



The Changing Face of Research in Ireland Today

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Irish research is hard not impossible

- Some important records were destroyed in the 1922 fire
- Lots of records were never in the Four Court so survive to today
- The task is always to find relevant records
- The change since I started my research is the proliferation of finding aids



Where to start

- Civil registration in Australia
- Civil registration in Ireland
- Immigration records
- Parish Records
- Griffith Valuation
- Other Land, tax and other records



What is helpful to know

- Townland
- County
- Occupation



Old style finding aids

- *Manuscript sources for the history of Irish civilization* and *Sources for the history of Irish civilisation; articles in Irish periodicals*, Richard J. Hayes (ed)
- *O'Kief, Coshe Mang, Slieve Lougher, and Upper Blackwater in Ireland*, Albert Eugene Casey and others



Old style finding aids

- Index and calender publications
 - Calendar of the Orrery papers / edited by Edward MacLysaght
 - King's Inns admission papers, 1607-1867 / edited by Edward Keane, P. Beryl Phair, and Thomas U. Sadlier
 - Alumni Dublinenses



New style finding aids

- General Search engines (eg Google)
- Google Books, Gutenberg Project etc
- Indexes and OCR'd publications
- Sources (website)
- Ancestry.com
- FindMyPast



Civil Registration Australian – Ireland

- The indexes to Australian civil registrations now better and more available
- Ireland
 - Indexes on Irish Genealogy
 - Family search indexes and some transcriptions



Griffith Valuation

- Ask about Ireland
- Ancestry



Other land records

- Registry of Deeds
- National Library Manuscripts
 - Look at the finding aids
 - See also Sources



Court Records

- Find my past has a lot of Irish Court records including convictions for drunkenness and insolvency
- The incumbered estates records are wonderful resources



Newspapers

- Newspapers have always been an important source of information
- Now many newspapers have been scanned and indexed making them more accessible



Parish Records

- There has been tremendous work to make parish records in Ireland and elsewhere more accessible
- There are always surprises



Other

- Remember that the UK was one country
- Often Irish people appear in English and Scottish records – particularly the census records
- Sometimes the scattergun approach works



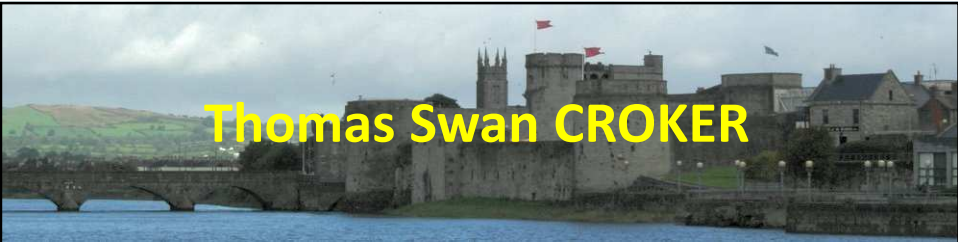
Case Study

- William Swan CROKER was the first of my ancestors to arrive in Australia on 5 Oct 1840
- He left a memorandum setting out his family connections
- His father Thomas Swan CROKER
- His grandfather Edward Abraham CROKER



William Swan CROKER

- Born in Dublin 10 Sep c1808 married 15 Jun 1835 died 10 Mar 1888
- Immigration records
- Baptisms of children a Christ Church Newcastle
- Death certificate



Thomas Swan CROKER

- Clerk in the Customs House Dublin
- Lived at Clonliffe Parade (in Clonliffe Road near Croke Park)
- Lots of interesting snippets from many sources
 - Newspapers; Parliamentary Papers; Court records; Deeds; Manuscripts; and more
- Still work to be done



Conclusion

- While the finding aids now available can help you still need to do diligent research and always check the original records