

THE BANKHEADS

EARLY RECORDS OF A SMALL SCOTTISH FAMILY

FOREWORD

There are few of the name who have risen to national prominence and even today the surname is most uncommon in Britain. The research contained herein was prompted by a chance meeting with Leonard C Bankhead of Corsicana Texas in the early part of 1987.

Together with Mrs Loudie Moffat of Austin, also Texas, Leonard had compiled a massive family history of the family in America. Alas the sheer size of their document had reduced the number of willing subscribers so that the manuscript remains unpublished. I have however, placed a copy in the Library of the Scottish Genealogy Society. Entitled "The Bankheads, Westward from South Carolina" it traces the progress of the descendants of seven original immigrants from the 1740's through to the present day. Evidence indicates that most came from Scotland, the rest from Northern Ireland. Unfortunately, more precise geographic details have not surfaced, neither do any of the name appear in the usual sources for Scottish emigrants.

It was thus that I first entered Register House without undue expectation. To my surprise and delight I discovered that the surname is unusually well documented for its rarity and that the Bankheads in Scotland had some very well defined origins. In the process I had hopes of uncovering the link with my own ancestors who for generations had farmed in the Parish of Ahoghill, County Antrim.

To try and separate the various generations, particularly in the earliest records, I adopted a simple numerical notation eg John #1, Hugh #2 etc. An identical but parallel notation is given for the chapter on Ulster families. I have also retained the original numbering when quoting from the American document.

CHAPTER 1

FROM PRIEST TO PRESBYTERY

The earliest mention of the name occurs in October 1527. On Sunday 5th a Sir William #1 Bankhead, curate to Dame Isabella Wallace, Lady Loudoun , helped (by providing an alibi) said lady to be acquitted of hampering the course of justice in its pursuit of the murderers of Gilbert Earl of Cassillis (McDonald's "Criminal Trials"). William is named as Curate of Riccarton in 1532 in the Protocol book of Gavin Ross. The curates title does not represent knighthood but was merely an honorary term for a non graduate priest (Scottish Rural Society in 16th cent.Sanderson).

On 21st October 1527, John Bankhead #1 a tenant of Hugh Earl of Eglingtoun is recorded as holding land in Robertoun in the bailliary of Cunninghame (RGS No 510). Robertoun was an ancient barony of some 1300 acres stretching from the Church of Kilmaurs to the R. Irvine and it is in the parish of Kilmaurs that the Bankheads can be followed through 16th and 17th century Scotland. The names of Corsehouse (Crosshouse), Knockentiber, Busbie and of course Kilmaurs appear over and over again in official documents.

Another placename that survives however is Wyndyedge where a John Robisoun alias Bankhead #2 is recorded in a charter of June 1528 (RGS No 602). Pont's map produced between 1604 and 1610 shows it as being next to Gatehead on the R Irvine. The significance of 'alias' above is unknown. A document in the Scottish archives (GD39/1/42), not connected with Bankhead family, refers to "lands of Wyndyedge alias Bankhead & Greenhill" Two other documents, GD/39/1/68 and GD/39/1/164 make reference to "Bankhead" as a prebendery of the Collegiate Church of Kilmaurs.

Contemporary with the two Johns would have been a Peter Bankhead #1 in Busbie and his spouse Margaret Cunninghame. A letter of reversion dated 27th May 1559 reveals that the by then deceased Peter had a son John #3 whose seal is still attached to the parchment (RH6 1783). Unfortunately the nature of the arms is all but illegible and there are two conflicting descriptions of them. A note appended to a transcript of the original in SRO states "Mans head with feathers, between two mullets, in base a wolfs

head" whereas "Scottish Armorial Seals" suggests "a hand holding a dagger erect flanked by two stars in chief and a garb? in base".

This is the only known sample of the seal and it was probably already lost to history by 1672 when an act of parliament required all arms to be registered. The Lord Lyon, head of Scotlands Armorial Court has no record of it, or indeed any other bearings relating to the surname.

The letter is witnessed by James Bankhead #1 in Murehouse.

We know that Peter had another son Hugh #1 who married Janet Blair about 1585. They received at that time a feu charter of land at Easter Brigend Kilwinning (RGS 849). The charter is witnessed by John Bankhead #3? in Busbie, almost certainly his brother. The SRO holds a Rental document for the barony of Kilwinning, precise date unknown but listed as c 1550-1570 (GD3/56/5). It shows just one Bankhead - Hew in Easter Brigend.

Another John Bankhead #4 seems to have lived in Irvine at the same period. He is recorded in the rental of St. Mary the Virgin on 28th November 1544 as having an annual rent of three shillings for his tenement (Minuments of Burgh of Irvine Vol 1). It is plausible that this is the same John, burgess of Irvine who married Marion Lyn and died prior to 1558/9 (RH6 1771). They had a son John #5 with spouse Janet Dunlop residing in Murehouse (RH6 1541). The relationship of a James Bankhead #2 in Corshous who witnessed RH6 1771 is unknown.

Also indeterminate are the connections of:-

Archibald Bankhead, who matriculated at St Andrews University in 1560 (Early Records of St Andrews). He subsequently appears on list of "Nomina Determinatum" for 1562-1563 (College Leonardo) and "Nomina Intratum" for 1563-1564. The only qualification for entering the university at this time was a knowledge of Latin grammar

Charles Bankhead at Mains of Knockentiber in 1583(RGS 550).

A very rare occurrence of the name outside Ayrshire appears in 1600 when Helen Bankhead married William Thornsone, a wright, in Edinburgh (Edinburgh marriages). There is no indication as to her origins but it is possible that she married twice more for a Helen Bankhead married [1] James Bisset 16/7/1609 , [2] James Kerr 9/10/1613, both in South Leith. A Marion Bankhead married Alexander Hutton in South Leith 30/11/1592, surely a sister. Curiously a John Bankhead is initially listed as marrying Agnes Clark but the entry is crossed out [24/3/1640] and he later marries Helen Cowie [9/6/1640]

The earliest Bankhead entry in the testamentary records of the Glasgow Commissariat Court is dated 24th October 1607. A testament dative for Bessie Bankhead, widow in Irvine was given up on behalf of Adam, William and Margaret Cunninghame her children who were still minors at the time of their Mother's death earlier that month. She may have had a close relative in the town for the Protocol book of Robert Brown records a James Bankhead #3, burgess in Irvine on 11th June 1616.

What at first appeared to be the same Bessie is recorded in a whole series of sasines between 1604 and 1608 (RS 11/3/25 et al). This Bessie is listed in 1628 as spouse of Hugh Montgomerie, formerly of Longfurde and now resident in Killiglen in the County of Antrim. She is the earliest evidence of the surname in Ulster. Hugh was a Sergeant (Officer) of the regality of Kilwinning. Among the Eglinton Minuments (GD3) in the SRO we find in adjacent documents dated 25/7/1614, Hugh and Bessie, James Bankhead and his wife Janet Salmond. Both Hugh and James are described as in Easter Brigend.

To return to Hugh Bankhead #1 and Janet Blair in Kilwinning. A sasine dated last day of May 1601 (RS 11/1/91) describes a redemption by them to John Symont of lands in Corshill, Kilwinning. The original contract of infeftment is described as being dated 1596. Now the redemption was witnessed by James Bankhead, #4 son and heir apparent. Hugh was still alive in 1607 when he and a Hugh Montgomery described as portioners of East Brigend were involved in a dispute with Johne Couper, elder of Wester Brigend (RPC p.686).

[Interestingly GD3/1/1/96/4 (17th July 1611) is a charter granted by James Cowper, portioner of Grenefut, Kilwinning in favour of Hugh Montgomery and Bessie Bankhead of "house and yard on the south side of High St of town of Kilwinning" and GD3/1/1/86/20 (1st July 1624) refers to James Couper in Ballihieskie, Co Down (Ireland). So the Kilwinning - Ulster connection is very evident.]

There is then a gap of some fourteen years before this family surface again. By this time Hugh #1 has died and so in about April 1621 has James #4.

On 22 December 1630 a Hugh #2 Bankhead was served heir to his father James Bankhead #4 in Easter Brigend (cc 22/13/158). Between 1621 and 1630 the lands had been in the hands of the Superior which would seem to indicate that Hugh #2 was a minor when his Father died. By 1634 Hugh #2 was married to Margaret Montgomerie (RS1/39/28) and in that year he appears in a huge list of defaulter's incurring the wrath of the Earl of Eglinton (RPC/4/2). His offence was to withhold tax for his lands at Pethe, which nowadays exists as the Pathfoot area of Kilwinning. All told Hugh now had possession of lands in Corshill of Kilwinning, Easter Brigend and Pethfute. On 3rd January 1636 Hugh and Margaret mortgaged the lands of Brigend to one Thomas Robesoun (RS12/6/462). An extra clause

or two were added to the reversion in a Sasine registered 27th February of the following year (RS12/7/16).

Hugh #2 died in November 1640 but it is not until December 1677 that we find another Hugh #3 retoured as his heir (C22/33/338). The Sasine giving Hugh #3 the lands of Hugh #2 is recorded in the particular Register of Ayrshire Sasines (RS14/4/183). This is virtually the last recording of Bankheads in the Kilwinning area during the 17th Century the only other known reference is to Janet Bankhead, wife to John Symssoune in Woodgrein in a deed registered 27th February 1643 (RH11/45/5). The name does not appear in Kilwinning (or Irvine) Hearth Money Rolls of 1692. GD3/3/3/69/12 dated 1683, is entitled "Rent to my Lord Montgomery in compensation for the rent of the barony of Ardrossan and the whole barony of Eglinton". It lists "f Bankhead £5 07 00" with a note in the margin "Easter Brigend"

One could speculate if there is a connection between the disappearance of the name in Kilwinning prior to 1692 and its emergence in Ulster (see later chapter) in the 1690s.

We have seen that at least one branch of the family was in Kilmaurs Parish in the 16th Century viz. John #2 in Wyndyedge (1528), James #2 in Corshouse (1558), Charles at Knockentiber (1583) with Peter #1 (deceased) and John #3 mentioned in Busbie in 1585. During the next Century this was most obviously the epicentre of Bankhead family life.

Peter #2 Bankhead in Corshous witnessed a sasine for Robert Hunter of Hunterstoun on 3rd May 1609 (Hunterston Papers, No 39). On 15th July 1616 a Peter Bankhead and his spouse Bessie Templeton in Corshous made their joint latterwill leaving their 'free geir' to Robert Bankhead #1 their son and sole executor (CC9/7/12). It is reasonable to assume that these two Peters are one and the same #2, but it is known that another Peter #3 was probably alive at the time. He died in Dreghorn Parish (which borders Kilmaurs) in October 1636 (CC9/7/27). His testamentary mentions his Mother Bessie, brother James #5, sister Mary (?). His free geir is to be equally divided among his bairnes Robert #2, Bessie and Janet. Reference is made to land in Busbie.

Returning to the first Robert #1, it is noted in a sasine dated 10th February 1619 that a Robert Bankhead #1, lawful son of the deceased Peter Bankhead #2 in Corshose of Robertson and Mariota Luif his wife (daughter of Henry Luif in Langrighill of Grange - Kilmarnock) were infeft in thirty two falls of land occupied by the said Henry (RS12/1). It is further recorded in Sasine recorded at Ayr on 1st

March 1656 (RS13/3) that Robert #3, son of deceased Robert #1, son of deceased Peter #2 and his spouse Margaret Smith widow of John Tannochhill were seased on the said same lands of Langrighill.

Robert #3 is described as a merchant of Kilmarnock. In 1620 described as 'in Townend of Kilmarnock' he witnessed a sasine of Sir William Mure, Elder of Rowallane (Minuments of Burgh of Ayr). Much later, on June 12 1674 he (?) appears as an elder in Kilmarnock Kirk Session minutes (CH3). Robert #3 has two children in the Kilmarnock OPRs :- Robert 5/3/1657 and Mary 18/7/1660 so it is more likely that Robert Jnr is the elder in question.

Peter #2 died about 1649 for on May 16th of that year one Andrew Simpstone in Kilmarnock borrowed forty pounds from "Thomas Thomsone, John Auld Elder, John Auld Younger and Hugh Bankhead #4 curators chosen for Robert Bankhead son of umquihile Peter Bankhead" (RD3/19/170). Umquihile is the old scots word for "late"

A curious rental - 24th April 167 - of Busbie is contained in GD3/3/70 (document 1) which shows Robert Bankhead "of stock and land 8 boles". The page is headed with "I have at my lands decreet (?) counsellled all (?) according to our best judgement". Two tiny notes on the document whose translation is difficult, appear to mention Coleraine , a town in Ulster which is key to the Bankhead history there. Could this be a clue to the migration to Ulster and the reason why the name Robert is rarely seen in Scotland again?

In a Bond dated 9th November 1649 (CC9/14/21) John Auld borrowed one hundred marks from Hugh Bankhead #4, in Thornlie, Peter #4 Bankhead in Craighews (?) John Auld in Kelbitoch and Patrick Auld Younger his son, oversiers of Isobel and Mardon Bankhead bairnes of umquihile William Bankhead in Thornlie. Nothing is known of this William #2, nor is it certain that this is the aforementioned curator Hugh Bankhead. The 1641 muster roles for Montgomeries regiment are extant and contain at least one Bankhead, a Peter, in Captain Moors troop (bundle 5 of GD3/9/7). In absence of further info we do not know if this is Peter #2 or #4. He does not appear in other muster rolls (for cavalry) of this period at Irvine.

Sometimes the most banal of records survive to entertain the researcher. GD3/3/67/2&5 are lists of "capons and poultry" and their providers, in Robertoun, Dreghorn, Eaglesham and Eastwood between 1644 and 1646. A Hugh Bankhead (three mentions) and James Bankhead (once) appear but no locations are listed.

An interesting but almost illegible testament survives for a John Bankhead #6 in Busbie (CC9/7/24). Given up in May 1631 it records his wife Bessie, James Bankhead #6 in Auldtoune(?), Hugh Bankhead #4? in Busbie and his son Peter #5. These are among the executors to his spouse and bairnes. The only other 'relative' named is his son James #7 who owed his father £6. The latterwill was witnessed by James Bankhead #7 in Corhouse and James Brown the deceased's servitor. A Peter Bankhead #5 in Newlands acted as cautioner and yet again we are left to wonder as to the relationships of Peter and the two James.

An equally illegible eik to this will dated 1643 (CC9/7/28) mentions Bessie Bankhead his principal executor and details money owed to him by Robert Cunninghame elder, burgess of Irvine and Margaret Cunninghame his spouse. Indeed to judge by the sums owing to and property owned by the deceased he seems to have been comparatively wealthy.

A testament testamentary () for one Isobel Bankhead spouse to John Templetoone who died in Dreghorn Parish March 1625 leaves "to her brother John Bankhead #6 in Busbie fourteen pounds". Said John acted as a witness. In the same year a charter, original date September 1620, was confirmed in Edinburgh regarding Allan Steinson in Myletoun of Robertoun and Bessie Steinsone. Among the witnesses was a James Bankhead in Corshous (#7?)

In 1633 a sasine records Grissel Bankhead spouse to John Thomsone in Auchinzairds (RS12/5/365). January of the following year saw the death of Janet Bankhead of Ortoone in Perceton Parish, spouse of John Auld. Alas neither the sasine or testament (CC) reveal anything about the family of these ladies. It is obvious that this Janet cannot be the young Janet, daughter of Peter #3.

An entry in the Records of the Privy Council (hunt for Covenanters) makes mention of a James Bankhead, elder in Kilmaurs Kirk Session in 1684 who gives his age as about 34. There are no complementary documents to indicate his birthplace or parentage. #8

A James #9 occupied land at Braeheid, Dundonald Parish, in 1654 (RGS 233) and yet another, possibly the same, possessed with others, buildings and pertinents at Busbie - Fergushill in 1667. The Charter recording the second James (RGS 547) also mentions a Patrick Bankhead who possessed four rigs of land belonging to Knockentibber. The rarity of this christian name makes it fairly certain that the Patrick Bankhead mentioned in a deed dated 4th May 1665 (Bond DAL 13 682) is the same person. This records a transaction between Patrick, William Stevinsone and Robert Naismyth. In this period the name Patrick was often synonymous with Peter and this would explain why 'Patrick' becomes 'Peter Bankhead #6 in

Corhous' later in the text. Among the witnesses is a Thomas Thomsone, perhaps the same who acted as curator for Robert Bankhead (see page 5).

There are two Bankhead / Stevenson marriages of this period in the Kilmarnock OPR [1] Hugh = Helen Stevenson with children William 25/5/1679 ,Peter 3/4/1681, Mary 2/12/1688 and [2] Hugh = Elinor Stevenson with Janet 6/5/1691. Could Helen and Elinor have been sisters ? Also on 25/2/1688 a Mary Bankhead wed John Patirson; they had a daughter Margaret baptized Sept 22, 1695. In 1699 by which time more details are given in the register, we find John described as a baker in Strand of Kilmarnock when his 5th son Ames is baptized. These five include John in 1692 and Robert in 1694, with a daughter Margaret in 1695.

Curiously a son William of Mary Bankhead and John Tannochill was baptized on 11/6/1691. No other children of this couple were noted, so do we have two Marys or just one ?

Another sisterly marriage sequence in Kilmarnock could be that of John Bankhead to Agnes Gordon with son John on 18/3/1690 and John Bankhead to Nans Gordon with daughter Nans in 1680. This register is very difficult to read due to ink penetration and no other children of either marriage have been discovered. It is fairly certain that the two Johns are the same person. A Robert Bankhead, merchant in Kilmarnock, witnessed the wedding of Sarah Gordon and James Boyd in May 1699.

Somewhat detached from all this, in West Kilbride we find the following marriages of what must be sisters :-

Janet Bankhead to Charles Hamilton	16/1/1702
Margaret Bankhead to Thomas Kyll	3/6/1699
Sarah Bankhead to Alexander Smith	17/1/1704

Also detached are the baptismal entries in Beith OPR for a Hugh Bankhead. No mother is named for James 14/11/1712 and Gavin 4/3/1715. Hugh is described as an Apothecary. There are no baptismal entries for 1690 - 1712. That this is Hugh # who appears in Kirkintilloch (qv) and then Wigtown, is confirmed by deed (RD2/105/140) dated 1715 which records Martha Kerr, daughter of deceased James Kerr merchant in Newtown of Beith and spouse of Hugh Bankhead Apothecary there.

A curious event appears in 1666. On May 18th of that year four separate Bankhead testaments dative were registered. These record the death in chronological order of the following:-

Isobel Bankhead spouse to John Orr in Busbie, Kilmaurs who died September 1654. She owed money to Grissell Bankhead in Busbie and William Steinsone as well as rent to the Earl of Eglinton.
Jane Barclay spouse to Robert Bankhead in Busbie who died November 1661. The name William Steinsone (in Craig) again appears, this time as a witness. There is a clear indication that no children of this marriage were surviving at the time of her death.
Janet Bankhead spouse to James Boyd in Busbie who deceased in November 1663. She owed money to Robert Bankhead in Busbie and the Earl of Eglinton. Said Robert acted as witness.
Janet Bankhead, widow of Hew Steinsone in Nether Craig of Robertoun who died October 1664. Her eldest lawful son was one William Steinsone.
It is reasonable supposition that the Robert associated with the testaments is Robert #2 and Janet, spouse to James Boyd, his sister.

There is a veritable host of Peter Bankheads mentioned in five deeds dated between 1665 and 1668. Three of these are quite clearly the same person designated #7 in Crosshouse (DUR 17/711, 19/170 & DAL 24/238), a fourth almost certainly so, although he is described as in Newhouse in Robbittoun (DAL). The fifth is Peter #2 (Page 3), some 19 years having elapsed before the deed was registered. Peter #7 died in February 1674. His will (CC/9/7/40), given up by his son James describes him as an old man who had no gear or goods other than the plenishing of his house with utencils and domicils. Rental agreement GD3/3/3/3/1, dated 1665 in the Eglinton minuments is in the name of James Bankhead son to Peter Bankhead and concerns land in Corston, Windyedge and Miltoun formerly possessed by Peter (he is not referred to as deceased so this must be Peter #7 again).

Document GD3/3/69/11 is the rental role of Col James Montgomery for Robertoun in 1665. It lists Peter Bankhead no less than four times. He is the very first on the list (no townland named) and rents are stated for Corshouse, Fordelhill, and Muirton (?). He also appears on rental document GD3/3/69/3 dated 1663 but with no location. A roll of cess allowances to the tenants of Robertoun & Dreghorn 1669 lists a Peter Bankhead £11 4s 03d at Annanhill (?)

The testament of one Robert Wallace of Cairnhill makes reference to a bond between James Bankhead in Corhous and Elizabeth Galt his spouse (CC9/7/45). The bond was registered 23rd October 1677 so it is very probable that this is the same James above(#8?).

We now enter a period where parish registers are more or less extant for this region of Ayrshire and several other isolated areas of interest. Conversely, testamentary evidence and sasines virtually cease, a circumstance for which as yet I can offer no explanation. In the next chapter the early Kirk

records are explored in an attempt to follow the family from the Restoration period through the first of the inevitable Church schisms to the point where statutory registration comes to our belated rescue.

CHAPTER 2

MIGRATION

The next Bankheads to appear are John #7 and John #8. The former, described as 'in Kilmaurs' had his daughter Mary baptised in Dundonald Parish in 1682 while the latter with his spouse Bessie Moor had a daughter Elizabeth baptised in Kirkcaldy four years later, and a son William #3 in 1691 - see later section on Kirkcaldy.

The 1691 Hearth Money Rolls for Cunningham reveal the following Bankheads,

Parish of Kilmaurs:-

James Bankhead, 4 Hearths, Robertoun

Hugh Bankhead, #5 2 Hearths, formerly in Robertoun but now in Busbietown'.

In Loudon Parish a James Bankhead of Kilmaurs marries Agnes Aird in 1692 and a bond of that year records a James Bankhead in Corsehouse. It cannot at present be proven but I am of the opinion that these are all references to the same James who could be James #8 or a son James #10. Could he also be the James who married Marion Fullerton on 12/2/1696? RH9/7/154 dated 1/4/1709 in the SRO is an enormously long and detailed marriage contract between Thomas Gray merchant burgess of Irvine and Mary Bankhead only daughter of late James Bankhead in Banwells. It reveals that her widowed mother is Marion Fullerton. The deed is witnessed by Hugh Bankhead in Wyndyedge and Hugh Thomson minister in Kilmaurs

The baptismal registers of Kilmaurs survive from December 1697 and one of the very first entries is that of a James #10 son of Hugh Bankhead and an unnamed Mother. This surely has to be the same Hugh #5. James #8 or #10 appears in the following year in the Hunterston papers where in his capacity as a baillie in Cunningham he witnessed a Sasine.

Also in 1698 William Bankhead #4 and Janet Crawford in Busbie had a daughter Mary baptised, followed by a son Hugh #6 in 1700 and daughter Janet in 1702. Mary is almost certainly the bride of John Brown in Kilmarnock 2/1/1728.

It is highly likely that William #4 is the son of Hugh #5. William's Tack of land at Busbiehead is dated 7th Nov 1701 (GD3/3/5/3 - 1175/3). The same bundle has his witness signature on Tacks in Busbie for William and Thomas Wilsoune.

Examination of the Kirk session minutes which start in 1699 reveals the startling fact that James #8 or #10, Hugh #5 and William #4 are all elders. James looked after Thortone, Hallbarnes, Thornyhill and Knockentiber, Hugh - Stockbrig, Gaithead, Wadhead and Wyndyedge while William was responsible for Busbie, Busby Head and the town of Kilmaurs.

There are, surprisingly, no more baptisms recorded for the next decade apart from that of James son of Mairie(?) Bankhead and William Wallace in July 1704.

However by 1710 a Mary Bankhead had married a John Armour 7/1/1699,
Elizabeth Bankhead a James Parker 4/2/1713,
Grissel Bankhead an Alexander Gilchrist (on 23/7/1713)
William Bankhead #4 a Mary Parker - sister of James perhaps? and interestingly

Peter Bankhead #8 a Jean Hutchinson on 5th April 1718.

A Mary Bankhead of Kilmaurs married John Brown in Kilmarnock on 7/2/1728, revealed in Kilmarnock entry to be the daughter of William Bankhead #4 in Busbiehead.

and Margaret Bankhead wed Matthew Armour on 14th December 1704 (a sister of the Mary who married John Armour?)

On 3rd Jan 1708 Mairy Bankhead married John Gault and on 1/4/1709 another or the same Margaret, married Thomas Gray.
Jean Bankhead married John Dickie on 28/7/1720.

Since the baptismal registers start too late to catch these girls we can only look to THEIR childrens names for a clue to their parentage.

Various archives relating to Kilmaurs Parish are housed in Dean Castle, Kilmarnock. Among them is a list dated 20th February 1733 of the subscribers to the new Kilmaurs Town Clock. The only Bankhead on the list is a Robert #4 residing in Busbiehead who donated 12 shillings. This is the last recording of

that name in the parish and the families seem in part to have drifted off to neighbouring parishes of Dreghorn, Kilmarnock and possibly Dundonald.

To return to Peter #8 and Jean Hutchison. They have four children recorded in the Kilmaurs register of baptisms:- Janet 1719, Helen 1720, John #9 1725 and Mary 1728. With family tradition in mind one might have expected to find a Robert as well but there is no sign of any. In a later section on Kilmarnock we find in the early 1750s a Mary, Janet and Jean all marrying and having a deceased father "Peter Bankhead, farmer in Kilmaurs". Peter #8 is the most likely candidate.

In the Dreghorn baptismal registers we find a Hugh Bankhead #7 marrying Jean Maitland in 1753. The couple had a large family starting with James #11 in 1754.

During research into Royal Artillery records the following was uncovered:- "Bankhead James. Enlisted Glasgow 15th May 1778, age 20, Born Dreghorn, Ayrshire. Carpenter. Able to read and write, 5ft 8 1/2", fresh complexion, brown hair, grey eyes". He enlisted in Abbots Coy, transferred to 5th Battalion in October 1794 having been promoted to bombardier the previous year. He made corporal in October 1794 and Sergeant on 1st April 1795. The age discrepancy is discouraging but I believe them to be one and the same.

Slightly later, 10/9/1789, a 19 year old Charles Bankhead enlisted in the RA at Carlisle. His birthplace is listed as Ayr, Milltown, Kilmour and his occupation labourer, but he could read and write. He was 5' 9" with fair complexion, dark brown hair and grey eyes. His precise family has yet to be identified.

(Many many years later in 1867 one Robert Bankhead a Chelsea Pensioner died near Fochabers, aged 78. His father was James Bankhead. Sgt. in R.A., his mother Isabella Sharp. Robert was born in the West Indies. He had married Agnes Thomas in Bellie on 8th July 1834. He features in a Renfrew sasine of 22/7/1864 with William Bankhead and Ann Malloch (qv) which refers to an earlier date of 11/4/1822. No relationship is given but Ann was a widow sometime in the 1820s. This interesting connection is dealt with in greater detail later)

The siblings of James #11 were:-

Jean 1756, Peter #9 1757, Jean 1759, John #10 1760, Hugh #8 1763 (see later section on Dreghorn), William #5 1765, Janet 1766 and Robert #5 1769.

To find Hugh Seniors (#7) parentage we could reasonably expect to locate his baptism about 1730. There is one entry that at first looked promising, because the session clerk or minister seemed to have forgotten the child's name when recording the event and the space is marked with a cross. A James (#12) Bankhead married Janet Gault (from Dreghorn parish) on the 7th June 1729 and on the 27th February 1731 their unknown offspring was baptised. This is a possibility until one notes a later entry at the bottom of a conveniently empty page - Helen Bankhead to James Bankhead and Janet Gault in Wyndyedge born Feb 27 and baptized March 11th 1781. The "8" is very clear when logic says it should be "3"

I suspect also that Jean was Hugh's second wife, for in Kilwinning Parish a Hugh Bankhead and Mary Findlay had their daughter Mary baptised on 25th January 1751. No other children are recorded and we are left to wonder if Mary died in childbirth.

The parents of James #12 who married Janet Gault are impossible to determine on present evidence, they could be James and Agnes Aird, Hugh #5 and his unknown spouse or even William #4 and Janet Crawford.

William the Session Elder probably married twice, the second time to Mary Parker on 5th August 1711. They had at least two daughters, Mary born 1714? and Janet born 1728 in Kilmaurs.

There is a curious entry in the session minutes in July 1710 when William and James are censured for having "withdrawn from office". William appears in front of the session later in the day to confess and apologise for a drunken episode. He is forgiven and asked to resume as an elder. Between 1718 and 1728 they seem to have been on the move, their 4th child William #6 being born in Kilmarnock on 25th February 1722. Nothing is known about the missing three children. It may be significant that 1718 marks a sudden termination in the Kilmaurs Session records. Hugh Bankhead #5 was an elder right up to the last entry.

John #10 has to be the same who, born circa 1760, married Janet Wylie and had a son Hugh #9 baptised in Irvine on 27th October 1792.

The United Presbyterian Church was formed in 1847 by the Union of the United Associate Synod and the Relief Church. The Associate Synods were the result of the major secession in 1733 and the session minutes of the Associate Congregation in Kilmaurs start on December 8th 1740. Here, as first on the list of elders we find William Bankhead, and on June 14th 1741 "James Bankhead and Geils Hamilton in 'Windage' his 2nd marriage and a third child born, baptised William.

We could hazard a guess that this is James #12, widower of Janet Gault. Now on September 3rd of the same year we find William Bankhead Senior and William Bankhead listed as elders. Could this be William #6 and his father William #4? James Bankhead and Giles Hamilton posted their bans in Kilwinning Parish (where Giles was resident) on 24th march 1736 and were married on Tuesday April 20th. On 12th June 1751, James still in Wyndiedge was seized in land in Kilmaurs on Disposition by William Boyle with the liferent for Giles. It is possible that after 1754 James moved to Airdrie, in Lanark (qv).

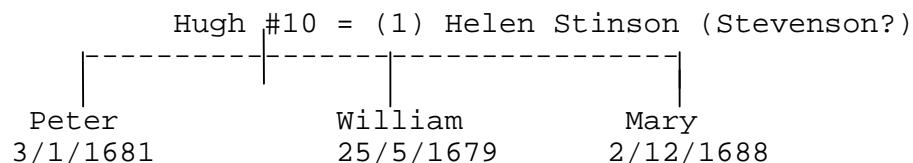
An interesting entry appears in the session minutes in 1744 when William Armour and Janet Bankhead appear before the session on an issue of breach of promise. Another Bankhead in trouble it seems was Marion who between 1753 and 1757 received money from the original Kirks 'poor fund'.

It appears that James #12 and either William #4 or #6 were both literate for the same archives contain a subscription to the National Covenant of 1756 which contains both their signatures, on page 27 and 36 respectively. John Owen DD published "To Epistologia" in Glasgow in 1757; a Hugh Bankhead in Kilmaurs was a subscriber. At the moment, this is the latest recording of the Bankhead surname in Kilmaurs Parish and we have to now move to less frequent designations in neighbouring parts.

Let us for a moment return to the Hearth Money Rolls of 1691. Here we find in Kilmarnock:-

Robert Bankhead, Merchant, 2 hearths, Bredland, Qtr
Hugh Bankhead. 2 hearths, Merkland of Grange

It is unlikely (he would have had to be in his 90s) that this is Robert #3 (page 3) but he could just be the session elder of 1674. We will designate him #6. Likewise Hugh will be #10. He was (yet again) a Kirk Session Elder on May 31 1689, and may have had a naughty sister Janet who was found guilty of fornication with Andrew Boyd in 1694. As previously described we find both Robert and Hugh in the OPRs.



and probably

= (2) Elinor Stevenson
|
Janet
6/5/1691

Robert #6 = Bessie Boyd
|

| |
William Mary
22/5/1692 17/3/1689

It is undoubtedly this Robert #6 who witnessed the wedding of Sarah Gordon in 1699.

The following baptismal entries are to be found in the IGI, having been initially missed by the author.

William 25/6/1732, Alexander 5/6/1733, Janet 16/3/1735, William 6/1/1737, James 18/3/1739, Euphan 27/2/1741, Mary 16/3/1743. The children of William Bankhead #7 who married Euphan Allan on 24th July 1732.

The low life expectancy of the time is revealed by the Mortality Rolls for the Town which tells the sad story of their family.

Twins Alexander and James died before their first birthday.

Another son William died aged 3 of smallpox, to which disease also fell victim a second son James.

The girls fared better with only their daughter Euphan dying in childhood, aged 14.

Euphan Allan died on 4th February 1745 aged only 33 followed on 5th August 1751 by her husband.

A William Bankhead married Janet McTaggart on 1/4/1746. Probably the same man?

William was a Merchant and there are several processes to be found where he seeks recompense of outstanding debts. In one of these dated 1751, William had just died and the process was transferred to his daughters Janet, Euphan and Mary. Janet married Hugh Parker another Kilmarnock Merchant on 8/12/1754 but died in childbirth in 1757. Mary's fate is presently unknown.

Other Bankhead marriages and deaths in Kilmarnock Parish.

MARRIAGES

Agnes Bankhead to William Kennedy 14/8/1702. No information on Agnes's parentage but later the records are more illuminating.

Mary Bankhead married James Wilson, wigmaker, on 25/12/1753. Mary is daughter of deceased Peter Bankhead , farmer in the Parish of Kilmaurs.

Mary Bankhead to John Brown, maltman, 2/1/1728. This Mary is daughter to William Bankhead #4 in Busbiehead in Kilmaurs. She died in childbirth 11/4/1738.

Janet Bankhead to John Young 4/9/1751. Daughter of deceased Peter Bankhead, farmer, in Muirhouse in Kilmaurs.

Jean Bankhead to Matthew Brown, tailor, 11/7/1757. Jean is another daughter of deceased Peter Bankhead. She died on 26/12/1809. As previously postulated this is probably Peter #8.

OTHER DEATHS

Janet Bankhead aged 80 on 2/1/1781. No other information is given, but could this be Janet McTaggart ? With this death of Janet the surname disappears from record in the Parish until well into the next Century.

1841 Census

At 6 Bank St, Margaret Thomson with Mary Bankhead (40) laundress and Janet Bankhead (15)

KILWINNING PARISH

There are four known entries in this untidy OPR, none of which seem to have any connection to other known Bankheads:-

Baptisms:- Unnamed daughter to Hugh Bankhead and Agnes Thomson on 19/8/1715.
Mary to Hugh Bankhead and Mary Findlay on 25/1/1751(see page)
Margaret to James Bankhead and Elizabeth Young, born 15th February 1811 at Doura
and baptised 31st March 1811.

This couple came from Cathcart, where are noted the following issue:-

Marion 23/2/1806 , William 2/8/1801 Janet 15/2/1804 and James 31/7/1808.

In the records of the Cathcart Emigration Society we find:-

Glasgow 28th April 1821, Earl of Buckingham to Quebec.

James Bankhead (45) plus wife (44) and sons 13, 16, 21, 22

This has to be James, Elizabeth, James Jnr, William, Marion (?) and another unidentified son.

The birth of James Snr in 1776 has yet to be located. He is reported in some sources as subsequently moving to Virginia (Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625-1825, Vol 5, p 12)

Marriage:- Hugh Bankhead and Jean Weir on Friday July 12th 1799.

Here, neither party is identified by Parish of origin and there are baptisms of resulting children:- daughters Jean (29/10/1799) Mary (16/5/1801), Janet (22/5/1803), Margaret (23/12/1804) and Ann (8/2/1807)

TARBOLTON PARISH

Marriages:- Margaret Bankhead to Matthew Dickie 9/3/1827
 Annie " David Wilson 22/4/1831
 Jean " William Guthrie 29/1/1830
 Margaret Thomas Gray
and most interesting,

 Hugh " to Janet Wilson 27/1/1837

All parties above are referred to as "in the parish". Neither the IGI or the authors searches have shown any corresponding baptismal entries which would suggest that they had moved from another parish.

Children of the Dickie, Wilson, and Guthrie unions are found in the baptismal entries but none for Hugh and Janet. I believe that this is because the Mr/Mrs Hugh Bankhead whose death is recorded on 18/7/1837 is the same Hugh. Another researcher originally identified this as Mrs Hugh Bankhead but after examination I believe it to be Hugh.

Are these the children of Hugh Bankhead and Jean Weir ? The first son of Annie Bankhead and David Wilson was Hugh born in 1834 which is strong evidence.

Deaths Mrs Bankhead buried 18/5/1829 (the other researcher had indicated an annotation "of the village", but this is not the case). This is possibly Jean Weir.
 Hugh Bankhead 23/7/1847. I suggest this is Hugh spouse to Jean Weir.

1841 Census

In the village Janet Bankhead, age 35, born in Parish. Janet Wilson
West Port, Tarbolton Village. Hugh B, 78, Agr Lab, born in county.

The birth of Hugh in about 1763 has yet to be found. A search of the OPR shows no entries for Hugh or possible siblings in this period which makes this origin statement open to question. In fact the answer lies in our previous section on Dreghorn. He is in fact Hugh #8 son of Hugh Bankhead and Jean Maitland.

MAUCHLINE PARISH

Mary Bankhead married William Johnstone 28/11/1820. This is a daughter of Hugh B and Jean Weir as revealed by her death registration in Dundonald 23/11/1886. The marriage entry describes them both as servants in Maxtonshill.

IRVINE PARISH

Three separate families appear at the end of the 18th Century.

Baptisms:-

To Adam Mackie (Sailor) and Giles Bankhead
8th April 1790 a son David.
3rd January 1793 a daughter Ane(sic)
1st September 1794 a daughter Barbara.

To Robert Gibson and Mary Bankhead
10th January 1794 a son William.

To John Bankhead (Labourer?) and Janet Wylie
(married 20/12/1791)
2nd December 1792 a son Hugh.

One could surmise that this is brother and sisters. Robert Bankhead married Janet Currie on 29/2/1796 with son William baptised 10/7/1796. Irvine seems to have been full of 'Coal Hewers' and 'Sailors'. From the 1841 census of Gorbals we see that Robert was born about 1766. There is a very good chance he is Robert #5, child of Hugh Bankhead and Jean Maitland.

There is a solitary young Bankhead, Hugh aged 15, to be found in the 1841 census. His occupation is given as "H L W" which I take to be Hand Loom Weaver. Could he perhaps be a brother of Janet, same age, in Kilmarnock census (qv)?

AYR

In December 1773 Hugh Bankhead, labourer, and Marion Whiteacker his spouse were in Wallacetown (AYR SASINES 1026).

11 years later Hugh's address is given as Wallace St when an inhibition against him was raised by John Logan, Baker in Ayr. This couple were married in Glasgow on 8th May 1770 and children Jean 1/5/1771(Monkton), Janet 27/12/1783(St Quivox & Newton) have been identified.

Also in S Quivox & Newton a William Bankhead married Janet McNealie on 4/2/1788 This is probably the same William, Wright, who is recorded in Wallacetown in a sasine of July 23rd 1821 (358)

Deaths

Interred 12/12/1826 William Bankhead, Wright, age 86

CATHCART

Marriages Elizabeth Bankhead = Daniel Nieven 4/4/1818
Jean = James Neilson 8/3/1816
William = Anne Neilson 17/6/1825
Hugh = Jean McClean 25/2/1820

This couple are a key part of " The American Connection" which is detailed later in this document.

LANARK

Around 1800 there is little trace of any Bankhead families except for one. In the Gorbals we find the aforementioned Robert Bankhead and his spouse Janet Currie. Their daughter Mary was baptised on 1st February 1800 in Lanark, before the family apparently moved to the Gorbals, where children Hugh (6/7/1801), Janet (20/2/1803) and Ann (5/1/1806) were baptised. Daughter Margaret was baptised in

Lanark on 24/10/1808. Robert and Janet are found in the 1841 census, both aged 75 and living at Buchan St. Robert is described as an hotel waiter.

Still in the Gorbals, Ann married Walter Young on 17/5/1828. Janet appears to have married twice and there was at least one other Janet of about the same age for we have:-

Janet Bankhead = John Swan 17/11/1820
" " = James Spiers 18/6/1825
" " = James Robertson 19/11/1825

It looks possible that the children of Hugh Bankhead and Marion Whiteacre were married in the same period for in addition to the Janets we have :-

William Bankhead = Sarah Allwood 27/1/1806 Barony
Mary " = Angus McPherson 5/10/1822 Gorbals
Jean " = John Angus 20/7/1822 Gorbals

There are two sasines which record the existence of a James Bankhead variously described as a Merchant in Kilmarnock (1754) and in 1772 as late Merchant in Glasgow, then residing in Busbie. Both were registered at Hamilton and concern the same property in Airdrie. One could speculate that this James being in Kilmarnock in 1754 is another sighting of James #12 last heard of in 1756 when he signed the National Covenant as a member of the Kilmaurs Associate Congregation. The records of dissenting congregations in and around Monkland have not yet been explored but they may well shed some light on his family.

At Drumbow in New Monkland a John Bankhead spouse of Sarah McEwan died on February 11th 1874 aged 80. For some reason and very frustrating it is, his stepson Robert McConnel (McEwan?) acting as informant was unable to provide details of John's parentage.

A Wandering Family.

On 10th July 1856 Agnes Bankhead was born in New Monkland to James Bankhead and Agnes Stevely. We know that James was a coal miner and that Agnes probably died the following year in Bathgate. On the fourteenth of March 1900 a James Bankhead retired Coal Miner died aged 90 in the Morpeth(England) workhouse attended by M A Stewart his daughter then residing at 2 Chatter Yard, Morpeth. The 1861 census for England casts light on this family. In Eshott parish are found; James Bankhead born 1811,

Ireland; his wife Nancy, born Ireland 1823; Margaret born Scotland 1846; Sarah J born Scotland 1854; Mary A born Felton (Northumberland) 1858; Susan born Felton 1860. Later research found them in the 1851 Scottish census living in Bo'ness with James jnr (9), David (7), both born Ireland, Margaret (4) born Airdie and baby Elizabeth born Bo'ness. Residing with them was cousin Robert Bankhead born Ireland c1830.

From a family source, Roy Brown of Ahoghill we have the following:-

Mary Ann married James McCarthy in 1877 but he must have died before 1881 when she re-married to William Stewart. They had at least six children, possibly eleven. Margaret married John Jobson in 1870 and had at least five children, four boys and one girl.

DUNDONALD

A Mary Bankhead married Hugh Ferguson on 21/1/1744. A solitary Bankhead death appears in the registers for this Parish. In 1767 William Bankhead farmer in Scullochaflat died there and was buried at Auldlowan of Crosbie on 27th March.

EDINBURGH

1719 Robert Bankhead bookbinder in N.W. Parish and Jean Ramsay widow of John Corsbie, portioner of Prestonpans married 11th September. Robert was made a Burgess of Edinburgh on 25th November the same year He had an unnamed child on 8/9/1721. The NLS holds a book "Scottish Bookbindings and Bookbinders 1450-1800" by George H Bushell which also lists William Bankhead, Edinburgh, 1719. The NLS has found no source document to confirm this and so the connection to the following is problematical:-

1763 On 11th May William Bankhead was created Burgess and Guild Brother. Other families to appear in odd places are as follows:-

DUNFERMLINE

Janet Bankhead married John Jones on 29th Dec 1782

KIRKCALDY

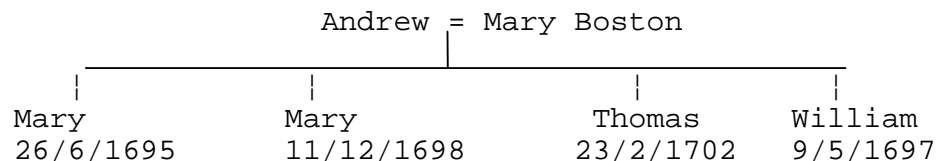
John Bankhead and Bessie Moor had daughter Elizabeth baptised on 14th December 1686 and sons John 1689 William in 1691. Unusually this OPR records witnesses for each baptism and in the case of Elizabeth, one such is a Robert Whyte.

To James Bankhead and Janet Hutton, Catherine 4/4/1725 and Isabel 30/10/1727. A Robert Whyte is a witness to Catherine's baptism indicating that James is almost certainly a son of John and Bessie.

To John Bankhead and Christian Brydie (married CRAIL 15/12/1674) twins Margaret and Christian 17/6/1677 and John 20/7/1680. Yet again Robert Whyte is a witness to John jnr's baptism which indicates that this is a first marriage of the John who married Bessie Moor. The Crail marriage entry provides no additional information other than describing John as "in this parish"

LONDON

Hundreds of miles to the south, in Middlesex we find in the registers of St. Katherine by the Tower (London) an Andrew Bankhead marrying Mary Boston on 13th September 1694. This is curious as being the first time that christian name appears in the family tree



Even earlier we find a James Bankhead marrying Margaret Moore on 17th March 1677 in All Hallows, Honey Lane, London. Nothing more is know of these families and the name does not reappear until a century later.

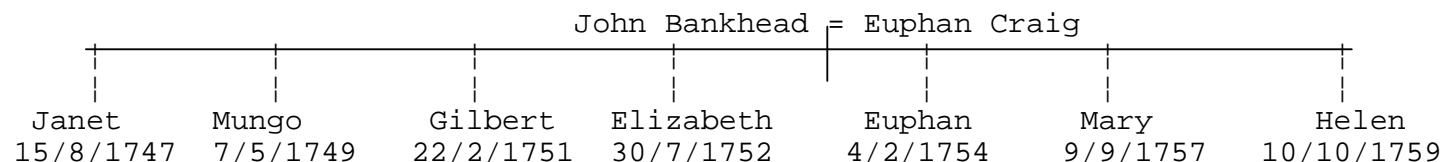
On 19th May 1791 William Bankhead, a gardener married Sarah Susannah Steer in St. Leonards, Shoreditch. This family tree has been traced with the help of descendants living today in the Forest of Dean. Their tradition has it that their ancestors came from Scotland. Since the first son was baptised William Hugh this is a very strong possibility indeed.

William and Sarah had a son Benjamin (bc 1812) who on 13th June 1839 together with his fiancée Lydia Barrell applied for an assisted passage to Australia. The couple married on July 6th at St Mary, Whitechapel and arrived in South Australia on the Royal Admiral 13th Dec 1840. On the application he is described as a plumber, while the marriage certificate states painter There is an 1872 group photo (State Library archives accession B7865) which may contain his portrait

To return to Scotland:-

TRANENT

In this East Lothian Parish we again find a single Bankhead family who disappear from record after baptism, never to be heard off again. One wonders if there is a mining connection with the West Coast Families.



There is no record of their marriage in the Parish but entries immediately prior to 1748 are sparse or missing

KIRKINTILLOCH

An intriguing and amusing story surrounds the Hugh Bankhead, previously recorded in Beith with his wife Martha Kerr, in Kirkintilloch in a number of sasines between 1720 and 1728. These are ordinary enough but there is a cameo of a document, written in his own hand (CC9/16/28) and dated 4th May 1725 which shows that Hugh had his problems.

"I Hugh Bankhead Chyrurgeon and Portioner in Kirkintilloch.....
Janet Falconer, mother-in-law paying her yearly all the dayes of her lifetime after she shall be pleased to leave my house and family and that only during the time that she stays from my house and family all and haill of the sum of fiftie merks Scots money yearly during the forsaid space of her life....."

A Martha Bankhead bc 1719 died Dec 1792 is commemorated in Penningham churchyard , their daughter perhaps ?

On 7th December 1724 (?) Hugh, described as an apothecary, signed a minute of sasine transferring property to one Andrew Giles.

Hugh's children Maryanna 28/1/1725 , William 25 /11/1722 and Hugh jnr 8/5/1720 appear in the Kirkintilloch OPR.

SRO GD180/148 is a contract of Tack between John Cathcart of Geanoch to Hugh Bankhead, chirurgeon in Collmonell. It is dated 19 June 1734. COLMONELL is a S Ayrshire parish and shows that the family was on the move again.

The story takes another twist, for in 1763 a Hugh Bankhead surgeon in Portressock (Port Logan) Wigtounshire died leaving a widow Grizzel Moor and children Jacobina and William. This is the son of

the above Hugh. He married Grisel/Grizzle Muir/Moor in BALLANTRAE (S Ayrshire) parish on 25th April 1758. A daughter Jacobina was christened on 11/3/1759, son William 27/6/1761

Jacobina married Samuel McCutcheon at Kirkmaiden by Drummorie 12/4/1784.

A William Bankhead married Ann Bryce in Stoneykirk 12/3/1827, a descendant obviously, but whose?

BO'NESS

Another piece of the family which stretches across borders is that involving John Bankhead and his wife Sarah Blair, married 27/5/1850. The 1851 census catches them living at Donaldson Cottages, with him described as a Provision Merchant b Ireland c 1823 and Sarah born in Ireland c1825. John died aged 69 at 6 Alexander Street, Partick, Glasgow on 22nd December 1899 and his parents are listed as John, a farm labourer and Margaret Stewart. His parents were from Lisroden, Portglenone, Antrim (see later section on Ahoghill). John Jnr and Sarah had a considerable family recorded in the Parish of Bo'ness namely:- Margaret Jane (19/9/1856), Meinie Blair (30/10/1858), James (16/12/1860), Sarah (16/8/1863), Elizabeth (3/2/1866), Sarah Blair (4/11/1867) - died 1868, and William Neil (22/7/1869). James, a Clerk, was apparently resident with his father and is named in the confirmation of his estate (valued at £120 5s).

There were other children however -

1. John who registered his fathers death and whose address was then Hillington Way, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

John appears in 1901 census of Northumberland as living at Willington Quay, Northumberland. He was married to Elizabeth French in 1877 and had at least three children John 1878, Mary 1877 (Long Benton Northumberland), and Clara Florence 1883. The 1891 census shows John and the two girls living at 109 Claythorn St Glasgow. In 1901 census Clara is living with Uncles James and William and Aunt Maggie at 6 Alexander St. These four seemed to have emigrated to USA in 1904 (see previous) (info descendant). The 1911 census shows John in Willington Quay living with his daughter Mary and her husband Joseph Shea

2. Ann Bankhead married William White on 11th March 1853. She is recorded as a sister of Sarah when registering the birth of one of the latter's illegitimate children. (info descendant). Ann and one child Jane, born Bo'ness 5/12/1855

John and Margaret Stewart had at least one other child, Sarah Stewart who died at 6 Church Place, Falkirk aged 80. She was twice married to (1) John Steele a miner on 11th August 1850 in Portglenone (he died 11/4/1859) and (2) on 6th December 1871 in Bo'ness to George Duffin, Labourer. She had ten children but only four survived to adulthood. (info from descendant)

1881 Census

Sarah McConnel Bankhead, age 70, widow, born Ireland. This I believe to be the 2nd wife of John Bankhead, weaver in Lisroden (see later Ulster section). Margaret Stewart would have been his first wife and perhaps died in childbirth.

GLASGOW

The 1861 census catches a Bankhead family at 34 Centre St

James Bankhead bc 1805 Ireland, wife Alice Jennings, bc 1803 Ireland, nephew Robert, bc 1834 Ireland and grandson James Hughes, bc 1853 Glasgow

Going back to 1851 they are living at 144 Main St, Gorbals with daughter Martha, a cotton weaver born Ireland c1829, Elizabeth born Ireland c1838, Thomas born Ireland c1842, and baby James born Glasgow.

Their daughter Elizabeth married William Carelton 3/10/1856.

GREENOCK AND GOUROCK

The best documented Bankhead family in Scotland in recent times is to be found in Gourock and the three Parishes of Greenock.

On May 10th 1870 William Bankhead spouse of Jane Gourlay (deceased) died at 53 Main Street, Cartsdyne, Greenock. He was aged 54 and succumbed to consumption. His parents were Joseph Bankhead, Labourer and Hannah McIntyre about whom nothing is known.

William and Jane (who died in 1866) had at least 6 children, twins James and William born 1845, Samuel born 1852, John born 1855 died 1856, John born 1858 and Agnes born 1849. They seem to have adhered to the principles of the Free Church for thus did Agnes marry William Bell a Carter, on 29th December 1868 and William wed Elizabeth Shaw a Domestic Servant on March 1872.

James grew up to labour in a Sugarhouse and died aged only 36 of Broncho Pneumonia. The second John fared even worse and died on June 16th 1875 in Bridgeton, Glasgow. He is described as a Sewing Machine Turner.

Samuel, a Carter, married Sarah Stewart or Leitch on 3rd March 1871. A son William was born in 1873 but died from T.B. six years later. His sister Elizabeth Stewart died the next year never having reached her first birthday.

William Bankhead and Elizabeth Shaw were to have five(?) children:- Samuel born 1874 died 1884 - another T.B. victim, Margaret born 1876, James born 1878 died 1879, James born 1880 (died Nov 1915 and buried Gibraltar - this is the James, RASC, in "Men of Greenock who fell in Great War") and John born 1882. The last named was drowned in the Clyde about 7th July 1908 when he fell overboard from the 'Flying Falcon'. His father had died three years previously, suddenly but of natural causes. At the time of his decease was employed as a Shore Porter. Elizabeth was probably his second wife for on 22nd October 1897 another William Bankhead married Maggie Turner McAlpine and gave his parents as William Bankhead, Carter and Elizabeth McAlpine. He was born in 1872 and probably had a sister Catherine born 1871 died 1872. One of the witnesses at the wedding of William Senior (?) and Elizabeth Shaw was Marion McArthur quite possibly a sister of his first wife. The one flaw here is no sign of Elizabeth McArthurs death in 1872. William and Maggie had two children Samuel born 1907 and Catherine Brown born 1905. Samuel died from diphtheria in 1910, his sister married James Henderson Allen a Clerk in the Ministry of Food. Catherine died from a Cerebral haemorrhage in 1950.

PAISLEY

Several sasines for Renfrew record a William Bankhead and his spouse Ann Malloch. William was a grocer at Croft of Paisley and probably died sometime in the 1820s, - he was a subscriber to a trade directory of the town in 1809/10/12/20 and 1823. As mentioned previously a most intriguing sasine links him with the Robert Bankhead, Chelsea Pensioner in Focabers, but no relationship is given. To add interest to the puzzle, George Andrew Donaldson mentioned in the deed was the son of a Jane Bankhead and George Donaldson. We also know that Robert served in the West Indies.

" July 22 1864

William Mather Pollock, thread manufacturer, Paisley gets notary instruments of a house on the north side of the street from Wallnook to Sneddon Bridge Paisley on Disp and Settlement by William Bankhead, Grocer, Croft of paisley with consent of Ann Malloch his wife, to Robert Bankhead, soldier, Royal Artillery, April 11 1822; Disp and assign by him, therein designed formerly soldier, Royal Artillery, now residing in Focabers, with consent of George Andrew Donaldson, Planter, Ardsheil Jamaica to the said William Mather Pollok and John Clark, Thread Manufacturers, Paisley"

The 1851 census shows William Malloch living with his widowed sister Anne Bankhead, described as an annuitant, in Paisley (Mount Pleasant). William is described as "master cotton spinner, one of a team of four, employing 296 people".

DUNNING (PERTH)

George Harley Bankhead = Margaret Allan , had daughter Margaret 17/4/1831.
George is described as being in Forgan (Fife) parish. A search of both Dunning and Forgan registers either side of this date reveals no other children or even a marriage so George is a bit of a mystery.

JAMAICA

Services of Heirs, Supplement, 1863

Jane Bankhead wife of George Donaldson, Forester to the Duke of Gordon. Heir, George Andrew Donaldson, her son, Planter, Jamaica.

AMERICAN PASSENGER LISTS.

Emigrants from Scotland to Ellis Island (Taken from Internet May 2001).

1903 Maggie Bankhead of Glasgow, age 41 and single, arrived 26th July on board the Umbria.

1904 William Bankhead ,age 34 and Clara Bankhead age 19, both single and from Glasgow, arrived 12th April aboard the Furnessia. On the 4th Sept James Bankhead age 43, single and also from Glasgow arrived on the same ship. I am indebted to Roy Brown of Ahoghill for pointing out that these are Clara Bankhead (see Bo'ness), and her uncles James and William.

1908 William Bankhead age 35, single and again from Glasgow arrived 30th March on board the Caledonia.

1911 Margaret Bankhead age 53, single and from Glasgow arrived 29th Oct on board the Caledonia.

From earlier passenger and immigration lists.

A puzzling Bankhead family from Germany:-

On the 25 May 1854 the ship Stanislaus docked in New York, on board were Rudolph Bankhead, farm labourer aged 44, his wife (?) Elsie 34 with their children Maria A (10), Maria (6), Fred (4) and Eliza (2) all apparently born in Germany. Some 7 years earlier, Oct 26 1847 an Edward Bankhead 25 had arrived from the same country on the Clara. On 2nd May 1865 Elisa Bankhead (20), of Switzerland, disembarked from the Mercury in the company of the Bander family (farmers). Finally on 15 July of same year a P Bankhead 19 arrived aboard the Emilie. At the time of writing (Jan 2004) this is a complete mystery. Somehow connected to these is the following family on the 1871 Census for England, Norwich.

Edward Bankhead born about 1846, Hamburg; his wife Emma born about 1848 London and their children Harry F, Percy E born in Norwich the previous year. Twins ?

And talking of mysteries:-

Baltimore.

10 March 1866, James Bankhead 54 arrived from Liverpool on the Worcester and gave his origin as Sweden.

Philadelphia arrivals

Robert Bankhead , 30, 2 Aug 1839 from Londonderry, Labourer, on Bradshaw.

Thomas Bankhead, 36, 13 Nov 1841 from Ireland, Farmer, on Goodwin.

A John Bankhead appears in the Philadelphia Naturalisation records Oct 10 1842.

Irish arrivals New York.

A young adventurer:-

9 April 1858, William Bankhead, 13, from Gt Britain on the Grt Western. He embarked at Liverpool, so his origins are undefined.

29th Dec 1864, Samuel Bankhead, 54, Labourer.

11th Oct 1869, John Bankhead, 18, no occupation.

7th Oct 1872 (and 7th April 1881), David Bankhead, 42, a Hatter.

188x, Clara Bankhead, Spinster, 30.

2 March 1882 Thomas Bankhead, 36, Clerk.

2 May 1881 Mr P D Bankhead, 37, Gentleman. The ship called at Queenstown (Dun Laoghaire) where I rather suspect he embarked, as he is Phillip Dundas Bankhead (see later chapter on Rev John Bankhead)

13 July 1889, on the State of Nebraska:-

Charles Bankhead, 30, preceded a year earlier by (on the same ship) Eliza Bankhead, 36, wife; Robert, 15, and John 10. The name Charles is very closely associated with family of Rev John Bankhead and a birthdate of 1859 would fit with being a son of John Barber Bankhead and a brother of Phillip Dundas above.

2 Jan 1886, on the State of Indiana, Thomas Bankhead 40.

Scots arrivals New York.

22 Aug 1854, Margaret Bankhead, 22, Factory Worker.

The 1880 US Federal census contains the following as born Ireland

David Bankhead 50 (Possibly a son of James Bankhead & Drusilla Logan of Ahoghill, qv)
Robert Bankhead 60
Robert Bankhead 70
Thomas Bankhead 60

And from Scotland

James Bankhead 60
James Bankhead 70
William Bankhead 54

But perhaps the biggest mystery is the following group who all arrived at Boston on May 23 1837 from Scotland. All Bankheads and all adult males listed as miners.
Ann 28, Betsey 15, Eliza 25, Eliza 9, Hannah 10, Henry 30, Howell 18, Isaac 11, Isaiah 17, James 20, James 36, Janus 60, Jenny 27, Margaret 15, Marian 14, Mary 14, Mary 26, Mary 5, William 20, William 40 and William 6. Seemingly associated with this group is the Spear family Jenny 39, Eliza 3, Agnes 2, James 10 and William 14.

Down Under

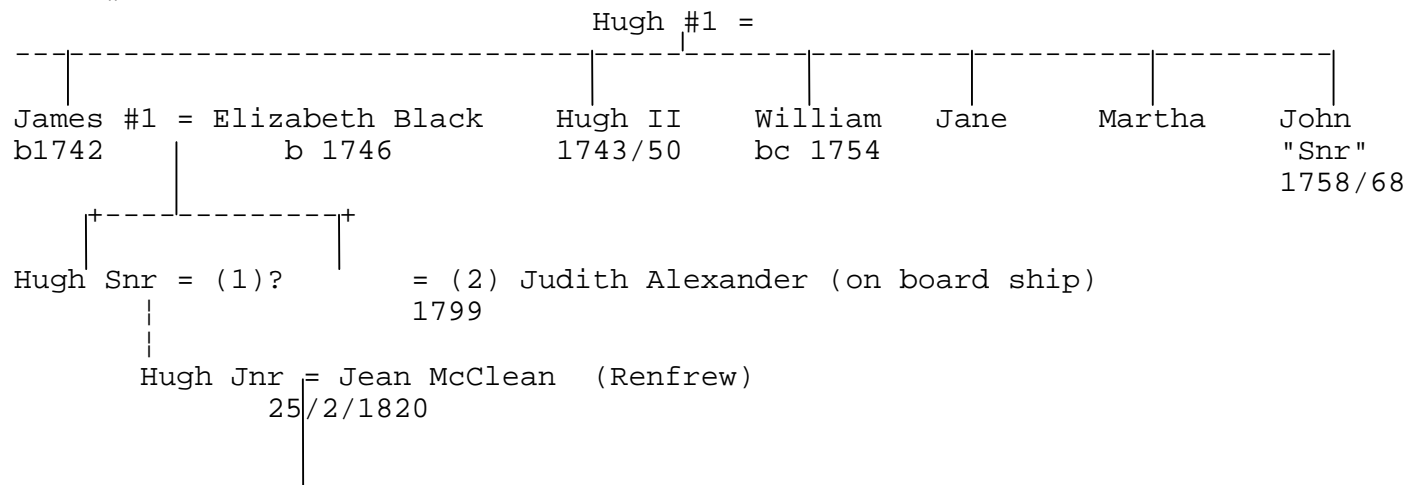
And from Australian records we find that a William Bankhead, aged 19 years arrived in Sydney NSW On 31st March 1845 aboard the "Elizabeth", having departed Liverpool 12th Dec 1844. He was born in Antrim, Protestant, could read and was a farm labourer. He married a Margaret Smith in 1846 and had James (1849), Mary Ann (?) and Alice (1852). A Margaret Bankhead then married John Smith in 1854 so perhaps William died young.

CHAPTER 3

THE AMERICAN CONNECTION

We have previously lauded the mammoth endeavours of Loudie Moffat in compiling the story of the American Bankheads. As indicated, the first immigrants to South Carolina and like territories left no evidence as to their origins other than "born Scotland/Ireland" if indeed they bothered to mention the fact at all. Although in the preceding chapter we have carefully combed the OPRs for signs of these families, we have been unable to positively identify many of them. Several possibilities spring to mind. They could have lived in some as yet unsuspected Parish with no previous connection to the family or more convincingly have conformed to a dissenting (or even Episcopalean) congregation as we have demonstrated in Kilmaurs/Kilmarnock. This would severely limit our chances of tracking them down. What is even worse, it is a possibility based on family tradition, that some of them stopped for a period in Northern Ireland before continuing to the New World. A further chapter dealing with the Bankheads of Ulster sheds little light on the matter. But to return to what is known, we will examine our early pioneers, starting with the best documented

HUGH #1 BANKHEAD



 |
 |
 Malcolm James Isabella David William Margaret Mary Hugh IV
 1821 25/2/1820 8/2/1834 1824 1/1/1826 20/7/1828 13/7/1830 (born Amer)
 Note all dates refer to Scotland, #s to Westward from S.C.

This Hugh #1 was employed by George Metland a Scottish Merchant who seems to have hailed from Aberdeen and ran an extensive business trading between Scotland, Ireland and America. Quite how an Ayrshire farming family would become involved with an Aberdeen Merchant is most unclear, but the port of Irvine is not far distance from Kilmaurs Parish. We will return to the Metland family and business later.

The names of Hugh #1's children would instantly lead us back to Kilmaurs Parish but there is no family recorded in the OPRs which even partially fits the bill. We are led to believe that the first wife of Hugh Snr died in childbirth but that Hugh Jnr somehow remained in Scotland, presumably cared for by an aunt. Could it just be possible that Hugh Snr is the man who married Jean Weir in Kilwinning on July 12th 1799. This would seem to be disproved by information from a descendant which has him dying in 1847 in Tarbolton.

The first indication of Hugh #1 and James #1 is in December 1769 in Harford Co. S.C. Another James, #2, purchased land in Chester Co. S.C. in June 1774 and it is believed by American Researchers that the two were related. However no proof of this has ever been shown. James #2 had a brother John who had land in Chester Co. prior to May 1772 We know:-

```

      John = ? Jane (?)
      |
  -----
  |               |
James #2 = Elizabeth (McGarity?)   John = Nancy Agnes Barber
b.175?
  
```

James #2 had nine children and would appear to have followed the traditional naming pattern. This would make the second daughter Jane named after the paternal Grandmother. The families of Hugh Jnr and John Jnr above knew each other as is confirmed by the transfer of a negro slave Dinah from one to the other (W from S.C. P106).

For comparison in Scotland :-

James #12 = Janet Gault

7/6/1729

Helen ?
11/3/1731

Hugh #7 = (1) Mary Findlay

Mary

25/1/1751

= (2) Jean Maitland

1753

James #11
1754

Jean
1756

Peter
1757

Jean
1759

John
1760

Hugh
1763

William
1765

Janet
1766

Robert
1769

CHAPTER 4

A CLERGYMAN OR TWO

Strangely for a Scottish family there is no record of any member ever being ordained as a Church of Scotland Minister. We seem not to have favoured being part of the establishment. On page 7 an early association with the United Presbyterian Church was examined, but we have to move forward to 1882 when the Rev William T Bankhead was ordained as Minister of North Shields Presbyterian Church. A native of Kilmarnock he returned to Scotland in March 1890 to minister to the needs of UP Congregation of Ibrox, Glasgow. His ministry was to last some forty five years. In the late 1920s his health deteriorated badly and a colleague and successor the Rev William Grant was appointed to assist him. William went on a European tour to revive his health and the diary he kept on this journey is still retained by his descendants, the Bankhead family in Preswick who have been most courteous and helpful to me in my researches. Sadly his grandson Lawrence died tragically in 1989 leaving a widow and teenage children.

William Thomsone Bankhead was baptised in Kilmarnock on 6th May 1857, son to Hugh Bankhead and Agnes Thomsone. A sister Jean was baptised on 15th April 1861 who in later life became Matron of the Barnhill Poor House in Glasgow. A second sister Catherine was born elsewhere circa 1848. In 1865 she married David Robertson an Engine Finisher. At this time her father was a Pointsman but by the time of his death on July 9th 1879 he is described as a Spirit Merchant. Hughs parents were Hugh, a soldier and Jeannie McBride. Hugh junior was born circa 1824 and therein lies a puzzle. A Hugh Bankhead was born on 29th September 1823 to Hugh Bankhead and Jean Montgomerie in Irvine. He must have died soon after for another Hugh was baptised as son of Hugh and Jean Montgomery McBride on 10/2/1824

In the S.W. corner of the Old Dean Cemetery of Edinburgh stands a plain, discoloured but solid tombstone to the memory of one William Bankhead. It is one of only two known 19th Century Bankhead memorials in Scotland, the other being in Penninghame Churchyard.

One is immediately struck by the fact that the inscription gives three addresses for William, even one by itself would be unusual. It reveals that his residence was Ballykeel, Holywood Co. Down, that he formerly resided at 14 Eton Terrace, Edinburgh which is by the Dean Bridge and that he died at 30 Rutland Square at Edinburgh's West End. Clearly there could be an interesting story here. He is buried with his wife Anne Coldham but there are no children recorded. In fact Anne who predeceased him on 18th November 1870 was his second wife and they had a son William John Coldham Bankhead.

The sons second Christian name refers to his grandfather the Rev John Bankhead of Ballycarry Co. Antrim. His father who died on the 22nd July 1878 aged 66 was the latest surviving offspring of this illustrious clergyman who rates a mention in the earliest editions of the Dictionary of National Biography.

William senior was the first child of his fathers second marriage to Mary Magill, reputedly the housekeeper. We know nothing of his early education but like his father he entered the Ministry and served as Unitarian Minister in the Parish of Diss Norfolk between 1837 and 1843. On the 20th October 1842 he married Lucy Taylor, a Lawyers daughter. He is briefly mentioned in 1846 as the Unitarian Minister of Cheltenham. What happened to Lucy is a mystery but in his Will reference is made to a marriage contract with his second wife Anne Coldham dated 9th July 1850 so we may assume that Lucy either divorced or deceased before then. There is no apparent trace of her death in England or Wales, Scotland or Ireland. In 1861 William, Anne, William Jnr and a niece, Sarah Hutton were living in Rhynd Lodge, South Leith, Edinburgh. The 1871 census finds William as a widower sharing his large house in Eton Terrace with Cook and Housekeeper. His will makes no mention of his third wife Patricia Lawson but a Burgh Sasine of Edinburgh dated 2/8/1880 relates a trust Disposition and Settlement in her favour dated 5th January 1877. Patricia's address at that time is given as Rutherglen. There is again no record apparent of their marriage.

In 1880 his widow was residing in Liverpool but returned to Edinburgh where she died at Newington in 1918. The 1881 census of England shows a Patricia Bankhead (b Scotland 1842) at Conishead Hydropathic Establishment, Ulverston Lancashire. William's ecclesiastical career was as varied as his personal life. Sometime after 1846 he left the Ministry became an Episcopalian and returned to Ireland where several of his sisters shared a town house at 10 College Square (where also at one point his brother Joseph M.D.), Belfast. One of them, Agnes was to have a dramatic impact on his life.

Agnes Bankhead was born in 1820 and was to marry Rev George Hutton at the end of 1841. By supreme good fortune a series of letters from her to him spanning the year before their marriage has been preserved and gives a fascinating insight into domesticity and romance in early Victorian Ulster. In them it is revealed that William acting in 'loco parentis' - as her eldest brother, was doing his best to dissuade her from marriage. However, married they were and had four children before Agnes died in childbirth in 1853. Her husband lived but seven more years at which point William then residing at Hillbrook stepped in to take care of the orphans. As a memorial to their deceased parents he used his influence with the Church of Ireland authorities to erect a tablet on the North Wall of Holywood Church. The Province of Ulster and Belfast Directory of 1852 shows William at Hillbrook.

William wrote his Will whilst residing at 2 Coates Place, Edinburgh. He had land at Hillbrook, personal estate in England and is described as late of Clonevon Co. Antrim. Truly a man of many

parts. His death certificate describes him as a Clerk in holy orders, the legal description of a curate.

The son William Coldham Bankhead was educated at Trinity College Glenalmond which was not only Episcopal but "High Church" as well. He was to survive his father by only a year and died unmarried at Maldon, Essex on 2nd June 1879.

PART II

THE BANKHEADS.

A SMALL SCOTS-IRISH FAMILY

This is a companion volume to the story of the Bankhead family in Scotland. It is a regrettable fact that the destruction of an enormous amount of Irish records when the Four Courts in Dublin were stormed in the Irish Civil War of 1922 has rendered it extremely difficult for family historians. So what follows is, in respect of early records, necessarily patchy.

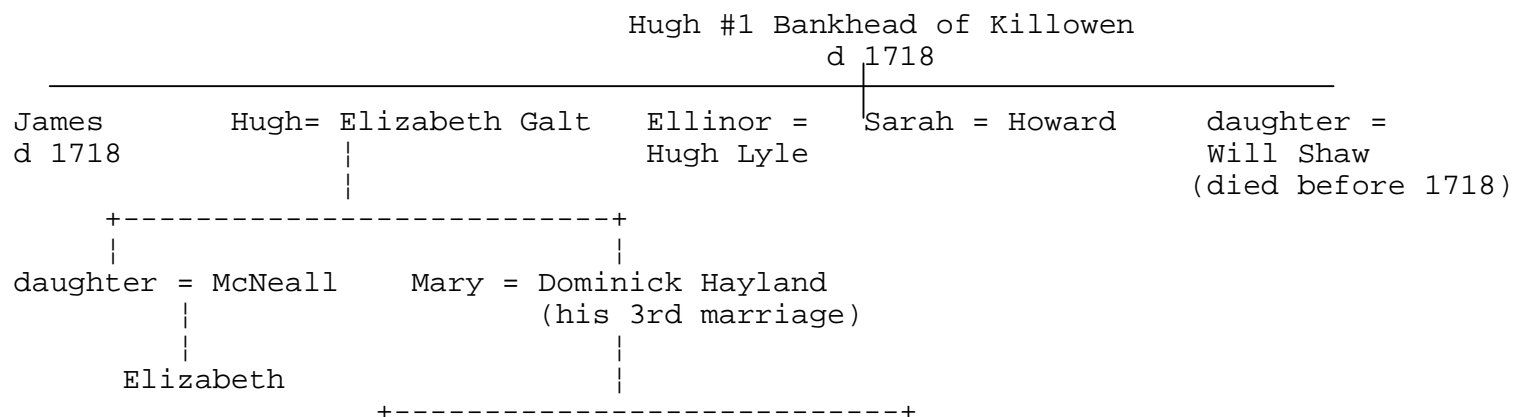
EARLY RECORDS

From our Scottish research we know that at least one member of the family was in Ulster by 1604. Elizabeth Bankhead spouse of Hugh Montgomery, sergeant of the Regality of Kilwinning, is mentioned in a sasine as being of Killiglen in the County of Antrim. This ties in with the known concentration of the family in the Scottish parishes of Kilwinning and Kilmaurs. However we have to wait until 1631 to note the presence of one James #1 Bankhead who is recorded in a muster roll as being on the lands of the Earl of Antrim in Dunluce Barony. He possessed no weapons. Now in the course of my quest I had the good fortune to make the acquaintance of Jim Bankhead a retired school teacher from Coleraine. Jim had spend years researching the family history and when age and infirmity meant that he could no longer continue this he presented me with his complete notes. These start with a family legend that 2 brothers came over from Scotland in 17th Century, one settling in Coleraine, the other going South to Ahoghill. The presence of James #1 near Dunluce does seem to tie in with the latter when further evidence is considered and it is a fact that up until my own fathers time the Bankhead name was almost exclusive to Ahoghill and environs. There are few surviving records for Co. Antrim in this period and it is not until 1669 and the Hearth Money Rolls that the Bankhead name reappears. A James #2 Bankhead was recorded at Eden, Kilconway Barony, Finvoy Parish. Since this is between Coleraine and Ahoghill it might indicate the origins of

the Ahoghill 'clan' although it is not until 1740 that the first positive sighting in that parish occurs. However various Coleraine records give rise to a few interesting puzzles of their own. The Rev John Grahams 'Derriana' published in 1823 describes a statement from citizens of Coleraine dated 3rd Feb 1690 which commends the behaviour of Michelburns regiment in the town. Amongst the signatories are Hugh #1 Bankhead. James Ousteau and John G (illegible). The Minutes of the Ulster Synod which have been published in Book Form can offer a reliable guide to the early locations of Ulster families and this is certainly true in our case.

On Sept 30th 1691 Hugh #1 Bankhead is recorded as a commissioner from Coleraine together with James Ousteau and John Gault. It will be remembered from our Scottish research that James-Hugh is the favoured family naming sequence for many many generations. This Hugh is periodically mentioned as a Commissioner up to 1706 and as a Ruling Elder in 1698. However the very earliest mention is in the council minutes of 10th Dec 1678 when Hugh was admitted as a freeman paying '£4 & silver spoon with marks and the fees'. The following 15th March he and others who had not appeared to take their oath were commanded to do so at the Mayors house before 20th March.

A prerogative will is one in which property was left in more than one Diocese. These alas were victims of the destruction in 1922 but luckily Benhams Genealogical index drawn up prior to that date survives. In it we find the will of Hugh Bankhead of Killoran (Coleraine), a Tanner, dated 4th March 1718 and intriguingly that of his son James #3 of Coleraine, dated 11th December in the same year. A fairly complete family tree can be determined from the Benham abstracts.



Elizabeth =	Robert Gault		Hugh
	of Edindaroc		(died at sea)
	(his 2nd marriage)		

The Heylands and Galts were in early years very prosperous Presbyterian families. The period 1717-1718 was the first time that the Scots-Irish emigrated in large numbers, an exodus fuelled by failed crops, crippled linen industry and rack-renting (sudden increase of farm rents). Perhaps the wills were drawn up in expectation of a hazardous voyage

The Registry of Deeds, Dublin, Book 19 p477 No 10608 has a lease dated 12/12/1716 between James Jackson of Dublin and James Bankhead of Coleraine, merchant. Jackson leases to Bankhead 1/6th of the freehold of Glenleary now in tenure of Mr John Boyd for 31 years @ £6-3-4.

A list of members (Internal Economy) of the University of Glasgow for 1700 lists Jacobus Bankhead, Scoto-Hibernus. Could this be James #2 ?
 There is a very strong suggestion that James #3 is the same James Bankhead who in 1718 signed, with dozens of other Scots-Irish from the 'Parish of Maghera', a petition for land in New England to the then Governor Col. Sam Shute. No trace has been found of many of these petitioners, including James, having ever settled in America.

(Family anecdote apart there are few pieces of evidence for Bankhead emigration in either 18th or early 19th century. One is incomplete.

June 26th 1816 Brig Sophia from Belfast, arrived New York

---- Bankhead)

His brother Hugh #2 appears to have followed in his fathers footsteps, for in a Rent Roll of the Merchant Taylors Company for Coleraine 1756 the executors of a Hugh Bankhead paid £17, a considerable sum at that time. This Hugh also appears at the Ulster Synod of December 1727 as a commissioner from the new Congregation in Coleraine. After his death in 1756 the family name disappears from record in Coleraine for over a century.

Gilbert Burnet published "Exposition of 39 articles of Church of England " in Dublin in 1721. One of the subscribers was a Hugh Bankhead.

Later Bankheads in Coleraine

From Coleraine Chronicle

5/2/1876 Reference to the house "Bankhead" erected at top of Captain St by James Hay.
25/3/1882. Death of child Hazlett aged 1 at Bankhead Terrace
11/8/1883 To let, house at Bankhead Terrace. John Bankhead Coleraine.
4/4/1885. Sale of

Lot 1	2	dwelling houses & shops & stores
Lot 2	4	" " adjoining lot 1
Lot 3	3	" " facing the mill pond

The above property is known as Bankhead Terrace is on the leading road to the Railway station and only a short term erected. Held under lease for 99 years from Nov 1872 under Dr Church
Registry of Deeds 1885 Book 17 p 226

Judgement registered by Thomas McKeown of Kilrea, tailor, obtained 23/4/1885 against John Bankhead for £360. Bankhead was a grocer. This is undoubtedly the same John Bankhead listed as Butter and Egg dealer at Milldam Rd in the Ulster Towns directory of 1884.

Coleraine in Modern Times, rev T. H Mullin, Belfast 1979

Married in New Row congregation 1/6/1887, John Edmondson, cabinet maker, to Mary Bankhead daughter of John Bankhead. Lizzie Bankhead acted as witness.

Towards Ahoghill

By 1740 however a Hugh #3 Bankhead was resident in Ahoghill Parish and James #4 Bankhead plus Samuel #1 Bankhead in the adjoining parish of Drummaul. James #4 appears in the minutes of the Ulster Synod of 1738 when as one of 30 heads of families and 12 young men they asked for and were granted disannexation

from Drummaul and transference to Ahoghill. Quite why this happened is not revealed in the minutes. The name Samuel is largely peculiar to later families living at Ballybollen which is straddled by these two parishes and this would appear to be when the split occurred.

A very curious entry occurs in the Register of Death for Derry Cathedral:-

"Mr William Bankhead buried 15th November 1740". The Mr may suggest someone of substance as it was not used as freely in 1740 as it is today.

In about 1738 the birth occurred of the one Bankhead whom most family members have heard of regardless of any interest in genealogy. His birthplace and parentage remain pure speculation but the Rev John Bankhead who for some seventy years was associated with the parish of Ballycarry or Broadisland is a genealogists delight, having produced it is said some 22 children of whom 19 survived. Such a family deserves special treatment and is examined separately in Chapter --.

The records for 18th Century Antrim are very bleak indeed but the religious census of 1766 for Ahoghill survives. It throws up James #5 and Robert #1 Bankhead, dissenters. Robert has not previously appeared in Ulster as a family name but it was quite common in contemporary Ayrshire families. One wonders, albeit tentatively, if this is evidence of a fresh migration.

The family tree really begins to blossom in Ahoghill from 1800 onwards but there is an agonising generation gap between 1766 and that date. One odd occurrence is the will in 1795, recorded but again destroyed of a James #6 Bankhead in Tamnabroke. There are at least two possibilities here, is it near Kilrea on the east bank of the Bann or the quarterland near Glenarm ?

The PRONI has a letter(D682/81) dated 2/6/1809 from a James Bankhead to Samuel Doak, ordering some grain. The author has not seen this at time of writing (Nov 2009) so does not know if any locations are mentioned.

In "Westward from S Carolina" - the American family history, we find the following reference "James Bankhead spouse of Mary Hatfield, sailed from Belfast October 21 1767 for Charleston on board the Betty Gregg".

This James (#3 in Westward from S. Carolina) we shall designate #7. He was born in Ireland c 1748, or so the story goes. It is impossible to pin him down - is he a son of Hugh #3 or James #4 or even another appearance of James #5.

In the old burial ground Ahoghill lies a tombstone which creates more mystery. It commemorates the family of Joseph #1 Bankhead who died 25/9/1836 aged 57. Joseph had a wife Agnes and at least one son James. The inscription reads:-

Joseph Bankhead of Galgorm

died 25/9/1836 aged 57

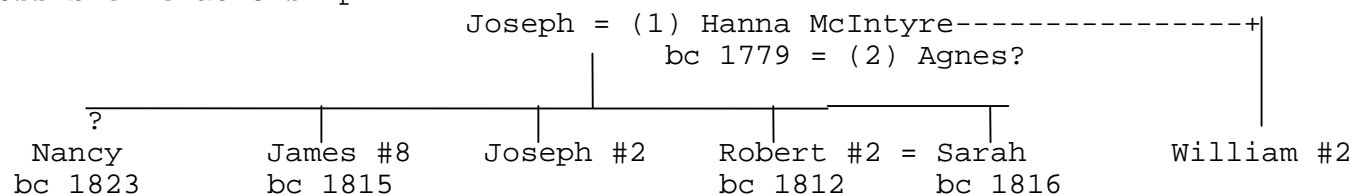
His son James died 10/2/42 aged 26

His Wife Agnes died 3/4/61 aged 80 Sarah Bankhead died Dec 1876 age 70 Her Son James died 1893 aged 51

and His Father Robert born 1812 died 1896 Nancy Bankhead died 25/12/1895 age 72.

We will return to Robert and Sarah (Dobbin) and their family later. Robert died on 9/2/1897 so the above is slightly in error. But who was Joseph? It can be postulated that he had another son, Joseph #2, who married Mary Kilpatrick (see P) but we do know that there was a son William #2. Confirmation of this comes not from Ireland but Greenock, Scotland. William's family is described on P but his mother is given in Scottish records as Hanna, so this would make Agnes his stepmother.

A possible relationship:-



On the generous assumption that traditional naming patterns were used we could deduce that Joseph's Father was called Robert which would tie in nicely with Robert #1 in 1766. However such convenient theories are the pitfalls of genealogy and we must not get too excited.

One of the first countrywide documents available to the Ulster genealogist are the Tithe Books which record land holders but not their families. The 1825 book for Ahoghill, Craigs and Portglenone which was a single parish until 18xx reveals only two Bankheads:-

John #1,8 acres in the "towns of Ahoghill".

Robert #3,5 acres in Lisnafillan townland.

Now Robert #3 cannot be Robert #2 who would be only 13 at the time. The Connor Will index lists 'Robert Bankhead of Ahoghill 1837' and this would seem a likely candidate for Robert #3.

There is a branch of the Bankhead family whose 19th Century ancestors resided at Dunfanaghy in Co. Donegal of all places. We will deal in detail with them later but it is known that for some reason they were exiles from Ahoghill. Robert Alexander Bankhead married Frances Alcorn in 1845 at

Tullaghobegley and gave his father as James Bankhead a farmer. The following year he enlisted in the Royal Artillery. In his Military Records we discover that he was born in Ahoghill in 1823 or thereabouts. Letters written by his daughter Rebecca indicate that her grandfather(?) had died when Robert Alexander (?) was quite young and that two of her uncles had emigrated to America.(The wording is ambiguous)

A tombstone at St. Anns Church, Tullaghobegley (Donegal) is enscribed

John S Bankhead died 11th March 1858

also James #9 March 1864

and Harry 25th October 1874.

It is known that Harry was an infant and that John S a land steward. The latters death on 1st March just missed the start of official registration.

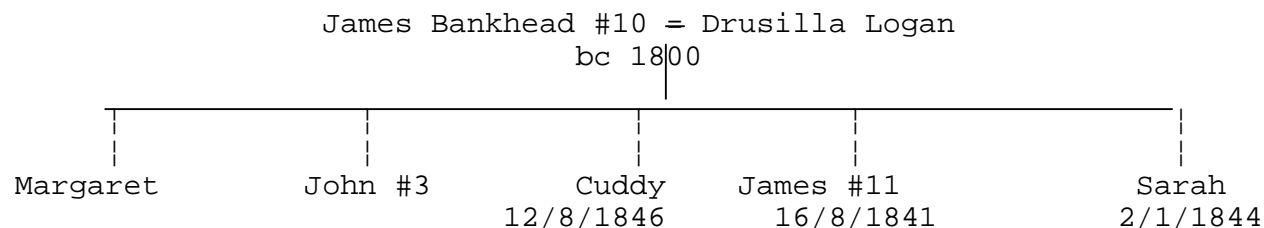
AHOGHILL

Ahoghill village lies miles of Ballymena in true Ulster Scot country.

The language has more of the old Scots tongue in it than can be found in most parts of Scotland today. The village hosts three Presbyterian Churches - 1st, 2nd (Trinity) and 3rd (Brookside) , plus C of I and R.C. places of worship. In addition there is a ruined church in whose environs are found the older tombstones. The family mostly worshipped at 1st Ahoghill, occasionally at 2nd Ahoghill. The names of successive children sometimes stray into the C of I registers and back out again just to add interest to the chase.

My Great Great Grandfather:-

James Bankhead #10 died at Killane on 17th December 1874 aged 74. He succumbed to pneumonia in the presence of his son John Bankhead #3 of Lismurnaghan.



These five children were all alive at the time of their fathers death and are mentioned in his Will. John #3, my great grandfather had at least eleven children by Mary Weir of whom the first recording is the baptism of daughter Mary in 1851. This would place his birth in the early 1830s at the latest, too early for most Presbyterian registers in Ulster.

Lismurnaghan townland was my families Ahoghill residence for several generations and the farmhouse, long derelict and lost to development in 1990 was known locally as "The Bushes". It is evident from the will that son John #3 was already in possession of this farm while James #10 and his other two sons farmed in nearby Killane townland. In addition James #10 Snr had a house and tenement in Ahoghill village. Margaret was left some furniture "if she comes home" an interesting if unexplained statement. The following entry in the Glenarm, Tickmacrevan Parish, Presbyterian marriage register may be relevant.

"Married 26th June 1866 Archibald Galloway, full age, bachelor, Labourer of Ahoghill, son of William Galloway a tailor, to Mary Bankhead, full age, spinster, no occupation, of Ahoghill, daughter of James Bankhead, a farmer".

Was this the possibly the above Margaret and an elopement? Why Glenarm?

Cuddie's marriage to Elizabeth Helen Weir, a shopkeeper in 1881 was followed by that of brother James #11 to Elizabeth McClure in 1887. John #3 married Mary Weir sometime around 1850 and died in 1907.

The 1862 Griffiths valuation for Ahoghill parish lists James (Snr) with 21 acres in Killane but interestingly John #3 is resident in the village of Ahoghill so the latter would not seem to have taken possession of the Bushes until after that date, although the parish registers show him resident there from 1857.

Cuddie disappears from record after marriage and family tradition has him emigrating to Australia. The same tradition has another brother David going to America but no actual proof of his existence has been found apart from the David Bankhead who witnessed the marriage of Enos McFaul and Jane Donelly, both of Craignageragh, in Parish (C of I) church of Ahoghill on 3rd Dec 1850. There is certainly space for him between John in the 30's and James in '41. He is possibly the David aged 50 who was mentioned earlier as being recorded in the 1880 US census

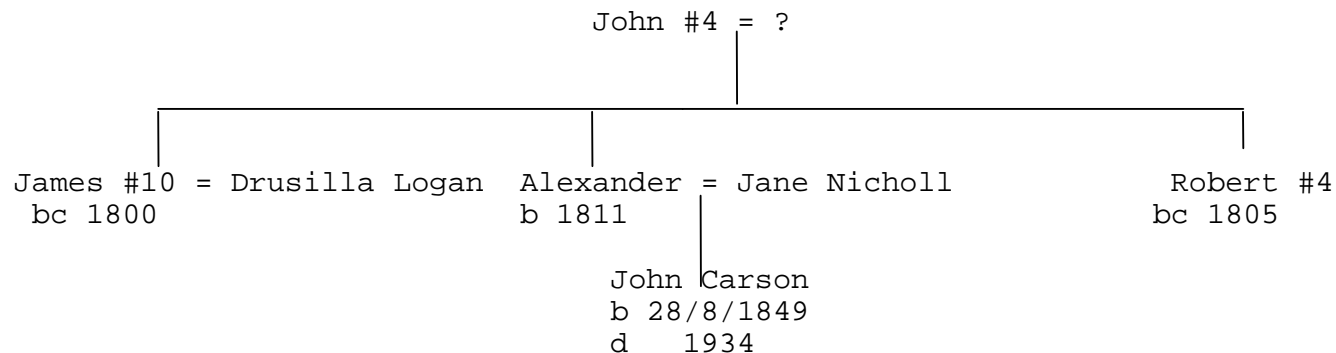
James #11 and Elizabeth McClure were to have a small family and these we will pursue in due course. But first we should turn our attention to Ahoghill Bankheads contemporary with James Snr #10.

"Alexander Bankhead B 1811 D 4-8-1871 aged 60, father of John C Bankhead".

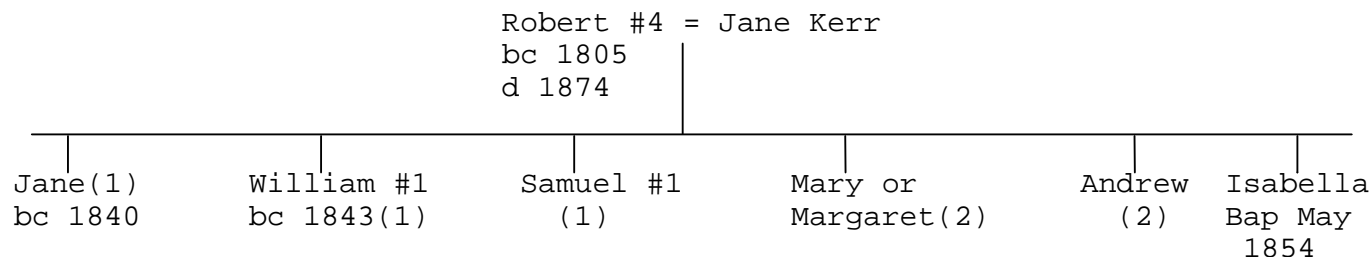
So reads one of the tombstones in 1st Ahoghill graveyard. John Carson Bankhead was, the story goes, "the only son of a ne'er-do-well". He was to redress the balance somewhat by rearing some ten children but is chiefly remembered in family lore for starting a feud with his cousin Andrew. His fathers

reputation may be given some credence by the fact that John Carson was born two months before the nuptials.

Alexander married Jane Nicholl on 9th November 1849 and is described as a farmer of Lismurnaghan. His father was John Bankhead #4 also a farmer and could very well also be the father of my James #10 if John #3 was as seems very likely, his eldest son. So we have:-



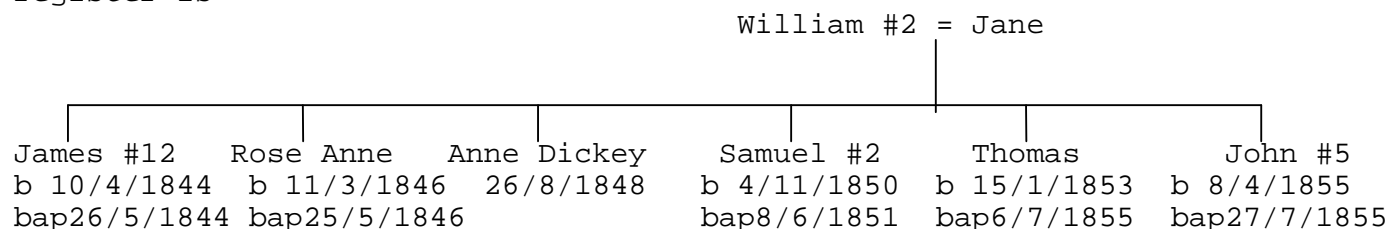
The Griffiths valuation lists three Bankheads in Lismurnahagn, Alexander, Robert (5 1/2 acres) and William (house). Robert is Robert #4 and was married to Jane Kerr. He is constantly referred to in family letters as Alexander's brother. Their known family is shown below:-



(1) All baptised in 1st Ahoghill on 15th May 1844. Mothers name is not given but Father is at Shielstoun, the name given to the collection of farm buildings in Lismurnaghan.

(2) Both baptised 3rd May 1847.

Robert #4 left a Will dated 11th August 1874 in which he bequeathed Margaret £2, Isabella £5 in five, yearly, instalments "if she stays at home and behaves herself well until her marriage". Andrew would inherit the rest upon his Mothers death. There is no mention of the other children. Jane married James Scullion in April 1859, William a Mary Young in September 1864 and Samuel became the husband of Mary Carson on 4/12/1867. We will return to Margaret, Isabella and Andrew later. John Carson Bankhead was the sole executor so at that time the families were obviously still friends. William #2 of Lismurnaghan who we alluded to on p is a more unusual character. We know that his wifes name was Jane and that he was a weaver. Their family as recorded in the Church of Ireland register is:-



The family moved around a bit. James was born in 'Glenhue' as was Rose Anne. Samuel, Thomas and Anne Dickey arrived in Ballyminstra and John in Ahoghill. There the Irish records leave us but the family does emerge in Greenock Scotland

From the statutory records we see that Jane was Jane Gourlay and William, the son of Joseph Bankhead and Hanna McIntyre. William died in May 1870 four years after hiw wife. Samuel #2 married Sarah Stewart in march1871, John #5 died of whooping cough in his second year, James #12 of pneumonia in 1881 and a second son John fell victim to consumption in 1875. There is no sign of Thomas but we find the expected and hitherto missing son William born circa 1845. He was to marry twice but his last male heir and probably that of William #2 as well died in infancy in 1910. One is left wondering as to what might have happened had they stayed in rural Ahoghill. What circumstances drove them to the slums of Clydeside? Of Rose Marie and Anne Dickey nothing more is known.

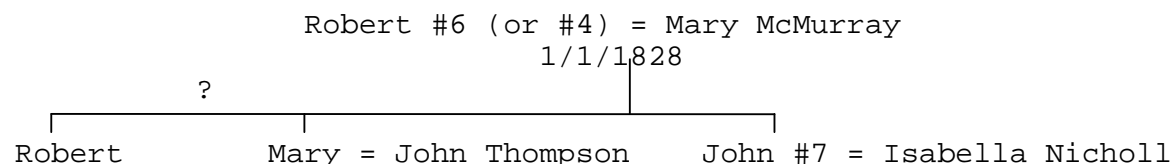
There is one other Ahoghill Bankhead of the same era with whom we have yet to deal, John #6 born circa 1807 died 7/2/1867. He is buried in 1st Ahoghill but the only other information on his tombstone is that of his wife's name - Margaret Jane and his residence in Ballyminstra. He left a Will dated 31 Jan 1868 so the tombstone is wrong. It reveals no family other than his wife and a nephew Robert Kennedy who was left everything provided he looked after the Widow Bankhead.

There is a possibility that he is both the John Bankhead, weaver whose daughter Eliza married Hugh McKeown on 4th April 1848 in Lisrodden and the father of Nancy Bankhead who married Francis Brisbin of Aughnacleggh on 21st April 1849. Could this Nancy be the one buried with Joseph #1? We have found no trace of the Bankhead/Kennedy marriage which would reveal the name of John's sister. He is further discussed in the short section on Portglenone.

The 1862 Griffiths roll lists two Bankheads in Ballyminstra John #6 and Robert #5 both with a house but no land. There are strangely no baptismal entries for Ballyminstra until 1886 when the family of Samuel #3 Bankhead and Elizabeth Doey appear. Samuels father was another Samuel #4 so it is unlikely but not impossible that they were descendants of John #6 and Margaret Jane.

There is another Bankhead family in the early Ahoghill Registers which has left its trail through to the present generation. John Wilson Bankhead and Ellen Rogers of Cloghogue in Drummaul had two children baptised Mary 15th May 1845 and William John 31st April 1844. John Wilson died before 1848 when his widow remarried to one William Goorley of Ballybollen. She was then aged 30 so we can suppose with some confidence that her first husband was born circa 1814. If this is so, then the John Bankhead who had 28 acres of middle grade soil in the tithe book for this townland must presumably be the father of John Wilson and have himself been born before about 1790. Could he even be John #4, the father of Alexander Bankhead? A descendant of William John was eventually to marry a descendant of Robert #4 thus uniting two branches of the family.

On the 1st January 1828 a Robert #6 Bankhead married Mary McMurray in 1st Ballymena Presbyterian Church but in these earlier days their parents are not named. No offspring of this couple have been found in any parish we have searched so their fate is unknown. About all we can do is place Roberts birth between 1800 - 1810 which raises the question, could this be a first marriage of Robert #4, and did they have a son John born circa 1830? for on 22nd August 1849 John #7 of Ballybeg, son of Robert Bankhead a farmer married Isabella Nicholl a widow twice his age. By the same reasoning the Mary Bankhead aged 22, daughter of Robert Bankhead, farmer, who married John Thompson in Ballymena Registry Office on 18th November 1854 could be a sister. We note that one John Nicholl acted as witness. Bride and groom were both resident at Lismurmayham. To summarise.



bc 1830

bc 1832

We do not see any sign of a son Robert here but surely this would have been the name of the eldest son born between 1828 and 1830 and could John be the name of Robert senior's father. This is backed up by family tradition that Robert #4s son Andrew (by his second marriage) and John Carson Bankhead were first Cousins.

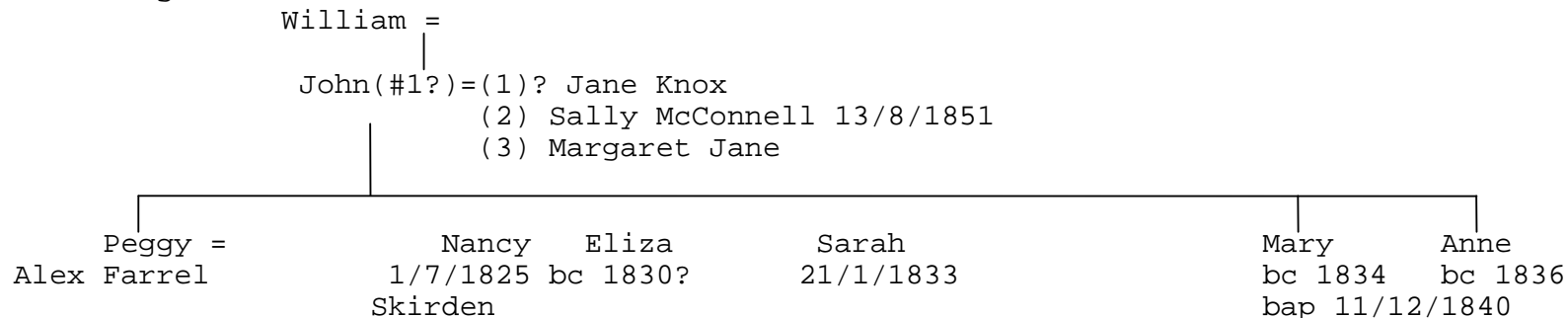
There is one remaining family in the 1st Ahoghill registers whose connections are unresolved. Joseph #2 Bankhead and Mary Kilpatrick had three daughters Peggy Jane (Bap 30/10/1844), Mary (June 1846) and Sarah with probably a son Thomas who married Sarah McMaster on October 21 1878. Joseph was a weaver, Thomas a Clerk. As previously discussed this Joseph (#2) could be a son of Joseph #1 commemorated on the tombstone in the old burial ground of Ahoghill. Sarah married a Thomas Picken on 8th June 1889 with Margaret Jane Bankhead, possibly the widow of John #6 acting as witness

The 1901 census captures an 80 year old Mary Bankhead living at Glenhugh with an unmarried daughter Peggy 54 and niece Jane aged 20. This could well be the family

For details of the family of John Carson Bankhead I am indebted to his grandson Harry Bankhead who also supplied details of the family fued. Harry's neice, Mrs Mary Cochrane supplied a photograph of John Carson Bankhead.

PORTGLENONE

The Griffiths list for Portglenone contains a solitary Bankhead, John a weaver in Lisroden. We have previously determined two of his daughters, Nancy and Eliza. Other facts emerge to give the following-



Since there is no listing for this area on the Tithe book we can see that it is unlikely that the two girls were born in Portglenone. John's first wife seems to have deceased prior to August 1851 when he

remarried to Sally McConnell a widow. Both were of "full age". John's father is given as William Bankhead, a farmer.

We can tentatively put John's birthdate as sometime around 1810 and that of William before 1790. We would then expect to see a William in the Antrim Tithe books but there isn't one so did he die quite young? Our best suggestion is that he may be a brother or cousin of John #4.

BALLYBOLLEN

Ballybollen townland is in the parish of Drummaul but borders Ahoghill parish, and it is in the Ahoghill parish registers that most Ballybollen Bankheads are found. We recall that in 1738 some 30 heads of families in Drummaul petitioned the Ulster Synod to be allowed to transfer to Ahoghill, and that they included one James Bankhead. In 1740 the list of Protestant householders noted two Bankheads, James and Samuel #1. Lacking the 1766 religious census we find nothing until the Tithe book which lists a Samuel Bankhead #2 with 12 acres of bad soil. There is obviously a gap of probably two generations between the two Samuels but since this name does not regularly occur in any other family so far examined we can postulate that they are directly connected.

Sometime prior to Oct 1835 Samuel #2 married Jane McKay and although only four of their children appear in the first Ahoghill registers we can prove the existence of another four with family tradition adding yet another four.

The first child in the register is Margaret, baptised 7/10/1835 but another daughter Jane's marriage certificate places her birth circa 1828 so she may be the eldest girl. The complete family is as shown following. We cannot place the dates of the 'oral' children John, James, and Robert so there are no clues there to the identity of Samuel #2's father.

The Connor Will index lists a Samuel Bankhead of Antrim who died in 1816. Could this possibly be Samuel #1? He would have been extremely old so maybe it is an intermediate generation between Samuels #1 and #2

Samuel Bankhead = (1)	Jane McKay	
bc 1798	= (2) Mary ?	bc 1798 d 14/12/1874

d 17/10/1872

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Jane bc 1828	Alexander Conway	18/7/1851		
Margaret 7/10/1835	Unmarried		1/8/1869	
William 12/8/1837				
Ann 31/8/1839	Hugh Campbell	14/3/1859		
William 15/11/1841				
Alexander	Hannah Barr	12/12/1863		bc 1841
Sarah	William Campbell	31/8/1858		
Samuel	Susan Campbell	16/1/1865		
Robert	Martha Coulter			Oral tradition
John				} mentioned
				} in
James				} will

Samuel appears to have died in 1872 and left to his son John "my original farm and two fields of Lin's Farm to the west of my own farm", and to his son William "Dobbins Farm". A third son James lost out somewhat by gaining merely £100 and two heifers. Curiously, his wife, who was to be kept and decently interred by John is referred to as Mary. Since it is almost inconceivable that this is other than Samuel #2 there must have been a second marriage after 1841 and before 1845 (the dates of the last baptismal entries in 1st Ahoghill and the start of marriage registration). Mary died on 14th December 1874. It is obvious that this family and my own were well acquainted for my great grandfather John was joint executor along with Samuels own son John. Of his daughters, Margaret died of consumption in her earlier thirties and had not married. Jane married Alexander Conway in 1st Ahoghill on 8th July 1851. In the course of my research I became acquainted with one of their descendants living in Foyers Invernesshire. A family tree supplied by Mr Conway is attached as appendix ().

Ann married Hugh Campbell, a weaver, on 14th March 1859, Sarah a William Campbell on 31st August 1858. There is no record of William marrying but on 13th February 1863 Alexander was wed to Hannah Barr. These are the grandparents of Jim Bankhead who contributed so much to my research and were married in Ballymena Registry Office.

Samuel junior married Susan Campbell on 16th Jan 1865. Strangely Samuel was then resident in Procles and they tied the knot in Randalstown Parish Church.

One of the problems of genealogy is how best to present ones hard earned results. General narrative can cope with early records, sparse information and small families. However with the mini population explosion in the Bankhead family in the mid 1800s this can but lead to confusion no matter how good the authors intent.

So we will now simply tabulate the various family branches adding footnotes where appropriate.

James Bankhead #10 m. Drusilla Logan
 bc 1800
 died 17/12/1874

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
James #11 b16/8/1841	Elizabeth McClure 24/5/1887		5/12/1929	
Sarah b 2/1/1844	Hugh Doherty 8/3/1879	West Church Ballymena		
Cuddy b12/8/1846	Elizabeth Helen Weir 12/11/1881	Ahoghill		
John #3	Mary Weir	Ahoghill		Authors Great grandfather
Margaret b ?	William Galloway? 26/6/1866	Glenarm Presbyterian Church		
David ?				

JAMES BANKHEAD #10, AHOGHILL

f. James Bankhead #10		f. John McClure
m. Drussilla Logan		m. ?
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> James Bankhead #11 = Elizabeth McClure b 16/8/1841 1887 b1848 d 5/12/1929 d 13/12/1930 Killane Castletown </div> </div>		

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Jamie			27/2/1890	
b 15/12/1889			Buried 1st	
			Ahoghill	
Mary (Minnie)				
b 29/12/1890				
James				
(Sonny)				
B 22/4/1893			15/11/1971	
			Buried 1st	
			Ahoghill	
Sarah			6/5/1967	
B 1906			Buried 1st	
			Ahoghill	

The 1901 census shows James, wife Lizzie, daughter Minnie and son James all at Killane.

The 1911 census shows a Samuel Bankhead aged 24, a traveller in fancy goods, living with his sister Sophia 19, a dressmaker on Ligoneil Rd. Their mother Lizzie has remarried to a Close. The dates fit, but are they this family? In 1901 Samuel and Sophia were living with their new family in Muckamore village.

JAMES BANKHEAD #11 AHOGHILL

f. James Bankhead #10

m Druscilla Logan

John Bankhead #3
b ?
d 4/6/1907

m

Mary Weir
b ?
d ?

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTE
Mary b15/6/1851				Illegitimate son Hugh b 11/7/1873 d 1875?
Matilda b 15/4/1855	Unmarried		Toronto	
David b 3/12/1857			Before 1867	
Sarah b 19/8/1860				
Drucilla b 7/8/1863	John McIlroy 3/5/1902	Ballymena Registry Office		
Belinda (Betty Cuddy)	Sam Scullion			Retained maiden name after marriage.
This is almost certainly the Belinda who entered USA at Ellis Island on 23/10/1893 having sailed on the California.				
David Logan b 8/4/1867	Martha Boyd 18/9/1899	Wellington 1st Kirkinriola	1920s	No family 1911 census, Gloonan
Jessie b 19/4/1869	-	-	1869	

f. James Bankhead #10
m. Drusilla Logan

John Bankhead #3 = Mary Weir

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
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Jessie Unmarried

b 21/4/1871

1911 census shows as living with
Aunt Martha Nichol at Killane

John Bachelor

b 3/7/1873

18/12/1942

Left
Lismurnaghan
to nephew Robert Logan
Bankhead

Samuel Weir Minnie McLaughlin
b 26/8/1875 11/3/1901

West Church
Ballymena

22/10/1938
Buried 2nd
Ahoghill

Authors Grand-
father. Sold farm
and moved to
Parkside Gdns
Belfast.

f. John Bankheadm

m Mary Weir

Samuel Weir Bankhead m Minnie Mclaughlin
b 26/8/1875
d 23/10/1938

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Martha Nicholl	Sandy Bell		Feb 1984	
b 1/9/1901	(Taxi Driver)			
Samuel Weir	Winnie Cummings		Jan 1986	Went to Canada after short spell in RUC Son Samuel
b 16/5/1903				
(Mamie)				
Mary Logan Weir	Spinster		22/10/1982	Nurse
b 11/12 1904				
Thomas Logan Weir	Eileen Robinson		18/10/1981	Children Betty and Tom
b 2/12/1905				
Jane Weir	Lamont		AUG 1993	No family

b 29/8/1907				
Robert Love Weir	Katy Clarke		11/6/1984	Children Heather and Robin
b 1/6/1909				
Susan	Davy Neil		Summer 1993	Went to Australia
b 11/11/1910				Children Brian and Anthony
Helen	Tom Buchanan		1985	Children Rosalind James, Christopher, Gloria
b 12/8/1912				
James	Pearl Boville			
b 8/11/1915	d Oct 1997			
John	Lola Davidson	Scarva Co Down	7 Nov 1991	Children Matthew (the author) and Annette.
b 12/3/1917	d 13/10/97			
Matilda	Lockett	July/August	1989	2 illegitimate Children
b 13/8/1918				

* The complete McLaughlin family had 11 children:-

Eliza, Sarah, Minnie, Maggie, Ellen, Martha, Jeannie, Rachel, Emily, Willie and Fred for which information I am indebted to Eliza's granddaughter, Mrs Margaret Dempsey. Jeannie married a McDowell and Eliza a Henry Kernohan.

f Robert Bankhead
m Jane Kerr

Andrew Bankhead = Mary Jane Agnew
b1847 b1813 d Feb 1883

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Sarah Ann			20/6/1892	} buried } 1st Ahoghill
1870				
Ellen			17/2/1901	
1876				
Jane			29/4/1897	} "

Robert	Mary Logan		children
2/8/1881	1922?		
John	Mary Agnes Simms	Oldpark Pres. Ch	
11/8/1883	20/4/1908	Belfast	
Tom	Minnie Spence		four girls?
6/5/1888	1922?		inc Martha &Georgina

William Bankhead = Mary Young

CHILD	SPOUCE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Mary Jane				
8/6/1866				
Mary Jane				
30/4/1868				
William died 29th Feb. 1868				

Samuel Bankhead = Mary Cathcart or Carson

CHILD	SPOUCE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
William	Maggie White	St Saviours		Son Samuel Alfred
16/7/1876	3/5/1921			
Margaret J				
Mary Agnes				
14/7/1885				
Isabella				
27/3/1889				

Samuel died before 1901. His widow married Hugh Letson on 14/12/1901.

f Alexander Bankhead

f Samuel Perry

m Jane Nicholl

John Carson Bankhead = Mary Perry

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Mary 3/2/1876				
Jane Alexander 8/5/1880	McCaughey Elizabeth Irvine 1915			
Ellen 14/9/1882	Matt McMullen 18/9/1902	Grange Pres. Ballyscullion		
Samuel 29/3/1885	Phillips			
Margaret & John 15/7/1887	Sam Logan			Son Lawrence
Elizabeth 29/10/1889			1892	
John 26/7/1892	Nellie McCroary			
Annie 30/11/1894	John McCroary			Son Harry

f William
m ?

John Bankhead = (1) ?
b 1807
Weaver, Lisroden.

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
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Nancy	Frances Brisbin	Ballymena Registry
bc 1828	21/4/1849	
Eliza	Hugh McKeown	Portglenone
bc 1830	4/4/1848	
Mary	Samuel McClean	Portglenone
bc 1846	10/11/187	

= (2) Sally McConnel
13/8/1851 @ 3rd Ahoghill
= (3) Margaret Jane ?

Eliza had a son Robert bap26/9/1850 who took his mothers name and married Elizabeth Young in 1st Ahoghill on 19/11/1870

f
m

Joseph = Mary Kilpatrick
Weaver
Glenhue

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Peggy Jane 1844				
Mary June 1846				
Thomas 1852	Sarah McMaster 21/10/1878	2nd Presbyterian Kirkinriola		
Sarah	Thomas Picken 8/1/1889	2nd Ahoghill		

Thomas and Sarah are found in the 1901 census for Ballymontenagh, with children Lizzie 18, Alice 15, Nora 13 and Bertie 10.

f
m

Robert = Elizabeth Kinnaird or Kinnear (bc 1870)
Labourer (bc 1860)
Taylorstown

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Robert James 8/3/1855				1890 can't be true
Robert 10/11/1891				
Ellen 4/6/1894	Robert Mawhinney 20/4/1917	Grange Presbyterian		
Elizabeth 11/8/1897	Hugh Nichol 9/4/1912	Trinity		
Jane (Jeannie) 15/1/1899				

Robert (b 1891) is on the 1901 census for Taylorstown with his parents, sisters Elizabeth, Ellen and Jane and a brother Samuel (bc 1889)

f John Bankhead
m Sally McConnel

Robert = Elizabeth Young

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Jane Carson 31/8/1871			8/8/1883	
Robert 19/2/1873	Agnes ?		Philadelphia 11/4/1928	
John 8/2/1875			25/5/1877	

John
31/1/1878
Alexander
15/2/1880
William
1882

18/2/1884

1882

f John Bankhead #4
m ?

Robert #4 Bankhead = Jane Kerr

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Jane c1840	James Scullion 23/4/1859	1st Ahoghill		
William 1843	Mary Young 24/9/1864			
Samuel c1844	Mary Carson/Cathcart 4/12/1867			
? Robert bc 1845	Margaret Morell		21/3/1867	
Mary/Margaret c1847	James Carson 13/12/1869	1st Ahoghill		
Andrew c1847	Mary Jane Agnew 1875			
Isabella 1854	John Boyd 12/10/1878	1st Ahoghill		
Possible 1st marriage:-				
Robert Bankhead = Mary McMurray 1/1/1828 @ 1st Ballymena Ballymena Registrar				
Mary c1832	John Thompson 18/11/1854			
John c1832	(1) Isabella Nichol 22/8/1849	1st Ahoghill		

(2) Mary Clare ? "
1/6/1885

f William John Bankhead
m Margaret Mullin

John Bankhead = Jane Murray

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
William John 6/2/1897	Harriet Austin 21/7/1920	St Saviours		
Agnes Murray Robert Murray ? 1904	Archibald Dalrymple	Ballymena Pres	1918	
Jane Murray ? 1909				

f
m

John Wilson Bankhead = Ellen Rodgers
bc 1814 remarried William Gourlay
died before 1848 of Ballybollen in 1st Ahoghill on 5/2/1848

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
William John 31/4/1844	Margaret Mullin			

Sarah
15/5/1845

f John Wilson Bankhead
m Ellen Rodgers

William John Bankhead = Margaret Mullin

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
John 16/3/1867	Jane Murray 28/3/1896	St Saviours (C of I)		
Thomas 20/10/1873	} Twins		1874	
William Robert bap 2/2/1874				
Harry 15/9/1875				

f
m

Robert Bankhead = Sarah Dobbin
b 1812 d 1876
d 1896

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
JAMES 7/4/1843			1893	
Margaret 19/2/1845	(1) Ramsay (2) George McCaughey 15/7/1887	UP Church King St Glasgow		Son Robert

Mary	John McNeice		
5/4/1851			
Agnes			
9/8/1854			
Jane	William John McClure	Ballymena	Mentioned
7/8/80		Registrar	in will

f Samuel Bankhead
m Jane McKay or Mary ?

Robert Bankhead = Martha Coulter
Carpenter bc 1846
Ballybollen
Bc 1833

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
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Jane
4/4/1872

Robert
29/4/1875

James
2/2/1878

Martha
7/3/1881

John
2/8/1887

The 1911 census shows a widowed Martha living at 22 Patrick's Place, Ballymena with Jane, Martha, and John. In 1901 the family are at Paradise Ave, Ballymena with John, Jane (age given as 26), Martha but no Robert or James.

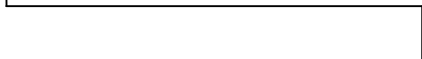
f
m

Samuel Bankhead = Susan Clarke
Weaver
Ballybollen

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Robert	Ellen Dougherty			
7/4/1866	24/2/1889			
John				
9/5/1869				
Mary				
7/6/1871				
Jane				
9/12/1874				
Alexander				
4/5/1877				
Thomas				
8/6/1879				
Sarah				
1/4/1882				

In the 1901 census there are three unmarried sisters, Mary, Jane and Sarah living in Slacht, Kells. Sarah's age matches this Sarah but her sisters may have lopped a few years off to 21 and 24 respectively?

f Alexander Bankhead
m Hannah Barr



Samuel Bankhead = Jane Small
 d 14/9/1929 16/12/1891 d 29/5/1930

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Elizabeth 21/3/1895	John Shaw		30/6/1966	Dau Jean = Douglas Livingston. Son Billy
John 1892	?		1968	Children Martha & David Dau
Hannah 1893 Jean (not shown 1911 census) Alexander 1897 Samuel 2/9/1899 Jim 1906 William 1909	Robert McKay		1976 1965	

1901 census shows Samuel Snr and wife Jane with Hanna, Alex, John, Samuel Jnr, and Lizzie all at ballybollen Lower , Clohogue

f Samuel Bankhead
 m Susan Clarke

Robert Bankhead = Ellen Dougherty
 Labourer 24/2/1889

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Isabella 11/7/1893				

Samuel John
6/6/1895
Martha Jane
18/3/1897
William
August 1898
Alexander
August 1900

Enlisted in Navy 13/8/1918.
Demobbed Oct 1938. NRO ADM 188/804
188/1130

f Samuel Bankhead
m Jane McKay

Alexander Bankhead = Hannah Barr

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Samuel circa 1861?	Jane Small 16/5/1891			
William John 1865			1866	

f Andrew Bankhead
m Mary Jane Agnew

John Bankhead = Mary Agnes Simms
b1883 1908

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Mary 1909				

Andrew 1911

Sadie?

Sydney

Jack

Robert

Samuel

Joseph

Alex

Maisie

Violet

Edna

Sons John & Andrew

f Robert Bankhead

m Jane Kerr

Andrew Bankhead = Mary Jane Agnew
b1847 b1813 d Feb 1883

CHILD

SPOUSE

WHERE MARRIED

DIED

NOTES

Sarah Ann		20/6/1892		Buried 1st
b 1870 or 1880		or 1902*		Ahoghill
Ellen		12/7/1901		"
28/1/1876				
Jane		29/4/1897	"	"
1878				
Robert	Mary Logan			Children
August 1881	1922?			Betty & Anna
John	Mary Agnes Simms	Oldpark Presby'n		
11 Aug 1883	20/4/1908	Belfast		
Tom	Minnie Spence			Four girls?
4th May 1888	1922?			incl Martha
				&Georgina

* tombstone at odds with regisration

f Robert Bankhead
m Jane Kerr

John Bankhead = Jane Weir

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Eliza	? 1895?	Ballymena (1/143)		illegitimate daughter by husband of Mary

Weir? (her sister?)

f Alexander Bankhead
m Jane Nicholl

John Carson Bankhead = Mary Perry

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Mary 3/2/1876 Jane b1877 bap 3/1/1878			1882?	
Alexander 8/5/1880	Elizabeth Irvine 26/10/1915			Eliz was Ahoghill Post Office assistant
Ellen 14/9/1882	Matt MacMullen			
Samuel 29/3/1885	Phillips	Auckland N Z ?		Son Roy
John & Margaret 15/7/1887	Sam Logan			Son Lawrence
Elizabeth 29/10/1889				
John 26/7/1892	Nellie McCroary			
Annie 30/11/1894	John McCroary			illegitimate son Henry James

f Robert Bankhead

m Mary McMurray

John Bankhead = (1) Isabella Nichol
22/8/1849

CHILD	SPOUSE	WHERE MARRIED	DIED	NOTES
Isabella 20/8/1854			= (2) Mary Clare 1/6/1885	???

Baptist weddings

Ballymacarret 25th Nov 1903. Sarah Anne Bankhead to William Reid

Brides address is 20 Queen Victoria St, her father John Bankhead, a seaman. Carrie Bankhead was witness

Belfast Aug 28th 1909 John Bankhead to May Matthews

Groom is a Boiler Maker of 52 Bloomfield Place. his father James is a Seafaring Man. The 1911 census has a Mary Matthews married c 1908 to an unknown Bankhead and living with her father in Bryson St. One and the same? She later, 1916, travelled to America with a son Robert

The 1911 census also shows one Baptist Bankhead, William aged 36 and unmarried living in Slacht, Kells

A mystery:-

A later section details a Frank John Bankhead killed in WW1 and buried at st Catherine British Cemetery, Pas de Calais. He is recorded as having been born in Pretoria, South Africa to Samuel and Elizabeth Anne Bankhead of Ballymena. This marriage does not appear in any known Antrim records. Was Samuel himself a soldier ? The PRO has a Medal Card for a Samuel Bankhead of the 4th Cameron Highlanders (WO 3721, 1914-1920, Regiment no 3482) and also that for Frank himself (Royal Field artillery , Regiment No 1399).

Emigrants from Ireland who passed through Ellis Island (Taken from Internet May 2001)

1893, Belinda Bankhead, age 28, arrived on 23rd Oct. on board California. Marital status not given.

This must be the Belinda who married Sam Scullion (see earlier).

1910, Elizabeth Bankhead, age 59, arrived 17th Oct. on board Caledonia. Married. Residence is given as Cloghill, almost certainly Ahoghill. No sign of husband or family. There is only one person this can conceivably be, and that is Elizabeth, wife of James Bankhead of Killane. She died in Ireland so this is a puzzle.

1916, Mary Bankhead of Belfast, age 30 and her son Robert age 6, arrived 20th Aug 1916 on board St Paul. Almost certainly, Mary and Robert were living at Bryson St Belfast in 1911 with Mary's father Robert Matthews and her brother Charles. She is recorded as being a boxmaker and married for 2 years (1911 census).

1923, Margaret Bankhead of Ballymena, age 22 and single, arrived 5th Feb on board the Colombia. A candidate for this Margaret is the daughter of John and Jane Bankhead of Ballee, Kells who appears on the 1911 census.

Bankhead Signatories to Ulster Covenant of 1912

Ahoghill

Lizzie & Hannah, Ballybollen. Daughters of Samuel Bankhead and Jane Small (1911 census)
Robert, John C and Thomas, Lismurnaghan. John Carson Bankhead and Robert and Thomas, sons of Andrew Bankhead and Mary Jane Agnew
N Bankhead, Ballymountferra. Probably Norah Roberta, daughter of Thomas Bankhead and Sarah Thomas, Ballyminkia
William, John & Margaret, Ahoghill. This Margaret is very probably the aged widow on the 1911 census and William her stepson.

Ballymena

William J & Agnes, Ballee. Brother and sister, children of John Bankhead and Jane (1911 census)
John, Harryville, Ballee. Probably father of William J and Agnes
Thomas, Tullynamullan. Shown on 1911 census as "agricultural labourer"
Elizabeth, Ballymena. Possibly the servant to George Beattie who appears on 1911 census at George St
Martha & Jane, Patrick Place (Ballymena District) Sisters at no 22 (1911 census).
Martha, Patrick Place (Harryville District). Probably mother of Martha and Jane above.

Randalstown

Nellie, Robert & Bob, Taylorstown. Probably the brother and sister and father of 1911 census
William, Sharvogues. A possible candidate is William, the pedlar of Slaght on 1911 census.

Grange Corner

Mary, Killyfast

Edenderry, Drumbo

Isabella, Susan, Ellen, & Robert. This is the family at "House 53" Monkstown on 1911 census.
Samuel John & Robert, 93 Edenderry. Ditto.

Belfast (North)

Mary, Main St Ligoneil. Possibly the Mary who was boarding at Geoffrey St, Shankhill at 1911 census

Belfast (South)

John & Mary Agnes, 58 Edinburgh St. At Spamount St on 1911 census.
Samuel S, 21 Toronto St. Appears on 1911 census.

John, 6 Snugville St. One of these Johns will be the father at Bloomfield Ave on 1911 census.
John, 8 Bloomdale St. The other will be his son.

The PRO in London has Medal Cards for the following who served in the Royal Irish Rifles in WW1:-

William J (20/79), William John (another ?) (49), William (13/725), Robert (11/19390), Robert (13/17229). It is highly likely that these are contained in the above signatories.

Unattributed Bankheads in Belfast Directories

Morton's 1842-1843:- Henry Commercial News Room
 John Dairy 12 Barrack St.

Rev John Bankhead

The man from Ballycarry

"Rev John Bankhead, a faithful and enlightened Minister of the Gospel, died 5th July 1833 in the 97th year of his age, and 72nd of his ministry in Broadisland. In memory of his affection, this stone was placed here by his wife Mary"

So is inscribed a stone in the Old Churchyard of Templecorran

The Rev John is the only Bankhead to be included in the original Dictionary of National Biography and his entry was written by Alexander Gordon, a distinguished Unitarian scholar and historian of Nonconformity.

Gordon states that John Bankhead was born to a Scots family living near Clough Co Antrim. Unfortunately I have yet to find any evidence to support this idea and in effect nothing is known of his life prior to 1760 when he graduated MA at Edinburgh. The University records do not contain any parental details.

The start of his ministerial career can be traced in the Minutes of the Ulster Synod, where on June 30th 1761 at Londonderry he attended the first session as an elder in Ballymena Presbytery. At the next session the Presbytery entered him on first trials. Almost exactly a year later, at Antrim, he was licensed and he was entered on second trials by Templepatrick Presbytery June 28th 1763. Finally, on 16th Aug 1763 he was ordained, having been called to Ballycarry on 13th Feb.

Occasional references to the Rev John are to be found in the minutes of the Templepatrick presbytery up to 1774 and there is then a gap until 1812 when he read a statement expressing his concurrence with the congregations desire to appoint a successor. The Ballycarry congregation was obviously unhappy and it is likely that the minister's recent re-marriage to his housekeeper was a source of unrest. It is interesting to note that when the Rev John died his widow in turn married a family servant, George Jack and this caused his children, with one notable exception , to break contact with their mother.

In the early 1770s there was a radical rural Presbyterian secret society known as Hearts of Steel. Ballycarry was their heartland and on Nov 3 1771, after the burning of some houses

belonging to Rev John Bankhead, a notice was posted on the Maypole in Ballycarry offering a reward to anyone who could offer information as to the culprits. (Ulster-Scot March 2008)

There is only one known surviving baptism record of his children - that of the 18th and so what follows has been derived from various sources, mainly tombstones, newspapers, records of descendants and information supplied by the Presbyterian Historical Society

Tradition has it that he fathered 22 children of whom 19 survived to adulthood

SONS, Known or Suspected

1. Rev James Bankhead

Minister of 1st Dromore Presbyterian Church, Co Down. B 1773, educated Strabane, MA (Glasgow) 1794
Ordained Dromore 23/3/1796, died 10/1/1824

Apparently a sociable character and favoured friend of Bishop Percy. There is a story that he had ambition beyond his means:- "Bankheads folly" stands on a hill overlooking the town. The original purpose is unknown but it is now a small stone building forming one side of a farm courtyard. Local legend has it that its construction resulted in bankruptcy.

His wife's name is unknown but he had at least three children

1. Jane = Rev George Hill (Librarian, Queens College, Belfast)

From this union came Marianne who married Rev Francis McCammon (buried Banbridge Co Down). A daughter, Jane Hill McCammon in turn married Rev George Phelps and produced George Phelps who has provided much information for this chapter

2. Mary (his eldest) = William Hall, Moyarget, 23/4/1847.

3. Anna = Frances Stitt, Ballycreely, 30/9/1851

Later in this document we discover an English 1891 census return for Andrew Bankhead born c 1814 in "nomore Co Down Ireland". Living in Kingston he has children Georgeana K and James Charles both born 1840s in W Indies. Almost certainly a son of Rev James. Going back to the 1851 census we find more details. Andrew was married to Georgiana M who hailed from Wisconsin Skitts (sic) and he must have lived in St Kitts for some time as daughters Eliza J (1842), Georgiana P (1844) were born there.

2. Rev William Bankhead

We have dealt with Rev William in a previous chapter. Since that was written I have discovered a William B awarded the General Certificate at Royal Belfast Academical Institute in 1834. Since this qualification was regarded as equivalent to a degree by the general Synod of Ulster it is likely that this is the same William

3. Charles Bankhead M.D. (Edinburgh 1790)

Born circa 1767, he has a well documented medical career marked by two prominent events.

Viscount Castlereagh, Lord Londonderry cut his own throat and died in Dr Bankhead's arms.

Charles was a personal physician to the Prince Regent and physician extraordinaire to George IV as the latter became. He inherited his father's talent for mimicry and this, it is said, was used by his enemies to have him expelled from court when he was tricked into mimicking the king in his hidden presence.

Thereafter he went to Florence and is buried in the Protestant graveyard there.

His wife was Anne Reynolds and they had a son Charles Jnr who was a diplomat. The 1851 census catches Charles Jnr and wife Maria in Hastings, Sussex. His birthplace is given as Londonderry about 1799

Charles Jnr married Maria Horatia Paul on 20/5/1825, but not before fathering at least two illegitimate children:-

1. Caroline, born 15/3/1821, bap 2/12/1821 St Lukes Chelsea. Mother was Eliza Jordeson. There were several illegitimate children baptised around this time, but the others, who were not of the same social standing, were rather bluntly labelled B B (base born). Charles is described as an Apothecary of Charles St.
2. Emily Wheeler, born 1822, baptised St Marleybone 27/2/1825. Mother was Frances Wheeler. Charles was then living at Moor St.

His sister Ann Lindsay Bankhead who acted as witness had married Henry Dundas Scott in Westminster in 1822. Maria was a minor and could only marry with the permission of her father Sir John Dean Paul, Bart.

A third sibling is indicated by the presence of Penelope Mary Bankhead at the wedding of Ann Lindsay

There are some papers relating to Charles Jnr in the British Library.

Bankhead, Charles, Diplomatist; Correspondence with Lord Aberdeen 1841-46

43126 ff 21-28
43170 ff 17b-26; 34-37 (copies and abstracts)
43238 f121

Bankhead, Charles , of the foreign office, Letter to Prince Lieven 1824-5

Fr 47292 B, f 169

In Southampton University library

1835-1836 corresp with Lord Palmerston, reference MS62, NRA 12889 Temple.

In Oxford University: All Souls College

1831-1847 letters to Sir Charles Vaughan, reference Vaughan, NRA 10564 Vaughan

In 1845 he was "British Minister to Mexico"

The PRO in London lists a very large no of files relating to him.

The New York passenger 1820-1850 lists show Charles making two trips. He and his wife arrived April 5th 1826 aboard the Hudson and on 11th August 1835 they were back again on the St George, bound for Washington.

Charles Jnr died 11/3/1870 aged 73, and left a will dated 19/2/1866. In this are mentioned nieces Penelope Cumberland and Emma Cumberland, daughters of Richard Cumberland of the Mount, York. Another niece is Annie Scott, Daughter of Henry Dundas Scott and there are two daughters of his late brother in law William Wentworth Paul - Annabel Clementine Paul and Mary Jane Paul. Yet another niece is Pamela Francoise Lurie Turner, wife of James Turner of Heavitree, Devon. And finally a Jane Fitzgerald, widow of Heavitree, is his sister in law.

4. John Bankhead M.D.

Reputed to be one of the founders of RBAI and to have died 1811 without issue. Adverts in Belfast Newsletter June 1784 and Feb 1785 describe him as surgeon and apothecary. In another of March 1787 John and his brother Archibald advertise a drug warehouse. Further adverts announce the partnership dissolved (Jan 1789), John as a surgeon at Market House, High St (May 1790), at Belfast Dispensary (Jan 1790) and finally the sale of Market House in 1796.

5. Joseph Bankhead M.D.

Married Penelope Bankhead in 1st Ballymena Presbyterian Church on 6th May 1835. Her father was a William Bankhead of Belfast by then deceased and a bit of a mystery. He could possibly be the William whose widow (?) married John Reeves in Tullylish Presbyterian Church 20/10/1821. Family letters reveal that at one point Joseph went to the W. Indies. Could this have been to visit his brother Andrew?

There is little doubt that he is the same Joseph who graduated in absentia from Glasgow in 1835 and is described as "Hibernus". He is listed several times in Morton's Belfast Directory. In 1839 at 17 Wellington Place and in 1841 at 10 College Sq. The following year Joseph is not shown, but a Mrs Bankhead is running a day school at No 8. In Henderson's Directory of 1850 a Mrs Bankhead has a Ladies School in Hollywood Co Down, probably the same with Ladies Seminary in same location in Belfast and Province of Ulster Directory of 1852.

He is known to have had children William and Jean. In Ballynure Old Churchyard we find:-

Sarah Ann Bankhead d 27/12/1838 aged 2 yrs 9 mths
William John Bankhead d 26/7/1849 in his 10th year
Children of Dr Joseph Bankhead
Penelope Anne Bankhead, widow d 28/4/1853

Also in Ballynure;- Janie Bankhead wife of Robert Chalmers, d 13/10/1861/ aged 24

Joseph visited America in 1836, arriving in New York on Oct 21st aboard the Tropic from Liverpool.

The 1860 Griffiths list for Creeve, parish of Pomeroy shows a Dr Bankhead with a substantial amount of land sub let to about 10 others. This cannot be Joseph, if Penelope was a widow in 1853.

6. John Bankhead #2

The only reference to him is contained in the letters of Agnes Bankhead where we learn that he was probably born about 1824 and enlisted for a while in the 6th Dragoons(Iniskillings).

7. James Bankhead #2

Also mentioned in Agnes's letters as a toddler

8. Edmonstone Bankhead.

Married Mary Barber daughter of Rev S Barber, Rathfriland at the end of May 1796. He and his brother Archibald derived their names from Archibald Edmonstone of Redhall, a friend of their

father. In a deed of 1790 he is described as a Linen Draper. This may tie in with a Belfast Directory of early 1800s which lists Bankhead & Ireland, linen manufacturers. An advert in Belfast Newsletter Dec 1790 announces Mark Patton and Edmonstone beginning a wholesale haberdashery business opposite Market House, High St (where brother John is in business). They have a further advert in 1796. The PRONI has a collection of letters (T2305/14) from Charles Lewis of Kilkeel to Davidson Mc Dowell in Georgetown, S Carolina. One dated 30/9/1815 mentions "Mrs Bankhead" being in bad health and living with Mrs Barber and daughter

His son John Barber Bankhead (b.c. 1800, died Babrothery 1884) became a magistrate, acquired a wife called Mary and had the following family which is caught on a miraculously preserved fragment of 1851 census for Glenarm Co Antrim:-

May (10yrs), Samuel (9yrs), Ann (8yrs)- died 2/5/1851, Thomas (6yrs), Fanny (5yrs), Emily (3yrs) - died 20/6/1851, Margaret (2yrs), Louis (1 yr).

Possibly connected to John B Bankhead, and certainly to the family of the Rev John is Philip Dundas Bankhead who married Julia Ethel Hooper Clippett in Dublin 1874. The groom was a medical Student residing at 35 Curzon St and his father is described as John Bankhead, Landowner. This has to be the P D Bankhead "Gent" who arrived in New York on 2nd May 1882.

John Barber Bankhead appears in the Newry Commercial Telegraph of 5/2/1828 on a list of subscribers to Newry Dispensary & Fever Hospital for 1827. His address is given as Merchants Quay.

In the Armagh Guardian of 29th July 1845 he appears with many others on the provisional Committee of the Newry Armagh and Londonderry Railway. He is described as a Dublin merchant. The letter Book of the Earl of Annesley in PRONI (D1854/6/5) gives his address in 1845 as 13 Eustace St. The 1850 directory for that city lists him as a General Merchant at 7 Cope St and 5 Grt Charles St.

9. Archibald Bankhead

Archibald was a pharmacist in Belfast and married Rachel Jackson of Ballywilly near Bangor 12/8/1758. As seen earlier he was for a period in partnership with his brother John. The PRONI has an Index of "Dio-Admons Armagh" which lists a will dated 1822 for an Archibald Bankhead of Turnersgrove. It is not at all clear if this is the same Archibald as he would have been exceedingly old.

10. Frederick James Bankhead

He married Annie Thomas in St Lukes, Cork on 12/2 1863 and was described as a Commercial Traveller of Washington St Liverpool. It is possible that he could be James #2 above. In the 1871 census of England, Annie is living in Cheetham, Lanchashire with son Frederick William (born Manchester 1870), daughter Grace (born Liverpool 1868) and two servants. Grace married in Islington London in Dec 1888

An Elizabeth Bankhead married in W. Derby, Liverpool in Sep 1872.

There is a good case for a connection with Frederick James Bankhead as he appears to have died in Islington in Mar 1887 aged 56, making him the very youngest child of the Rev John. The 1881 census shows Grace at one address in Blackstock Rd Hornsey with Frederick Bankhead (b Manchester 1871) and Philip I Bankhead (b 1883 London) at another. Annie died in St Pancras in Mar 1885 age 41. This makes it just possible that the above Elizabeth is a daughter by a first marriage.

11. William #2

The only evidence for this William is the will of the Rev John (1832) which gives the following as being under 21 yrs, William, John, James, Jane, Agnes, Eliza.

A possible sighting of this William is the arrival of a William Bankhead, merchant, aged 22, from Belfast at New York on May 4 1835 aboard the Josephine.

Un-attributable children/grandchildren

Examination results published in the Belfast Telegraph reveal various male Bankhead scholars who are undoubtedly grandsons of Rev John, although so far their precise connections are unknown

William Rodgers Bankhead. He appears at "Belfast Academy" in June 1796. In June 1799 he appears again at "Belfast School". Students' addresses are sometimes given but alas not in this case, but a John Bankhead of North St appears on the same list. William appears again in Dec of the same year (address given as High St), but no John; a situation repeated in June 1800 but the school is Crumlin Academy. This school was run by the Rev Nathaniel Alexander a friend of Rev John Bankhead.

A very curious article appears in the paper on 2 Oct 1798 wherein an Edward Bankhead is one of several people pardoned at Down Assize. This gentleman appears otherwise unrecorded by history.

DAUGHTERS

1. Agnes Bankhead.

Married Rev George Hutton, 31/12/1841. Their wonderful courtship letters are a delightful insight into the Bankhead family.

2. Jane or Janet Bankhead.

Married John S Whitfield and had children John Bankhead Whitfield and Henry Stuart Whitfield

3. Eliza Bankhead

Married Rev John Jennings, 15/6/1858 in Templepatrick Meeting House. Her husband died at Warrenpoint 14/5/1870 and Eliza at Carrickfergus June 29th 1873. She is buried in North Road Cemetery, Carrickfergus

4. Jane #2 Bankhead

Married Rev John Watson of Greyabbey

5. Ann Campbell Bankhead

Married Rev William Byers. Born circa 1755, died 1839 and is buried at Greyabbey.
Son Alexander born circa 1799

6. Primrose Bankhead

Married Rev William Byers. Born circa 1779, died 2/11/1836 and is buried Greyabbey.

7. Mary Bankhead

Married Rev (Edward ?) Prenter

Son Thomas married Clarissa Montague Weir. Also children Nat and Jane Maria

8. Elizabeth Bankhead

Married Rev Nathaniel Alexander on 20/12/1799.

9. Ann Edmonstone Bankhead

Married William Byers. Daughter Jane married Robert Ferguson of the Bowtown near Newtonards and they in turn had a son William and 5 daughters none of whom married. The last of this family, Hannah, died in 1932 aged 99.

A Belfast directory of 1842 shows a Miss Bankhead, milliner at 38 Little May St and for the following two years a Miss Bankhead running a boarding house at 34 King St (the same Miss Bankhead at 13 King St in 1831 and 1835?). These are almost certainly daughters of Rev John but at the moment (Nov 2009) I cannot determine which.

The Donegal Bankheads

This is a story of mystery and chance encounter which demonstrates once again the joy of ancestor hunting.

Very early on in my research I had been referred by my cousin Betty to Jim Bankhead in Bushmills as someone who shared my interest in the family tree. Jim and I exchanged many letters and phone calls and as mentioned previously we finally managed to meet shortly before his final illness.

Shortly after our all too brief encounter Jim made me heir to all his research material, among which was some fascinating material relating to a family of Bankheads whose earliest connection was known to be with Dunfanaghy in Co Donegal. There was 1950s correspondence between Jim and Rebecca Shippam of Sussex and some photographs of her family. How Jim and Rebecca had established contact is an amusing tale as her first letter dated 27/2/1951 reveals

Last week reading a Belfast paper I saw your name and I was curious to know from which branch of the clan you had sprung.

Bankhead is an uncommon, or should I say unusual name, to hear and that was my name sixty – no, fifty years ago as I have just celebrated our Golden Wedding anniversary.

Sixty years ago (1891) my father and I came from Ireland to – my father to a sister in Wiltshire and I took up medical training at Royal West Sussex hospital Chichester. After ten years I changed my name to Shippam. But a kindred spirit springs within when I see the name and not know him. My curiosity is aroused.

So forgive my letter my letter of enquiry. We knew the Bankheads of Coleraine and I have heard my father tell of a Bankhead who had 20 children.

Also there was an army doctor who was present when an officer took his life and he said (almost his last words) “Bankhead I did it”
But I am old now and forget names. So excuse this ramble.

The newspaper article referred to was one that Jim had written on “Home brew” television and the Bankheads referred to are Rev John and his son Charles MD. The Coleraine Bankheads may be John Bankhead, another son of the Rev John. But I was to discover that Rebecca’s roots lay elsewhere.

As my research progressed I attended my sisters wedding in Brighton, England and chancing upon a namesake in the local telephone book I wrote explaining my interest in family history. The gentle man concerned directed me to his aunt, Marjorie Butler, also an enthusiastic genealogist. To my

surprise and delight Marjorie was a descendant of Rebecca and was able to provide a very complete family tree, but it was still based on false assumptions about being related to Rev John.

Another letter from Rebecca reveals some priceless information and a fresh mystery

Thank you for your very interesting letter. Firstly my father came from Ahoghill, he always talked of it as his home. But he left that part when quite young as he very early in life was obliged to get out to work. His father died and two of his brothers went to America.

Note. As will be seen later, "his father" cannot refer to her grandfather who lived to a ripe old age, but may possibly refer to her great grandfather. If this assumption is correct then we have a tantalising hint at the origin of some of the early American immigrants.

He told us of these brothers or one of them it may be.

He, my father, was not at home, and a woman came from America to enquire all about him. He was supposed to have been quite well off and the woman went to grandmother and asked his age, where he was born and all such particulars.

Father was very annoyed when he heard from his mother all she wished to know. She may or may not have been his wife, but she got all the particulars she required from grandmother.

An intriguing comment, but what on earth lies behind it ?

And then we have an example of Rebecca's low opinion of those of whose lifestyle she disapproved, non other than Tallulah Bankhead on a visit to London.

About Talluah (sic) I have met her when I was in London with one of my girls and I sent in my card and she was very charmed to meet – one who was a Bankhead. But she is not much good.

She told me her father and her uncle were both in the senate, Members of Parliament and they were known as the -----

Well suppose her father married a woman named Wood. They were the Wood Bankheads and the uncle married a woman named Smith and the family were known as the Smith Bankheads

Anyhow Talluah is not much credit to them. She CAN act and I believe is in demand.

I would not be surprised if she is related she said her people came from Scotland

The lifestyle of Rebecca and Tallulah could not have been more different as is demonstrated by another section of the same letter. Family anecdote has Rebecca giving Tallulah a lecture on the sins of the flesh.

I'll send you a magazine I have. No doubt, having been brought up by godly parents you know the way to salvation. I am old now 85 and I daily thank God for my early home life, I had a very godly mother ----

It is of interest to note that the PRO in London has a file HO382/9, whose contents are summarised thus:-

" Bankhead Tallulah: American actress, media publicity; allegation of sexual involvement with minors; files indicate steps taken by officials to try to exclude her from entry to UK on morality grounds"

So what of Rebecca's father? Confirmation of his Ahoghill origin is to be found in his military records.

Robert Alexander Bankhead served in the Royal Artillery from 1846 till 1868. His discharge papers show him born in Ahoghill circa Dec 1823 and enlisting at Lisburn on 18th Dec. He was 5' 11" tall with brown hair and eyes. During his service he spent four years in Canada and 8 months in the Crimea. When discharged at Dublin on 7th April he returned to reside at Falcarragh Crossroads Co Donegal.

At this point it might be useful to again mention the William Bankhead who went to Australia in 1845. He was born c 1826 and his first (?) child was James. Could this be a brother ?

Robert Alexander and Frances were married at Tullaghbegley, Co Donegal on Dec 11th 1845. Roberts father is listed as James Bankhead, a farmer. This James died on 1st March 1864 as recorded on a headstone in St Anns Tullaghbegley

Fanny journeyed to Quebec Canada aboard the Envoy, from Londonderry in 1848, with a 9 month baby called Robert. Was this to join her husband? Accompanying her were members of the Alcorn and McKim families.

We find this Robert in the RIC(Royal Irish Constabulary) records.

30180

Robert Bankhead aged 19 height 5 foot 9, Protestant, Native Co Donegal.
Recommended by Sub Inspector Studdart, trade shoemaker
Appointed 9 March 1865 Belfast resigned 16 Nov 1865 to emigrate to America
total service 8 months 10 days

So it would appear that Robert junior had at some point returned to Donegal to be with his grandfather who is also described as a shoemaker

There is one other RIC record of interest and it is rather sad.

51150

William Bankhead. Native of Dublin above Donegal. Presbyterian. Age on appointment 18 years 5 months. Trade none. Appointed 31 Jan 1884. Discharged 2 February 1884 found unfit by surgeon.

This would appear to be William John Bankhead born Dublin 3rd August 1864 to Robert Alexander Bankhead, Gunner Royal Artillery and Frances Alcorn. A W J Bankhead, b Dublin c 1862 , is found in the 1881 English census aboard HMS Wellington serving as shipcook. The National Archives folder ADM 188/144 holds the record of his naval service and gives a personal description. He appears to have purchased his discharge on 13 March 1883. DOB given as 2 Aug 1861.

In 1861 Robert and Frances were living in Madron parish, Cornwall. By this time they had son Robert, born Ireland 1847, daughters Frances Jane (1850), Louisa (1855) and Alice (1858) all born Woolwich.

The next appearance of Robert and Frances is in 1870 when their son James Henry was baptised at Tullaghbegley on 3/4/1870. Sadly he died aged 4 years 6 months and is commemorated on the same stone as his grandfather and a John S Bankhead who deceased March 11th 1858. Nothing is known about this John and we suppose he was a brother of Robert

Fanny Bankhead died at Tullaghbegley in Nov 1887
Robert Alexander died at Devizes Dec 1907

The surviving children of Robert Alexander and Frances:-

Robert = Mary Day (1872, Fleet, Dorset)

Frances Jane = Henry Irish
b Kingston W Canada 1849

Isabella = Bernard McKenna
(Born Lewes 1862, died 1885). Bernard also died 1885.

Louisa = Edward Hampton (Dec 1880, Portsea)
(born 1855 Woolwich). It was to Louisa that Robert Alexander went to stay. The 1901 census shows the three of them living at Potterne Wilts
Hampton was a champion gunnery instructor. In 1885 King George V, as a junior naval officer, was his pupil.

Alice =(Mar 1878, Portsea) T McDermot
b Penzance Mar 1858

William John = (1) (Dec 1889, Wigan) Mary Ann ?.
b 1864 d Dec 1928 d June 1917
William John is found with his brother Robert's family at 95 Galston St Portsea in the 1881 census, when he is described as shipcook born Ireland.

Son Robert Alexander died aged 2, 1894.

= (2) (June 1918) Gillow

Kathleen b Dec 1919 d 1919

Fanny b June 1921 d 1921

Rebecca = Walter Shippam. Children Carol, Aileen = Preston, and Alex = T. Jay
The 1901 census shows Rebecca as the nurse in the household of Lord Connemara at 43 Grosvenor St

Descendants of Robert Bankhead and Mary Day.

Robert is described on a daughters baptismal entry as Master At Arms, H.M.S. Achilles
In 1913 they were living at No 2 Monmouth Rd, Portsmouth which was called Falcarragh.
(Mary Day was the eighth child of Samuel Day, a gardener and Mary Elbor, schoolteacher and midwife)

Frances Alcorn = Brymer (Mar 1889, Portsea)

b 1874 Stoke Demerel

Three daughters - Enid and Kathleen who married officers in the Australian navy, Margaret who married and went to Africa, and a son who went to Canada

Robert = C. Brown

b 1876 Stoke Demerel

Alice Sarah = R. Hales (died before 1913) Children Robert and Mary.

b 1876 Stoke Demerel

Acted as housekeeper for her brother Edwin (below) after death of her husband. 1901 census shows her working as an assistant librarian.

Florence Elizabeth = (1) F Reardon, (2) E. Castle

(Born Feb 23rd 1878, Baptised Sept 19th 1880) 1901 census shows her as a school mistress.

Edwin Samuel = Ada Florence Purkiss (1908)

b 1881, Weymouth. d 1913

Their daughter Marjorie married Ernest Leslie Butler and had children Edwin Leslie, Roger John Elia and John Peter (died in infancy)
Edwin was a diving instructor in the Navy but suffered an accident in the Mediterranean and was invalided out of the service.

Mary Louisa b 1884 = C. Slade. 1901 census shows Mary as a pupil teacher.

Winifred = E. Petterson.
Their house in Bournemouth was also called Falcarragh.

Dorothy b 1892 = unmarried

Alexander George = (1) Edith Boxall, son Kenneth
b 1897 (2) Doris Axworthy, son Barry

Siblings Walter Thomas (1886) and Rebecca Nora (1890) died in their first year

Harry Bernard ?
b Weymouth 1882

Family of Frances Jane Bankhead and Henry Irish

Eliza Jane , born Nov 29th 1868, baptised Jan 10 1869. Father is seaman R.N.

Ruby Isabella, born Aug 1879, baptised Aug 31st. Father is Coast Guard

Louisa, born Aug 10th 1881, baptised Dec 21st

Ruby and Louisa were baptised in St Pauls Church , Raymonterdony
A very substantial amount of this information came from the efforts of Marjorie Butler (nee Bankhead) the daughter of Edwin Samuel Bankhead and Ada Florence Purkiss. This section is dedicated to her memory.

Family of William Hugh Bankhead & Sarah Susannah Steer

This family has been mentioned earlier and it was with the valued assistance of George Phelps, descendant of the Rev John Bankhead and Alfred John (Jack) Bankhead a descendant of William and Sarah, that I have been able to complete the following family tree.

Benjamin Bankhead was born to Susannah on 27th Jan 1812 in Clapham SW and baptised 10th April. he is described as the 4th son of William and Susannah and he was to be the last child, for his mother died shortly afterwards and was buried in Clapham On 9th Feb. As described elsewhere Benjamin married and emigrated to S. Australia. He died there on 16th April 1874 and is buried at Brighton. He resided at Glenelg, a suburb of Adelaide and his wife Lydia Elizabeth died 13th May 1876

William and Sarah had married at Shoreditch St Leonard on 19th May 1791 and their son William Hugh was baptised at St Giles Cripplegate, Barbican Independent, on 17th August 1794. He is probably the William Hugh who died in Lambeth Sep 1849, but there is some doubt since the " Register of Missionaries & Deputations 1796 -1877" gives details of another William Hugh:-

" B 1799, Church Member, Stockwell, London. Student Hackney College. Appointed to Calcutta. Ordained Dec 14th 1820 Stockwell Chapel. Single. Sailed March 9th 1821, arrived Calcutta Aug 16th. Died there Nov 7th 1822. "

The other sons were John, born 4/11/1809 who married Eliza Dyke (?) and probably James Andrew who married Ann Mills 4th Nov 1838.

Sarah Susannah died Feb 1812 and William Jan 1814 both Clapham. Williams age is given as 56 giving 1757 as approximate year of birth
To Kevin and Marion Jensen I am indebted for the following information:-

Vital Records Index, Dr Williams library for England and Wales. The following additional children of William and Susanna appear

Elizabeth 17th Sept 1796 Clapham

Anna 3 March 1799 Clapham

Thomasina 21 April 1801 Clapham

Mary Catherine 22 Sept 1803 Clapham. The 1891 Census shows a Mary Bankhead age 87, born Clapham, living as a lodger and "on her own means" at 35 Eller St St Paul Hammersmith.

The marriages of Elizabeth, Anna and Thomasina are shown under Miscellaneous families (London) which follows below.

Family of John W Bankhead and Eliza Dyke

John, whose occupation is given as a shoemaker arrived in Australia on the "Navarino" 1837 and departed to Victoria. He died 30th Aug 1882 and is buried in Geelong.

Female child 1835

Eliza Willis 1837 m Thomas Nash 22nd March Adelaide

John Willis 1838 m Susan Sarah Wright 1880 S Australia

Sarah Ann 1842 m William Lott 9th May 1861 Geelong

Rosetta 1844 m William Thomas Baker 1863 Victoria

Amelia Alvis 1846 m Courtenay Henry Roberts 1869

Alfred Junius 1848 d 1850

Family of James Andrew Bankhead and Ann Mills
James died in June 1862 and Ann in 1879.

James Andrew	=(12/9/1869)	Frances Caroline Cromar
b 3/8/1839,d 19/12/1875		b 12/2/1835, d 1879.
		Remarried Robert Cunninghame 31/12/1876

James Andrew and Frances appear, childless, in the 1871 census.

John =(1862) ?
b 1841 d 1885 ?

Ann =(1864) ?
b 1844 d 1885 ?

Benjamin = (1872) ?
b 1848

This family is shown in the 1851 census for Lambeth. James was born in Clapham about 1808. There was another son Leonie born about 1840. In the 1871 census only Benjamin is living with his mother.

Family of Benjamin Bankhead and Charlotte ? Married Whitechapel 1839.

Alfred John =	Ethel ?
b 1877, d April 1959	bc 1878, d Feb 1962

An Alfred J Bankhead served in the Army Service Corps (Reg No 11711) in WW1

George Benjamin
b 1874 d 1878

Charlotte Fanny = (1895) ?
b 1873

Ada Sarah
b 1881

Alice Maud = (June 1912) Phillips
b 1883

In 1901 census we find Benjamin and Charlotte living at 72 Gloucester Rd Camberwell with Charlotte Jnr, another daughter Emily (b 1880, Brixton), Ada and Alice plus nephew Frederick Weston and niece Florence Nathan. Benjamin is described as a Brass Moulder with Frederik a Brass Finisher. Charlotte and Ada are "Bottle Fillers Patent Medicine"

In 1891 census we find the family in Camberwell with no Emily who was visiting another address in Camberwell.

In 1881 census the family is found at 18 Victoria Terrace, New Church Rd, Camberwell

Family of John Bankhead and Sarah A ? Married Lambeth Dec 1862.

John Andrew Sylvester
b 1863 d June 1913

In 1901 census we find John A S living as a School Caretaker in Rockingham Rd Newington London with wife Matilda and children :-
Frank b 1894. A Frank Bankhead served in the Royal Field Artillery (Reg No 1399) in WW1
Sydney b 1900. A Sydney Bankhead served in the Leicestershire Reg (Reg No 42128) in WW1

Sarah Ann
b 1864

In the 1881 census a Sarah Bankhead (b before 1865, Blackfriars, Middlesex) is a domestic servant at Southend Lane, 18 St Marks Rd , Lewisham Kent.

Alice Louisa = (1888) ?
b 1868

Jessie Charlotte
b 1870 d 1875

Charlotte Adelaide = (1895) ?
b 1872

Benjamin Charles
b 1874 d 1877

Emily Francis
b 1877 d 1878

Emily Ann
b 1879

In the 1881 census we find the family at New St Lambeth. John A S is an Engine Fitter and there is a daughter Annie (born 1866 or later) who is described as a domestic servant. There is no sign of Emily Ann.

In the 1871 census we find the family still in Lambeth. Children listed are Alice, Annie, Dessy (sic), John and Sarah.

Family of Alfred John Bankhead and Ethel Fox, Married Camberwell Sep 1898

An Alfred J Bankhead served in Army Service Corps (Reg No 11711) during WW1

Sydney Charles = (Sep 1923) Rosam

b 25/4/1910

Doris Ethel.

b 12/8/1899, d 8/5/1982

Cyril Alfred Benjamin. = (June 1928) Langley. Daughter Jean born June 1930

b 12/1904, d 27/12/1985

Winifred Elsie.

b 9/7/1914, d 15/2/1985

Alfred John = ? , Son Peter

b 1/3/1908

Hilda Isabel = (Dec 1924) Thorp

b 12/9/1901

Miscellaneous Bankhead Families

Andrew Bankhead, a merchant died in 1895 aged 81. His wife Georgina Maria died in 1887

Andrew resided at 27 Clements Lane, Lombard St, London.

They had family:-

George Dalrymple. Unmarried and a Clerk in the Bank of England.

d 3/1/1866

Georgina Cathorne

d 1922?

Eliza Jane = (1869 Kingston) Hill

James Charles Bankhead = (1872 Hampstead) Kate Chambers
Their family:-

Adela Kate, baptised 18/7/1873 Kingston, Surrey. She is believed buried in Awliscombe Parish, Devon. The Devon Record Office has various documents relating to a grave space in her name - 3020A-1/PB 504 and 505-506 (1957)

Edmund Leigh
b 1876 d 1882

Constance Maud
b 1879

Kathleen Sinclair
b 1882

It would appear that Kate Chambers died prior to 1901, for in the census of that year we find James C married to Hannah L S and living at Crown Point Castle Bar Rd, Ealing with Adela, Constance and Kathleen. James and Hannah are both revealed as having been born in St Kitto, W Indies. James is a West India Merchant.

The 1891 census reveals James C aged 42 living with his FATHER Andrew, and sister Georgeana K (also born W Indies) in Kingston. Andrew is listed as having been born in "nomore" Co Down Ireland c 1814 which is clearly Dromore and means that he is a grandson of Rev John Bankhead, probably a son of Rev James Bankhead. Also listed is Rathlan S Bankhead aged 8 who is described as a "son" born in Snelston Surrey. If his father is really Andrew then the family tradition of late fatherhood is being maintained. Again there is no Kate so she therefore deceased prior to 1891. Constance is found as a pupil at a ladies school in Brighton

In the 1881 census James C and Kate C are found at The Avenue, Eastbourne Villa, Kingston with Adela K, Edmund L and Constance M. James was born 1849 in "St Christophers B S" W Indies and Kate C in "Calcutta B S" India.

Bankhead-Browne family

James Bankhead-Browne bc 1844 d 1927 (Ticehurst)

Hanover Square

Rachel Bankhead-Browne b 1838 d Dec 1896 (Paddington)

Arthur Earnest Bankhead Browne = (Sep 1904) Fox

Sudbury

He served with the 4th Battalion North Staffordshire Reg (attached to Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Reg) during WW1 rising to rank of Major.

Esme M Bankhead Browne, b June 1912. Mother's name Featherstone

Liverpool

In Dec 1929 an unknown William Bankhead married Darby in W. Derby (Liverpool).

London

1819 Ann Bankhead married William Freeman in Shoreditch, St Leonards

The following Freeman family tree was supplied by their descendant Steve Dimond living in Minnesota in Nov 2004.

Catherine Freeman b Aug 27 1821 London, d Nov 12 1893 Wisconsin m Dr Thomas Steel

William Bankhead Freeman b Aug 13 1823 London d Dec 5 1910 Sparta Monroe Co Wis m Ellen Trist of Devonshire Jul 18 1852 Milwaukee Wis

James Alfred Freeman b Aug 13 1825 Chelsea London d Mar 20 1887 Wis m Lillas Steel Aug 29 1861

Thomascena Freeman b Aug 31 1827 London d Nov 3 1892 Milwaukee Wis

John Bankhead Freeman b 1831 London

Ann worked in Buckingham Palace as a seamstress and William there as an overseer

They sailed from London June 1842 aboard St James and landed Staten Island July 28 1843.
Passenger list. William Freeman, Anne Bankhead Freeman his wife, children Catherine James
Thomascena and John. Also on board was Dr Thomas Steele who later married Catherine.

6/9/1834 Thomasena Bankhead married Robert Fraser in St Pancras. According to another researcher,
they emigrated to Australia where Thomasena died in Melbourne 1873.

3/8/1835 John Bankhead married Eliza Dyke in St Annes Soho

Jun 1846 Elizabeth Bankhead married Sapbin in St Martin-in-the-Fields

He confirms that Anna, Thomasena and Elizabeth are the daughters of William Bankhead
and Susanna Steer mentioned previously

June 1930 Jean T P was the product of a so far unknown Bankhead/Langley marriage in Wandsworth

Bankett-Bankhead

Sep 1837 John and Sarah Bankett born in Dartford, Kent.

June 1874 Mary Bankett died in london City aged 63.

Cheshire

Sep 1858 Jane Bankhead was wed in Macclesfield, Cheshire

Mar 1857 Frances Allwood Bankhead died there.

Mar 1854 Adelaide born in Wirral. This may be the Adelaide (spinster) living with an elder sister
in Balbriggan Ireland in the 1911 census - age is given as 57.

Kent

Deaths

Mar 1853 John Stewart Bankhead Elham

Emily
Mar 1854 James

Wirral
Dover

Army Deaths, other ranks, 1914-1918

James, Driver, T/4/062067, RASC 1915 Vol M1 p 35
Died (Gibraltar) 7/11/1915, age 35. Son of William and Elizabeth Bankhead, of Greenock. Medal Card in PRO.

John, Private 24210, W.R.R. 1918 I39 p 86
Died 24th Oct 1918. Son of James and Jane Bankhead of Chester-le-street; husband of the late Alice Bankhead. Medal card in PRO. This John appears in 1911 census with wife Alice at 22 Wilsons Buildings, Chester le Street. They married c 1903 and had sons John Thomas (8), Norman (1) and daughter Sarah Ann (3). John Thomas was to fall in WW2.

Samuel (G?), private S/40153, Camerons 1917 I4 p 81 Medal Card in PRO (Reg No shown as 3482)
Regimental casualty records show him born in Monkstown Co Antrim but a resident of Belfast. He was killed in action Flanders/Italy 12/7/17. His entire family is shown on the 1911 census of Ireland.

Frank John, private 424544 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles, Saskatchewan regt.
29/10/1916. Son of Samuel and Elizabeth Anne Bankhead, Ballymena, Co Antrim. Born at Pretoria South Africa. The 1901 census of Ireland shows Frank living, aged 9, with his mother in William St Ballymena but Samuel (who is still living) is absent.

Undefined servicemen 1914-1918

Hugh Bankhead, Capt, 7th Battalion York and Lancaster Reg. He is recorded in the Supplement to the London Gazette 30th Dec 1916 as being promoted to temporary Lt on 27th Sept 1916.
George Bankhead, Lieut Royal Field Artillery (Reg No 95070)
W B Bankhead, 1st Essex Regiment (Reg 20005).

Another Supplement to the London Gazette, 21st June 1918 lists the award of the Royal Red Cross, 2nd class to Miss Agnes Bankhead assistant Matron Richmond Whitworth and Hardwicke Hospital, Dublin.

Army Deaths 1939-1945

John Thomas, Gunner 1770883 192 Indep Lt A.A. Bty, Royal Artillery
1/11/1941. Nottingham Southern Cemetery.

POWs 1939-1945

Camp 12A POW 075329 Bankhead H J Cpl, Army no 4614108 Army Air Corp RO no 45
This will be my informant Harry James Bankhead, who resided for a period at Kirk Sandall. He wrote a history of a battalion of the Parachute Regiment (NLS)

Unidentified emigrants to USA

J P Bankhead to San Francisco 1850
Thomas B(?) to Philadelphia 1847

Source. Rasmussen Vol 2

Tyneside Bankheads

Chester le Street, Morpeth and Alnwick.

In the middle of the 19th century there was a substantial migration of Bankhead families to the North East of England, particularly to Chester-le-Street. Enquiries at random to family members listed in the phone book elicited no interest so the following is based almost entirely on the BD and M indexes combined with extracts from 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911 census.

Births 1837 - 1865

1858 Mary Anne (Morpeth). Married James McCarthy 1877 (he died prior to 1881)

We find Mary Anne in the 1851 census for Eshott Parish. Her parents were James and Nancy Bankhead both born in Ireland, James about 1811. From the sibling details it is clear that the family came here via Scotland for in addition to James, born Ireland 1843; there are Margaret, born Scotland 1846; Sarah J, born 1854 Scotland. A further sister Susan was born in Felton in 1860. We believe that this is James Bankhead who had an earlier marriage to Agnes Stevely in Scotland. By the time of the 1871 census only Mary Anne was still living with her parents in Edmondsley parish. She died in 1900.

Mar 1864 John (Alnwick) Died 1864

Sep 1865 David (Alnwick)

1911 census:-

15 Mission Row, Newfield S O Newcastle

David 44 Coal Miner Hower with wife Mary, married c1908.

Sons James (20), Hugh (15), John (11), David (6). Stepchildren Annie Dixon Dawson (13) and Kate Disson Dawson. Daughters Mary Jane (13), Elenor (9)

From 1901 census:-

At 18 Club Row Pelton

David 35 Coal Hower , born Ratcliffe Northumberland with wife Mary H

James born 1891 Chester le st (probably married Griffin 1914, see below)

Hugh born 1896 Pelton Fell Possibly Hugh in Royal Artillery (Reg No 64010) WW1

Mary J born 1898 Pelton Fell

John H born 1900 Pelton Fell

In the 1891 census we find James and the baby James W but with wife Eliza A indicating a remarriage in the intervening years.

In the 1881 census we find the family at W Williams Building in Chester le Street and discover the parents of this brood (apart from Mary Anne and John):- James Bankhead, miner, born Ireland c 1842 and Jane born Durham c 1843. Also revealed are Sarah J, Mary Ann, James, Thomas, Agnes and John all detailed below. Sarah J was born in North Seaton, the rest in Kot Hills.

The 1871 census shows James and Jane in Edmondsley with David and Sarah J.

1869 Sarah Jane (Morpeth)

Births 1866 - 1884

1872 Mary Ann. Married June 1893. A Mary A, 18, Servant is listed in 1891 census as born Pelton.

1874 James. Married 1896

From 1911 census

Pit Row, Pelton Fell

James 37 Underground Coal Miner, wife Bella, daughter Minnie (13) and son Jimny (9) both at school. No Robert.

From 1901 census:-

At 1 Pit Row Pelton Fell we have

James 27 Coal Miner Hower, born Pelton Fell with wife Ann A

William born Pelton Fell 1897 (married Nicholson 1920)

Minnie born Pelton Fell 1898 (married Budd 1926)

Robert born Pelton Fell 1900

1876 Thomas Charles. Married 1899.

From 1911 census:-

At Middle Pit Row Pelton Fell

Thomas (35), wife Ellen (35) married circa 1899 with sons John (11), George C (3 mnths); daughters Jane (7), Mary Ann (4)

From 1901 census:-

At Middle Chase Chester le St

Thomas 25 Coal Hower, born Chester Le St with wife Ellen. Possibly the Thomas who enlisted in Durham Light Infantry.

John born Chester le St 1900

The 1891 census shows that James, Thomas Charles and John and Agnes (below) were brothers and that their mother may have re-married (to William Hunter Of 1891 census). There is no sign of their fathers death but they are listed as "stepsons" to David and Eliza Bankhead so perhaps this David is really an uncle. A baby James W (see below for marriage) is listed as a natural son of James and Eliza A Bankhead.

1878 Agnes Ann. Married 1898

1880 John. Married 1903. Possibly the John killed at Verchain in 1918 (Son of James and Jane, widower of Alice). He appears in 1891 census but not for 1901 and reappears in 1911

18?? David. Married June 1895. Possibly born 1865 Alnwick

18?? Jane. Married 1886

18?? Sarah. Married 1890. Possibly born 1869 Morpeth

James W Bankhead = (June 1914) Griffin
b 6/9/1890

Possibly the J W Bankhead of West Pelton who as a Petty Officer in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, Hood Btn, was awarded a Military medal for bravery. (Suppl to London Gazette 14th May 1919)

Olive
b Dec 1914

Annie G
b Dec 1917, d 1918

James G
b June 1920

Grace
b March 1923

David
b Dec 1925

James = (March 1927) Maddison
b Sep 1896

Poss the James who enlisted in Durham Light Infantry

James
b June 1927

Iris
b Sept 1928

Robert
b Dec 1930

William = (June 1920) Nicholson
b Sep 1897

Annie
b June 1921

Dorothy
b 1925

John =(Dec 1924) Howdon

b Sep 1899

Poss the John who enlisted in the Durham Light Infantry

Olive

b March 1925

George

b Sept 1926

William H

b March 1928

Jean

b 1930

The following births are recorded but without recourse to individual certificates it cannot be determined if they are siblings, cousins or other. In some cases a match can be made to later marriages

Eleanor, March 1902 = (1923) Wild. (Daughter of David and Mary, 1911 census)

James, June 1902 = (1927) Maddison

Mary Ann, June 1902 = (1924) Dawson

Jane, 1903 = (June 1929) Bell

David, 1904 (Daughter of David and Mary, 1911 census)

John Thomas, 1904. Killed in WW2, buried Nottingham Southern Cemetery (Son of John and Alice 1911 census)

Olive, 1904

Mary Ann, Sept 1906 (daughter of Thomas and Ellen 1911 census)

Joseph 1907, d 1907

Sarah Annie, 1907 (daughter of John and Alice 1911 census)

Eva Ellen, 1909, d 1910

Norman, 1909 (son of John and Alice 1911 census)

George C, 1911, d 1913 (son of Thomas and Ellen 1911 census)

Madge, 1911

The marriages that in all probability correspond to these births are

John 1903, David 1908, Thomas 1899, David 1895, and David 1889.

Later we have,

Dec 1917 Mary J = Mills (probably the daughter of David and Mary 1911 census)

Sept 1926 Minnie = Budd (Probably the daughter of James and Bella 1911 census)

Morpeth

The following are additional records referring to one or more Bankhead families in Morpeth

Births 1837 - 1884

1868 Mary Ann (died 1869)

Deaths 1849 - 1915

1859 September	David
1869 Dec	Mary Ann, 0
1895 June	Ann, 77
1899 March	James, 90

The 1891 census gives a different age gap (72 - 82) for Ann and James then living at Bells Place in Bedlington and reveals that they were both born in Ireland. In 1881 they were at Rutters Buildings in Bedlington. The death cert of James reveals that he was a retired coal miner and a daughter Mary Ann was alive at the time of his death.

1901 September	William, 50
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From 1901 census
Northumberland County Lunatic Asylum (now St Georges Hospital)
William 51 born Scotland , Coalminer Hewer below ground.
The Northumberland Record Office file NRO 3680 shows that William was admitted 11th Oct 1892.
(Case 1921 Vol 186)

1910 Dec	Elizabeth 65
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The 1881 census reveals that Elizabeth was born Bedlington 1846 and married a John Bankhead, b 1853 from Scotland who is described as a shipyard labourer. They were living at Forrest Pl Whitely with John's brother Blaney B Bankhead, b Scotland 1852 and described as a drainer of agricultural land. Living with them is a "son" Thomas W ASIBETT (b after 1867 Bedlington) and a daughter Mary b 1878 also Bedlington.

Alnwick

The following are the index records referring to Bankhead families in Alnwick

Births 1837 - 1865

1864 March John

1865 September David

Marriage 1838 - 1901

None

Deaths 1849 - 1915

1864 March John

1864 September Susan (daughter of James Bankhead and Nancy ??)

1865 March Sarah Jane

Tynemouth

Apart from the marriage of the Rev William Thomson Bankhead in Sept 1885 and the death of his sister in Dec 1882, there is a solitary marriage of a John Bankhead in June 1877 and the death of his baby son John in Dec 1878.

Houghton, Co. Durham

A Margaret Ann Bankhead married in March 1870

Newcastle upon Tyne

A single birth is recorded between 1901 and 1930

Mar 1915, William A to mother surname Jobey.

In the 1891 census we find a Samuel Bankhead bc 1865 Newcastle living at 22 Burton St with his apparently remarried mother Jane and stepfather William Hunter. This could be a son of the James B and Jane who were born in Ireland.

The following are noted in WW1 records.

John Bankhead, Northumberland Fusiliers (Reg No 51677)

Thomas Bankhead Durham Light Infantry (Reg No 3594)

James Bankhead Durham Light Infantry (Reg No 131)