

Through Irish Eyes

Seeing the world as home

by

Rebecca L. Hudnall

Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys

First Edition

© Rebecca L Hudnall, 2016

Titles in the *Through Irish Eyes* Series

Part I. Ireland Back in the Day

Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary

Part III. Putting a Finger on History – the Caseys

Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree

Part V. To Be Determined

All Rights Reserved
San Francisco, CA

To my Mother,
Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall
1921–2014
The Sweetest Gift, A Mother's Smile

My mother was blessed with two brothers
who were two of the sweetest men who ever lived.
George Louis Casey
Charles Patrick Casey

Table of Contents

Part III. Putting a Finger on History – The Caseys.....	1
Introduction.....	3
The Locations In Ireland.....	5
The Cast of Characters – Caseys.....	11
In Ireland.....	13
John Casey’s Family.....	14
Bridget Sheridan’s Family.....	17
The Marriage.....	18
The Leaving Begins.....	21
Safe Passage.....	23
In America.....	25
Boone County, Virginia.....	25
The Farm.....	27
The Civil War.....	34
Picking Up The Pieces.....	37
The Children.....	43
Sarah Ann Casey Mannix.....	44
Nicholas Casey.....	53
Patrick Casey.....	55
Mary Catherine Casey.....	56
John Patrick Casey, Jr.....	57
James B. Casey.....	63
Margaret Casey.....	64
Matilda Casey.....	65
John Casey Sr.’s Sisters and Brothers.....	67
The Sisters and Their Known Descendants.....	68
Esther Casey.....	69
Margaret Casey.....	76
The Brothers and Their Known Descendants.....	82
Peter Casey.....	83
Michael Casey.....	85
Edward Casey – A Possibility.....	86
Balroe, Ireland Casey Households in the 1901 and 1911 Census.....	87
Other Caseys in Ballinacargy.....	88
Other Caseys in Brooklyn.....	88
Descendants of Sarah Ann Casey Mannix.....	89
Katherine Josephine Mannix.....	90
Mary Ann Mannix.....	91
John F. Mannix.....	92
Margaret L. Mannix.....	92
Nicholas C. Mannix.....	93
James A. Mannix.....	94
Patrick S. (H.) Mannix.....	96
Bridget Cecilia Mannix.....	98
Joseph Maurice Mannix.....	100

Rosa Mannix.....	100
Gertrude Mannix.....	101
Descendants of John P. Casey, Jr.....	103
John Edward Casey.....	104
Louis Sheridan Casey.....	114
James Philip Casey.....	116
Peter Joseph Casey.....	119
Marie Casey.....	124
George Nicholas Casey, Sr.....	125
Denouement.....	128
Appendix 1. The Legend and The Reality.....	129
Appendix 2. Margaret Casey McGrath Letters.....	130
Appendix 3. John Casey, Jr. Selected Letters.....	137
Appendix 4. Letter from Patrick Williams of Brooklyn to John P. Casey, Sr.....	140
Appendix 5. Letter from Hugh King to Nicholas Casey.....	144
Appendix 6. Letter from Margaret Mannix to Matilda Casey.....	145
Appendix 7. Another Casey Sheridan Connection.....	147
Appendix 8. A Lesson in Planting Potatoes by Tim Casey.....	154
Appendix 9. Katie McCarty.....	155
Appendix 10. Family Group Sheets.....	158
Appendix 11. A Few Documents.....	181

Illustration Index

Illustration 1: Areas of interest to the Casey and Sheridan families in Counties Westmeath and Longford.....	7
Illustration 2: Kilbixy Civil Parish.....	8
Illustration 3: Location of Anne Casey and Peter Casey tenancies in Balroe in 1854. Griffith's Valuation.....	9
Illustration 4: Old stone farm house, Balroe townland, Ireland. © T. Casey 2015.....	10
Illustration 5: John Patrick Casey, Sr. Tintype.....	14
Illustration 6: Possible image of Bridget Sheridan Casey. Tintype.....	17
Illustration 7: St. James Church, Clonbroney, County Longford. © 2008.....	19
Illustration 8: Interior of St. James Church, Clonbroney. © 2008.....	20
Illustration 9: The Athlone Sentinel, March 12, 1847, County Westmeath, Ireland.....	22
Illustration 10: Casey passenger entry for the Constitution.....	24
Illustration 11: Railroad Map 1850. Courtesy of www.OldRailHistory.com	27
Illustration 12: The old dirt road to the Casey farm can still be seen alongside Falling Rock Creek. © R. Hudnall 2010.....	30
Illustration 13: Outline of the Lick Creek farm at the time of John Casey's death showing surrounding farms. Probate map, 1902.....	31
Illustration 14: Google® Earth view with the Lick Creek farm outlined and superimposed over a 2005 image. Road at the bottom left is Casey Fork. Light colored area within the borders of the farm is the old dynamite storage area.....	32
Illustration 15: Area of West Virginia showing Peytona District, Casey Fork, the Casey farm, town of Peytona, White Oak Creek, Cobbs (present day Ashford), Marmet, Hernshaw, and Winifrede. 1908–1909.....	33
Illustration 16: On the porch at the Putnam County farm. Left to right: Mary Casey, Nick Casey, Matilda Casey, unidentified woman, unidentified man.....	41
Illustration 17: Sarah Ann Casey Mannix. Image courtesy of David Wade.....	44
Illustration 18: Possible tintype of Patrick Mannix (1836–1911).....	45
Illustration 19: Grave of Pat Mannix (1836–1911). Dayton National Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio © 2010.....	52
Illustration 20: Possible tintype of Nicholas Casey.....	53
Illustration 21: Mary Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.....	56
Illustration 22: John Patrick Casey, Jr. as a young man.....	57
Illustration 23: The Casey Brothers, Phil, Lou, John, Joe. Circa 1900.....	58
Illustration 24: George Nicholas and Marie Casey. About 1909.....	59
Illustration 25: Rose Lamb Casey and John Patrick Casey, Jr. Tintype. Circa 1890s.....	60
Illustration 26: Gravestone of John and Rose Lamb Casey.....	62
Illustration 27: Stone work surrounds the graves.....	62
Illustration 28: James B. Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.....	63
Illustration 29: Margaret Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.....	64
Illustration 30: Matilda Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.....	65
Illustration 31: Matilda Casey as a young woman.....	66
Illustration 32: Esther Casey McGrath obituary. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, April 23, 1868, page 3.....	71
Illustration 33: Esther McGrath's family graves are unmarked beneath the large tree to the left at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. Section West, Range I, Grave 29. © 2011.....	71
Illustration 34: Anne Eliza McGrath Barden obituary. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 22, 1881.....	72
Illustration 35: Nicholas McGrath obituary. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, December 9, 1882, page 3.....	73
Illustration 36: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 11, 1922, page 24.....	74

Illustration 37: Margaret Casey McGrath, late in life.....	77
Illustration 38: Margaret Casey McGrath family stone. Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. Section St. Marys, Grave 1875. © 2011.....	80
Illustration 39: Katherine Mannix (1866–1960). Circa 1886, by A.T. Proctor Portraits, Charleston, WV.	90
Illustration 40: Katherine Mannix Tombstone. Arlington National Cemetery.....	91
Illustration 41: Margaret Mannix. Tintype.....	92
Illustration 42: Nick Mannix. Tintype.....	93
Illustration 43: James Mannix.....	94
Illustration 44: Back left: James Mannix. Back center: Nick Mannix. Front right: Pat H. Mannix. Others unidentified. Tintype.....	95
Illustration 45: The Mannix Brothers. Nick, left, and Pat, right. Photograph by A.T. Proctor Portraits, Charleston, WV.....	97
Illustration 46: Bridget Cecilia Mannix as a young woman.....	98
Illustration 47: Earl David Fox and Bridget Cecilia Mannix Fox, July 17, 1956.....	99
Illustration 48: Joseph Maurice Mannix as a young man.....	100
Illustration 49: Neely Brothers store, Hinton, West Virginia. December 18, 1920.....	101
Illustration 50: Betty Neely.....	102
Illustration 51: John Edward Casey (1892–1974), nine months old. 1893.....	104
Illustration 52: K&M train wreck in the early 1900s. From family collection.....	105
Illustration 53: John Edward Casey (1892–1974) and Faye Elizabeth Selbe (1898–1981) on their wedding day, May 12, 1920.....	106
Illustration 54: George (1925–2001), Marie (1921–2014), and Patrick (1929–2014) Casey.....	107
Illustration 55: John Casey’s ferry boat with the Marmet Locks and Dam in the background.....	108
Illustration 56: At the opening of Casey’s Diner, Marmet, West Virginia. Left to right: Charles Patrick Casey, George Louis Casey, Sue Hager, Faye Casey, John Casey.....	110
Illustration 57: Faye and John Casey. 1963.....	112
Illustration 58: Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014). Marshall College. 1939.....	113
Illustration 59: Charles Patrick Casey (1929–2014) as a teenager.....	113
Illustration 60: George Louis Casey (1925–2001). The handsomest sailor ever.....	113
Illustration 61: Louis Sheridan Casey (1894–1970) as a young man. Photograph taken in the front yard of the Casey home at Levi.....	114
Illustration 62: James Philip Casey (1897–1976) as a young soldier. 1918.....	116
Illustration 63: Gertrude Aultz and Phil Casey, shortly after their wedding. 1937.....	117
Illustration 64: Peter Joseph Casey (1899–1985) as a young man.....	119
Illustration 65: Thelma Barbara Leftwich (1905–1992) and Peter Joseph Casey (1899–1985). Wedding photograph. 1928.....	120
Illustration 66: Joe Casey Tracks Down Thief. The Charleston Gazette. January 14, 1933.....	121
Illustration 67: Advertisement for the Opening of Joe’s New Auto Service. The Charleston Gazette. May 11, 1930.....	122
Illustration 68: Joe’s Auto Service Expands. The Charleston Gazette. September 27, 1936.....	123
Illustration 69: Joe and Thelma Casey and their niece Marie Elizabeth Casey, at Cave Rock at Lake Tahoe, Nevada. 1939.....	123
Illustration 70: Marie Casey (1902–1996) as a young woman.....	124
Illustration 71: George Nicholas Casey, Sr. (1907–1991).....	125
Illustration 72: George Nicholas Casey, Sr. (1907–1991) as a teenager.....	126
Illustration 73: George Nicholas Casey (1907–1991) and Alia Marcella Burati (1911–2007) at their wedding.....	127
Illustration 74: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, December 20, 1892, page 6.....	152

Illustration 75: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, July 1, 1886, page 6.....	152
Illustration 76: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, August 19, 1900, page 5.....	153
Illustration 77: Katie McCarty. Circa 1888.....	155
Illustration 78: Katie McCarty. Tintype.....	156
Illustration 79: Kate McCarty, seated. Possibly Patrick Mannix (1836–1911), seated and Matilda Casey, standing. Tintype.....	157
Illustration 80: Unidentified man, seated left. Possibly Patrick Mannix (1836–1911), seated right. Possibly James Casey, standing. Tintype.....	157
Illustration 81: Marriage record of Catherine McManus, 25, and Nicholas Casey, 24, of Balroe, son of Peter Casey. June 11, 1872.....	185
Illustration 82: Marriage record of Margaret Hanley, 17, and Thomas Casey, 27, of Balroe, son of Peter Casey. February 24, 1879, Walshestown.....	185
Illustration 83: Death record of Peter Casey, 86, of Balroe. June 30, 1882.....	186
Illustration 84: Death record of Thomas Casey of Balroe, Peter Casey's son. June 26, 1926.....	186
Illustration 85: Tithe Applotment Book, Balroe townland, Kilbixy civil parish, County Westmeath..	187
Illustration 86: John P. Casey, Jr. birth record, April 13, 1854.....	188
Illustration 87: Marriage Record of Sarah Ann Casey (1847–1898) and Patrick Mannix (1836–1911).	188
Illustration 88: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) pension statement referencing his service at Vicksburg.	189
Illustration 89: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) pension declaration referencing his marriage.....	189
Illustration 90: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) pension application declaration showing birthplace and birth date.....	190
Illustration 91: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) Civil War pension certificate.....	191
Illustration 92: Beckley Messenger. July 13, 1915.....	192
Illustration 93: Beckley Register. December 3, 1914.....	192
Illustration 94: Bluefield Daily Telegraph. February 15, 1900, page 7.....	192
Illustration 95: 1939 Letter of Recommendation for John Edward Casey.....	193
Illustration 96: Rose Lamb Casey (1867–1953) with her son Peter Joseph Casey (1899–1985). Photographed July 12, 1952.....	194
Illustration 97: Rose Lamb Casey (1867–1953), Marie Casey (1902–1996), Louis Casey (1894–1970) on a trip west in 1939.....	194
Illustration 98: Marie Casey (1902–1996) with her father John P. Casey, Jr. (1854–1937).....	195
Illustration 99: Fr. George H. Toner, first pastor at Immaculate Conception Church, Montgomery....	195
Illustration 100: Louis Sheridan Casey (1894–1970). Tintype.....	195
Illustration 101: John Edward Casey (1892–1974). Tintype.....	195
Illustration 102: Construction crew, Libby-Owens plant, Charleston, WV.....	196
Illustration 103: James Philip Casey (1897–1976) on the construction crew at the Libby-Owens plant.	196
Illustration 104: Hernshaw School about 1910. Back row, left to right: Attie Spencer, Noah Hodge, Stella Toney, Roma Hodge or Sawyer Nelson, Earl Jordan, Phil Casey, Joe Casey, Herbert Garred, Charlie Hawks, Mary Hawks, Mattie Price. Second row, left to right: Myrtle Hughey, Mayme Spurlock, Eunice Griffith, Grace Hawks, Freida Peal, Ona McCallister, Joe Stone, Ray Holstein, Ernest Jordan, Ernest Goddard, Sam Clendenin, Richard Hawks, Harry Weise, Seibert Toney. Front row, left to right: Georgia Griffith, Ethel Spurlock, Frankie Walker, Roley Jordan, Gusta Meadows, Marie Casey, Fanny Mooney, Effie Jordan, Leonard Nelson, David Griffith, Felix Garred or ? Goddard, Lloyd Goddard, Charles Weise, Bob Garred, Ed Bowen.....	197
Illustration 105: Hernshaw School Group about 1900. John Casey and Louis Casey are indicated by red arrows. Others are unidentified.....	198

Illustration 106: Hernshaw Methodist Church Group about 1907. John P. Casey, Jr. is on the far right holding his son, George Nicholas Casey. Marie Casey is in the white dress to his right.....	199
Illustration 107: Hernshaw Church Group Close-Up.....	200
Illustration 108: Site of Casey home in Hernshaw.....	200
Illustration 109: Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014). Graduation from St. Agnes School. 1935.....	201
Illustration 110: Faye Selbe Casey (1898–1981) holding her daughter Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014) in 1921.....	201
Illustration 111: Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014). First Communion picture. 1928.....	202
Illustration 112: Marie Casey (1902–1996).....	203
Illustration 113: George (1925–2001) and Marie Elizabeth (1921–2014) Casey.....	203
Illustration 114: Joe Casey (1899–1985).....	203
Illustration 115: Pat Casey (1929–2014).....	203
Illustration 116: John E. Casey (1892–1974) and his son George (1925–2001).....	204
Illustration 117: Pat Casey (1929–2014) with his sister Marie Elizabeth (1921–2014), ready for work at Casey's Diner.....	204
Illustration 118: Faye Casey (1898–1981) and her son George (1925–2001) dressed for Charleston shopping. 1938.....	204
Illustration 119: Pat Casey (1929–2014) holding his dog, Tawny, with his friend Hookie Johnson. George Casey (1925–2001) can be seen in the background.....	204
Illustration 120: Faye Casey (1898–1981) standing in her yard.....	205
Illustration 121: The sons of Patrick and Agnes Mannix: Enlow, Raymond, Jack, Kenneth, and Adrian.	205
Illustration 122: Faye and John Edward Casey with their chickens.....	205
Illustration 123: John Edward Casey (1892–1974) hoeing corn.....	205
Illustration 124: Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall (1921–2014) and A. James Manchin, WV Secretary of State.....	206
Illustration 125: Charleston Daily Mail, October 5, 1938, page 9.....	206
Illustration 126: George Nicholas Casey (1907–1991).....	206
Illustration 127: George Nicholas Casey (1907–1991), in 1940.....	206
Illustration 128: Charleston Gazette, March 17, 1932, page 1.....	207
Illustration 129: Miss Hebener, Louis Casey's girlfriend.....	207
Illustration 130: John Edward Casey (1892–1974).....	208
Illustration 131: George Casey (1907–1991) on a trip west in 1939.....	209
Illustration 132: The three Lamb sisters: Mary Alice (Speyer), Catherine (Craig), and Rose (Casey) with George Casey standing in front of Joe Casey's new house in 1938.....	209
Illustration 133: Bridget Cecilia Mannix Fox and Faye Elizabeth Selbe Casey standing on the Fox porch in Washington, DC. 1956.....	209
Illustration 134: Breakfast menu from Casey's Grill, Thelma and Joe Casey's restaurant.....	210
Illustration 135: Left to right: George, Pat, Faye, John, and Marie Elizabeth at Faye and John Casey's 50th Wedding Anniversary. 1970.....	210
Illustration 136: Margaret Mannix and Katherine Mannix. Tintype.....	211
Illustration 137: Nick Mannix (1874–1900).....	211
Illustration 138: Marie Casey (1902–1996) and her cousin Alice Craig at Levi.....	211
Illustration 139: Rose Lamb Casey (1867–1953).....	211
Illustration 140: Marie Casey (1902–1996).....	213

Part III. Putting a Finger on History – The Caseys

Introduction

This is the story of John Patrick Casey and Bridget Sheridan Casey. Born in Ireland, they both died in rural Boone County, West Virginia. This book is part of a larger story surrounding Bridget and John, of their families, friends, and intermarriages. Detailed in the five parts of *Through Irish Eyes, Seeing the World as Home*, the story follows the Irish side of my extended family as they make their way in the world, from Ireland across the world.

To understand the family's life in Ireland and their motivations for leaving, the reader should begin with *Part I. Ireland Back in the Day*. As with hundreds of thousands before them, and hundreds of thousands after them, John and Bridget decided to take a chance on America. By removing themselves from all they had known, they changed their own lives and the lives of their descendents forever.

Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary relates the story of the family of Rose Lamb who married the son of John and Bridget Casey, following the Lamb family from Ireland to England and on to West Virginia in 1865.

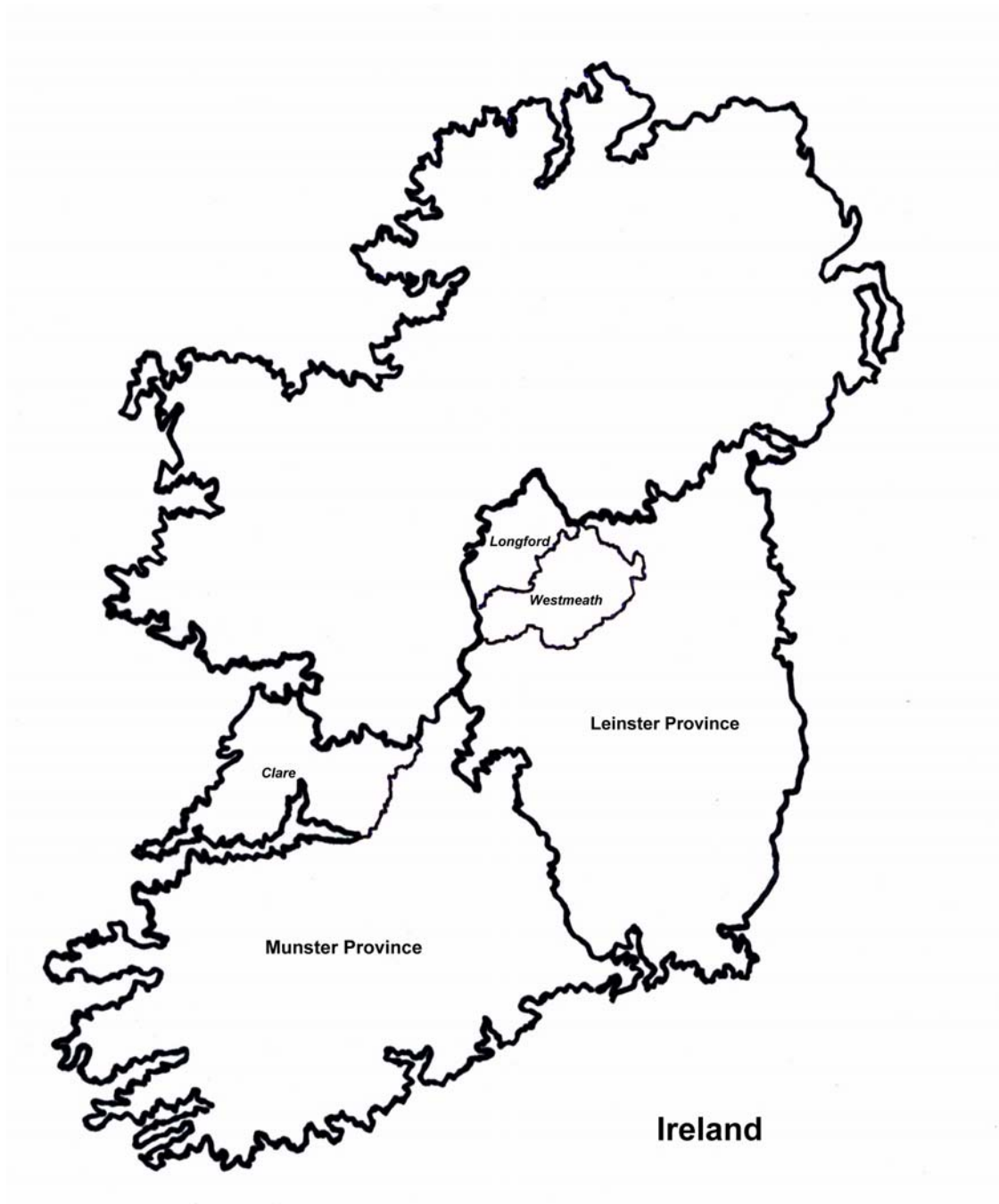
Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree relates the story of Bridget Sheridan's family as they immigrated to New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, California, and Australia, in their own diaspora.

It is often said that our lives are the sum total of the decisions we make along the way. John and Bridget decided to join two of her brothers in Virginia in 1850. There they lived long and productive lives after enduring the Civil War in a hardscrabble area of Virginia which became West Virginia in 1863.

Two of John's sisters immigrated with their husbands to New York City in 1849, Esther in January and Margaret in August. Cholera broke out on the ship carrying Margaret and her family and she lost her husband and two of her children in rapid succession. Esther would fare better in the short term but both she and her husband would be dead in less than twenty years. Margaret would live a long life in Brooklyn but would endure many hardships along the way.

Like the Irish everywhere though, the family never ceased to look back at the Emerald Isle with affection and a sense of longing.

The Locations In Ireland



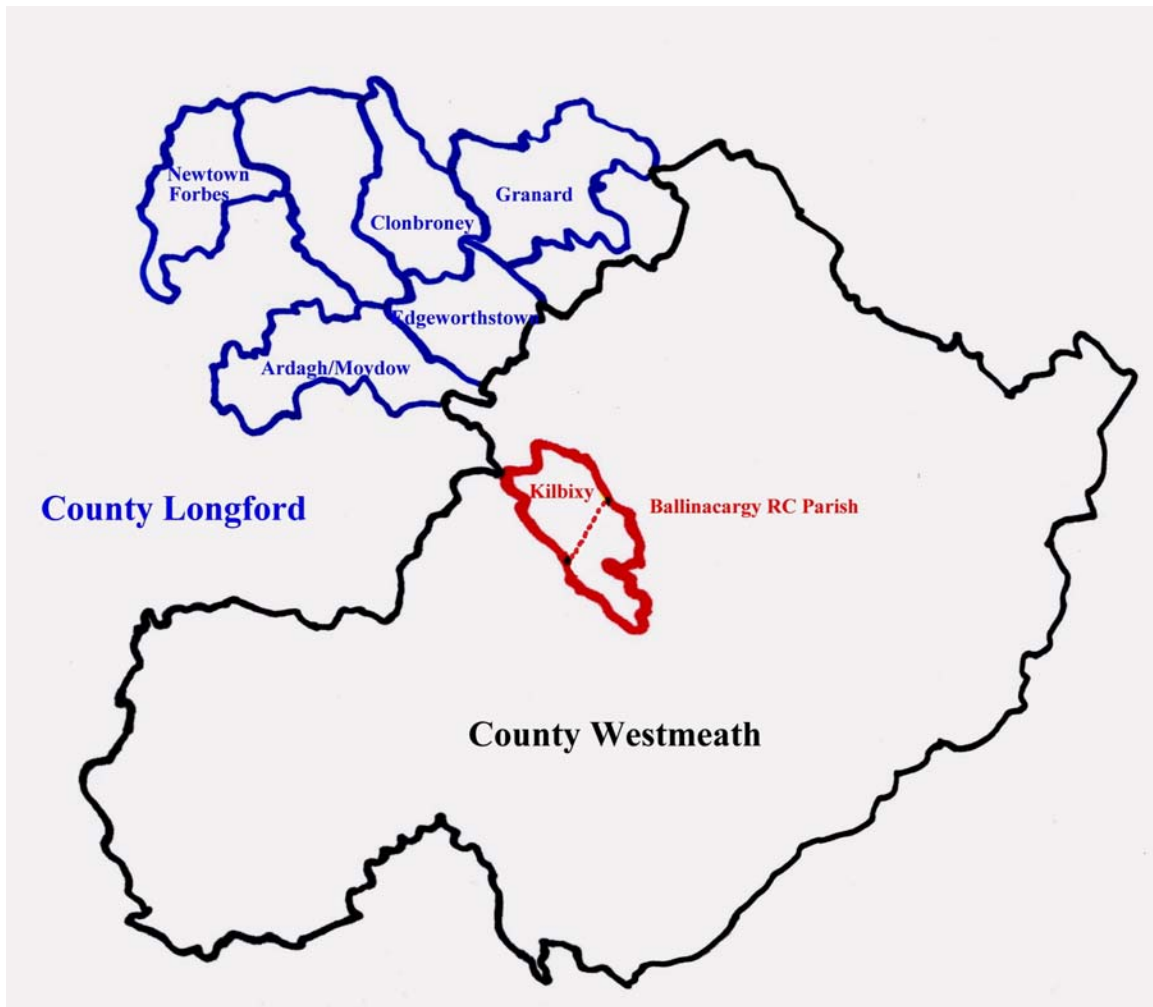


Illustration 1: Areas of interest to the Casey and Sheridan families in Counties Westmeath and Longford.

Kilbixy civil parish is located within the Roman Catholic parish of Ballinacargy, and is comprised of about half the area of Ballinacargy.

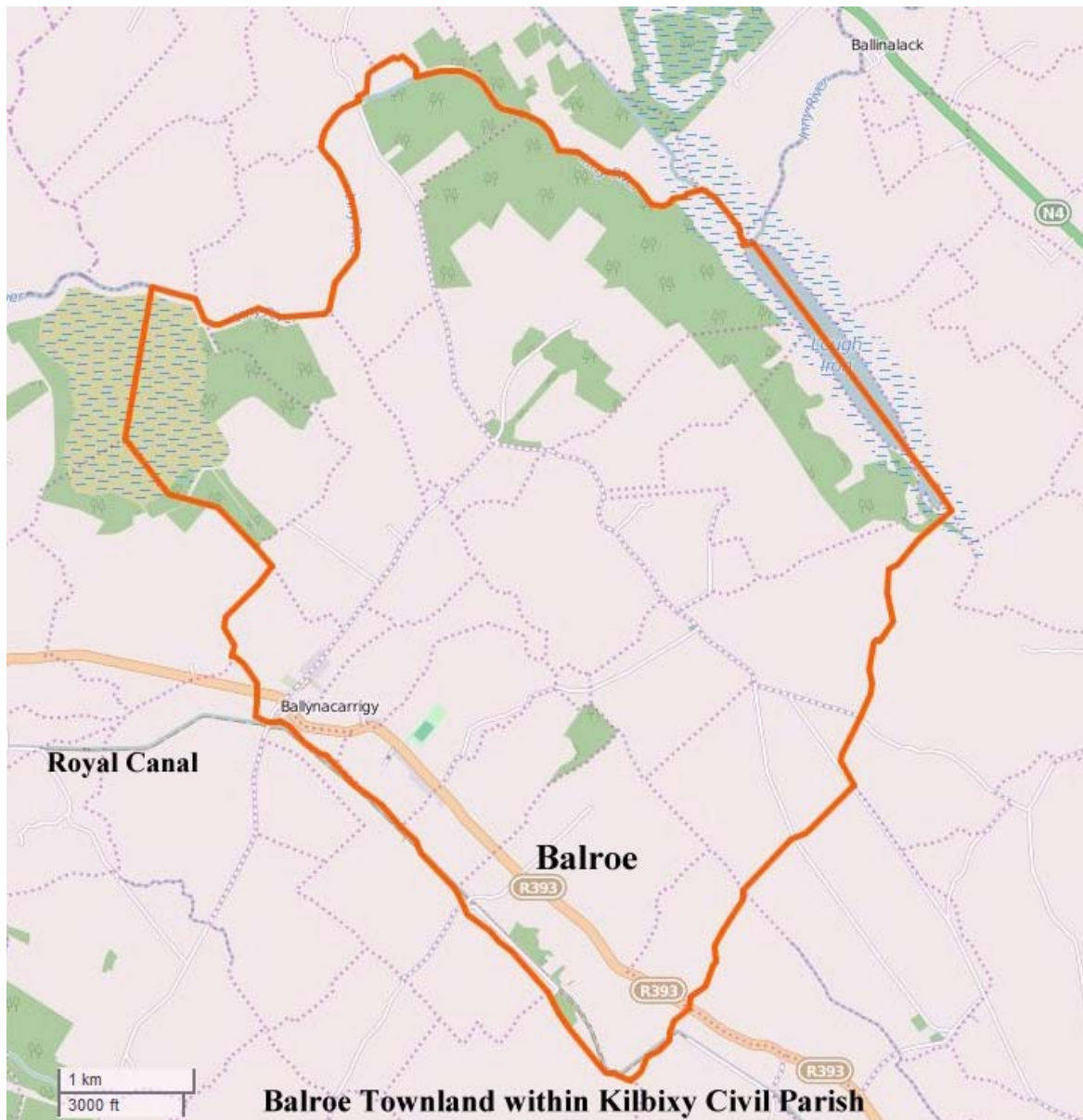


Illustration 2: Kilbixy Civil Parish.

The town of Ballnacargy is also sometimes spelled Ballinacarrigy.

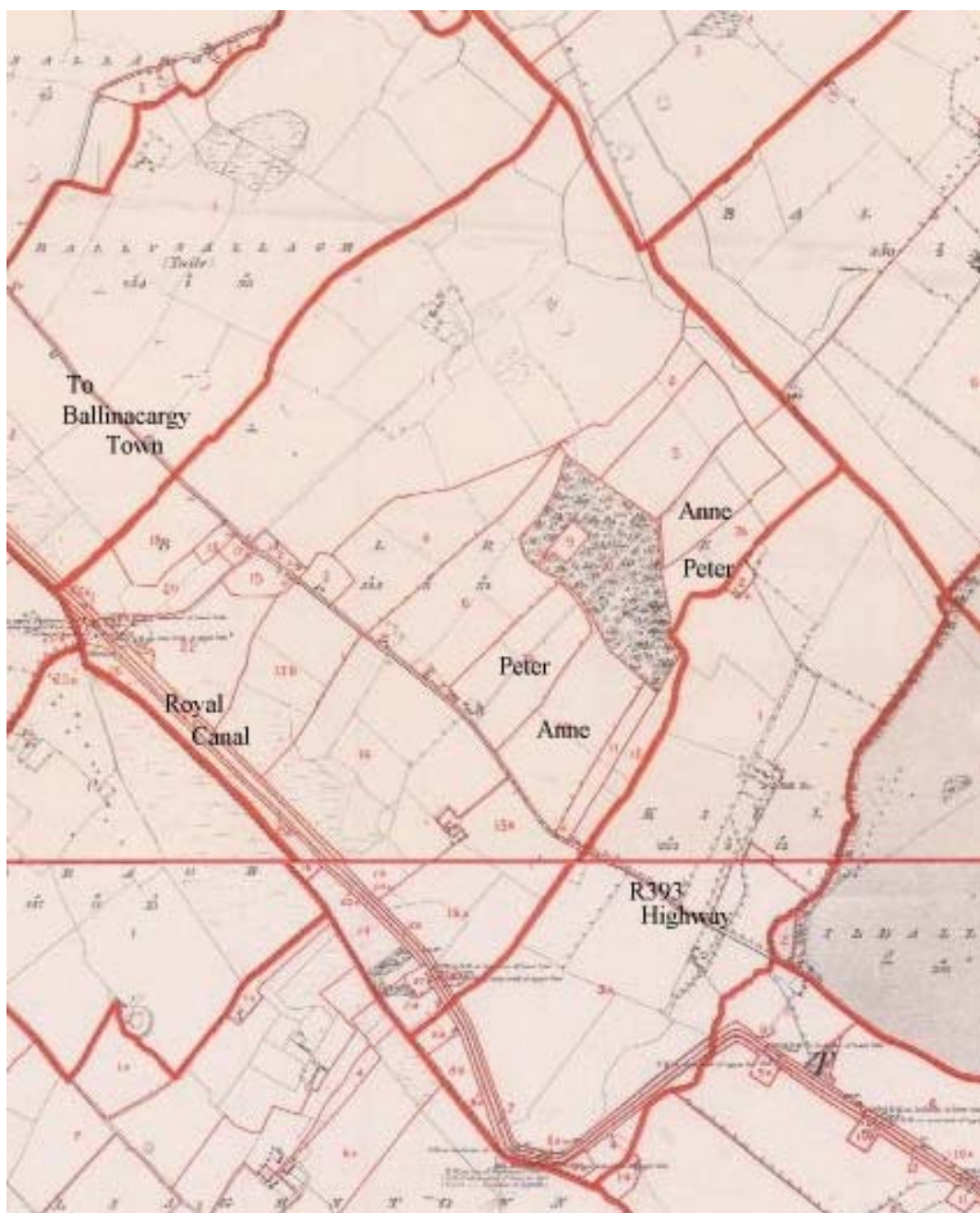


Illustration 3: Location of Anne Casey and Peter Casey tenancies in Balroe in 1854. Griffith's Valuation.

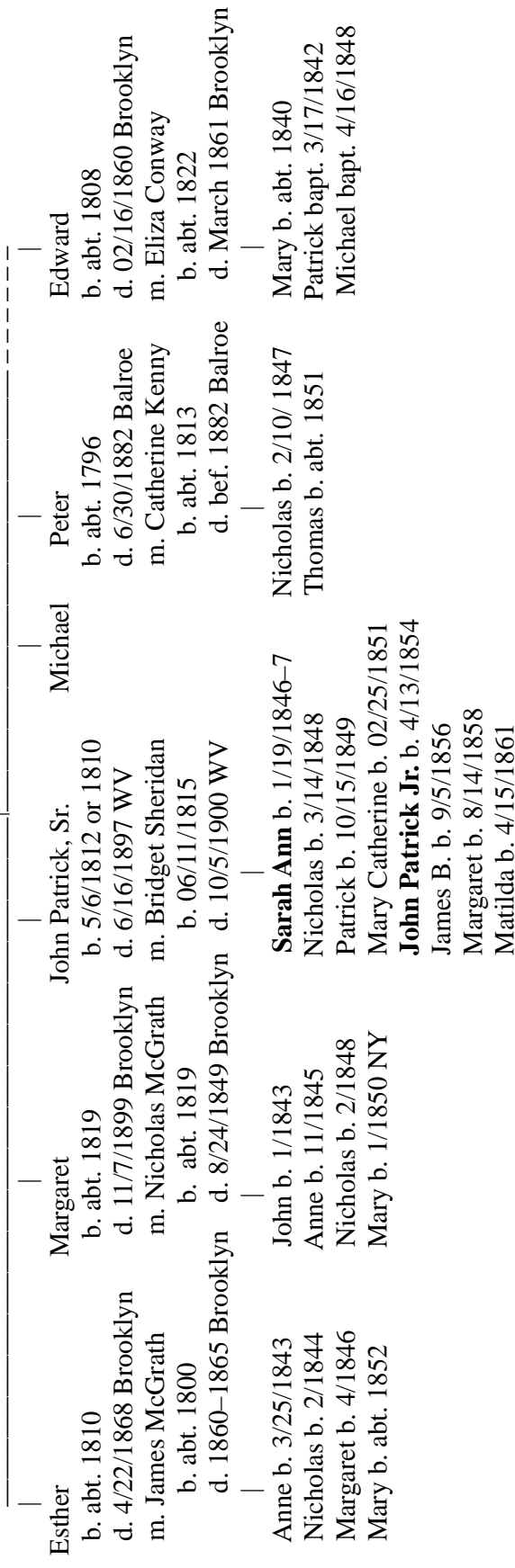


Illustration 4: Old stone farm house, Balroe townland, Ireland. © T. Casey 2015

On vacation in Ireland in 2015, Tim Casey was told by locals that this was a Casey house from long ago.

The Cast of Characters - Caseys

Nicholas Casey d. bet. 1833–1854
m. Anne (Unknown) d. after 1854



Sarah Ann Casey/Patrick Mannix Family

Katherine J. b. 12/17/1866
Mary Ann b. 7/7/1868
John F. b. 5/1870
Margaret L. b. 5/12/1872
Nicholas C. b. 3/30/1874
James A. b. 4/8/1877
Patrick b. 9/10/1878
Bridget Cecilia b. 5/1883
Joseph M. b. 2/1885
Rosa b. 8/19/1886
Gertrude b. 12/1/1889

John Patrick Casey, Jr./Rose Lamb Family

John Edward b. 9/12/1892
Louis Sheridan b. 1/22/1894
James Philip b. 3/4/1897
Peter Joseph b. 4/7/1899
Marie b. 10/27/1902
George Nicholas b. 02/07/1907

In Ireland

The potato blight was just beginning to appear in Waterford and Wexford counties in 1845. North in the Irish Midlands, John Casey and Bridget Sheridan were planning to marry. They would have a spring wedding with their families in attendance. Some in the family must have begun to think they were getting a ‘little long in the tooth’. Bridget was turning 30 and John was approaching 33. This match would further the existing ties between the Caseys and the Sheridans. It would also begin a personal odyssey which would open their future to new possibilities across the ocean, as they followed in the footsteps of their brothers and sisters.

Although it was an arranged marriage¹ – after all, whose marriage was not arranged – it would prove to be a long and a contented one. John was accomplished and hard working. Bridget was resourceful, surrounded by a large and loving family, and would work hard to make the union successful. Together they would have their own large and loving family, for generations to come.

Bridget was the youngest of at least seven children who survived to adulthood. John may have been the youngest brother but he had at least one younger sister, Margaret, called Peggy by the family. John and Peggy would keep in touch sporadically over the years, and he would want the best for her all her life. Although they didn’t know it at the time, they would lose another sister, Esther, early, and Peggy’s life would be hard, but she was tough and nothing would defeat her resolve to take care of her family.

¹ *Still thinking inside the box, I wondered how John and Bridget met and fell in love but was quickly disavowed of this notion by Father Francis Kelly of Granard, Ireland. When presented with my quandary, he smiled. “Ah”, he said, “meeting would have had nothing to do with it.” It was only then that my mind opened to consider what, of course, would have been the sequence of events. The marriage was arranged by relatives. Although this may sound foreign to our modern ears, it was a practice that often led to very successful, long lasting arrangements between people whose personalities complemented each other.*

John Casey's Family

"... many a happy day we all had. Brothers and sisters together in our youth full days with plenty all around us."

- Letter from Margaret Casey McGrath to her niece, December 15, 1897.

John Patrick Casey, Sr.² was born in Ireland, the son of Nicholas and Anne Casey³ on May 6, 1812 or possibly as early as 1810.⁴ At least four brothers and sisters have been identified but John's family was probably much larger than this. On average at the time, a child was born approximately every two years during the child bearing years of marriage. John's family were farmers in the townland of Balroe, in the civil parish of Kilbixy, and the Roman Catholic parish of Ballinacargy, which encompasses both civil parishes of Kilbixy and Templeoran.⁵

In Henry VIII's time the ancient county of Meath included today's counties of Westmeath, Longford and part of Kings.⁶ Towards the end of Henry's reign Meath was divided and Westmeath was formed. Bordering County Longford, Westmeath is an



Illustration 5: John Patrick Casey, Sr. Tintype.

² *Death Certificate for John Edward Casey, grandson of John Patrick Casey, Sr., gave his father's name as John Patrick Casey, Jr.*

³ *John P. Casey, Sr. death certificate, Boone County, WV, 1897. Informant was Bridget (Biddy) Casey.*

⁴ *A handwritten note at Marmet, WV gave his birthday as May 6, 1810, and this date might be correct. Boone County records give his age as 89 at the time of his death in 1897, placing his birth in 1808. Further complicating the issue, his age varies on American census records. In 1850 his age was 38, implying 1812 is the correct year. Another family note gave his birth date as June 10, 1810 but this could be a confusion with Bridget Sheridan's birth date on June 11.*

⁵ *John's sisters, Esther and Margaret (Peggy) were married there and by Irish tradition, they would have been married in their home parish.*

area of gently rolling terrain, not rising to any great heights. For centuries it was the scene of hostilities between the native Irish and the English.

The main town in the Roman Catholic parish of Ballinacargy, *Baile na Carraige*, ‘Townland of the Rock’, is also named Ballinacargy, and the town housed the Catholic chapel in Nicholas Casey’s time.⁷ In 1831 the town was flourishing with 46 houses, a free school, and the largest market in the county for oats and barley.⁸ The Caseys lived just outside of the town proper.

Balroe,⁹ *Baile Rua*, ‘Red Townland’, is roughly 525 acres, in the civil parish of Kilbixy, the Poor Law Union of Mullingar, the Barony of Moygoish, in the province of Leinster. In 1829 the English Parliament considered offering voting rights to Irish freeholders¹⁰ who held property with a minimum annual valuation of £10. On May 2, 1829, Nicholas, Matthew, and Peter Casey each applied to register their freehold for a house and land in Balroe with a valuation of £10 each.¹¹ Patrick Casey of Balroe applied to register his freehold, with a valuation of £10, to be heard by the Clerk of the Peace on July 6, 1831.¹² So many Irish applied that the necessary valuation was raised to 50 pounds due to concerns over how many native Irish might obtain such voting rights.

Nicholas was a tenant farmer in Balroe in 1833¹³ with nine Irish acres of arable land and eleven Irish acres, two roods, and six perches of moor land. He paid 28 shillings in tithe for his holdings, representing ten percent of the value of his crop.¹⁴ Tithes, used to support the clergy of the Church of Ireland, were much hated among the Catholic Irish, an animosity that came to a head in the Tithe War of 1830–1836.¹⁵

Nicholas had died by the time of Griffith’s Valuation in 1854, but his widow Anne, was still in Balroe along with a number of other Caseys, as a tenant of Hugh Morgan Tuite.¹⁶

⁶ *The Penny Cyclopaedia of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge*, C. Knight, 1839, page 42. Google Books.

⁷ *Ibid.*, page 44.

⁸ *Ibid.*, page 44.

⁹ *The R393 highway goes through Balroe.*

¹⁰ *One who owned a piece of land outright, or held it in lease for the duration of their life. Sometimes the life estate would also include the life of the eldest son.*

¹¹ “A list of Notices of Applications for Registering Freeholds in the County of Westmeath, received by the Clerks of the Peace up to and for the 2d of May, 1829”. *The Westmeath Journal*, May 14, 1829, page 2.

¹² *Ibid.*, June 9, 1831, page 2.

¹³ *Tithe Applotment Books, 1823–1837.*

¹⁴ *In addition to a 10% tithe, Nicholas would have had to pay rent which was calculated on the average price of oats and wheat between 1816 and 1823.*

¹⁵ *Tithes were abolished in 1869 when the Church of Ireland lost its status as the established church.*

¹⁶ *Ordinance Survey Maps 11 & 18, 7 B&b and 8 A&B, Griffith’s Valuation, 1847–1864.*

Anne had her own tenant farm but her house was on land farmed by her son Peter, a very common situation.¹⁷ Anne died sometime after 1854.

While Nicholas and Anne are fairly common as Irish first names, the two records constitute an auspicious overlap. There were only eight Nicholas Caseys with tenancies subject to tithing in all of Ireland in 1833.¹⁸ Church records confirm that two of Nicholas' daughters were married out of Ballincargy parish, confirming the Balroe tenancy as the homeland for our Caseys.

Author's Note:

Other Caseys mentioned in this story came from or lived in, the Newtownforbes area of County Longford. No evidence supports Nicholas Casey as being from there. An old English probate case from the 1800s, known as the Sheridan/Blake case, provides evidence of Caseys in Newtownforbes who were related to the Sheridans. See Appendix 7. Another Casey Sheridan Connection.

Newtownforbes, formerly named Lisbrack, *An Lios Breac*, 'Speckled Fort', is a small village in the civil parish of Clonguish, *Cluan Guish* or 'Meadow of the Swans'. The Forbes family, the Earl of Granard, changed the name of the town from Lisbrack to Newtownforbes around 1750. St. Mary's Catholic Church was there but few records exist from the early 1800s. Caseys were 'as rare as hen's teeth' in County Longford, except for this enclave around Newtownforbes. It was described in 1836 as "A straggling street, about ½ a mile long, on the Mail Coach road leading from Carrickonshannon to Longford (Town). It contains a parish church, a R.C. (sic) Chapel, a Methodist Chapel, a Police Barrick (sic), a School House and a Post Office." - Parish of Clongesh, W. Wilkinson, It. R.E., 30th September 1836

The county with the most Caseys in all of Ireland was, and probably still is, Cork. This author remembers Faye Elizabeth Selbe Casey saying part of the family came from Cork. If she was referring to the Caseys, they may have moved north in the late 1700s or early 1800s to work on the Royal Canal.

¹⁷ *Is there More in Griffith's Valuation Than Just Names?* James R. Reilly, CGRS. Salt Lake City, Utah.

¹⁸ *No Roman Catholic death records for Ballinacargy are generally available. Nothing was found for either Nicholas or Anne in any other records. However, John, Matthew, Nicholas, Patrick, and Richard Casey were in the Tithe Applotment Books in 1833 with Nicholas and Patrick missing in Griffith's Valuation in 1854. Peter, Bryan and Anne were new additions to Balroe Casey tenancies in Griffith's Valuation in 1854.*

Bridget Sheridan's Family

Bridget Sheridan was born in Ireland on June 11, 1815, almost certainly in the parish of Clonbroney, very close to Ballinacargy. Clonbroney, or *Cluain Bronaigh* – ‘Broney’s Meadow’, is in the baronies of Ardagh and Granard, in County Longford. At various times also spelled Clonebrone and Clonebronye, it sits just outside Granard Town, the ancestral home of the Sheridan Clan. Family letters confirm Clonbroney as Bridget’s home for at least part of her life.¹⁹ Bridget’s family, as well as some of John Casey’s, lived in and around the Roman Catholic parishes of Ardagh-Moydow, and Edgeworthstown, as well as Clonbroney.

Bridget, called Biddy by the family, had at least four brothers and two sisters and their families and stories are detailed in *Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree.*

Towards the end of her life, Bridget Casey kept up a correspondence with her niece, Bridget Reilly Brady, the daughter of her sister, Mary Sheridan. Mrs. Brady ran a boarding house in Brooklyn for years and her letters provide a window on the Sheridan clan in New York and elsewhere.



Illustration 6: Possible image of Bridget Sheridan Casey. Tintype.

¹⁹ *Letter from Bridget Brady to her aunt, Bridget Sheridan Casey, 1886.*

The Marriage

John and Bridget were married in Ireland in the spring of 1846²⁰ almost certainly at St. James Church in Clonbroney. The ceremony was a proper wedding attended by family and friends from all over counties Longford and Westmeath. The sun must have shown on the bride and groom that day, for in keeping with the traditional Irish custom, they were bestowed with good luck. Theirs would be a happy and fruitful union and they would live to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary, no small feat for the time.

Many Irish parishes of the time didn't have rectories, so traveling priests would rent lodgings or stay with parishioners on their visits. Parishes could keep records only if they had a place to store them. Without a rectory, records would not have been kept prior to when they were required by law.²¹ If the parish had a rectory, as Ardagh-Moydow in County Longford did, the records could be expected to be quite good. Unfortunately Clonbroney did not have a rectory in 1846, so thus far, no record has been found to prove definitively that John and Bridget were married at that church. Even if Bridget had moved to another parish, Irish tradition would have made it likely that she would have returned to her original parish to be married.²²

²⁰ *Three different years have been recorded in unofficial records as the year John and Bridget were married: 1842, 1843 and 1846. One Boone County Genealogical Society record lists 1842, without a month or day, but this can be safely discounted. A handwritten note found at Marmet, WV, has February 15, 1843 along with 1842 followed by a question mark. Since February 14 is the confirmed wedding date of the Lambs, this is almost certainly the result of confusion. The year they wed is not fully recoverable with the existing documents currently available. The most reliable evidence of a true date was provided in a letter from Bridget Sheridan's niece, Bridget Reilly Brady. This niece, however, had a tendency to confuse her own birth year, not at all unusual for the time. She wrote of the year of her aunt's marriage relative to the year of her own age at the time, which she believed to be 11. However, she consistently underestimated her own age by one year. She believed she was born on January 8, 1835, when in reality she was born January 8, 1834. In 1896, Bridget Brady wrote that John and Bridget Casey celebrated their Golden Jubilee that Spring and had been happy together all that time.*

²¹ *Conversation with the parish priest in Clonbroney, 2008.*

²² *Conversation with Father Francis Kelly in Granard, 2008.*



Illustration 7: St. James Church, Clonbroney, County Longford. © 2008

St. James Church, built in 1820 and extensively remodeled in a Moorish style between 1929 and 1933, was originally built as an early 19th century T-plan chapel. The elegant sash windows are nearly all that remain from the original outside but the inside is still reflective of the original design. The church is surrounded by a graveyard, a portion of which is Irish Republican, where a number of IRA members who died during the War of Independence are buried. Originally named St. Bartholomew's, it's a beautiful church in spite of the fact that there would have been a relative lack of resources available for its construction. Roman Catholic churches, in the tithing times, had to rely on voluntary donations.

No matter the happiness of the families at the union, the English government would not have considered John and Bridget to be validly married if they were only married by a Catholic priest and did not have a second civil union or a ceremony in the Church of Ireland. Until 1844, no marriages performed by 'non-conformist clergy' were officially recognized. The term non-conforming clergy was a sweeping term that meant any non-Church of Ireland clergy, including not only Roman Catholic clergy but the clergy of all other Protestant sects. Not being validly married meant that any children of such a marriage were considered illegitimate under English law. As such, these children were

not eligible to inherit because as an illegitimate person, they were considered to have no relatives.



Illustration 8: Interior of St. James Church, Clonbroney. © 2008.

The legal profession complained for years that these unrecognized marriages made it difficult to settle probate estates. This forced the English legislature to take up the question of making these marriages valid, which they did in 1844, for all clergy except Roman Catholic.

Several attempts to legalize Catholic marriages came to naught until 1863, with the passage of a compulsory registration of all births, marriages, and deaths in Ireland. The Catholic provision was quietly slipped into the legislation and quickly passed. From January 1, 1864 there was general civil registration and recognition of all marriages in Ireland. By 1864, John and Bridget had long ago left for America. Legally valid or not, theirs was a solid and loving union, the devil take the law.²³

By all accounts John and Bridget had a good life in Ireland before and after their marriage, surrounded by brothers and sisters in a large and loving family. Then, over about a ten year period, most of the family left Ireland. Even though John and Bridget had gotten a late start on their family, by the time they themselves left Ireland, they had three children: Sarah Ann, born January 19, 1847;²⁴ Nicholas, born March 14, 1848; and Patrick, born October 15, 1849.²⁵

²³ *As any Irish researcher knows, heartbreak awaits in trying to find Irish records. Census records from 1821 to 1851 were destroyed in a fire in Dublin in 1922 during a civil disturbance. Compounding the problem, census records for 1861 to 1891 were deliberately destroyed.*

²⁴ *Depending on the year of their marriage, this could be 1846. Family handwritten notes differ, but Ann was, in all official American records, the oldest child.*

²⁵ *No Irish birth or baptismal records have been found for any of the children.*

The Leaving Begins

“European ships accidentally imported the fungus-like organism, native to Peru, that causes the potato disease known as late blight. First appearing in Flanders in June 1845, it was carried by winds to potato farms around Paris in August. Weeks later it wiped out fields in the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, and England. Blight appeared in Ireland on September 13 ... Within two years, more than a million (people) died. Millions more fled ... Ireland has the melancholy distinction of being the only nation in Europe, and perhaps the world, to have fewer people within the same boundaries than it did more than 150 years ago.”²⁶

When the potato crop was harvested in 1846, the blight had spread the length and breadth of Ireland. Potatoes that were fine at harvest turned black in storage overnight. The situation deteriorated rapidly for the country as a whole. John and Bridget hung on for four years, saved their money, and made their move at a time of their choosing.

Over the years, members of both the Casey and the Sheridan families left Ireland for a life elsewhere, mostly in America. Perhaps it was the chance for a better life that convinced them all to go. Perhaps it was the conditions in Ireland at the time. Like many families before and after them, they emigrated in waves and kin groups. Perhaps the decision to leave was influenced by reports of the availability of work and land, convincing them to pull up their roots and go. Several left during the height of the Great Hunger. They did not appear to have difficulty in emigrating and they appeared to have had enough money to ease their way. Perhaps they wanted to live in a place where they might some day be looked on by their fellow citizens as equals.

Today it is difficult to understand just how bad the English oppression of the Irish people really was at the time the Caseys and Sheridans left. For perspective, just prior to the American Revolution, when the Stamp Act and other laws were being imposed on the colonies, one of the strongest fears weighing on the American people, prompting them to press for independence from England, was that they feared becoming another Ireland.²⁷

John and Bridget and their children quit Ireland for America in the Spring of 1850 during the Great Hunger, *An Gorta Mor*, which raged from 1845–1852. They were not the first to leave, nor were they the last in their families to do so. Their leaving Ireland wasn't a hurried or rash decision. John and Bridget had a plan and it went into play before they sailed for New York. They knew exactly where they were going, what to expect, and they had the money and the drive to make the move successful.

²⁶ “*The Real Story of Globalization*”, *The Wall Street Journal*, August 6–7, 2011. Charles C. Mann.

²⁷ *John Adams*, by David McCulloch. Simon & Schuster, New York, 2001.

DEATHS FROM STARVATION.

Richard Keogh, Esq., Coroner, (Co. Roscommon,) held inquests during the week on the bodies of the following persons, and received verdicts of "Death from Starvation" in each case :—Patt Kerns, Thomas Hardiman, James Connaghton, Thomas Martin, Thomas Hyndes, John Casay, John Kelly, Hanora Gormsby, Pat Gaunon, Peter Burke, Margaret Langan, Denis Cooney, John Dolan, and George Tierney.

The same Coroner declined holding five other inquests, being aware that he would only receive the same verdicts.

We have noticed during the week great numbers of country people passing through our town, apparently bound for emigration. When we recollect the early period of the season, we cannot help thinking, that before many months this country will have a considerable portion of its population transported to a foreign shore. The people seem, indeed, terror-stricken at the condition of their unfortunate country; and any of them that can procure the means are flying from their native land, to seek beyond the Atlantic a more comfortable home. To accommodate the increased number of passengers, the Royal Canal Company have put on an additional boat.

Illustration 9: The Athlone Sentinel, March 12, 1847, County Westmeath, Ireland.

Safe Passage

Four years after their marriage, John and Bridget traveled to Liverpool to take a ship to New York. The journey was dangerous but leaving from Waterloo Docks in Liverpool would add some measure of safety to their trip because the larger ships left from there. They had heard the stories of the coffin ships and did not want to suffer the same conditions. The trip to America had cost John's sister Margaret half her family just the year before. They would go on the sailing ship, *Constitution*, an American vessel.²⁸

The American *Constitution*, built in 1846 by Brown and Bell in New York, weighed 1,327 tons and measured 182 feet 4 inches by 39 feet 10 inches by 30 feet 5 inches. Carrying 628 passengers, it left Liverpool in April 1850 with the Casey family aboard. Decidedly bigger than the coffin ships putting out from Irish ports, the thousand ton packets from Liverpool were quite seaworthy for the time. John Casey proved himself competent with this decision alone.

On December 5, 1855, five years after John and Bridget arrived in America, the *Constitution* burned in Liverpool and was declared a total loss. The cause was listed as spontaneous combustion in some maritime records, but the \$100,000 in cotton in the hold was a more likely cause. Valued at \$70,000, it was later rebuilt, owned in Liverpool, and continued in operation until at least the 1870s. One of the larger emigrant ships operating between Liverpool and New York, the *Constitution* made many, many trips between the two ports over the years. - Mystic Seaport Research Center, Mystic, Connecticut

The Casey crossing was made immeasurably harder on Bridget with three small children under the age of four. Wisely, they had chosen to sail in the spring and avoided the hard North Atlantic winter. They formed a strong family unit on board, and all survived to disembark in New York on May 11, 1850, where they were greeted by family.²⁹

²⁸ *There were two ships named Constitution in 1850 that carried Irish emigrants to New York, one British and one American. Both are mentioned here so that there is no confusion in the minds of any future researchers. The British famine ship Constitution, owned in Belfast and not the one carrying John and Bridget, was built in Quebec in 1840. Edward Laxton states in The Famine Ships that the British Constitution was built in 1846 but this is not correct, as verified by the Mystic Seaport Research Center. Weighing 558 tons and leaving Belfast on its maiden voyage on November 26, 1849 with an inexperienced captain in charge, it ran aground off Long Island on January 9, 1850. The Irish passengers on board climbed over the side and walked to New York. It was declared a total loss in April 1850.*

²⁹ *Manifest id: 4479. There is another John Casey, 24, on the passenger manifest. He's listed as a laborer and is the only other Casey on that voyage.*

Sold by McSpedon & Baker, Stationers, 25 Pin St, adj. the Custom House, N. Y.

DISTRICT OF NEW YORK—PORT OF NEW YORK.

I, John Butler, do solemnly, sincerely and truly swear that the following List or Manifest of Passengers, subscribed with my name, and now delivered by me to the Collector of the Customs for the District of New York, contains, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a just and true account of all the Passengers received on board the Ship Constitution whereof I am Master, from Swampscott So help me God.

Sworn to this 11 May 1850
Before me John Butler

List or Manifest OF ALL THE PASSENGERS taken on board the Ship Constitution is Master, from Swampscott burthen 1323 tons.

NAMES.	Age.		SEX.	OCCUPATION.	The country to which they severally belong.	The country in which they intend to become inhabitants.	Died on the Voyage.
	Years.	Months.					
<u>John Casey</u>	<u>25</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>Farmer</u>			
<u>Bridget do</u>	<u>35</u>		<u>F</u>				
<u>Ann "</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>F</u>				
<u>Michael "</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>M</u>				
<u>Pat "</u>	<u>6m</u>		<u>M</u>				

Illustration 10: Casey passenger entry for the Constitution.

Accepting early records for his birth date, John would have had his 38th birthday on board ship.³⁰ For both the old passenger records, as well as the census records, the accuracy was no better than the skills of those making the records and later making the transcriptions. Recording the various facts, be they census records, or passenger lists, was complicated by the native accents of those whose data was being recorded.

Their youngest child, Patrick, who was about six months old, was listed in the National Archives FIPAS (Famine Irish Passenger Record File) as ‘born at sea’. In general, ‘infant’ appearing on a passenger manifest was translated by the National Archives as ‘born at sea’, even though this was not always the case. In Pat’s case, this error occurred because he was less than a year old on the journey. He was certainly born in Ireland because Bridget Reilly stood for him as his godmother at his baptism there.³¹ He didn’t live long, but Patrick survived the move to Virginia from New York.

³⁰ 1850 Federal census, Virginia, Boone County.

³¹ Letter from Bridget Reilly Brady to Bridget Sheridan Casey, December 4, 1896.

In America

Boone County, Virginia

"To anyone with a drop of Irish blood in them the land they live on is like their mother ... 'Twill come to you, this love of land. There's no getting away from it, if you're Irish."

- Gerald O'Hara to his daughter, *Gone With the Wind*, Margaret Mitchell, Scribner, New York, New York, 1936, page 36.

Land, in Irish terms, the dearest physical possession next to family that one could have. That phrase embodied the Irish way of thinking. Unlike in Ireland, John and Bridget could own land in America and they had already made their plans to purchase land before they left Ireland.

It's unknown how the family traveled the 552 miles from New York City to the Peytona district of Virginia, but it didn't take them long. As early as 1839, after making it from New York to Philadelphia, passengers could go by train to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania at a heady average speed of 12 miles an hour. From Harrisburg it was possible to travel comfortably and pleasantly by canal to Pittsburgh, if time was not an object. Stagecoaches made the same journey but perhaps not quite so pleasantly. From Pittsburgh, steamers willing to take on passengers or freight traveled up and down the Ohio River. This would get the Caseys from Pittsburgh to Point Pleasant, Virginia where they could travel up the Kanawha River to the mouth of the Coal River at present day Saint Albans. From there a short trip up the Coal River to the Big Coal River would get them to Peytona district in Boone County.³²

By July 17, 1850, only two months after landing in New York, the Casey family of five was living in Boone County, Virginia.³³ They seemed to have chosen Virginia because Bridget's brothers, James and John, were already there and working. John Sheridan had already been in Virginia for four years or more.³⁴ As John and Bridget were preparing to leave Ireland for America, her brother James Sheridan was buying land in Peytona along a creek named for the buffalo salt licks nearby.

³² *This route in reverse from Ohio to New York was taken by U.S. Grant on his trip from Ripley, Ohio to West Point in 1839. From the Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant, Da Capo Press, 2001, page 13–14. The general rate of travel in 1857 from New York City to Virginia was 6 miles per hour, up from 2.7 miles per hour in 1830.*

³³ *1850 Federal census. The original spelling by the census taker was Casay, and the family consisted of John, a miner, Bridget, Sarah, Mikolas, and Patrik.*

³⁴ *John Sheridan married Sarah Brill in Roanoke County, Virginia in 1846.*

James Sheridan purchased 100 acres on Lick Creek in March 1850 from Joseph Henley Barker.³⁵ The deed was certified by the County Clerk, John Anthony Barker.³⁶ Joseph and John Barker continued to be neighbors of the Sheridans and Caseys.³⁷

So the Caseys came to Boone County because the Sheridans were already there. Why did the Sheridans come and what did they all do to make a living there?

In 1742, John Peter Salley had discovered coal near the site of present day Peytona while on an exploring trip with several companions. The Coal River, which had the most potential for a navigable inland river in western Virginia, was declared a public highway by two acts of the Virginia Assembly in 1834 and 1835. With this, the timber business immediately began to thrive and the clear cutting of western Virginia was well under way.

Attention then turned to exploiting the coal. Other than the Coal River, there was no railroad, the mountains were steep, and the area isolated. A railroad would not make an appearance for many decades, but about 1845 the river was locked and dammed for the shipment of cannel coal, a type of oil shale, mined on the river banks.

Sometime around 1849 another geological exploration was made, this time of the Kanawha Valley to determine the value of the coal there. John Sheridan had been in Virginia since at least 1846, so this survey would likely have been known to him. Following this, an article submitted on May 10, 1850 by William Madison Peyton,³⁸ was published in *Scientific American* citing some of the benefits of cannel coal, found in abundance in the area.³⁹ Between these two events, James Sheridan, who came to Virginia in 1849, joined his brother John in Peytona and made his land purchase in Boone County. At the same time, mines began opening up all over the region and advertisements for miners were being distributed throughout the area.

Boone County had been carved out of Cabell, Logan, and Kanawha counties in 1847 and named for Daniel Boone. With the Coal River about to become navigable as far as St. Albans where it met the Kanawha River, which then met the Ohio River at Point Pleasant, the resources of Boone County were poised to be exploited.

³⁵ *Joseph Henley Barker was the brother of Spicy Barker Harless, this author's paternal great-great grandmother. He was also the brother of Nancy Barker, Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey's paternal great-great-great grandmother.*

³⁶ *John Anthony Barker was a paternal great-great-great grandfather of Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey.*

³⁷ *1850 Federal census, Boone County, VA. Joseph owned \$300 of real estate and John owned \$500 worth.*

³⁸ *William Madison Peyton was a large slave holder in the area, owning 27 slaves in 1850.*

³⁹ *Peytona was named for William Madison Peyton.*

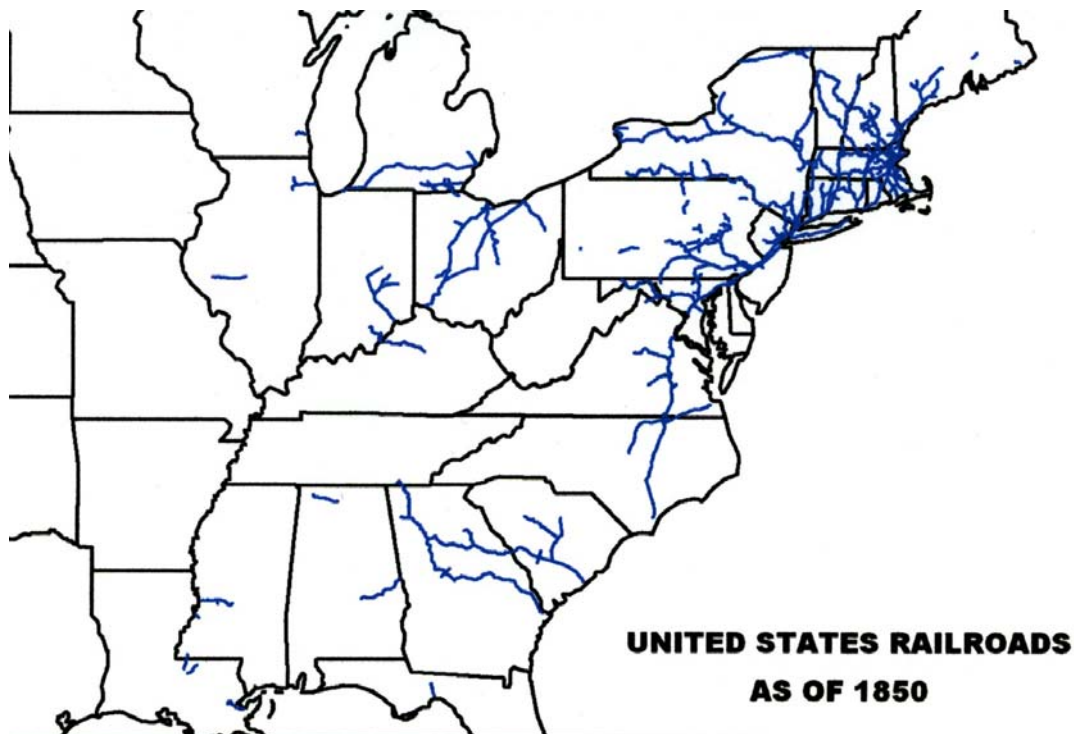


Illustration 11: Railroad Map 1850. Courtesy of www.OldRailHistory.com.

On February 19, 1849 the Virginia Cannel Coal Company was incorporated. This was followed one month later by the incorporation of the Coal River Navigation Company, whose purpose was to clear obstacles and blast channels for navigation. The Coal River from Peytona to its mouth at Coalsmouth, present day St. Albans, became the main conduit by which Boone County coal was moved to market. The demand for miners, carpenters, and laborers to support the mining operations, grew.

So it was that one hundred and eight years after John Peter Salley discovered coal in the area, John Casey and his Sheridan brothers-in-law were helping mine that coal in Peytona district and working for William Madison Peyton.

The Farm

John Casey went to work immediately in the mining industry around Peytona,⁴⁰ but he did not limit himself to one occupation. A hard working man, determined to take care of his family, he was a farmer, a miner, a carpenter, an agent, and later, it appears, something of an oilman. Being a farmer was pretty much a necessity for anyone in such an isolated area as they had to feed their families.

⁴⁰ 1850 Federal Census, Virginia, Boone County.

The farm on Lick Creek began with 100 acres purchased by James Sheridan from Joseph H. Barker, Malinda Barker, and James B. Barker on March 23, 1850 for \$150, “lawful money of Virginia”.⁴¹ In December 1851, John Casey bought a half interest in the land from his brother-in-law for \$100 by indenture. The debt was paid and the deed was certified a year later on December 17, 1852.

The personal property tax records from 1852 paint a picture of the Casey farm in the early days. The first personal property tax record to include John Casey, it showed he had 20 animals in the cattle, sheep, and hogs category, worth \$54 and \$15 worth of household goods. He also had a metal clock worth \$5. He probably had mostly hogs, perhaps an old milk cow, as well as a crop of corn, beans, and potatoes, especially potatoes. The crop wasn’t taxed as personal property, but any self-respecting Irish farmer would have been a planter also. Virginia allowed a \$100 exemption, so his holdings were not significant enough that he had to pay any personal property taxes on them in 1852.

John and James Sheridan lived next door to the Casey family. John Sheridan had a wife and two young children and would have had the same needs for a food crop, milk cows, hogs, etc. as the Caseys. He did have one animal in the cattle/sheep/hogs category, probably an old milk cow given its \$10 in value, but he didn’t own any land so he was living on land owned by his brother or his brother-in-law. John had \$50 in household goods, possibly reflecting his six years of married life up to 1852, but he had no tax liability.

James Sheridan, the original owner of the entire 100 acres, had the largest holdings in personal property. He had one animal in the horse, mule, ass, or jennet (female mule or small Spanish horse) category, worth \$12, along with 46 cattle, sheep, or hogs worth \$111, and household goods of \$25. The animal was possibly an old plow horse, certainly not a riding horse or a mule, since the value of a mule at the time would have far exceeded the \$12 assessed value of James’ animal. A riding horse would have been worth as much as James paid for the entire farm. The value of his holdings was \$148 for which he paid 9¢ in tax, after his exemption.

As would have happened in Ireland, the families probably pooled their resources and farmed the land in common, with the men initially working in the mining industry around Peytona and working the farm, along with their families, in their off hours.

Something happened in 1852 which caused James Sheridan to need money. On July 26, 1852 he signed a bond and borrowed \$150 from John Casey. As required by Virginia law, he conveyed to a trustee, in this case Edmond Pate, his interest in the remaining 50 acres on Lick Creek, in acknowledgment of this debt, payable on July 26, 1853. The land,

⁴¹ *Deed Book A, page 181. Boone County, VA. See Through Irish Eyes, Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree, for more on the Sheridans.*

hogs, cattle, etc. were deeded to Edmond Pate, a neighbor of both men,⁴² as collateral for James being “justly indebted to the said Casey”.⁴³

Edmund Pate served in the War of 1812 and the Virginia Legislature. He owned a large tract of land in Boone County along with 16 slaves. Edmund died late in 1852 or in 1853. His widow, Sarah Bailey Pate, continued to live in Boone County at Mouth of Short Creek (Racine). Edmund and Sarah had three sons: William D. Pate, postmaster at Peytona District in 1850, who became a Confederate officer and State Senator; Henry Clay Pate, a pro slavery advocate and Confederate cavalry leader who was killed in action at Yellow Tavern, Virginia in 1864; and Ortho Pate, a Confederate officer and Episcopal minister who died at Short Creek of consumption in 1870.

Despite their late start in married life, John Casey and Bridget Sheridan had five more children in Virginia: three girls and two boys. Mary Catherine was born on December 5, 1852.⁴⁴ John Patrick, Jr. was born at Lick Creek on April 13, 1854.⁴⁵ James B., probably James Bryan, was born on September 15, 1856.⁴⁶ Another daughter, Margaret, was born August 15, 1858.⁴⁷ Lastly, Matilda was born on April 15, 1861,⁴⁸ one day after the evacuation of Fort Sumter and two days before Virginia voted to secede from the Union. John and Bridget settled in and raised their family on Lick Creek and lived there until their deaths. They would not have an easy time of it though, during the Civil War.

By 1860, ten years after their arrival, John and Bridget’s farm in Boone County was valued at \$600 and they had a personal estate of \$1,000. John no longer gave his occupation as mining, but instead was a farmer.⁴⁹ Ownership of a farm this size would have been only a dream in Ireland. In America, John and Bridget, by dint of their hard work, made the dream happen. Given that the average annual wage for a carpenter in the

⁴² 1850 Federal census, Virginia, Boone County.

⁴³ Deed Book A, page 391, Boone County, Virginia.

⁴⁴ Birth records were not kept in Boone County until 1853. Catherine’s birth date is taken from handwritten family notes and the year from various census records.

⁴⁵ Boone County, Virginia birth records, 1854, number 45. While some family records give his birthday as April 5, and his grave stone says 1855, the official county record must be accepted. No middle name is specified on the record. The informant was John A. Barker, a neighbor and great-great-great grandfather of Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey.

⁴⁶ Boone County, Virginia birth records 1856, number 101.

⁴⁷ Boone County, Virginia birth records 1858, number 93. ‘Unnamed Casey’, female, Lick Creek.

⁴⁸ Death record, 1936. No birth record has been found for Matilda. Since all the other Casey births were recorded with the county, it is assumed her birth record was lost when the courthouse burned after the Battle of Boone Court House in September 1861.

⁴⁹ 1860 Federal census, Virginia, Boone County.

northern United States in 1860 was about \$500, this represents a considerable accumulation of assets.⁵⁰ Slowly and methodically, the farm continued to grow. First though, they had to survive the Civil War.



Illustration 12: The old dirt road to the Casey farm can still be seen alongside Falling Rock Creek. © R. Hudnall 2010.

⁵⁰ *Wages and Earnings in the United States, 1860–1890*, Princeton University Press, 1960, Clarence D. Long, pages 94-108.

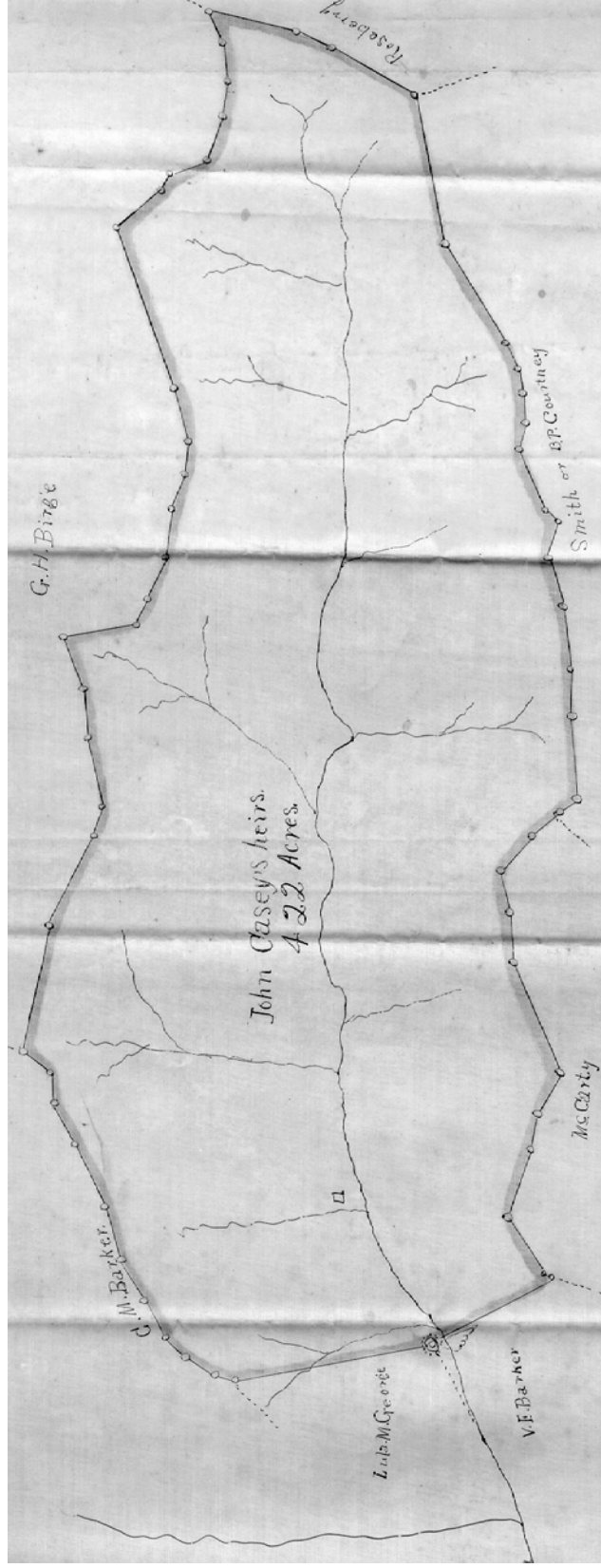


Illustration 13: Outline of the Lick Creek farm at the time of John Casey's death showing surrounding farms. Probate map, 1902.



Illustration 14: Google® Earth view with the Lick Creek farm outlined and superimposed over a 2005 image. Road at the bottom left is Casey Fork. Light colored area within the borders of the farm is the old dynamite storage area.

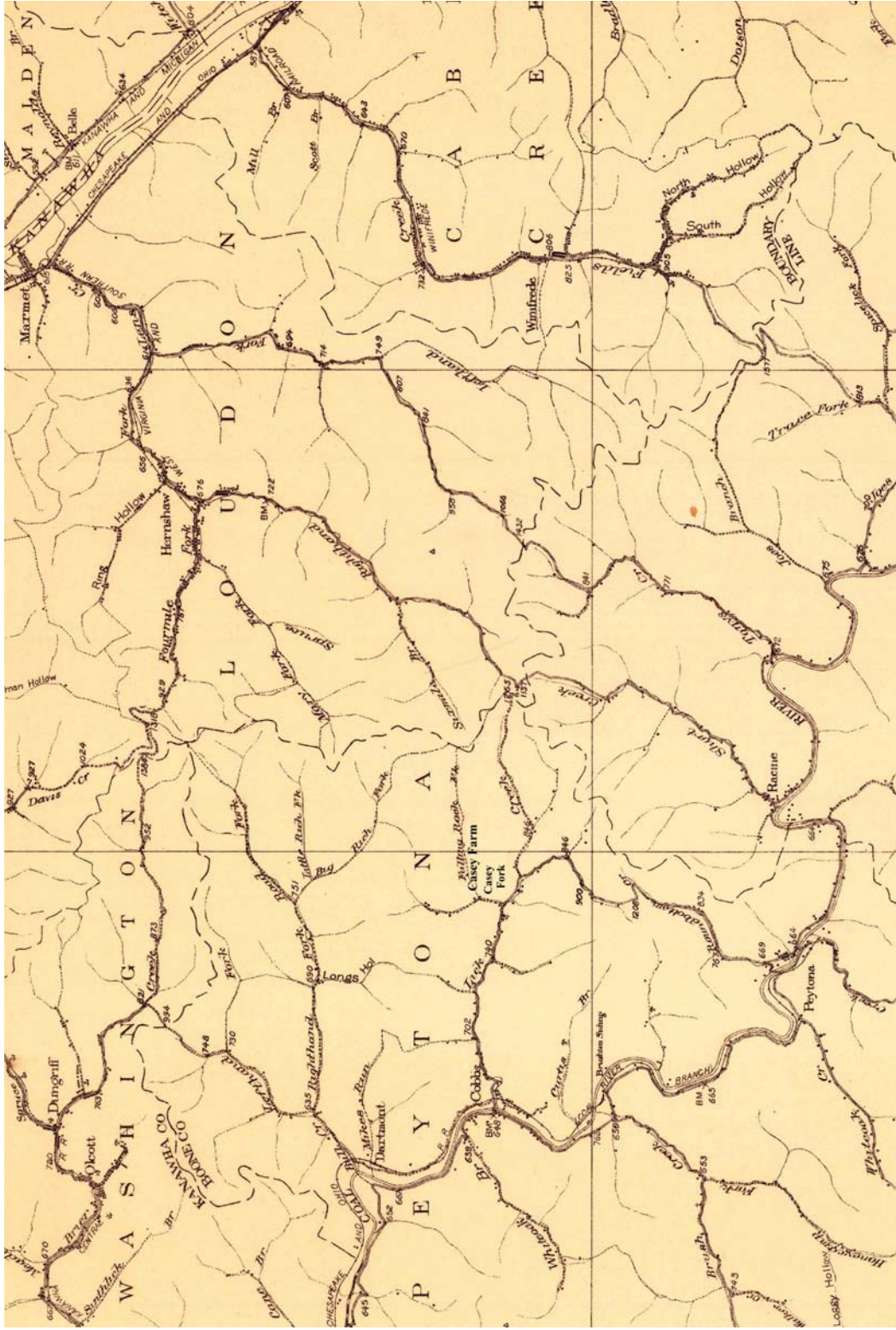


Illustration 15: Area of West Virginia showing Peytona District, Casey Fork, the Casey farm, town of Peytona, White Oak Creek, Cobbs (present day Ashford), Marnet, Hershaw, and Winifrede. 1908–1909.

Scale of miles: approximately 1 inch to 1.5 miles. Contour interval is 50 feet.
Datum is mean sea level. U. S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the State of West Virginia, I. C. White, geologist. 1908–1909.

The Civil War

With the advent of the Civil War in 1861, Boone County was thrown into chaos, and became the scene of some of the most violent internecine fighting anywhere during the war.⁵¹ Control of the area changed hands frequently and both sides, at various times, had Home Guards patrolling the area. Troops and Guards provisioned themselves from the local farms, and threats and vengeance abounded. Three battles took place in September 1861 within just a few miles of the Lick Creek farm. John Casey, nearing 50 by this time, tried his best to stay out of the conflict and keep his family safe and fed. John and Bridget's three sons were too young to serve, but Bridget had family living in New York who joined the Union Army and fought in Virginia.

Sentiments were deeply divided in the newly formed Boone County. The area around Boone Court House (Madison) was more conducive to farming and hence slave labor, while Peytona district was more industrialized. The residents of Boone Court House, originally part of Logan County, were sympathetic to the Southern cause. The residents around Peytona, originally part of Kanawha County and only nine miles away as the crow flies, tended to be staunch Union supporters.

As delegates arrived in Richmond to decide the secession issue at the state level in April 1861, the divisions in Boone County deepened. On April 17 the Virginia Secession Convention adopted a secession ordinance on a vote of 85 to 55, with 32 of the delegates opposed to the ordinance from the western counties of the state. The ordinance required ratification by the people in an election on May 23.⁵² The Confederate flag was raised at Boone Court House (Madison) on April 20.

Union men were threatened with being shot or hung if they voted to remain part of the Union. A man declared his vote publicly and so his neighbors knew just where he stood. There was no secret ballot. Both sides were determined to hold on to western Virginia, mainly because of the abundant natural resources of salt, coal, oil, and saltpeter used in making gunpowder. Things got particularly ugly as the May election approached. Communities, including Peytona, began forming home guard units to protect themselves and their farms, families, and supplies from marauders.

Among the southern counties, Boone voted to secede from the Union along with Greenbrier, Monroe, Fayette, Raleigh, Mercer, Wyoming, McDowell, and Logan counties. Two thirds of the men in Boone County who enlisted during the Civil War enlisted in the Confederate Army, and most county officials took the side of the Southern secessionists. Peytona district, however, continued to lean heavily toward the Union.

⁵¹ *The Coal River Valley in the Civil War*, Michael B. Graham, The History Press, Charleston, SC, 2014, page 19.

⁵² *West Virginia, A History*, Otis K. Rice and Stephen W. Brown, The University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, 1985, page 116.

Exacerbating tension in the area, the state of Virginia had a long standing law that all men between the ages of 18 and 45 were required to enroll in the state militia. When the Virginia militia was called up in 1861 to become part of the Confederate Army, the enrolled men were warned that if they “did not rally to that call and did not obey the law ... (they) might expect as the penalty to be shot.”⁵³

After the secession vote in Richmond in April, an old idea that had been discussed for decades began to be taken up in earnest again. The counties of the Allegheny Plateau of Virginia had long considered that they had not been on an equal governance footing with the eastern counties and had debated forming a new state. Now, with Union sympathy high in most of the area, the western counties had no desire to forcibly become part of a Southern confederacy. As secession was becoming a reality, the counties of the west met in Wheeling in May and set a date in October 1861 for a second election for the people to ratify the separation of western Virginia from the state of Virginia, and to create a new state of Kanawha.

A family story was passed down involving the Lick Creek farm and some Civil War rifles. According to the story, either the Union or Confederate forces, or perhaps the Home Guard, stored rifles on the Casey farm and moved on. John Casey fearing for his family’s safety should they be caught with munitions belonging to the wrong side, was said to have taken the rifles back up on the mountain where he and his sons buried them.

It’s hard to imagine any army leaving their rifles and moving on, but as with many family stories, there is most often an element of truth to be found in the story.

In 1861 when Confederate General Henry Wise was retreating from Charleston, his forces left behind some old ball and cartridge rifles. Union Colonel Lewis Ruffner in Charleston managed to get the rifles to Peytona district for use by the Peytona Home Guards, garrisoned by Joseph Henley Barker, a neighbor and friend of John Casey’s, and commanded by Captain Cumberland Harless, another neighbor of John Casey.

Were some of these rifles the fabled guns of the family story?

Three battles occurred in Boone County in September 1861: the Battle of Boone Court House; the Battle of Coal River; and the Battle of Pond Fork. “Boone County, in particular, became a grim no-man’s land, fought over but left unoccupied by either side ... except for outposts ... For the civilians caught in the maelstrom of the war, this condition plunged the region into a state of prolonged terror that would not end until after

⁵³ *West Virginia Division of Culture and History, “Debates and Proceedings: December 4, 1861.”*

the war's conclusion. It became ... 'a fierce battleground, with ongoing guerrilla warfare just as intense and brutal as that practiced in Missouri and East Tennessee'.^{54,55}

Henry Clay Pate, who knew Boone County well, arrived in the Coal River Valley in September 1861 with a company of cavalry troops and immediately became a significant factor for the Confederates there. He commanded an organized fighting force of seasoned troops, well mounted and well equipped, and terrorized Union supporters in the Peytona district.⁵⁶ Federal troops were stationed in the Union-leaning Peytona area, where the Caseys lived, and a post was temporarily established there.

Meanwhile, Confederate General John Floyd devised a plan to spend the winter of 1861 in Logan, and then to take back Boone Court House in the Spring of 1862, reduce the Union stronghold at Peytona, and take or destroy Brownstown, present day Marmet. The Battle of Kanawha Gap in late September 1861 laid waste to those plans.

The election to create a new state ran headlong into the same difficulties as the secession election in the southernmost counties. The situation was so dire in Boone County, that of eight polling places, only two managed to actually administer voting, one of which was at Peytona, still guarded by Federal troops from the Kanawha Valley. In protecting pro-Union voters in the two polling places from election violence, Federal forces lost one killed and several captured.⁵⁷

"As the rule of law broke down and state and local government and administration collapsed throughout the Coal River Valley, the rival forces in the region attacked each other vengefully, destroying or seizing farms, homes and crops; burning and robbing; and carrying out fiendish offenses against the civilian population."⁵⁸ "These people moved on top of the mountains to get away from people finding them ... they were afraid and that was the only way they could escape because somebody would come along and just kill them."⁵⁹

In the autumn of 1862, authorized by the secessionist government of Virginia, two thousand Confederate troops waged irregular warfare in several southwestern counties, including Boone, and drove out the local Union Home Guards, foraging and recruiting for the Confederate Army, leaving only when food in the area was exhausted.⁶⁰ "... in the course of the war, the Coal River Valley was trampled under hoof and foot, its population terrorized by the movements, actions, and depredations of both sides. In the

⁵⁴ Mark Snell, *Civil War historian for West Virginia*.

⁵⁵ Graham, *op. cit.*, page 128-129.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, page 100-106.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, page 132.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, page 135.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, page 41. Hufford, interview with Howard Miller.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, page 141.

end, the years of raiding and bushwhacking devastated the area, leaving Boone County especially 'in as primitive a state as it ever was' for the next fifty years.^{61,62}

By whatever means, John and Bridget Casey managed to see their family safely through four years of war. Many families abandoned their farms temporarily to escape the violence and perhaps John and Bridget did so, too. But if they did, they returned to Boone County to raise their family.

On January 7, 1865, as the Civil War was winding down, John bought an unspecified number of acres of land on the right hand fork of Falling Rock branch of Lick Creek from Allen and Anne Smith for \$125. The farm continued to grow.

After the war, the mining industry flourished in Boone County. Union soldiers from out of state had seen the natural resources available in western Virginia and many returned to exploit those resources.

Picking Up The Pieces

In May 1865, John's eldest daughter, Sarah Ann, married a returning Union Army veteran and miner from Ireland, named Pat Mannix, moved for a time to Kanawha County, and began a family of her own.

The Caseys remained Catholic in spite of their isolation in Boone County. When the family moved to Virginia in 1850, the Diocese of Wheeling had only churches in Charleston, Summersville, and Union that were anywhere near Boone County. The Church of the Good Shepherd in Coalburg was founded in 1866 and in 1888 Immaculate Conception parish was established in Montgomery.⁶³

On June 30, 1870, John Casey took on additional duties when Patrick Williams of Brooklyn, New York, appointed him to be his true and lawful attorney to take possession, manage, and control Williams' farm at Peytona.⁶⁴ Patrick Williams, a wealthy Irishman, had emigrated to New York around 1839. Involved in construction, Williams owned several brownstones in Brooklyn, an area of New York City just coming into its own. He and John may have known each other in Ireland or met through some other means, perhaps family members in Brooklyn. Patrick Williams had family in Boone County, his 'dear sister Nancy',⁶⁵ so the association may have come about through his sister. In a

⁶¹ *Summers, George, The Mountain State: A Description of the Natural Resources of West Virginia, Charleston, WV, Donnally, 1893, page 123-124.*

⁶² *Graham, op. cit., page 136.*

⁶³ *Centennial: Diocese of Wheeling, 1850-1950.*

⁶⁴ *Book E, page 213. Patrick Williams purchased about 300 acres on Big Coal from Michael Criggan on November 9, 1855. Book B, pages 160, 166.*

⁶⁵ *Letter from Patrick Williams to John Casey, dated September 28, 1886.*

testament to John's character, Mr. Williams wrote to him that John was "a good honest and intelligent man ... and I shall always hold you as a good honest friend."⁶⁶

Patrick Williams and his wife Margaret lived at 231 Ryerson St., Brooklyn, Kings County. He started out as a mason in the building boom that was Brooklyn by 1850 and became a 'boss mason' and a builder. Both were born in Ireland: Patrick about 1819 and Margaret about 1829. They had several daughters during the course of their married life: Mary, Margaret, Teresa, Katie, Lizzie, Agnes, and Josephine. Mr. Williams was a wealthy man, owning 16 four-story-with-basement brownstone houses on Grand Avenue in Brooklyn, renting for an average of \$62.50 a month in 1885. (Brooklyn Daily Eagle, April 7, 1885.)

Called 'Pop' in the neighborhood, Patrick was a significant force in the failed effort to stop the Brooklyn Elevated Railway in that area. He successfully sued the company for loss of value and was awarded more than \$6,000 but the award was overturned on appeal. On July 21, 1890, the Supreme Court of NY in the matter of Patrick Williams v. Brooklyn Elevated Railroad Company rendered judgment and issued an order, written by Justice Barnard, denying a new trial and affirmed with costs. On March 20, 1891, the Appeals Court reversed the ruling.

The houses, which no longer exist, were on Grand, between Willoughby and DeKalb Streets, an area taken up by the Pratt Institute now. Mr. Williams also built the Star of the Sea Catholic Church on Court Street in Brooklyn along with roughly 400 other residences and dwellings. (Brooklyn Daily Eagle, December 16, 1887, page 6.)

Patrick Williams was assaulted at his building site at Park Avenue and Schenck Street on December 16, 1887 by a young man named Robert Taylor. Mr. Taylor threw an axe at Mr. Williams after he was denied entry to one of the buildings. The young man was arrested, entered a guilty plea, and was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

Patrick died at 72 in Brooklyn on May 16, 1891 of senectus haematemesis (old age and vomiting blood) and asthma. His wife Margaret, 59, died on September 4, 1888. No mother or father was listed on either death certificate.

John and Bridget continued to farm in the Peytona District, with Nicholas, Mary, John, James, Margaret, and Matilda, still at home.⁶⁷ On September 30, 1881, John Casey deeded various tracts of the Big Coal survey to Joseph H. Barker.⁶⁸

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁶⁷ 1880 Federal Census, Virginia, Boone County, Peytona District.

⁶⁸ Deed Book H, page 209, Boone County, West Virginia.

Their daughter, Margaret, died in 1884.⁶⁹ John was badly crippled in an accident around 1886 or earlier, and had to use crutches. In an 1886 letter to her Aunt Bridget Casey, Annie Shanley stated that she was sorry to hear that Uncle John was 'badly crippled' and Patrick Williams mentioned the same in a letter dated September 28. On Thursday, June 21, 1894, the Peytona Herald reported that "Mrs. Casey, an aged Irish lady, is very low with summer complaint. It is likely to go very hard with her. She is under the care of Dr. W. A. Staton."⁷⁰ The children continued to live at home until John, Jr. married Rose Lamb in 1891.

On May 29, 1896, John deeded an oil and gas lease to C.Y. Benedum and Brothers⁷¹ for 10 years, for the drilling of wells on the Casey property. In return he received 1/8th of the oil produced and \$200 per year for the gas from each well. The lease involved 500 acres, more or less, bounded on the north by lands of the Coal River Lumber Company, on the east by lands of Roseburg, on the south by lands of Smith and others, and on the west by lands of May Barker. So, in essence, the lease encompassed the entire 422 acre farm but reserved twenty acres around the house for the family.

John's health was failing and on June 1, 1897, he wrote and signed his will, witnessed by Cumberland Mandeville Barker,⁷² a Union Civil War veteran,⁷³ Albert J. Spicer Barker, and J.D. George. He died 15 days later on June 16 of dropsy. Bridget was the informant for his death record.

At the time of his death, the Casey 422 acre farm, sizable by any measure, would have been an unattainable dream in Ireland. It was bigger, in fact, than many townlands of Ireland.

John's will left the Lick Creek farm in a disproportionate manner to his children. James was left with one dollar. The farm was divided among the other surviving children, with Nicholas, John Jr., and Ann each receiving one-sixth, and Matilda and Mary each receiving one-fourth. A contingency was written into the will requiring Nicholas, Mary and Matilda to take care of their father and mother as long as they lived, or the will would be nullified. The value of the estate, exclusive of the personal property and household

⁶⁹ *Family stories relate that Margaret died of disease, perhaps influenza, while working as a cook in a logging camp. No death certificate has been found for her.*

⁷⁰ *Peytona Herald, volume II, number 52, page 3, June 21, 1894.*

⁷¹ *Michael and Sarah Benedum, who had made a fortune in the oil and gas industry, established the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation in 1944 and as of 2006 it had assets of more than 425 million dollars. No connection to C.Y. Benedum and Bros. and these Benedums has been established by this author.*

⁷² *Cumberland Barker was this author's paternal great-great uncle and the son of John Anthony and Nancy Barker, Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey's great-great grandparents. John and Nancy had a great-grandson named Nicholas Sheridan Kirk, who was born in December 1876, and died December 2, 1954, indicating the families were close.*

⁷³ *7th WV Regiment.*

goods, was \$4,222, which was divided according to the terms of the will. The personal property and household goods were divided unevenly, with Matilda and Mary receiving three-eighths each and Nicholas receiving one-fourth. Nicholas, Matilda and Mary fulfilled their end of the bargain and took care of their parents until both John and Bridget died. Nicholas continued to farm on Lick Creek with Mary and Matilda. Their brother James lived with them off and on. James had become an unreliable person, apparently due to problems with alcohol.

Bridget Sheridan Casey, affectionately called Biddy by the family, including her grandchildren, died of 'old age' on October 5, 1900 at Cobbs, near Lick Creek on Casey Fork.⁷⁴ Her Boone County death record listed her birth day as June 11, 1815 and her age at death as 83.⁷⁵ She would have been 85 when she died and 34 when she sailed for America.⁷⁶ The records of the immigration ship *Constitution* list Bridget's age as 35 and this would point to the accuracy of 1815, or perhaps 1814, as her birth date, confirming family records. For more on the Sheridans, and speculation that Bridget's mother Catherine lived for a time in Boone County, see *Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree.*

The oil and gas lease expired on May 29, 1906. The family sold the Lick Creek farm and Nick, Mary, and Matilda moved to Putnam County. James, the dissolute brother, continued to live off and on with his brother and sisters.

⁷⁴ *Register of Deaths, Boone County, 1900, page 59. Cobbs, present day Ashford, is a reference to the post office, local to the Casey farm, that existed until 1933.*

⁷⁵ *Math didn't seem to be either the county recorder's strong suit or her son Nick's strong suit, as Nick was the informant at her death. He also failed to supply Bridget's parents' names for the certificate.*

⁷⁶ *The 1850 Federal census has her to be 30 in 1850, which would place her birth year at 1820 conflicting with her age on the Constitution passenger manifest of 35. Five years must have fallen in the ocean during the voyage.*



Illustration 16: On the porch at the Putnam County farm. Left to right: Mary Casey, Nick Casey, Matilda Casey, unidentified woman, unidentified man.

There has been some question in the family as to the middle name of John P. Casey. There were verbal references to John Peter over the years, and his grandson, Peter Joseph Casey, believed his grandfather's middle name to be Peter. However, John had a brother named Peter, making it unlikely John was also named Peter. Many in the family came to accept the middle name to have been Paul. However, the name Paul is not found in the extended family until more modern times, making Paul an unlikely middle name for John, given the prevalence of Irish naming conventions in the 1800s.

John's grandson, John Edward Casey's death certificate listed his father's name as John Patrick Casey (Jr.) and if Irish naming conventions were followed, Patrick is more likely to be correct than either Peter or Paul as the middle name, because John and Bridget named their second son Patrick. John P. Casey's father, Nicholas, very likely had a brother named Patrick in Balroe. While there were preceding and succeeding descendants named Peter in the family, those descendants were just as likely to have been named for John's brother, Peter Casey, or other Lamb relatives.

The location of John's and Bridget's graves is unknown. They may be buried in part of the Kirk Cemetery at Casey Fork. Bridget's brother, James Sheridan, and her nephew, John Sheridan, were buried on the hillside above the Kirk Cemetery in the 1850s.⁷⁷ Other family information indicates they may be buried at Drawdy Creek Cemetery. The true answer almost certainly lies in the unavailable records of the now defunct Fleshman Monument Company of Charleston, WV.

Six stones were placed on old family graves in 1971 using some of the proceeds from Louis Sheridan Casey's estate. The location of three stones is known, the remaining three are unknown, but finding the Fleshman records could yield the location of the missing graves. In addition to the graves of John and Bridget, the location of the graves of their two children, Patrick and Margaret, remain unknown as does the location of the grave of Catherine Sheridan, who was probably Bridget's mother. For legal reasons, it is unlikely that the Fleshman Monument records will become publicly available anytime soon.

⁷⁷ *The headstone, placed in 1971, reads 'James and John Sheridan, Brothers of Mrs. John P. Casey' but this is incorrect. Bridget's brother John moved to Missouri just prior to the Civil War. His son, John Sheridan, died in Boone County prior to the move.*

The Children

*Those lives were mine to love and cherish
To guard and guide along life's way
Oh God forbid that one should perish
That one alas should go astray.*

- Doyle Lawson, Charles Waller, Robert Yates, "*Calling my children home*"

Bridget Casey wrote several letters to her niece, Bridget Brady in Brooklyn, detailing information about the family, including her children, Patrick and Margaret, both of whom died young.

The aggregated stories of Bridget Casey's nieces and nephews on the Sheridan side are more voluminous than those of her own children, partly because only one side of the correspondence is known to have survived. No state census was taken for Virginia or West Virginia which might have yielded further threads to be pursued.

By and large, Bridget's children lived quiet lives in the country, both in Boone County and Putnam County. Only two of her children, Sarah Ann and John, married and had children of their own to continue to carry their memory forward.

Sarah Ann Casey Mannix

Sarah Ann, John and Bridget's oldest child, was born in January 1847⁷⁸ in Ireland and was three when her family emigrated. Called Ann by her family, from the single surviving image, she was a handsome woman.

As the War drew to a close, Ann married a Union Civil War veteran named Pat Mannix.⁷⁹ They were issued a marriage license in Kanawha County on May 3, 1865 and were married on May 15th by the Reverend P. T. McKernan.⁸⁰ The license was returned to the county on May 18th.⁸¹

Pat was 5 feet 8 inches tall, with fair complexion, blue eyes, and auburn hair.⁸² He had been discharged from the Union Army a year earlier at Wheeling. At 28, he was considerably older than Ann.



Illustration 17: Sarah Ann Casey Mannix. Image courtesy of David Wade.

The son of Thomas (1804–1848) and Catherine Higgins (1813–1894) Mannix, of County Clare, Ireland,⁸³ Pat was born on May

⁷⁸ On Ann Casey's marriage license in May 1865 her age was 19, implying that she was born in 1846, not 1847. The question of her birth year falls victim to the same question regarding her parents' wedding year. If her parents were married in the spring of 1845, not 1846, then Ann was born in 1846. Her father was present at the wedding giving his permission for her to marry further lending credence to 1846. The 1860 census records imply Ann was born in 1846, while the 1850 census and the ship's passenger list implies 1847.

⁷⁹ Patrick Mannix signed his name Manix in his Civil War pension applications.

⁸⁰ Patrick's Civil War pension application states the marriage was performed by Rev. Kerns.

⁸¹ *Registry of Marriage Licenses, Kanawha County, West Virginia. 1865, line 87. Other transcriptions of the original records contain errors. This information is from the microfilm of the original, torn book. See Appendix 11.*

⁸² *Civil War Pension Files.*

⁸³ Various Mannix family documents. That he was born in County Clare, Ireland, was confirmed on his Civil War pension application.

25 or April 15, 1836.⁸⁴ He had come over from Ireland well in advance of the Civil War, in 1856 or 1857 perhaps on the *Benjamin Adams*, arriving in New York City on November 21, 1857,⁸⁵ or on the *Ocean Monarch* on May 18, 1857. His father Thomas may have lived in Turlough townland or Pullagh townland.⁸⁶

John Casey was present for the marriage, eliminating the need for a consent form due to Ann's age. Pat's Civil War pension application has an ambiguous answer to the question about how many times he was married. This may have been a second marriage for him, but probably not. The West Virginia marriage record did not specify an earlier marriage but listed Pat as single, and this was probably accurate.



Illustration 18: Possible tintype of Patrick Mannix (1836–1911).

The marriage between Pat and Ann was almost certainly an arranged marriage and they probably didn't know each other very well beforehand. "In those days it didn't matter if the bride and groom didn't know each other. The parents decided on the marriage."⁸⁷

Pat may have had one brother John (1835–1894) and one sister Johanna (1838–1905).⁸⁸ He maintained he was born in 1836 but like most people at the time, he probably didn't know. He certainly could not remember the day or the month, as he gave three different dates on his pension application. His age on the army rolls was 25 when he enlisted in 1861 so 1836 is likely correct. The 1870 and 1880 census data all point to him being born in 1836 as well.⁸⁹

⁸⁴ Civil War pension file.

⁸⁵ "New York, Passenger Lists, 1820–1891" Database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:27R5-2RT> : accessed 30 June 2015), Pat Mannix, 1857; citing NARA microfilm publication M237 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm.

⁸⁶ Various Mannix family information. Tourley, from the Patrick Henry Mannix side, may be a similar phonetic spelling of Turlough. There is also a civil parish called Tulla in County Clare. Pullagh may be the townland referred to as Pula from the Bridget Cecilia Mannix side of the family.

⁸⁷ Marie Casey, 1902–1996.

⁸⁸ Mannix Family Tree, by Tom Dolan. November 16, 1952.

⁸⁹ One Mannix document has Pat born in 1832 but this is unlikely. Patrick himself was the informant in the Army record which points to 1836 as his birth year.

After the secession vote in Virginia, many northern and western counties of Virginia began to form Union regiments. Pat Mannix joined the Union Army at Mason City, Virginia as a Private in Company C, of the 4th VA Infantry on June 8, 1861. The 4th VA became the 4th WV with the creation of the new state in 1863. His unit saw considerable action during the war and served under General Ulysses Grant at the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, a particularly difficult campaign.

On “December 28, 1862, the 4th West Virginia, ... under Brigadier-General Ewing, (was) ordered out of the Department of West Virginia and sent to General Grant’s command on the Mississippi River, when they were attached to the 15th Army Corps. ... The Fourth Regiment, besides performing military duty proper, also took a part in fatigue duty in the construction of the canal opposite Vicksburg. The brigade was in ... (General William T.) Sherman’s corps. While the regiment was at Young’s Point, La., sickness prevailed to an alarming extent, 31 men having died there during February and March. About the 10th of May, the Fourth, under command of Colonel Dayton, received orders to march to the front with General Lightburn’s brigade, Blair’s division, 15th Army Corps. On May 19th, the memorable assault on Vicksburg occurred. The Fourth Regiment was placed in the advance of Lightburn’s brigade and charged the enemy’s (earthen) works. A few men scaled the parapet ... The balance of the command was quickly repulsed. The regiment lost in this assault 25 killed and 10 mortally wounded ... The 20th and 21st (of May) were spent in taking care of the wounded. On the 22nd, the regiment participated in Grant’s final assault on Vicksburg, losing three men killed and two mortally wounded.”⁹⁰

High on a hill, well fortified, and in a bend of the Mississippi River, Vicksburg was far easier to defend than it was to conquer and posed a real challenge to Grant’s strategic skills. The Union boats with supplies and men could not get past Confederate guns on the hill. At first Grant tried cutting through the swamp across the Mississippi River from Vicksburg. He had his men digging canals, trying to cut through the Delta. Afflicted with malaria and dysentery, soldiers were felling trees eight feet under water. Grant tried coming at Vicksburg from behind and sent soldiers foraging overland, the first time in the war that a land army was completely cut off from its supply line. Grant knew if he did not succeed in taking Vicksburg, his career, and probably Abraham Lincoln’s presidency, was finished. The siege went on for 40 days until he finally managed to slip his boats past Vicksburg and mounted an all out successful assault. The city fell on July 4, 1863. Vicksburg did not celebrate the 4th of July again for 80 years.⁹¹

In 1863, the 4th West Virginia had hard and laborious service. “They were almost incessantly either marching, fighting, or performing manual labor. On the 11th of February 1864, a part of the regiment enlisted as veterans for three years longer, or during

⁹⁰ *Loyal West Virginia 1861–1865*, by Theodore Lang. See more at: <http://www.wvcivilwar.com/union-regiments/4th-west-virginia-infantry/#sthash.1eb7lUhw.dpuf>

⁹¹ *Memoirs of General Ulysses S. Grant*.

the war; (sic) ... The balance of the regiment was consolidated with the 8th Missouri ... and moved to Chattanooga.”⁹² This latter group included Pat.

On February 16, 1864, Pat was assigned to Company C, 8th Regiment, Missouri Infantry.⁹³ He appeared on the Missouri rolls for January, February, and April 1864. His term of service was soon up and he was discharged on July 6, 1864 at Wheeling, West Virginia.⁹⁴ He was out of the army before the famous battle of Pilot Knob, Missouri, where Bridget Casey’s brother, John Sheridan, and his family lived. Given \$1.00 for transportation expenses, he had not been paid since December 31, 1863 and was due another payment of \$13.19 for his service. Pat acquired ‘lung fever’ at Vicksburg, probably malaria, but he could have also suffered from pneumonia.⁹⁵

Pat and Ann lived for a time immediately after their marriage at Cabin Creek in Kanawha County, where Pat worked as a coal miner. They eventually settled on 294 acres of land on Little White Oak⁹⁶ in Boone County, just outside the town of Peytona about 4 miles from Ann’s parents.⁹⁷ The land was purchased on June 11, 1869 from William Holstein. No land purchases by Patrick before the war have been found in Virginia records.

Ann spent a great deal of her married life pregnant. In the 33 years of marriage before her death, she bore at least eleven children: Catherine on December 17, 1866; Mary Ann on July 7, 1868; John F. in May 1870; Margaret L. on May 12, 1872; Nicholas C. on March 30, 1874; James A. on April 8, 1877; Patrick S. on September 10, 1878; Bridget Cecilia in May 1883; Joseph Maurice in February 1885; Rosa on August 19, 1886; and Gertrude on December 1, 1889. There may have been a miscarriage or a still birth in the years between the birth of Patrick and that of Cecilia.

Both Pat and Ann could read and write. By 1870 Pat was a farmer with real estate worth \$700 and a personal estate of \$212 on the federal census taken August 21. In a letter

⁹² *Autobiography of Dr. Thomas H. Barton, The Self Made Physician of Syracuse, Ohio, Including a History of the Fourth Regt. West Va. Vol. Inf’y*, by Dr. Thomas H. Barton, Charleston, West Virginia Printing Co., 1890, page 186. Dr. Barton is the great-grandfather of James Garvin, the husband of Anita Casey. Dr. Barton was the regimental physician for the Fourth West Virginia during the Civil War.

⁹³ Special order 38, company headquarters, 2nd Division, 15th A.C. pursuant to general order 376, War Department, issued Nov. 21, 1863.

⁹⁴ Some records specify Parkersburg, but Wheeling is accurate. *Autobiography of Dr. Thomas H. Barton*, page 187.

⁹⁵ NARA film number M507, roll 8. Patrick’s name is frequently spelled in records as Manneix, Memaix, Menaix, Manix and Maneix.

⁹⁶ Deed Book E, page 38, Boone County land records.

⁹⁷ They were neighbors to Daniel Javins on Little White Oak. Daniel Javins is a great-great-grandfather of Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey. Federal Census Records, 1870, 1880.

from Bridget Brady to her aunt Bridget Casey, Mrs. Brady mentions that she had heard that Ann “was a very handsome woman.”⁹⁸

The Mannix family lived in Acme, a coal mining area between Eskdale and Kayford, on Cabin Creek in Kanawha County, around 1894. Ann’s brother John and his family also lived in the area at the time. The family continued to hold the property on White Oak.

A family story was passed down about Pat Mannix. Involving an election for President of the United States, as the story goes, Pat showed up at his local polling place in Boone or Kanawha County to cast his vote for President. When he did so, he asked for two ballots, one for himself and one for his mule, whose name was Bill.

According to the story, he was given two ballots by election officials. He cast them both, one on behalf of himself and one on behalf of his mule. With the country at war he wished to support his President. The story maintains that the mule’s vote was recorded as cast by Bill Mule. The story evolved over time to the votes being cast for Woodrow Wilson during WWI. However, Wilson was elected in 1912, and Pat died in 1911. So Bill Mule could not have voted for Wilson, but a better candidate for Mr. Mule’s vote is easily construed.

The story has a ring of truth to it and there are two possibilities to consider. The first is that the vote was for Abraham Lincoln. Pat would not have completed the ten year naturalization process in time for Lincoln’s first election in 1860 if he immigrated in the late 1850s. If he did not go through the naturalization process before the war, he was eligible for automatic citizenship due to his service in the Union Army during the war. He mustered out in plenty of time to vote in 1864. Additionally he had been part of the Army of the West and 80% of those soldiers voted for Lincoln.

The soldier vote swung overwhelmingly for Lincoln. Although McClellan may have still been admired, many “could not countenance the defeatist Democratic platform or the fact that the Confederacy was obviously hoping the young Napoleon (McClellan) would win ... Over the years, Lincoln had inspired an almost mystical devotion among his troops ... By supporting Lincoln, the soldiers understood that they were voting to prolong the war, but they voted with their hearts for the president they loved and the cause that he embodied.” Team of Rivals, by Doris Kearns Goodwin, Simon and Schuster Paperbacks, 2005, page 666.

⁹⁸ Letter from Bridget Brady to Bridget Casey, dated December 4, 1896.

The other possibility, and perhaps one just as likely, was that Pat and his mule cast two votes after the war for Ulysses S. Grant for President either in 1868 or at Grant's reelection in 1872. Having served under Grant at Vicksburg, Pat would have, along with his fellow soldiers, held Grant in high esteem. Grant's victory at Vicksburg propelled him to the head of the Union Army which propelled the Union to victory.

No matter which scenario might be true, if either is true, for myself, I like to think that he cast that vote for Lincoln with all the righteousness of a free Irishman in the waning days of the Civil War. Pat had fought on the side of the Union. His regiment served at many battles, and it was at Vicksburg that he maintained that his health had been affected. If it wasn't Lincoln that Bill Mule voted for, it is easy to imagine that it was Pat's old commander, Grant.

One might be amused that any county might allow a mule to vote, but not Pat's wife, Ann. For that right, any woman in Boone or Kanawha would have to wait another 56 years or so. Ann, having been born in Ireland, could not apply for citizenship herself. At the time, only males could apply. The only way Ann could become a citizen was if her father became one while she lived with him and he included her in the process, or if her husband included her when he was naturalized.

This particular story came to me through the best seanachie I have ever known, my beloved uncle, Pat Casey.

An old family story implied that Pat Mannix 'was mean' to Ann. It was never elaborated what was meant by 'mean'. Perhaps it meant nothing more than unkind or perhaps Pat suffered trauma as a result of his service during the Civil War. There are many surviving letters from Katherine Mannix and a few from some of Ann's other children, but there was never a mention of their father in any of the letters. Their mother and her failing health were mentioned. But neither before nor after Ann's death, was Pat mentioned. Whatever the reason, he was absent from any discussion in the letters.

Ann must have been worn out by the time her last child, Gertrude, was born in 1889. Pat was not working full time by the early 1890s and filed for a disability pension for his service during the war. The situation must have been dire as his attorney for the application stated he was in destitute circumstances in 1892.⁹⁹ A partial pension was granted for \$6.00 a month on March 27, 1895.

The situation must have been especially difficult for Ann, sick herself, with so many children and a sick, disabled husband. Her son John wrote in 1894 that she "don't gain no strength of any notice."¹⁰⁰ Ann did not live much longer, dying on February 8, 1898, a

⁹⁹ *Application for Pension, Patrick Mannix, number 905021/963737.*

¹⁰⁰ *Letter from John Mannix to his aunt, Mary Casey. July 17, 1894.*

date not officially confirmed.¹⁰¹ A few weeks after Ann's death, on April 15, 1898, Pat was admitted to the National Military Home, Montgomery County, Dayton, Ohio. The next of kin on his records was Nick Manix (sic) of Winifrede Junction, West Virginia.

Pat's records were transferred from the rolls of the Washington Agency to those of the Columbus, Ohio Agency for the management of his Civil War pension and he was reported by the agency to be living at the Home and collecting a pension of \$8.00 a month. His attorney of fact filed for an increase to \$12 a month and in that filing Pat maintained that he would not have moved to the Home except that he could not otherwise maintain himself on his \$8 pension. He had been rejected for a pension until 1895 on the basis of doubt about his true age. The Civil War pension was an old age pension and according to Pat's original enlistment records, he was not old enough to collect until 1895.

In his pension application, Pat used a Winifrede address at one time but he was living in Acme, Kanawha County, in 1895 and had been in Charleston in 1890. In early 1898 he was back in Peytona. For his application, William Butler of Malden swore to knowing Pat since 1870. S. S. Pryor and James Chatworth, who had known him since 1874, also swore for him. William Javins was another witness stating he had known him for 38 years and lived near him during that time. William Javins had been Pat and Ann's next door neighbor in 1880.¹⁰²

Pat stated he was the father of eleven children and of those, Catherine, Mary Ann, Margaret, Ellen, Nicholas, and Mary, were still living on May 31, 1898. This was not accurate, at least as regards his sons Patrick, Joseph, and James, who were alive and well at the time, or with regard to his daughter Mary Ann, who had been deceased for more than 20 years by that time. This alone would underscore the distance between Pat and his family and his difficulties in living alone. The doctor's report states 'This man is honest. No evidence of vicious habits.'

In 1900 Pat was working folding laundry at the National Home. He suffered from some form of senile dementia, diagnosed from 1903 until his death. He complained of deafness, difficulty seeing, and catarrh of the head, generally an infection of the mucous membranes, along with a host of other health problems. The 1900 Federal census lists his immigration to America as occurring in 1856 and that he had been in the US for 44 years.¹⁰³ He spent his last days at the Central Branch, National Home for Volunteer Soldiers, on New Jersey Street. It seems safe to say his life went downhill after Ann died

¹⁰¹ *From a handwritten document found at the Casey home in Charleston.*

¹⁰² *1880 Federal Census, West Virginia, Boone County. William McJavins is buried in the Javins Cemetery at White Oak along with Dryden and Theodosia Javins Stone, great grandparents of Bobbie Lee Shamblin Casey.*

¹⁰³ *The 1910 census for the National Military Home states that Pat was 78 in May of 1910 and that he immigrated to the US in 1857.*

but he may have truly enjoyed living amongst his fellow soldiers, for who could better understand what he had been through.

On April 5, 1900, two years after Patrick moved to the Military Home, an oil lease for 300 acres on Little White Oak was sold to the South Penn Oil Company.¹⁰⁴ From there on out there were several land transfers involving Mannix properties. One was a transfer of 294 acres on Little White Oak on December 28, 1910 to Cecilia (Bridget) Fox from Patrick Mannix.¹⁰⁵ In the same book and page the same 294 acres were transferred to Catherine, Joseph M., James A., P. H. (Patrick S., the son), and Gertrude Neely from Patrick Mannix.

Pat Mannix died at 6:30 PM on September 23, 1911 of chronic myocarditis, at the Ward A Hospital, National Military Home, Montgomery County, Ohio. The home, on Iowa Avenue in Jefferson Township, near Dayton, is now the Dayton VA Medical Center. By the time he died Pat's pension had been increased to \$20 a month. His sons Nick and Pat were noted as notified of his death by telegram, although Nick was already deceased by this time. Pat left no effects.

The soldiers living at the National Home were required to wear blue uniforms, issued via the Quartermaster. When they died, they received a soldier's burial with an honor guard and a three volley salute. Pat would have received this salute at his burial. He was buried in the national military cemetery next to the hospital, on the day he died, in plot Q 3 9.¹⁰⁶ His last known residence in the VA records was Peytona, West Virginia.

¹⁰⁴ *Boone County, West Virginia, property records, Book T, page 196.*

¹⁰⁵ *Boone County, West Virginia, property records, Book 10, page 285.*

¹⁰⁶ *Ohio death records, volume 649, file record 50,073. A Daniel Manix from Richmond, IN is buried in plot K 24 30. Daniel died on Oct. 8, 1897.*



Illustration 19: Grave of Pat Mannix (1836–1911). Dayton National Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio © 2010

Nicholas Casey



Illustration 20: Possible tintype of Nicholas Casey.

Nicholas was born in Ireland on March 14, 1848¹⁰⁷ and naturalized in 1870.¹⁰⁸ He worked the farm on Lick Creek and never married. After his parents died, and the oil and gas lease expired, he sold the Boone County property to an agent for a coal company and moved the family to Poca in Putnam County.

Nick was apparently trusted by his neighbors. He and his brother James were appraisers for the estate of John McCarty. He acted as an agent with power of attorney for Michael Maroney and his wife to manage Maroney's holdings in Boone County.¹⁰⁹ A letter survives from Nellie Maroney to 'Tilda' Casey, written March 12, 1903.

When Patrick Williams died in 1891,¹¹⁰ management of his farm in Boone County passed to his son-in-law, Hugh King, who also had large oil interests in Eagle Mills, Doddridge County, West Virginia. Mr. King, married to Maggie

(Margaret) Williams, was President of Columbia Oil Company of New York and a prominent member of the New York Municipal Council of the Irish National League, as well as being active in political and social circles. Mr. King continued to engage the services of first, John, and after John's death, those of his son, Nicholas Casey. Hugh King, an Irish immigrant born in the 1840s, started out as a grocer in New York, became

¹⁰⁷ *Handwritten family note. No official Irish record has been found.*

¹⁰⁸ *His birth date was March 1849 on the 1900 Federal census, off by one year.*

¹⁰⁹ *WV Deed Book I, page 29, rescinded this assignment in favor of the Maroney's son on October 16, 1893.*

¹¹⁰ *Kings County, New York, Death certificates, number 8251. Patrick Williams died at 11:30 AM on May 16, 1891. His funeral was at St. Patrick's Church on May 19 with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery. He was 72 years, 2 months, and 10 days old.*

an oil man, and founded the Columbia Oil Company, at 11-19 William Street in New York City. In 1924 he sold the company to Shell Oil.

Hugh King wrote to Nick that ‘your father and yourself have been so loyal to my predecessor and myself ...’. Of the several letters from Hugh King, the most interesting involved a rifle. On January 6, 1904, Hugh King wrote to Nick and told him that he had sent him a rifle, packed with some ball cartridges, for Nick’s kindness to himself and the visitors that Mr. King had sent to West Virginia on a business venture.

In 1908 Mr. King again contacted Nick to inquire about getting his land surveyed and to ask about drilling in the Boone County area and what terms other property owners were accepting. In 1909 he wrote to Nick seeking a reference for a Mr. Elkins whom he believed to be a deputy sheriff in Boone County and whom he was considering appointing his representative. Nick, who by this time lived some distance away in Putnam County, was unable to manage the property any longer.

Nick, Mary, and Matilda were very close and continued to live together until they died off, one by one. They never gave up on one another, not even on James. They continued to try to care for him even though many times he made their lives miserable with his choices.

Nick wrote his will on April 20, 1922. He was being cared for at the time at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston. He died October 17, 1922¹¹¹ of cancer and was buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Charleston. His will was probated on October 25, 1922.

¹¹¹ *Death and funeral records, Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral, Charleston, West Virginia.*

Patrick Casey

John and Bridget's second son was born in Ireland on October 15, 1849.¹¹² Bridget's niece, Bridget Reilly,¹¹³ stood godmother to Patrick at his baptism,¹¹⁴ just as Bridget Casey herself had done for Bridget Reilly's brother, Patrick Reilly, many years before.¹¹⁵ Bridget Casey clearly talked about him in one of her letters to her niece. In response, Bridget Reilly, his godmother, mourned the death of 'her boy' in a letter on January 8, 1897.

One handwritten family document stated that Patrick died September 12, 1850 but gave no source for the information and Boone County did not keep official death records until 1853. If Patrick did die in 1850, he was not quite one year old. Perhaps the voyage across the Atlantic and the travel to Virginia proved to be too much for him.

The location of Patrick's grave is unknown. He may be buried on the same hillside above the Kirk Cemetery on the Ashford Nellis road, with his uncle James Sheridan and his cousin John Sheridan, or with his sister Margaret, or somewhere on the farm at Lick Creek.

¹¹² *Family records.*

¹¹³ *Later Bridget Reilly Brady. See Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree.*

¹¹⁴ *Letter from Bridget Brady to Bridget Casey, dated December 4, 1896.*

¹¹⁵ *Baptismal records, Ardagh-Moydow parish.*

Mary Catherine Casey

Mary Catherine, called Mary by the family, was born December 5, 1852¹¹⁶ in Boone County. She never married and lived her entire life in the bosom of her family. She died at the family home in Putnam County on September 8, 1930 from dysentery with contributory cause of acidosis. Dr. Skaggs was the attending physician.

James Phillip Casey, her nephew, was the informant for the death certificate. Burial was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, with Owen and Barth the funeral director. After Mary's death, her sister, Matilda, was alone on the farm with James, who apparently needed a great deal of care himself. Matilda must have missed her sister greatly, having lived with her all her life and having faced all of life's difficulties together.



Illustration 21: Mary Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.

¹¹⁶ Family record. No official records were kept at the state or county level in 1852.

John Patrick Casey, Jr.

John Patrick Casey, Jr. was born April 13, 1854 on Lick Creek in Boone County. The year after his birth, Edward Lamb and Mary Monaghan, both native born Irish, were married in a small church in Bishop Auckland, England on February 14, 1855. Twelve years later in West Virginia, John Casey's future wife, Rose Lamb, was born. For more on the Lambs, see *Through Irish Eyes, Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary.*

John Jr., a handsome man by any standard, became a miner and then a mine foreman. He married Rose M. Lamb on September 23, 1891, in a ceremony performed by Rev. George H. Toner, who had been appointed the first pastor at Montgomery's Immaculate Conception Church just three years earlier in 1888.¹¹⁷

Neither Rose nor John had much formal education. Rose attended school for four years.

Bridget Casey sent a picture of her son to relatives in Sioux City, Iowa. Annie Shanley remarked in her return letter on August 8, 1886, "I was much pleased with cousin John's picture. We are, of course, as entire strangers. Still I value his picture very much."

John and Rose moved to Winifrede, in the Cabin Creek District of Kanawha County, where their first child was born on September 12, 1892.¹¹⁸ John Edward, named for his

two grandfathers, was called Johnnie by the family. He was followed by Louis Sheridan, called Sherd, on January 22, 1894.¹¹⁹ Sometime prior to 1897, Johnnie and Sherd accidentally burned the Winifrede house down while playing with matches.¹²⁰

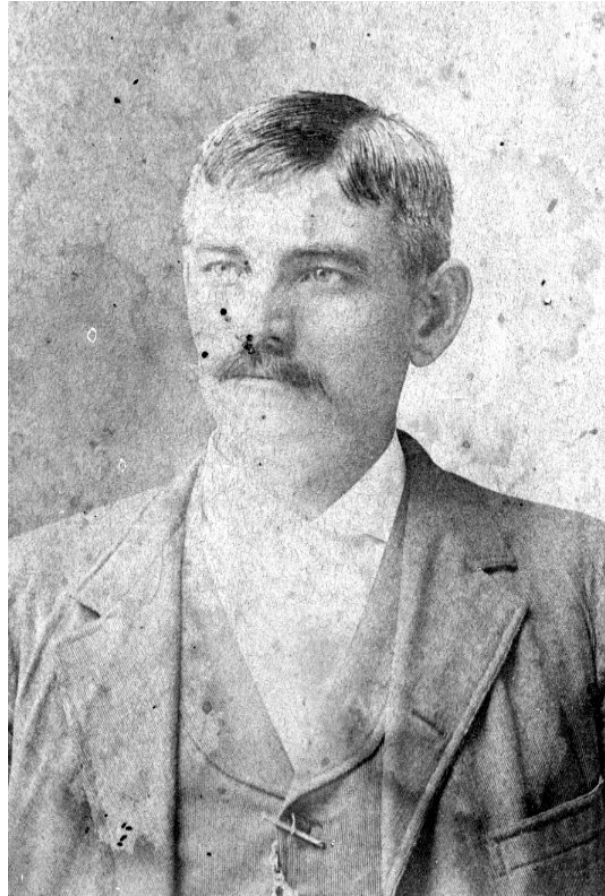


Illustration 22: John Patrick Casey, Jr. as a young man.

¹¹⁷ *Register of Marriages, Kanawha County, 1893, page 231, number 307.*

¹¹⁸ *Register of Births, Kanawha County, 1892, page 141, number 21.*

¹¹⁹ *West Virginia State Department of Health, Death Certificate, 1970, number 003653.*

¹²⁰ *As told by Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall, daughter of John Edward Casey.*

Needing a place to live, John and Rose moved back to Lick Creek in Boone County to live with his parents until they could get on their feet again. While they were at Lick Creek, two more sons were born: James Philip on March 4, 1897;¹²¹ and Peter Joseph on March 7, 1899.¹²²

After Joe's birth in 1899, John and Rose moved the family to Hernshaw, in Brownstown Precinct of Kanawha County. There they had a general store, selling groceries and dry goods while John continued working in the mines. They rented a house to live in and had a very productive garden, supplying the store. So productive, that John called himself a 'gardner' (sic) on the 1900 census.¹²³

John and Rose's only daughter, Marie, was born on October 27, 1902 and was baptized on December 3, 1903 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Montgomery, West Virginia.¹²⁴

Their fifth son, George Nicholas, was born at Hernshaw on February 9, 1907.¹²⁵



In September, 1909 John was the head mine boss for the Brown Coal Company at the

Illustration 23: The Casey Brothers, Phil, Lou, John, Joe. Circa 1900.

¹²¹ *Register of Births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1897, page 110. Old record, Book 1A, page 171. At the time his birth was registered, James Philip was not yet named.*

¹²² *Register of Births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1899, page 112. Old record, Book 1, page 181.*

¹²³ *1900 Federal Census, West Virginia. The family name is misspelled as 'Caskey'.*

¹²⁴ *Delayed birth certificate for Marie Casey, issued October 4, 1944, West Virginia State Department of Health, C-55022.*

South Nuttall Colliery, opposite Keeney's Creek, producers of 'Celebrated New River Red Ash Coal'. He was making \$90.00 a month and 'running 300 tons' of coal a day. He liked the company and his job, and they apparently liked him. He said they had a good power plant and 'all the latest improvements' and the coal was far better than what he had worked at Elmo.¹²⁶ So he got around a lot to different mines.



Illustration 24: George Nicholas and Marie Casey. About 1909.

By April 21, 1910, the family owned their own home at Hernshaw in Loudon District, Marmet Precinct. John was still a mine boss.¹²⁷ Rose's mother, Mary, and Rose's brothers, Peter and Edward Lamb, moved next door in 1908. Peter was a coal miner and Edward was a watchman in a power house. Mary Lamb, a widow, owned her own home.

In 1912, John was working as a carpenter at Mucklow, present day Gallagher, on Paint Creek, as mine strikes were spreading across West Virginia. He was making \$2.50 a day as a carpenter building a new coal tippie and a 980 foot long chute to the mines. Carpentry work was occasionally stopped by the miners' union which was on strike. He took his two oldest sons, Johnnie and Sherd, back with him to help with the carpentry work.

¹²⁵ *Register of Births, Kanawha County, Loudon District, Lower District, 1907, page 123, number 14. In 1941 a delayed birth certificate was filed by Rose Lamb Casey attesting to George Nichols' birth on Feb. 9, 1904. Perhaps there was another child who did not survive born in 1904 and Rose, who reportedly suffered at least one miscarriage, may have been remembering this.*

¹²⁶ *Letter from John Casey on September 5, 1909 to his brother Nicholas Casey.*

¹²⁷ *1910 Federal census.*

On February 7, 1913, an armored train car full of Baldwin Felts detectives sprayed a miners' tent camp with gunfire at Holley Grove on Paint Creek, killing a striker. The miners retaliated by attacking a guard camp at Mucklow. In the ensuing battle 16 people died. The West Virginia mine wars had begun in earnest. John Casey's involvement, if any, isn't known. He had indicated in the 1912 letter that he planned to go to Tomsburg¹²⁸ to work for a couple of years, so he had probably left Mucklow by then.



Illustration 25: Rose Lamb Casey and John Patrick Casey, Jr. Tintype. Circa 1890s.

¹²⁸ *Place Names in West Virginia, West Virginia Culture Center, History and Archives. Tomsburg was a town in Kanawha County from 1903–1918.*

John worked in Cedar Grove for a while in 1913 and then went to work at a new mine company in Chesapeake, around Fields Creek.¹²⁹ This new job allowed him to stay at home with his family and commute to work.

John and Rose maintained their productive garden, raising about 150 bushels of potatoes and the same in corn, where they had at least 4 acres planted in that crop. Their cows and horses were fine and fat in 1914.¹³⁰

In the January 27, 1920 Federal census John and Rose owned their Hernshaw home free and clear, and have no listed occupation, so perhaps they have retired. Their eldest son, Johnnie, a section foreman on the railroad, was still living at home but he would soon marry Faye Elizabeth Selbe on May 12, 1920. Sherd, also at home, was a fireman on the railroad. Phil worked as a house carpenter and Joe was a fireman with the fire department. Marie, 17, and George Nicholas, 12, were in school in 1920.

By 1930 John and Rose had moved their family to a new house in Levi, also known as Plus,¹³¹ in Malden District. As with most Irish families before them, those children who had not married continued to live at home. The family home was owned and valued at \$4,000.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, John slipped on the ice at his home in Levi and broke his hip. He was taken to St. Francis Hospital.¹³² The accident may have been the impetus for his decline. He died the following year on February 11, 1937 at 6 PM of 'senility' with 'several attacks at intervals of ... cerebral hemorrhage'. Although the family was building a new home in Kanawha City, it was not yet complete. He died at home in Levi. The informant for his death certificate was his son, George Nicholas. He was buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, on February 13, 1937. Owen and Barth was the funeral director.

Rose moved into the new house in Kanawha City and lived there with her unmarried adult children until she died on October 15, 1953 at 5:05 AM at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston of 'intestinal obstruction', within 12 days of onset. Informant was her youngest son, George Nicholas. She was buried beside her husband at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. J.A. Adams was the funeral director.

As Rose was dying, the doctors wanted to perform an operation to release the pressure against her bowel but she would not agree to it. Her sons were asked to override her decision but none of them would go against her wishes, even though they knew she would die if they did not, as Rose well knew she would die if she did not consent to the operation. She chose quality of life over a bit more quantity.

¹²⁹ *Letter from John Casey to his sister Matilda Casey, January 25, 1914.*

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*

¹³¹ *The town was named after Plus Levi.*

¹³² *Charleston Gazette, February 23, 1936.*



Illustration 26: Gravestone of John and Rose Lamb Casey.

The year of John Casey's birth is incorrect on the stone. The correct date is 1854.



Illustration 27: Stone work surrounds the graves.

James B. Casey

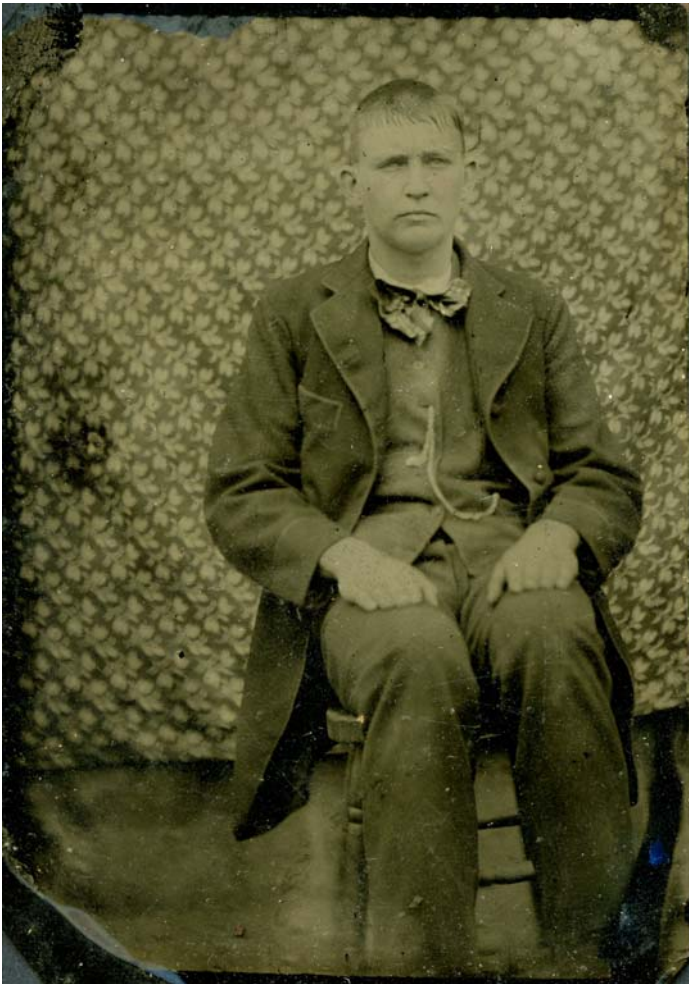


Illustration 28: James B. Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.

James was born September 5, 1856 at Lick Creek on the Big Coal River. He never married and was reputed to have a fondness for drink. After the Boone County farm was sold, James continued for a time to live around Peytona by himself, working as a laborer at odd jobs. By 1920 he had moved to Putnam County and was living with his brother and sisters, at Poca RFD, US Route 35.

James was effectively disinherited by his father in 1897 when he was left the sum of one dollar. The family farm and contents were left to the other children. When James' brother Nick died, his will left a portion of his interest in the Putnam County farm to James on the condition that he "not make the lives of Mary and Matilda unpleasant". If he did, he was to receive nothing. James continued to live with his sisters until his death.

He died at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston of septicemia and cellulitis of the right hand, at 6:15 AM on August 17, 1935. His nephew, George Nicholas Casey, Sr., was the informant for his death, and the attending physician was Ben Swint. Burial was in Mt. Olivet, with Owen and Barth the funeral director.¹³³

¹³³ *Certificate of Death, West Virginia State Department of Health, 1935, number 12525.*

Margaret Casey

Margaret Casey was born at Lick Creek on the Big Coal River on August 15, 1858.¹³⁴ She was alive as late as 1880 when she was 21 years old.¹³⁵ In a letter written by Bridget Brady in 1886, she expresses sorrow on hearing of the death of her aunt Bridget's daughter. Margaret died sometime between the 1880 census and 1886, which helps to date the tintypes that include Margaret as being made prior to 1886. She never married.

Family stories relate that Margaret died in a logging camp while working as a cook, but no information has been found on the date and manner of death. She may have died on June 17, 1884.¹³⁶ Boone County death records are missing for 1884, making that year even more likely to be the year Margaret died. The location of her grave is unknown.



Illustration 29: Margaret Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.

¹³⁴ *Register of Births, For the Year Ending December 31, 1858, Births in the District of George Standly, County of Boone, 1858, number 93.*

¹³⁵ *Since Margaret was born in 1858, she lived to be older than some family documents recorded.*

¹³⁶ *From a handwritten document found at the Casey home in Charleston.*

Matilda Casey



Illustration 30: Matilda Casey. Circa 1878. Tintype.

Matilda, John and Bridget's youngest child, was born on April 15, 1861,¹³⁷ the day after Lincoln declared war on the South. She was born into the turmoil of Boone County as secession was becoming a reality to everyone around her. The first four years of her life could not have been easy in that environment.

Matilda made great buttermilk, the real kind, and shared it readily with neighbors. She also kept bees for honey production. She was a favorite of her many nieces and nephews, who called her Tilda.

She corresponded with a widowed friend, Mrs. Lillian Lingaman, who had been a housekeeper for a German priest before moving away from the area.¹³⁸

She also kept up an extensive

correspondence with her niece, Katherine Mannix, and her other nieces and nephews.

Matilda never married although she did have at least one suitor at one time.¹³⁹ A nurturing individual, she took care of her brother James until he died, in spite of the difficulties he presented. No longer able to live alone and take care of the farm, she moved to Marmet after the death of her brother. The Putnam County farm was leased to Henry Asbury for the princely sum of \$150 per year.¹⁴⁰ Matilda was living in her nephew George's house, close to the old wicker locks, when she died of 'senility' with complications of bronchial pneumonia in St. Francis Hospital on August 17, 1936. The informant at her death was George Nicholas Casey, Sr. Matilda was buried in the Catholic Cemetery at Mt. Olivet. Owen and Barth was the funeral director.

¹³⁷ *Certificate of Death, West Virginia Department of Health, 1937, number 13202. Some family documents give April 23, 1861 as her birth date.*

¹³⁸ *Lillian Rataubaugh married George John Lingaman in 1909 as a divorcee, and was widowed when her husband died of uremia on June 27, 1913. He was 46 and a hotel proprietor in Wheeling. She had one son, Louis, born in 1912.*

¹³⁹ *Letter from Margaret Mannix to her aunt, Matilda Casey, June 28, 1890. "Write and tell me what your fellow's name is and where he lives."*

¹⁴⁰ *Lease between Henry and Anna Asbury and Matilda Casey, October 15, 1935.*

Matilda's nephew, Peter Joseph Casey, made an attempt to settle her estate, but to the chagrin of many, he never finished the task. The Poca farm was not sold until 2016, and in the ensuing eighty years acquired an ever growing list of potential heirs.



Illustration 31: Matilda Casey as a young woman.

John Casey Sr.'s Sisters and Brothers

John Patrick Casey, Sr. had at least two sisters and two brothers. A possible third brother immigrated to Brooklyn. One sister corresponded with John, and two of her letters survive. More is known about the lives of the two sisters than those of the two brothers because of these letters, but the letters provided the only identification of the brothers by name.

The sisters, Esther and Margaret, immigrated separately to America with their families in 1849, seven months apart. They left Ireland for New York City soon after the start of the Great Hunger, leaving one land in which thousands were dying every week, for another land on the verge of a cataclysmic civil war. They lived out their lives in Brooklyn in close proximity to each other.

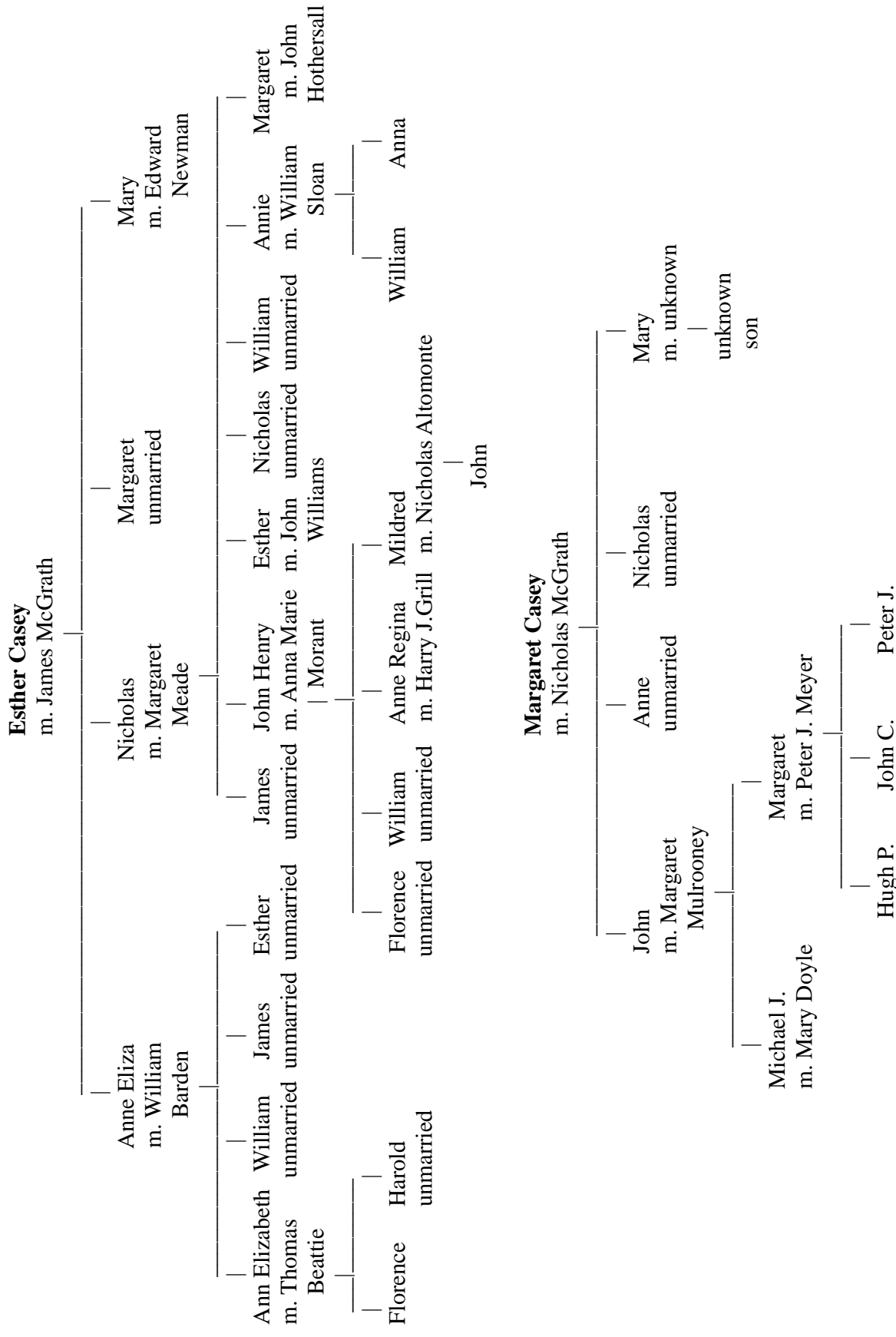
Both sisters married McGraths, probably brothers. Given the paucity of official Irish records and the lack of detail in those records that do exist, it hasn't been possible to prove they were brothers. Neither the Irish Church records, nor the early Brooklyn death records, listed parents' names. While James and Nicholas McGrath could have been cousins, instinct, for a number of reasons, indicates they were brothers.

In a letter written July 26, 1884 to her brother John Casey, Margaret McGrath made mention of their brothers Peter and Michael. She told John that she assumed that Peter was dead since she had not heard from him. She had written to Michael to find out about them both, but had heard nothing, and seemed to assume Michael was also dead. She provided no clue to their whereabouts because, of course, John would already have known where they were. It's most likely that both Peter and Michael remained behind in Ireland.

There may have been a third brother, Edward, although he was never mentioned in any letter. This would not have been unusual because he had died before the surviving letters were written. Margaret mentioned a Nicholas Mulvaney in the 1884 letter but whether or not Nicholas was related somehow to the status or location of John Casey's brothers remains unknown.¹⁴¹

¹⁴¹ *This may be a reference to Nicholas Mulvey who married Margaret Mulvanney in the mid-1860s in County Westmeath, Ireland. They had nine children, seven of whom survived as late as 1911. They lived in Mullingar, in the parish of Multyfarnham. Nicholas was born between 1834 and 1839 and died in 2Q1915.*

The Sisters and Their Known Descendants



Esther Casey

Esther Casey¹⁴² was born about 1810. She married James McGrath on August 20, 1840 in a Roman Catholic ceremony in the parish of Ballinacargy in County Westmeath. Their witnesses were John Bannon and Alice Gillan.¹⁴³ James was born about 1800. They lived for a number of years in Ardagh-Moydow parish, in County Longford,¹⁴⁴ where two of their children were baptized. Family letters and American records identify two additional children, one of whom was born in Ireland.¹⁴⁵

Esther's oldest identified child, Anne Eliza, was born March 25, 1843,¹⁴⁶ in Ireland before the family lived at Ardagh-Moydow. No baptismal record for Anne has been found. A son, Nicholas, was born in early February 1844 and was baptized at Ardagh-Moydow on February 25, 1844. His baptismal sponsors were Margaret Langan.¹⁴⁷ and Nicholas McGrath. Another daughter, Margaret, was born in late April 1846, and baptized on May 3, 1846. Her sponsors were John Casey and Bridget Casey.¹⁴⁸ James and Esther were to have at least one more child, Mary, born in Brooklyn about 1853.

¹⁴² *Finding the sister named Esther proved to be challenging but exhilarating when the search was successful. Bridget Casey had inquired about her sisters-in-law in a letter to her niece Bridget Brady in Brooklyn. In an answering letter on January 8, 1897, Bridget Brady mentioned that one of John's sisters, Esther, along with her husband, was dead 'about 20 years now and all her children are dead but there is (sic) some surviving grandchildren.' No mention was made of Esther's married name because of course, Bridget Casey would already know the name. A letter to John from his sister, Margaret McGrath, again mentioned Esther and the first names of three of her children. No last name was forthcoming. Luck, serendipity, and the rarity of the name Esther in Irish families of the time, allowed her to be found and some of her story pieced together.*

¹⁴³ *County Westmeath, Ballinacargy Roman Catholic Church records.*

¹⁴⁴ *This parish is also where Bridget Sheridan Casey's sister, Mary Sheridan Shanley Reilly, lived. Any researcher is lucky to have relatives in Ardagh-Moydow because that parish had good, legible records at a time when most did not.*

¹⁴⁵ *The 1865 New York state census lists Esther as having had only three children but this is incorrect.*

¹⁴⁶ *Ann's death certificate states she was 38 years, 2 months, and 27 days old when she died on June 21, 1881. True to Irish naming conventions, she would have been named for her mother's mother, Anne Casey.*

¹⁴⁷ *Margaret Langan also sponsored Michael Casey, the son of Edward Casey and Eliza Conway Casey, on April 16, 1848. Her co-sponsor for that baptism was William Casey. Edward and Eliza ended up in Brooklyn, living very close to both McGrath families. It is entirely possible that Edward was another brother, or a cousin, of John Casey.*

¹⁴⁸ *Irish Roman Catholic records typically use maiden names in baptismal records for mothers, and may also use maiden names for baptismal sponsors. If so, Bridget Casey was probably not Bridget Sheridan Casey, although John Casey could easily be our John Casey.*

Esther's husband James preceded her to America, which was not unusual. Esther¹⁴⁹ and the family followed, sailing from Liverpool in the winter of 1848 on the *Henry Clay*, arriving in New York on January 8, 1849.¹⁵⁰ With her was Ann, 5, Nicholas, 4, and an unnamed infant, who was obviously Margaret.¹⁵¹ Traveling with the family was Hugh McGrath, 40, Ellen McGrath, 30, and Catherine McGrath, 12.¹⁵²

They probably settled in an area of Brooklyn called Blake's Buildings that would become notorious just a few months later for being a hot bed of cholera. Located in an area of low ground, with stagnant water, it was overpopulated by as much as a third to half more than what the area could support.

Esther and James first appeared as a family unit in the New York Federal census taken August 5, 1850, in the 10th Ward of Brooklyn. James was working as a laborer. Esther was 39 and their children were Ann, 8, Nicholas, 6, and Margaret, 4.

By 1855 James and Esther were living in the 7th Ward of Brooklyn, 2nd Enumeration District, in a 'shanty' at number 192, just a few doors from Esther's sister, Margaret, who lived at number 105. A daughter, Mary, had been born about 1852 but by 1855 they had lost Margaret,¹⁵³ who died of smallpox at the age of 5 on July 30, 1853 in Brooklyn. Margaret was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.¹⁵⁴

James McGrath died sometime between the census taken July 26, 1860 and April 1868, probably before June 12, 1865.¹⁵⁵ A widow at the time of her death, Esther died of hepatitis on Tuesday, April 21, 1868 at her home on the corner of Schenck and Van Buren.¹⁵⁶

¹⁴⁹ *Esther's age is very difficult to read on the passenger manifest. It could be 38 or 30. She was 38 at the time and other records confirm this.*

¹⁵⁰ *Passenger manifest, Henry Clay, page 5 of 8.*

¹⁵¹ *This would be Margaret, baptized in May 1846.*

¹⁵² *Passenger manifest, Henry Clay, page 5 of 8.*

¹⁵³ *The family name is McGraw in the 1855 and the 1860 census which was probably the result of their Irish accents. The 'th' would not be stressed in pronunciation.*

¹⁵⁴ *FHL film number 1,315,321 Brooklyn Death Ledger, page number 393.*

¹⁵⁵ *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle reported on June 18, 1861 that a James McGrath had been in a terrible accident on the Central Railroad Bridge on Green Island near Albany on the 17th and was expected to die. It's unlikely this was Esther's husband. The 1865 state census is inconclusive. The family's name was misrepresented, but several of the neighbors are the same as in the 1860 census, and the children's names are the same but James is missing.*

¹⁵⁶ *FHL film number 1,323,670. Brooklyn Death Ledger, certificate number 2405.*

MCGRATH—This morning, **EASTER MCGRATH**, aged 53 years.
The funeral will take place on Friday, at 2 P. M., from her late residence, cor. Schenck and Van Buren sts. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

Illustration 32: Esther Casey McGrath obituary. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, April 23, 1868, page 3.

Probate for her estate was filed on April 22, the day after her death. Three children survived her: Ann Eliza McGrath Barden, Nicholas McGrath, and Mary McGrath, a minor over 14 in 1868.¹⁵⁷



Illustration 33: Esther McGrath's family graves are unmarked beneath the large tree to the left at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. Section West, Range I, Grave 29. © 2011

¹⁵⁷ *Surrogate Court, Kings County, April 22, 1868, Esther McGrath probate.*

Esther's daughter Anne

Esther's older daughter, Anne, married William Barden on June 8, 1865.¹⁵⁸ They had at least four children: Ann, born about 1869; William Jr., born about 1874; James, named for his grandfather, born about 1877; and Mary Esther, named for her grandmother, born March 1880. The family lived at 349 Waverly Avenue in Brooklyn in 1880. William, a naturalized citizen, worked as a coachman in 1880. He had previously been a Morocco finisher, a finisher of leather goods or a bookbinder.¹⁵⁹

Anne Eliza Barden died at 6:30 PM on June 21, 1881 of typhoid fever. She was 38 years old and had been sick for twenty days. When she died the family was living at Herkimer Place in Brooklyn.¹⁶⁰ She was buried at Holy Cross cemetery there. Her children were left under the care of her sister Mary.¹⁶¹

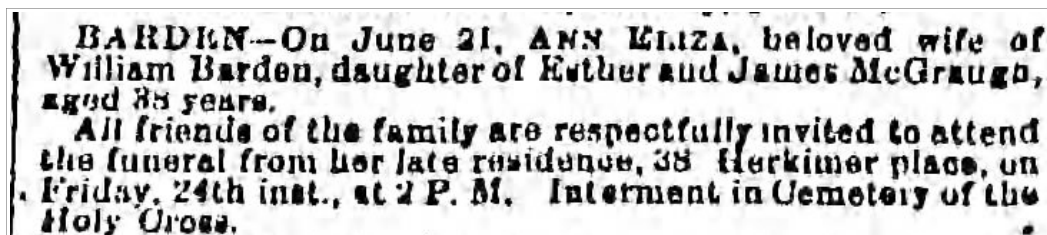


Illustration 34: Anne Eliza McGrath Barden obituary. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, June 22, 1881.

Four months later, on October 4, 1881, Anne's baby daughter Mary Esther died. She was nineteen months old.

Anne's older daughter, Ann Elizabeth, married Thomas Beattie on April 12, 1899. They had two children, Florence and Harold. Ann Beattie died on October 28, 1913 at German Hospital, St. Nicholas, Brooklyn, and her will was probated in 1919. Her estate consisted of \$400 in personal property. Although she was survived by her husband and her two children, her son Harold Beattie, born December 5, 1902, died at 15 in 1918. He had been working as an errand boy when he died.

Anne Barden's son, William Jr., never married, worked as a painter, and died on November 19, 1915 in Queens. He was about 41 years old. Anne's second son, James Edward, never married and died in Brooklyn on April 7, 1929, at about 52.

¹⁵⁸ *Kings County marriage certificates are available from 1866 in Brooklyn. A marriage certificate might be found in surviving church records in the future.*

¹⁵⁹ *1875 State Census, New York, Brooklyn, 7th Ward, 3rd Election District, page 14.*

¹⁶⁰ *Death certificate, Kings County, New York, number 6658, FHL film number 1,373,868. Death occurred at 37 Herkimer Place.*

¹⁶¹ *Letter from Margaret McGrath to John Casey dated Jan. 26, 1884.*

Esther's son Nicholas

Esther's son Nicholas married Margaret Meade, the daughter of John and Margaret Meade, about 1868. He and his wife lived in the 7th Ward close to his aunt, Margaret Casey McGrath. He died suddenly in Brooklyn on December 7, 1882 of pneumonia and asthma.¹⁶² Only 38 years old, he left a wife and eight children "to mourn his loss".¹⁶³ Nick worked as a cart driver for years and lived at 75 Clifton Place in Brooklyn. His death certificate was delivered to James McGrath, his son. No burial place was given but he was probably buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. His two sons, James and John, became stone masons. His sons, Nicholas and William, became bakers. His daughter, Annie, was a dressmaker; his daughter Esther was an envelope maker;¹⁶⁴ and his daughter Margaret, born January 1881, was a cutter in an undergarment factory in 1910.

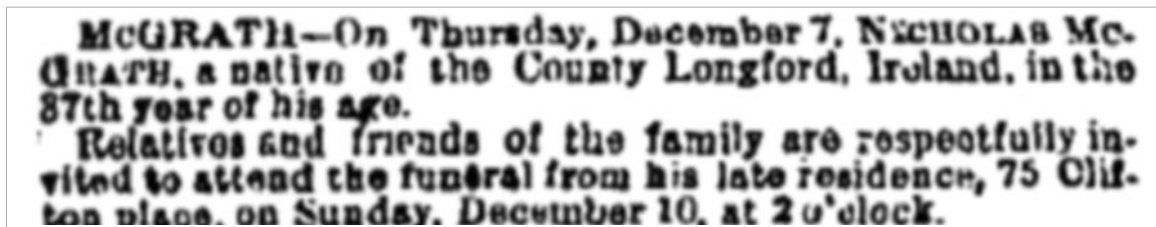


Illustration 35: Nicholas McGrath obituary. *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, December 9, 1882, page 3.

Margaret Meade McGrath, Nicholas' wife, died on July 1, 1912.¹⁶⁵

Nicholas' sons didn't fare much better than their father in longevity, with the exception of John, the second oldest. James died on December 13, 1904.¹⁶⁶ Nicholas, Jr. died on January 26, 1906.¹⁶⁷ William died on April 18, 1917.¹⁶⁸ None had married and were relatively young men when they died.

¹⁶² FHL film number 1,323,778. *Brooklyn, NY Deaths, 1882*, certificate number 14809.

¹⁶³ Letter from Margaret McGrath to her brother John Casey, dated January 26, 1884. Only seven children have been identified.

¹⁶⁴ Federal Census, 1900, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, Ward 7, District 77, SD 2, Block B, pages 7 & 8.

¹⁶⁵ FHL film number 1,324,254, certificate number 12919, Kings County, New York.

¹⁶⁶ FHL film number 1,324,090. *New York City Municipal Deaths 1795–1949*, certificate number 23698, Kings County.

¹⁶⁷ FHL film number 1,324,115. *New York City Municipal Deaths 1795–1949*, certificate number 1923, Kings County.

¹⁶⁸ FHL film number 1,323,455. *New York City Municipal Deaths 1795–1949*, certificate number 1929, Queens County.

John married Annis (Anna) Marie Morant and lived until May 22, 1948.¹⁶⁹ They had one son, William, born May 14, 1904, who died the same day he was born.¹⁷⁰ They had three daughters: Florence, born August 2, 1902 who died on February 25, 1910;¹⁷¹ Anne who married Harry J. Grill; and Mildred, born August 2, 1909 who married Nicholas Altomonte, born in Italy, on October 20, 1934.¹⁷² The Altomontes, who lived on Willoughby Avenue in Brooklyn, had a son John, born about 1936.

Nicholas' youngest daughter, Margaret, called Maggie by the family, married John J. Hothersall on September 3, 1919.¹⁷³ She and her baby died in childbirth in Brooklyn on June 11, 1921. John remained close to the family and lived with Maggie's sister, Anne Sloan and her family after they moved to New Jersey where he worked as a janitor in a public school in 1940.¹⁷⁴ On the first anniversary of her death, Maggie's family placed a memorial in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle.

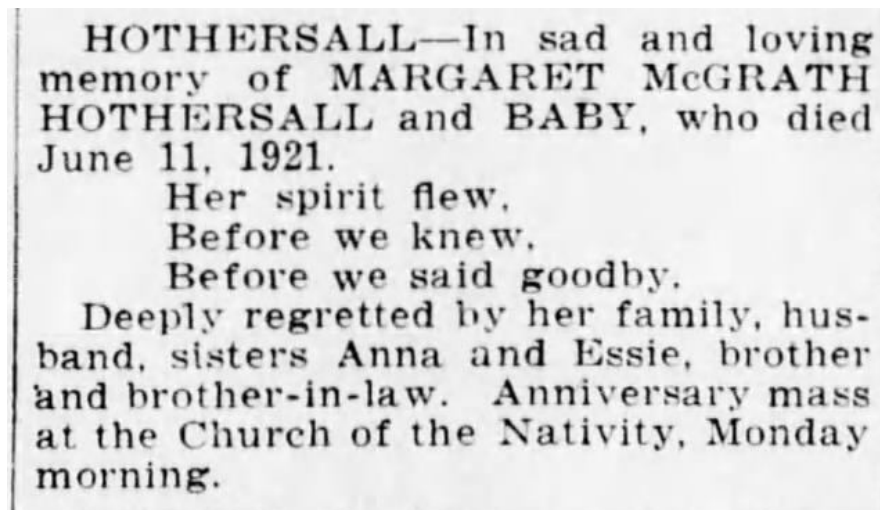


Illustration 36: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 11, 1922, page 24.

¹⁶⁹ New York City Municipal Deaths 1795–1949, certificate number 11077, Kings County, FHL film number 2,168,267.

¹⁷⁰ Kings County Births, 1904, certificate number 14922, FHL film number 1,991,505. Kings County Deaths, 1904, certificate number 10269, FHL film number 1,324,077.

¹⁷¹ Kings County Birth Records, 1902, certificate number 15708, FHL film number 1,985,139. Kings County Death Records, 1910, certificate number 4320, FHL film number 1,324,206.

¹⁷² Kings County Marriages, 1934, certificate number 17164.

¹⁷³ Kings County Marriages, 1919, certificate number 10659.

¹⁷⁴ Federal Census, 1940, New Jersey, South Plainfield, Middlesex County, April 16, 1940, Sheet 5A.

Nicholas' daughter Anna McGrath married William A. Sloan on April 11, 1909 in Brooklyn.¹⁷⁵ They had two children, William, born about 1911, and Anna, born about 1913.

Nicholas' daughter Esther married John Williams but was widowed within a few years.

Esther's daughter Mary

Esther's youngest daughter, Mary E., was born about 1852 in New York. She married Edward Newman on September 23, 1877 in Brooklyn.¹⁷⁶ Edward, born in Ireland in 1852, was the son of Edward and Margaret McCormick Newman. He emigrated to America about 1861¹⁷⁷ and worked as a plasterer.¹⁷⁸ After the death of her sister Anne in 1881, Mary took in the Barden children. In 1892 two of them, Annie and James, were still with her.¹⁷⁹ Her aunt, Margaret Casey McGrath, was also staying with the Newmans at the time. They lived at 400 DeKalb Avenue on the third floor of a three family tenement.

Mary McGrath Newman died at home on April 21, 1895 at 9:50 AM of consumption with asthma. She had been sick about four months.¹⁸⁰ James Barden continued to live for a time with his uncle, Edward Newman, and Edward's brother, John and his family, in the old neighborhood, at 520 DeKalb Street. James worked as a wine wholesaler.

By 1910 Edward Newman and James Barden were living with James' sister, Ann Elizabeth Barden Beattie, her husband, Thomas, and their two children, Florence and Harold, at 671 Bedford Avenue in Brooklyn. As mentioned previously, tragedy visited the family again when Ann Barden Beattie died on October 28, 1913 and her son Harold died on November 1, 1918. James Barden continued to live with his brother-in-law Tom Beattie until he died in 1929.

¹⁷⁵ *Kings County Marriages, 1909, certificate number 3468.*

¹⁷⁶ *Marriage Certificates, Kings County, 1877, certificate number 2107.*

¹⁷⁷ *Federal Census, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, 1900, Ward 7, Enumeration District 83, sheet number 4, Ancestry.com, image 8 of 38.*

¹⁷⁸ "New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1866–1938," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:24ZL-H6H> : accessed 2 June 2015), Edward Newman and Mary McGrath, 23 Sep 1877; citing Marriage, Brooklyn, Kings, New York, United States, New York City Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm.

¹⁷⁹ *New York State Census, 1892, Kings County, Ward 7, 18th Election District, page 7, FHL film number 1,930,229, image 00179.*

¹⁸⁰ *Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, Death Certificate number 6973. Brooklyn Daily Eagle obituary, Monday, April 22, 1895, page 7.*

Margaret Casey

Margaret Casey was born about 1819 in Ireland and was probably the baby of the family. Called Peggy by the family in Ireland, from the Irish *Peig* for Margaret, in America she preferred to use the more formal Margaret.

Margaret married Nicholas McGrath on January 29, 1841 in a Roman Catholic ceremony in the parish of Ballinacargy, County Westmeath. Their witnesses were Michael Bartle and Margaret Casey.¹⁸¹ Nicholas was born about 1819. They lived in Ardagh-Moydow parish for a number of years and three of their children were baptized there. A son, John, was baptized January 17, 1843. John's sponsors were Terrance McGrath and Anne McGrath. A daughter, Anne, was baptized on December 7, 1845.¹⁸² Anne's sponsors were John Farrell and Mary A. Murta.¹⁸³ Another son, Nicholas, was baptized on March 3, 1848.¹⁸⁴ Nicholas' sponsors were Mick Levy and Julia Murtagh. Margaret Casey McGrath had a total of six children,¹⁸⁵ four of whom have been identified and two of whom survived to adulthood.

Margaret and her family emigrated to America in 1849, ironically on the same ship *Esther* and her family had taken seven months earlier. Whether a quirk of fate or a conscious decision, the choice of ship and the timing of the voyage would cost her dearly.

A cholera epidemic had started in Brooklyn in May 1849 which would last until September, taking the lives of 642 mostly Irish and German inhabitants. Margaret and her family arrived in New York on the *Henry Clay* on Saturday, August 18, 1849 from Liverpool.¹⁸⁶ During the last 20 days at sea, things went horribly wrong as cholera swept the ship. Nine passengers died, five of them in the last five days before reaching New York.

Within a week of arrival, her husband Nicholas died of cholera. Sick for five days, he succumbed on August 24, 1849.¹⁸⁷ Cholera took her daughter Anne before the month was

¹⁸¹ *RootsWeb at Ancestry.com and RootsIreland have different transcriptions of the marriage record, the original of which was not available at the time of publication. One translates the witness for the marriage as Margaret, and one as Mary.*

¹⁸² *True to Irish naming conventions, the first daughter would be named after the mother's mother, in this case Anne Casey.*

¹⁸³ *This is probably a version of Murtagh.*

¹⁸⁴ *Following Irish naming conventions, the second son would be named after the father, in this case Nicholas McGrath.*

¹⁸⁵ *1865 New York state census, Brooklyn.*

¹⁸⁶ *Famine Irish Passenger Lists, 1846 – 1851. Manifest id 4042. With them was Mary Ann Murtagh, 16, who was probably Anne McGrath's baptismal sponsor.*

¹⁸⁷ *FHL film number 1,315,321 Brooklyn Death Ledger, 1849, page 189. Brooklyn Daily Eagle, August 25, 1849, page 3.*

out, followed by her son, Nicholas, in the second week of September.¹⁸⁸ Within three short weeks, Margaret had lost half of her family, a sorrow she would carry with her for the rest of her life. While enduring these tragedies, she was pregnant. Her last child, Mary, was born in Brooklyn five months later, in January 1850.¹⁸⁹

Margaret moved in with her sister Esther for a time and was there when the 1850 census was taken.¹⁹⁰ In quick succession she had suffered the loss of her husband and two children and found herself alone in a new country. Left to raise her surviving children by herself, it was the beginning of a life of difficulties and rewards for Margaret in America. At least for a time she had relatives nearby to help.

In 1855 Margaret was 35, raising her children, John, 10, and Mary, 5, alone and living in a shanty with no acknowledged means of support.¹⁹¹



Margaret spent the rest of her life in the 7th Ward

Illustration 37: Margaret Casey McGrath, late in life.

¹⁸⁸ FHL film number 1,315,321 Brooklyn Death Ledger, page number 202. The record specifies death by convulsions. Cholera can manifest in that manner and the 1850 Federal Census Mortality Schedule, Kings County, Tenth Ward, page 269, specifies death by cholera for all three. The son Nicholas was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn. The others were likely buried there also. Nicholas, Sr. died at Blake's Buildings, a cholera hot spot and probably where Esther and James were living.

¹⁸⁹ Federal Census, New York, Brooklyn, 1850, Fourth Ward.

¹⁹⁰ Although the name on the census was Susan McGrath, the age and the names and ages of the children align perfectly with those of Margaret and her family.

¹⁹¹ 1855 New York State census, Brooklyn, 7th Ward, 2nd Enumeration District.

of Brooklyn within a block or two of her sister Esther and her family, until her sister's family began to die off. She took in laundry and sewing in order to support herself and her family. As was said of Margaret, "she looks well and smart but suffers a great deal with rheumatism."¹⁹²

Margaret's son John had married Margaret Mulrooney by 1865 and he and his wife were living with his mother and his sister Mary. John's wife was born about 1843 in Ireland.¹⁹³ In 1865 the New York state census takers were asked to gather information about the effects of the Civil War on life, wages, prices and effects of disease in their districts. One of them wrote that prices of commodities were so high and wages so low that it was difficult for the people in his district to get by. He also mentioned smallpox and whooping cough as prevalent. Life was hard and the war had obviously made it harder.

Margaret's son John had four children but only one survived as long as 1900.¹⁹⁴ A son, Michael J. McGrath, was born in October 1868. A daughter, Margaret McGrath, named for her mother and her grandmother, was born about 1872 but died in 1899. For some unknown reason John left Brooklyn in 1877 or 1878, leaving his two children with their grandmother. His wife probably left with him as she was not with her children in the 1880 census. If she didn't, his leaving might have caused her to fall into a situation where an abandoned wife was 'civilly dead', meaning she could not own property, make contracts, earn wages considered hers, make a will, or sue anyone, without being first divorced. Women at the time were considered the legal property of their husbands and had no separate legal existence from their husband, due to the Law of Coverture.¹⁹⁵

In 1884 Margaret Casey McGrath was living at 352 Classon Ave. at the intersection of Classon and DeKalb. This was Brooklyn, but Margaret referred to it as Long Island City, sometimes called Hunters Point.¹⁹⁶ She also lived at 448 DeKalb Ave. in Brooklyn. Both old tenements are gone now. She lived for a time with her niece, Esther's daughter, Mary McGrath Newman, on DeKalb Street, before her niece died in 1895.

There is no evidence that John ever came back or even that his mother ever heard from him again. She had not heard from him as late as 1884, but John's wife was in New York with her son, Michael and his family, as a widow on the 1900 Federal census.

What effect John's leaving had on his mother's life and if his absence broke her heart is unknown. It must have done so. She made no mention in the letter to her brother of why

¹⁹² *Letter from Bridget Brady to her aunt Bridget Casey, dated January 8, 1897.*

¹⁹³ *1865 New York State census, Brooklyn, 7th Ward, June 14, 1865, page 18, family 104.*

¹⁹⁴ *1900 Federal Census, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, 7th Ward, Block D, sheet 19. Margaret Mulrooney McGrath was living with her son and was the mother of four children, only one of whom was still living.*

¹⁹⁵ *From the French femme couverte, a covered woman. An unmarried woman could own property and make contracts in her own name.*

¹⁹⁶ *Letter from Margaret Casey McGrath to her brother John P. Casey, January 26, 1884.*

he left or where he went, if she even knew where he went. It had to have made her life much more difficult, supporting herself and her two grandchildren, but her devotion to her grandchildren was reciprocated, as Margaret lived with them in her old age.

In 1897, after her brother died in West Virginia, Margaret wrote a poignant letter to her niece there, in which she spoke briefly of the happy life she had with her brothers and sisters when they were all together in Ireland, with plenty all around them. She wished the family could live closer to each other “as families should”. One thing that stands out in all the letters, is that the writers were always asking for pictures of their relatives. It was important to have something to look at, to know what their relatives looked like. Margaret told her niece that she was sorry that she could not get her dear brother’s picture, but not to worry. She hoped to see his face in heaven.

Around April of 1897 Margaret was hit by a bicycle and very seriously hurt.¹⁹⁷ She was able to return home from the hospital but had severe pains for the rest of her life. The last surviving letter from Margaret to her niece, was written December 15, 1897.

In spite of the trials that life had presented her from the moment she set foot in America, Margaret loved New York. She wrote to her niece that “to (sic) much cannot be said about New York as it is the finest place in (sic) United States. It would take all night to let you know about New York but I will tell you there is no other place in the United States. Plenty of places for enjoyment and the people are full of life. Of course they see nothing else but life. Their (sic) is Elevated Rail Roads Trolly and Cable and Steam Rail Roads and we have the finest bridge in the world ... (which) spans the East River. It is called the Brooklyn Bridge. It has a road for wagons, a place for people to walk and all Rail Roads cross over that bridge.”¹⁹⁸

In a letter on October 16, 1898 Bridget Brady mentioned that Margaret was in poor health and not able to get out anymore. Margaret’s heart would be broken one more time before she herself died. Her granddaughter, Margaret Meyer, died just 6 months before Margaret herself died at the home of her grandson Michael at 446 DeKalb Street on November 7, 1899 of old age.

Margaret Casey McGrath was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. A single stone adorns her grave and those of her grandson Michael, his mother Margaret, Michael’s wife Mary A. McGrath, and Michael’s nephew Samuel Davis.

Margaret’s son John

Nothing more is known of John’s life but he had died by 1900. His daughter Margaret, called Maggie by the family, was born on October 24, 1873.¹⁹⁹ She married Peter J.

¹⁹⁷ *Letter from Bridget Brady to her Casey cousin in West Virginia, August 10, 1897.*

¹⁹⁸ *Letter from Margaret McGrath to her niece in West Virginia, December 15, 1897.*

¹⁹⁹ *Certificate and Record of Death, State of New York, 1899, number 13112.*

Meyer by 1891, possibly earlier. Peter was a steel engineer whose parents came from Germany.²⁰⁰ They had three sons, Hugh P., born March 1892, John C., born November 1893, and Peter J., born December 1895. The family lived at 51 Rogers Avenue in Brooklyn. Maggie died at home on Thursday, July 27, 1899 at the age of 25, of septicemia, the result of an operation to perform a hysterectomy. Peter remarried less than five months later on December 10, 1899 to Elsa Meissner,²⁰¹ a German immigrant and midwife, several years his senior. They bought a home at 427 Hart Street in Brooklyn. Nothing further is known.

John's son, Michael J. McGrath, made a living as a plumber in Brooklyn and married Mary Doyle about 1892. Mary was born in New York in October of 1873, also of Irish parents.²⁰²



Illustration 38: Margaret Casey McGrath family stone. Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. Section St. Marys, Grave 1875. © 2011

²⁰⁰ 1900 Federal Census, Kings County, New York.

²⁰¹ Marriage Records, Kings County, New York, certificate number 7432.

²⁰² 1900 Federal Census, Kings County, New York, 7th Ward.

Michael died at home at 150 Crown Street on May 7, 1933 of cerebral apoplexy, arterial sclerosis, and cardiac failure. His wife Mary died November 2, 1952. They had no surviving children.

John McGrath's wife, Margaret Mulrooney McGrath, died of heart disease on October 26, 1911 at 182 Garfield Place in Brooklyn. She was about 68 years old.²⁰³

Margaret's daughter Mary

Margaret Casey McGrath's daughter, Mary, married sometime after January 1884, and had one boy but was widowed about 1888 or 1889. Her married name, as well as her husband's given name, is unknown. After Mary was widowed, she entered domestic service with a family on the East side of New York City, and took her son with her.²⁰⁴ Irish ladies who entered in service have long been credited with helping the Irish to rise in society. They taught their children the good manners they observed in their employers, which then enabled their children to be at ease in society.

*... when He calls me I will be able
To meet my family at God's table
I'll meet my mother, my father
My sister, my brother*

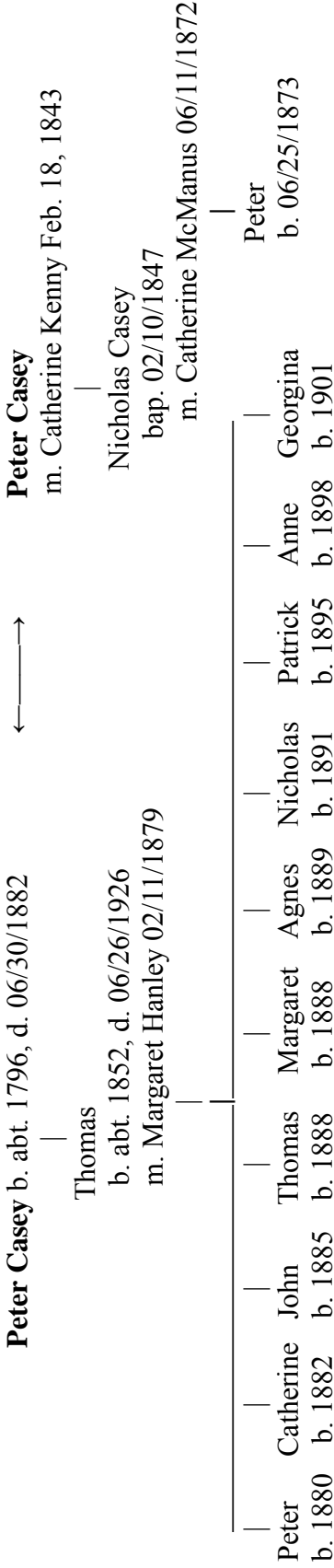
- Gillian Welch, "Orphan Girl"

Margaret Casey McGrath, so long alone, rest in peace.

²⁰³ *Kings County Deaths, 1911, certificate number 20368. Her age is given as 60 but she was older than this.*

²⁰⁴ *Letter from Margaret Casey McGrath to a Casey niece in West Virginia, December 15, 1897.*

The Brothers and Their Known Descendants



Michael Casey
No Known Descendants

The same Peter Casey who married Catherine Kenny was probably also the father of Thomas Casey. No documents were found to definitely prove that to be the case, so they are listed separately here.

Peter Casey

Peter Casey was born in 1796 in Ireland.²⁰⁵ In 1854 he had two tenancies in Balroe, likely inherited from his father, Nicholas, and possibly one or more of his father's brothers. His mother, Anne Casey, was also a tenant in Balroe in 1854 with two parcels of land under lease and living in a house on a parcel under lease by Peter.²⁰⁶ This living arrangement involving tenancies was common at the time and inheritance was often built into the leases.²⁰⁷ A widowed mother living on land leased and farmed by a son was very common also.²⁰⁸ Neither Peter nor Anne had appeared in the Tithe Applotment listing for Balroe in 1833, making it likely that their tenancies were inherited after 1833. The land under tenancy was owned by Hugh Morgan Tuite in 1854 as it was in 1833.

On February 18, 1843 Peter Casey of Balroe married Catherine Kenny in a Roman Catholic ceremony in Milltown parish, adjacent to Ballinacargy parish, in County Westmeath. Their witnesses were Patrick Ledwith and Mary Wilson. A son, Nicholas, was baptized in Ballinacargy on February 10, 1847. In keeping with Irish tradition, the boy would have been named for his paternal grandfather, an indication that this Peter was Nicholas and Anne Casey's son. Nicholas' sponsors were Michael Casey, another indication, and Mary Wilson.

No other parish baptismal records of children born to Catherine Kenny Casey have been found in Milltown or Ballinacargy. However, a son, Thomas Casey, was born to Peter Casey of Balroe about 1852. No baptismal record for Thomas Casey has been found which would connect him to this Peter and Catherine, although the names Thomas chose for his children do indicate a connection to Nicholas and Anne Casey.

Peter's and Catherine's son, Nicholas, married Catherine McManus, 25, of Milltown on June 11, 1872 at Milltown. Nicholas was 24 and lived in Balroe. Their witnesses were James Tuite and Mary Ann Byrne. The ceremony was performed by Patrick O'Sullivan. On June 25, 1873, they had a son whom they named Peter.²⁰⁹

Peter's son Thomas married Margaret Hanley on February 24, 1879 at the Roman Catholic Chapel of Walshestown in Mullingar district.²¹⁰ Thomas, 27, was farming in Balroe and continued to do so after the marriage. Margaret, 17 at the time, was the daughter of John Hanley of Walshestown. They had several children: Peter (1880);

²⁰⁵ *Death Record, District of Ballynacargy, Union of Mullingar, County Westmeath, number 326, 1882.*

²⁰⁶ *Griffith's Valuation, Parish of Kilbixy, Balroe.*

²⁰⁷ *Is There More in Griffith's Valuation Than Just Names?, James R. Reilly, CGRS, Salt Lake City.*

²⁰⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁹ *County Westmeath, Ireland, reference volume 8-1, page 333; FHL microfilm 255,878.*

²¹⁰ *Marriage Record, Mullingar, County Westmeath. 1879.*

Catherine (1882); John (1885); twins Thomas and Margaret (1888); Agnes Frances (1889); Nicholas (1891); Patrick (1895); Anne (1898); and Georgina (1901). Thomas and Margaret continued to farm in Balroe until they died.

Peter Casey died on June 30, 1882 at Balroe of heart disease. He was 86 years old and a widower. The informant for his death certificate was Margaret Hanley Casey, his daughter-in-law. The timing of Peter's death coincides with the reference to his death in the 1884 letter from Margaret McGrath to John Casey.

In 1910, Thomas Casey was arrested by the local constable for negligently being at such a distance from his horse and cart so as not to have control over same. He was found guilty by the Lord Lieutenant, and fined one shilling and court costs of four shillings and ten pence. Of that amount, three shillings, four pence of the court costs were to cover the expenses of the constable to travel by bicycle from Ballinacargy to Mullingar to testify. Failure to pay the fine and costs would have sent Tom to prison for four days, but mercifully, without hard labor.²¹¹

Margaret died 3Q1925 at 65.²¹² Thomas died of apparent heart failure on June 26, 1926.²¹³

²¹¹ *Petty Sessions Order Book, County of Westmeath, 1910, number 91.*

²¹² *Death records, Mullingar, County Westmeath, 1925, volume 3, page 123.*

²¹³ *Death Record, County Westmeath, Ballinacargy Parish, Mullingar District, number 2015409.*

Michael Casey

Nothing is known of the brother Michael. His sister, Margaret McGrath, wrote to him around 1883, so she thought he was still alive then. By January 1884 she seemed to believe that he had died.²¹⁴

Four Michael Caseys died in Mullingar but none around the 1883–1884 time frame. Margaret Casey McGrath believed Michael was still alive in 1884.

Michael Casey, born about 1790, who died on November 16, 1865 at Balroe. He was a widowed farmer. Patrick Casey, was the informant for his death and Patrick was listed simply as ‘occupier’, perhaps of the same tenancy or house. If the age is correct, and it often was not on death certificates, Anne Casey would have been having children for close to 30 years, a stretch but not an impossibility. It is very unlikely this Michael is John Casey’s brother.

Michael Casey of Irishtown, District of Ballinacargy, Union of Mullingar, born about 1801, died February 27, 1872 of heart disease and anasarca. He was married and a farmer. Nicholas Casey, no relationship specified, was the informant for the death. It is very unlikely this Michael is John Casey’s brother.

Michael Casey of Kinnegad, District of Killucan, Union of Mullingar, born about 1813, died May 28, 1888, a widowed laborer, of old age and debility. His daughter Bridget Hickey was the informant for the death.

Michael Casey of Mullingar, District of Mullingar, Union of Mullingar, born about 1806, died May 5, 1887, a bachelor farmer, of acute Bright’s Disease and uremic poisoning. Martha Flood, no relationship specified, was the informant for the death.

²¹⁴ *Letter from Margaret Casey McGrath to her brother John P. Casey, January 26, 1884.*

Edward Casey – A Possibility

Edward Casey and Eliza Conway married in Edgeworthstown, only a short distance from Ballinacargy, on January 4, 1839. Their witnesses were James Farrell and Margaret Halton, a name that plays a part in the surviving Sheridan letters. Family connections abound in County Longford and it is a strong possibility that Edward Casey was a relative, a cousin, or a brother of John Casey. He was born about 1808. Eliza Conway was born about 1822.

The Ardagh-Moydow church records reveal a number of family connections. As mentioned before, Margaret Langan sponsored Nicholas, the son of Esther Casey McGrath, for baptism on February 25, 1844. Margaret Langan also sponsored Michael Casey, the son of Edward and Eliza Casey, for baptism on April 16, 1848. Her co-sponsor was William Casey. Patrick, another son of Edward Casey, was baptized on March 17, 1842 and one of his sponsors was Margaret Casey, who may have been our Margaret Casey McGrath.²¹⁵

Edward and Eliza emigrated to New York by 1850 and they, too, lived in Brooklyn. Edward probably came first on the *Ambassadors*, arriving in NY on May 23, 1849,²¹⁶ followed by his family within a year. In 1850 he was living in the 11th ward in Brooklyn, working as a tailor. In 1855, he was in the 7th ward, 2nd election district, where Esther and Margaret Casey McGrath lived. Edward's daughter Mary was a dressmaker in 1855 following in her tailor father's footsteps.

Edward died of nephritis on February 16, 1860 at the age of 53,²¹⁷ and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. He was living on Hickory Street in the 9th ward of Brooklyn when he died.²¹⁸ His wife Eliza died in March 1861.²¹⁹ Three children survived them: Mary Casey who married Michael Mulligan, Patrick Casey, who probated Edward's estate in July 1873, and Michael Casey. The estate did not exceed \$150.

²¹⁵ Generally, if not always, maiden names were used for women in church records.

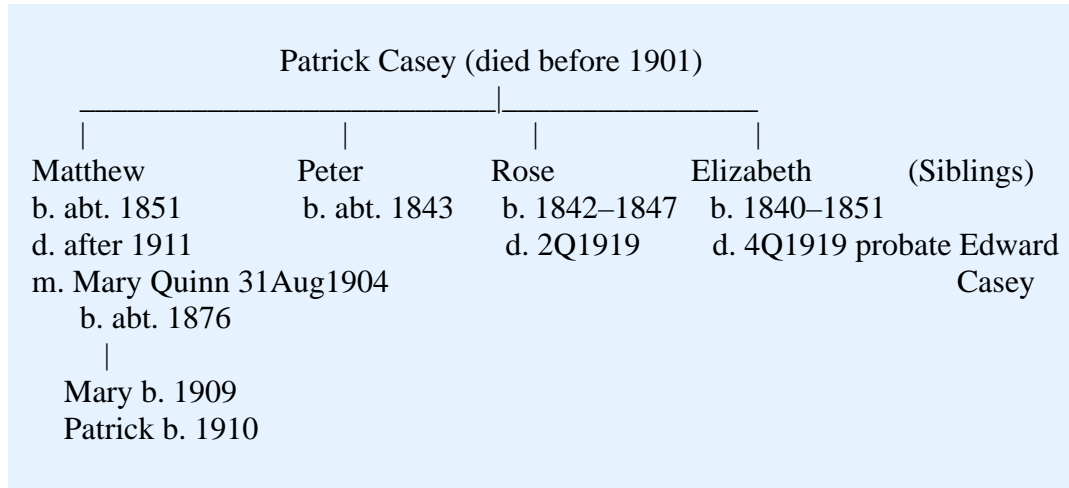
²¹⁶ *The Famine Immigrants*, page 198, Glazier.

²¹⁷ FHL film number 1,315,322. *Brooklyn Deaths 1859–1861*, page 25, 1860. No mother's or father's name was given on the certificate. Probate Papers, Edward and Elizabeth Casey, Kings County, New York, filed July 15, 1873 give his death date as February 17, 1859 but this is incorrect. Probate is generally not an investigative court.

²¹⁸ FHL film number 1,315,322, item 1 (1859–1861). Index, film number 1,378,813 Ledger 1848–1866 A-Ch. Kings County, New York.

²¹⁹ Probate Papers, Edward and Elizabeth Casey, Kings County, New York, July 15, 1873. It is possible this date is incorrect and Eliza died in 1860.

Balroe, Ireland Casey Households in the 1901 and 1911 Census



John -----	Mary-----	Martha	(Siblings)
b. abt. 1861	b. 1851–1859	b. 1856–1864	

John -----	Margaret-----	Esther-----	Anne	(Siblings)
b. 1862–1863	b. abt. 1855	b. abt. 1857	b. abt. 1860	
with their nephew William Casey b. abt. 1893				

Other Caseys in Ballinacargy

A Rose Casey married John Graham in Ballinacargy around 1838. Their son, possibly named John, was baptized on November 11, 1839 in Ballinacargy. His sponsors were John Graham and Mary Boyle. No other children born to Rose have been found. One possibility for Rose's death was in Longford, in the parish of Shrute on Feb. 18, 1840 at age 28. The address of the deceased was Barnacor.

A Matilda Casey married Andrew Smith in Ballinacargy on November 5, 1854. Witnesses were Thomas Kenny and Catherine Casey.²²⁰ Although a bit late to be another of John's sisters, Matilda was likely to be a relative in some fashion, as the name Matilda was somewhat unusual for the time and place.

The last born daughter of John and Bridget Sheridan Casey, born in Virginia in 1861, was named Matilda, presenting the only known occurrence of the name in the immediate family. Some Irish sources maintain that Matilda is the feminine version of the name Matthew, and there was a Matthew Casey with a tenancy in Balroe in 1833 and a Matthew in Balroe in 1854. Irish naming conventions would indicate Matilda Casey of Boone County was named after some relative or other.

Other Caseys in Brooklyn

In 1850 a Michael Casey, 27, was living in Brooklyn, two families away from Edward Casey with his wife, Bridget, 23, and his daughter, Ellen, 1. He worked as a cartman.

Living next door to Michael in 1850 was Thomas Casey, 36, and his wife Eliza, 34, and their children Michael, 4, and Mary, 2. Thomas and Eliza were still there in 1860 and had added two more children, Rose, born about 1851, and Thomas, born about 1854.

This is not an exhaustive list of Caseys in the five boroughs of New York City in the mid-1800s. They were too numerous to be included here.

²²⁰ *Church records, Roman Catholic parish of Ballinacargy, County Westmeath, 1854. Transcription*

Descendants of Sarah Ann Casey Mannix

Katherine Josephine Mannix

Ann Casey Mannix's first child, Katherine, was born December 17, 1866²²¹ in Kanawha County, Upper District, where Pat was working as a miner and the family was living at Cabin Creek. Called Kate by the family, she was named after any number of Catherine's: her great-grandmother Catherine Sheridan, or her grandmother Catherine Mannix, or her great aunt Catherine Sheridan Mullen, or her aunt Mary Catherine Casey.

Throughout her life, Kate spelled her name as 'Katherine', but on the birth register it was spelled with a 'C'. Kate never married although she had at least one suitor around 1890 named Mr. Trevillian.²²² She worked first as a dressmaker in Hinton, West Virginia, where she helped to raise and support her brothers and sisters after the death of their mother in 1898.



Illustration 39: Katherine Mannix (1866–1960). Circa 1886, by A.T. Proctor Portraits, Charleston, WV.

Determined to better her situation, Kate went to nursing school at Wheeling Hospital and became a registered nurse in 1907. While there were only fifteen nursing schools in the United States up to 1890, four hundred new ones were established in the ten years between 1890 and 1900. Most of the graduates served, not in hospitals, but as private duty nurses, and this was the path followed by Kate, a person of substantial constitution and determination. The 9th nurse to register in the state, Kate was a designated 'pioneer West Virginia nurse'. She served in the Medical Department as a nurse in World War I.

Kate lived in several different places, most prominently in Wheeling, Hinton, and Washington, DC. Always a take charge individual, she was the head of the household in 1900 after the family moved from Boone County to Hinton,²²³ Greenbrier District, Summers County. The family, consisting only of her siblings, rented a house on Ballengee Street. Kate, James, Patrick, Cecilia, Joseph, and Gertrude lived together in

²²¹ *Upper District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, Register of Births, 1966, page 102, number 164.*

²²² *Letter from Margaret Mannix to her aunt, Matilda Casey, June 28, 1890. "Kate is very lonesome now Mr. Trevillian has left Acme."*

²²³ *Federal Census 1900. Although she is listed in that census as being 25 and born in 1874, she would be 33 at the time of the census in 1900.*

the house. Her brother Patrick worked as a railroad brakeman and most of their immediate neighbors were railroad men also. Joe was a salesman in a grocery, at a time when eggs were \$0.15 a dozen. Kate was a prolific letter writer who never shrunk from expressing her opinion. She might best be described as an assertive personality.



*Illustration 40: Katherine Mannix
Tombstone. Arlington National Cemetery.*

Kate was buried in Arlington National Cemetery when she died on December 31, 1960.

Mary Ann Mannix

Ann's second child, Mary Ann, was born on July 7, 1868 at Lick Creek,²²⁴ where Pat and Ann were farming. They may have been living with Ann's family at this time. Their residence was listed as Big Coal, which included Lick Creek, or Ann may have gone home to her mother to have her child. In the August 27, 1870 census, Mary Ann was one year old, but she was missing on the 1880 census. She has not been found in any other records with the family nor was she with the family in Hinton in 1900. The Mannix Family Tree states that she died in 1871.

²²⁴ Boone County, West Virginia, Register of Births, 1868, page 13.

John F. Mannix

Pat and Ann's third child and first son, John F., was born in May 1870,²²⁵ at Horse Creek, Boone County.

John apparently never quite enjoyed good health. In 1894 he wrote to his Aunt Mary Casey while he was staying in Winifrede. In the letter he said that his mother Ann was there with him as was Biddy (his grandmother Bridget Casey). He mentioned that all the family were well except for him and the doctor said he might improve when the weather turned colder. He mentioned that his mother was "well although she don't gain no strength to speak of." According to family documents, John died shortly after in 1896, at about 26, but no death certificate for him has been found.



*Illustration 41: Margaret Mannix.
Tintype.*

Margaret L. Mannix

Margaret was born May 12, 1872 on the Big Coal River in Boone County where her parents were farming.²²⁶ Although she was not in the 1900 census, she did survive to adulthood. Called Maggie by the family, one of her letters to her aunt Matilda Casey, written on June 28, 1890 while the Mannix family was living at Acme, survives.

She never married and may have died in 1898 in an accident while riding a horse.²²⁷ No death certificate has been found.

²²⁵ *Register of births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1870, page 314, Old record: Book 1, page 19. 1870 Census, Boone County, Peytona District, page 16, dwelling/family 93.*

²²⁶ *Register of Births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1872, page 25.*

²²⁷ *Oral tradition, family story.*

Nicholas C. Mannix



Illustration 42: Nick Mannix. Tintype.

Nicholas was born March 30, 1874²²⁸ on White Oak in Boone County. Called Nick by the family, he worked for the C&O Railroad and was killed when he was crushed between two railroad cars. The accident occurred near Quinnimont, outside Beckley, in Fayette County. Nick lived for 9 hours after the accident and died at 2:00 AM. on February 12, 1900 at Hinton.

Nick was a brakeman and it was not uncommon for a brakeman to lose one or more fingers, whole appendages, and sometimes their life, during the rail car coupling process. Brakeman was a dangerous occupation and coupling accounted for up to 38% of annual accidents on the railroad. By the time of Nick's death, that number had dropped to about 28% of accidents. Deaths in this fashion were so common, in fact, that they barely rated a notice in the

newspapers when a brakeman was killed.

Nick's sister Katherine gave some details of the accident in a letter. The section boss was close by when the accident occurred. According to Kate, "Nick gave the engineer the signal to go ahead and then gave him the signal to stop after he pulled ahead and then when he (Nick) went in to fixed (sic) the drawhead the engineer came back on him without any signal." Nick was crushed but lived long enough to give his version of the event and to receive the sacraments of the Catholic Church.²²⁹ The physician reporting the death on March 1, 1900 was S.P. Peck of Hinton. Nick was buried on February 13 at Winifrede. J. R. Goth was the undertaker.²³⁰

On March 30, 1900 Gordon Mullen of Charleston wrote a letter to James Mannix regarding the death of his brother. He said that "for the sake of his dear friend who is gone ... I do not forget him but remember him in a special prayer each day ... if he had been my brother I could not have loved him better."

²²⁸ *Register of births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1874, page 38.*

²²⁹ *Letter from Katherine Mannix to her uncle Nicholas Casey, February 28, 1900.*

²³⁰ *Register of Deaths, Kanawha County, 1900, page 40, number 50.*

James A. Mannix

Ann's sixth child, James, was born April 8, 1877.²³¹ He never married. James suffered a very serious injury to his leg sometime before 1900. Like his brother Nick, he had been a brakeman for the C&O Railroad and that was likely how the injury was sustained. Jim was recorded twice on the 1900 Federal census, at the Casey farm in Peytona, as a farm laborer on June 1, 1900 and ten days later on June 11 as an invalid in Hinton with Katherine and his siblings. Despite seeing numerous doctors, and specialists, the leg failed to improve and, as a result, one leg was an inch shorter than the other. James was fitted with special shoes but as late as 1904, there was no improvement with his situation.²³²



Illustration 43: James Mannix.

On the night of February 24, 1909, Ash Wednesday, James was at church when he had an attack of acute mania. His family took him for treatment at Spencer State Hospital.²³³ Mania, generally equated with bipolar disorder, can begin as pediatric bipolar disorder and today affects about 1% of children. Studies indicate it is one of the more inheritable diseases and some believe there is a window of time in which a healthy brain, which would otherwise develop mania, might be maintained. The disease worsens in adulthood if left untreated.

James had shown some signs of difficulty prior to the night he had a full blown attack.²³⁴ About four years prior, he had experienced related symptoms. Once a full manic episode occurs, a person can become more treatment resistant. Characterized by severe highs and lows, irritability and depression, the disease has been known for centuries. Sufferers can experience difficulty sleeping and yet have grandiose goals with increased creativity and surging adrenaline. A letter from Katherine Mannix to her aunts and uncle on April 16, 1909, described the details of James' breakdown and subsequent hospitalization.

James tried to resume a normal life outside of the hospital but in July 1915, while working as a hotel clerk in Charleston, he attacked the owner of the hotel, was arrested,

²³¹ *Register of Births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1877, page 310. Book 1, page 52.*

²³² *Letter from Katherine Mannix to Mary Casey, July 13, 1904.*

²³³ *Initially named the Second Hospital for the Insane, the hospital opened on July 18, 1893 to relieve overcrowding at Weston.*

²³⁴ *Letters from Katherine Mannix.*

and committed once again.²³⁵ On July 9, 1915, his brother Joe was appointed guardian of his affairs.²³⁶ Over the years he continued to experience periodic manic episodes but in general his treatment appears to have been successful as he was functional and expressed contentment living in the state hospital. He worked delivering the mail at the hospital and was trusted to cross the river into town to pick up the mail. There are a few surviving notes from him written to his Aunt Matilda Casey. In 1926 he visited his family in Hinton and “enjoyed himself when (there) ... but seemed anxious to get back.”²³⁷

James died of a coronary occlusion on January 14, 1962 at Spencer State Hospital. He was 85 years old. His funeral card gave his birth year as 1876, not 1877, but this is in error. Simpson-Chandler Funeral Home at 210 Broad St., Charleston, handled arrangements. James was buried at Sunset Memorial Park in Beckley. Charles Patrick Casey, James’ great-nephew, appraised his estate along with Bob Louderback and Arthur Ciccarrillo. The estate consisted of \$1,791.66 in cash that he had earned in his work at the hospital and \$4,257.86 in real estate, his portion of the Boone County family property.²³⁸



Illustration 44: Back left: James Mannix. Back center: Nick Mannix. Front right: Pat H. Mannix. Others unidentified. Tintype.

²³⁵ *Beckley Messenger*, July 13, 1915. See Appendix 10.

²³⁶ *County Court, Kanawha County, Committee Appointment*, July 9, 1915.

²³⁷ *Letter from Katherine Mannix to her Casey aunts and uncle*, March 26, 1926.

²³⁸ *James A. Mannix, Will Record, Volume 185-186, 1965, Kanawha County, West Virginia.*

Patrick S. (H.) Mannix

Born Patrick S. Mannix, on September 10, 1878,²³⁹ Pat was Ann's seventh child. Later in his life he most often gave his name as Patrick Henry Mannix but his name was recorded at birth as Pat S. He married Agnes McKenzie on September 21, 1905 in Montgomery, in a ceremony performed by Francis J. Flanagan. Pat was working on the railroad as a brakeman at the time.

Agnes Ann McKenzie was born in Fayette County, West Virginia, on August 26, 1879. Her father was William McKenzie, born in Scotland, and her mother was Ellen Caldron, born in Ireland.²⁴⁰ In 1918, when Pat registered for the draft, he and Agnes were living at 809 Ballengee Street, in Hinton, WV. He was working as a conductor for the C&O railway, was 39 years old, of medium height, 5 feet 10 inches, and medium build, with blue eyes, light complexion, and some gray in his hair.²⁴¹ Pat continued to work on the railroad retiring after about 50 years.

Pat and Agnes had twins, William and Theresa, born in 1906 who died at one month old, and twin daughters, Pauline²⁴² and Christine²⁴³, born August 16, 1907, and a son, Raymond, born about 1908.²⁴⁴ They continued to live in Hinton, Ward 2, Summers County.²⁴⁵ His sister Gertrude Mannix, 21, lived with them for a time.

By 1940 they were living at 540 10th Street in Huntington. Pat and Agnes had several more children: Enlow, Adrian, Kenneth, and Julian Loraine, whom the family called Jack. Jack or Kenneth had a twin brother who died. For a time Pat and Agnes lived at 326 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C.²⁴⁶ Agnes died May 24, 1946 of uremia in the C&O Hospital in Huntington, Cabell County. She was buried in Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, Maryland.²⁴⁷

²³⁹ *Register of Births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1878, box 1, page 54, number 68. One other Boone County record lists him as born in 1879 but that record was transcribed and is not original. The first half of the 1879 record, page 61, is identical to 1878, but the second half of the page is not. In the 1880 Federal census, Pat was two years old.*

²⁴⁰ *West Virginia State Department of Health, Certificate of Death, number 5244, Cabell County.*

²⁴¹ *World War I draft registration and World War II draft registration cards.*

²⁴² *Pauline married Tom Dolan and she died in January 1990 in Washington, DC. She had at least two children, Thomas and Mary.*

²⁴³ *Christine married Roland Hayden and had at least one son, Roland, Jr.*

²⁴⁴ *Mannix family information.*

²⁴⁵ *1910 Federal Census.*

²⁴⁶ *Letter from Katherine Mannix to Matilda Casey.*

²⁴⁷ *West Virginia State Department of Health, Certificate of Death, number 5244, Cabell County.*

Pat died on October 10, 1967 of chronic nephritis in a nursing home in St. Albans, where he had been living for three weeks. His permanent residence was at 15 Main Avenue in Nitro. Pat was buried in Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, Maryland.²⁴⁸

At his death, Pat was survived by his children: Kenneth Maurice of Nitro, who married Lillian Price in January, 1948; Raymond of Huntington; William Adrian of Randallstown, Maryland, who married Mae McCaffrey on January 31, 1942; Julian of Washington DC; Mrs. Christine Hayden of Hyattsville, Maryland; Mrs. Pauline Dolan of Washington DC; and his sister, Mrs. Gertrude Neely of Springfield, Virginia.



Illustration 45: The Mannix Brothers. Nick, left, and Pat, right. Photograph by A.T. Proctor Portraits, Charleston, WV.

²⁴⁸ *West Virginia State Department of Health, Certificate of Death, District number 200, serial number 1715, number 014570.*

Bridget Cecilia Mannix

Bridget Cecilia, called Cecil by the family, was born in May, 1883.²⁴⁹ She married Earl David Fox on June 19, 1906 in Summers County, West Virginia. Earl, born in Jackson County on November 25, 1886 or possibly 1887, was the son of a farmer, Adam Fox, and his wife Catherine, who were both from Germany. West Virginia law required a person to be 21 years old to marry without parental consent. Earl gave his age as 21 when he married.²⁵⁰

Earl and Cecil rented a house on Walker Street in Princeton, Mercer County, West Virginia, where Earl worked as a barber.²⁵¹ They had two sons by 1910, James, and William Harold, born May 25, 1908.²⁵² Later they added Catherine, Helen, Earl, Jr., and twins, Madeline and Maxine.

The Foxes were in Hinton as late as 1930 but by 1937 had moved to Washington, DC. In 1937 Faye Casey, John Edward's wife, visited the Mannixes and Foxes in Washington, DC, possibly in regard to the death of her father-in-law, John Casey, in February of that year.²⁵³ In 1938, the Foxes were living, as was Katherine Mannix, at 1213 B Street SE in the District. They may also have lived at 1608 Massachusetts Avenue, SE in the District. Cecil died on January 9, 1961. Earl died July 28, 1972 in Maryland.



Illustration 46: Bridget Cecilia Mannix as a young woman.

²⁴⁹ 1900 Federal Census, Hinton, Summers County, West Virginia. No birth certificate has been found.

²⁵⁰ Register of Marriages, Summers County, West Virginia, 1906, page 3, number 83.

²⁵¹ 1910 Federal Census, May 10, 1910.

²⁵² Register of Births, Mercer County, West Virginia, 1908.

²⁵³ Charleston Daily Mail, July 11, 1937, Personal Notes, page 19.



Illustration 47: Earl David Fox and Bridget Cecilia Mannix Fox, July 17, 1956.

Joseph Maurice Mannix

Joseph Maurice Mannix was born in February, 1885.²⁵⁴ He worked as a foreman for the C&O Railroad 1921–1948 and as a bailiff at Raleigh County Courthouse 1948–1958.

Joe married Margaret T. Fitzpatrick on November 25, 1914 in Summers County, WV.²⁵⁵ Margaret, born June 27, 1886 in Hinton, was the daughter of Timothy Fitzpatrick and Catherine Sullivan.

Margaret died at home on July 5, 1949 of aortic valvular insufficiency and was buried at Sunset Memorial Park in Beckley, WV.

Joe died at the Carroll Manor Nursing Home in Washington, DC on November 4, 1965.²⁵⁶ Surviving him were four sons: Paul and Joe Jr., of Washington, DC; W. Edward of Houston, TX; and Thomas of Clinton, MD. Burial was at Sunset Memorial Park, Beckley, WV.



Illustration 48: Joseph Maurice Mannix as a young man.

Rosa Mannix

Rosa was born August 19, 1886²⁵⁷ in Boone County and died there on October 1, 1887²⁵⁸ of unknown causes. Although her death certificate gives her age as 3 years, this was a recording error. She was 13 months old. Her mother was the informant for both records. Nothing further is known of her short life.

²⁵⁴ *Federal Census, 1900, Summers County, West Virginia.*

²⁵⁵ *Register of Marriages, Summers County, West Virginia, 1914, page 55, number 174.*

²⁵⁶ *Beckley Newspaper, November 5, 1965.*

²⁵⁷ *Rosa Manicks, Boone County Register of Births, 1886, page 100. Informant Ann Manicks.*

²⁵⁸ *Boone County record of Deaths, 1887, page 31. Informant Annie Manicks.*

Gertrude Mannix

Ann Casey's last child, Gertrude Mannix, was born December 1, 1889 in Boone County. She married William Clyde Neely on June 28, 1910.²⁵⁹ While Gertrude's father was noted as Patrick Mannix of Hinton on her marriage record, by that time he had been living in Dayton Ohio for several years. Clyde and his brother Richard Claude, born February 29, 1888, in Summers County, were twins and were very close. The sons of Matthew and Alice Martin Neely, they were born on the family farm in Pipestem.

In 1908 the brothers opened a grocery store in the Masonic Building in Hinton with a younger brother, Robert.²⁶⁰ In 1913 the brothers opened The Hub Clothing Store on Third Avenue, a dry goods store. Two years later they moved the store to 213-215 Temple Street.



Illustration 49: Neely Brothers store, Hinton, West Virginia. December 18, 1920.

²⁵⁹ *Register of Marriages within the County of Summers, 1910, page 28, record 108. A notation references 'permit number 108', probably a consent form for the marriage, since Gertrude was not yet 21.*

²⁶⁰ *The History of West Virginia, Old and New, The American Historical Society, Inc., Chicago and New York, 1923, Volume 2, page 606.*

Clyde started the annual “Coon Hunters Association Supper” at his camp on Webb Island in 1930.²⁶¹ Close since childhood, after they married Clyde and Claude and their families lived together in the same house,²⁶² at 210 Temple Street in Hinton.

Gertrude and Clyde had one daughter, Betty Jane, born in 1927 in Hinton. Betty married Roy Predmore. Betty died June 15, 2001 in Primos - Upper Darby, Pennsylvania.²⁶³ Gertrude is said to have died at 91 years of age.²⁶⁴ She may have died in Pocahontos County, West Virginia on August 14, 1981.²⁶⁵ Clyde died November 12, 1948 in Summers County of arteriosclerosis and was buried at Greenbrier Burial Park, Hinton.²⁶⁶



Illustration 50: Betty Neely.

²⁶¹ *Beckley Post-Herald*, January 26, 1960, page 7.

²⁶² *The History of West Virginia, Old and New*, Volume 2, page 606.

²⁶³ “United States, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980–2014,” Database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVTN-KV2J> : accessed 26 June 2015), Mrs Betty Neely Predmore, Primos - Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, United States, 17 Jun 2001; from “Recent Newspaper Obituaries (1977–Today),” database, GenealogyBank.com (<http://www.genealogybank.com> : 2014); citing *Delaware County Daily Times*.

²⁶⁴ Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall.

²⁶⁵ Social Security death records and Mannix family documents.

²⁶⁶ West Virginia State Department of Health, Death Certificate, District 450, Serial Number 165, number 15515.

Descendants of John P. Casey, Jr.

John Edward Casey

The first child of John Casey and Rose Lamb Casey, John Edward, was born on September 12, 1892. While the family was living at Lick Creek, John suffered an accident while riding in the back of a wagon. He was leading an animal by a rope and had tied the rope around his fingers. The animal balked and pulled part of his index finger off.

At a very young age, about nine, he went to work at the mines with his father. At the time it wasn't unusual for children to work, and so he did, until about the age of 14.²⁶⁷ Young children had an economic value because they could reach isolated, small areas of the mines that grown men were too big to enter.

When he was twelve years old, he was one of the motor operators for the electric trains bringing the coal cars up and out of the mine.



Illustration 51: John Edward Casey (1892–1974), nine months old. 1893.

By 1914 Johnnie had gone to work for the Kanawha and Michigan Railroad, 'firing on the K.M.R.R. for the last year.'²⁶⁸ He was 21 at the time and in love with his job on the railroad. If ever there was a born railroader, it was him. He expected to 'go back on when the lake grade opens in the spring.'²⁶⁹ Control of the K&M, originally chartered in 1890, was bought in 1910 by the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company. The C&O planned to use it to connect with the Great Lakes area, but anti-trust laws forced the C&O to abandon its K&M interests.²⁷⁰

²⁶⁷ *Family story.*

²⁶⁸ *Letter from John P. Casey, Jr. to his sister Matilda Casey, January 25, 1914.*

²⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁷⁰ *The Kanawha and Michigan Railroad*, Donald L. Mills, Jr., 2010, Mid-Atlantic Highlands, Huntington, West Virginia.

John Edward loved two things all his life, and never wavered on either: the railroad, and Faye Elizabeth Selbe. After working for the Kanawha and Michigan Railroad early on, John realized that he needed to finish his education. This may have been required for him to advance in his job with the railroad. A self-supporting and grown man, he returned to



Illustration 52: K&M train wreck in the early 1900s. From family collection.

school in 1917 at the age of 25, going back into the classroom and sitting there with the young children. A point of pride for him his entire life, he graduated from the 8th grade.²⁷¹

John became a fireman for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, entering service December 27th, 1917, but his career there was short lived. He last appeared on the C&O roster for the year 1919.²⁷² He had been courting Faye, the very pretty young daughter of Charles and Anna Selbe, for a while. They would take buggy rides together until one day, John saw Faye with another young man. This other young man didn't mean anything to

²⁷¹ *Family story from several sources, including here, Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall and Timothy Casey.*

²⁷² *Letter signed by H.E. Webb, Superintendent, Huntington Division, C&O, March 12, 1940, File 83.*

her, but when she saw the tears in John's eyes, she knew their fate was sealed. She could not break his heart and she was sure of his love for her.²⁷³

John soon asked Faye to marry him, but she could not bring herself to marry a man who would not be at home when she and their children needed him. So she imposed a condition on the marriage and extracted a promise from John, that he would quit the railroad in exchange for her marrying him. It was a condition that would break his heart. But it proved to her, that of the two things he most loved in life, he loved Faye more than he loved the railroad.

John and Faye married on May 12, 1920, at Sacred Heart Rectory in Charleston, West Virginia. Howard Walker and Willie Selbe, Faye's uncle and aunt, were witnesses and Rev. Father Thomas O. Milsap officiated. A 'do not publish' notation was entered on the county record. Faye, six years younger than John, was born at Winifrede on June 28, 1898.²⁷⁴

Whether because she was not Catholic or perhaps because they didn't want him to marry, John's parents didn't accept Faye at first. On Sunday, John and Faye would leave their home in Marmet, go down river to where a row boat was kept, and row across the Kanawha River to the Casey home in Levi. Faye felt excluded by his parents, John and Rose, during these visits. While this hurt her deeply, Faye knew the value of family and she never wavered on her determination to be part of her new husband's family.



Illustration 53: John Edward Casey (1892–1974) and Faye Elizabeth Selbe (1898–1981) on their wedding day, May 12, 1920.

Her exclusion ended when their first child, Marie Elizabeth, was born on February 16, 1921. The first Sunday John and Faye visited his parents with the baby, as soon as they docked the boat, and Faye was carrying Marie from the boat across the field toward the

²⁷³ *Family story as related to this author by Faye Selbe Casey.*

²⁷⁴ *Baptismal certificate, Sacred Heart Church, June 14, 1928.*

Casey home, John and Rose came running toward her with their arms extended.²⁷⁵ Faye was baptized in the Catholic faith at Sacred Heart Church on June 14, 1928. Her sponsor was her mother-in-law, Rose Lamb Casey.²⁷⁶

Marie Elizabeth was followed by three boys: John Edward Jr., born February 12, 1923, George Louis, born February 22, 1925, and Charles Patrick, born February 10, 1929.

John Edward, Jr., born prematurely, died at the age of nine days, on February 21, 1923. Faye had come down with influenza just before the birth and this was thought to have affected the baby. She mourned the loss of her first born son for the rest of her life.

John held several different jobs over the course of his life. He drove an ice truck and was a licensed ferry boat pilot, ferrying people and cars across the Kanawha River between Marmet and Malden/Belle. He started the first water company in Marmet. He worked a great deal in construction, was a carpenter, a cement finisher, and a saw mill operator. He also built a gas station, with the help of his brothers Lou and George, a business he operated for several years.²⁷⁷

John sold his interest in the ferry around December 1938. Three young boys had been caught stealing drip gas earlier in the year and were brought before a justice of the peace. They confessed to the crime and for some reason known only to the boys, implicated John Casey, maintaining that they had sold the gas to the ferry boat operator. On September 14, 1938, J. Blackburn Watts, the Kanawha County prosecutor, convened a grand jury, which returned an indictment charging John with four felonies, two counts of grand larceny and two counts of receiving stolen goods.²⁷⁸



Illustration 54: George (1925–2001), Marie (1921–2014), and Patrick (1929–2014) Casey.

²⁷⁵ *Family story as related to this author by Faye Selbe Casey.*

²⁷⁶ *Baptismal certificate, Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, WV.*

²⁷⁷ *Faye Selbe Casey related to this author having been awakened in the middle of the night by men wearing hoods over their heads seeking gasoline.*

²⁷⁸ *Charleston Daily Mail, September 15, 1938, page 4.*

The fall session of the intermediate court ended with the case being continued until the January session of the court.²⁷⁹ Maintaining his innocence, John went to trial on April 25, 1939. Local gasoline station operators testified on his behalf and the jury took only ten minutes to acquit him of all charges.²⁸⁰ Ironically, years later, Blackburn Watts would become a mentor to John's son, Pat, after Pat became an attorney and joined the prosecutor's office.

In 1940 John was a building inspector for the Board of Education.²⁸¹

In May 1941, John joined with seven other citizens in Marmet to attempt to provide opposition to Ben Morris and O.F. Canterbury in the town elections. Mr. Morris, who had been mayor for 15 years, was running unopposed in the election as was the entire Democrat slate. The Republicans had failed to nominate any candidates for town offices. Consequently, a Citizens party convention was held at the junior high school and a slate of candidates was nominated, including John Casey for councilman. However, the mayor, Mr. Morris, and the town recorder, Mr. Canterbury, refused to put the Citizens slate on the ballot. The eight men took their attempts to gain a place on the ballot all the way to the West Virginia Supreme Court but in the end were denied a place on the ballot. Morris and Canterbury and their council candidates ran unopposed and were reelected.²⁸²



Illustration 55: John Casey's ferry boat with the Marmet Locks and Dam in the background.

²⁷⁹ *Charleston Daily Mail*, October 28, 1938, page 8.

²⁸⁰ *Charleston Daily Mail*, April 25, 1939, page 2.

²⁸¹ 1940 Federal Census.

²⁸² Various, *Charleston Gazette and Charleston Daily Mail*, May 30, 1941 to June 3, 1941.

A family story tells of the wreck of John Casey's ferry and a daring rescue. Available records suggest the story is a combination of two separate incidents.

John Casey sold his interest in the ferry in 1938. The 1940 census showed him working as a building inspector at the Board of Education and he worked at Carbide during World War II. Nothing has been found between 1930 and 1942 in the Charleston newspapers showing a ferry boat wreck at Marmet other than one in 1940 in which John was not involved, but his ferry boat was.

On August 15, 1940, a terrible wreck of the Marmet ferry happened just above the Marmet Locks. The ferry, still operated by the man who purchased John Casey's interest in 1938, had eight men aboard attempting to cross from Marmet to Belle, when a log in the flood swollen Kanawha River sheared the propeller from the motor. Several men on the locks saw the boat rapidly hurtling toward the huge rollers and lowered row boats into the river. The ferry crashed into the wall of the dam and the eight men were swept underwater. Harold Vandale, the ferry pilot, had distributed life jackets as the incident unfolded so the men were able to be sighted in the water and the row boats from the locks could pick them up about a mile west of the dam. William H. Brace, J.A. Marshall, Homer Kersey, and Howard Eberhart were the rescuers. One man, Stanley Woods, was still missing three days after the accident and believed drowned. (*Charleston Daily Mail, August 15, 1940, page 1.*)

A barge wreck occurred on March 13, 1963 that involved the brother of John Casey's son-in-law. Frank Hudnall was working on a coal barge loaded with 900 tons of coal that broke loose from its moorings at DuPont and headed for the Marmet locks. Rescue crews from the Marmet and Belle volunteer fire departments tried to reach him but could not. The barge slammed into a concrete pier of the Marmet locks and wheeled into one of the five roller gates. The hull of the barge was ruptured. Quick thinking employees of the locks saw the barge heading their way and maneuvered a crane into place and lowered a cable. Trapped on a sinking runaway barge, Frank thrust his arm through a loop of chains and held on for dear life. As he was hoisted 110 feet up in the air with no time to spare, the roller of the dam was raised, the barge passed through, and sank. Ironically, years earlier, Frank had worked on the construction of the locks. (*The Charleston Gazette, Thursday, March 14, 1963, page 26.*)

Just before World War II, Faye and John opened a diner in Marmet. John put together two old street cars and Casey's Diner was born.

During the war, John worked at Union Carbide in South Charleston and Faye continued to operate the diner.²⁸³ In the mid 1950's, John and his brother Lou started a house



Illustration 56: At the opening of Casey's Diner, Marmet, West Virginia. Left to right: Charles Patrick Casey, George Louis Casey, Sue Hager, Faye Casey, John Casey.

moving business. The WV Turnpike was under construction and like any good businessmen, they saw an opportunity to fill a need. Many homeowners wanted to save their houses by moving them to new locations. John and Lou performed this service, even returning to reposition a house on the same property when the owners decided they wanted a different look. This business, along with additional work in home repair and remodeling, also gave employment to several of John's grandsons, where they acquired multiple trade skills, problem solving skills, determination to finish a difficult task, and a life-long confidence in tackling any job. Perhaps more importantly, they also learned when to seek help and how to anticipate when help was needed.²⁸⁴

²⁸³ *In the 1950s and 1960s, George Louis Casey's in-laws, the Halberts, operated the diner.*

²⁸⁴ *William Russell Hudnall, Jr.*

John prided himself on his garden. Every year there would be a bumper crop of tomatoes which had begun life in an improvised hot house set up in an old car. He caught rain water in large barrels and used this superior-to-city water for his plants. Some years he planted potatoes on the old Putnam county farm that had belonged to his Uncle Nick, Aunt Mary, and Aunt Matilda Casey.

John loved collecting things. No matter what the things were, they found a home on the site of the old service station. The collection grew quite large, filling the old service station building, floor to ceiling, and expanding to the double lot to the side. It grew to include one or more old trucks and old cars, even a building, the old 'gun club', that came to rest on one of the old trucks that had been used to move houses. His grandchildren considered it the most wonderful playhouse, although none of their parents shared that enthusiasm. John was never a junk dealer. In fact he wouldn't sell any of what he had, saying, "I'm keeping it for the good that it has done." To many in the town, especially the mayor in the 1950s and 1960s, it was an eyesore. The mayor tried to have John put in jail because he refused to put a fence around the 'junk yard'. The more the mayor tried to impose his will, the more John Casey resisted. The standoff between them made the newspapers, but John prevailed and the junk remained until he fell ill before his death.²⁸⁵

Did Faye consider how different their life would have been if John continued to work on the railroad? She certainly worried about his safety. His brother Lou had been involved in a serious accident and his cousin, Nick Mannix, died working on the railroad. Another cousin, James Mannix, had been injured in the same fashion. She certainly realized how much he missed the railroad. For whatever reason, before she died she expressed regret at having imposed that condition on their marriage. All of his life, John loved trains and would stand and watch them as they passed by his house in Marmet. He always seemed to know the name of the engineer, whether they were late or on schedule, where they were headed, and what they were carrying. Next to Faye, trains were the love of his life.

John and Faye had a sort of family 'salon' at their home. Faye loved to cook and was usually found in the kitchen. Their older grandchildren and John's brothers were often there. It was a jovial, convivial group all around, with lots of teasing, lots of good food, and an abundance of love and acceptance. There was no tension in their home. The brother most often there was Lou, who was closest to John in age. They were virtually inseparable. The other brother most often there was the youngest, George, who was smart, funny, and affable, a true Irish seanachie.

The Casey brothers and their sister often bought land in common, with different siblings, almost randomly paired, owning different pieces of property. Among themselves the properties were not generally known by addresses but by nicknames. For John, his properties were known as the Saw Mill, the Goat Chute, Chinatown, the Service Station, the Street Cars, and various other names.

²⁸⁵ Various. *The Charleston Gazette and The Charleston Daily Mail, 1955–1962.*



Illustration 57: Faye and John Casey. 1963.

John often made a game of mangling words. Motorcycle became a cidersmuckle, and so on. Faye was John's "Sweet Thing"²⁸⁶ all his life and this was his nickname for her, a name that devolved over the years in "PawPaw speak" to "Feetsie", sometimes causing Faye to have mixed emotions. If she was perturbed with him, he often riled her more by playfully calling her "Feetsie". If she was not ready to go somewhere, he would say "Bounce, Feetsie" when trying to hurry her along. Her respective responses were often, "Don't you Feetsie me!" or "I'll bounce you!".

John Edward Casey, called "Fatman" by his brothers, died on February 14, 1974 of "cerebral and generalized arteriosclerosis, upper gastrointestinal bleeding, and renal failure with azotemia, with other significant conditions being diabetes".²⁸⁷ He suffered from severe senility after a stroke in December 1970. Faye died on January 16, 1981.

For more information on Faye Selbe Casey, see the Selbe family section in *Through Irish Eyes, Part V*.

"There's only two kinds of pie I like. Hot pie and cold pie." - John Edward Casey

²⁸⁶ John listened to the Grand Ole Opry every Saturday night after the family got a radio. Perhaps he heard the traditional song 'Sweet Thing' on the Opry.

²⁸⁷ Death certificate.



Illustration 58: Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014). Marshall College. 1939.



Illustration 59: Charles Patrick Casey (1929–2014) as a teenager.



Illustration 60: George Louis Casey (1925–2001). The handsomest sailor ever.

Louis Sheridan Casey

Louis Sheridan, called Sherd by his brothers, was born January 22, 1894.²⁸⁸ He and his older brother John were best friends all their lives. Lou worked as a carpenter and did all the plumbing and electrical wiring on several buildings which would then be certified by a licensed plumbing and electrician contractor. He also worked in bricklaying, painting and repairs, and owned rental houses with his siblings in Hernshaw, a grouping he referred to as Binkeyville, and in Marmet. Lou supervised the construction of most of the houses built by the family. He had a talent for mathematics which, if he had had a chance to develop, might have been formidable. With only an eighth grade education, he had to rely on his other talents. He owned his own bulldozer and lowboy. He wore impeccably pressed work clothes every day of his life, except on Sundays.



Illustration 61: Louis Sheridan Casey (1894–1970) as a young man. Photograph taken in the front yard of the Casey home at Levi.

A sweet man, who kept his own counsel, Lou had a few foibles. Though he was at his brother John's house nearly every day, he generally would not go into the house. When

²⁸⁸ *West Virginia State Department of Health, Certificate of Death, 1970, number 003653.*

he arrived in the morning, he wouldn't just open the door and go in, or even knock, but would sit in his truck until it was time for everyone to leave for work. Although John was married to one of the best cooks in the county, Lou would sit in his truck and eat a sandwich packed by his sister Marie, rather than eat in the house, saying that he didn't want to dirty the house from the mud on his shoes. Late in Lou's life, he became close to one of his great-nephews, Mickey Casey. The two of them would sit in Lou's truck where Lou instilled a love of construction and all things mechanical in Mickey. Stressing the core values to not cheat, lie, or steal, Lou loved sharing and passing along the knowledge he had gleaned over his life.

"He was a great teacher and was very smart. I was only six years old and he was able to explain, in a way that I could understand at that age, how a combustion engine worked. He always said to me: 'Get the book. Somebody has already done this and you can do anything in the whole world if you just get the book.' He also taught me, again at age 6, how to drive a bulldozer. That summer we spread the glass in the parking lot at St. Agnes Church."²⁸⁹

As the relationship with his young great-nephew grew, Lou would bring along a second sandwich for Mickey, and they would both sit in the truck enjoying lunch together. His sister Marie would pack a Little Debbie cake just for Mickey.

"We used to sit around and cut apples picked from the apple tree at MawMaw and PawPaw's house. Uncle Lou bought me my first knife; a Barlow knife from Lewis Hardware. He had a Case Knife and he always used to want to put a Y where it said Case to make it Casey but there was not enough room."²⁹⁰

Lou never married although as a young man he was said to have had a girl friend who died young.²⁹¹ He lived with his sister Marie in the family home in Kanawha City until he died of colon cancer in Charleston on February 13, 1970.²⁹² He was buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Charleston.

²⁸⁹ *Mickey Casey.*

²⁹⁰ *Mickey Casey.*

²⁹¹ *Story as told by Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall.*

²⁹² *Charleston Daily Mail, February 13, 1970, page 8.*

James Philip Casey

James Philip, called Phil by the family, was born March 4, 1897 in Boone County.²⁹³ He began work in construction as a teenager and stayed at it all his life, as a carpenter and a brick layer. He enlisted in the Army on September 6, 1918 and was honorably discharged on January 20, 1919.



Illustration 62: James Philip Casey (1897–1976) as a young soldier. 1918.

Libbey Owens Glass Company and Owens-Illinois Bottle Company opened manufacturing operations in Kanawha City in 1917. Expansions were added in 1918 and 1923, making it the largest plate glass plant in the world. In 1929, Ed Ford Plate Glass Company purchased an interest and later changed its name to Libbey Owens Ford. The plant manufactured plate, window, windshield, and other non-shattering glass. By 1929, Kanawha City had become one of the largest glass producing areas in the world. Phil Casey helped to build these buildings. Without specific training, he watched what the other workmen did, and copied it until he could do it as well or better. Largely a self educated man, Phil was always studying and trying to better himself. He worked in Marmet at a gas station and did every kind of work he could find.

Although Phil probably only completed the 8th grade, he attended classes at

Charleston High School, taking courses in mechanical drawing where he learned to draw building plans. William Maier, a local lawyer, hired him to plan and build warehouses around West Virginia and Ohio. Phil would draw the warehouse building plans and then act as construction supervisor. It was a good job but one that required him to be gone from home all too frequently. Still it was something he gladly did for the good of his family.

All the Casey brothers were very close, and all were involved to some extent in construction so they had several wholesale and retail accounts at various hardware and

²⁹³ *Register of Births, Boone County, West Virginia, 1897, page 110. Old record book 1A, page 171.*

paint stores and lumber and brick yards in order to get the maximum volume buying discounts. Whatever the undertaking, by whichever brother or their sister, all it took was a phone call to any of the others, and help was on the way.

In 1927, Phil was working with a house painter named Richard Johnson in Charleston. Richard was married to Allie Phon Aultz,²⁹⁴ who had a very pretty younger sister named Gertrude. One day that summer, Allie, Dick, and Gertrude decided to go on a picnic to Blackwater Falls State Park and Dick asked Phil if he would like to go. Phil agreed, met Gertrude, and nine years later, they were married on Gertrude's 31st birthday, January 27, 1936.



Illustration 63: Gertrude Aultz and Phil Casey, shortly after their wedding. 1937.

The ceremony at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Charleston, was performed by the Rev. Cuthbert, OFM Capuchin. Gertrude, born in 1905, was the daughter of Francis Robert and Mary Elizabeth Miller Aultz.²⁹⁵

The long courtship was not for lack of affection. Until he could support a family, Phil would never have considered taking on family responsibilities. So he worked hard, and when the time was right, they married and started a family. All their lives they

were openly affectionate with each other. They remained deeply in love their entire married life.

²⁹⁴ *Register of Marriages, Kanawha County Court, West Virginia, 1912, number 752, September 18, 1912.*

²⁹⁵ *WV State Department of Health, Delayed Birth Certificate, 8172, June 15, 1966.*

Phil and Gertrude had twin boys, James Phillip and John Joseph, and one daughter, Rose Mary. A father, hero and role model to his children, Phil had come out of the West Virginia hollows with virtually nothing: no skills, no higher education and sometimes without even proper shoes to wear. He loved “being Irish” and especially adored his grandmother, Mary Monaghan Lamb, memorizing all of her old Irish sayings. He and Gertrude saw to it that all three of their children graduated from college. In the words of his son, John, “I thank God for him.”

Phil died on October 28, 1976, in Charleston, at the age of 79. He and Gertrude had been happily married for 40 years. Gertrude died September 27, 1995 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, at the age of 90.

Author’s Note:

On a trip in August 2006, my uncle Pat Casey related a story to me about his uncle Phil Casey. Uncle Pat was in law school at Morgantown in the mid 1950s. He was married with two children, another child was on the way, and he was driving a school bus to try to make ends meet. His wife and the kids had gone home to her parents for the impending birth and Uncle Pat was going for the weekend to be with them. Hitchhiking, as he had no money for the bus, he hoped to catch his Uncle Phil, who was working in Clarksburg, and ride with him to Charleston. Since there was really only one viable road at that time, he figured his chances were good.

Uncle Pat was deeply troubled about his future as it was difficult for him to support his family and continue with his studies and he had reached a point where he might have to choose between one or the other.

He managed to be in the right place at the right time and Phil picked him up. Uncle Pat poured his heart out to his uncle during the long ride about how he just didn’t see that he could finish law school and graduate with his family responsibilities and his time constraints. He would never have changed those responsibilities but he was at the end of his rope in trying to finance them and yet be able to become the trial lawyer he had always wanted to be.

Phil dropped his nephew off in South Charleston and said he would see him when the weekend was over. At the end of the weekend, he gave his nephew an envelope of cash that Phil had taken it upon himself to collect from his brothers and sister to help their nephew continue in law school and realize his, and the family’s, dreams.

Aunt Bobbie had twins and Uncle Pat went on to become that trial lawyer, county prosecutor, and circuit judge, in no small part due to the devotion of his family to each other.

Peter Joseph Casey

Peter Joseph was born in Boone County on March 7, 1899. Called ‘Petey’ by his brothers, and Joe by everyone else, he operated a gas station and a parking lot at Virginia and McFarland streets in Charleston from 1920 to 1969 and built and owned several rental properties. Joe’s parking lot became a sort of ‘Casey full employment enterprise’, as at one time or another, he hired most of his brothers, nephews, and great-nephews to work there parking cars and selling gas.

For a time, Joe worked as a fireman in Charleston. He had a reputation throughout the family as a fairly fast driver. He was a man who wanted to get where he was going, and to do so without delay.²⁹⁶

Joe married Thelma Barbara Leftwich on November 17, 1928. The ceremony was performed by Thomas Garrett. Thelma was born on April 4, 1905, the daughter of Jess Leftwich, a coal miner, and Sarah Ann Ritz, of Coal Fork, Campbell’s Creek, Kanawha County.²⁹⁷ After the marriage, Thelma operated Casey’s Grill on Joe’s downtown parking lot and hired several of her female relatives to work there.

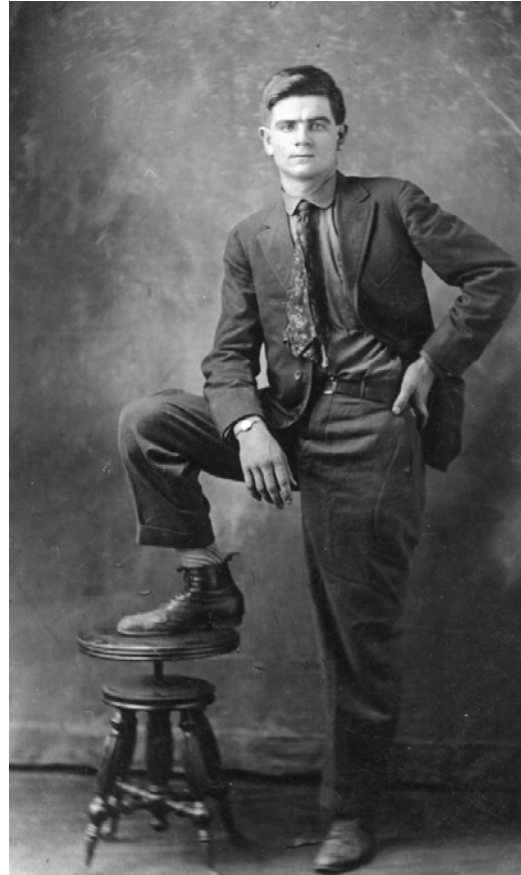


Illustration 64: Peter Joseph Casey (1899–1985) as a young man.

²⁹⁶ *Family legend has Joe involved in an accident while driving a fire truck around 1920.*

²⁹⁷ *Delayed Birth Certificate, WV Department of Health, number 8890, January 21, 1970.*



Illustration 65: Thelma Barbara Leftwich (1905–1992) and Peter Joseph Casey (1899–1985). Wedding photograph. 1928.

One day a truck belonging to Joe was stolen off his lot. Not content to wait for the police to solve the crime, Joe took it upon himself to do so. Using discarded cigarettes and a torn handkerchief, he tracked the perpetrator to his home in the Magazine Hollow section

of Charleston. Joe recovered the truck, which had been stripped, and brought the thief to the police station. He continued to search for the other missing parts from the truck.²⁹⁸



Illustration 66: Joe Casey Tracks Down Thief. *The Charleston Gazette*. January 14, 1933.

Another incident occurred about a year later when an automobile was stolen from Joe's parking lot. Joe filed a complaint against a suspect who was arrested on January 24, 1935. After spending two days in jail the suspect was arraigned before a Justice of the Peace and acquitted.²⁹⁹ He subsequently sued Joe for \$5,000 in damages. Joe, never one to give up easily, took the case to trial, testified how he had identified certain accessories from the stolen car that were on the suspect's car, and won dismissal of the suit before a common pleas jury.³⁰⁰

Joe and Thelma traveled extensively within the United States for years after their marriage. They had no children but were kind and generous to their nieces and nephews.

Joe died on April 8, 1985 and was buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Charleston. Thelma Leftwich Casey died April 26, 1992, in Black Mountain, North Carolina, at 87, and was buried beside Joe at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Charleston, West Virginia.

²⁹⁸ *The Charleston Gazette*, January 14, 1933.

²⁹⁹ *The Charleston Gazette*, May 10, 1935, page 16.

³⁰⁰ *The Charleston Gazette*, May 11, 1935.

Announcing
the OPENING of
JOE'S ^{NEW} AUTO SERVICE
Virginia at McFarland St.
MONDAY, MAY 12

WE INVITE all Charleston motorists to inspect, tomorrow, during the day or evening, our new Service Station, designed and built to render modern, complete service to the motorists.

We have an organization of trained men to serve you in the most complete manner. . . . Drive in tomorrow and get acquainted with Joe's Auto Service.

Complete Service—"Top to Tires"

**We Have Decided to Sell
No Tires But GOODYEARS**

WE have been appointed by The World's Largest Rubber Company as an Official Goodyear Service Station, and will handle a complete line of Goodyear Tires, Tubes and accessories.

Our facilities for giving a high standard of service, in keeping with a high standard of Goodyear Tires, have been officially approved.

You may not know that today you can buy genuine, lifetime guaranteed Goodyear Tires in five different price classes, each the outstanding value in its field.

If your driving requires only a very inexpensive tire, we have it—also, other Goodyears up to the highest grade on earth—the celebrated Goodyear Double Eagle. You are invited to stop and inspect our complete, fresh new stock and to have a free demonstration of SUPER-TWIST CORD—patented by Goodyear and used only by Goodyear.



SOUVENIRS FOR ALL

FLOWERS for the Ladies.

SOUVENIRS for the Men.

Toy Balloons for the Children.

**Washing—Greasing
Simonizing—Oiling
Parking**

(By Day, Week or Month)

**STANDARD — AMERICAN
VIKING
Gasolines
and Oils**

U-DRIVE-IT SERVICE

In connection with our modern Auto Service we offer a U-DRIVE-IT service with all late model closed cars at a very reasonable rate. Drive our Cars Cheaper than you can drive your own.

Illustration 67: Advertisement for the Opening of Joe's New Auto Service. The Charleston Gazette. May 11, 1930.

Garage Altering Planned by Casey

Restaurant Will Be Built On Corner of Virginia, McFarland Streets

The Hotel garage, a three-story building on the northeast corner of Virginia and McFarland streets has been leased by Joseph Casey and will be extensively remodeled, Casey announced.

Casey operates a parking lot, gasoline station, tire agency and a combined restaurant and confectionary on the northwest corner of the block. The present restaurant and confectionary will be razed and a new one constructed in the first floor corner of the garage. A concrete driveway into the parking lot and service station will be con-

structed where the restaurant and confectionary now stand.

Pumps To Be Moved

Four gasoline pumps will be moved eastward toward McFarland street to make room for another driveway.

Work on remodeling the first floor of the garage for a modern restaurant will be started Thursday, Casey indicated. The remainder of the garage will be renovated and a modern wash rack will be installed at the rear of the building. The second and third floors will be used for automobile storage, to supplement the parking lot across the street.

The restaurant will be about 25 by 30 feet, and will be furnished with booths and tables. It will be furnished with the most modern equipment, Casey said.

The work will cost about \$10,000.

Illustration 68: Joe's Auto Service Expands. The Charleston Gazette. September 27, 1936.



Illustration 69: Joe and Thelma Casey and their niece Marie Elizabeth Casey, at Cave Rock at Lake Tahoe, Nevada. 1939.

Marie Casey

Rose and John's only daughter, Marie, was born at Hernshaw on October 27, 1902.³⁰¹ Loved and protected by her brothers, Marie possessed a calm, serene demeanor, with an unwavering will. She graduated from Mount St. Joseph's College in Cincinnati, Ohio, and became an art teacher. Much respected by her fellow teachers, she was a strict, no nonsense type of person. She loved to travel and drove across country with her brother George and her mother in 1939 and again forty years later.

Marie worked with her brothers during the summers building houses and kept all the records of the homes they built, in minute detail.

Marie never married and lived out her life in the family home in Charleston.



Illustration 70: Marie Casey (1902–1996) as a young woman.

Much beloved by her nieces and nephews, Marie died on April 23, 1996. She was buried beside her brother, Lou, at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Charleston. Devoted to her family, she was a 'memory keeper', performing a most valuable service to the family. She kept the treasure trove of family pictures and letters and passed them on after her death. With the pictures and documents, Marie Casey made this history possible. The family owes her a debt of gratitude.

³⁰¹ *Delayed Certificate of Birth, West Virginia State Department of Health, September 29, 1944. The certificate gives Coalburg as the birthplace of Rose Lamb, but Rose was born at Coal Fork, Malden.*

George Nicholas Casey, Sr.

"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference."
- Tom Brokaw

The last child of John and Rose Casey, George Nicholas, was born February 9, 1907 at Hernshaw. Called 'Doc' by his brothers when he was young, because his ambition was to be a doctor, and 'Porky' as he grew older, although he was never heavy, George developed an affable personality and became an accomplished Irish *seanachie*, or story teller. Like his cousin Philip Sheridan in Australia, George was a pistol. The most convivial of all the brothers, energetic, funny, and smart, wherever he was, there was laughter and stories.

Born too late for service in World War I and too early for service in World War II, George was the first, and only, of the boys to graduate from college. He attended New River State College during the day, came home by 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and worked all evening at his brother Joe's parking lot in Charleston. Determined to make something of himself, with a strong work ethic, he never forgot to help others along the way.



Illustration 71: George Nicholas Casey, Sr. (1907–1991).

He became a teacher and almost immediately an administrator, first serving as principal of a one room school house. Every summer he worked in construction with his family. George helped innumerable students to move up the economic ladder and he passed the value of community service on to his own children. He spent forty-three years in Kanawha County schools, thirty-six of them at Rand Elementary. Before that he was the principal at Hernshaw. During the school textbook controversy in Kanawha County in the early 1970s, he was brought back as a consultant to the Board of Education. George was elected vice-president of the Retired School Employees in 1974³⁰² and served as President of the Charleston Catholic High School Board.

³⁰² *Charleston Daily Mail*, May 16, 1974, page 8.



Illustration 72: George Nicholas Casey, Sr. (1907–1991) as a teenager.

Just like his older brothers, George had experience in the building trades. When John and Sherd were moving houses, they would frequently need a footer poured or a wall built. After estimating the effort, one of them would announce “This looks like a job for Porky.” George would soon appear and direct the crew while he completed the chore. Anything one of the brothers was attempting always had the option of an expandable crew via a simple phone call. All the siblings, including Marie, assisted in building the homes of each of them.³⁰³

After a nine year courtship, George Nicholas married the love of his life, Alia Burati, on August 11, 1951 at Sacred Heart Church in Charleston, in a ceremony performed by the Rev. Boniface Weckman.

Alia, the second child of Luigi Burati and Amita Paci,³⁰⁴ both from Italy, was born September 14, 1911, in Mason County, Kentucky.³⁰⁵ George and Alia had two children, George Nicholas Jr., called Nick, and Anita Rose.

Ahead of his time on women’s equality issues, George believed in equal pay for equal work and raised his children

with this philosophy. Devoted to his family, he paid the tuition for his niece, Marie Elizabeth, to attend Marshall College in Huntington in 1939.

George died on January 20, 1991. Alia, beloved by all who knew her, lived to be 96 and died at home on October 27, 2007. They are buried side by side at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Charleston, West Virginia.

³⁰³ William Russell Hudnall, Jr.

³⁰⁴ Amita is a common Italian name. In America Amita became Anita.

³⁰⁵ “Kentucky, Vital Record Indexes, 1911–1999”, FamilySearch.org, Alia Burati, 14 Sep 1911; citing Birth, Mason, Kentucky, United States, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Frankfort.



Illustration 73: George Nicholas Casey (1907–1991) and Alia Marcella Burati (1911–2007) at their wedding.

Denouement

John and Bridget began their lives in Ireland and ended them three thousand miles away in the wilds of Boone County, (West) Virginia, an area on the cusp of economic development by the coal industry. That industry provided the succeeding generation with jobs, directly in the mines and indirectly in the supporting industries. The family stayed and grew to love West Virginia with a fierceness that perhaps had previously been reserved only for Ireland itself.

Growing up, I can remember gales of laughter whenever two or more Caseys were gathered together. There was always plenty of food, plenty of stories, and an abundance of love. Though sorrow might visit often, the family structure was such that support was just around the corner, generously given.

*My father and mother, and friends all around,
Are daughters and sons of the sainted old ground.
They rambled its bright plains and mountains among
And filled its fair valleys with laughter and with song.*

- T.D. Sullivan, The Irish American,
Irish American Almanac for 1875

Originally written about Ireland, the above could now be said to capture the family sentiment toward West Virginia.

Appendix 1. The Legend and The Reality

*"I cannot tell how the truth may be;
I say the tale as 'twas said to me."
- Sir Walter Scott*

The Legend

"My grandfather, John Casey, Sr., with perhaps six of his brothers (the number isn't known exactly) came over from Ireland. Some of the brothers went on to South America (perhaps Argentina). Only John stayed in North America. It isn't known how he came to West Virginia which would have been Virginia at the time."³⁰⁶

The Reality

John Casey, Sr. sailed with his family on the American ship *Constitution*, arriving in New York on May 11, 1850. Only one other Casey was on board that ship, a laborer also named John Casey, who disembarked in New York City.

The *Constitution* made many trips back and forth from New York to Liverpool during the Great Hunger and it is highly unlikely that this ship ever went on to South America from New York. The passenger list available is a list of those who disembarked in New York. Many ships did carry Irish emigrants to South America although not nearly as many as went to New York. Without knowing the names of any brothers who might have gone to South America, it is impossible to find them in the records currently available.

Some Sheridan relatives did immigrate to Australia and that may be the genesis of this story.

The Caseys ended up in Virginia in a well planned move set in motion when Bridget's two brothers, James and John Sheridan, moved to Boone County in the 1840s.

³⁰⁶ *Reflections of Marie Casey, 1991.*

Appendix 2. Margaret Casey McGrath Letters

Brooklyn.
Jan. 26. 1884.

Dear brother i take my pen
in hand. hoping to find you
and family in good health
as it is a long time since
i heard from you before i
asked mr. williams about
you and he said he got no
answer from you i expected
you would write to me before
as there is not many of us
left as i expect brother
jeter is dead. as i got no
account of him i wrote to
Brother Marshall to find out
how they are. Dear brother
When you receive this letter
Please. let me have a answer
as i would like to know
how you and family are.
My health is very poor at
present

As i have no husband nor
Brother or sister Dear Brother
Sister Esters Daughter ^{Ann} is Dead
2 years and Left a family
After her Ann Left 5 children
after her and her sister Mary
is taken care of them
And in 14 months Later her
son. Wholes Died suddenly
and Left a wife and 8
children after him to mourn.
his lov. i recieved a letter
letter from Wholes Mulrany
And he is getting along well
and in the same place yet
Dear brother my son John
got married and Left us
6 years ago and did not
Return yet and i have his two
children Michael and Maggie
my Daughter Mary is single
and live ^{with} me We all join
and send our fervor Love

to you and family

No more at Present
from your kind and
affectionate sister
Margret - Mc Grotth

Love to all.

Please direct your letter
to Margret - Mc Grotth
85-2 Calhoun ave.

Brooklyn Long - island
city

Brooklyn

Brooklyn.

Dec. 15th 1897

My Dear. since i take my
Pen. in hand. to write you.
Those few lines hoping to
Find you in good health
as i am not in good health
At present you said in your
Letter that you were well. &
I was glad. to hear so but
Was sorry to hear that your
Mother was not well. and had.
Pains i feel for anyone who has
them as i have them my self.
You also said that your sister
Ann. had seven children living
And four Dead. May god. Bless.
Those that are living and have.
Mercy on those that are Dead.
you said that John. had 3.
sons. i am Glad of that Hoping
That they will live & Prosper through
Life

Like you Dear brother it make
me feel said very time i think
of him as many a happy day.
We all had Brothers & sister
Together in our youthfull Days
With plenty all around us

You asked about my Daughter
Mary she is married has one
Boy. But she is a widow
her Husband having died some
8 or 9 years ago) she is living
at service with a family at
East New-York and doing well
I was sorry to hear that
i could not get your Dear father's
Picture as i would like to have
one. But never mind don't worry.
I hope i see his face in ^{Heaven} here
you wish me to tell you
About (N.Y.) Well to much can
not said about New-York as it
is the finest place on United States

it would take all night to tell
you about new york but i will
tell you there is no other place
in the united states plenty of Pleasure
~~Pleasure places~~ for enjoyment & the
People are full of Life of course
they see nothing else but life
There is Elevated Rail Roads Trolly.
& Cable & Steam " " " "
& we have the finest Bridge in
the ^{world} with spans the East
River it is called the Brooklyn
Bridge it has a road for wagons a
place for people to walk and all
Rail Roads cross over that Bridge
i will tell you more in my
Next Letter i will bring my
Letter to a close with Best Wishes
To all Hopping that you will
Write soon a possible i remain
Dear aunt Margaret M^d Grath
No 448 DeKalb av. Brooklyn
Greater New York

Love to all.
From my Grand children
Michael & M^r Grath & Margaret. ^{my & my} M^r

Appendix 3. John Casey, Jr. Selected Letters

JAS. D. BROWN, PRESIDENT.
ELI J. TAYLOR, SECRETARY.

J. A. HOONE, GEN'L MGR. AND TREAS.

WM. F. HOONE, VICE-PRES.

BROWN COAL COMPANY,
FROM SOUTH NUTTALL COLLIERY,
MINERS AND SHIPPERS OF THE
CELEBRATED NEW RIVER RED ASH COAL.

NUTTALLBURG, W. VA., *Sept 5* 1909

Mr Nicholas Casey

Dear Brother I write you these
Lines to tell you that I am well
and to tell you where I am at
I am head Mine Boss for this company
at South Nuttallburg I get \$90⁰⁰ per month

This place is a fine Keenys Creek
You know where it is I have been
Running 300 tons per day since I have
been here & like the place and they
like me so we have fine better coal
than Elong. We have a good Power Plant
and all the latest improvements
I have some men from Hampshire
Let me hear from you soon hoping to
see that you are all well.

My Love to Mary and Matilda
and your self
yours ever until death
John Casey

1 Larnshaw N.C.

4.9-12

Miss Matilda

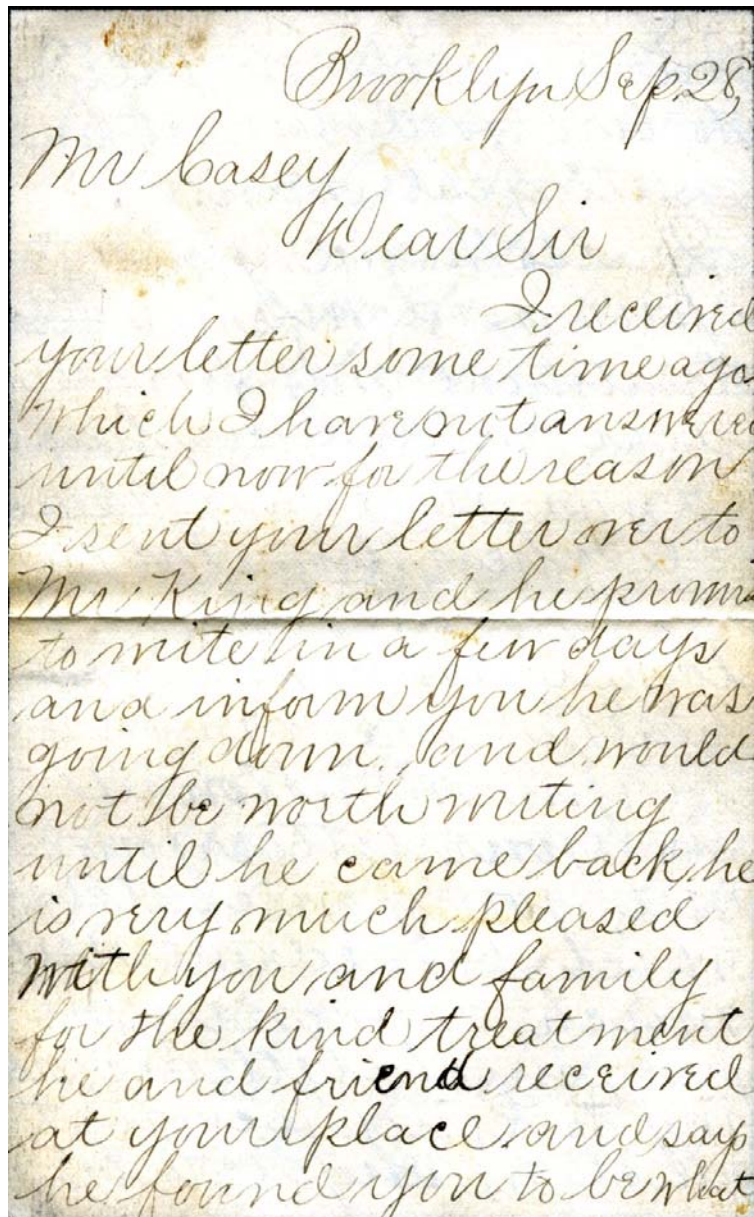
Dear Sister

a few lines in answer
to your kind letter
well I am real sorry
that Nicholas and James
is no better

well, I have been working
at carpenter work at
Mucklow for the last
month at \$2.50 per day
we have a long job
building a new tipple
and a long chute 982
feet to the mines
we are then going to
do some Burg 2 years work

2 We have a good foreman
clate Ellis
The miners union stayed
us last Saturday
We are going to work Monday
The miners is on a strike
I am bringing Johnie
and I send John I go back
We have 12 Bushel of
Potatoes planted
and 4 achers of corn
The weather is very hot
just suits you all
well hear sister
We have a poor chance
to visit - as Joe and
Phill have to farm
however if I get a idle
I'll I will come down
tell Mary to be shure
to come
We are all well hope
this way find you all
Better your Brother John

Appendix 4. Letter from Patrick Williams of Brooklyn to John P. Casey, Sr.



Brooklyn Sep 28
Mr Casey
Dear Sir
I received
your letter some time ago
which I have not answered
until now for the reason
I sent your letter over to
Mr King and he promised
to write in a few days
and inform you he was
going down. And would
not be worth writing
until he came back. he
is very much pleased
with you and family
for the kind treatment
he and friends received
at your place and says
he found you to be what

I always represented you
to be a good honest and
intelligent man.

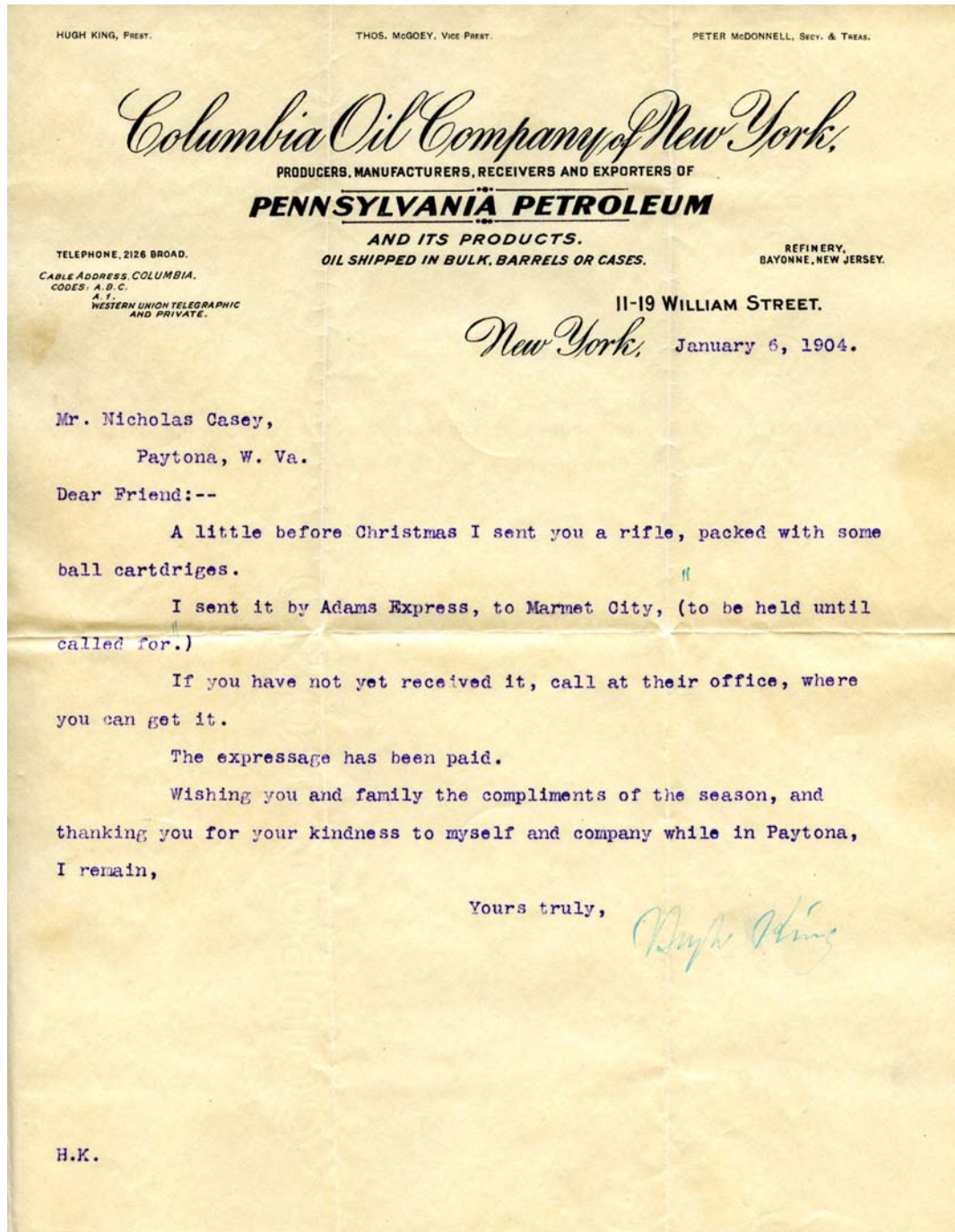
I also thank you and
your good wife for ^{the} ~~your~~
treatment only friends
received at your hands

I was very much pleas-
ed to hear from Mr King
that you and your wife
looked remarkably ~~but~~
healthy and comfortable
for you mentioned
in your letter you
were going on crutches
which pained me very
much. however you
are much better accord-
ing to Kings account
which we ought to be

very thankfull to God
for prolonging our lives
as we are all getting
old when writing again
will let me know what
became of my dear sister
Nancy. I hope you
hold me excuseable
for not answering your
letter until now as
I assure you is no
part of ingratitude
which I owe you for
the interest you took
in my affairs and
shall always hold
you as a good honest
friend. Again I

Thank you for the
treatment my friend
received at your house.
Myself and family
send best respects
to you and family
write at any time and
your letters will be
answered with
the greatest of pleasure.
Sincerely Yours
Patrick Millham
231 Ryerson
Brooklyn
N.Y.

Appendix 5. Letter from Hugh King to Nicholas Casey



Appendix 6. Letter from Margaret Mannix to Matilda Casey

Will and
 tell me
 all the
 new expenses
 this Bad Ben
 and and
 your niece
 Maggie
 Acme WVa
 June 28. 1890
 My Dear Aunt Matilda
 its with the
 the greatest of love I take the
 pleasure to Ans your kind
 and welcome letter glad to
 here from you to here that you
 are all well as this loves us
 all at present well tilda
 I wish I could come out to
 see you all the 4 of July
 but I expect that I cant
 go then Biddy & Mary Bill
 is coming over the 8 Sunday
 of this month But I am
 coming some time this
 summer When is uncle John
 coming up oh I expect he
 gives this place a Bad
 name but - dont you Believe
 that

this is a Beautiful place
up here We got a letter from
Rose Lamb yesterday she
said she was coming up to
see us Mary Clare neve com.
up yet She said she could
not find the way well
tilda there is lots of Mashies
up here you out to come
up here if you want to
make a mash of Kate is very
lone some now Mr Trevillian
has left home tilda you must
come up the 4 we are going to have
a grand Picnic up here well tilda
tell Aunt Mary to come up
write and tell me what your
fellow name is and where he
lives I will close this time
for I have no more paper to
write on I will write more next
time With Love to all Good By

Appendix 7. Another Casey Sheridan Connection

Around 1819 an English officer stationed in Ireland, named Robert Dudley Blake, fell in love with a young Irish woman named Helen or Ellen Sheridan. They married and he brought her to England where he died in 1850. Mrs. Blake inherited his estate and she subsequently died in 1876 leaving an unsigned will. Nine claimants to the estate came forward in the first few years following her death.

Articles appeared in newspapers in several countries and hundreds of inquiries poured in for decades after the estate went into probate. Several of those inquiries came from America. None were successful applicants for the estate.

On September 25, 1889, an article appeared in *The New York Times* about a family of Caseys in Brooklyn preparing to file a claim on the Sheridan/Blake estate. Unfortunately the facts of the story as detailed in the newspaper article had virtually no relation to the reality of the actual probate case. The article did, however, provide a second link between the Sheridan family of County Longford and the Casey families of Longford and Westmeath. Nothing came of the Brooklyn claim, if indeed it was ever actually filed in Chancery Court in London. Still the article presents an interesting side story and a possible genealogical link to our Caseys.

A number of family letters written to Bridget Sheridan Casey in 1886 mentioned the ongoing probate case, so the family in West Virginia was well aware of the happenings in Ireland and England.

For more about the life of Helen Sheridan and Robert Dudley Blake, their deaths, wills, and subsequent probate filings, see *Through Irish Eyes, Part IV. Outer Leaves of the Sheridan Tree.*

In order for the Brooklyn claim to have had any merit, the Brooklyn Caseys had to be related to the Sheridans. Since these Caseys were from the same general area as our Caseys, some time was spent trying to establish a link to either our Caseys or our Sheridans. Although no explicit link was uncovered, due to both the lack of Irish records and the paucity of information in the Irish records that do exist, the situation was intriguing nonetheless. It is presented here in the hopes that one day, more information will come to light, and a solid connection between the families can be established.

AFTER AN ENGLISH ESTATE

BROOKLYN CLAIMANTS FOR TWO MILLIONS.

THE STORY OF THE BLAKE FORTUNE—
AN UNSIGNED WILL—THE BEQUEST
TO GLADSTONE.

A New-York lawyer is getting ready to make a European trip, whose outcome may have decided interest for people on two continents. Incidental to this attorney's purpose is a plan that may lead up to putting William Ewart Gladstone upon the stand as a sort of a Chancery witness in the probate division of the English High Court of Justice. At any rate, the statesman may, in obedience to the urgency of the case, appear as an ally in a project which aims to endow some American citizens with a pleasing abundance of British coin.

Joseph Casey of 150 Myrtle-avenue, Brooklyn, and Lawyer Stephen M. Hove will sail next week for England. They will represent the American claimants to a heritage of \$1,500,000 or perhaps \$2,000,000. Since 1876, when the owner of the fortune, Mrs. Ellen Blake, widow of Gen. Edwin S. Blake, died, this inheritance has been in the hands of a big London trust company. It has been drawing interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. until now it may have jumped to the two-million-dollar limit. Mr. Casey thinks he has a claim to this immense hoard. He is well off and can spend money freely to substantiate this claim.

The story of this fortune has a tinge of romance. In 1819 Edwin S. Blake was the officer in charge of the garrison troops at Athlone, Ireland. Ellen Sheridan, whose beauty was celebrated throughout the county of Longford, was then living in the township of Ballagh-Forbes, near Athlone. The young Englishman saw her and fell heels over head in love with her, and, unmindful of the difference in their ranks of life, Blake married the girl.

In 1820 the soldier took his bride to Scotland, where a baby was born. He went back to Ireland in the same year, and the child died and was buried in the Catholic churchyard at Athlone. Blake had a bitter quarrel with his family, threw up his commission, drew his patrimony of \$6,000, and sailed for America. After residing for years in Ohio, he went to Chicago in 1847, and began to manufacture silk. He followed up the real estate boom closely, and in 1873 started back to England with his fortune. He died in London in 1874, and his widow, who inherited his wealth, passed away two years later.

She had made a will, but had not signed it. It is still on record, however, among the archives at Somerset House in London. The present keeper of these records is G. I. Foster, and a Dublin lawyer, Henry Stephens, has obtained a copy of the widow's intended will. Its bequests were mainly charitable; the decedent had forgotten both her husband's relatives and her own. William Ewart Gladstone was put down for £1,000. The Dublin lawyer, according to Mr. Joseph Casey and his attorney, declares that long ago, by especial favor of her Majesty, Mr. Gladstone was allowed to take his legacy. For the last five years, forced by the English law, the London trust company has advertised for the widow Blake's heirs in the *Scotsman*, the *Times*, the *Cork Examiner*, the *Dublin Freeman*, and other papers.

Mrs. Mary Heaney, first cousin of Ellen Sheridan, and a coast guard's wife, saw the advertisement, and hired the Dublin solicitor, Stephens, to look the will up. She notified her brother, James Casey of Newtown-Forbes, the father of Joseph Casey, but it was only after Mrs. Heaney's death that he wrote to his son Joseph in America, telling of her dealings with Stephens. At the elder Casey's request, the Catholic curate at Newtown-Forbes wrote to the President of Trinity College, Dublin, and received an answer that the latter knew of Stephens's investigations on Mrs. Heaney's behalf.

On July 8, 1889, the Episcopal rector of Newtown-Forbes wrote the New-York lawyer as follows:

In reply to your letter of the 25th inst., I will say that Mr. Casey has been frequently speaking to me about the matter you allude to, and, at his request, I had an interview some time ago with a gentleman who told me that the money is safe and to be had at any time by such person or persons as can prove their right to the estate. I believe there is some link in the chain of evidence as to connection with the late Mrs. Blake still wanting. Perhaps you, as a lawyer, may be able to meet this point.

GEORGE R. FEYTON,
Rector Newtown-Forbes.

About two months ago Dr. Bernard McEntee of Brooklyn called upon Solicitor Stephens in Joseph Casey's behalf. He was kindly received, but, lawyerlike, Stephens refused to tell what he knew. It appears, though, that the Crown has set up as a bar to the Casey claim the plea that the marriage of Ellen Sheridan's parents cannot be proved by record. The Widow Blake would have been born out of wedlock, and, according to Mr. Stephens, no kinship with her might be claimed in the English courts. Father O'Reilly, the curate of the Catholic chapel at Ballagh-Forbes, where Blake and Ellen Sheridan were married in 1819 and where her parents were also married, wrote Mr. Joseph Casey that no records of the parish had been kept prior to 1827, or at least none could be found. This would not be strange, owing to the disturbed condition of the country at that time.

The Brooklyn claimants have retained Solicitor Maxwell of Longford to look after their interests. The heirs, besides Joseph Casey, here, are Francis, Patrick Joseph, Mary, and Bridget Casey. James Casey, Sr., of Newtown-Forbes is, of course, the direct heir at law, and it is through him that proceedings against the Crown interests will be begun.

The New York Times

Published: September 25, 1889
Copyright © The New York Times

In September 1889, Joseph Casey, a Brooklyn saloon keeper, was preparing to sail for England. He was to be accompanied by a New York lawyer named Stephen M. Hoye. His purpose was to establish a possible claim upon the estate of the late Mrs. Helen (Ellen) Sheridan of London.³⁰⁷

Joseph Casey, the son of James Casey and Elizabeth McNally of Ballagh, County Longford, was born in Ireland and baptized there on August 9, 1858³⁰⁸ in the Catholic parish of Newtownforbes.³⁰⁹ Joe immigrated to America in 1875 where, around 1884, he married Mary McEntee, the daughter of Peter McEntee and his wife, Bridget Larkin. Mary was the niece of Dr. Bernard McEntee³¹⁰ of Gold Street in Brooklyn, a prominent physician. The McEntees were from Carrickmacross in County Monaghan.³¹¹ Mary and her sister Bridget had emigrated about 1871.³¹²

Joe Casey and his saloon were prominent in the newspapers of Brooklyn. In 1885 he stood trial, rather than give up his liquor license, for violating the Sunday liquor law. In 1886 Joe, along with his brother Francis and two other men, Patrick McKenna and Bernard Scanlon, were arrested for fighting over a card game.

In 1892 Joe, by then a successful businessman, submitted papers to add three stories to his house at 150 Myrtle Avenue, Ward 11, Brooklyn. He served as a member of the Democratic general committee. In 1900 he was falsely arrested for assault, an incident providing comic relief to the court, although probably not to Joe himself.

By the 1900 census he and his family had moved to 519 Myrtle Avenue in Ward 7, where they continued to live until Joe's wife Mary died of consumption on February 26, 1906. They had several children together: Edward John, Thomas, Lillian, Peter, Mary, Francis, and Ambrose. By 1905 Joe was out of the liquor business and was working as a gas inspector.³¹³ Edward, the eldest, was working as an electrician and Thomas was a hardware clerk. Everyone else was still in school in 1905.

³⁰⁷ *The New York Times*, September 25, 1889.

³⁰⁸ *The 1900 Federal census states he was born June 1859 but this is incorrect.*

³⁰⁹ *Rootsireland.ie*, baptismal records. *The Catholic parish of Newtownforbes is the civil parish of Clongesh. Ballagh townland is about 3 miles north of the present day village of Newtownforbes.*

³¹⁰ *Dr. McEntee died at 68 in Brooklyn on January 20, 1893 and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Flatbush. Mary McEntee Casey was a devisee of his will. His estate exceeded \$15,000. Dr. McEntee was probably from the townland of Cargaghmore in Carrickmacross.*

³¹¹ *Carrickmacross is the ancestral home of our Lamb family. See Through Irish Eyes, Part II. On the Lamb with Ed and Mary.*

³¹² *1900 Federal Census, Kings County.*

³¹³ *New York State census, 1905. Brooklyn.*

Mary McEntee Casey's will was probated June 15, 1908. Her estate was estimated to be less than \$2,000.

Joe himself died on June 10, 1908 of shock and exhaustion after an operation for an abscess of the lung with gangrene, following gangrene of the uvula, soft palate, and pharynx.³¹⁴ Five sons and two daughters survived him: Edward, Thomas, Ambrose, Francis, Peter, Lillian and Marnie Casey. Joe's estate was estimated to be less than \$100 so he appears to have fallen on hard times and he may have filed for bankruptcy in 1901. At the time of his death he resided at 258 Taaffe Road, close to DeKalb and Classon where Margaret Casey McGrath resided.

Joe's brother Francis Casey, married Mary's sister, Bridget McEntee. Francis, born in Ireland July 29, 1865, was baptized on August 2, 1865 at Ballaghforbes.³¹⁵ He immigrated to Brooklyn and worked as a barkeep and a painter. He was 5 feet 5 and ½ inches tall, with a florid complexion and blue eyes when he enrolled in the army as a corporal on May 26, 1898 in Jennings, Louisiana. He was mustered into the Second United States Volunteers, Company K, on June 19, 1898 in Covington, Louisiana. Reduced to private on August 15, 1898, Francis died on September 15, 1898 at Santiago de Cuba of typhoid fever.³¹⁶

Francis left one minor child, Mary E. Casey, born August 15, 1889. His wife Bridget was allocated a pension until she remarried to James Moore on February 19, 1903 at St. Patrick's Church at Kent and Willoughby Avenues in Brooklyn.³¹⁷ She was 36. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. James J. Higgins and the witnesses were Edward C. Smith and Mary Ruddy.³¹⁸ Francis' daughter Mary received a pension until August 14, 1905.

In 1903 Bridget E. Casey Moore and her husband were living at 551 Herkimer St., Brooklyn. Their married life was cut short when Bridget died of breast cancer and consumption on April 17, 1904 at 2:30 PM.³¹⁹ Only 37 years old, she was buried at Holy

³¹⁴ *Certificate and Record of Death, State of New York, City of New York, Department of Health, 1908, number 11506.*

³¹⁵ *Rootsireland.ie, Roman Catholic baptismal records.*

³¹⁶ *The death of Francis Casey was reported in the New York Times on September 17, 1908 and his obituary appeared in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle November 13, 1908.*

³¹⁷ *Kings County, Certificate of Marriage number 2093.*

³¹⁸ *War with Spain pension files certificate # 558,035. Spanish War index card: Familysearch.org: US Index to Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers in the War with Spain, M871, image 2219 of 2472, names Carl-Casr. Pension file: "General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934." NARA pub T288.*

³¹⁹ *Death record, certificate number 8196, Kings County.*

Cross Cemetery three days later. Her estate was probated in June 1904 by Nellie Trudden, a McEntee relative. Her husband and daughter survived her.

Joe's brother, Patrick, also a barkeep in Brooklyn, was born in Ireland on November 26, 1862 and baptized on December 1, 1862.³²⁰ Patrick came to America in 1880, was naturalized, and married around 1895.

Joe's sister Mary immigrated to America in 1883 and married Patrick McKeaney (McKenna), about 1890. Patrick, born about 1857, was a hotel owner who immigrated to America in 1873 and was naturalized. They owned a home at 61 Jay St. in Brooklyn in 1900. Mary had no children as of 1900. Patrick was in all likelihood the same Patrick McKenna arrested with Joseph Casey for fighting in 1886.

Another of Joe's sisters, Bridget, was baptized on December 21, 1856 in Newtownforbes parish.³²¹ Nothing further is known of her although she is the Bridget Casey referenced in the New York Times article in 1889.

Joe's youngest sister, Ann, was born on November 4, 1860 and baptized on November 12, 1860 in Newtownforbes.³²² She married Thomas Mahon and continued to live in Ireland.³²³ In 1901 Thomas and Ann were living with her mother on the family farm in Ballagh, Newtownforbes.³²⁴ Her father, James Casey, had died by then.

³²⁰ *Rootsireland.ie, Roman Catholic baptismal records, Newtownforbes.*

³²¹ *Rootsireland.ie, Roman Catholic baptismal records, Newtownforbes.*

³²² *Rootsireland.ie, Roman Catholic baptismal records, Newtownforbes.*

³²³ *Probate filing for Mary E. Casey, daughter of Francis Casey, Brooklyn, 1916.*

³²⁴ *National Census, Ireland, 1901, Ballagh, County Longford.*

Family of James Casey of Ballagh, Parish of Newtownforbes (Clongesh), County Longford

Mary Casey (sibling) ----- James Casey married Elizabeth McNally
 m. Heaney
 d. before 1889

Mary b. 1853 Brooklyn m. Patrick McKenna 61 Jay St. Brooklyn	Bridget b. 1856 Great Water St. Longford Town	Joseph b. 1858 d. 1908 Brooklyn m. Mary McEntee	Ann b. 1860 m. Mahon Ballagh Forbes	Patrick b. 1862 458 Ralph St. Brooklyn	Francis b. 1865 d. 1898 Cuba m. Bridget McEntee Mary E. b. 8/15/1889 d. 9/8/1916
--	---	--	---	---	--

Joseph Casey proposes to add three stories to the one story brick dwelling at the northeast corner of Grand and Myrtle avenues, to cost \$7,000.

Illustration 74: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, December 20, 1892, page 6.

A FIGHT AMONG LIQUOR DEALERS.

Francis Casey, of 85 and 87 Hamilton avenue; his brother, Joseph Casey, of 150 Myrtle avenue; Patrick McKenna, of 292 Columbia street, and Bernard Scanlon, of Henry and Nelson streets, all saloon keepers at the above addresses, engaged in a game of cards in McKenna's saloon last evening. A dispute over the game led to a fight, in which Scanlon alleges he was knocked down, kicked and badly pounded by his three companions. The three men were arrested.

Illustration 75: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, July 1, 1886, page 6.

CASEY NOT THE MAN.

**Sperry's Assailant Was at Least a Foot
and a Half Taller—And Casey
Was Very Mad.**

Joseph Casey, a wealthy saloon keeper at 519 Myrtle avenue, was highly indignant when he was taken before Magistrate Teale, in the Myrtle avenue police court, yesterday in the role of a prisoner. His appearance in court was due to a warrant obtained by Edward D. C. Sperry, a lawyer's assistant, who lives at 158 McDonough street.

It seems that Sperry had a court summons to serve in the neighborhood of Casey's saloon and while looking for his man entered the place. In some way he became engaged in a wrangle with a man who was in his shirt sleeves and was assaulted and ejected from the saloon.

When Sperry pulled himself together he gave a description of the man who struck him and asked his name.

"Why, that is Casey who belted you," was the reply.

Sperry obtained a warrant for Casey's arrest, which was served by Policeman Wyse of the court squad.

Casey was on hand when the case was called. He is short and stout, and as he walked up to the bar his face was flushed and he shook with suppressed passion.

"That is not the man who assaulted me," quickly spoke up Sperry. "He was fully a foot and a half taller."

"I never saw this man before in my life," said Casey.

"I can't remember ever having seen you either," added Sperry. "I am sorry to say the wrong man has been arrested."

"I brought the man the warrant called for," explained Policeman Wyse to Magistrate Teale.

"The complainant has been misinformed about the man who assaulted him, and we regret bringing you here, Mr. Casey," said Magistrate Teale, as he tore up the warrant and complaint.

"Yes, but what redress have I got?" Casey demanded.

"Sue him for a half a million," said the magistrate, as he waved the men away and joined in the general smile.

Illustration 76: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, August 19, 1900, page 5.

Appendix 8. A Lesson in Planting Potatoes by Tim Casey³²⁵

Of the lessons I have learned and the skills I have been taught, nothing sticks in my memory more than how to plant potatoes. Probably this is because of my teachers: John E. Casey, my grandfather, and Pat Casey, my father.

I must have been around 11 or 12 when it was decided that we would plant potatoes on the old Casey Farm in Putnam County, West Virginia. What followed on that day was an elaborate procedure involving the International trailer, a Gravelly tractor, seed potatoes, 5-10-10 fertilizer, a log chain, and the all important sand.

The day began with PawPaw Casey, my Dad, my brother, John, and I traveling to the Casey farm. We unloaded the Gravelly, which I recall actually belonged to Uncle Lou. Then we began the task of starting it. This required a leather strap and starting fluid. As I recall, starting the tractor took a long time and dozens of pulls with the leather strap.

Once we got the tractor running and we had tilled the garden area, we began the planting process. PawPaw had cut up the seed potatoes and brought along buckets of sand. First, we pulled a furrow with a hoe. Then we spread the 5-10-10 fertilizer. This was followed by spreading sand along the furrow. John and I would then drag the log chain down the furrow to mix the sand and the fertilizer. The potato eyes would be placed in the furrow and covered.

The sand was the ingredient that made these potatoes special. Only PawPaw Casey truly understood the importance of this extra effort of adding sand. He would deflect all who would question its importance. The joy of spending an afternoon with my Dad and my Grandfather planting potatoes will live in my memory forever.

³²⁵ *Nicholas Casey → John P. Casey, Sr. → John P. Casey, Jr. → John Edward Casey → Charles Patrick Casey → Timothy Allen Casey*

Appendix 9. Katie McCarty

The Casey family were close friends with another Irish family in Boone County, the McCarty family, sometimes rendered as McCarthy. A little of their story is included here because three images of Katie McCarty, found with the family photos, were passed down through the years, including two tintypes. An attempt to identify the persons with Katie in one of the tintypes, along with two letters from Katie's mother, Anna Graley McCarty, to Matilda Casey, led to the compilation of part of Katie's story.



Illustration 77: Katie McCarty. Circa 1888.

Katie was the daughter of John McCarty born in County Clare,³²⁶ Ireland about 1831, and his wife Susannah Graley³²⁷ born in Franklin County, Virginia about 1836. Anna, as she was called, was the daughter of Thomas and Ruth Graley. Thomas made his living in 1850 as a blacksmith.

John and Anna married on April 1, 1855 in Kanawha County. He was 24 and she was 19. In 1860 they were living in the Peytona district of Boone County, next to the Higgins family³²⁸ who were also from Ireland. They had two daughters, Ellen, 4, and Sarah Ann, 2, and had taken in two boarders. Their daughter Katie was born on Drawdy Creek on November 29, 1868.³²⁹ The McCartys had at least five sons: James, born about 1862; John, born June 5, 1866, died Sept. 26, 1883 of typhoid fever at 17;

³²⁶ *Register of Marriages, Kanawha County, Virginia, 1855, page 4, number 36.*

³²⁷ *May have been Greeley.*

³²⁸ *Pat Mannix who married Matilda's sister, Ann, was from County Clare and his mother's maiden name was Higgins.*

³²⁹ *Federal Census 1880, West Virginia, Boone County, Peytona District. Month and day are from Certificate of Death, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, file number 101610, registered number 32.*

Patrick Joseph, born about 1871, died January 24, 1941; Michael, born February 28, 1874, died March 10, 1942; and Thomas, born April 6, 1875. Another daughter Margaret was born about 1865.

John McCarty died in 1885 and his estate was probated on April 27, 1885. Nick Casey and his brother James were tasked as appraisers for the estate.

Katie married Jeremiah Ambrose Roach on October 25, 1893 at Sacred Heart Church in Charleston, West Virginia.³³⁰ Jeremiah, called Jerry, was born in Pennsylvania on December 23, 1867, the son of James and Joanna Doyle Roach.³³¹ The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Joseph W. Stenger and the witnesses were Edward O'Keefe and Mary Feely.

By 1900 Jerry and Katie had moved to Osceola Mills, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania and her mother joined them there. Katie and Jerry had at least four sons: James 1895, John 1898, Gerald 1903, and Paul 1905.

Katie died at Osceola Mills on September 9, 1916 of typhoid fever. Anna continued to live with Jerry and the children. Anna Graley McCarty died March 28, 1924 in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.



Illustration 78: Katie McCarty. Tintype.

Jerry Roach died of nephrosclerosis on January 1, 1942 in Frankstown, Blair County, Pennsylvania where he lived with his son John and John's family. He was buried in Osceola Mills.

Three tintypes involving Katie McCarty were included in the Casey family picture collection. The first of the images shows Katie, standing in front of a house with her hand on a chair. In the second tintype, Katie is seated alongside an older man, possibly with Matilda Casey standing behind them. The third tintype, taken at the same time as

³³⁰ *Register of Marriages, Kanawha County, West Virginia, 1893, page 318, number 405. Register of Marriages, Sacred Heart Church.*

³³¹ *Social Security application 1937.*

the second tintype, shows the same older man seated alongside a younger man, with another man, possibly James Casey, standing behind them.

The second and third tintypes seem to be of a formal occasion, although probably not a wedding. Brides in formal church weddings at the time tended to wear white. The five individuals in the two tintypes are dressed, as for a celebration. The hats worn by the two women are elaborate and the seated man is wearing a flower boutonniere.

Pat Mannix may have played a role in the McCarty family. He was from County Clare as was Katie's father. Pat was a farmer and a miner as was Katie's father, and they probably worked together over the years. The McCartys lived beside a Higgins family in Boone County, and Pat Mannix's mother was a Higgins.

The man seated beside Kate McCarty appears to be too old to be Jerry Roach and is believed to be Pat Mannix (1836–1911). Katie was wearing a wedding ring which dates the tintypes as 1893 or later. The tintype of the three men, may include Jerry Roach, either seated or standing. The standing man might also be James Casey. See Illustration 18 for an image of the man believed to be Pat Mannix as a younger man.



Illustration 79: Kate McCarty, seated. Possibly Patrick Mannix (1836–1911), seated and Matilda Casey, standing. Tintype.



Illustration 80: Unidentified man, seated left. Possibly Patrick Mannix (1836–1911), seated right. Possibly James Casey, standing. Tintype.

Appendix 10. Family Group Sheets

Nicholas Casey (? - after 1833) Balroe

Husband: Casey, Nicholas		
Birth		Ireland
Death	estimated between 1833 and 1854	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage		
Wife: Unknown, Ann		
Birth		Ireland
Death	estimated after 1854	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1M	Casey, Peter	
	Birth	estimated 1796 Ireland
	Death	1882-06-30 Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Spouse	Kenny, Catherine
	Marriage	1843-02-08 Milltown, County Westmeath, Ireland
2M	Casey, Michael	
	Birth	
	Death	
3F	Casey, Esther	
	Birth	estimated about 1810 Ireland
	Death	1868-04-21 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	McGrath, James
	Marriage	1840-08-20 Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
4M	Casey, John Patrick Sr.	
	Birth	estimated 1812-05-06 Ireland
	Death	1897-06-16 Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Sheridan, Bridget

	Marriage	Spring 1846	County Longford, Ireland
5F	Casey, Margaret		
	Birth	estimated about 1819	Ireland
	Death	1899-11-07	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	McGrath, Nicholas	
	Marriage	1841-01-29	Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland

Peter Casey (abt. 1796-1882) Balroe

Husband: Casey, Peter		
Birth	estimated 1796	Ireland
Death	1882-06-30	Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
Father	Casey, Nicholas	
Mother	Unknown, Ann	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1843-02-08	Milltown, County Westmeath, Ireland
Wife: Kenny, Catherine		
Birth	estimated 1813	
Death	estimated before 1882	Mullingar, County Westmeath, Ireland
Father		
Mother		
Children		
1M	Casey, Nicholas	
	Birth	calculated about 1847-02-03 Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death	
	Spouse	McManus, Catherine
	Marriage	1872-06-11 Milltown, County Westmeath, Ireland
2M	Casey, Thomas	
	Birth	estimated about 1851 Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death	1926-06-26 Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Spouse	Hanley, Margaret
	Marriage	1879-02-24 Walshtown, Mullingar, County Westmeath, Ireland

Esther Casey (1810-1868)

Husband: McGrath, James		
Birth	estimated about 1800	Ireland
Death	estimated between 1860-07-26 and 1868	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	1840-08-20	Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
Wife: Casey, Esther		
Birth	estimated about 1810	Ireland
Death	1868-04-21	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Casey, Nicholas	
Mother	Unknown, Ann	
Children		
1F	McGrath, Anne Eliza	
	Birth	1843-03-25 Ireland
	Death	1881-06-21 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Barden, William
	Marriage	1865-06-08 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
2M	McGrath, Nicholas	
	Birth	estimated 1844-02-00 Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1882-12-07 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Meade, Margaret
	Marriage	estimated about 1868 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
3F	McGrath, Margaret	
	Birth	estimated 1846-04-00 Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	1853-07-30 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
4F	McGrath, Mary	
	Birth	estimated about 1852 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1895-04-21 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Newman, Edward
	Marriage	1877-09-23 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

John Patrick Casey, Sr. (1812-1897)

Husband: Casey, John Patrick Sr.		
Birth	estimated 1812-05-06	Ireland
Death	1897-06-16	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
Father	Casey, Nicholas	
Mother	Unknown, Ann	

Marriage:		
Marriage	Spring 1846	County Longford, Ireland

Wife: Sheridan, Bridget		
Birth	1815-06-11	County Longford, Ireland
Death	1900-10-05	Cobbs, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
Father	Sheridan, Unknown	
Mother	Unknown, Catherine	

Children			
1F	Casey, Sarah Ann		
	Birth	1847-01-19	Ireland
	Death	estimated 1898-02-08	West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Mannix, Patrick	
	Marriage	1865-05-15	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
2M	Casey, Nicholas		
	Birth	1848-03-14	Ireland
	Death	1922-10-17	West Virginia, USA
3M	Casey, Patrick		
	Birth	estimated 1849-10-15	Ireland
	Death	estimated 1850-09-12	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
4F	Casey, Mary Catherine		
	Birth	1852-12-05	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1930-09-08	Nitro, Pocatalico District, Putnam County, WV USA
5M	Casey, John Patrick Jr.		
	Birth	1854-04-13	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1937-02-11	Charleston, Kanawha County, West

			Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Lamb, Rose M.	
	Marriage	1891-09-23	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
6M	Casey, James B.		
	Birth	1856-09-05	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1935-08-17	St. Francis Hospital, Charleston, West Virginia USA
7F	Casey, Margaret		
	Birth	1858-08-15	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1884	
8F	Casey, Matilda		
	Birth	estimated 1861-04-15	Peytona, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	1936-08-17	St. Francis Hospital, Charleston, West Virginia USA

Margaret Casey (1819-1899)

Husband: McGrath, Nicholas		
Birth	estimated about 1819	Ireland
Death	1849-08-24	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother		

Marriage:		
Marriage	1841-01-29	Ballinacargy, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland

Wife: Casey, Margaret		
Birth	estimated about 1819	Ireland
Death	1899-11-07	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Casey, Nicholas	
Mother	Unknown, Ann	

Children			
1M	McGrath, John		
	Birth	estimated 1843-01-00	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	calculated between 1884 and 1900	
	Spouse	Mulrooney, Margaret	
	Marriage	calculated before 1865-06-14	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
2F	McGrath, Anne		
	Birth	1845-12-00	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	between 1849-08-25 and 1849-08-31	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
3M	McGrath, Nicholas		
	Birth	estimated 1848-02-00	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
	Death	week ending 1849-09-15	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
4F	McGrath, Mary		
	Birth	1850-01-00	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	Unknown	
	Marriage	estimated between 1884 and 1889	New York, New York, USA

Sarah Ann Casey (1847-1898)

Husband: Mannix, Patrick		
Birth	between 1836-04-15 and 1836-05-25	County Clare, Ireland
Death	1911-09-23	National Military Home, Montgomery County, Ohio, USA
Father	Mannix, Thomas	
Mother	Higgins, Catherine	

Marriage:		
Marriage	1865-05-15	Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA

Wife: Casey, Sarah Ann		
Birth	1847-01-19	Ireland
Death	estimated 1898-02-08	West Virginia, USA
Father	Casey, John Patrick Sr.	
Mother	Sheridan, Bridget	

Children			
1F	Mannix, Catherine		
	Birth	1866-12-17	Cabin Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1960-12-31	
2F	Mannix, Mary Ann		
	Birth	1868-07-07	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1871	
3M	Mannix, John F.		
	Birth	1870-05-00	Horse Creek, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1896	
4F	Mannix, Margaret L.		
	Birth	1872-05-12	Big Coal, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	estimated 1898	
5M	Mannix, Nicholas C.		
	Birth	1874-03-30	White Oak, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1900-02-12	Hinton, Summers County, West Virginia, USA

6M	Mannix, James A.		
	Birth	1877-04-08	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1962-01-14	Spencer, Roane County, West Virginia, USA
7M	Mannix, Patrick S. (H.)		
	Birth	1878-09-10	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1967-10-10	Saint Albans, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	McKenzie, Agnes Ann	
	Marriage	1905-09-21	Montgomery, Fayette and Kanawha Counties, West Virginia, USA
8F	Mannix, Bridget Cecilia		
	Birth	estimated 1883-05-00	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1961-01-09	
	Spouse	Fox, Earl David	
	Marriage	1906-06-19	Summers County, West Virginia, USA
9M	Mannix, Joseph Maurice		
	Birth	1885-02-00	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1965-11-04	Washington, District of Columbia, USA
	Spouse	Fitzpatrick, Margaret T.	
	Marriage	1914-11-25	Summers County, West Virginia, USA
10F	Mannix, Rosa		
	Birth	1886-08-19	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1887-10-01	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
11F	Mannix, Gertrude		
	Birth	1889-12-01	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1981-08-14	
	Spouse	Neely, William Clyde	
	Marriage	1910-06-28	Summers County, West Virginia, USA

John Patrick Casey, Jr. (1854-1937)

Husband: Casey, John Patrick Jr.		
Birth	1854-04-13	Lick Creek, Boone County, Virginia, USA
Death	1937-02-11	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Father	Casey, John Patrick Sr.	
Mother	Sheridan, Bridget	

Marriage:		
Marriage	1891-09-23	Montgomery, Fayette and Kanawha Counties, West Virginia, USA

Wife: Lamb, Rose M.		
Birth	1867-04-15	Campbell's Creek, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Death	1953-10-15	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Father	Lamb, Edward	
Mother	Monaghan, Mary	

Children		
1M	Casey, John Edward Sr.	
	Birth	1892-09-12 Winifrede, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1974-02-14 Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Selbe, Faye Elizabeth
	Marriage	1920-05-12 Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA
2M	Casey, Louis Sheridan	
	Birth	1894-01-22 Winifrede, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1970-02-13 Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
3M	Casey, James Philip	
	Birth	1897-03-04 Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1976-10-28 Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Aultz, Gertrude

	Marriage	1936-01-27	St. Anthony's Church, Charleston, West Virginia, USA
4M	Casey, Peter Joseph		
	Birth	1899-03-07	Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1985-04-08	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Leftwich, Thelma Barbara	
	Marriage	1928-11-17	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA
5F	Casey, Marie		
	Birth	1902-10-27	Hernshaw, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1996-04-23	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
6M	Casey, George Nicholas Sr.		
	Birth	1907-02-09	Hernshaw, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1991-01-20	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Burati, Alia Marcella	
	Marriage	1951-08-11	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA

John Edward Casey (1892-1974)

Husband: Casey, John Edward Sr.		
Birth	1892-09-12	Winifrede, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Death	1974-02-14	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Father	Casey, John Patrick Jr.	
Mother	Lamb, Rose M.	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1920-05-12	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA
Wife: Selbe, Faye Elizabeth		
Birth	1898-06-28	Winifrede, Cabin Creek District, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Death	1981-01-16	Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
Father	Selbe, Charles Wesley	
Mother	Wells, Anna Lara	
Children		
1F	Casey, Marie Elizabeth	
	Birth	1921-02-16 Marmet, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	2014-06-27 Simsbury, Hartford County, Connecticut, USA
	Spouse	Hudnall, William Russell
	Marriage	1941-11-24 St. Agnes Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
2M	Casey, John Edward Jr.	
	Birth	1923-02-12 Marmet, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1923-02-21 Marmet, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
3M	Casey, George Louis	
	Birth	1925-02-22 Marmet, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	2001-10-15 Austell, Cobb County, Georgia, USA
	Spouse	Halbert, Dorothy Louise

	Marriage	1952-07-12	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia USA
4M	Casey, Charles Patrick		
	Birth	1929-02-10	Marmet, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	2014-02-25	Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, West Virginia, USA
	Spouse	Shamblin, Bobbie Lee	
	Marriage	1951-05-29	Baptist Temple, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA

Thomas Casey (abt. 1851-1926) Balroe

Husband: Casey, Thomas		
Birth	estimated about 1851	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
Death	1926-06-26	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
Father	Casey, Peter	
Mother	Kenny, Catherine *	

Marriage:		
Marriage	1879-02-11	Walshtown, Mullingar, County Westmeath, Ireland

Wife: Hanley, Margaret		
Birth	estimated about 1860	
Death	3Q1925	
Father	Hanley, John	
Mother		

Children			
1M	Casey, Peter		
	Birth	1880-11-25	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
2F	Casey, Catherine		
	Birth	1882-03-03	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
3M	Casey, John		
	Birth	1885-10-00	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
4M	Casey, Thomas		
	Birth	1888	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
5F	Casey, Margaret		
	Birth	1888	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
6F	Casey, Agnes		
	Birth	1889-10-02	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		

7M	Casey, Nicholas		
	Birth	1891-02-13	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
8M	Casey, Patrick		
	Birth	1895	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
9F	Casey, Anne		
	Birth	1898	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		
10F	Casey, Georgina		
	Birth	1901	Balroe, Kilbixy, County Westmeath, Ireland
	Death		

* No documents were found to definitively prove that Catherine Kenny was the mother of Thomas Casey.

Anne Eliza McGrath (1843-1881)

Husband: Barden, William		
Birth	estimated about 1841	Ireland
Death		
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	1865-06-08	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Wife: McGrath, Anne Eliza		
Birth	1843-03-25	Ireland
Death	1881-06-21	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	McGrath, James	
Mother	Casey, Esther	
Children		
1F	Barden, Ann Elizabeth	
	Birth	estimated 1869 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1913-10-28 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Beattie, Thomas
	Marriage	1899-04-12 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
2M	Barden, William Jr.	
	Birth	estimated 1874 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1915-11-19 Queens County, New York, USA
3M	Barden, James	
	Birth	estimated 1877 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1929-04-07 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
4F	Barden, Mary Esther	
	Birth	1880-03-00 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1881-10-04 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

Nicholas McGrath (1844-1882)

Husband: McGrath, Nicholas		
Birth	estimated 1844-02-00	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
Death	1882-12-07	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	McGrath, James	
Mother	Casey, Esther	

Marriage:

Marriage	estimated about 1868	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
----------	----------------------	---------------------------------------

Wife: Meade, Margaret

Birth	estimated about 1845-01-00	Ireland
Death	1912-07-01	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	Meade, John	
Mother	Unknown, Margaret	

Children

1M	McGrath, James	
	Birth	about 1869 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1904-12-13 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
2M	McGrath, John Henry	
	Birth	1871-02-13 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1948-05-22 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Morant, Annis Marie
3F	McGrath, Esther	
	Birth	1873-12-00 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	
	Spouse	Williams, John
4M	McGrath, Nicholas	
	Birth	about 1875 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1906-01-26 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
5M	McGrath, William	
	Birth	about 1877
	Death	1917-04-18 New York, Queens County, New York, USA
6F	McGrath, Annie	

	Birth	1880	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death		
	Spouse	Sloan, William	
	Marriage	1909-04-11	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	McGrath, Margaret		
7F	Birth	1881	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1921-06-11	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Hothersall, John J.	
	Marriage	1919-09-03	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

John McGrath (1843-before 1900)

Husband: McGrath, John		
Birth	estimated 1843-01-00	Ardagh-Moydow Parish, County Longford, Ireland
Death	calculated between 1880 and 1900	
Father	McGrath, Nicholas	
Mother	Casey, Margaret	

Marriage:		
Marriage	calculated before 1865-06-14	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA

Wife: Mulrooney, Margaret		
Birth	estimated about 1843	Ireland
Death	1911-10-26	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father		
Mother		

Children			
1M	McGrath, Michael J		
	Birth	1868-10-00	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1933-05-07	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Doyle, Mary	
2F	McGrath, Margaret		
	Birth	1873-10-24	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	1899-07-27	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Spouse	Meyer, Peter J	
3U	McGrath, Unknown1 (did not survive)		
	Birth		
	Death		
4U	McGrath, Unknown2 (did not survive)		
	Birth		
	Death		

Margaret McGrath (1873-1899)

Husband: Meyer, Peter J		
Birth	about 1871-01-00	
Death		
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	estimated about 1891	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Wife: McGrath, Margaret		
Birth	1873-10-24	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Death	1899-07-27	Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
Father	McGrath, John	
Mother	Mulrooney, Margaret	
Children		
1M	Meyer, Hugh P.	
	Birth	1892-03-00 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	
2M	Meyer, John C.	
	Birth	estimated 1893-11-00 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	
3M	Meyer, Peter Joseph	
	Birth	1895-12-08 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
	Death	

John McCarty and Susannah Graley

Husband: McCarty, John		
Birth	estimated about 1831	County Clare, Ireland
Death	1885	Boone County, West Virginia, USA
Father		
Mother		
Marriage:		
Marriage	1855-04-01	Kanawha County, Virginia, USA
Wife: Graley, Susannah		
Birth	estimated about 1836	Franklin County, Virginia, USA
Death	1924-03-28	Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, USA
Father	Graley, Thomas	
Mother	Unknown, Ruth A.	
Children		
1F	McCarty, Ellen	
	Birth	calculated about 1856 Kanawha County, Virginia, USA
	Death	
2F	McCarty, Sarah Ann	
	Birth	calculated about 1858 Kanawha County, Virginia, USA
	Death	
3M	McCarty, James	
	Birth	calculated about 1862
	Death	
4F	McCarty, Margaret	
	Birth	estimated about 1865 Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	
	Spouse	Saxton, Bert
	Marriage	1892-05-18 Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, West Virginia, USA
5M	McCarty, John	
	Birth	1866-06-05
	Death	1883-09-26
6F	McCarty, Catherine	

	Birth	1868-11-29	Drawdy Creek, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1916-09-09	Osceola Mills, Pennsylvania, USA
	Spouse	Roach, Jeremiah Ambrose	
	Marriage	1893-10-25	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, West Virginia, USA
7M	McCarty, Patrick Joseph		
	Birth	estimated about 1871	
	Death	1941-01-24	Birchton, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
8M	McCarty, Michael		
	Birth	1874-02-28	Lick Creek, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
	Death	1942-03-10	
9M	McCarty, Thomas		
	Birth	1875-04-06	
	Death		

Katie McCarty

Husband: Roach, Jeremiah Ambrose		
Birth	1867-12-23	Pennsylvania, USA
Death	1942-01-01	Frankstown, Blair County, Pennsylvania, USA
Father	Roach, James	
Mother	Doyle, Joanna	
Marriage:		
Marriage	1893-10-25	Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, West Virginia, USA
Wife: McCarty, Catherine		
Birth	1868-11-29	Drawdy Creek, Boone County, West Virginia, USA
Death	1916-09-09	Osceola Mills, Pennsylvania, USA
Father	McCarty, John	
Mother	Graley, Susannah	
Children		
1M	Roach, James Francis	
	Birth	estimated about 1895
	Death	
	Spouse	McFadden, Irene
2M	Roach, John E.	
	Birth	estimated about 1898
	Death	1963 Holidaysburg, Pennsylvania, USA
	Spouse	Unknown, Rachel
3M	Roach, Gerald	
	Birth	estimated about 1903
	Death	
4M	Roach, Paul Bernard	
	Birth	1905-06-10
	Death	1981-07-00 Erie, Erie County, Pennsylvania, USA
	Spouse	Horn, Jennie
	Marriage	1925-02-23 Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, USA

Appendix 11. A Few Documents

Date of Marriage: 20-Aug-1840			
Parish / District: BALLINACARGY		County: Co. Westmeath	
Husband		Wife	
Name:	James McGrath	Hester	Casy
Address:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	
Denomination:	Roman Catholic	Roman Catholic	
Occupation:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	
Age:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	
Status:	Bachelor (Previously unmarried)	Spinster (Previously unmarried)	
Husband's Father		Wife's Father	
Name:	Not Recorded McGrath	Not Recorded	Casy
Address:			
Denomination:			
Occupation:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	
Husband's Mother		Wife's Mother	
Name:	Not Recorded Not Recorded	Not Recorded	Not Recorded
Address:			
Denomination:			
Occupation:			
Witness 1		Witness 2	
Name:	John Bannon	Alice	Gillan

Transcript of the marriage record of Esther Casey and James McGrath in Ballinacargy. 1840.

Date of Marriage: 29-Jan-1841

Parish / District: BALLINACARGY County: Co. Westmeath

	Husband	Wife
Name:	Nicholas McGrath	Margaret Casey
Address:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded
Denomination:	Roman Catholic	Roman Catholic
Occupation:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded
Age:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded
Status:	Bachelor (Previously unmarried)	Spinster (Previously unmarried)

	Husband's Father	Wife's Father
Name:	Not Recorded McGrath	Not Recorded Casey
Address:		
Denomination:		
Occupation:	Not Recorded	Not Recorded

	Husband's Mother	Wife's Mother
Name:	Not Recorded Not Recorded	Not Recorded Not Recorded
Address:		
Denomination:		
Occupation:		

	Witness 1	Witness 2
Name:	Michael Bartle	Margaret Casey

Transcript of the marriage record of Margaret Casey and Nicholas McGrath in Ballinacargy. 1841.

Notice, Brooklyn Daily Eagle, August 25, 1849. Cholera Deaths.

OFFICE OF BOARD OF HEALTH. }
 Brooklyn, Saturday, Aug. 25. }

Present the Sanitary Committee.

During the last 24 hours there have been reported to this office 8 deaths from Epidemic cholera viz:

Nicholas McGroth, Blake's buildings; Ann McGuire, Warren st.; Nancy Lake, Franklin av.; Michael Conlin, Squires' buildings; ——— Lacosta, East Brooklyn; Ann E. Squires, Myrtle av.; Peter Manny, Adams st.

CHARLES S. J. GOODRICH,
 Physician of the Board.

Date of Marriage: 08-Feb-1843

Parish / District: MILLTOWN

County: Co. Westmeath

Husband

Wife

Name: Peter Casey

Catherine Kenny

Address: Not Recorded

Not Recorded

Denomination: Roman Catholic

Roman Catholic

Occupation: Not Recorded

Not Recorded

Age: Not Recorded

Not Recorded

Status: Bachelor (Previously unmarried)

Spinster (Previously unmarried)

Husband's Father

Wife's Father

Name: Not Recorded Casey

Not Recorded Kenny

Address:

Denomination:

Occupation: Not Recorded

Not Recorded

Husband's Mother

Wife's Mother

Name: Not Recorded Not Recorded

Not Recorded Not Recorded

Address:

Denomination:

Occupation:

Witness 1

Witness 2

Name: Patrick Ledwith

Mary Wilson

Address:

Peter Casey and Catherine Kenny marriage transcript. 1843.

Name:	Nicholas Casey	Date of Birth:	
		Date of Baptism:	10-Feb-1847
Address:	Not Recorded	Parish/District:	BALLINACARGY
Gender:	Male	County	Co. Westmeath
		Denomination:	Roman Catholic
Father:	Peter Casey	Mother:	Catherine Kenny
Occupation:	Not Recorded		
Sponsor 1 / Informant 1:	Michael Casey	Sponsor 2 / Informant 2:	Mary Wilson

Transcript of the baptismal certificate of Nicholas Casey, the son of Peter Casey and Catherine Kenny, February 10, 1847. Nicholas may be the nephew of John Patrick Casey, Sr.

1872. Marriage solemnized at the Roman Catholic Chapel of Miltown in the Registrar's District of Dallnacargy in the Union of Mullingar in the County of Westmeath

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
41	Eleventh June 1872.	Nicholas Casey	24	Bachelor	Farmer	Balroe	Peter Casey	Farmer
		Catherine McManus	25	Spinster	Daughter of a Farmer	Kilpatrick	Andrew McManus	Farmer

Married in the Roman Catholic Chapel of Miltown according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church, by me, Patrik D. Sullivan P.M.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Nicholas Casey } in the Presence of us, { James Tuohy }
 { Catherine McManus } { Mary Anne Byrne }

Illustration 81: Marriage record of Catherine McManus, 25, and Nicholas Casey, 24, of Balroe, son of Peter Casey. June 11, 1872.

1879. Marriage solemnized at the Roman Catholic Chapel of Walshestown in the Registrar's District of Mullingar in the Union of Mullingar in the County of Westmeath

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
58	Twenty fourth February 1879	Thomas Casey	27	Bachelor	Farmer	Balroe	Peter Casey	Farmer
		Margaret Hanley	17	Spinster	id	Walshestown	John Hanley	Farmer

Married in the Roman Catholic Chapel of Walshestown according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church by me, P. Dwyer C.C.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Thomas Casey } in the Presence of us, { James Casey }
 { Margaret Hanley } { Margaret Connolly }

Illustration 82: Marriage record of Margaret Hanley, 17, and Thomas Casey, 27, of Balroe, son of Peter Casey. February 24, 1879, Walshestown.

Áis Taighde - Clár na mBásanna
Research Facility – Death Record

1882 DEATHS Registered in the District of <u>Ballynacargy</u> in the Union of <u>Mullingar</u> in the County of <u>Westmeath</u>										
No. (1.)	Date and Place of Death. (2.)	Name and Surname. (3.)	Sex. (4.)	Condition. (5.)	Age and Birth day (6.)	Rank, Profession, or Occupation. (7.)	Certified Cause of Death, and Duration of Illness. (8.)	Signature, Qualification, and Residence of Informant. (9.)	When Registered. (10.)	Signature of Registrar (11.)
326	1882 June Balroe	Peter Casey	M	Widower	86 Years	Farmer	Sudden Heart Failure Diagnosed by Physician	Margaret Casey Daughter-in-Law Present at death Balroe	Twenty Sixth July 1882	James Frey Registrar

Illustration 83: Death record of Peter Casey, 86, of Balroe. June 30, 1882.

The informant for Peter Casey's death record was Margaret (Hanley) Casey of Balroe, Peter's daughter-in-law and Thomas Casey's wife.

Clárúimhir Registration Number } 2015409						Bás a Chláraithe i gCeantar Death Registered in the district of } Ballynacargy				
Iirimistear an Phríomh-Chláraitheora in the Superintendent Registrar's District of } Mullingar						i gContae in the County of } Co. Westmeath				
Uimh. No.	Dáta agus Ionad Báis Date and Place Of Death	Ainm agus Sloinne Name and Surname	Gnéas Sex	Stáid Condition	Aois Age	Céim, Gairm nó Sli Bheatha Rank, Profession or Occupation	Cúis Dheimhnithe an Bháis agus Fad Tinnis Certified Cause of Death and Duration of Illness	Sinú, Cálaíocht agus Ionad Cónaíthe as Fháisnéora Signature, Qualification and Residence of Informant	An Dáta a Chláru When Registered	Sinú an Chláraitheora Signature of Registrar
396	1926 June Balroe	Thomas Casey	Male	Widower	73	Farmer	Probably Heart Failure No Medical attendant	Nicholas Casey son present at the death Balroe	second July 1926	James Frey Registrar

Illustration 84: Death record of Thomas Casey of Balroe, Peter Casey's son. June 26, 1926.

Diocese of <i>Meath</i>		Parish of <i>Kilbixy</i>		County of <i>Westmeath</i>								
		TITHEABLE.		UNTITHEABLE.								
TOWNSLAND.	NAMES OF OCCUPIERS.	Quantities in Detail.	Quality.	Total Quantity in Holding.	Total Quantity in Townland.	Rents paid.	Real Arable Value.	Quantity in Holding.	Quality.	Amount of Cms. payable for the year ending 1861.	Amount of Cms. payable for the year ending 1862.	OBSERVATIONS.
1 <i>Ballinacorney</i>	<i>William Evers</i>	70.	<i>Arable</i>	112 2 8			110.	1 32	<i>Reeds</i>	3 14 1		<i>Freehold</i>
2 <i>Ballinacorney</i>	<i>do</i>	42 2 8	<i>Reeds</i>				17 6					
3 <i>do</i>	<i>Brian Brady</i>	6.	<i>Arable</i>	12 3 18		20 9.	110.	1 10	<i>Reeds</i>	8 3		260
4 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	6 3 18	<i>do</i>				1.					115
5 <i>do</i>	<i>Thos. Murphy</i>	60.	<i>Arable</i>				1 8 4					22
6 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	44 13 1	<i>Reeds</i>	104 1 31		116 3 9	17 6	2 11	<i>Reeds</i>	3 4 6 1/2		37 3
1 <i>Ballroo</i>	<i>High Hill Co.</i>	17.	<i>Brass Peas</i>	23 3 17			6 8	1 13			7 6 10 1/2	
2 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	8.	<i>Brass Peas</i>	25.			3 4					<i>Freehold</i>
3 <i>do</i>	<i>Thomas Evers</i>	15 3.	<i>Arable</i>			29 10 9	1 6 8	1.	<i>Reeds</i>	10 11 1/2		
4 <i>do</i>	<i>Larkin Haughton</i>	7 3 15	<i>Arable</i>			20.	1 3 4	25	<i>do</i>	6 9 1/2		
5 <i>do</i>	<i>Matthew Casey</i>	16.	<i>Arable</i>			45.	1 2 6	23	<i>do</i>	19 6 1/2		
6 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	13 2 12	<i>Moors</i>	29 3 12			16 8	1 30	<i>do</i>	10 7 1/2		
7 <i>do</i>	<i>John Casey</i>	9.	<i>Arable</i>	15 2 10		24.	1 2 6					
8 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	6 2 10	<i>Moors</i>				17 6					
9 <i>do</i>	<i>Nicholas Casey</i>	11.	<i>Arable</i>			28.	1 2 6	25	<i>do</i>	12 7 1/2		
10 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	9 2 6	<i>Moors</i>	20 2 6			3 4					
11 <i>do</i>	<i>Larkin Casey</i>	11.	<i>Arable</i>			28.	1 2 6					
12 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	9 2 6	<i>Moors</i>	20 2 6			13 4	35	<i>do</i>	12 7 1/2		
13 <i>do</i>	<i>Larkin Loeve</i>	3.	<i>Arable</i>	3. 10			1 2 6	7	<i>do</i>	2 7 1/2		
14 <i>do</i>	<i>Richard Casey</i>	2 2 27	<i>do</i>				1 2 6	13	<i>do</i>	2 3		
15 <i>do</i>	<i>Liquid Henry</i>	22.	<i>do</i>				1 2 6	1 23	<i>do</i>	2 1 1/2		
16 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	5 3 32	<i>Moors</i>	30 3 32		52 1 2	15.					
17 <i>do</i>	<i>John Casey</i>	22.	<i>Arable</i>				1 2 6	1 15	<i>do</i>	1 2 1 1/2		
18 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	9.	<i>Moors</i>	31.		52 1 2	15.					
19 <i>do</i>	<i>Larkin Ward</i>	1.	<i>Arable</i>	1 2.		2 10.	1 10.	12	<i>do</i>	1 2		
20 <i>do</i>	<i>Mary's Hermit</i>	72 2.	<i>Arable</i>				1 8 4					
21 <i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	29 2 36	<i>Moors</i>	102. 36		189 4 7	17 6	1 4	<i>do</i>	3 7 1/2		
22 <i>do</i>	<i>James Lacey</i>	1.	<i>Arable</i>			3 3.	1 8 4	6	<i>do</i>	8 9 1/2		
23 <i>do</i>	<i>Michael Lacey</i>	1.	<i>Brass Peas</i>			3 3.	1 8 4	20	<i>do</i>	8 3 1/2		
				308 1 34				2 2 33			9 13 1/2	

Illustration 85: Tithe Applotment Book, Balroe townland, Kilbixy civil parish, County Westmeath.

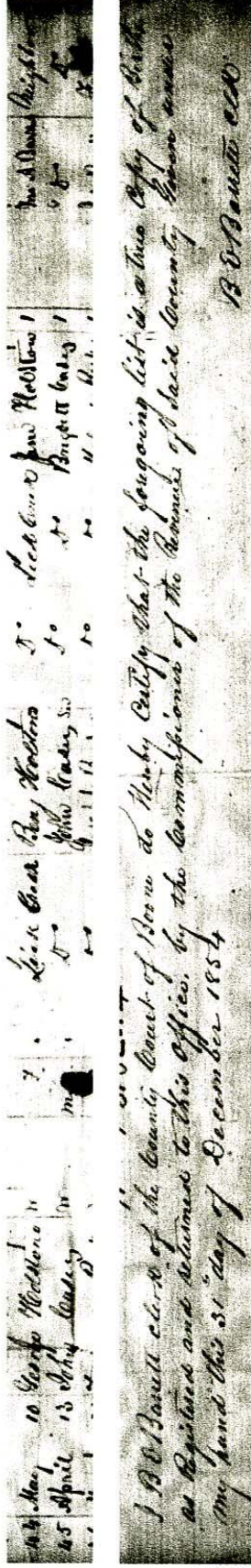


Illustration 86: John P. Casey, Jr. birth record, April 13, 1854.

John Casey, Jr.'s birth record was reported to the county by John Anthony Barker, a neighbor of John P. Casey, Sr. and the great-grandfather of Bobbie Lee Shamblyn Casey.



Illustration 87: Marriage Record of Sarah Ann Casey (1847–1898) and Patrick Mannix (1836–1911).

The Casey/Mannix marriage record, number 87, shows from left to right, the date of the issuance of the license, the name of the groom, his age, the name of the bride, her age, the date of the marriage, the date of the license return, and the name of the officiant.

State of West Virginia
County of Kanawha

Patrick Mannix being duly sworn says that he enlisted and was discharged under the name of Patrick Mannix, as shown by his discharge herewith sent, that he enlisted June 13/61, and was discharged July 6/64, and has not been in the military or naval service of the United States since July 6/64, and was in no other service. That one of his worst disabilities disease or catarrh of head affecting hearing & sight, throat breast & limbs, first appeared in bad form soon after the close of the war, but his head and eyes were first affected at Vicksburg in 1863. Says he was never known by or assumed any other name except Patrick Mannix, and asks that his claim which has been so long pending be acted upon.

Patrick Mannix

Illustration 88: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) pension statement referencing his service at Vicksburg.

First. Are you married? If so, please state your wife's full name and her maiden name.
 Answer. Yes. On 1866 Ann Mannix Ann Carey

Second. When, where, and by whom were you married?
 Answer. 1865 Father Home

Third. What record of marriage exists?
 Answer. The children have it

Fourth. Were you previously married? If so, please state the name of your former wife and the date and place of her death or divorce.
 Answer. once.

Fifth. Have you any children living? If so, please state their names and the dates of their birth.
 Answer. 11. for living. Patrick Mannix, Mary Ann, Margaret Ellen, Nicholas Mannix. 23.

Date of reply, 31. May, 1898 Patrick Mannix
 (Signature.)

Illustration 89: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) pension declaration referencing his marriage.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION.

THE PENSION CERTIFICATE SHOULD NOT BE FORWARDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

State of Ohio }
County of Montgomery } ss.

On this 14 day of July, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and eleven
personally appeared before me, a Notary Public within and for the county
and State aforesaid, Patrick Mannix, who, being duly sworn according to law,
Dayton declares that he is _____ years of age, and a resident of St. Elizabeth Hospital
county of Montgomery, State of Ohio; and that he is the
identical person who was ENROLLED at Mason City, W. Va. under the name of
Patrick Mannix on the 12 day of June, 1861,
as a Private, in Co. 6, 4 Va. Inf. Regt.
(Here state rank, and company and regiment, or battery, or vessel if in the Navy.)

in the service of the United States, in the Civil war, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED
at Wheeling, W. Va., on the 6 day of July, 1864.
That he also served _____
(Here give a complete statement of all other services, if any.)

That he was not employed in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated
above. That his personal description at enlistment was as follows: Height, 5 feet 8 inches;
complexion, Fair; color of eyes, Blue; color of hair, Light; that his occu-
pation was Miner; that he was born in Blanka, Ireland, 1836
at _____

That his several places of residence since leaving the service have been as follows: Dayton, W. Va.,
Charleston, W. Va., and Dayton, O.
(State date of each change, so nearly as possible.)

That he is _____ a pensioner. That he has _____ heretofore applied for pension cf No 905021

(If a pensioner, the certificate number only need be given. If not, give the number of the former application, if one was made.)
That he makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United
States under the provisions of the act of February 6, 1907.

That his post-office address is St. Elizabeth Hosp Dayton, county of Montgomery,
State of Ohio.

Attest: (1) Thomas Dwyer (Claimant's signature is full.)
(2) John Redmond

Also personally appeared Thomas Dwyer residing in Dayton, O.
and John Redmond, residing in Dayton, O. persons whom I
certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were
present and saw Patrick Mannix, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark)
to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of the claimant
and their acquaintance with him of one years and one years, respectively, that he is the identical
person he represents himself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Thomas Dwyer
John Redmond
(Signatures of witnesses.)

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 14 day of July, A. D. 1911,
and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully
made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing,
including the words _____, erased,
[L. S.] and the words _____, added;
and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

Henry A. Hunter
(Signature.)
(Official character.)

Illustration 90: Patrick Mannix (1836-1911) pension application
declaration showing birthplace and birth date.



It is hereby certified That in conformity with the laws of the United States, *Patrick Mannix* who was a *Private, Co. 4, Regiment West Virginia Volunteer Infantry* is entitled to a pension under the provisions of the *Act of June 27, 1890.* at the rate of *Six* dollars per month to commence on the *twenty seventh* day of *March* one thousand eight hundred and ninety *five*. This pension being for: *Partial inability to earn a support by manual labor.*

Given at the Department of the Interior this *twenty third* day of *March* one thousand eight hundred and ninety *six* and of the Independence of the United States of America the *one hundred and twentieth*.

Horace Smith
Secretary of the Interior.

Countersigned:

Charles Commissioner of Pensions.

Illustration 91: Patrick Mannix (1836–1911) Civil War pension certificate.

Hotel Clerk Becomes Insane

Charleston, W. Va., July 8.—James Mannix, for nearly a year night clerk at the Hotel Jackson on Virginia street, went stark, raving crazy early this morning, and threatened to kill the owner of the hostelry and was confined in the city jail where he alternated between fits of violence and babbling over religious subjects. The first intimation that the man's mind had gone came about 5 o'clock this morning when Mr. Jackson owner of the hotel, heard someone battering down the door to his room. Hastily dressing Jackson rushed out and found Mannix shouting unintelligibly. Believing that the clerk had been robbed or assaulted, Jackson hurried down to the office but found everything there in perfect order.

Mannix left the hotel, returning in a few hours but in the same state of mind. Upon seeing his employer he asked what he was doing there, and then reaching around to his hip pocket, declared that he would kill Jackson. Officer Amos happened to be passing in front of the hotel at this moment and rushed in upon Jackson's call for assistance. Mannix was overpowered and taken down to the city cages where he was locked up while information of his detention was sent to County Clerk L. C. Massey, head of the Kanawha county lunacy commission.

Illustration 92: Beckley Messenger. July 13, 1915.

MISS FITZPATRICK WEDS WELL KNOWN HINTON MAN

Popular Beckley Girl Married Last Week and Will Make Her Home in Hinton.

The marriage of Mr. J. M. Mannix and Miss Margaret Fitzpatrick, two of Hinton's most popular young people, took place Tuesday morning at an early hour at St. Patrick's church, Hinton, W. Va., Rev. Father E. F. Jenkins officiating. The attendants were Mrs. Ethel Owens, of Parkersburg, W. Va., cousin of the bride, and Mr. William Kirby of Hinton.

Mr. and Mrs. Mannix left on No. 4 for an extended bridal tour to the Eastern cities including Washington and New York.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Fitzpatrick, of Hinton and is a very popular young woman. Miss Fitzpatrick resided in Beckley for the last few years where by her winning disposition and congenial manner she won many friends.

Mr. Mannix is to be congratulated on winning so charming a bride.

He is a skilled mechanic at the Hinton C. & O. shops and is popular among a wide circle of friends in this city as well as in Hinton, where the couple will make their home.

Illustration 93: Beckley Register. December 3, 1914.

N. C. Manix, a Chesapeake & Ohio brakeman, was fatally injured at Quinnimont, while coupling cars, and died Tuesday morning.

Illustration 94: Bluefield Daily Telegraph. February 15, 1900, page 7.

A. G. Higginbotham Company

General Contractor & Builder

702 Charleston National Bank Bldg.

Office Phone Dial 23-821

Charleston, W. Va.

January 11, 1939.

The Kanawha County Board of Education,
Quarrier & Morris Streets,
Charleston, W. Va.

Gentlemen;

This is to inform you that Mr. J. E. Casey has been employed by us a total of approximately four years during the past ten years.

We found Mr. Casey to be honest and industrious and capable of handling any assignments which we gave him.

A.G.Higginbotham Company

J.D.H./rbg

BY J.D.Higginbotham

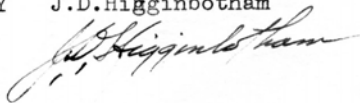


Illustration 95: 1939 Letter of Recommendation for John Edward Casey.



Illustration 96: Rose Lamb Casey (1867–1953) with her son Peter Joseph Casey (1899–1985). Photographed July 12, 1952.



Illustration 97: Rose Lamb Casey (1867–1953), Marie Casey (1902–1996), Louis Casey (1894–1970) on a trip west in 1939.



Illustration 98: Marie Casey (1902–1996) with her father John P. Casey, Jr. (1854–1937)



Illustration 99: Fr. George H. Toner, first pastor at Immaculate Conception Church, Montgomery.



Illustration 101: John Edward Casey (1892–1974). Tintype



Illustration 100: Louis Sheridan Casey (1894–1970). Tintype



Illustration 102: Construction crew, Libby-Owens plant, Charleston, WV.



Illustration 103: James Philip Casey (1897–1976) on the construction crew at the Libby-Owens plant.



*Illustration 104: Hernshaw School about 1910. Back row, left to right: Attie Spencer, Noah Hodge, Stella Toney, Roma Hodge or Sawyer Nelson, Earl Jordan, **Phil Casey**, **Joe Casey**, Herbert Garred, Charlie Hawks, Mary Hawks, Mattie Price. Second row, left to right: Myrtle Hughey, Mayme Spurlock, Eunice Griffith, Grace Hawks, Freida Peal, Ona McCallister, Joe Stone, Ray Holstein, Ernest Jordan, Ernest Goddard, Sam Clendenin, Richard Hawks, Harry Weise, Seibert Toney. Front row, left to right: Georgia Griffith, Ethel Spurlock, Frankie Walker, Roley Jordan, Gusta Meadows, Marie Casey, Fanny Mooney, Effie Jordan, Leonard Nelson, David Griffith, Felix Garred or ? Goddard, Lloyd Goddard, Charles Weise, Bob Garred, Ed Bowen.*

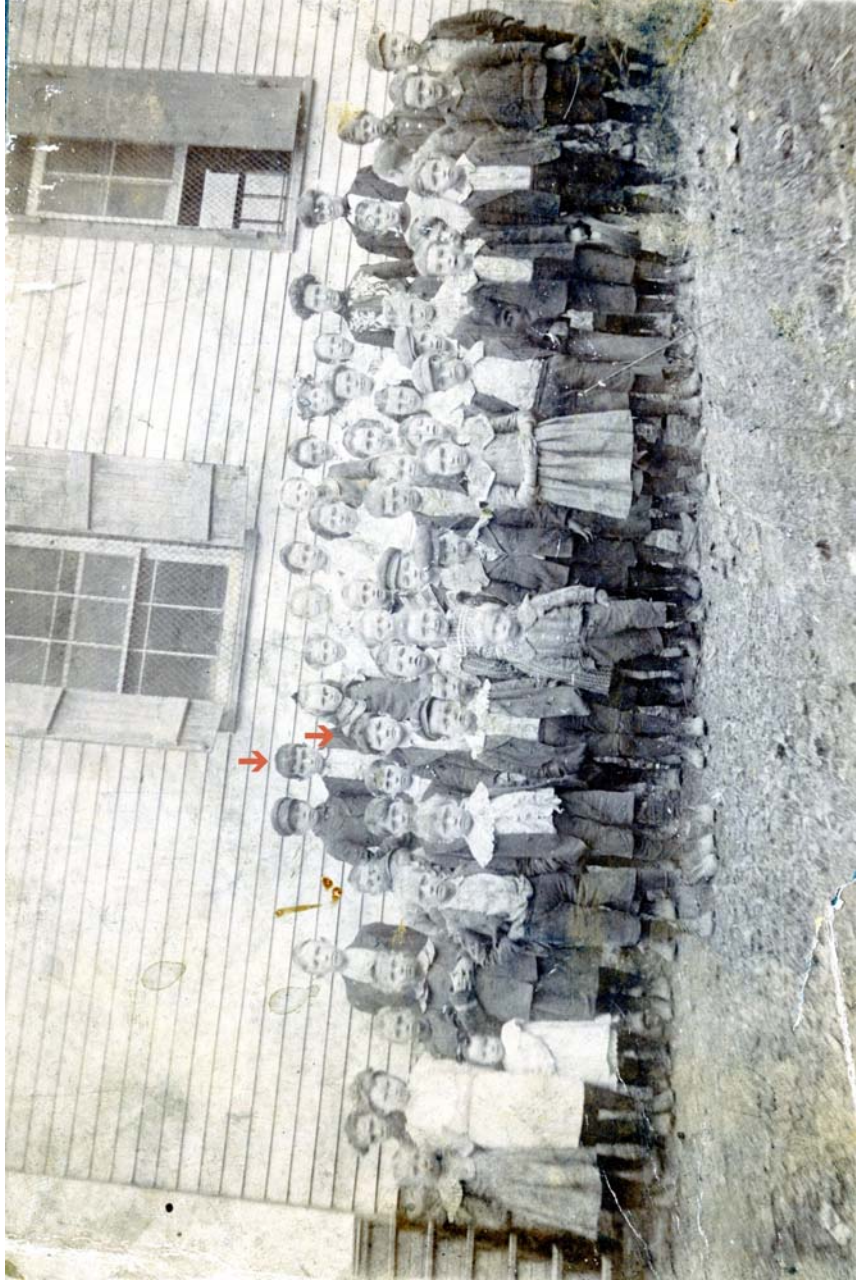


Illustration 105: Hernshaw School Group about 1900. John Casey and Louis Casey are indicated by red arrows. Others are unidentified.

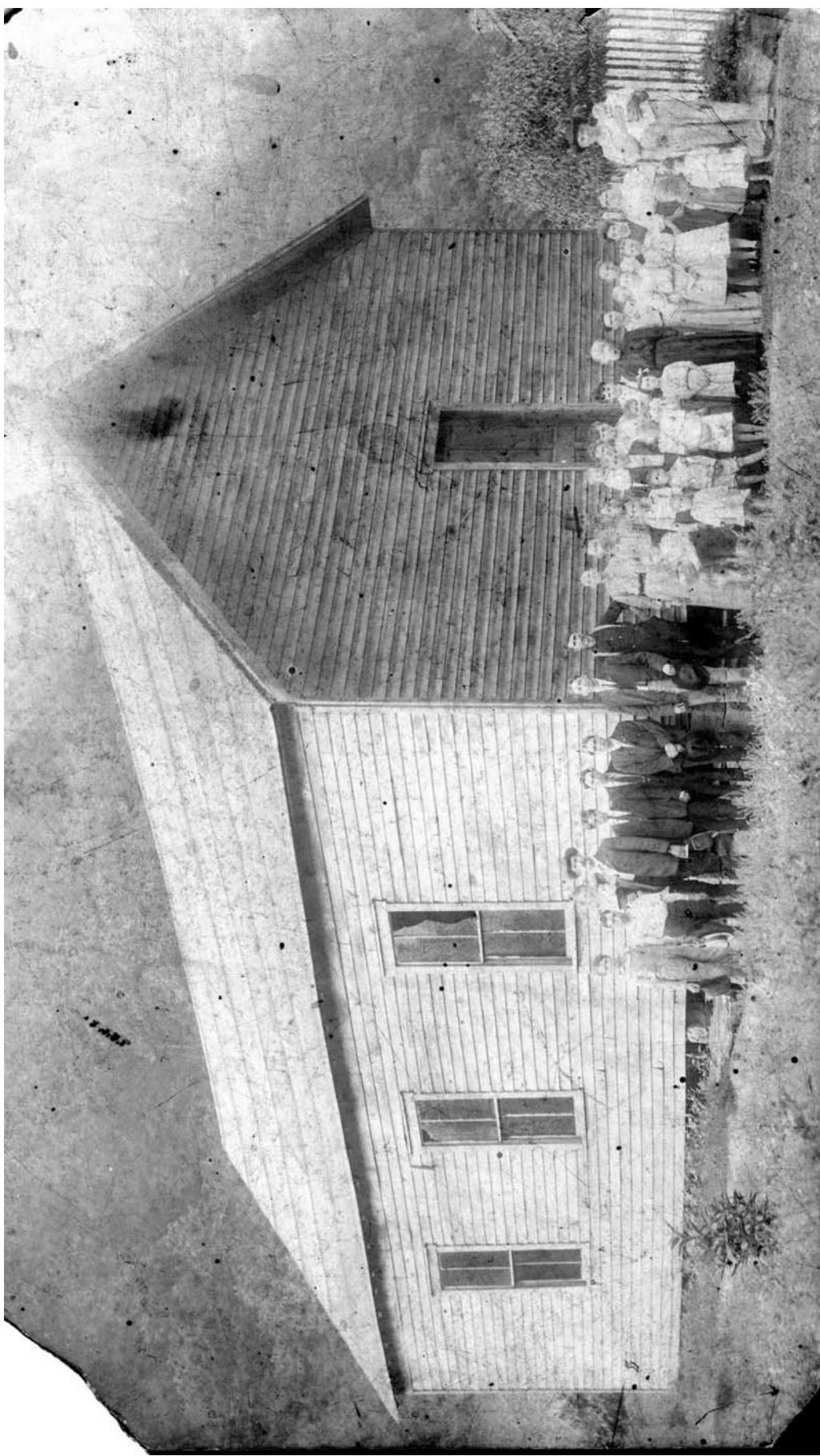


Illustration 106: Hernshaw Methodist Church Group about 1907. John P. Casey, Jr. is on the far right holding his son, George Nicholas Casey. Marie Casey is in the white dress to his right.

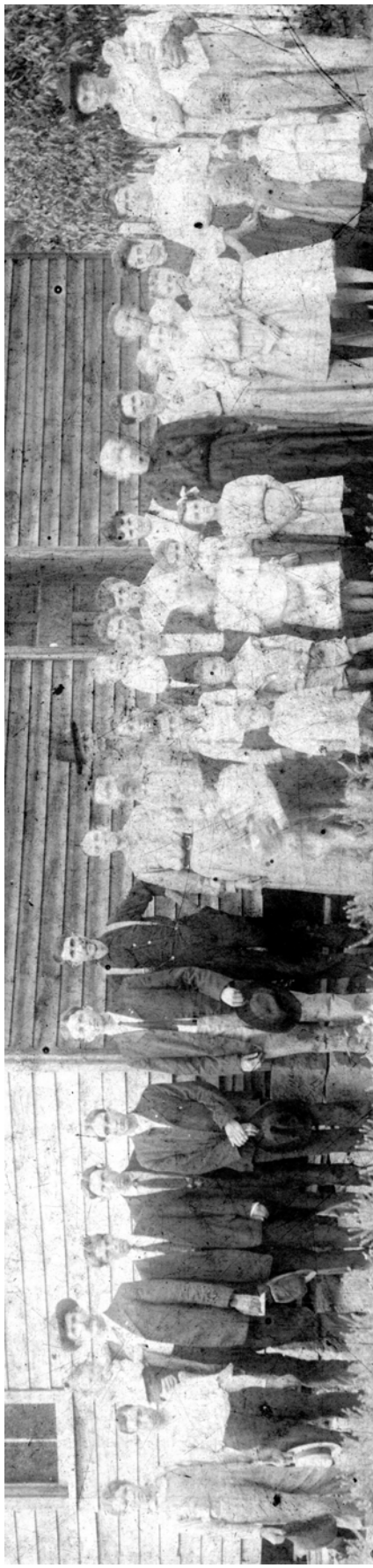


Illustration 107: Hernshaw Church Group Close-Up.

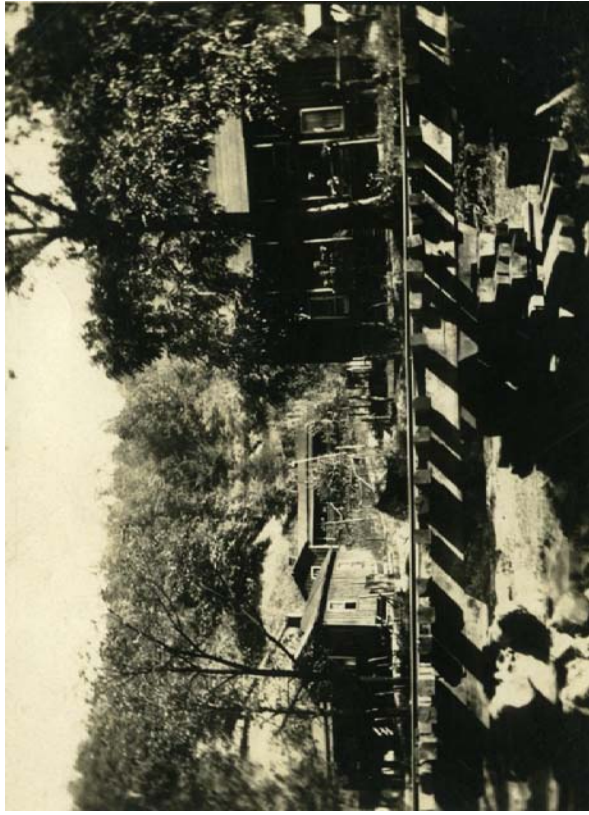


Illustration 108: Site of Casey home in Hernshaw.

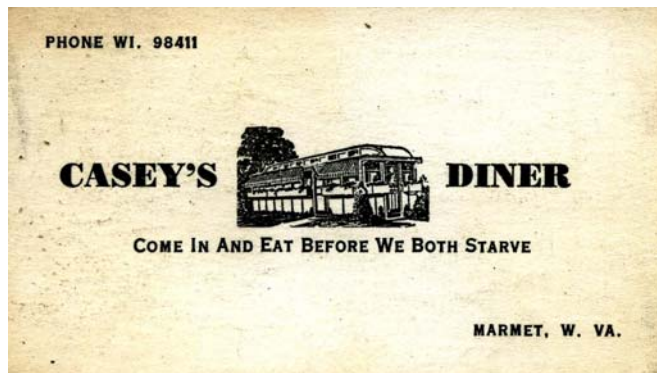
Two of the houses in the picture to the left are believed to be the Casey and Lamb homes in Hernshaw.



Illustration 110: Faye Selbe Casey (1898–1981) holding her daughter Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014) in 1921.



Illustration 109: Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014). Graduation from St. Agnes School. 1935.





*Illustration 111: Marie Elizabeth Casey (1921–2014).
First Communion picture. 1928.*

Marie Casey (1902–1996) made the dress that her niece wore for her First Communion ceremony in 1928.



Illustration 113: George (1925–2001) and Marie Elizabeth (1921–2014) Casey.



Illustration 112: Marie Casey (1902–1996).



Illustration 115: Pat Casey (1929–2014).



Illustration 114: Joe Casey (1899–1985)



Illustration 116: John E. Casey (1892–1974) and his son George (1925–2001).



Illustration 118: Faye Casey (1898–1981) and her son George (1925–2001) dressed for Charleston shopping. 1938.



Illustration 119: Pat Casey (1929–2014) holding his dog, Tawny, with his friend Hookie Johnson. George Casey (1925–2001) can be seen in the background.



Illustration 117: Pat Casey (1929–2014) with his sister Marie Elizabeth (1921–2014), ready for work at Casey's Diner.



Illustration 120: Faye Casey (1898–1981) standing in her yard.



Illustration 122: Faye and John Edward Casey with their chickens.



Illustration 121: The sons of Patrick and Agnes Mannix: Enlow, Raymond, Jack, Kenneth, and Adrian.



Illustration 123: John Edward Casey (1892–1974) hoeing corn.



Illustration 124: Marie Elizabeth Casey Hudnall (1921–2014) and A. James Manchin, WV Secretary of State.



Illustration 126: George Nicholas Casey (1907–1991).

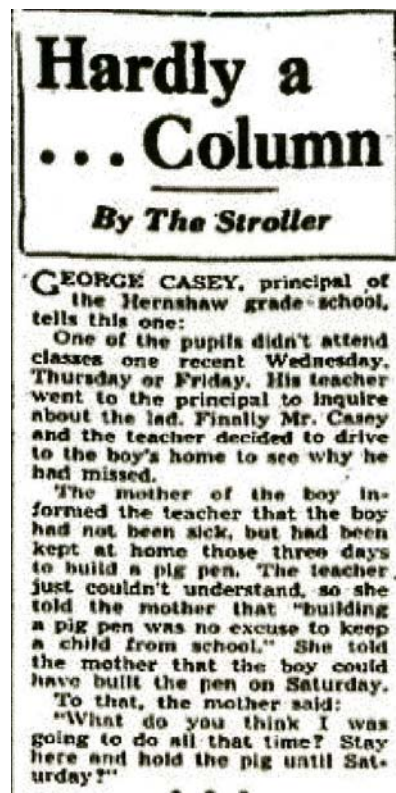


Illustration 125: Charleston Daily Mail, October 5, 1938, page 9.



Illustration 127: George Nicholas Casey (1907–1991), in 1940.

Auto Wrecks Fruit Store

Four Escape Serious In- jury in Three Cor- nered Crash

The Louis Simon confectionary store located at Russell street and Central avenue was demolished last night about ten o'clock when an automobile driven by Leon Harrison of South Charleston hit another car, crashed headon into a side of the building, injuring Mrs. Rose Casey of Pius Dewey and Leon Harrison.

Mrs. Casey was taken to the St. Francis hospital after the car in which she was riding was struck by the Harrison car which zig-zagged before it smashed in the wood wall of the Simon store, eye witnesses told police. The Harrisons were taken to Staats hospital and it was reported there that they had escaped serious injuries.

Woman Hurt

At the St. Francis attendants said that Mrs. Casey was suffering from shock and several injuries which were not serious. Dewey Harrison received a bruise on the forearm, cuts on the hands and face. Leon Harrison suffered a few cuts about the face and neck from the flying glass of the windshield.

The first news of the accident brought several ambulances to the vicinity, the fire department and police squad cars. A hasty survey of the wreckage disclosed that the entire Simon store was demolished. The soda fountain was wrecked, groceries and fruit were strewn in every direction, glass cases were broken and practically every piece of store fixture destroyed after the Harrison car crashed through the plate glass window to halt on the far side of the store.

Police Give Cause

A reconstruction of events gave the police a fairly clear idea of the cause of the accident. According to many statements of witnesses the two cars were going at a fast rate of speed near Russell street and Central avenue when the Harrison car swerved into the Casey machine and ran into the store, police said.

Police are withholding an investigation until hospital authorities discharge the Harrisons. The Casey car was driven by George Casey, son of the injured woman. He was unhurt.

Ironically the only object left undamaged in the wrecked window of the store was a sign which read "Thank you, come back again please."



Illustration 129: Miss Hebenner, Louis Casey's girlfriend.

Illustration 128: Charleston Gazette, March 17, 1932, page 1.



Illustration 130: John Edward Casey (1892–1974).



Illustration 131: George Casey (1907–1991) on a trip west in 1939.



Illustration 132: The three Lamb sisters: Mary Alice (Speyer), Catherine (Craig), and Rose (Casey) with George Casey standing in front of Joe Casey's new house in 1938.



Illustration 133: Bridget Cecilia Mannix Fox and Faye Elizabeth Selbe Casey standing on the Fox porch in Washington, DC. 1956

"Top o' the Mornin' to You"

CLUB BREAKFASTS

CASEY'S SPECIAL BREAKFAST

Orange Juice
Genuine Smithfield Peanut Fed Ham or Canadian Bacon
2 Eggs Any Style, Toast
Coffee, Tea or Milk
50c

No. 1
Choice of Cereal
Toast
Coffee, Tea or Milk
25c

No. 2
Choice of Fruit Juice
and Choice of Cereal
Toast
Coffee, Tea or Milk
25c

No. 3
Choice of Cereal and
Bacon or Ham with One Egg
Toast
Coffee, Tea or Milk
45c

No. 4
Two Eggs (any style)
Toast
Coffee
25c

Cream Served with Cereal on Above Breakfasts

No Substitutions, Please!

No. 5
Golden Brown
Hot Cakes
One Egg
Coffee
30c

No. 6
Waffle
Two Strips of Bacon or
Country Sausage and
Coffee
35c

No. 7
Choice of Fruit Juice
Golden Brown Hot Cakes
Pure Maple Syrup
Coffee, Tea or Milk
30c

No. 8
Orange Juice
One Egg
Toast and Coffee
25c

ANY CEREAL TO ORDER WITH CREAM OR MILK

FRUITS AND JUICES

Apple Sauce	10	Sliced Peaches	10
Sliced Banana with Cream	15	Fresh Peaches (in season)	10
Fresh Berries (in season)		Sliced Pineapple	10
Figs	10	Prunes	10
Fruit Cup (breakfast)	10-20	Grapefruit Juice	10
Grapefruit (half)		Orange Juice	10-15
Melons (in season)		Pineapple Juice	10
Sliced Orange	10	Tomato Juice	10-15
		Sauerkraut Juice	10

DAILY MAIL SPECIAL

Fried Fresh Apples
1 Egg (any style) 2 Strips Bacon
Toast, Coffee Tea or Milk
40c

FROM THE GRILL

(Toast and Coffee served with these orders)

Country Fresh Eggs (2) (any style)	25
Country Fresh Eggs (2) with Bacon, Ham or Sausage	40
Omelet with Choice of Jelly, Tomato, Cheese or Ham	35
Plain Omelet	30
Spanish Omelet	40
Bacon	25
Ham	25
Sausage	25
Country Ham and Eggs	50
Canadian Bacon	30
Canadian Bacon, Two Eggs, Toast, Coffee	50

FROM THE GRIDDLE

Fresh Doughnuts (2)	05	Griddle Cakes with Ham, Bacon or Sausage	35
Toast, Dry or Buttered	05	Wheat or Buckwheat Cakes with Syrup	15
Cinnamon Toast	10	Waffle with Syrup	20
French Toast, 3 Slices	20	Waffle with Ham, Bacon or Sausage	40
Milk Toast	20		
Griddle Cakes with Pure Maple Syrup	15		

BEVERAGES

Hot Coffee	05	Buttermilk	05
Hot Tea	05	Hot Chocolate	10
Ice Cold Milk	05	Iced Tea	05
		Iced Coffee	05

MEET AND EAT AT CASEY'S

Air-Conditioned for Your Comfort

Illustration 134: Breakfast menu from Casey's Grill, Thelma and Joe Casey's restaurant.



Illustration 135: Left to right: George, Pat, Faye, John, and Marie Elizabeth at Faye and John Casey's 50th Wedding Anniversary. 1970.



Illustration 136: Margaret Mannix and Katherine Mannix. Tintype.



Illustration 137: Nick Mannix (1874–1900).



Illustration 139: Rose Lamb Casey (1867–1953).



Illustration 138: Marie Casey (1902–1996) and her cousin Alice Craig at Levi.

Acknowledgments

This family history would not be possible without two very special people.

First my husband, Sam Hudnall, for so many things that I can't properly detail all of them. His encouragement to undertake this project, his willingness to go with me to so many places to gather information, his tolerance during the information gathering and writing phases, his patience and time in helping me with the software and finally for his correction of, literally, dozens of mistakes. Sam served as 'first editor' of all of the stories. I knew if he found them interesting, then there was truly a story there.

Secondly, my thanks to Anita Casey, for trusting me with the loan of the treasure trove of family letters and additional photos from her personal collection. Without Anita, there would be no story, and certainly, no book.

Finally, I extend my everlasting gratitude to my great-aunt, Marie Casey, for keeping the family memories, the documents, letters and photographs, for all those years. When she could have had a house with lots of empty storage space and plenty of room to move around,* she chose to keep what was important.

"In the end, what do you have? It's all memories, not things."
- Andrew Schmitt



Illustration 140: Marie Casey (1902–1996).

* An inside joke. The family is known to be afflicted with *pack-rat-itis*.

