah Helen⁴ Fernald b. 1879 d. 1943

+ Christopher Leonard b. 1872 m. 1902 d. 1945

Robert Atwell⁴ Fernald b. 1882 d. 1965

+ Agnes M Leonard b. 1881 m. 1911 d. 1975

+ William Simonds b. abt. 1841 d. 1873

Abigail J⁴ Simonds b. 1867 d. 1958

+ John H Rogan b. abt. 1866 m. 1890

Catharine F⁴ Simonds b. 1860 d. 1890

+ John F McCarthy b. abt. 1858 m. 1879

Francis⁴ Simonds b. 1863 d. 1865

Margaret Josephine⁴ Simonds b. 1865 d. 1866

John² O'Brien b. abt. 1820 d. 1863

+ Mary Mahoney b. abt. 1829 m. 1853 d. 1894

William³ O'Brien b. 1854 d. 1889

+ Julia T McCarty b. 1855 m. 1881 d. 1888

| Ellen Louise⁴ O'Brien b. 1885 d. 1926

Mary³ O'Brien b. 1856 d. 1883

James Edward³ O'Brien b. 1858 d. 1879

Ellen³ O'Brien b. 1859 d. 1882

John Joseph³ O'Brien b. 1861 d. 1938

+ Emma A Mahony b. 1862 m. 1890 d. 1950

Mildred Loretta⁴ O'Brien b. 1890 d. 1891

Francis Joseph⁴ O'Brien b. 1892 d. 1958

+ Mary Helena Flynn b. 1892 m. 1921 d. 1981

Pauline M.⁴ O'Brien b. 1894 d. 1967

+ Charles Lucius Baine b. 1870 m. 1930 d. 1962

Mildred Louise⁴ O'Brien b. 1896 d. 1927

+ Albert Joseph French b. 1900 m. 1925 d. 1980

Edward⁴ O'Brien b. 1898 d. 1898

Almyra Louise⁴ O'Brien b. 1901 d. 1902

Margaret³ O'Brien b. 1862 d. 1863

Anna⁴ O'Brien b. 1863 d. 1866

Edward² O'Brien b. 1822 d. 1881

+ Bridget Linnehan b. abt. 1831 d. 1867

Mary Ann³ O'Brien b. 1852 d. 1852

Ellen³ O'Brien b. 1853 d. 1857

Ann Maria³ O'Brien b. 1855 d. 1937

Margaret A³ O'Brien b. 1859 d. 1933

Edward J.³ O'Brien b. 1861 d. 1884

Mary² O'Brien b. abt. 1828 d. 1908

+ David Ward b. 1823 m. 1850 d. 1881

Descendants of William O'Brien

2

		Mary Ann ³ Ward b. 1851 d. 1854
		Sarah ³ Ward b. 1853 d. 1873
		Hannah ³ Ward b. 1860 d. 1919
	+ John J Flynn	b. 1861 m. 1885 d. 1920
		Mary Alice ⁴ Flynn b. 1886 d. 1958
		+ Edward William Clahane b. 1888 m. 1908 d. 1962
		Harry Joseph ⁴ Flynn b. 1889 d. 1967
Michael ²	O'Brien	b. 1832 d. 1891
+ Bridget	Colbert	abt. 1832 m. 1854 d. 1873
	Ellen ³	O'Brien b. abt. 1858 d. aft. 1891
	Mary Ann ³	O'Brien b. 1859 d. 1861
	Michael F. ³	O'Brien b. 1864 d. 1904
	+ Lillian A Allen	b. 1863 m. 1883 d. 1891
		Arthur Francis ⁴ O'Brien b. 1883 d. 1904
		Edward William ⁴ O'Brien b. 1884 d. 1887
		Elizabeth ⁴ O'Brien b. 1886 d. 1886
	+ Mary A Macdougall	abt. 1871 m. 1899 d. 1928
		Frances May ⁴ O'Brien b. 1901 d. 1903
	Frances Elizabeth ³	O'Brien b. 1866 d. 1915
+ John B Wickens		b. 1873 m. 1893 d. aft. 1916
	Nellie ⁴	Wickens b. 1893 d. 1893
	Edith A ⁴	Wickens b. 1894 d. 1957
	+ George H Giguere	b. 1893 m. 1913 d. 1974
	Frederick John ⁴	Wickens b. 1895 d. 1896
	Albert Francis ⁴	Wickens b. 1898 d. 1977
	+ Mary Helen Schaller	b. 1892 m. 1922 d. 1984
	Ethel Mary ⁴	Wickens b. 1902 d. 1967
	+ Harold Edward Heuman	b. 1902 m. 1923 d. 1993
+ Mary Field		abt. 1845 m. 1874 d. 1915
	Mary ³	O'Brien b. 1875 d. 1875
	John Joseph ³	O'Brien b. 1876 d. 1881
	Edward Francis ³	O'Brien b. 1879 d. 1929
+ Mary Frances Gill		b. 1884 m. 1909 d. 1958
	Catherine Mary ⁴	O'Brien b. abt. 1910 d. 1964
	+ Frederick Augustus MacDonald Jr	b. 1908 m. 1937 d. 1983
	Frances Josephine ⁴	O'Brien b. 1912 d. 1997
	+ John Ransom Day	b. 1912 m. 1942 d. 1990
	Walter Gill ⁴	O'Brien b. 1914 d. 1945
	Edward Francis ⁴	O'Brien Jr b. 1916 d. 1985
	+ Mary A Metivier	b. 1917 m. 1946 d. 1999
	Beatrice Field ⁴	O'Brien b. 1919 d. 1976
	+ John Francis Brady	b. 1914 m. 1941 d. 1983
	Mary Lucia ⁴	O'Brien b. 1921 d. 2011
	Francis Joseph ³	O'Brien b. 1883 d. 1914

1 2 3 4

Credits

1.1 Map data ©2021 Google, GeoBasis-DE/BKG (©2009)

1.2 Watergrasshill, County of Cork, Diocese of Cork and Ross, Baptisms, Nov. 1840 to Jan. 1841, p. 27 (<http://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000635355#page/27> : viewed on 12 Mar 2021).

2.1 Thomas Goldsworthy Dutton, “Clipper barque Spirit of the Age,” Royal Museums Greenwich (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Clipper_barque_Spirit_of_the_Age,_PY0633.jpg).

2.2 U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), “Passenger lists of vessels arriving at New York, 1820-1897,” NARA microfilm publication M237, roll 81, July 3-27, 1849, list no. 882, entries for Mary O’Brien and Michael O’Brien; accessed at “New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1891,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939V-5P37-F7> : viewed on 19 Sep 2020), 081 - 3 Jul 1849-27 Jul 1849 > image 123.

2.3 “Registers of Passengers Arriving in Massachusetts Ports 1848-1891,” Massachusetts State Archives, HS 3.02 1990X, record of 27 Jun 1851, vessel *Chascay*, entries for Edmund O’Brien and family; accessed at “Massachusetts, United States Records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSVN-998J-W> : viewed on 11 Nov 2020), image 793.

2.4 “Boston, 1849,” wood engraving, artist unknown, Boston Pictorial Archive, Boston Public Library; accessed at Digital Commonwealth (<https://ark.digitalcommonwealth.org/ark:/50959/8623j6654> : viewed on 27 Mar

2021). This work is licensed for use under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives License (CC BY-NC-ND).

2.5 Josiah Johnson Hawes, “Old St. Mary’s Church, Endicott ad Cooper Sts.,” photograph, 1860, Boston Public Library Arts Department (<https://ark.digitalcommonwealth.org/ark:/50959/c82lh61lm>). This work is licensed for use under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives License (CC BY-NC-ND).

2.6 Jacob Gayer, “People tonging oysters near Nanticoke,” photograph, National Geographic, image ID 1238550, used with permission.

5.1 Massachusetts, Suffolk County Register of Deeds, Atlas of East Boston, 1892, vol. 9, p. 14; accessed at Suffolk County Register of Deeds (<https://massrods.com/suffolk/suffolk-county-atlas/suffolk-county-atlas-pages/> : viewed on 4 Apr 2020), Research > Suffolk County Atlases > East Boston 1892 > Page 14.

6.1 “Robert A. Fernald, Veteran Tow Boat Captain, Dead,” *The Boston Globe*, 15 Jun 1917, p. 15.

6.2 Howard Athenæum, season of 1882–3, program for *Oliver Twist!*, week commencing 8 Jan 1883; in collection “Howard Athenæum Programs, 1847-1892,” vol. 2 1851-1892, call number Lg PN2277 .B67 H68, *Boston Athenæum*, used with permission.

6.3 Label for John J. O’Brien, picture frames, 69 Cornhill, Boston, Mass., undated. Historic New England, Ephemera Collection, GUSN-265637 (<http://gusn.us/265637>), used with permission.

6.4 Detail from “Crosswalk on Corn Hill opposite Franklin Avenue, looking west, sect. 8 1/2, Boston, Mass.,” photograph, Boston Transit Commission, 14 Apr 1897, John Booras collection of plate glass negatives, Historic New England, GUSN-318238 (<http://gusn.us/318238>), used with permission.

7.1 Scanned image provided by Michael O’Brien.

7.2 Scanned image emailed to Gavin O’Brien by Brad French on 20 December 2020.

7.3 “Calvert’s Clothing Store,” photograph, June 1979, Needham Free Public Library, Historical Pictures 145-266R (shelf locator), accessed at *Digital Commonwealth*

(<https://ark.digitalcommonwealth.org/ark:/50959/js956v51f> : viewed on 21 Mar 2021), used with permission.

B.2 Photo by Gavin O'Brien, 14 April 2019.

B.3 Photo by Gavin O'Brien, 14 April 2019.

B.4 Photo by Gavin O'Brien, 19 January 2021.

B.1 Photo by Gavin O'Brien, 19 January 2021.

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Note: **bold** page numbers indicate the individual's main profile. Superscripted numbers show the individual's generation, starting with 1 for the oldest generation (William¹ O'Brien).

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