

The Dál Cuinn

(Otherwise known as the Teóra Connachta and the Uí Néill)

A Geographical and Genetic Description of the R-DF104 Clade

By Tim McEvoy (Gwinn)
Editorial assistance provided by Ronald C. Gwinn



1. Introduction

In Irish culture, surnames based on a formalized patronymic naming system started around 900 AD. This makes Ireland also one of the earliest European cultures to adopt surnames. These surnames were an extension of the use of tribal and branch names, which started at least since 500-600 AD. This paper uses *tribe* to refer to a distinct familial group in the earliest period; *dynasty* to refer to a major distinct subgroup of a *tribe*; *branch* to refer to a major distinct subgroup of a *dynasty*; *clan* to refer to a distinct subgroup with a common surname within a *branch*; and *sept* to refer to a distinct subgroup within a *clan*, who sometimes may have adopted a different surname.

In addition, adopted surnames were rarely the same as the tribal or dynastic name since the surnames were based on more recent noteworthy ancestors. This feature is unique to the Irish and sets them apart from other cultures that might be unable to associate genetic groups with surnames during the same timeframe. In essence, the Irish can trace their surnames through tribal and dynastic relationships earlier than the normal European surname timeframe cutoff, usually set around 1000 AD.

The purpose of this paper is to present a hypothesis with supporting evidence that demonstrates the R-DF104 clade and its subclades, particularly the R-DF105 subclade, are the genetic origin and Y-Haplotree of the historical Dál Cuinn dynasty. Comparative analysis is used in this paper with surname data from various Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) projects to reinforce the hypothesis.

Approximately 13 chieftain surnames were identified and used during this research to calculate the comparative analysis associated with chieftain lines of the Dál Cuinn. Other chieftain surnames are used to reinforce the data when tests support the pedigrees. Provenance is also used when associating surnames and clades with clans and septs. The word provenance itself is derived from the French word

pro-venir, meaning “to come from”. Provenance establishes a surname’s significance beyond what it would otherwise appear to have. The Irish genealogies were recorded for the main chieftain lines and blood related families, hence lesser known or even unrecorded families only gain provenance through a shared genetic connection to these main lines.

In most academic circles there is a common conception that the old Irish genealogies, including both the pedigrees and accounts described in them, are mythical or semi-mythical. Specifically, modern historians doubt the validity of Irish historical accounts prior to the 8th century AD, despite using these references to older source materials in their works.

Although it is appropriate to approach these genealogies with a natural skepticism, modern genetic testing is revealing the essential correctness of the ancient Irish patriarchal political structure as reflected in the old genealogies. This is particularly true of the correlation between modern surnames, the R-DF104 clade, and the genealogies of the Dál Cuinn dynasty of Ireland.

We have found that the Y-DNA clearly demonstrates ancient Irish culture was based on common patrilineal origins. Irish society was tribal, not an English feudal system with its substrata of commoners. Dynastic surnames were for nobles, not poorer members of the extended patrilineal line, yet the poorer people knew their status, which was not based on hold deeds from the English crown, but on rights of their memorized Irish male lineage.

The continually developing Y-Haplotree under the R-DF104 clade and its R-DF105 subclade is largely confirming the structure of these pedigrees and are revealing only minor discrepancies in the Dál Cuinn genealogies. Admittedly, this may be due in some part to the lack of genetic variation in a given geographical area. Nevertheless, genealogical record keeping in ancient Ireland can be seen as a serious and worthwhile endeavor and accurate to a reasonable degree, taking into account the standards of a time when historical accuracy was not comparable to the standards of today.

Six (6) primary sources are referenced throughout this paper. Please see the bibliography for more details. Also, names have been normalized to Old Irish, with a reference to the Middle Irish and Anglicized spelling where possible and reasonable.

1. Dr. Daniel P. Mc Carthy’s *Chronological Synchronisation of the Irish Annals*.
2. Rev. Patrick Woulfe’s *Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall: Irish Names and Surnames*.
3. Dr. Edward MacLysaght’s *The Surnames of Ireland*.
4. Dr. Donnchadh Ó Corráin and Fidelma Maguire’s *Irish Names*.
5. Dubaltach Mac Fir Bisig’s *Great Book of Genealogies*.
6. *Book of Ballymote*.

2. The Genealogy of the Dál Cuinn

The genealogies presented in this paper only reflect those lineages for which genetic evidence has been found. Therefore, they may not represent the full genealogies provided in the various source texts.

The Dál Cuinn are the tribe or (male) progeny of Conn Cétchathach. His name is usually translated as Conn “of the Hundred Battles.” This Conn was a putative High King of Ireland, d. 186

AD¹. According to *The Laud Genealogies and Tribal Histories*,² he is the descendant of a “Second Milesius” who invaded the northwest of Ireland. The exact time frame of this invasion is not given, but the likelihood is somewhere in the 2nd or 1st century BC. The indigenous people and the tribe of this “Second Milesius” alternated the rule of northern Ireland until Conn Cétchathach established permanent control; and from that time forward the northern half of Ireland became the hegemony of the Dál Cuinn and was known as Leth Cuinn, Conn’s Half.

Conn Cétchathach’s descendants split into branches, or dynasties, that medieval Irish historical tradition traces to his descendant Eóchád Muigmedón, also called a High King of Ireland, d. 362 AD.³ Eóchád Muigmedón is attributed with four (4) sons:

1. Brión — “high, noble”⁴
2. Fiachra Foltsnáthach — “battlefield⁵ raven⁶ with threadlike⁷ hair⁸”
3. Ailill — “sprite, elf”⁹
4. Niall Noígíallach — uncertain, but possibly *nia*¹⁰+*all*¹¹, “great, noble champion, warrior of the nine¹² hostages¹³”

¹ Mc Carthy, *Synchronisation*, https://publications.scss.tcd.ie/kronos/chronology/synchronisms/Edition_4/K_trad/Synch_tables/s0169-0252.htm.

² *Laud Genealogies*, <https://celt.ucc.ie/published/G105005.html#p313>.

³ Mc Carthy, *Synchronisation*, https://publications.scss.tcd.ie/kronos/chronology/synchronisms/Edition_4/K_trad/Synch_tables/s0359-0424.htm.

⁴ Wiktionary, <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Brión>.

⁵ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/35422>.

⁶ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/21873>.

⁷ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/38146>.

⁸ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/23166>.

⁹ Wiktionary, <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Ailill>.

¹⁰ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/33151>.

¹¹ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/2912>.

¹² eDIL, <https://dil.ie/33243>.

¹³ eDIL, <https://dil.ie/25791>.

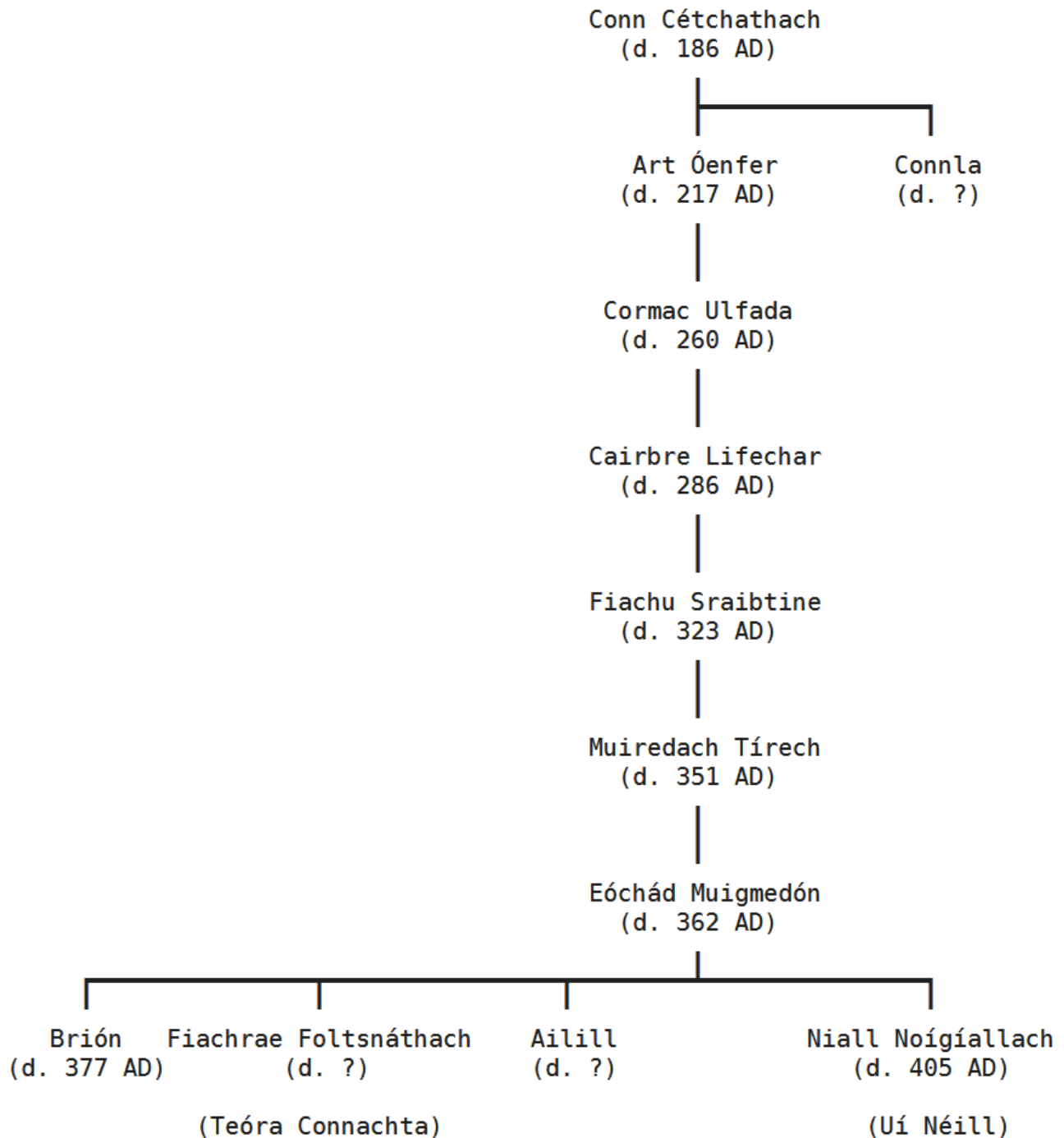


Figure 001. The Early Dál Cuinn Genealogy

The first three (3) of these sons were by Eóchá-d Muigmedón's first wife Mongfind. They were the progenitors of new Irish dynasties named the Uí Briúin, the Uí Fiachrach, and the Uí Ailella. These three (3) dynasties became known collectively as the Teóra Connachta, or the historical Three Connachta. Niall Noígíallach was by Eóchád Muigmedón's second wife, or possibly concubine,

Cairenn Casdub. He was the progenitor of the Uí Néill who seized the High Kingship of Ireland at Tara very early on and became the most powerful dynasty in Ireland until early modern times. There is a problematic fifth (5th) son named Fergus Cáech. He is variously ascribed as the son of Mongfind or Cairenn Casdub. Very little is known of him and there is doubt as to his existence. Whether he did actually exist or was a fabrication, he seems to have left no male progeny.

2.1. The Teóra Connachta

During the 5th and 6th centuries AD, the descendants of Brión, Fiachra, and Ailill controlled the best lands in Connacht, asserting their hegemony over local populations like the Conmaicne, Calraige, Cíarraige, Partraige, Greccraige, Luigni, and Gailenga.¹⁴ Evidence suggests the Uí Fiachrach were initially dominant, but faced fierce competition from the Uí Briúin; alternating the provincial kingship of Connacht with the Uí Briúin until circa 700 AD. After this time the Uí Briúin became the dominant power in Connacht and eventually molded it into an effective over-kingdom. The Uí Ailella ruled the lands north of Mag Aí, but lacked significant political influence and faced constant conflict with their subject peoples, the Luigni and Greccraige in the 8th century AD. However, their effective extermination came from their own cousins, the Uí Briúin Aí Síl Muiredaig, at the battle of Ard Maicc Rimi in Co. Sligo in 792 AD.

2.1.1. The Uí Briúin

The Uí Briúin take this name from their ancestor Brión, eldest son of Eóchád Muigmedón and his first (1st) wife Mongfind. The Uí Briúin were one third of the Teóra Connachta, along with the Uí Fiachrach and Uí Ailella. Even though Niall Noígíallach was the youngest son, he assumed the High Kingship of Ireland while his older half-brother Brión took the Kingship of Connacht as Niall's champion. Brión captured his younger brother Fiachra Foltsnáthach in battle, but ultimately was defeated and killed by Fiachra's son Feradach Daihe (AKA Nath Í). The Uí Briúin eventually developed into three (3) major branches:

1. Uí Briúin Seóla
2. Uí Briúin Bréifne
3. Uí Briúin Aí

Each of these branches descended from Fergus son of Muiredach Mál son of Eógan Sríab son of Dau Galach son of Brión. The Uí Briúin Seóla descended from Fergus's son Dau Tengae Umae (Dau Copper Tongued); the Uí Briúin Bréifne descended from Fergus's son Fergnóe (Handsome Man AKA Fergna); and the Uí Briúin Aí descended from Fergus's son Eóchád Tírmcháirne (Eóchád Dry Flesh). Recent research suggests all of these branches were initially based in Mag Seóla around Loch Cime (Lough Hacket) until sometime in the 8th century AD when they began to expand outward, both to the north and the south.¹⁵ The Uí Briúin Aí, in particular the Síl Muiredaig, rose to power in Mag Aí and eventually seized control of Connacht.

¹⁴ Knox, "Early Tribes", p. 348.

¹⁵ Cooke, *Knockma*, presentation.

2.1.1.1. The Uí Briúin Seóla

As stated above, the Uí Briúin Seóla branch descends from Dau Tengae Umae. He was slain at the Battle of Segais (Curlew Mountains in Co. Roscommon) in 500 AD¹⁶ by Muirchertach mac Ercca of the Uí Néill, Cenél nEógan, who was married to Dau Tengae Umae's daughter Dúinsech or Duinnsech; and who was the protector of Eóchád Tírmchárnae. Dau Tengae Umae imprisoned his brother Eóchád Tírmchárnae, who had been Dúinsech's foster father. At her urging, Muirchertach mac Ercca went to war with her father Dau Tengae Umae and slew him at the Battle of Segais.¹⁷

Dau Tengae Umae's descendants split into two (2) major branches circa 650 AD with the two (2) sons of his descendant Cenn Fáelad who died in 682 AD.¹⁸

1. Muntar Murcháda
2. Clan Coscraig

They were centered in Mag Seóla until circa 1200 AD when the Muntar Murcháda were driven westward across Loch Oirbsen (Lough Corrib) into Connemara by their cousins the Uí Briúin Aí Ó Conchobair. It appears the Clan Coscraig remained in their original territory east of Loch Oirbsen

2.1.1.2. The Uí Briúin Bréifne

The Uí Briúin Breifne inhabited the areas we now know as County Leitrim and County Cavan, along with portions of adjacent counties. It roughly aligned with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Kilmore. The O'Rourke (Ó Ruairc) family were the leading sept of the Uí Briúin Bréifne, along with the O'Reilly (Ó Raghallaigh), McKiernan (Mág Tighearnán), and McGovern (Mág Samhradháin) septs.

2.1.1.3. The Uí Briúin Aí

The Uí Briúin Aí controlled Mag Aí, the lands around Crúachán, the ancient center of Connacht, which is now called Rathcroghan in modern day Co. Roscommon. The chief dynastic family and clan of the Uí Briúin Aí were the Síl Muiredaig (Silmurray) from whom the ruling families of Ó Conchobair (O'Connor) and Mac Dermot were said to descend. The Silmurray derived their name from their ancestor Muiredach Muillethan.

2.1.1.4. The Uí Briúin Maicne Cathail

This branch is not generally listed in the genealogical sources. Mention of it is made in Knox's *History*¹⁹ and in Hardiman's edition of Roderic O'Flaherty's *A Chorographical Description Of West Or H-Iar Connaught*.²⁰ They do not provide detailed genealogies, just the progenitor of the branch and the first couple of succeeding generations.

¹⁶ Mc Carthy, *Synchronisation*, https://publications.scss.tcd.ie/kronos/chronology/synchronisms/Edition_4/K_trad/Synch_tables/s0488-0531.htm

¹⁷ Ó Cléirig et al., *Four Masters*, p. 161-163.

¹⁸ Mc Carthy, *Synchronisation*, https://publications.scss.tcd.ie/kronos/chronology/synchronisms/Edition_4/K_trad/Synch_tables/s0679-0694.htm.

¹⁹ Knox, *History*, p. 382.

²⁰ Ó Flaithbertaigh, *H-Iar Connaught*, pp. 128-129.

According to these genealogies, Muiredach Mál, grandson of Dau Galach, had two sons:

1. Fergus
2. Cathal

Fergus is the only son that is typically attributed to Muiredach Mál. But the line of Cathal is the best recorded explanation for what the Y-DNA has revealed. According to the current data, the later Ó Conchobair (O’Conor, O’Connor, O’Conner, etc.) lines descending from Tairdelbach Már Ó Conchobair, d. 1156 AD,²¹ are NOT Síl Muiredaig nor are they descended from Fergus.

Tairdelbach Már Ó Conchobair is attributed with twenty-six (26) sons by six (6) wives. However, at the time of writing there is only evidence of lineages from two (2) sons:

1. Cathal Crobderg
2. Magnus

2.1.1.4.1. The Ó Conchobair Dond

The one tested family member descended from Cathal Crobderg is the Ó Conchobair Dond (O’Conor Don), courtesy of Dr. Kieran Denis O’Conor. This family was one of the most influential families in Connacht. Their ancestral residence until 1981 AD was Clonalis House near Castlerea, Co. Roscommon.

2.1.1.4.2. The Mac Magnusa

The Mac Magnusa (Mac Manus, Mac Manis, etc.) are descended from Magnus. There are several family lines that have tested. Their ancestral home was Tír Tuathail, which is coextensive with the modern Parish of Kilronan, Co. Roscommon.²²

2.1.2. The Uí Fiachrach

Two major sources provide much of the knowledge of the Uí Fiachrach. These are the *Book of Lecan* compiled for Gilla Ísu Már Mac Fir Bisig circa 1400 AD and by a later descendant of his family, Dubaltach Mac Fir Bisig, in his *Great Book of Genealogies* written circa 1660 AD. John O’Donovan abstracted the portions of the *Book of Lecan* and Dubaltach’s work concerning the Uí Fiachrach and translated and edited them. This was published in 1844 AD under the title of *The Genealogies, Tribes, And Customs Of Hy-Fiachrach, Commonly Called O’Dowda’s Country*. In it, O’Donovan says:

According to the Book of Lecan this Fiachra had five sons, and if we can rely upon the order in which they are mentioned we should feel inclined to think that the monarch Dathi was the youngest. They are mentioned in the following order: 1, Ercc Culbhuidhe, i. e. of the yellow hair, so called because his hair was of the color of pure gold, who was the ancestor of the men of Ceara; 2, Breasal, whose race became extinct; 3, Conaire, from whom a St. Sechnall

²¹ Mc Carthy, *Synchronisation*, https://publications.scss.tcd.ie/kronos/chronology/synchronisms/Edition_4/K_trad/Synch_tables/s1136-1163.htm.

²² Hogan, *Onomasticon*, entry 26359.

is said to have sprung; 4, Amhalgaidh, or Awley, King of Connaught (and ancestor of several ancient families in Tirawley and Erris, in the county of Mayo), who died in the year 449; for some account of whom the reader is referred back to pp. 5-13 of this volume. The seven sons of this Amhalgaidh, together with twelve thousand men, are said to have been baptized in one day by St. Patrick, at Forrach Mac n-Amhalgaidh, near Killala (See Jocelin's Life of St. Patrick, c. 59, and Colgan, Trias Thaum. p. 141, col. 2); and, 5, Dathi, the youngest, but most illustrious, of the sons of Fiachra, and the ancestor of all the chiefs of the Hy-Fiachrach race.²³

Fiachra Foltsnáthach flourished in the 300s AD and died sometime in the last half of the 4th century AD. As indicated, he was the father of Amalgaid (Amhalgaidh) and Feradach Daithe (Dathi), and the two (2) sons for whom we have genetic evidence. Amalgaid was the progenitor of the Uí Amalgada whose territory was the Baronies of Tirawley and Erris in Co. Mayo; while his brother Feradach Daithe was the progenitor of the Uí Fiachrach Muaighe (Northern Uí Fiachrach), the Uí Fiachrach Aidne (Southern Uí Fiachrach), the Uí Aithig Muaighe (Hy Echach Muaidhe), the Fir Cera (Men of Cara), and the Fir Partraige (Men of Partry). The combined territories of Feradach Daithe's descendants included the Baronies of Tireragh and Gallen in Co. Sligo, most of the rest of Co. Mayo, and the diocese of Kilmacduagh (Aidne) in Co. Galway.

2.1.2.1. The Uí Amalgada

The descendants of Amalgaid, or the Uí Amalgada, inhabited Tír Amalgada and Irrus Domnann, which became known respectively as the Baronies of Tirawley and Erris in Co.. Amalgaid was recorded in the *Laud 610 Genealogies* and the *Book of Leinster* as reigning 34 years.

Although Mac Fir Bisig says Amalgaid had up to twenty-four (24) sons, there is currently only evidence for one (1) son, Fergus. Fergus himself is recorded as having two (2) sons:

1. Conaing
2. Muiredach

However, only two (2) documented clans descend from Muiredach:

1. The Ó Lachtna
2. The Ó Dubagáin

2.1.2.1.1. The Ó Lachtna

Rev. Woulfe says:

Ó Lachtna, O Laghna, Loughney; 'descendant of Lachtna' (grey, dun); the name of a family of the Uí Fiachrach, who were chiefs of the Two Bacs and of Glen Nephin, in the Barony of Tirawley, Co. Mayo; now very rare, having been almost universally replaced by the diminutive form Ó Lachtnáin.²⁴

²³ Mac Fir Bisig, *Hy-Fiachrach*, p. 345.

²⁴ Woulfe, *Names and Surnames*, <https://www.libraryireland.com/names/ol/o-lachtna.php>.

And Mac Fir Bisig says:

*The following are the descendants of Muireadhach, the son of Fergus, namely, the inhabitants of the cantred of Bac, and of Gleann Nemhthinne, and of the half cantred of Breudach. These are the hereditary tribes of Bac, viz., O'Lachtna, chief of the two Bacs and of the Glenn, and of them are the families of O'Dubhagain, and the Clann Firisigh, the poets of Hy-Amhalgaidh and of Hy-Fiachrach.*²⁵

2.1.2.1.2. The Ó Dubagáin

Rev. Woulfe says:

*... (3) Ó Dubhagáin of Tirawley who are of the same stock as the MacFirisighs, and were anciently seated in the parish of Kilmore-Moy, to the north-west of Ballina; ...*²⁶

2.1.2.2. The Uí Fiachrach-Feradach Daithe

Feradach Daithe is attributed with twenty-four sons by Dubaltach Mac Firisigh;²⁷ although as John O'Donovan notes it is strange that only twenty sons are named. Even more to the point is that to date there is only solid genetic evidence for:

1. Eóchád Brecc
2. Fiachra Elgach

A third (3rd) son, Ailill Molt, is possibly represented in the Y-DNA data but more data is needed to confirm this.

2.1.2.2.1. The Uí Fiachrach Aidne

Eóchád Brecc is attributed as the progenitor of the Uí Fiachrach Aidne. As noted above, their territory was located in the south of Co. Galway. It was bordered by the kingdom of Uí Maine (Hy-Many) to the north and east, Lough Lurgan (Galway Bay) and the Corco Mo Druad (Corcomroe) to the west, and Déisi Tuisceart (later the Dál gCais, later still the O'Brians of Thomond) to the south. He was also the ancestor of the celebrated King Guaire Aidne mac Colmáin of Connacht who was renowned for his generosity.

The Uí Fiachrach Aidne split into two (2) major branches:

1. The Cenél Guaire
2. The Cenél Áeda inda hEchtge

The Cenél Guaire developed into these clans and others:

1. Ó hEidin (O'Heyne)
2. Ó Cleirig (O'Cleary)

²⁵ Mac Fir Bisig, *Hy-Fiachrach*, p. 11.

²⁶ Woulfe, *Names and Surnames*, <https://www.libraryireland.com/names/od/o-dubhagain.php>.

²⁷ Mac Fir Bisig, *Hy-Fiachrach*, p. 33.

3. Mac Gilla Cellaig (Kilkelly)

The Cenél Áeda inda hEchtge developed into these clans and others:

1. Ó Sechnassaig (O'Shaughnessy)
2. Ó Cathail (O'Cahill)

The chieftains of Uí Fiachrach Aidne were the Clan Ó Cleirig (O'Cleary) until the mid 12th century AD. After which the Clan Ó Sechnassaig (O'Shaughnessy) and Clan Ó hEidinn ruled the territory until the late 17th and early 18th centuries AD.

2.1.2.2.2. The Uí Fiachrach Muaidhe

The Uí Fiachrach Muaidhe inhabited the Moy River valley in what is now Co. Sligo, Ireland. At its largest, their territory included what is now County Sligo and parts of County Mayo. The chief sept of the Uí Fiachrach Muaidhe were the Ó Dubda (O'Dowd).

2.1.2.2.2.1. The Ó Dubda

In 982 AD Áed ua Dubda (Áedh grandson of Dubda), King of Uí Fiachrach Muaidhe, died “an untroubled death”. He was the first of his clan to use the surname Ó Dubda. The O'Dowd were a great seapower, like the O'Malleys of Umay. By the 14th century AD their power was reduced by the Anglo-Norman invasion. They never regained the preeminence they had formerly held. The O'Dowd further suffered in the English land confiscations of the 17th century AD.²⁸

2.1.3. The Uí Ailella

Ailill is attributed with eight (8) sons in the *Book of Ballymote*,²⁹ but the genealogy of his descendants is nonexistent after that. This is likely due to their effective extinction in 792 AD, as mentioned previously. However, *The Tripartite Life of Patrick* provides a semi-independent ecclesiastical corroboration of their existence.³⁰ There is no way of knowing with any certainty whether any Uí Ailella descendants survived until the time of the writing of this paper; although as discussed in The Genetic Dál Cuinn section, it may be possible.

2.2. The Uí Néill

The Uí Néill are recorded as descending from Eóchád Muigmedón's fourth (4th) son Niall Noígíallach by his second (2nd) wife Cairenn Casdub. He is the putative younger paternal half-brother of Brión, Fiachróe Foltsnáthach, and Ailill. As such he would share the same Y-DNA as his older half-brothers; all of them inheriting it from their common father Eóchád Muigmedón.

Niall Noígíallach is assigned fourteen (14) sons in most genealogies, but only eleven (11) names have been given:

²⁸ Woulfe, *Names and Surnames*, <https://www.libraryireland.com/names/od/o-dubhda.php>

²⁹ *Ballymote*, https://genelach.network/transcript-book_of_ballymote.xhtml#UiAilello

³⁰ Éimíne, *Tripartite Life*, pp. 95-99.

Son	Death Year (AD)	Cause of Death
Conall Eirr Breg	480	natural?
Conall Gulban Guirt	circa 464	slain
Cairbre	circa 495	natural?
Láegaire	462	natural
Eógan	465	grief
Fiachu	circa 514	natural?
Maine	440	natural?
Énnae	(unknown)	natural?
Óengus Óilderg	(unknown)	natural?
Fergus Aindteain	(unknown)	natural?
Fergus Mátlorg	(unknown)	natural?

Table 001. Niall Noígíallach's Sons

The Uí Néill have been traditionally divided into two (2) branches, the Northern Uí Néill and the Southern Uí Néill. These branches are organized by the sons of Niall Noígíallach according to the geographical territories they and their descendants claimed.



Figure 002. Map of Ireland, circa 900 AD³¹

Having separated from the Teóra Connachta, the Uí Néill set out from Co. Sligo to Ulster and monopolized the High Kingship. Between 400 and 500 AD, Ulster was divided up among the sons of Niall Noígíallach, either by gift or conquest. They split into the Northern Uí Néill and the Southern Uí Néill branches. In Counties Donegal, Derry, and Tyrone, the Northern Uí Néill divided into three great subbranches that became known as the Cenél Eoghain, the Cenél Conaill, and the Cenél Cairbre. The Southern Uí Néill invaded and settled Meath and its associated kingdoms. Chief subbranches of the Southern Uí Néill were Clan Cholmain, Cenél Fiachach, and Fir Teathbha. All of these branches fought constantly over land and cattle.

³¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Ireland900.png>

3. The Genetics of the Dál Cuinn

The best data to date indicates that the Dál Cuinn belong under the R-DF104 clade / haplogroup / branch of the Y-Haplotree. This is a subclade of the R-M222 clade which garnered a lot of attention in the early 2000s due to its identification with the Uí Néill. Later research indicated this was a mistaken identification due to the over representation of Uí Néill clan names in the R-M222 study.

FTDNA estimates with a 95% confidence interval that the most recent common ancestor for men in the R-M222 clade was born between 473 BC and 129 AD. This is not the dating for the origin or progenitor of the R-M222 clade but rather for the formation of the last variant in its phylogenetic node.

The proliferation of variants under R-DF104, and more importantly, R-DF105, indicate a massively successful hegemony in this lineage. This is impressive when one considers that a 50% survival rate in children beyond age one was the norm for the dark ages and the medieval period.³²

The progenitor of the R-DF104 clade is estimated to have been born around 150 AD. The R-DF104 clade is the parent of two (2) subclades at the time of writing:

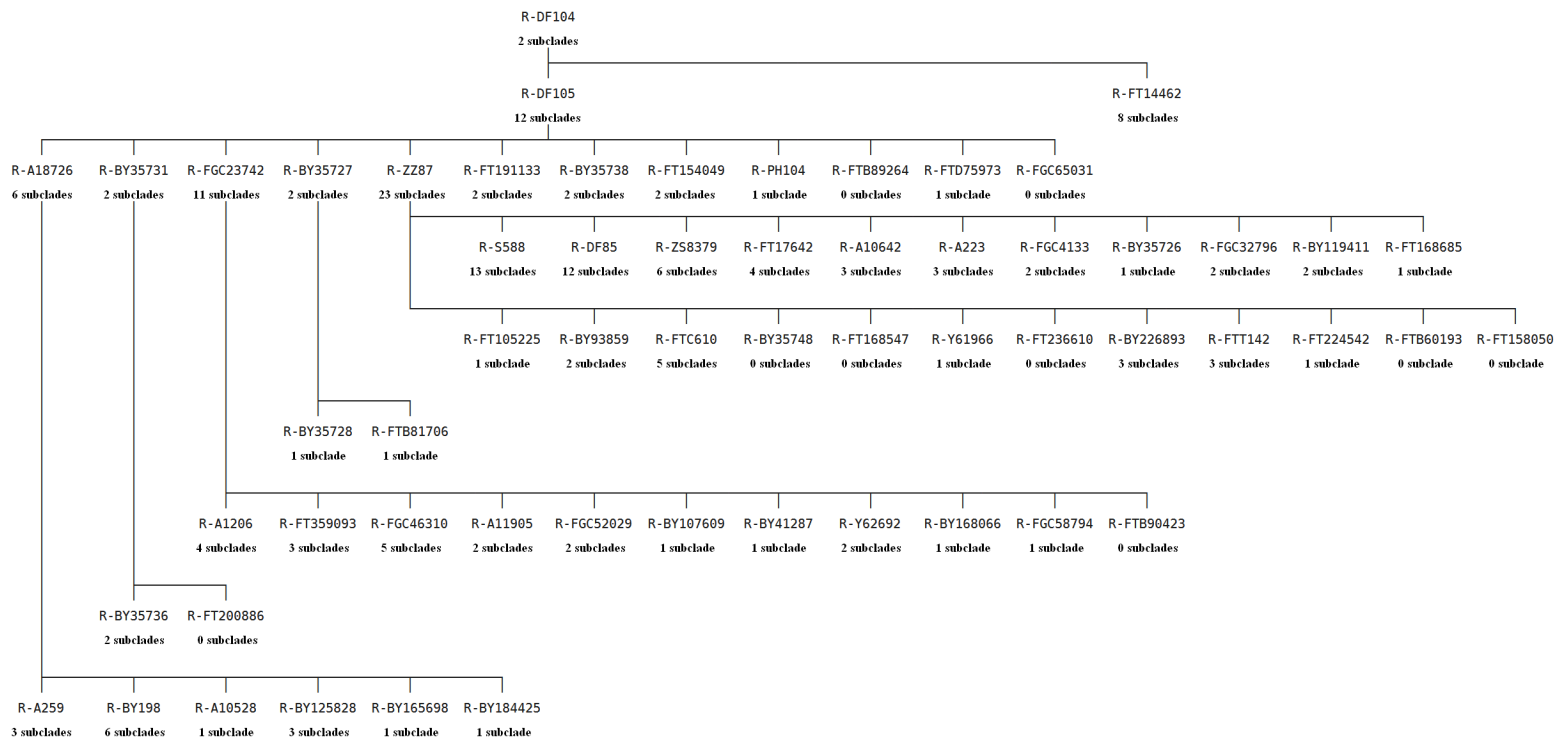
1. R-DF105
2. R-FT14462

The R-DF105 clade was formed when it branched off from its R-DF104 parent clade circa 100 AD while the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) of the R-DF105 clade is estimated to have been born circa 250 AD. The R-DF105 clade is the parent of eleven (11) known immediate subclades:

1. R-A18726
2. R-BY35731
3. R-FGC23742
4. R-BY35727
5. R-ZZ87
6. R-FT154049
7. R-PH104
8. R-FT191133
9. R-FTB89264
10. R-BY35738
11. R-FTD75971

Figure 003. Dal Cuinn Sub-Clades

³² <https://ourworldindata.org/child-mortality-in-the-past>



As of December 2024, the Genelach Dáil Cuinn Project has identified at least 3,345 publicly available Y-DNA sequencing results that fall in the R-DF104 clade. Interestingly, the Clan Áeda Buidi (Clandeboyne) Ó Néill and the Ó Néill Rúad descendants are not in the R-DF104 clade. However, they are in the R-DF27 clade, which has some presence in the British Isles but is mostly prevalent among the Pyrenees populations descended from Proto-Celts, Celtiberians, and the Basques³³. The inclusion of the Clandeboyne Ó Néill and the Ó Néill Rúad chieftains among the Dál Cuinn could have been an error in the genealogies or a deliberate fabrication to support political objectives. Regardless, it does raise an interesting question as to whether R-DF27 could be a remnant of the nominally Iberian Peninsula Milesians.

3.1. The Teóra Connachta

3.1.1. The Uí Briúin

³³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haplogroup_R-DF27

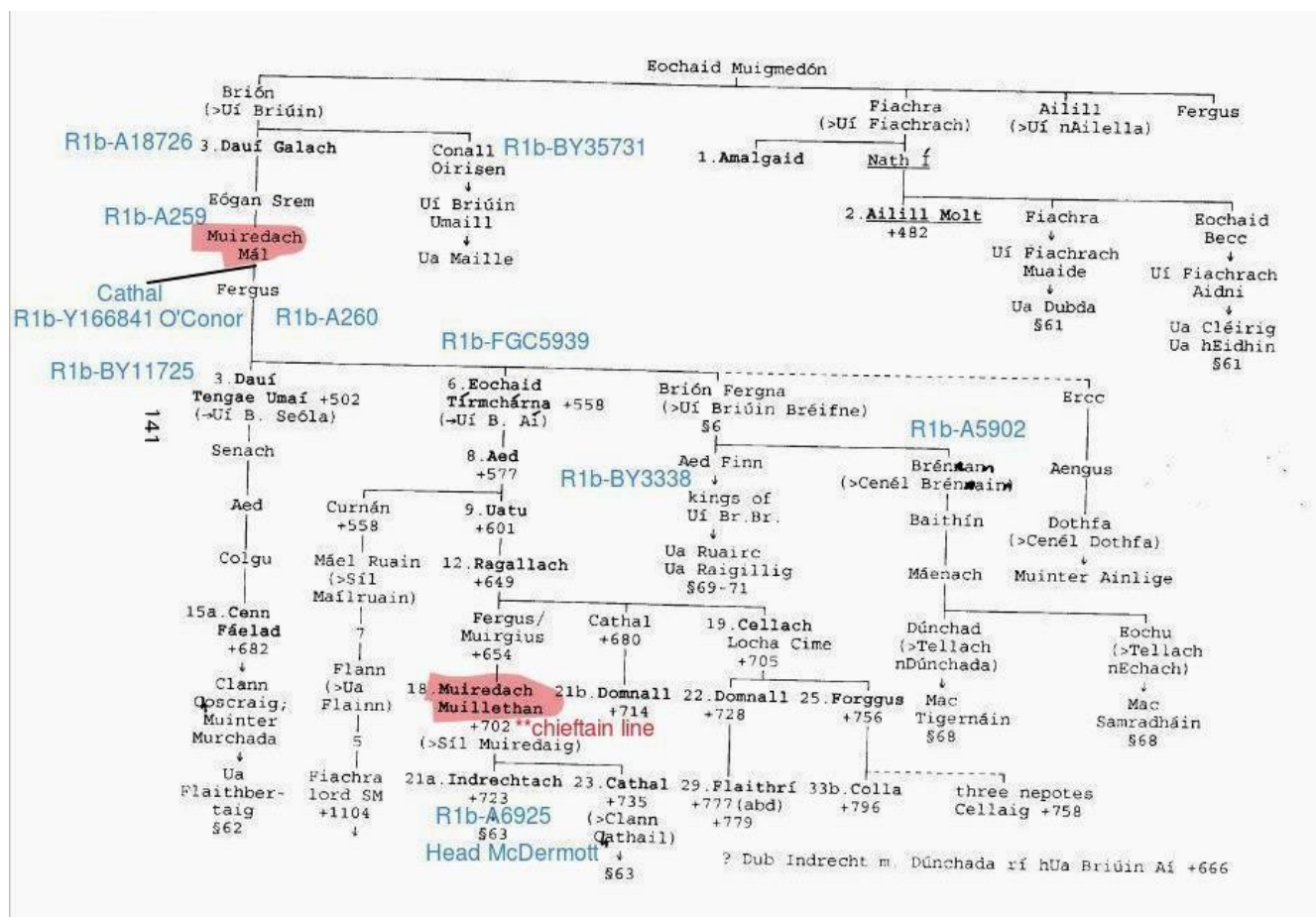


Figure 004. Uí Briuin Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA

3.1.1.1. The Uí Briúin Seóla

Tradition holds that the Uí Briúin Seóla descend from a 2nd great grandson of Dau Galach. This historical figure is known as Dau Tengae Umai and is the ancestor of the Ó Flaithbertaig (Flaherty). BY11725 is a mutation that occurs directly after A260. Therefore, it follows that the Flaherty name, a recorded chieftain line, should appear here.

3.1.1.1.1. The Muntar Murcháda

3.1.1.1.1.1. The Ó Flaithbertaig

There are 76 Flaherty FTDNA project members of which 28 kits use this surname. Eight (8) kits of note congregate under this clade, while two (2) show under S588 and four (4) more under M222. The Mac Dondcháda Alainn, a cadet branch of Ó Flaithbertaig also show under R-BY11725, anglicized as McDonough (5 kits) and McDaniel (6 kits).

Flaherty Pie Chart

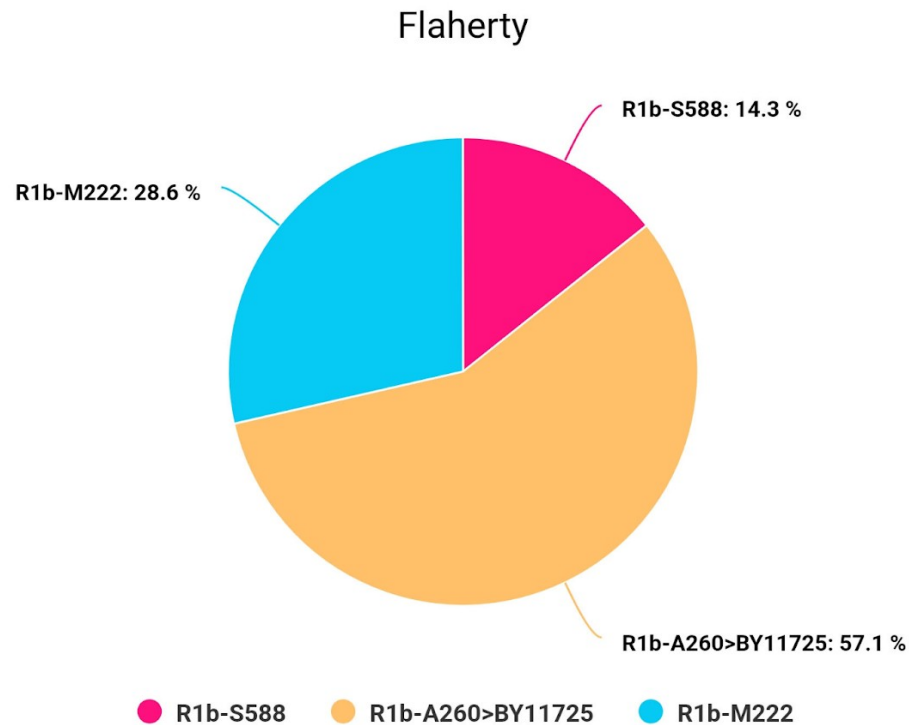


Table 002. MacDonnchada data reference

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade		YS393 (DYS)
135	FTD-875180	Mac Donncháda (McDaniel)	R1b-FT15936		13
136	FTD-182787	Mac Donncháda (McDaniel)	R1b-A29230		13
137	FTD-950622	Mac Donncháda (McDaniel)	R1b-FT142832		13
138	FTD-515402	Mac Donncháda (McDaniel)	R1b-FGC65251		13
139	FTD-19340	Mac Donncháda (McDaniel)	R1b-FT21877		13
140	FTD-868351	Mac Donncháda (McDaniel)	R1b-BY196097		13

3.1.1.1.2. The Mac Áeda

3.1.1.2. Uí Briúin Bréifne

Tradition holds that the Uí Briúin Bréifne descend from another 2nd great grandson of Dau Galach. This historical figure is Fergna or Feargus as he is sometimes known, and is supported by the occurrence of the clade trails: R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-A18726 > R-A259 > R-A260 > R-BY3338 and R-A5902.

Uí Briúin Bréifne descendant clades under R-A260 split between R-BY3338 and R-A5902. These splits appear to occur under two lines of chiefs descending from Fergna. These two lines of chiefs were Fergna's sons Áed Find (R-BY3338) and Bréinind (R-A5902).

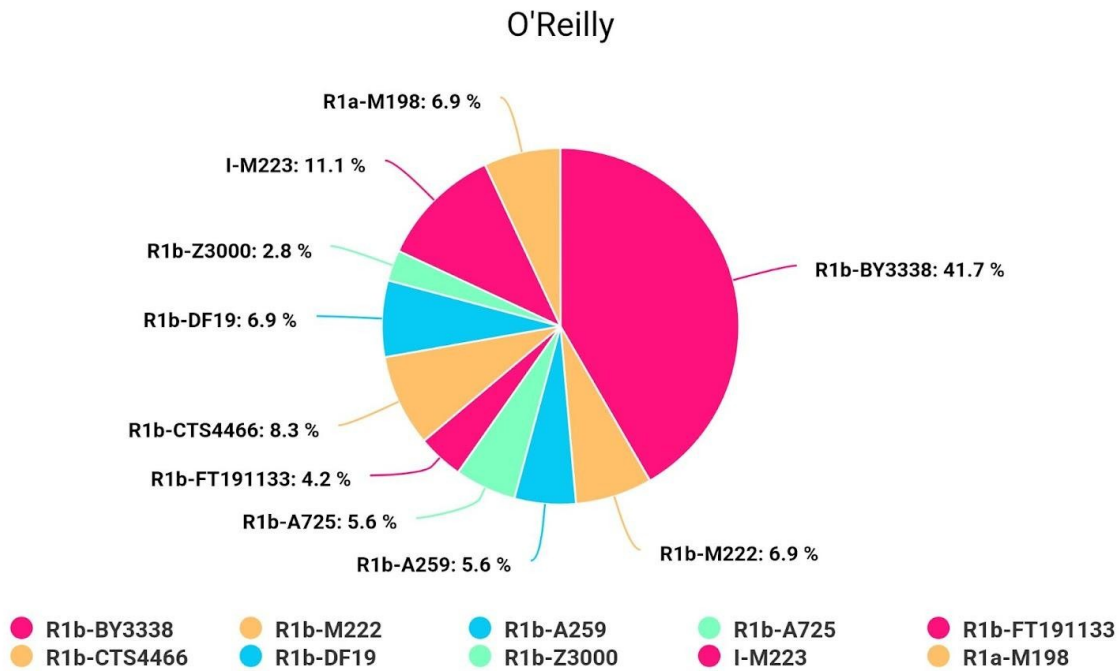
3.1.1.2.1. Áeda Find

The O'Reilly and O'Rourke families descend from Áed Find and this is supported by the occurrence of the clade trail: R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-A18726 > R-A259 > R-A260 > R-BY3338.

The Ó RAGHAILLIGH, O'Reilly, O'Rielly, Riley, 'descendant of Raghallach' are the same stock as the O'Rourkes and were chiefs of Breifne, which originally comprised the greater part of the present Co. Cavan. In the course of the 13th and 14th centuries they became very powerful and extended their dominion over the whole of Co. Cavan and parts of Meath and Westmeath; and they were sometimes chiefs of all Breifne.

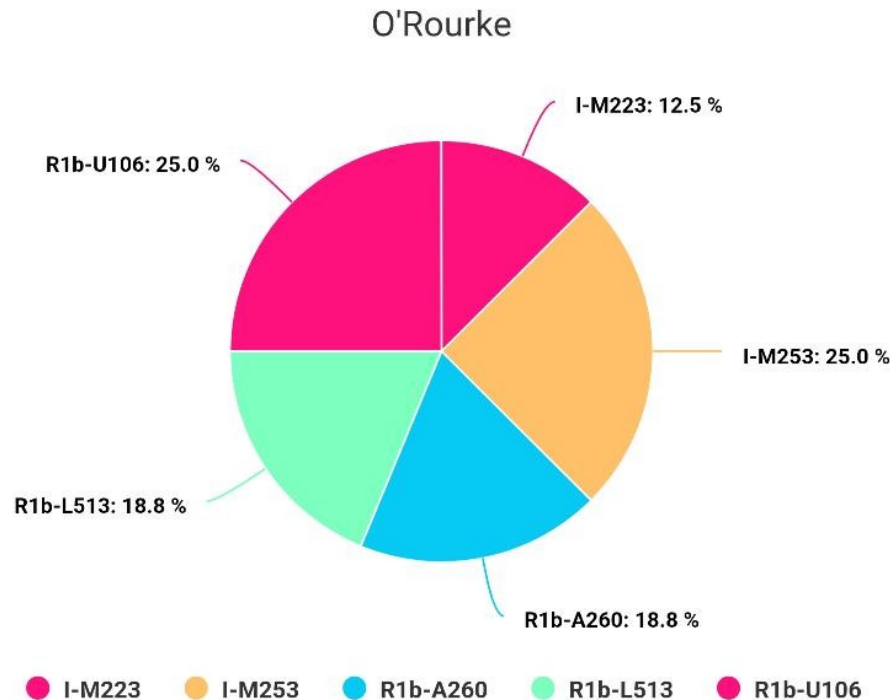
The FTDNA O'Reilly surname project has 543 members and 213 use a variation of the surname. The plurality of kits (30) have a terminal SNP of R-BY3338. A scattering of kits are at A259, M222, A725, FT191133, CTS4466, DF19, Z3000, M198 and even I-M223. There are numerous kits still at M269 and 23 fall under haplogroups Q, T, J, G, and E.

O'Reilly Pie Chart



The FTDNA O'Rourke project has 186 members of which 42 use the surname. The few who have tested beyond M269 are shown in the chart below. Three (3) kits fall in a parallel clade to R-A5902 at R-BY3338, as expected, although not as prolific as the R-A260 O'Reilly kits.

O'Rourke Pie Chart



3.1.1.2.2. Brénaínd (R-A5902)

Brénaínd's line produced two (2) houses of note from his son Báethán:

1. The Tellach Eachach chiefs were the Mag SHAMHRADHÁIN, Mag SHAMHRÁIN anglicized as Magoveran, Magovern; 'son of Samhradhán' (diminutive of /samhradh/, summer); the name of an old Breifney family.
2. The Tellach Dhonchadha, which produced the Mac THIGHEARNÁIN or M'Kiernane, M'Kemane/, MacKiernan surnames by translation, meaning 'son of Tighearnán' (diminutive of 'tighearna,' a lord); the name of a Breifney family, of the same stock as the O'Rourkes.

There are twelve (12) McGovern kits and six (6) Keirnan/MacTiernean kits under R-A5902.

3.1.1.2.3. Additional Descendants of Brénaínd

Dr. Bart Jaski's charts are not completely inclusive as demonstrated by the *Book of Ballymote* which identifies another son of Brénaínd named Dub Dá Crích in stanzas 927-931.

927. Brenaind son of Fearghna, had two sons, i.e. Baithin and Dubh da crich.

928. Dubh da Chrich had six sons, i.e. Dubhthach, Dobran, Mael Bennachta, Murchadh, Guairi, and Fannan.

929. From Dubhthach are descended the Ui Dubthaigh, from Murchadh are descended the Ui Murchadha, from Guairi are descended the Ui Guairi, from Fannan are descended the Ui Fandan.

930. Baithin, son of Brenaind, had a son Maenach.

931. Maenach had seven sons, i.e. Eochaid, the ancestor of the Tealach Eachath, Dunchadha, the ancestor of the Teallach Dunchadha, Finducan, the ancestor of the Ui Finducan, Braenan, Corcran, Ciarmac and Mael Duin - he was the worst of them because Dallan cursed him.

A second source from *Lives of the Irish Saints* recounts:

*Six sons of Dub-da-Crich renowned,
Dubthach, Dogran of the bright countenance,
Maelbennachtadh, beauteous Murchad,
Guaire, and Fannan of the curly hair.*

Kits under R-A5902 include these surnames associated with the descendants of Dub Dá Crích: Five (5) Duffy (Ui Dubthaigh) kits, five (5) Fannin (Ui Fandan) kits, two (2) Gorry (Ui Guairi) kits and two (2) Murphy (Ui Murchadha) kits. The table below does not represent the total kits available.

Table 003. Dub Dá Crích surnames

Dál Cuinn R1b-DF104 > DF105 > A18726 > A259 > A260 > A5902 > BY100917 Uí Briúin Bréifne, Fannan, Dubh da cric, Brenaind				
79127	Fannin	Bryan Fannin, b. 1695 and d. 1765	United States	R-FTC11830
963440	Fannin	Elijah Jackson Fannin, 1823-1876	United States	R-FTC11832
873043	Finney	Joseph Finney b 1765 d. 1837	United States	R-FTD21222
982240	McDaniel	Jesse McDaniel, b. 1809 and d. 1897	United States	R-BY98600
962351	Kenny	Tom Kenny, 1750-1830	Ireland	R-BY100917
Dál Cuinn R1b-DF104 > DF105 > A18726 > A259 > A260 > A5902 > FT130287 Uí Briúin Bréifne, Guaire, Dubh da cric, Brenaind				
132906	McLain	James McClane b.1705, Curryhills, Co. Kildare	Ireland	R-FT130810
IN25704	Thatcher (McLain)	James McClane b.1705, Curryhills, Co. Kildare	Ireland	R-FT130810
793777	Fraher (Mac Guaire?)	John Fraher, b. 1819; Dungarvan, Co. Waterford	Ireland	R-BY9397
160997	Gorry	Patrick Gorry, b 1790s Co. Westmeath	Ireland	R-FT207205
293614	Gurry	Patrick Gurry b.c1800, Clondoogan, Co. Meath	Ireland	R-FT207205
Dál Cuinn R1b-DF104 > DF105 > A18726 > A259 > A260 > A5902 > FTC14661 Uí Briúin Bréifne, Dubhthaigh, Ó Dubh da crich, Brenaind				
341877	Duffy	Michael Duffy, b. 1809 Killoe, Longford d. 1882	Ireland	R-FT123777
472872	Gillikin	Thomas Gillikin b.1694/d.1778	Unknown Origin	R-FTF46270
MK77459	Kimble		Unknown Origin	R-FT101173
930690	Duffy	Daniel Duffy, b. about 1835 and d. 1880	Ireland	R-FT101173
489839	Clancy	Lewis Clancy b. 04 Oct 1793 d. 13 May 1867	Unknown Origin	R-FT123777

3.1.1.3. The Uí Briúin Aí

3.1.1.3.1. The Síl Muiredaig

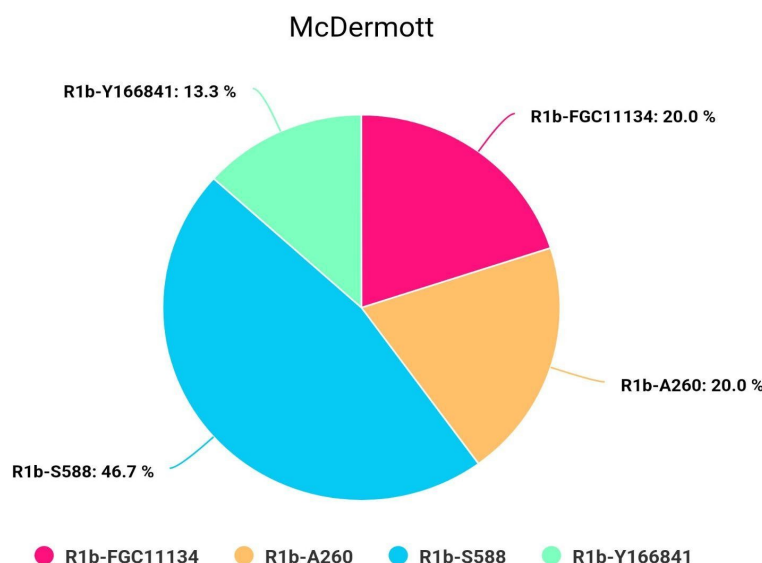
3.1.1.3.1.1. The Mac Diarmata

The Mac Diarmada (anglicised as MacDermot or McDermott), also spelled Mac Diarmata, is the surname of the ruling dynasty of Moylurg, a kingdom that existed in Connacht from the 10th to 16th centuries. The last ruling king was Tadhg mac Diarmata, who ruled until 1585.

The progenitor of the family was Dermot mac Tadhg Mor, 7th King of Moylurg, who reigned from 1124 to 1159. He was a vassal and kinsman of the Ó Conchubhair, Kings of Connacht; their common ancestor was Tadhg mac Cathal, King of Connacht from 925 to 956. They were based at McDermott's Castle, Lough Key. This Dermot was the progenitor of the offshoot septs such as MacDermot Roe, McDonagh, and Crowley.

Currently, the McDermott FTDNA project has 209 members with 42 members using this surname. Many single unique SNPs appear here and numerous kits are still at R-M269. A different McDermott family associated with Cenél nEógain (R-DF105>S588) makes a showing here with seven (7) kits. They are discussed later in this paper.

McDermott Pie Chart



Of those McDermotts who have taken a Big Y test, six (6) fall under R-A260.

One of these is The McDermot, Prince of Coolavin (YSEQ kit 63380, FTDNA kit IN132467) whose terminal SNP is R-FTC47982 under A6925 (A260 > FGC5939 > A6925 > BY20593 > FTA43921).

3.1.1.4. The Uí Briúin, Cathal

3.1.1.4.1. The Ó Conchobair

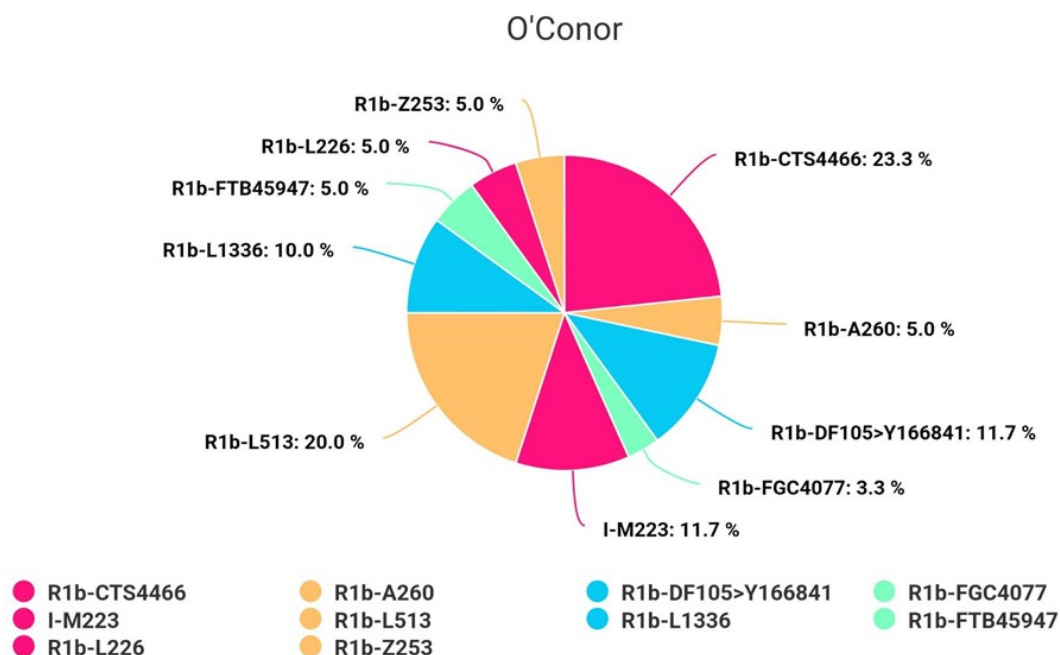
The present O'Connor Don is Desmond O'Connor. He is the elder paternal half-brother of Dr. Kieran Denis O'Connor. Dr. O'Connor has graciously done Y-DNA testing with FTDNA at the BigY 700 level. His tested and confirmed genetic string include the following SNP variants:

M222 > DF104 > DF105 > A18726 > A259 > Y166841 > BY18120 > BY18115 > ZZ93

His results strongly support the hypothesis that the R-DF104 clade and its R-DF105 subclade are the origin clades of the Dál Cuinn and the Teóra Connachta and Uí Néill respectively. The downstream R-A259 clade is the origin clade for the three (3) primary Uí Briúin branches. This was confirmed by a

recent study entitled *Tracing the Sons of Brión: The R-A259 Y-DNA Subclade and the Uí Briúin Dynasty of Connacht*.

O'Conor Pie Chart

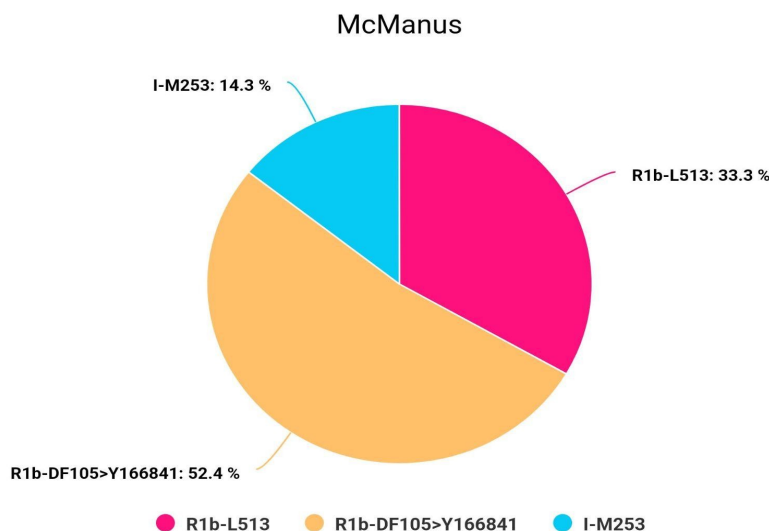


Currently, there are 572 members of the O'Conor FTDNA project. Of these, there are 222 kits that have a variation of the O'Conor surname. Seven (7) kits fall under R-Y166841, including Dr. O'Conor's kit #64493 and three (3) fall under R-FGC5939, where the Mac Diarmata fall. There are also 16 McManus kits under the R-Y166841 clade.

3.1.1.4.2. The Mac Magnusa

Like the O'Conors, Y-DNA testing shows McManus kits that are also in the R-BY18115 clade. However, they are in the R-BY18179 subclade which is parallel to the R-ZZ93 subclade where Dr. O'Conor is. This supports the genealogy of two (2) sons descending from a common paternal line. There is not enough data yet to say when the R-BY18115 clade originated, but it almost certainly occurred before Tairdelbach Már Ó Conchobair.

McManus Pie Chart



3.1.1.5. O'Connor and McDermott: Genetic Divergence

Administrators from our Dál Cuinn project contacted direct descendants from the O'Connor and McDermott lines, namely the current Ó Conor Don and the McDermot, Prince of Coolavin and obtained their participation in Y-DNA testing. The participation of these two men offered a unique opportunity in that they both have a documented pedigree from ancient times up to the present day which could be matched with Y-DNA results.

The close genetic relationship between the O'Conors/McManus and the McDermotts was confirmed with both lines testing positive (+) for R-A18726 a likely genetic marker for the descendants of Dau Galach and R-A259, a likely genetic marker for the descendants of Duach Galach's son Eógan Sreibh.

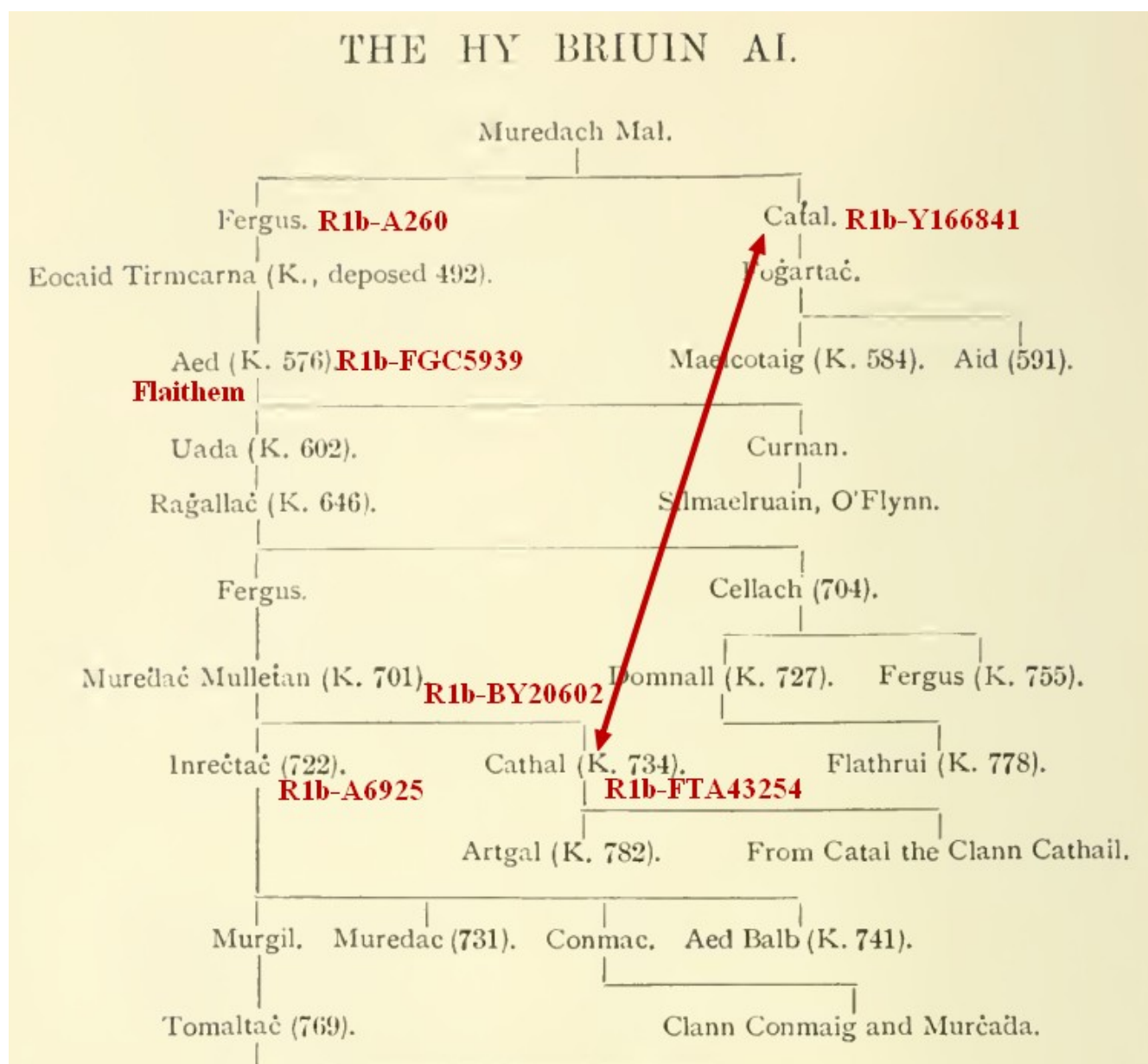
These test results revealed a slight divergence from the traditional genealogies which has occurred in the line of Dau Galach. One explanation for this divergence was found by David C. Mac Donagh during his research in Peter O'Connell's *King List of Connacht*, which was published in Roderic O'Flaherty's *A Chorographical Description Of West Or H-Iar Connaught* (James Hardiman, 1846 edition). In that list, Peter O'Connell has recorded a genealogy not seen in most other genealogies; where the line of Muiredach Mál, son of Eógan Sríab, son of Dau Galach, had 2 sons: Fergus and Cathal.

This version appears to make the most sense based on current testing results and fits with the split at R-A259 we see between the Fergus R-A260 clade, and the parallel R-Y166841 likely Cathal clade. Jaski has mentioned that the late sources are incorrect, that Mael Cothaid and Áed are sons of Fogartach (fl.789) son of Cathal (+735) son of Muiredach Muillethan (+702), and are misplaced in regnal lists, incorrectly attached to Muiredach Mál.

Yet the evidence so far indicates that there is conflation between the 2 Muiredcach's derived from these different families and generations. We note that O'Conors, McDermotts, and Flanagans are found in both R-Y166841 and R-FGC5939, this is an indication that these families likely co-existed geographically for some time. The ÓFlanagain's found in R-Y166841 not only appear to be a possible

conflation, they also give credence to Peter O'Connell and provide further evidence of the existence of a 2nd Cathal from which the O'Conor line of descent was established. The O'Flannagan descent from Cathal son of Muiredach Muillethan is well documented. While we do have a McDermott (500346) in the R-Y166841 clade, this line currently has no other McDermott matches and his position in the clade indicates a likely surname adoption (there is a McDermott kit still at A259 but is from this same descendant line as clarified by the 2 kit owners)

Figure 005. The 2 Cathal's of O'Conor and McDermott



Whereas R-FGC5939 is confirmed as the Síl Muiredaig chieftain line by the FTDNA McDermot current Prince of Coolavin IN132467 kit. Recent results include a descendant of the MacDermottroe or Mac Diarmata Rúad line. The MacDermottroe descend from Dermot Roe (meaning red in Irish), grandson of Cormacc Mac Diarmata, King of Mag Lurg (Moylurg), 1218–1244 AD. McDermott

FTDNA-IN88320 upgraded from R-A6925 to its R-BY20589 subclade, which runs parallel to the chieftain R-FTA43921 clade. This provides a strong date for their parent clade of R-FT441685 clade forming before circa 1200 AD. FTDNA Discover says the most recent common ancestor of R-FT441685 is estimated to have been born circa 1100 AD.

Other Síl Muiredaig related surnames under R-FGC5939 like Mulroony, Flynn, Beirne, Hoban, Fallon, Conolly, etc. will start filling out this sub-clade. Haplogroups under R-FGC5939 also indicate that these are sons of Muiredach Muillethan: we find the surname McDonough (MacDonnchadh), a branch of the MacDermotts and descendants of Indreatacht under R-A6925, the aforementioned Ó Flannacáin (O'Flannagan/Flanagan/Flanigan/etc.) and Mac Áeducáin (Egan/etc.) likely descended from Colla son of Ardgall son of Cathal son of Muiredach Muillethan, under the R-FTA43254 clade. Also, the surname derived from Ó Cenndubáin (O'Canavan/ Kennevan/etc.), descendants of Connbach (Clann Conmaig) son of Muiredach Muillethan, have 2 kits appear that show under the R-BY20588 clade.

Again, for the most part we will see that these slight deviations from the genealogies give some indication of cause, and any differences in descendant lines are nominal, due in part to the lack of genetic variation in the given geographical area. Sadly, we have no record of any family surnames that existed under Muiredach Mál's son Cathal, yet in all likelihood there could have been unrecorded O'Connor and O'Flannagan families in this line. It is possible sometime after Tadc inda Dúir Ó Conchobair, d. 956 AD, but before or with Tairdelbach Már Ó Conchobair, d. 1156 AD, there was a surname change event in the Ó Conchobair line. We deduce this since Tadc inda Dúir Ó Conchobair was the last common ancestor of the Mac Diarmot Ó Conchobair and we are also seeing other Connor and variant surnames in the R-FGC5939 clade, such as O'Connor-IN85160, Conner-531470.

To summarize, whereas the traditional genealogies grouped both the O'Conors and the MacDermotts as members of the Silmurray, Y-DNA shows that the O'Conors and McManus split off on a different branch before the origin of the Silmurray. It must be further emphasized that the O'Connor/McManus are still closely related to the MacDermotts just not in the way most genealogies stated.

3.1.1.6. The Uí Briúin Umail

3.1.1.6.1. The Ó Maille

Umhaill was a territory around Clew Bay in the west of what is now County Mayo, Ireland, comprising the baronies of Burrishoole and Murrisk. Its ruling dynasty was known as the Uí Maille (O'Malley). The Ó Maille are regarded as Conall Oirbsen's descendants, and specifically Maill mac Conall, would become the ancestor of the Ó Máille clan.

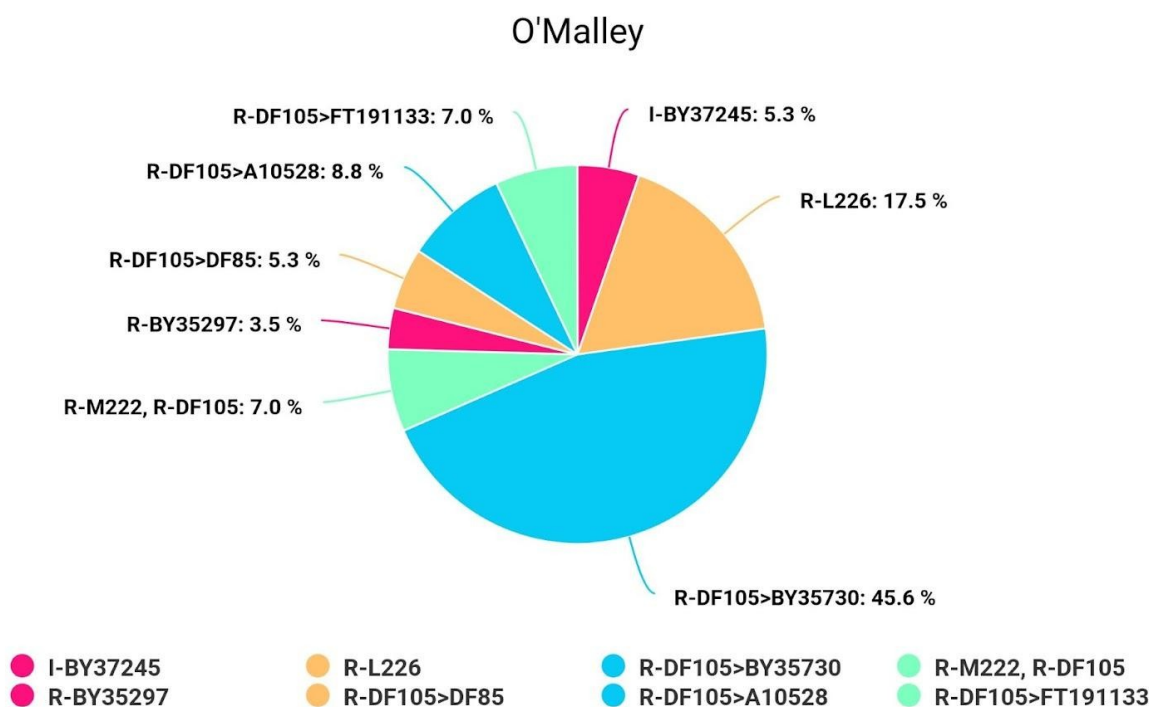
Variations of the name include O Mailie, O Mallie, O Mally, O Maely, O'Malley, O'Meally, O'Mealy, Malley, Meally, Mealley, Melly, Melia, etc.; all meaning 'descendant of Máille.' The O'Malleys were particularly celebrated as naval commanders, being called the Manannans, or sea-gods, of the western ocean, and having a considerable fleet always under their command.

Knox and subsequent historians regard the O'Malley relationship to the Uí Briúin to be a fiction, designed to give them an acceptable alliance with the Uí Briúin. However, the genetic evidence

appears to refute this claim. Specifically, the Uí Briúin O'Malleys clade trail is R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-BY35731. As the clade trail for Dau Galach appears to be R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-A18726, this fits well with the claim that the O'Malley ancestor Conall Oirbsen was likely a brother to Dau Galach and both were sons of Brión.

While there are also O'Malley kits at R-DF105 > R-FT191133 and R-DF105 > R-DF85, the kits under R-BY35731 are most likely representative of this family. There are 350 members of this project and 72 use a version of this surname.

O'Malley Pie Chart



3.1.2. The Uí Fiachrach

The Uí Fiachrach are assigned dozens of clans in the genealogies; but at the time of this writing there is genetic evidence for only some of the descendants of Amalgaid and Feradach Daithe. These descendants are found in the R-BY35727 and R-FGC23742 clades respectively.

3.1.2.1. The Uí Amalgada

The Uí Amalgada clans are all found in the R-BY35727 to date.

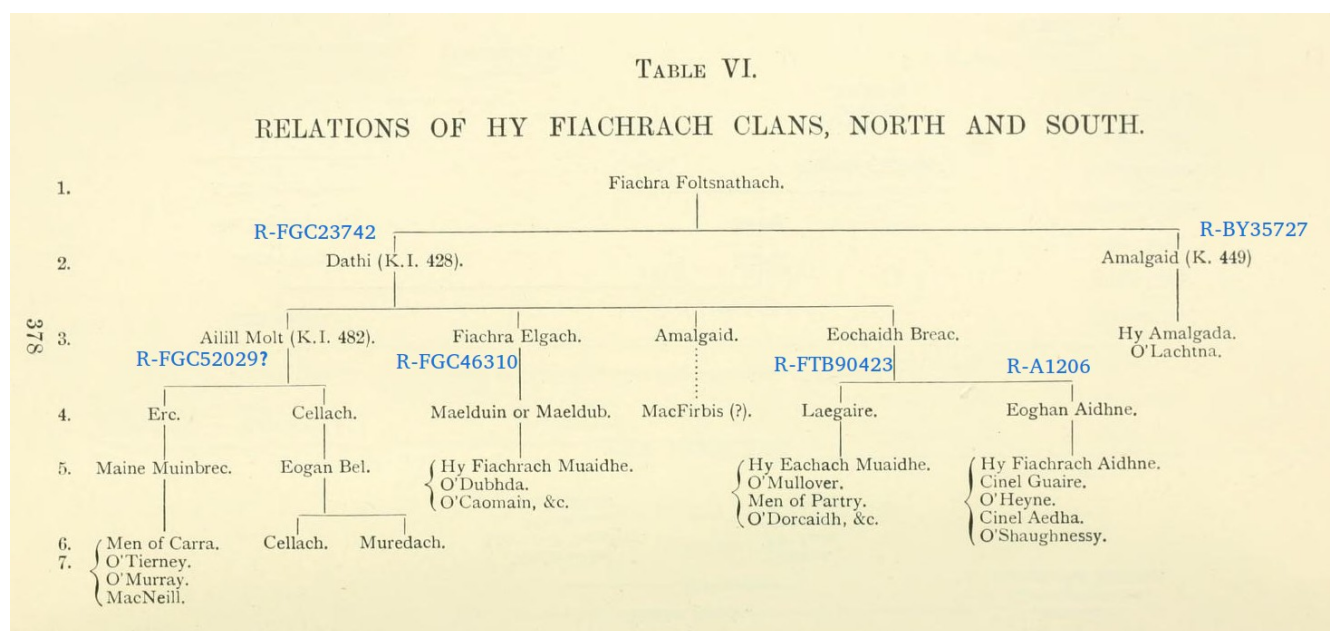


Figure 006. Ui Fiachrach Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA

3.1.2.1.1. The Ó Lachtna

The Ó Lachtna are clustered in the R-FT354023 subclade of the R-BY35727 clade.

3.1.2.1.2. The Ó Dubagáin

The Ó Dubagáin cluster is in the R-FTB81706 subclade of the R-BY35727 clade.

Table 004. R-BY35727 Loughney cluster

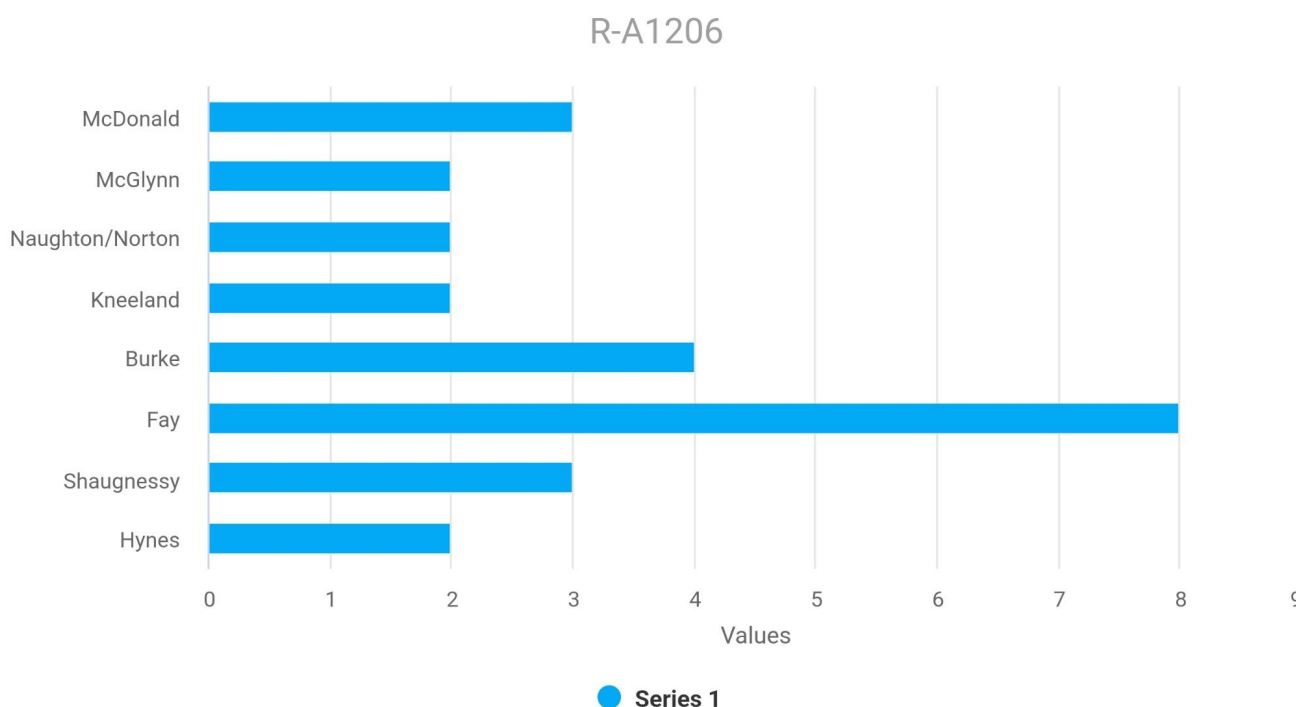
Dál Cuinn R1b-DF104 > DF105 > BY35727 Ui Fiachrach, Cenél Amalgada			
MK28721	Roger Loughney	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT248889
MK43517	Matthew Loughney	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT20486
430936	William Loughney b 1855	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT61877
846559	Loughney	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT13680
955651	John Loughney	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT13680
520362	John Loughna / Loughney b 1820	Boyle, County Roscommon, Ireland	R-FT354023
IN96400	John Duggan, b. abt 1838 and d. 1882	Ireland	R-FTB81706
187883	Matthew Douglas (Sr.) b. 10 Aug 1769 d. 30 Sep 184	Ireland	R-FTC11219
MK30039	John Loughney	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT19048
1013896	Roger / Robert Loughney b 1837	County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT19048
IN87472	John Loughney b 1790	Burrishoole Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT248889
551033	Patrick Loughney, b 1820	Kilcummin Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT61877
218512	John Loughney, b 1766	Kilfian Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-BY54743
503712	Alexander Loughney	Lacken Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT268490
430934	Patrick Loughney, b 1824	Kilcummin Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT15402
MK28720	Patrick Loughney, b 1806	Kilcummin Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT15402
959955	Patrick Loughney	Lacken Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-BY54743
857276	Patrick Loughney b 1780 Shanvallyhugh, Mayo	Burrishoole Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-BY54743
520363	John Loughney, b. abt 1810	Kilcummin Parish, County Mayo, Ireland	R-FT268490
IN123161	unknown Duggan	County Kilkenny, Ireland	R-FTC12033
725669	James Carney (b circa 1850 County Mayo, Ireland)	County Mayo, Ireland	R-BY35728

3.1.2.2. Descendants of Dathi R-FGC23742

3.1.2.3. The Uí Fiachrach Aidne

The Uí Fiachrach Aidne line runs parallel to the O'Dowd in the genealogies. While the R-FGC23742 O'Dowd are under its R-FGC46310 subclade, the Uí Fiachrach Aidne are in the parallel R-A1206 subclade. The graph below identifies Uí Fiachrach Aidne chieftain surnames: two (2) Ó hEidinn (O'Hynes) kits and three (3) Ó Sechnassaig (O'Shaughnessy) kits that are in the R-A1206 clade.

R-A1206 Bar Chart



As shown above, other surnames associated with the Uí Fiachrach appear under the A1206 clade. Kneeland (O 'Neyland) is referenced in Durning's *A Guide to Irish Roots* where they appear as descended from Guaire Aidhne. Some sources state that ÓNiallain were an Uí Toirdelbhaigh Ecclesiastical sept of Ballyally Castle. However, *The Chronicum Scotorum: A chronicle of Irish affairs, from the earliest times to A.D. 1135; with a supplement, containing the events from 1141 to 1150;* (edited, with a translation by William Maunsell Hennessy) states that,

Ailill Ua Niallain, of the Uí-Fiachrach-Aidhne, tanist-Abbot of Cluain-muc-Nois, and comarb of Cronan of Tuaim-greins, and of Mac Duach, quievit.

This indicates the Niallain gain provenance as an unrecorded family of Uí Fiachrach Aidhne, and appears to be correct genetically. The four (4) Burke kits represent a surname change event, perhaps for social advancement, likely assumed by descendants of Aidne after the arrival of the Norman invaders circa 1100 AD in Connaught.

The O'Clery and O'Cahill were betrayed by their O'Shaughnessy and O'Hynes kinsmen, who joined the Burkes to become part of Clanrickard. This family remained rulers of the territory until the

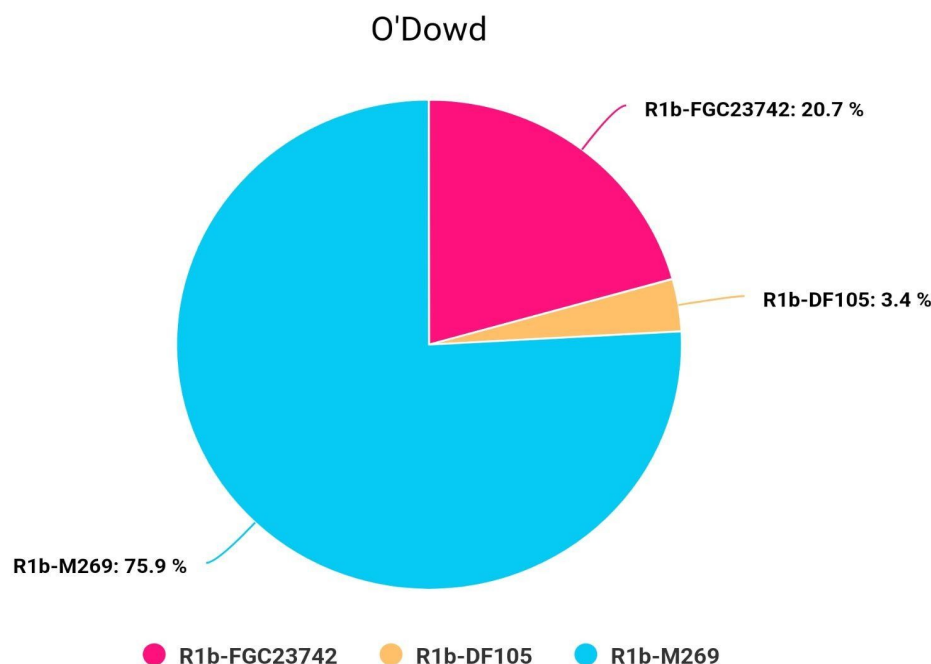
land confiscations of the late 1690s and early 1700s AD. An example would be McRemon O'Heyn (Kinvara Castle, Killeenavarra) who adopted the McReamoinn Burke's name.³⁴ These types of surname changes occurred due to fosterage primarily in important Gaelic families. The Norman invaders used fosterage as means of strengthening bonds and ensuring obedience with the locals, similar to the system of taking hostages (Note: the Galway Burkes in Southern Connacht should be R-DF27).

Durning's *A Guide to Irish Roots* also mentions an O'Fahy family under the O'Shaughnessy pedigree, and this seems correct.

3.1.2.4. The Uí Fiachrach Muaighe

3.1.2.4.1. The Ó Dubhda and the Northern Fiachrach (R-FGC23742)

O'Dowd Pie Chart



The O'Dowd FTDNA project has 137 members, of which 26 kits use the surname. Six (6) of these kits are R-DF105>FGC23742, one (1) is DF105, many are still M269 and require more advanced testing.

The man who is the most recent common ancestor of R-FGC23742 is estimated to have been born around 350 CE. He is the ancestor of at least 12 descendant lineages known as A1206, FGC46310, BY168066, BY107609, Y62692, FT359093, A11905, BY69640, FGC58791 and, FGC52029.

Of the SNPs listed above, FGC46310 is shared by all the O'Dowds under FGC23742.

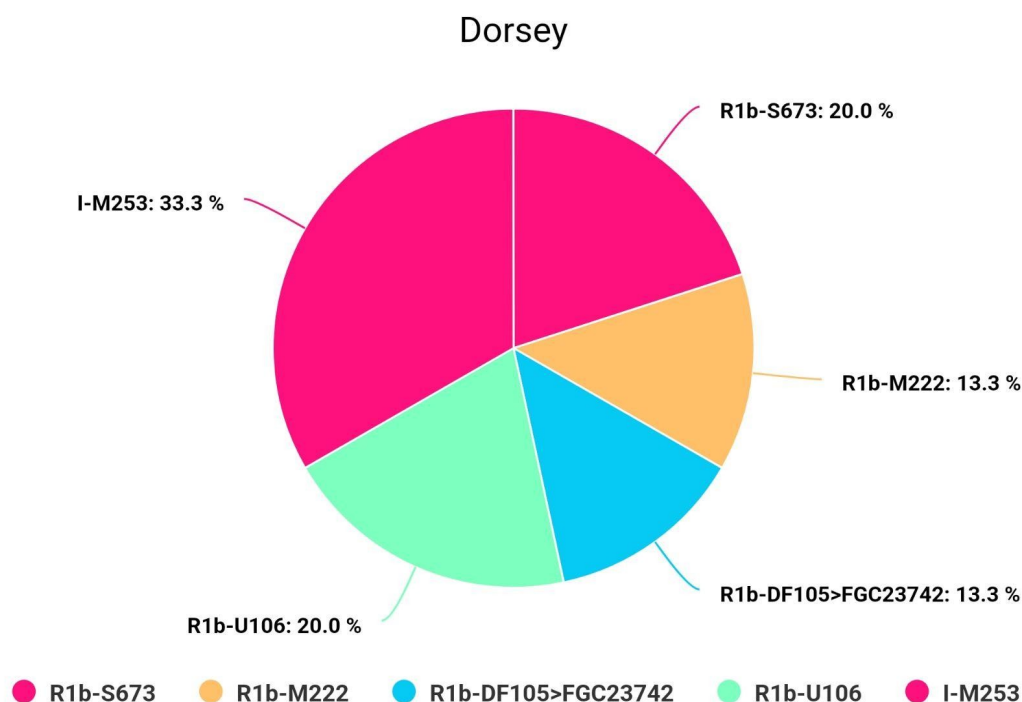
³⁴ <https://kinvara.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Trácht-Magazine-2000.pdf>

3.1.2.4.2. The Dorseys (R-FGC23742)

Another R-FGC23742 chieftain line associated with the O'Dowds includes the O'Dorsey. Rev. Patrick Woulfe says that among the families named Ó Dorchaidhe, there is one that is the name of a branch of the Uí Fiachrach, who were chiefs of the extensive district of Partry, to the west of Lough Mask in Co. Mayo.

The Dorsey FTDNA project has 259 members but very few have tested past the large groups at R-M269 and E-M53, both which are too far back in time to be of any consequence. The remainder are spread evenly across a few clades. The two (2) FGC23742 O'Dorchaidhe results are mainly what we are concerned with, considering provenance shared with the O'Dowd's suggest that these would be the O'Dorchaidhe of the Partry.

Dorsey Pie Chart



3.2. The Uí Néill

3.2.1. The Northern and Southern Uí Néill

Son	Death	Descendants	Territory
Eógan	circa 465 AD	Cenél nEógan	Originally Inishowen, then Ailech, and later Tyrone
Conall Gulban Guirt	circa 464 AD	Cenél Conaill	Originally Tyrconnell but later most of Co. Donegal and Co. Fermanagh
Énnae	(unknown)	Cenél Énnai	Mag Énnai

Table 005. Territory of Niall's sons

Medieval Irish texts record that three sons of Niall Noígiallach, Eoghan, Conal Gulban, and Énnae along with Ercc, a son of Colla Uais, and his grandchildren, invaded northwestern Ulster.³⁵ The result was a reduction in the territory of the Ulaid, with the appropriated land divided between the brothers as follows:

- Conal Gulban Guirt took the western portion named Tír Conaill (Tyrconnell).
- Eógan took possession of the main peninsula named Inis Eógain (Inishowen).
- Énnae took nominal possession of land lying south of Ailech, which became known as Mag Énnai.³⁶

These domains were further divided into several sub-kingdoms, which held dominance over smaller *tuatha*. As noted in the table above, the territory of the Cenél Conaill was called Tír Conaill, meaning “the land of Conall”; and the territory of the Cenél nEógain was called Inis Eógain, meaning “Eógan's Island”, the name of which survives today as the name of the Inishowen peninsula. The king of the overkingdom was styled as Rí Ailig, the “King of Ailech”, with the kingdom’s base being at Elagh Castle and the nearby Grianan likely serving as a ceremonial site.

By the 13th century AD the Cenél Conaill had come to dominance over the original territory of the Northern Uí Néill in Co. Donegal, and sponsored their own history, which incorporated elements from earlier historical revisions.³⁷ Known as the *Eachtra Conaill Gulbain*, “The otherworld adventures of Conall Gulban”,³⁸ it details how sons of Niall Noígiallach, the eponymous ancestor of the Uí Néill dynasties, came forth from Connacht, and invaded the north-western territory of the Ulaid, conquering it from the indigenous people, the Dál Fiatach.³⁹ This territory roughly equated to present-day Co. Donegal, and they founded their own overkingdom and dynasties: the Cenél Conaill and Cenél Eógain.

Originally the Cenél Conaill was the dominant branch, and were so from the 6th to late 8th centuries. In 734, after a challenge from Áed Allán, king of the Cenél Eógain, Flaithbertach mac Loingsech of the Cenél Conaill abdicated as over-king of the Northern Uí Néill, and the Uí Néill as a whole. From then onwards the Cenél Conaill's dominance started to wane, and their rulers would never

³⁵ O’Kelly, M, 1989. *Early Ireland: an introduction to Irish prehistory*, Cambridge, p 152

³⁶ *Annals of Ulster* (AU), 1197.4, 1203.2, 1252.6, 1288.6, 1339.8, 1356.4, 1369.3, 1413.2, 1516.8, 1526.9.

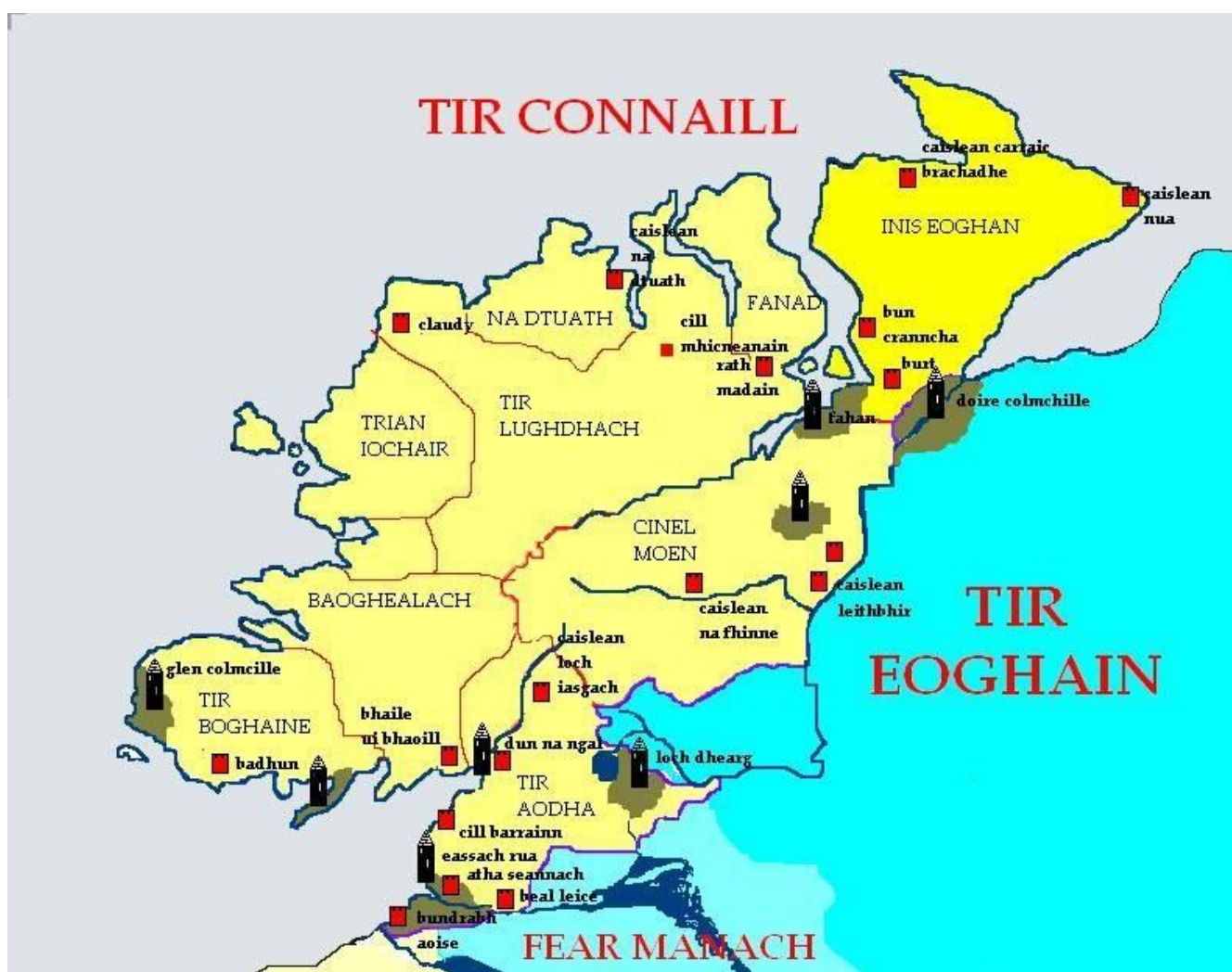
³⁷ The first use recorded in the annals may be found in AU 1180.4, 1180.7.

³⁸ *Clans of Ireland*, “History,” accessed June 13, 2023. <https://www.clansofireland.ie/history/>.

³⁹ Brady, Lindy (2022). *The Origin Legends of Early Medieval Britain and Ireland*. Cambridge University Press. pp. 129–130.

again attain the status of over-king of the Uí Néill. It was from this point that the lengthy rotation of the kingship of Tara between the Cenél nEógain and Clann Cholmáin of the Southern Uí Néill started.⁴⁰

The power of the Cenél Conaill collapsed around the 780s AD, allowing the Cenél nEógain to advance against them. According to the Annals of Ulster, in 788 AD the Cenél nEógain as part of a southwards push burned the monastery of Derry, which had been built by the Cenél Conaill in the 6th century.⁴¹ The following year, 789 AD, the battle of Cloítech occurred between the Cenél Eógain, led by Áed Oirdnide, and the Cenél Conaill, for complete control of the Northern Uí Néill. The Cenél nEógain emerged victorious excluding the Cenél Conaill from the over-kingship as well as from Mag noítha, the valuable plains south of Greenan Mountain in Inishowen. Following this battle, the Northern Uí Néill over-kingdom became known as "Ailech" instead of "In Fochla" and "In Tuaiscert." The Cenél Conaill were afterwards confined to their sub-kingdom of Tír Conaill.



The Southern Uí Néill dynasty was led by Lóegaire and Coirpre, two sons of Niall, along with their direct descendants. However, following the assassination of Túathal Máelgarb around 549 AD, another branch of the family, descended from Niall's son Conall Cremthainne, took over the task of expanding and solidifying the Uí Néill's influence. There are no recorded descendants of either Lugaid

⁴⁰ O'Kelly, M, 1989. Early Ireland: an introduction to Irish prehistory, Cambridge, p 175.

⁴¹ Ibid.

mac Lóegaire or Túathal Máelgarb, suggesting they may have been omitted from genealogical records or possibly erased from history altogether.

Similar to their Northern Uí Néill relatives, the Southern Uí Néill also divided into two primary branches, both tracing their lineage back to the sons of Diarmait mac Cerbaill: Colmán Már and Áed Sláine. Colmán Már became the founder of the Clann Cholmáin Kings of Mide, whereas Áed Sláine is recognized as the namesake ancestor of the Síl nÁedo Sláine Kings of Brega.

[The] Southern Uí Néill [...] were split into two main groups that dominated the east midlands, namely Síl nÁedo Sláine and Clann Cholmáin.⁴²

The main Southern Uí Néill dynasties were Clann Cholmáin, who ruled the kingdom of Mide, and Síl nÁedo Sláine, who ruled Brega, while their northern cousins were Cenél nEógain and Cenél Conaill.⁴³

The territories of the Southern Uí Néill were that of County Meath (Kingdom of Mide). Chief Clans of the South were Clann Cholmain, Cenél Fiachach and Fir Teathbha.

3.2.2. Northern Uí Néill Genealogy (R-ZZ87)

Historian Brian Lacey ruled out Niall Noígíallach as the ancestor of the Uí Néill and provided other possible candidates including: Cana mac Luigdech Lámfhata, Dál Fiatach leader of Sentuatha Ulaid; Echu Doimlén, father of the Three Collas; or perhaps an anonymous Cruithin prince.

However, it is almost a certainty that most of the so-called northern Uí Néill did not come into Donegal from outside at all, at least as recently as the 5th century as is normally suggested. Rather, they probably emerged instead from within the existing native people of that territory. It's also very unlikely, despite the later widespread use of the name Uí Néill, that these people had any connection whatever with the eponymous Niall Noígíallach. Instead it now seems clear that at least most of them were later attached to the Uí Néill by fictional genealogical links - as it were, re-invented with fresh (false) identities, as part of a newly constructed 'national' ruling elite - could the Cenel Conaill and the Cenel Eoghan, therefore, or either of these groups individually, have belonged to the Cruithin themselves?⁴⁴

Fortunately, we have the advantage of Y-DNA testing and note that the septs and surnames associated with the Uí Néill are grouping under R-DF105 > ZZ87. However, Lacey may have been correct in part, the later O'Neill chieftain line does not genetically belong to the R-DF104 Dál Cuinn as its markers are under R-DF27. R-DF27 is usually associated with the Iberian Peninsula although it does have a presence in the British Isles.

⁴² Downham, *Medieval Ireland*, p. 92.

⁴³ Purcell and Sheehan, "Viking Dublin", pp. 35–60.

⁴⁴ <https://darkagehistory.blogspot.com/2014/>

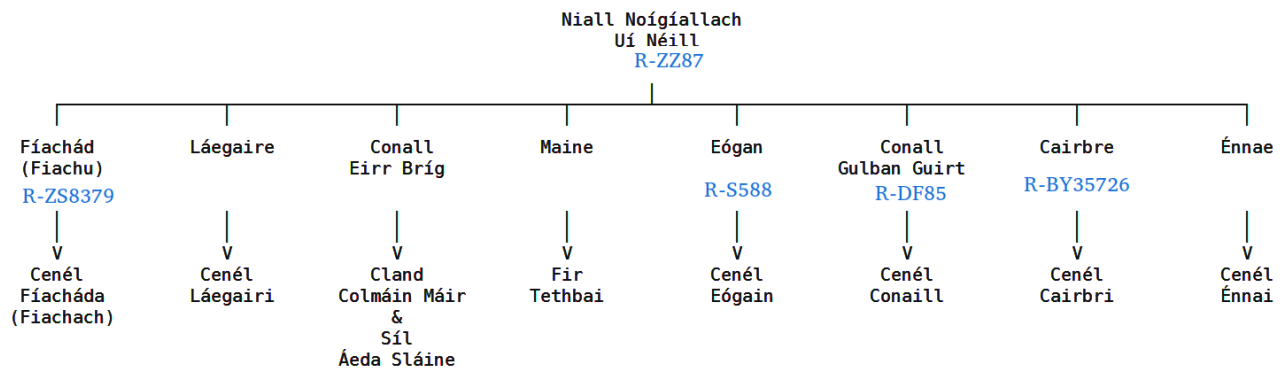


Figure 007. Genealogy of Niall's sons Correlated with the Y-DNA

According to Dubaltach Mac Fir Bisig, Niall had 16 sons; however, other genealogical records do not capture all of them, most likely only those that the writers deemed important enough to warrant recording. This paper will not mention all of them, but rather discuss those that are indicative of sons and grandsons that we have determined are currently under the R-ZZ87 clade. The following is from *The Book of Fenagh*, pg 317:

*Of Niall's eight sons, strong in battle,
Four were in the North, four in the South;
Maine in the South; then Laeghaire;
Conall Cremhthainne, and Fiachadh
Enna in the North, Eoghan without stain,
Cairpre, and Conall Gulban;
Though they abandoned Tara for a time.
They abandoned not the kingship of Ireland.
After Niall and Dathi in the East,
Conall was chosen in Tara;
Until the fierce Laeghaire coaxed
The loan of the kingship from Conall.*

The man who is the most recent common ancestor of R-ZZ87 is estimated to have been born around 250 CE. He is the ancestor of at least 22 descendant lineages known as R-A223, R-FGC4133, R-S588, R-DF85, R-ZS8379, R-FGC32796, R-A10642, R-BY35726, R-BY35748, R-Y61966, R-BY93859, R-FT105225, R-FT168685, R-FT168547, R-BY119411, R-FT17642, R-FTC610, R-FT236610, R-FTT142, R-BY226893, R-FT224542, & R-FTB60193.

Niall
 Connall Gulban
 R-DF85
 Fergus Cennfota
 R-S673
 Imid
 Sétna
 R-S668
 Cille 5/7
 Ainmire
 rí T +569
 Aed
 BY25887/BY11548
 rí T +598
 Colum
 Adomnán
 ab Iona +704
 Lugaid
 (>Cenél Lugdach)
 Rónán
 R-FGC8740
 Garb
 R-DF97
 Cenn Fáelad
 R-BY471
 Fiamán
 Máel Dúin
 R-FGC19851
 Airnelach
 Cenn Fáelad
 Máenguile
 Dochartach
 (>Ua Dochartaig)
 Máenguile
 Domnall Droma F.
 Donnchad
 Domnall Finn
 Maelgaethe
 McGee/ McKee
 Cearnachan
 Carnahan
 Maelfothbail
 Dálach
 dux CC +870
 Bradagán
 Baigill
 (>Ua Baigill)
 Eicneacán
 rí CC +906
 Flann
 Adlann
 +950
 Domnall Mór
 (>Ua Domnall)
 Conchobar
 sons
 +956,
 1250
 Murchad
 rí CC +767
 Máel Bresail
 rí CC +819
 Aengus
 Máel Doraid
 (>Ua Maildoraid)
 Mael
 Bresail
 CC +904
 Murchad
 rí CC +767
 three sons
 +703
 Donngal
 +731
 Flann Gohan
 +732
 Conaing
 +733
 Snedgal
 Strain
 Fiangus
 Cenn Fáelad
 Muirchertach
 Máel Dúin
 R-ZZ36
 Cael
 (rí T)
 +653/4
 Ua
 Gallchobair
 Cellach
 (rí T)
 +658/64
 Cumuscach
 +597
 Conall CG
 +604
 Domnall
 rex Hiberniae
 +642
 Colgu
 +663
 no sons
 +703
 Ailill
 Flannessa
 +666
 Fergus
 Fánat
 Congal
 Cenn Magair
 rí T +710
 ch 754
 Máel Bresail
 rí CC +819
 Aengus
 Máel Doraid
 (>Ua Maildoraid)
 Mael
 Bresail
 CC +904
 sons
 +956,
 1250
 Flann
 Adlann
 +950
 Domnall Mór
 (>Ua Domnall)
 Conchobar
 sons
 +956,
 1250

Figure 008. Cenel Conall Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA

Conall Gulban (died c. 464 AD) was a son of Niall Noígíallach. He was the eponymous ancestor of the Cenél Conaill, who founded the kingdom of Tír Conaill in the 5th century AD, comprising much of what is now Co. Donegal. The *Book of Ballymote* assigns him with seven (7) sons:

1. Fergus Cennfota
2. Bógáine
3. Óengus Gundat
4. Nath Í Rumann Dau
5. Ennae
6. Eóchád
7. Ciarán or Tigernach

However, it soon combines Bógáine and Ennae into one person called Ennae Bógáine, progenitor of the Cenél mBógáine. This leaves six (6) sons, but could possibly lead to an interpretation of there being nine (9) sons:

1. Fergus Cennfota
2. Ennae Bógáine

3. Óengus Gundat
4. Nath Í
5. Rumann
6. Dau
7. Eóchád
8. Ciarán
9. Tigernach

Y-DNA testing has indicated that R-DF85 is the clade for the descendants of Conall Gulban. The paternal line for R-DF85 was formed when it branched off from its parent R-ZZ87 clade around 200 CE. The man who is the most recent common ancestor of R-DF85 is estimated to have been born around 300 AD. R-DF85 has 12 subclades at the time of writing:

1. R-S673
2. R-CTS8580
3. R-BY11545
4. R-BY35723
5. R-FT35553
6. R-FT109480
7. R-FGC71316
8. R-FT62759
9. R-FTA4843
10. R-FTB36676
11. R-FTC5938
12. R-FGC43023

This most likely indicates that more than one subclade belongs to some of Conall Gulban's sons. Further, since the occurrence of a mutation is random, not every son in the same generation may have a mutation occur. It may skip to his sons or their sons, giving the appearance of many lines forming in a single generation when in fact they occurred over multiple generations.

The R-S673 subclade is the most amenable to correlating with the Cenél Conaill genealogies as it aligns well with the descendants of Fergus Cennfota. The man who is the most recent common ancestor of R-S673 is estimated to have been born circa 350 AD. He is the ancestor of at least 8 descendant lineages known as R-S668, R-FGC32830, R-BY25946, R-FGC73756, R-A13343, R-FT62825, R-FTE14768, and R-FTC22053.

In MacFirbis' *Great Book of Genealogy*, Fergus Cennfota is assigned four (4) sons:⁴⁵

1. Loarn
2. Feidlimid, father of St. Columb Cille
3. Brénaind
4. Sétna

The line of Sétna, or his father Fergus Cennfota, occurs somewhere around the same time as R-S668. Bart Jaski's genealogical tables place Ainmere, son of Sétna as king in 569 AD. Assuming Ainmere was an adult and adding another generation we can estimate Sétna's birth loosely occurring

⁴⁵ Leabhar Genealach, 151.4, pg 349

around 509 AD. FTDNA estimates the most recent common ancestor of R-S668 to have been born around 450 CE. R-S668 is the parent of six (6) subclades as of the time of writing:

1. R-A10680
2. R-BY11548⁴⁶
3. R-Y112235
4. R-PH4147
5. R-FGC8740
6. R-BY67594

Sétina is given a detailed account of his descendants, particularly his sons Lugaid and Ainmere, and they will be the focus for the next sections.

3.2.2.1.1. Descendants of Lugaid macc Sétina (R-FGC8740)

Lugaid was the eponymous ancestor of the Cenél Lugdach, who occupied a district now comprised of the barony of Kilmacrenan, Co. Donegal.⁴⁷

3.2.2.1.1.1. The O'Dogherty (R-FGC8740 >BY471) and the Chieftain Claim

The Dougherty or Doherty surname is derived from the Gaelic O'Dochartaigh sept that was located on the Inishowen peninsula in County Donegal. The sept name is taken from the Gaelic word “dochartach”, meaning “hurtful”.

During the 1990s, the Chief Herald of Ireland offered recognition to descendants of the Chiefs of the most ancient clans **as recognized under the English system of primogeniture**, rather than the original Brehon Law succession practice of tanistry, calling them the Chiefs of the Name. The chieftainship of the Dohertys was thus claimed by Dr. Ramón Salvador O'Dogherty.⁴⁸ The Centre for Irish Genealogical and Historical Studies states:

Ramón O'Dogherty himself supplied copy documentation supporting his right to the Chieftainship, but in the form of secondary sources. The Office of the Chief Herald refused to allow access to documents in the O'Doherty file which might provide conclusive proof of the validity of the recognition.

In July 1990 AD, an O'Dogherty Clan Gathering was held and Ramón Salvador O'Dogherty of Spain was ceremonially installed as Chief of the Name at the ancient inaugural stone in Belmont House, Derry. O'Dogherty received the traditional white wand of office and was handed the sword which Cahir O'Doherty bore during his death in battle in 1608 AD.⁴⁹

However, Terence MacCarthy was exposed as a fraud after being recognized as Chief of the MacCarthy clan, a scandal threw the credibility of the Chiefs of the Name into question, including that of Ramón O'Dogherty in Spain.⁵⁰ In this case a knee jerk reaction to all claimants of royal descent

⁴⁶ On Alex Williamson's Big Tree

⁴⁷ The Book of Fenagh

⁴⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O%27Doherty_family

⁴⁹ <http://ramonodogherty.blogspot.com/2009/01/history-of-odogherty.html>

⁵⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O'Doherty_family

seems unwarranted but expected. McCarthy claimed descent from an unrelated (not Dál Cuinn) line of Chiefs in Desmond, his grandfather's name was actually McCartney.

However, there is on display in the Heraldic Museum in Kildare Street a lengthy pedigree of O'Doherty of Inishowen dated 1992 AD, which is attributed to Deputy Chief Herald Fergus Gillespie. This pedigree traces the line of Chiefly descent after Cahir O'Doherty through his brother John, down to three brothers, Henry, John and Clinton Dillon, who were sons of a John O'Doherty who died 1784 AD. These three brothers are said to have gone to Spain, where John became a naval officer and died in 1847 AD, he being the great-great grandfather of Ramón.

There is also an Ulster's Office pedigree dated 1790 AD which documents the line of Henry, John, and Clinton Dillon O'Doherty (GO MS 165, pages 407-12). With the exception of a reference to the seventeenth-century elements having been extracted from the O'Clery Book of Genealogies, the above mentioned 1992 AD pedigree is silent as to other primary sources used. In particular, there is no indication of the Spanish certificates proving the connection between John O'Doherty died 1847 AD and the current Chief Ramón.⁵¹

The O'Dochartaigh party in Spain was confirmed by the Archivo Municipal de Cadiz, with Henry O'Dochartaigh living in Angustias and his three nephews in Cuna. The Ulster King of Arms, Sir Chischester Fortescue, and other officials certified the noble genealogy and origin of the youths, confirming their presence in Spain. A note is added stating that "*They were youths who have come to enter His Majesty's service*".⁵²

John O'Dogherty married Maria Josefa Macedo, whose father had been shot by the French. Their children were Carlos-Enrique, born 1809, died in his infancy, Juan, (1813 – 1845), army officer, Federico, (1815 – 1864) who died young, Enrique II, (1825 -), and two daughters, Aurora and Ramona.

His son Juan, (1813 – 1845), an army officer, married in 1835 Joaquina Navajas, resident of Redondela in Galicia. They had three children, Ramon, (1835 – 1902), Ulpiano, who emigrated to the U.S. leaving no trace, and Jose, who died young.

Ramon, an orphan, joined the navy at fifteen where he was decorated and promoted to sergeant. After leaving the navy, he moved to Ireland to inherit his grandfather's lost properties. In 1871 AD, he sued Queen Victoria on behalf of his grandfather and relatives. The English court recognized his rights over some of the lands in Co. Cavan, which were then sold and the proceeds shared amongst the litigants who were not in agreement and had been in family dispute.

Ramon married Isabel Sanchez (1860 – 1934) in 1883 AD and they had two children, Juana, (1884 – 1960) and Pascual (1886 – 1964).

In July 1918 Pascual married Cayetana Sanchez Zuazo (1895 – 1980 AD) and had two sons, Ramon (b. 1919 April 30) and Pascual (b. 1920 August 28), and four daughters, Concepcion, (b. 1922), Cayetana, (b.1924), Carmen, (b.1930), and Isabel, 89b.1933).

Ramon, a biopathology doctor, studied in Cadiz and Madrid, and gained expertise in infectious disease treatment. He founded the Royal Academy of San Romualdo and was recognized as

⁵¹ <http://homepage.eircom.net/~seanjmurphy/chiefs/4chiefs.htm#odoch>

⁵² <https://luisodogherty.blogspot.com/2017/05/odochartaigh-in-spain-since-1790.html?m=1>

"Honorable Academic" in 2007. He was elected as Academic of the Royal Society of Medicine of Palma Majorca.⁵³

This Ramon was also a member of the Standing Council of Irish Chiefs and Chieftains.

The secondary evidence Ramon O'Dogherty provided for his claim to Chieftainship was not only persuasive, we note this kit falls into the DF105>BY471. There is nothing genetically evident that indicates Ramon is NOT from the Chieftain line of the O'Dochertaig, and likely is in fact, the Chieftain family. Statistical analysis of all members and all clades associated with the name is dominated by R-BY471 and R-DF97 at 69.6 percent.

The descendants listed by the O'Cleary Book of Genealogies Pedigree of the O'Dochertaig after Caithir, does in fact include the line of Ramon and Pascual:⁵⁴

34. Sir Caithir, d.1608
35. Owen, d. 1642 *nephew of Sir Caithir, d.1608 See Sir Bernard Burke, Index to Burke's dictionary of the landed gentry of Great Britain & Ireland
36. Caithir, d. 1714
37. Eoghan, b.c.1680
38. Sean, b 1710
39. Eoghan, b 1735
40. Sean, b 1775, d. 1847 Spain
41. Juan, b 1813
42. Ramon, b 1835
43. Pascual, b 1886
44. Ramón, b 1919, Pascual b 1920

Pascual O'Dogherty, brother of Ramón is FTDNA kit number 38173, his results are R-BY471>BY18307. Kit IN104150 is a first cousin to the Pascual O'Dogherty line.

Table 006. Results from Pascual O'Dogherty's kit

Group 01.1.1.1.4 — (TMRCA 1800 CE ±250) BY471 > BY470/BY472 > BY31357 > Y32988 > E						
	MIN					
	MAX					
	MODE					
105	38173	O'Dogherty	Sir Sean (John) O'Dogherty, c1540 Inishowen	Ireland	R-BY18307	Big
106	IN104150	O'Dogherty	Sir Sean (John) O'Dogherty, b. c1540 Inishowen, Do	Ireland	R-BY18307	Big
Group 01.1.1.2.1 — (TMRCA 1400 CE ±150) BY471 > BY470/BY472 > BY31357 > A24484 > F						
	MIN					

The Dougherty FTDNA project has 928 members, of which 249 members use the surname.

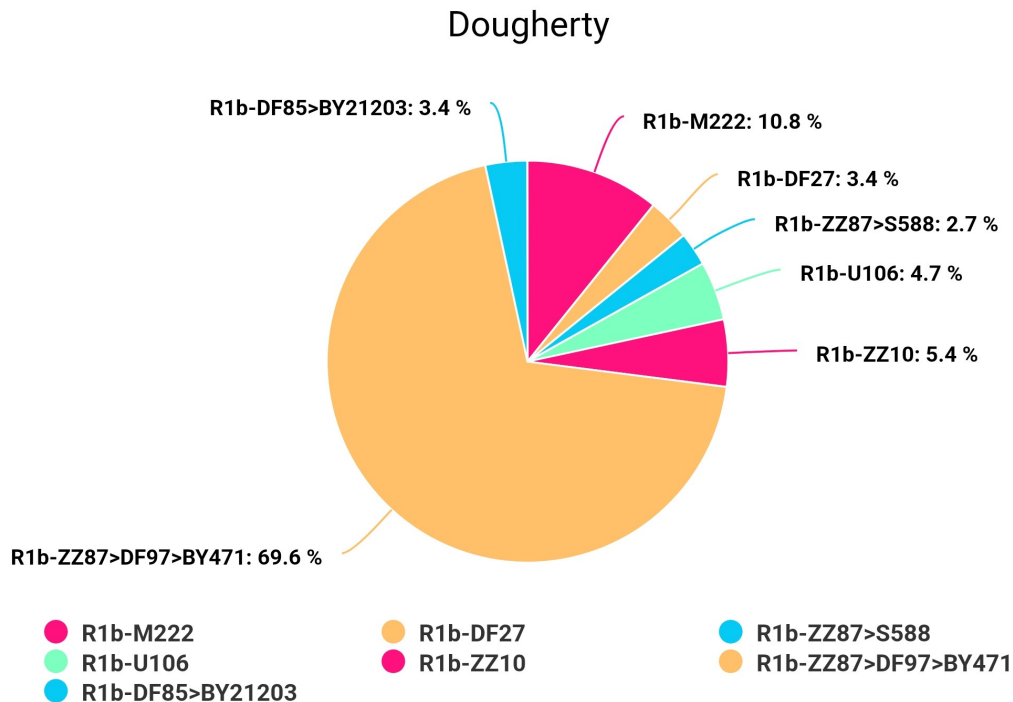
The data accumulated from Dougherty project show that DF105 >FGC8740 >DF97+ kits account for 69.6% of the total tested on the FTDNA surname project. There are 87 kits or 58.8 % under the BY471 sub-clade.

Four (4) kits show at R-ZZ87> S588; 91 kits are still R-M269; 27 kits are currently R-M222; seven (7) are R-U106, five (5) are R-DF27, eight (8) are at R-ZZ10. Other singleton and smaller clade groups make up the remainder:

⁵³ <http://ramonodogherty.blogspot.com/2009/01/history-of-odogherty.html>

⁵⁴ <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~alanmilliken/genealogy/Research/IrishRecords/Miscellaneous/CenelLugdach-Pedigree.html>

Dougherty Pie Chart



O'Donovan's notes to Irish topographical poems, tell us that "In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, when the Irish families had increased, and their territories were divided into two or more parts among rivals of the same family, each of the contending chieftains adopted some addition to the family surname, for the sake of distinction ... The O'Dougherty's of Inishowen, [were divided] into O'Doghertys, MacDevitts, and MacConnelloges." Thus, it seems some prominent families within the clan began to adopt new surnames, giving rise to a host of related branches or 'septs' associated with the Ó Dochartaighs.

In addition to those who bear a variant of the Ó Dochartaigh surname (such as Doherty, Dougherty, Daugherty, and others), the O'Clery Book of Genealogies gives the following listing of septs or families as being descended from the Ó Dochartaighs:⁵⁵

- David, from whom are the Clann Davids.
- Ailin, from whom are descended the Clann Ailin.
- Feabhal, from whom are descended the Clann Feabhal.
- Giolla Brighde, from whom are descended the Clann Mac Giolla bride.
- Donal oge, from whom are descended the Clann or sept of Donal oge.

3.2.2.1.1.2. The McDevitt (R-BY471)

The Mac Daibhéid family, also known as McDevitt or McDaid, is believed to be descendants of David Ó Dochartaigh. O'Clery indicates that the "Clann Davids" (McDevitts) were descendants of David who was slain in battle in 1208 AD.

⁵⁵ <https://www.odohertyheritage.org/history>

The family was closely allied to the Ó Dochartaighs and served as advisors. Genetic evidence suggests a growing McDevitt/McDaid "clade" for SNP R-A11106. As of June 2023 AD, at least six men with a paternal McDevitt or McDaid lineage have tested positive for SNP A11106.

According to FTDNA, R-A11106 branched off its ancestral SNP around 1,000 AD. The man who is the most recent common ancestor of this line is estimated to have been born around 1350 AD.

Table 007. McDevitt data reference

C2526		R1b-FT168547					
	A	B	C	D	E	F	
1	Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade		YS393 (DY)	DYS390	YSI
1610	FTD-H1132	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-Y109773		13	25	
1618	FTD-919202	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-A11099		13	26	
1619	FTD-349237	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-A11102		13	26	
1620	FTD-446144	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-A11102		13	25	
1621	FTD-IN47158	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-FT66830		13	26	
1622	FTD-285753	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-Y84160		13	26	
1624	FTD-365042	Mac Daibéid (McDevitt)	R1b-BY74379		13	26	
2615							
2616							
2617							

3.2.2.1.1.3. The McBride (R-BY471)

The McBride family in County Donegal may have been descended from Gilla-Brighde, grandson of Echmarcach Ó Dochartaigh, king of the Cenél Conaill. The name has been shortened to McBride, Gillbride, Kilbride, or other variants. Three McBride and a Bridgeman surnamed man at FTDNA have taken Y-DNA tests, with results under R-BY471 and R-FTB81770. Researchers at the Genelach Dáil Cuinn Project™ suggest that Bridgeman may have been a two-step name shift, with Ó Dochartaigh morphing to Ó Drochtaig (Irish for “bridgemaker”) and later translated into English as Bridgeman.

Table 008. McBride data reference

C2526		R1b-FT168547				
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade		YS393 (DYS)	DYS390
1301	FTD-MK6257	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-FGC30692		13	25
1302	FTD-235771	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-FT81370		13	25
1513	FTD-117589	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-BY472		13	25
1514	FTD-120676	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-BY472		14	25
1612	FTD-204951	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-FTB81770		13	25
1942	FTD-859199	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-BY145857		13	25
2121	FTD-74847	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-BY56799		13	25
2122	FTD-B316813	Mac Gilla Brigde (McBride)	R1b-FT197647		13	25
2615						
2616						

3.2.2.1.1.4. The McCafferty (R-BY471)

Rev. Woulfe's *Irish Names and Surnames* suggests that the Co. Donegal surname MacEachmharcaigh, meaning “son of the horse-rider” and often anglicized as McCafferty, is likely a

branch of the Ó Dochartaigh. This connection may have led to the family being associated with the Ó Dochartaigh cavalry. There are 2 McCafferty kits under R-BY471.

Table 009. McCafferty data reference

C2526			R1b-FT168547				
1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade	YS393 (DY)	DYS390	YS19 (D)		
1596	FTD-986700	Mac Echmarcaig? (McCafferty)	R1b-BY18281	13	25		
1597	FTD-960011	Mac Echmarcaig? (McCafferty)	R1b-BY18255	13	25		
2615							
2616							

3.2.2.1.1.5. The McMonagle (R-BY471)

While there is no known pedigree giving the origin of the McMonagle sept of Co. Donegal, it is likely that this family descended from the Ó Dochartaighs. Three (3) of the known early Ó Dochartaigh patriarchs bore the given name Máengal, which would explain the origin of the surname. In addition, six (6) R-BY471 McMonagle men have taken advanced Y-DNA tests and have an unusual 9-13 STR mutation at DYS385. Two (2) additional men with this STR mutation will likely end up as R-BY471 with advanced Y-DNA testing. For these reasons, it appears likely that the McMonagle are an unrecorded sept of Ó Dochartaighs and share genetic provenance with them.

Table 0010. McMonagle data reference

836596	Dougherty (deceased)	Charles Dougherty, d1808 http://bit.ly/zdaugherty	Ireland	R-Y126341	13	25	14	11	12-13	12	12	12
798860	Dougherty	Charles Dougherty, d1808 http://bit.ly/zdaugherty	Ireland	R-Y126341	13	25	14	11	12-13	12	12	12
623476	McMonagle		Unknown Origin	R-S673	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
949005	McMonagle		Unknown Origin	R-F17060	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
879512	McManigle	James McManigle, b. 1782 Ireland	Ireland	R-F17060	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
866340	McMonagle	James McMonagle, c1768 IE-c1814 Washington Co., PA	Ireland	R-F17060	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
231838	McMonagle	James mcmonagle Big Y FGC49693	Ireland	R-BY18261	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
N76876	McMonagle	John McMonagle, 1817-1900	Ireland	R-FGC8739	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
134514	Mc Monagle	Manus McMonagle, c1800 Lettermacaward, Donegal, IRE	Ireland	R-M269	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
42592	McGonigal	Edward McGonigal, 1846	Ireland	R-M222	13	25	14	11	9-13	12	12	12
N22237	Devitt	Patrick Devitt, b. c1816, Co. Clare, Ireland	Ireland	R-M269	13	25	15	11	11-13	12	12	12

3.2.2.1.1.6. Septs associated with Maelduin Mac Cennfaeladh (R-FGC19851)

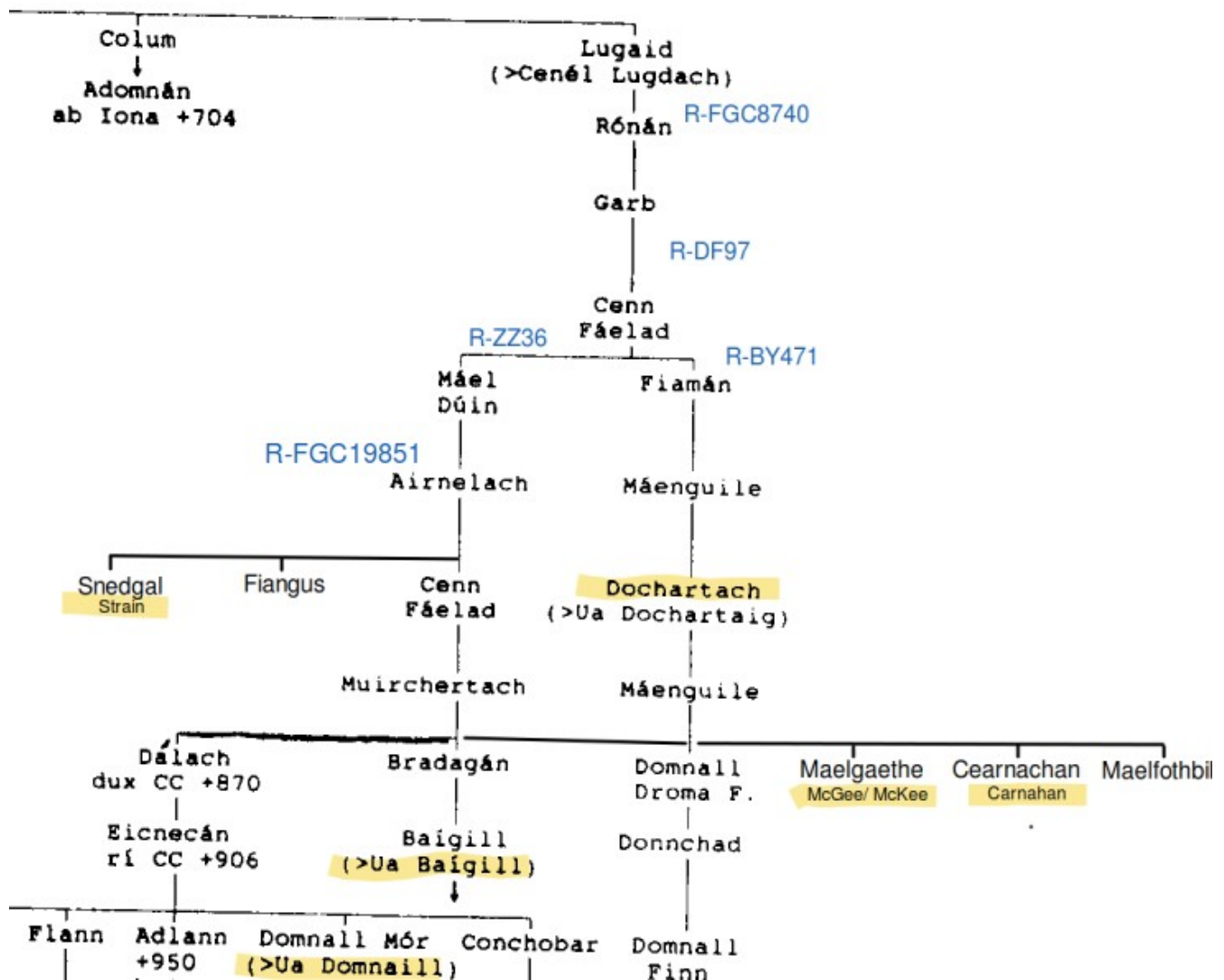
The R-FGC8740 clade contains O'Dougherty, Boyle, and O'Donnell surnames which is consistent with *The Book of Fenagh* and McFirbis' genealogies. Two sons of Cennfaeladh described in *The Book of Fenagh* are Fiaman (from whom came the Ó Dochertaigh), and his brother Maelduin. If the Ó Dochertaigh Fiaman are R-BY471, its parallel clade R-ZZ36 (used by Alex Williamson on his Big Tree) or R-FGC19851, might well describe these descendants of Maelduin.

The Book of Fenagh may have been begun by the 5th century AD monk St. Caillin and at various times added to by Christian monks in Fenagh Abbey. The book contains details about the saint, the church and also records the monastery's rents and payments. The rest of the book features some history, place names and, more importantly, genealogical material, including the following on pg 347:

*Lughaidh, son of Sétna of the bridles,
Had a son, generous Ronan.
The son of Ronan was the valorous Garbh;
Garbh's son was the first Cennfaeladh.*

The wounding Fiaman, of manly might,
 Was festive Cennfaeladh's first son;
 Parent of the hosts from this to the sea,
 From whom are derived the Clann-Fiamain
 Another son this Cennfaeladh had,
 Maelduin, father of Airnelach

Figure 009. Lughaid Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA



The Book of Fenagh, pg 347 also records the following:

Maelduin, father of Airnelach,
 Three sons had famous Airnelach,
 Snedgal, Fiangus, Cennfaeladh.

While we do have some information regarding the line of Snedghal and Cennfaeladh, not much is known regarding the line of Fiangus.

3.2.2.1.1.7. The Strain Family: Clann Snedgaile (R-FGC19851)

According to Rev. Woulfe, Strain is the name of an old Tirconnell family, the head of which was chief of Clann Snedhgile, a sept of the Cenél Conaill, seated in Glenswilly to the west of Letterkenny, and also erenagh of Conwal in the same district. The Strain family descends from Maelduin Mac Cennfaeladh through his son Airnelach and grandson Snedgal.

Rev. Woulfe gives the original form of the surname as O Sraitheáin, O Sruitheáin, or O Srutháin meaning “descendant of Sruthán’ or ‘Sruitheán’ (diminutive form of *sruth* an elder, a sage, a man of letters). Modern forms of the surname range from O’Srahane to Straghan, Strachan, Strain and includes mistranslations like Bywater and Ryan.

Specifically the The Clann Snedhghaile resided in Clanelly, a district lying to the west of Letterkenny, county of Donegal. Tír Luighdeach and the small balliboe of Leitir Ceanainn was situated between the rivers of ‘Dobhar’ and ‘Suilidhi’ (Swilly), we can see that it was part of this overall territory of the Cinéal Luighdeach, and two smaller clans within this tribe, the Clann Snedghile and Clann Fhiangusa, are recorded as having had forts at Conwal and Tullygay. *The Book of Fenagh* informs us that both of these clans were named after two brothers, Fiangus and Snedgal, the sons of Airnelach and were descended from Lughaidh, from whom the tribe got its name. The forts in existence near Conwal today belonged to these clans and not as some would contend, the Ua Canannáin clan.⁵⁶

From the Annals of the Four Masters, a chronicle of Irish history compiled in the early 17th century AD from various sources by four Franciscan monks in Co. Donegal, Ireland in the year 1204 AD we have, “Sitric O’Sruithén, Erenagh of Conwal, i.e. head of the Hy-Murtele, and chief man of all the Clann-Snedhgile for his worth, died, after exemplary penance, and was interred in the church which he had himself founded.” John O’Donovan explained that “Clann Snedgile were a tribe of the Kinel-Connell, seated in Glenswilly, to the west of Letterkenny. They descend from Snedhgil, son of Airnealach, son of Mealduin, son of Kinfaela, son of Garbh, son of Ronan, son of Lughaidh, son of Sétna, son of Fergus Kinfada, who was son of Conall Gulban, ancestor of the Kinel-Connell.”

Currently six (6) Strain surnames appear under R-DF97>ZZ36>FGC19851.

Table 0011. Strain data reference

⁵⁶ Keiran Kelly, Ancient Tribes and Conwal Settlement

Dál Cuinn R1b-DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > DF85 > DF97 > ZZ36 > FGC19851 > BY18299 Ui Néill, Cenél Conaill, Airndelaigh, Clann Snedgile?									
989317	Loughrey	Archibald M. Loughrey, b. 1827 and d. 1872	Ireland	R-FT63016	13	25	14	1	
E20913	Murray	John Murray & Rose > Patrick d 1901 Donegal	Ireland	R-BY113621	13	25	14	1	
926078	Teddle (c/o Gail Colby)	William James Teddle, d. 1843, Georgia, USA	Unknown Origin	R-FT63270	13	25	14	1	
122595	Montgomery	William Montgomery, ABT 1813 After 1880	Unknown Origin	R-FT22493	13	25	14	1	
829043	Teddle (c/o Gail Colby)	William James Teddle, d. 1843, Georgia, USA	Unknown Origin	R-FT63270	13	25	14	1	
42773	Strain	David Strain b. abt. 1718	Ireland	R-DF97	13	25	14	1	
278519	Strain	John Strayen/Strain b.?-d/ 1752 PA	Unknown Origin	R-BY18252	13	25	14	1	
53897	Strain	John Strayen/Strain b.?-d/ 1752 PA	Unknown Origin	R-DF97	13	25	14	1	
301945	Strain	John Strayen/Strain b.?-d/ 1752 PA	Unknown Origin	R-DF97	13	25	14	1	
343753	Strain	Andrew Strain, Sr., b. before 1755 and d. 1826	Ireland	R-BY69603	13	25	15	1	
932071	Strain	Andrew Strain, Sr.	United States	R-BY69603	13	25	15	1	
918235	Tately	William Tately, b. 1821 and d. 1875	England	R-FT62866	14	25	14	1	

3.2.2.1.1.8. The O'Boyle (R-FGC19851)

Rev. Woulfe's *Irish Names and Surnames* gives the original form of this name as Ó Baoighill 'descendant of Baoigheall' (probably for /baoithgheall/, vain-pledge). Modern forms of the surname include O'Boyle, Boyle, Boyles, etc.

The O'Boyles are one of the principal families of Cenél Conaill and of the same stock as the O'Donnells as they both descend from Cennfaeladh son of Airnelach. They were originally chiefs of the Three Tuaths in the north-west of Co. Donegal; but when these territories passed into the possession of the MacSweeneys, O'Boyle became chief of Tir-Ainmhireach in the west of the same county, which became known as Críoch Bhaoigheallach, or O'Boyle's country, now the barony of Boyleagh.

The ancestor of the O'Boyle was Bradagan/Bradigan a grandson of Muircertach, his descendants identified in McFirbis' genealogies as well as *The Book of Fenagh*:

*Cennfaeladh, the loving chief —
Muircertach was son to him;
Muircertach, the rich and happy,
With his cluster of great sons.
Maelfothbil, Maelgaethe the keen,
And strong-bodied Cernachan.
Dalach, and famous Bradagan,
Were the five good sons of Muircertach.*

There are nine (9) Boyle kits whose terminal SNP falls under R-DF85:⁵⁷

1. One (1) is DF105>ZZ87>DF85>S673
2. One (1) is DF105>ZZ87>DF85>S673>S668>FGC8740>DF97
3. Three (3) are DF105>ZZ87>DF85>S673>S668>FGC8740>DF97>ZZ36
4. Three (3) are DF105>ZZ87>DF85>S673>S668>FGC8740>DF97>ZZ36>FGC19851
5. One (1) is DF105>ZZ87>DF85>FGC71316

Table 0012. O'Boyle data reference

⁵⁷ Data provided by FTDNA and <https://genelach.network/R-DF105/>

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade	Genetic Dist	S393 (DYS)	DYS390	S19 (DYS)
1535	#	FTD-N92982	Ó Baigell? (Boyles)	R1b-DF97	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1760	#	FTD-895221	Ó Baigell (Boyle)	R1b-BY166191	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1761	#	FTD-183147	Ó Baigell (Boyle)	R1b-BY227187	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1762	#	FTD-797174	Ó Baigell (Boyle)	R1b-BY157747	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1811	#	FTD-B3362	Ó Baigell (Boyle)	R1b-BY193442	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1812	#	FTD-512169	Ó Baigell (Boyle)	R1b-BY192991	(0) 0/111	13	25	
2213	#	FTD-624785	Ó Baigell (Boyle)	R1b-FT144050	(0) 0/111	13	25	
2693								

3.2.2.1.1.9. The O'Donnell (R-FGC19851)

Rev. Woulfe's *Irish Names and Surnames* gives the original form of this name as Ó Domhnaill meaning 'descendant of Domhnall' (world-mighty). The name takes the modern form as O'Donnell, Donnell, and Daniel. The most famous of this surname were the Ó Domhnaill of Tir-conaill anciently descended from Conall Gulban, son of Niall Noígíallach.

The original patrimony of this family was Cenél Luighdeach, a mountainous district between the Swilly and the Dobhar, but on the decline of the O'Muldorys and O'Canannains after the Anglo-Norman invasion, the O'Donnell became the ruling family in Tirconnell. Previous to that event, only two of the immediate ancestors of the O'Donnells had been Lords of Tirconnell, namely, Dalach, who died in 868 AD and from whom they derived their later clan-name of Clann Dalaigh, and his son, Eigheachan, who was the father of Domhnall the eponymous ancestor of the O'Donnell.

The family produced many able chieftains who, during the four stormy centuries that the O'Donnells held sway in Tyrconnell, not only defended their territory against foreign and native foes, but made their power respected throughout the north and west of Ireland.

There are sixteen (16) Donnell kits whose terminal SNP falls under ZZ87. Of these, eight (8) have terminal SNPs that fall under the R-S558 clade which is a genetic marker of the Cenel nEoghain and would not be representative of the O'Donnells of Tirconnell.

Three (3) are R-DF105 > R-ZZ87 > R-DF85 > R-S673.

One (1) is R-DF105 > R-ZZ87 > R-DF85 > R-S673 > R-S668 > R-FGC8740 > R-DF97 > R-ZZ36.

The remaining four (4) kits are in terminal clades that fall under R-ZZ36 > R-FGC19851 and likely represent the Chieftain Clann Dalaigh O'Donnells.⁵⁸

Table 0013. O'Donnell data reference

⁵⁸ Data provided by FTDNA and <https://genelach.network/R-DF105/>

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1		Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade	Genetic Dist	S393 (DYS)	DYS390	YS19 (D)
121	#	FTD-979148	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-A260	(0) 0/111	13	25	
950	#	FTD-B544693	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-FT191235	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1149	#	FTD-252843	Mac Domnaill (McDonnell)	R1b-BY18200	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1420	#	FTD-262330	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-BY18207	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1421	#	FTD-N106427	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-BY135806	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1776	#	FTD-82196	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-FT91663	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1777	#	FTD-329279	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-FT91663	(0) 0/111	13	24	
1796	#	FTD-948526	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-Y128090	(0) 0/111	13	24	
1798	#	FTD-471174	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-FGC40061	(0) 0/111	13	25	
2214	#	FTD-750498	Ó Domnaill (O'Donnell)	R1b-FT251029	(0) 0/111	13	25	
2693								
2694								

3.2.2.1.1.10. The O'Carnahan (R-FGC19851)

Rev. Woulfe Woulfe's *Irish Names and Surnames* gives the original form of this name as Ó Cearnacháin meaning 'descendant of Cearnachán' (a diminutive of victorious). Modern forms of this name include O'Kernaghan, O'Kernan, Carnahan, Kernaghan, Kernahan, Kernan, Kernon, etc. Rev. Woulfe identifies two principal families; one in Meath and the other in Tyrconnell. McFiris' genealogies document that the latter family is descended from Cearnachán, a brother of Dalach, Lord of Tyrconnell and therefore this family is related to the O'Donnell and O'Boyles whose ancestors were brothers to Cearnachán. The Tironnell Carnahans were the chiefs of Tuath Bladhach in the barony of Kilmacrenan.

There are seven (7) Carnahan surnames whose terminal SNPs fall under DF97 (1) and R-ZZ36 (6). Three (3) Carnahan kits are in a separate D85 clade.⁵⁹

Other Carnahan branches are under the R-S588 clade (two kits) and a separate R-D85 clade (three kits). The S588+ kits are again Cenel Eoghain.

Table 0014. Cearnacháin data reference

A1			Select Basal Individual					
1		Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade	Genetic Dist	S393 (DYS)	DYS390	YS19
1168	#	FTD-366898	Ó Cearnacháin? (Carnes)	R1b-BY64471	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1169	#	FTD-167489	Ó Cearnacháin? (Carnes)	R1b-BY76511	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1495	#	FTD-349504	Ó Cearnacháin (Carnahan)	R1b-DF97	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1881	#	FTD-412552	Ó Cearnacháin (Carnahan)	R1b-BY113174	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1886	#	FTD-N105614	Ó Cearnacháin (Carnahan)	R1b-FT144600	(0) 0/111	13	25	
2693								

3.2.2.1.1.11. McGee/McKee (R-FGC19851)

⁵⁹ Data provided by FTDNA and <https://genelach.network/R-DF105/>

Maol Gaoithe or Maelgaethe was another brother of Bradagan and Dalach and son of Muircetach. Rev. Woulfe's *Irish Names and Surnames* states that the original form of the name was Mac Gaoithe and that it was a Donegal surname in the 16th century. Modern forms of the name include McGee, Magee, McGeehee, McKee, McKey etc.

Other sources list an Ó'Maelgaethe (McGee) family of Cenél Sétna, recorded as Chief Poets of Donegal.

There are twenty five (25) McKee/McGee/MacKay and related surnames, whose terminal SNPs fall under R-ZZ36 > R-FGC19851. Four additional kits currently have a terminal SNP at R-DF97 and with advanced testing will likely be R-ZZ36 > R-FGC19851.⁶⁰

Table 0015. MacGaoithe data reference

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1		Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade	Genetic Dist	S393 (DYS)	DYS390	YS19 (I
15	#	FTD-355645	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-DF105	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1146	#	FTD-963460	Mac Alastair (McGee)	R1b-BY216377	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1147	#	FTD-320282	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-FT371901	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1520	#	FTD-305355	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-DF97	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1730	#	FTD-200080	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-FT258499	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1731	#	FTD-151780	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-BY18271	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1732	#	FTD-171920	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-BY18301	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1801	#	FTD-342633	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-BY61926	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1907	#	FTD-382501	Mac Eochada? (McGeachy)	R1b-BY67722	(0) 0/111	13	24	
1908	#	FTD-382549	Mac Eochada? (McGeachy)	R1b-BY67722	(0) 0/111	13	24	
1909	#	FTD-459164	Mac Eochada? (McGeachy)	R1b-BY67722	(0) 0/111	13	24	
2206	#	FTD-N33073	Mac Áeda (McGee)	R1b-FGC35553	(0) 0/111	13	25	
2693								

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1		Kit #	Surname	Terminal Clade	Genetic Dist	S393 (DYS)	DYS390	YS19 (I
525								
938								
1104	#	FTD-B914635	Mac Áeda (McKay)	R1b-FGC57769 (S588)	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1497	#	FTD-88883	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-DF97	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1518	#	FTD-236950	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-DF97	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1519	#	FTD-242239	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-DF97	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1725	#	FTD-443916	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-FGC68706	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1729	#	FTD-IN11094	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-BY21235	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1738	#	FTD-MI52629	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-FGC68707	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1742	#	FTD-B4398	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-FGC44236	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1744	#	FTD-948993	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-FTA1267	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1745	#	FTD-317509	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-FTD61348	(0) 0/111	13	26	
1746	#	FTD-650911	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-BY68584 (BY3343)	(0) 0/111	14	26	
1749	#	FTD-N64222	Mac Áeda (McKie)	R1b-FGC58599	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1905	#	FTD-793013	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-BY18302 (FGC19851)	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1906	#	FTD-457846	Mac Áeda (McKee)	R1b-TBT10606	(0) 0/111	13	25	
1916	#	FTD-500188	Mac Taidc (McKeague)	R1b-FT47137 (BY3343)	(0) 0/111	13	25	

⁶⁰ Data provided by FTDNA and <https://genelach.network/R-DF105/>

3.2.2.1.2. Descendants of Ainmere macc Sétna (R-BY11548)

The descendants of Sétna's son Ainmere appear to be falling under the R-BY11548 clade. Its clade trail is:

R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-ZZ87 > R-DF85 > R-S673 > R-S668 > R-BY11548

3.2.2.1.2.1. Ó Gallchobair (R-BY18346)

Another important chieftain line under R-DF85 is the Ó Gallchobair line. As previously mentioned, the BY25887/BY11548 SNP runs parallel to the FGC8740 clade that the Ó Dochartaig are under and represents the genealogy around the sons of Sétna. Ainmere's descendants include the Ó Gallagher.

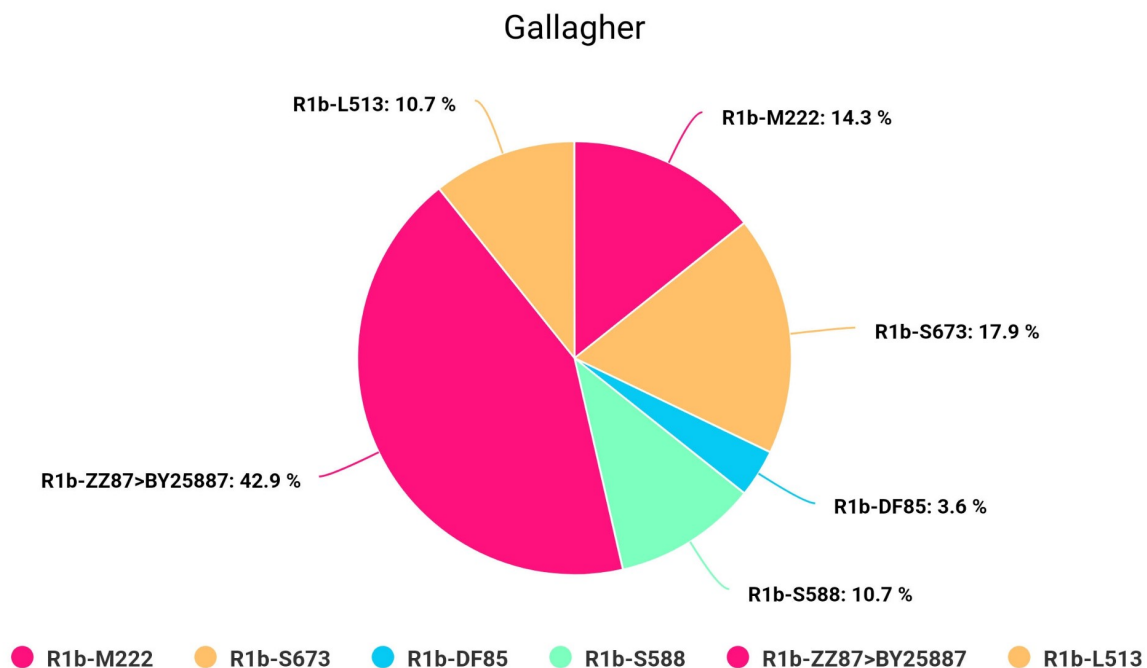
Rev Patrick Woulfe gives the original name as Ó Gallchobhair meaning 'descendant of Gallchobhar' (foreign help). Modern forms include O'Gallegure, O'Gallagher, Gallagher, Gallaher, Gallogher, Gollagher, etc. the name of a numerous and once powerful family in Tirconnell, who derive their descent from Maolchobha, a King of Ireland in the 7th century.

There are 382 members of the FTDNA Gallagher project. Of the 77 members with variants of the surname, twelve (12) are under the R-BY25887 clade (some are not members of the Gallagher project).

Galloway kits here are Anglicized versions of Ó Gallchobhair. MacLysaght mentions 23 different Anglicized spellings of this surname. Six (6) kits are under the R-S673 clade and are likely to be found R-BY25887+ with further testing. Three (3) kits are R-S588+ and three (3) are R-L513.

Fifty-two (52) Gallagher kits have had minimal testing and are still at M269 etc. If the six (6) kits currently tested to the R-S673 clade fall under the R-BY25887 clade, they would account for 64% of the total tested at the time of writing.

Gallagher Pie Chart



Dr. Brian Lacey and the Ailbhe Mac Shamhnaín argued that Conall Gulban is actually a doublet of his brother, Conall Cremthainne, eponymous ancestor of the Southern Uí Néill, and perhaps Lacey may have been on the trail of some contrivance in these medieval pedigrees but again, without the assistance of SNP testing. The Canannain or Cannon sept is normally recorded under the line of Aedh and linked to the O Gallagher line, but currently there are no Cannons under DF85. While we have enough surname provenance/data here to indicate that there are no issues identifying who the Cenel Conall actually were, ie Dochartaigh, Boyle, O'Donnell, Carnahan, McKee etc, any issues are likely related to the Southern Uí Néill and the R-A223 clade, where Cannons do show.

This is indicative of a few things: a) if the A223 kits are indeed the Cannons of the Uí Néill, then their line is not from Cenel Conall and was most likely concocted to reinforce a weak claim to the kingship, b) the original Canannain line has not tested or daughtered out, or c) we are simply missing variants. It is likely that option 'B' is correct here. The fact that no Cannon's have tested under the R-DF85 clade, or has daughtered out, is supported by Rev Woulfe's research. He noted that little evidence of this family could be found in "the middle of the 13th century...they were supplanted by the O'Donnells and sank into obscurity. There were still a few scattered families of the name at the end of the 16th century."⁶¹

On the whole, there is no indication that the R-A223 clade is distinctly Cenél Conaill, as there are no other surnames under the R-A223 clade that provide provenance by association with the genealogies. It is more conceivable at this time due to other surnames in the clade that the R-A223 clade could be a Southern Uí Néill branch; but more data is needed to confirm this.

3.2.3. The Cenél nEógain (R-DF105 > ZZ87 > S588)

As previously mentioned, there are issues with the chieftain line as recorded under the R-S588 clade, and more specifically under its R-S603 subclade.

From the 8th century onwards, possibly sponsored by Áed Allán, a Cenél nEógain king of Tara, and Congus, the bishop of Armagh, early Irish historians carefully constructed propaganda to shore up and cement Uí Néill political supremacy along with the ecclesiastical supremacy of Armagh. This possibly involved the ruthless re-writing and doctoring of genealogies, lists of kings, history, and early annals, tracing the current situation as having primacy all the way back into the undocumented 5th century.⁶²

These comments could very well be true for the chieftain line. There was a 100+ year gap in which the O'Neill chieftains disappeared and reappeared. In the interim, the MacLoughlin family ruled Cenel Eoghain. I suspect that the true Cenel Eoghain chieftain lines may have been obfuscated at this point. The Ó Néill Rúad and the Clan Áeda Buidi, supposedly of the Uí Néill Cenél nEógain, appear to be R-DF27+ (DF27 is often a Norman line). Whether deliberate or unintentional, the inclusion of these two (2) lineages in the genealogies is incorrect as they are not genetically Uí Néill. Although, it does raise interesting questions as to whom they actually are.

While surnames associated with the Cenél nEógain are congregating under the R-S588 clade, it also seems to be plagued by a certain amount of conflation and other issues. These issues are such that much of the genealogical surname data available gives no solid indication of the origins of these

⁶¹ Rev. Patrick Woulfe, *Irish Names and Surnames*, 1923, Ó Canannáin.

⁶² ' Lacey (2006), p. 351

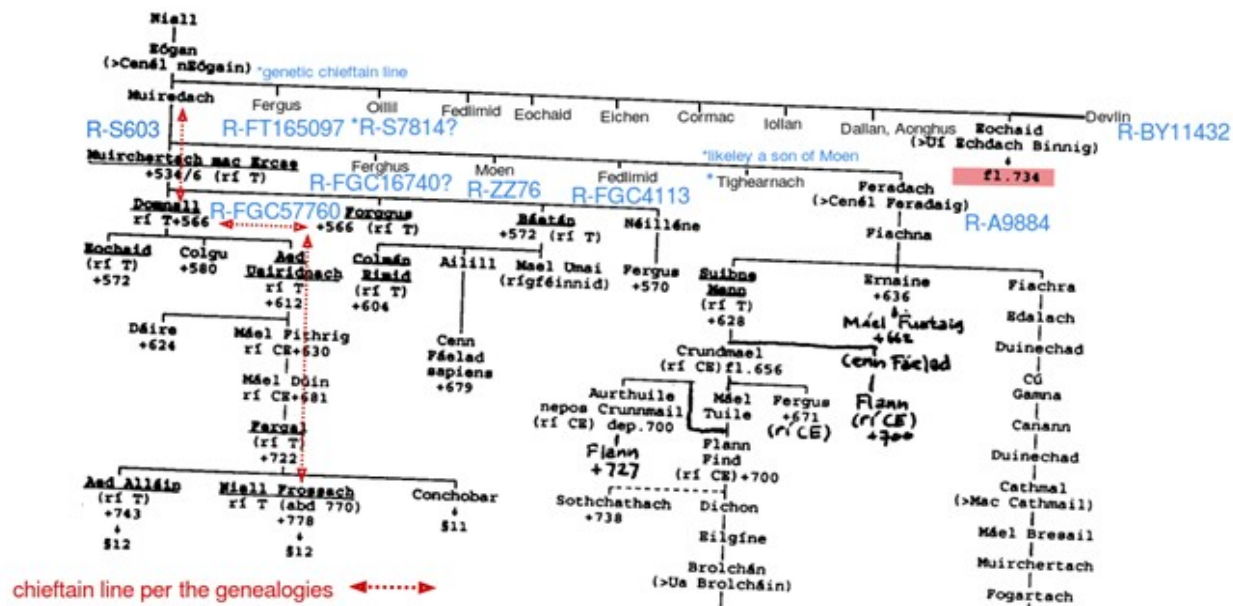
chieftain lines and more data is needed to clarify these associations. We see what appears to be brothers which are most likely sons, or sons who are actually grandsons and vice-versa. If any foul play was conspired, again the lack of variation in the genetic population and limited geographical area, allows us to view this dynasty with a fresh set of eyes as we begin the long process of reverse engineering the comparative placement of septs through their genetic relationships. Keeping this in mind, here is what is currently known.

According to FTNDA, R-S588 was formed when it branched off from its ancestral clade R-ZZ87 circa 250 AD. The most recent common ancestor of this line is estimated to have been born circa 300 AD. In comparison, YFull dates this clade to circa 324 AD.

R-S588 is the parent clade of at least fifteen (15) subclades at the time of writing:

1. R-S7814
2. R-BY11432
3. R-FT165097
4. R-BY35717
5. R-BY66082
6. R-BY154268
7. R-FT27558
8. R-BY119880
9. R-FT187328
10. R-S603
11. R-FTA10274
12. R-BY137484
13. R-A5388
14. R-BY69549
15. R-FT110129

Dr. Daniel P. McCarthy's seminal work, *Irish Chronicles and Their Chronology* synchronizes Nialls' death to 405 AD, and MacFirbis' work agrees with this dating.



3.2.4. The Descendants and Septs of the Sons of Eoghan

The Cenél nEógain or Kinel-Owen ("Kindred of Owen") are a branch of the Northern Uí Néill, who claim descent from Eógan mac Néill, son of Niall Noígíallach. Originally their power-base was in Inishowen, with their capital at Ailech, in modern-day County Donegal in what is now the west of Ulster.

From Mac Fir Bisig's *Great Book of Genealogies* note 111.3 pg 289:

Eoghan had eleven sons according to a prose enumeration and ten sons according to this quatrain: ...Feidhlimidh, Muiredach, Fearghus, Eochaidh, Cormac, Iollan, Aonghus, Eichean, and Oilill

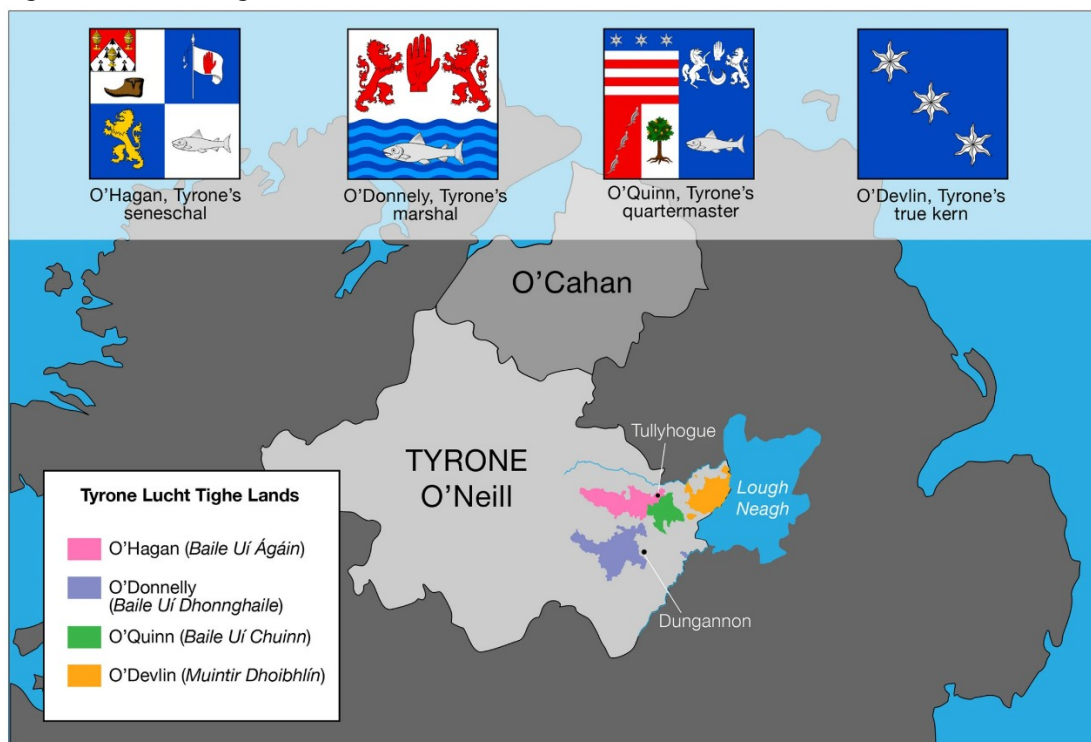
Eamon ODoibhlin's *In O Neills 'Own Country'*, pg 4 states:

Sometime about the year 1000, the seat of the Cenél Eoghain kingdom was transferred from Aileach to Tulach Og, and the latter became the place of inauguration for the future kings of the Cenél. But the people who were around Tulach Og during the centuries of the Mac Lochlainn-O'Neill kingship were not of the line from which both Mac Lochlainn and O'Neill descended, nor yet the people who descended from Eochaidh Binneach, but people who descended from still another son of Eoghan called Fearghus, and who before surnames developed were known as Clann Feargusa.

In the later Lordship of Tyrone, four principal *lucht tighe* (people of the house) families had traditional functions described in Ceart Uí Néill (The Rights of O'Neill). Collectively they were known as 'Tyrone's horsemen', since next to the O'Neills themselves, they provided the bulk of the territory's cavalry. Individually, these four families (O'Hagan, O'Quinn, O'Devlin and O'Donnelly) performed the following functions: O'Hagan-Senechal; O'Quinn-Quartermaster; O'Devlin-True Kern; and O'Donnelly-Marshall as shown in the map below.⁶³

⁶³ <https://www.wildeirishe.com/post/lucht-tighe-service-kindreds-of-irish-chieftains>

Figure 0011. Lucht Tighe Lands



McLoughlin, O'Donnell, Hagan, and Hamill surnames are appearing under these separate clades: R-S7814, R-FT165097, and R-FGC80436.

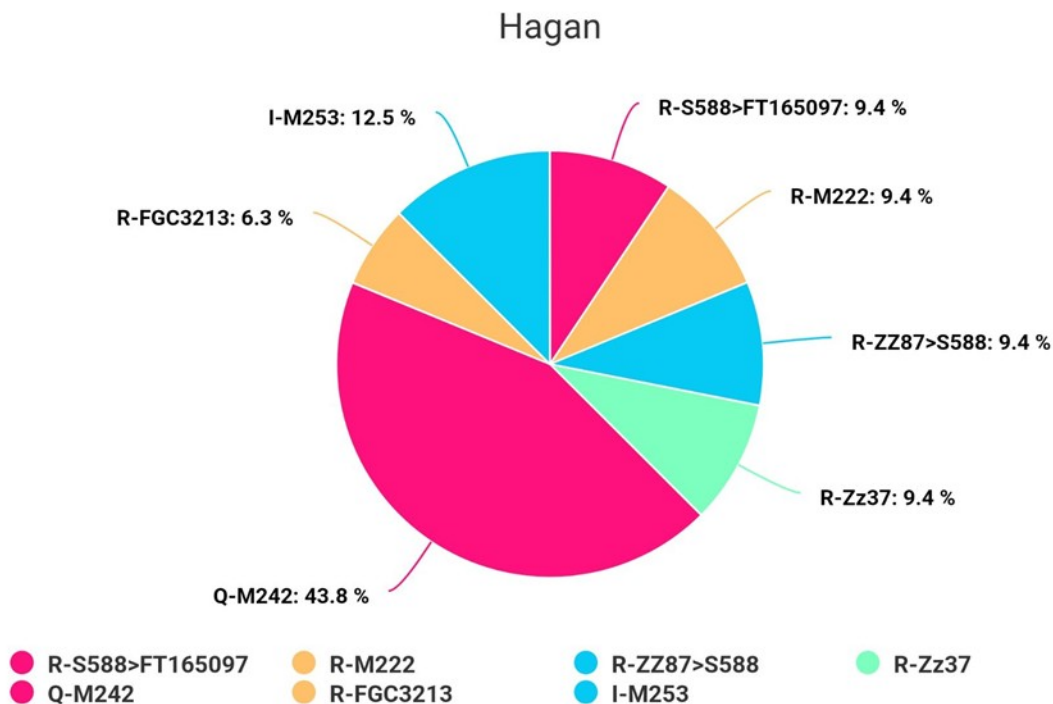
3.2.4.1.1. The O'Hagans (R-DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > FT165097)

Rev. Woulfe in *Irish Names and Surnames* says there were two (2) O'Hagan families: (1) the chiefs of Cenél Fergusa seated at Tullaghoge, in Co. Tyrone, that had the privilege to inaugurate the Ó Néill; and (2) of another family of the same race who were chiefs of Cenél Tigernaig, in Ulster. This agrees with Mac Fir Bisig's genealogies.

This Hagan family, descend from Cenél Fergusa, also known as the Cenél Coelbad, are the descendants of Fergus through his son Coelbad.

The Hagan FTDNA project currently numbers 204 kits, of which 64 use variants of this surname. Four (4) Hagan kits currently appear directly under the R-FT165097 clade.

Hagan Pie Chart



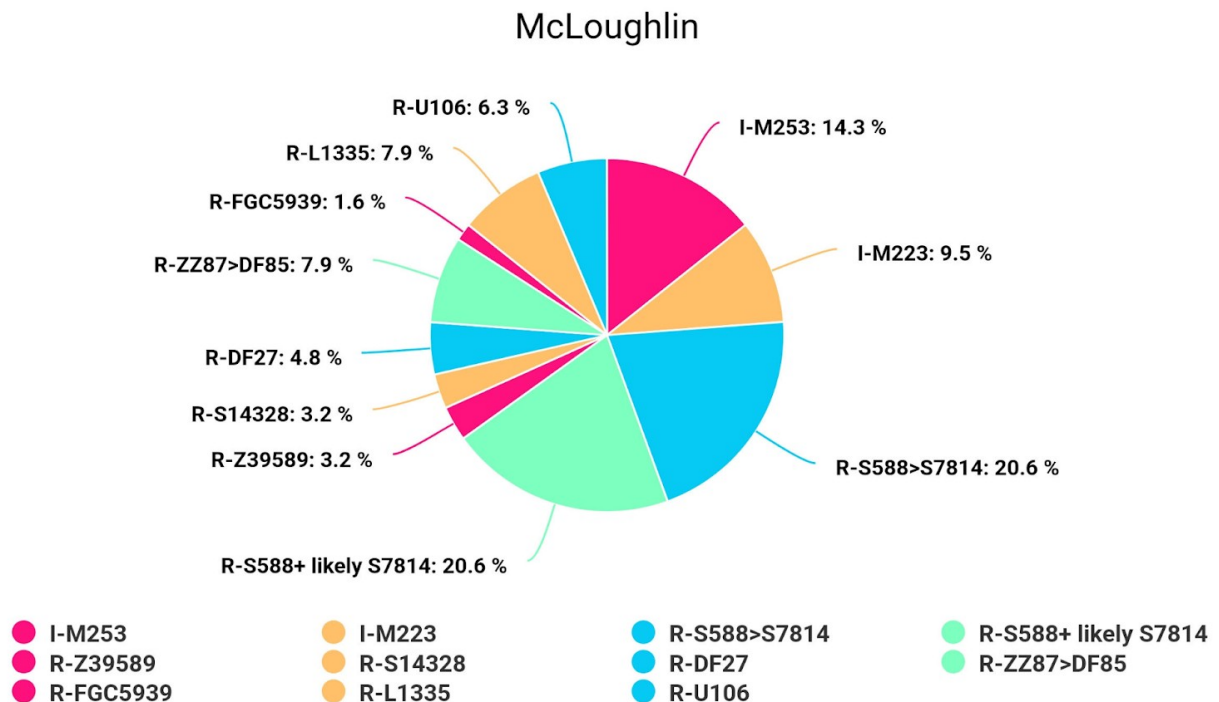
3.2.4.1.2. Loughlin and Donnelly (DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S7814)

The genealogies trace the Loughlin and Donnelly surnames through the line of Niall Frossach, and should be under the R-S603 clade, but instead these surnames are appearing under R-S588>R-S7814. This is also where the Ó Néill R-DF27+ line inserted itself into the Chieftain line. Currently there is not enough genealogical evidence to indicate from which son of Eoghain this line descends with any certainty. Ed Kane of the Cenel Eogain YDNA project believes they descend from Binnigh and has written a paper on the topic.

Woulfe identifies the senior branch of the Uí Néill as the Mac Lochlainn meaning 'son of Lochlainn.' In modern Irish, Lochlann signifies Scandinavia or, more specifically, Norway. Modern spellings include MacLochlin, MacLoghlin, MacLoughlin, Loughlin, etc.

There are 458 members in the FTDNA McLoughlin project. Of these, 148 use a variation of this surname. Thirteen (13) are R-S7814+ with another thirteen (13) that are R-S588+ or R-PF2028+ and which will likely end up as R-S7814+.

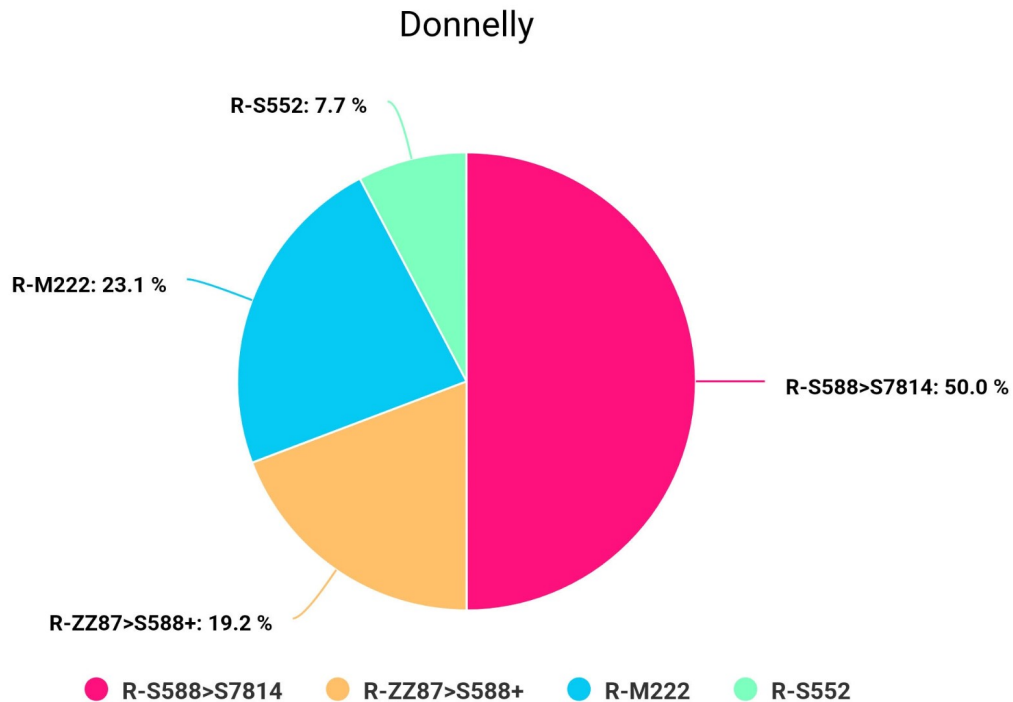
McLoughlin Pie Cart



Rev. Woulfe states that Ó Dondgaile, “descendant of Dondgal”, is the name of a distinguished family of Cenél nEógain in Ulster who derive their name and descent from Dondgal, the fourth in descent from Domnall, King of Ailech and brother of Niall Glúndub, the eponymous ancestor of the O’Neills. The O’Donnelllys were originally seated at Druim Lighean, now anglicised Drumleen, a short distance to the north of Lifford, Co. Donegal, but were later expelled by the Cenél Conaill, after which they settled at Ballydonnelly, now Castlecaulfield, to the west of Dungannon. Anglicized versions of this surname include O’Donnell, O’Donnelly, Donnelly, Donneely, etc.

The Donnelly FTDNA Project has 219 members with 36 kits under the surname or its variations; of these, there are 13 kits with surnames including McDonald to Donnelly that fall under R-S7814.

Donnelly Pie Chart



3.2.4.1.3. The Devlin and McCann (R-DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > FGC80436)

The surname Devlin is an anglicized version of the Old Gaelic name Ó Dobhailein meaning descendant of Dobhailein (unlucky/unfortunate) or Dobhuilen (raging valour). Rev Woulfe puts the O'Develin line of chiefs in far northeastern Co. Tyrone, bordering on Lough Neagh and the Ballinderry River. The O'Develins claimed descent from a branch of the Cenél nEógain known as the Sons of Ercca (Cenél Meic Ercca) because of their descent from Muirchertach macc Ercca, grandson of Eógan.

Yet Y-DNA shows these Devlins directly under R-S588 at BY11432 and, according to the genealogies, should follow the chieftain line at R-S603.

While the McCann/McCain surnames showing here more accurately indicates a descent from Eochaid, son of Niall. The Mac Cana originated as chiefs of Cenél Aengusa or Clan Breasail Per Rev Woulfe, and were also geographically connected to the south side of Lough Neagh.

3.2.4.2. Descendants of Muiredach son of Eógan (R-DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603)

FTDNA states that man who is the most recent common ancestor of S603 is estimated to have been born around 350 CE. He is the ancestor of at least 11 descendant lineages known as R-FGC4113, R-FGC57760, R-FGC57780, R-A9884, R-FGC19831, R-BY20527, R-FGC16740, R-BY18198, R-Y101940, R-FTC43409, and R-FTG5585.

Dr. Jaski lists the sons of Muiredach as:⁶⁴

1. Muirchertach macc Ercca
2. Feradach

⁶⁴ Genealogical tables of Medieval Ireland

3. Máen
4. Fergus
5. Óengus
6. Feidlimid

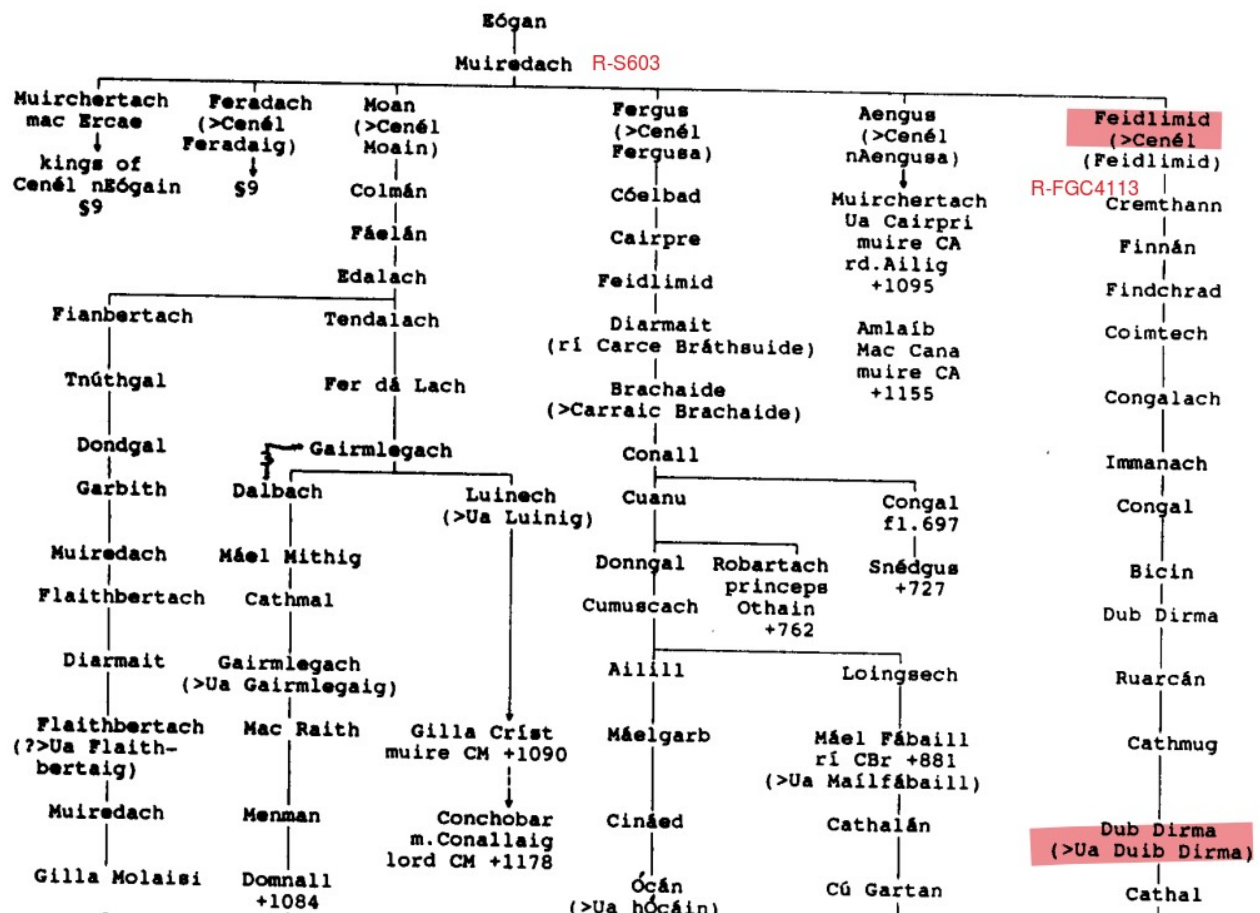
3.2.4.3. Descendants of Fedlmid:

3.2.4.3.1. The McDermott (R-DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603> FGC4113)

The Cenél Eógain McDermotts (not to be confused with the Silmurray McDermotts) claim descent from Fedlmid son of Muiredach mac Eogain. According to Woulfe, the original form of the surname was Ó Duibhthiorma or Ó Duibhthiormaigh meaning 'descendant of Dubhthiorma(ch)' (black-trooper). They were anciently lords of Bredach, which comprised the eastern half of Inishowen. Modern forms of the surname include O'Dermott and MccDermott.

Y-DNA is showing this family under R-DF105>ZZ87>S588>S603>FGC4113. FTDNA has ten (10) kits with this surname under R-FGC4113.

Figure 0012. Muiredach, son of Eoghain Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA



3.2.4.4. Descendants of Feradach:

3.2.4.4.1. Campbell and Short (DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603 > A9884)

The Cenél nEógain Campbells and Shorts claim descend from Feradach son of Muiredach son of Eógan.

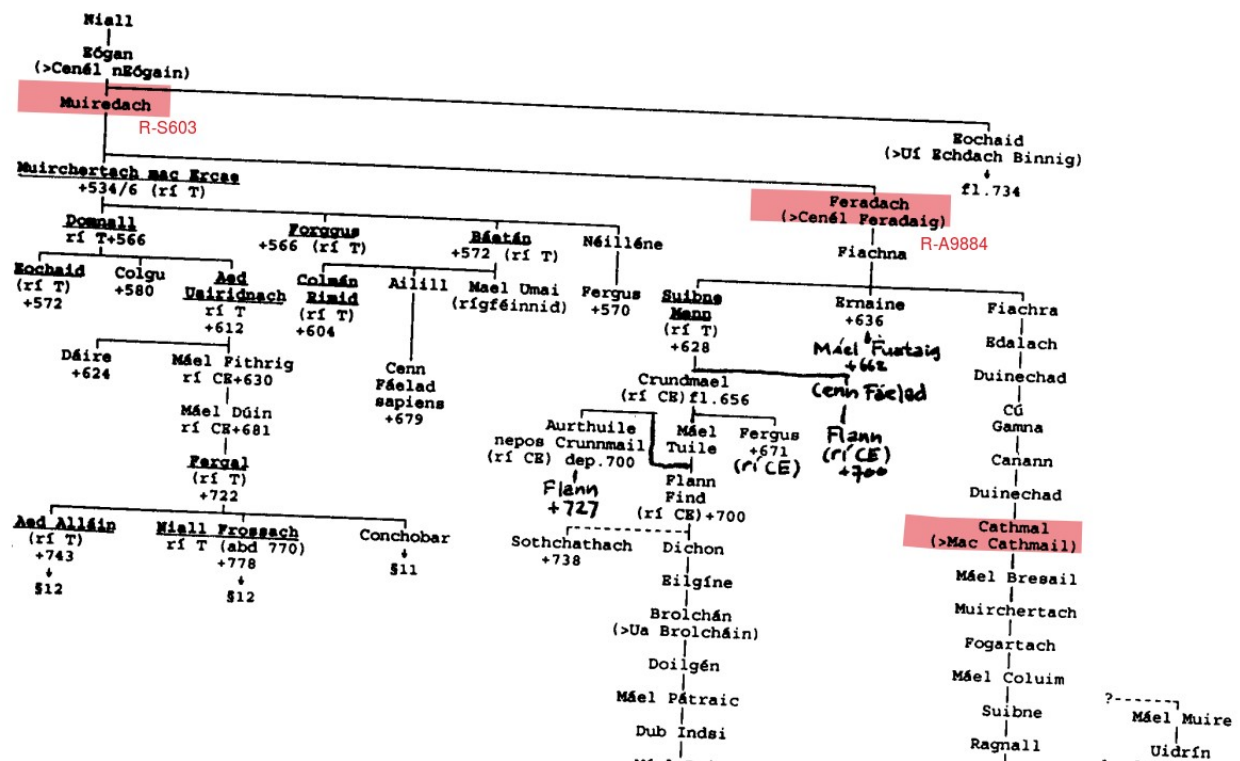
Regarding the Campbells, Rev. Woulfe states that the original form Mac Cathmhaoil means 'son of Caathmhaol (battle-chief) and has other forms including but not limited to MacCavill, MacCawell, MacCowell, MacCowhill, MacCawl, MacCaul, MacCall, MacHall, MacCaulfield, Keawell, Howell, Caulfield, Callwell and Campbell. Their patrimony was Kinel Farry, now the barony of Clogher in Co. Tyrone, and other districts in the same county and in Fermanagh.

Regarding the Shorts, Woulfe states that the original form Mac an Ghirr means 'son of the short or low-sized man' and takes the form M'Gayer, MacGarr, MacGirr, MacGerr, Gayer and Short. Rev. Woulfe notes that the family was supposed to be Scottish but was likely an offshoot of a native family. Based on Y-DNA results, Woulfe appears to be correct regarding the Shorts as offshoots of a native family.

The FTDNA Campbell project has 2,500 members of which 15 Campbell kits are under A9884, three (3) are S588, and six (6) are under M222. There are also (8) eight Short kits in the Campbell project, one is R-S588.

As shown below, the clade trail for the Cenél Feradaig Campbells and Shorts is **DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603 > A9884**.

Figure 0013. Muiredach, son of Eoghain Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA



3.2.4.5. Descendants of Ferghus?

3.2.4.5.1. The Quinns (DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > FGC16740)

Quinn is an Anglicised form of the Irish Ó Coinn, Ó Cuinn or Mac Cuinn meaning respectively 'descendant of Conn' with the latter as 'son of Conn'. The surname is common and born by several unrelated families. Modern versions of the name include Quinn, Queen, Gwinn and McGuinn.

Often this family is associated with Oillil, son of Fergus, but so far the evidence seems to support that Ferghus, s. of Eoghain and Ferghus, grandson of Eoghain were conflated over time and the Hagan/O'Hagans at R-FT165097 are descended from the first Ferghus.

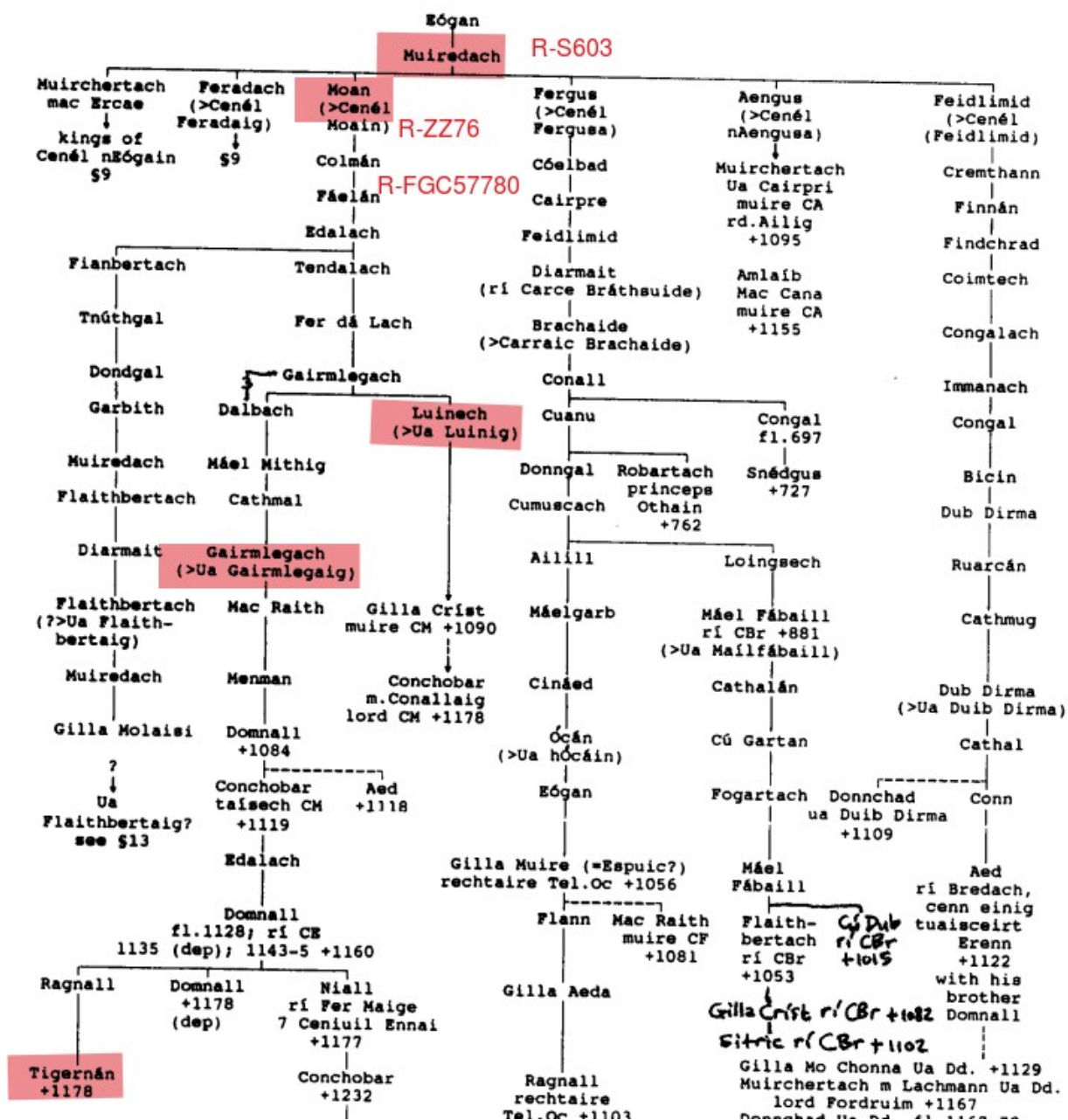
FTDNA has nine (9) kits that have various anglicised versions of Quinn with the following clade trail: **R-DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603 > FGC16740**. It is possible that the Quinn/Gwinn/Queen's gathering at FGC16740 are descendants of Ferghus son of Muiredach, but more data is needed.

3.2.4.6. Descendants of Moen:

3.2.4.6.1. Cenél Máién/Moen Families (DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603)

There are multiple families whose Y-DNA string is falling under R-DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603 > ZZ76. These families appear to be Uí Néill, Cenél Eógain, Muiredach, Cenél Máién. The surnames are Gormley, Patton, Looney, Tierney, Crean and McAnnally.

Figure 0014. Muiredach, son of Eoghain Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA



Regarding the Gormleys, Rev. Patrick Woulfe states that the original form was Ó Goirmshleaghaigh meaning 'descendant of Goirmshleaghach' (blue-spearman). The modern surname has many variants including O'Gormley, Gormley, Gormilly, Grumley, Grimley, Bloomer (and sometimes Graham). The Gormleys were chiefs of Cenél Moen, a sub-clan of Cenél Eoghain, and originally seated in the barony of Raphoe, Co. Donegal. In the 13th century, they were expelled by the Cenél Conaill, whereupon they settled on the other side of Lough Foyle, between Strabane and Derry. FTDNA has eight (8) Grimes, Grahams and Gormely kits under ZZ87.

Regarding the Pattons, Woulfe states that the original form of the name was Ó Peatain meaning 'descendant of Peatán' (diminutive of Patrick). Modern variants include Peton, Paton, Patten, Patton, Payton, and Peyton. The Pattons also belonged to Cenél Moain and were apparently seated in the

barony of Raphoe, in Co. Donegal. There is one (1) Patton kit with a terminal SNP of R-BY216377 under ZZ76.

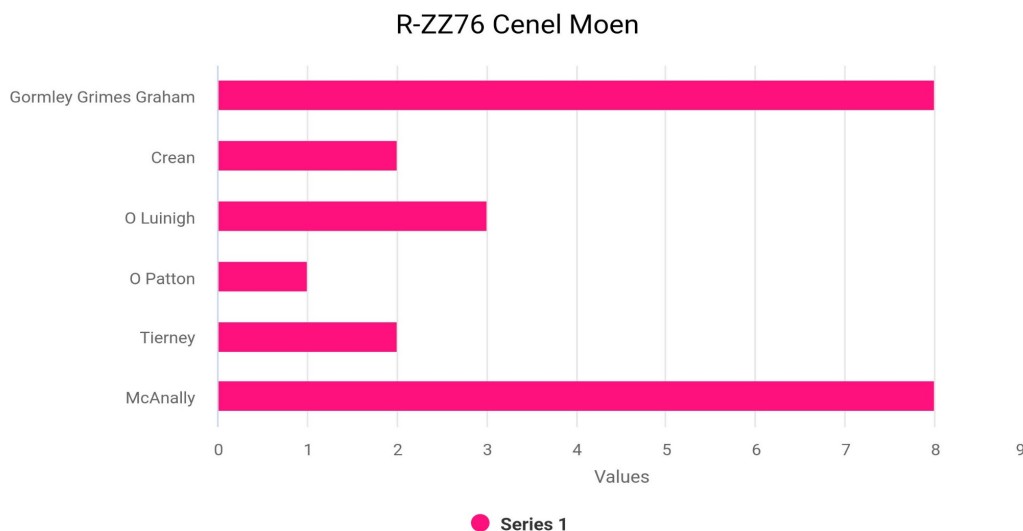
Regarding the Looney, Woulfe gives the original form of the surman as Ó Luinigh meaning 'descendant of Luineach' (enchanted spear/armed.)⁶⁵ Modern variants include Luny, Lunny, Lunney, Lonney, Loney, Loony, and Looney. Like the other Cenél Moen families they were seated orginally in the barony of Raphoe, but were afterwards driven across the Foyle by the O'Donnells. They subsequently settled in Co. Tyrone, in a district which they gave the name of Muintir Loony. FTDNA has three (3) Lane surnames, likely another anglicization of O'Luinigh, under R-ZZ76.

Regarding the Crean, Woulfe gives the original form as Ó Croidheáin meaning 'descendant of Croidheán' (diminutive of /croidhe/ heart). Modern forms of the surname include, O'Crean, Crean, Creen, Crane, etc. The Crean settled at Sligo in the 16th century AD, where they became wealthy merchants. FTDNA has two (2) Crean kits that fall under R-ZZ76.

Regarding the Tierney, Woulfe gives the original surname as Ó Tighearnaigh meaning 'descendant of Tigearnach' (lordly). Modern variants include O'Tearney, O'Tierney, Tierney, Terney, and Tiernan. The Tierney were anciently chiefs of Fearnmaigh, in the present Co. Donegal. In some genealogies, Tighhearnaigh is listed as a son of Muircheartach; however, he may have been a grandson. Alternatively, he could have been a conflation with the Tigernan who died in 1178 AD according to Jaski. FTDNA has two (2) Tierney kits that fall under R-ZZ76.

Regarding the McAnally, the original form of the surname was Mac Con Allaidh meaning 'son of Cú Allaidh' (wild hound/wolf). The death of the progenitor, Conchobhar mac Con Allaidh, lord of Cenél Moain, is recorded in the Annals of the Four Masters in 1178-8. The McAnally are found among the Cineál Moain in east Donegal, and later settled in the neighborhood of Strabane.⁶⁶ FTDNA has eight (8) McAnally kits that fall under R-ZZ76.

Cenel Moen Bar Chart



⁶⁵ <https://timothylunney.wordpress.com/who-are-the-mhuintir-luinigh/>

⁶⁶ <http://www.history-armagh.org/dox/historyarmagh2021.pdf>

3.2.4.7. Descendants of Muirchertach:

3.2.4.7.1. The O’Cahan/Cain/Kane (R-DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > ... FGC57760 > S595)

Rev. Patrick Woulfe gives the original form of the surname as Ó Catháin meaning 'descendant of Cathán' (a 'pet' form of some name commencing with Cath-). Modern variants include O'Cahan, O'Caughan, O'Kane, O'Keane, Cahane, Cahan, Cane, Cain, Kane, Keane, etc. The O’Cahans were lords of Keenaght and possessed the greater part of the present Co. Derry until their estates were confiscated at the time of the plantation of Ulster.

According to the genealogies, the main chieftain line should run parallel to the O’Cathain line descending from King Domhnall Ilcharglach, whose death was recorded as 569 in *DN19-An Leabhar Eoghanach*. The surnames associated with the O’Cahan include the McCloskeys and McHenry.

3.2.4.7.2. Bloscaidh Ó Catháin, who flourished in the 12th century.

Regarding the McCloskeys, Woulfe gives the original form of the surname as Mac Bhloscaidh meaning 'son of Bloscaidh' (a personal name among the O'Kanes). Modern variants include MacCloskey, MacCluskey, MacLoskey, MacLuskey, Closkey, and Cluskey. The original form of the MacHenry surname was Mac Éinrí (son of Henry). There was a sept of Síol Eoghain (Tyrone) with this surname.⁶⁷ Its exact connection with O’Cahan is unclear but perhaps it developed the same way as the McCloskeys- as a personal O’Cahan name which became a surname.

The Y-DNA clade trail for these families is **R-DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > S588 > S603 > FGC57760 > S595**. FTDNA has the origin of FGC57760 around 350 CE; YFULL places the block for this SNP between 474 to 574 CE.

The FTDNA Cain Project has 781 members with 293 members using a version of this surname. There are 37 kits that fall under FGC57760 at S595 and represent the tribal O Cathain, Bloscaidh and Mac Éinrí septs. These consist of 22 McCloskey, twelve (12) Kaines, three (3) Henrys and a Cosby. The Cosby name here is likely an anglicisation of Mac Bhloscaidh and therefore is included in this data.

⁶⁷ <https://www.johngrenham.com/findasurname.php?surname=Henry>.

Cain Pie Chart

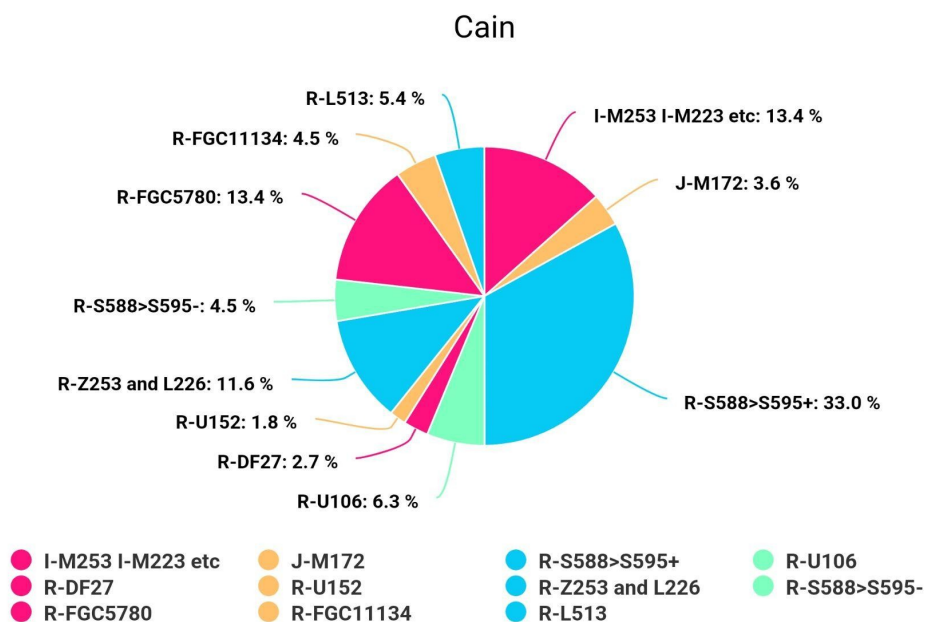
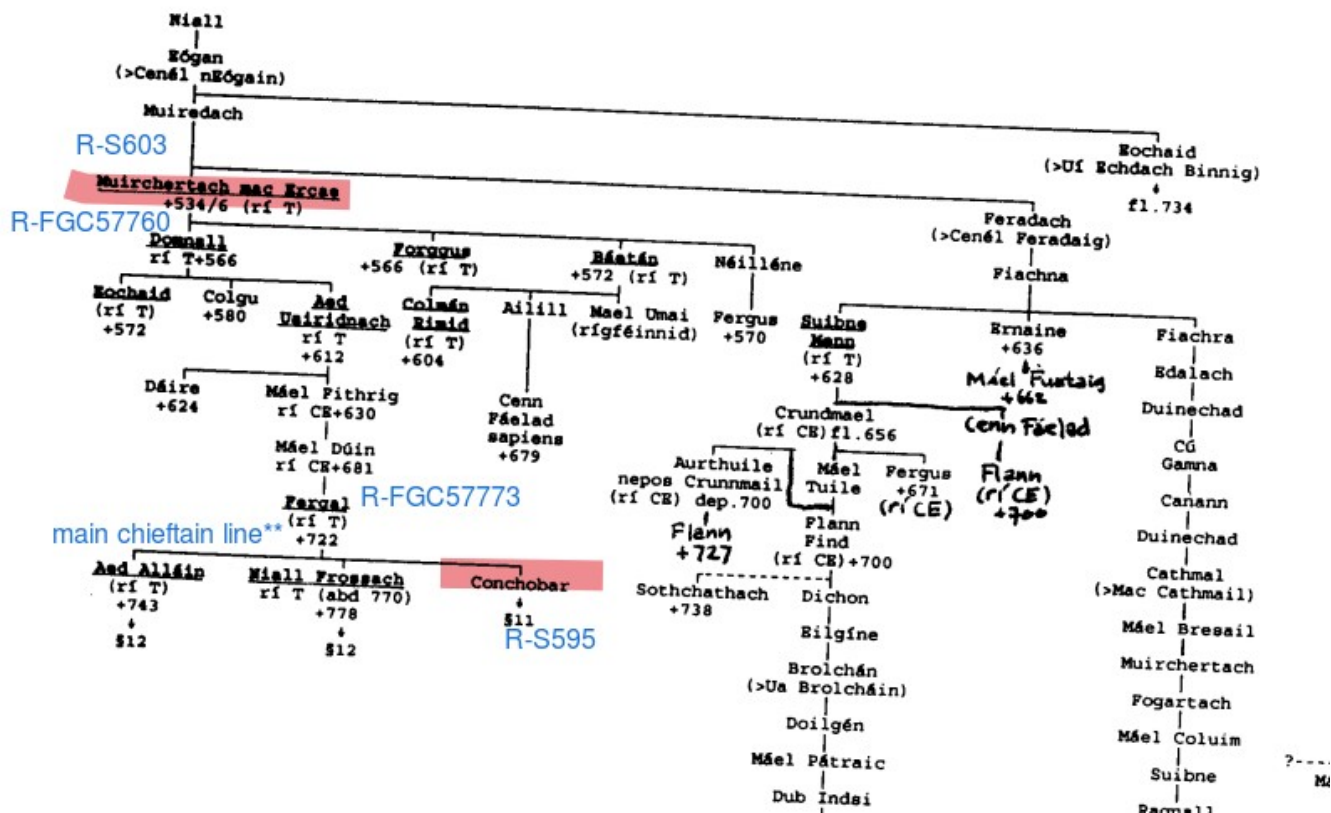


Figure 0015. Muiredach, son of Eoghain Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA



3.2.5. The Southern Uí Néill Genealogy (R-ZZ87)

The available Y-DNA data for the Southern Uí Néill is quite sparse at this time. Of the surnames in the remaining clades directly under ZZ87, only two (2) are representative of genealogical septs. These are the the Flanagan and Golden/Gouldrik families under R-35726 and the Molloy and Daly families under R-ZS8379.

Y-DNA results indicate that the Dál Cuinn Southern Uí Néill, Cenél Cairbre markers can be identified by this clade trail: **R-DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > BY35726**. Under the BY35726 clade are the Flanagans and Gouldricks/ Goldens.

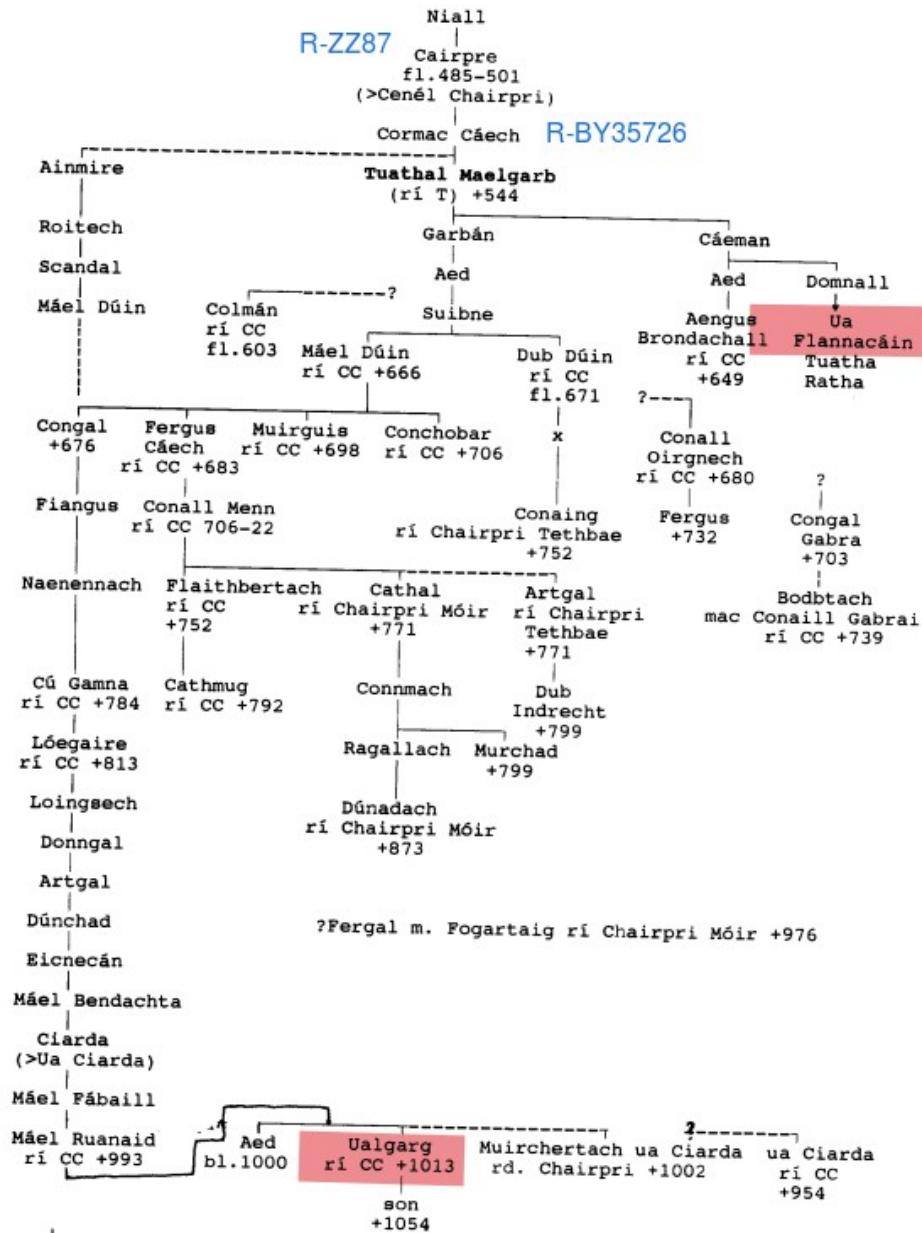
The Flanagan surname comes from Ó Flannacáin meaning ‘descendant of Flannagan’ (a diminutive of flann/red or rudy). Variants include O’Flanagan, Flanagan, Flanagan, etc.

In Fermanagh, the Flanagans were part of the Cenel Cairbre, the group of families claiming common descent from Cairbre, one of the sons of Niall Noígíallach. They were chiefs of Tuath Raith (Toorah) and rulers of a large territory covering the west of Lower Lough Erne, and based at Ballyflanagan, now the townland of Aghamore in Magheraboy parish.⁶⁸

Regarding the Goldrick/Goulding/Golden surnames, Woulfe gives the original name as MacUlghairg meaning ‘son of Ualgarhg’ (proud/frierce). Additional variants include MacGorlick, Magorlick, Godrick and others. The family were Lords of Carbery, Sligo; and seated at Granard, Longford.

⁶⁸ https://www.johngrenham.com/findasurname.php?surname=Flannegan&search_type=variants

Figure 0016. Cairpre Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA



3.2.5.1.1. Cenél Fiachach and Cenél Maine (R- ZS8379)

3.2.5.1.1.1. The Molloy and Daly Families (R-ZS8379)

Y-DNA results indicate that the Dál Cuinn Southern Uí Néill, Cenél Fiachach markers can be identified by this clade trail: **R-DF104 > DF105 > ZZ87 > ZS8379**. Under the ZS8379 clade are the Molloys and the Daleys.

Regarding the Molloys, Rev. Woulfe states that the original form of the surname was Ó Maolmhuidh meaning ‘descendant of Maolmuadh’ (noble chief). Variant forms of the surname include O’Molloy, Meloy, Molloy, Mulloy, etc. They are of the same descent as the Mageoghegans, and both families originally formed one clan, called Cenél Fiachach from their common ancestor, Fiachu, son of Niall Noígíallach. In the 10th or 11th century, Cenél Fiachach and its territory was divided between the two families, Mageoghegan retaining the northern portion under the original branch name, Cenél Fiachach, and O’Molloy becoming lord of the southern portion, under the name of Feara Ceall. This territory, which comprised the modern baronies of Fircall, Ballycowan, and Ballyboy in Co. Offaly, remained in the possession of the O’Molloys down to the beginning of the 17th century AD.

Rev. Woulfe gives the original form of the surman as Ó Dálaig meaning “descendant of Dálach” (holding assemblies, frequenting assemblies). Variant forms include O’Daly, Daly, Daley, Dawley, etc. The O’Daly derive their descent from Maine, son of Niall Noígíallach, and were originally chieftains of Corcu Adain, or Corcu Adaim, in the present Co. Westmeath. In later times they became famous as a bardic family all over Ireland. O’Donovan states, “There is certainly no family to which the bardic literature of Ireland is more deeply indebted than that of O’Daly.”

Two (2) historical locations for the Southern Uí Néill Ó Maíl Muada and Southern Uí Néill Ó Dálaig are just 25 km apart. While they may have been ascribed a separate genealogy, it appears that geographically and genetically they were more closely related.

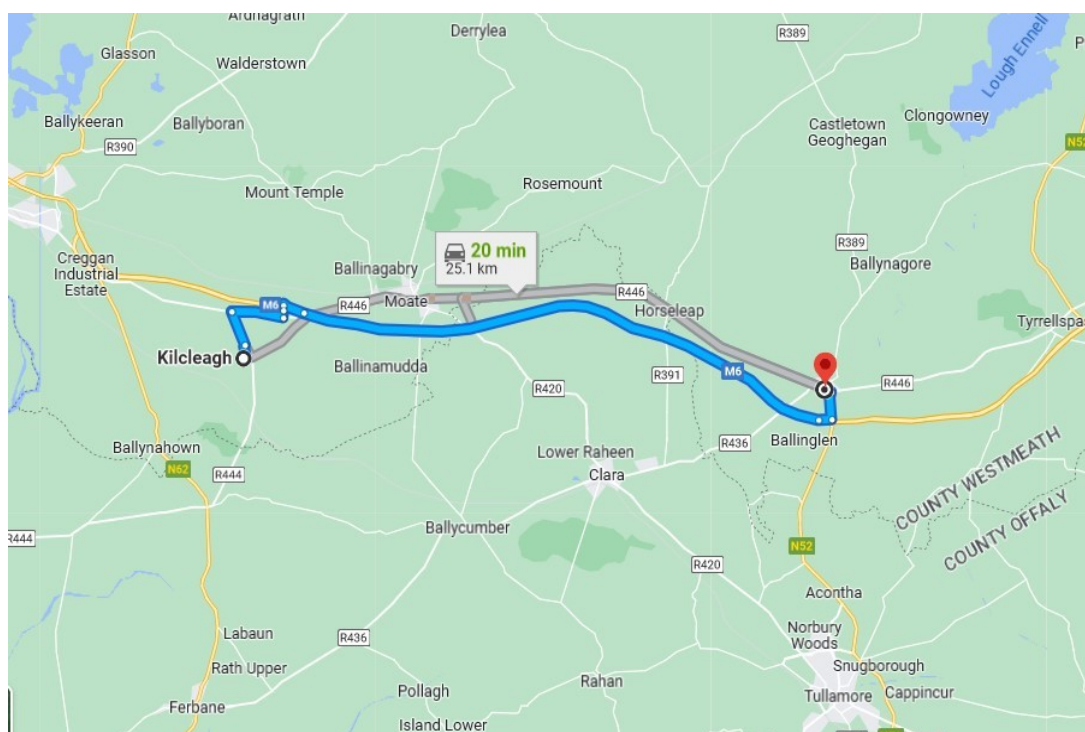


Figure 0017. Map showing the proximity of the Molloy and Daly families

An explanation for this may be found in some deliberation that F. J. Byrne took on the subject. Maine may have been a fictional son of Niall Noígíallach. He stated, “We may suspect then that eastern Uí Máiné was so successfully absorbed into the Uí Néill ambit that their kings, by a polite fiction, were accepted into the dominant dynasty circle. The fact that the annalistic obituary of Maine mac Néill in 440 AD is so much earlier than that of any of his supposed brothers also suggests that he was adopted into the dynasty sometime after the synthetic historians had agreed to push back the date of Niall’s reign by a generation or more.”⁶⁹

FTDNA has eight (8) Daly kits and 13 Molloy kits under R-ZS8379.

4. The Archaeology of the Dál Cuinn

Where the progenitor of the R-M222 clade lived remains an elusive and somewhat divisive question. Although northwestern Ireland seems to be the most likely home of the R-M222 clade due to its modern day frequency in Ulster and Connacht, others have strongly advocated for northern Britannia or Alba (modern day Scotland), Dumnonia (modern day Devon and Cornwall) or somewhere on the Continent such as Gaul, Aquitania, or Iberia.

Some further investigation was taken involving archaeological remains used in the research of Dr. Dan Bradley and Dr. Lara Cassidy at the Archaeological Genetics-Smurfit Institute of Genetics, Trinity College Dublin.

Until recently the human genetic past has largely been inferred from models based on geographical patterns of modern-day genetic variation. However, with the advent of powerful next generation sequencing technologies, ancient patterns of genetic variation can now be directly observed through the use of archaeological samples. This new field of paleogenomics allows us to map changes

⁶⁹ [Byrne 1973:92–93]

in human genetic variation not only through space but also through time, giving us a much richer picture of human genetic history. This approach has so far been used to glean insight into major prehistoric events. An understanding of ancient genomic variation in Ireland has much to offer the emerging field. As an island on the fringe of Western Europe, Ireland's insular and extreme location makes it a compelling case study for how a population's genomic architecture can change over time. The sequencing of ancient Irish genomes will provide completely novel information about the peopling, migrations, selection pressures, and population structure of Ireland's prehistory and will also contribute greatly to the emerging narrative of European genetic prehistory.⁷⁰

Despite having discovered and excavated at least 459 ancient burials in the British Isles, the only current remains identified in the R-M222 clade have been on mainland Ireland, Iceland, and The Faroes.

Sample ID	Location	Country	Time Frame	Terminal Clade
Derrynamanagh 8	Co. Galway	Ireland	300-700 AD	R-M222
Derrynamanagh 9	Co. Galway	Ireland	275-585 AD	R-M222
VK545	Dublin City	Ireland	7 th -9 th century AD	R-DF105
SK197	Ballyhanna, Co. Donegal	Ireland	7 th -10 th century AD	R-DF105
SK331	Ballyhanna, Co. Donegal	Ireland	11 th -13 th century AD	R-A260
VK95	Hofstadir	Iceland	10 th -13 th century AD	R-DF106
VK24	Havalba	The Faroes	11 th century AD	R-FGC12948
VK44	Church2	The Faroes	16 th -17 th century AD	R-DF106
LG14	Lagore, Co. Meath	Ireland	17 th century AD	R-DF105
Samples from Kiltasheen	Co. Roscommon	Ireland	(See Table 2 below)	
Samples from Ranelagh	Co. Roscommon	Ireland	(See Table 3 below)	

Table 0016. Ancient Samples under the R-M222 Clade

Excavations at Kiltasheen were conducted over five (5) field seasons, spanning from 2005 to 2009 AD, with funding provided by the Royal Irish Academy. A total of 12 cuttings were excavated, from four cuttings nearly 150 skeletons were uncovered, and an estimated burial population of 2,500 to 3,000 remains. Radiocarbon dating and associated artifacts indicate that the burials occurred over a period of 700 years, from 600 to 1300 AD. Additionally, the site features a significant prehistoric aspect, with hundreds of lithics recovered from various contexts and adjacent fields, primarily dating to the Early Bronze Age, between 2400 BC and 1500 AD.

⁷⁰ Dr. Lara Cassidy: <https://www.tcd.ie/Genetics/molpopgen/lara.php>

Sample ID	Location	Time Frame	Terminal Clade
Kil009	Bishop's Seat	600-1300 AD	R-DF104
Kil014	Bishop's Seat	600-1300 AD	R-DF105
Kil033	Bishop's Seat	600-1300 AD	R-DF104
Kil037	Bishop's Seat	600-1300 AD	R-DF104
Kil041	Bishop's Seat	600-1300 AD	R-DF105
Kil044	Bishop's Seat	600-1300 AD	R-DF105

Table 0017. Kiltasheen Ancient Samples under the R-DF104 Clade

In the summer of 2015 AD, archaeologists commenced excavation of a previously unrecorded ringfort complex in the townland of Ranelagh, just north of Roscommon Town. The archaeologists determined that the site included an ancient cemetery that was occupied from about 500 to 1100 AD. IAC Archaeology's excavations revealed 557 inhumations as well as almost 900 disarticulated deposits of human bone representing at least 108 more adults, children, and babies.

Forty (40) adult and juvenile skeletons were selected for AT-DNA analysis (which was undertaken by Dr. Lara Cassidy in Trinity College Dublin), and of these 36 produced good enough results to warrant deeper genome sequencing.⁷¹ Included among these were several samples in the R-DF105 clade.

Table 0018. Ancient Samples from Ranelagh Cemetery Excavation

Sample ID	Remains Type	Time Frame	Terminal Clade
Ran55	Younger child	558-645 AD	R-DF106
Ran64	Adolescent	605-765 AD	R-Z2970
Ran176	Older Adult	688-822 CE	R-DF106
Ran380	Young Adult	662-863 AD	R-S588
Ran489	Younger child	663-867 AD	R-DF106
Ran452	Middle Adult	685-889 AD	R-DF106
Ran469	Middle Adult	682-876 AD	R-Z2970
Ran449	Older child	774-986 AD	R-Z2972
Ran241	Young adult	775-968 AD	R-DF106
Ran283	Young Adult	897-1022 AD	DF109

Note: DF109 is a component of the R-DF105 clade phylogenetic node.

⁷¹. Hilts, "People of Ranelagh."



Figure 0018. Map of Connacht with Burial Locations

As a point of interest, plotting the burial locations of these ancient remains on a map of Ireland (Figure 0019), Ranelagh and Kiltasheen in Co. Roscommon (which have the most R-DF104/R-DF105 burials) are located approximately 28 miles/45 km apart on a north/south axis. Ballyhanna and Kiltasheen are 44 miles/70 km apart, also on a north/south axis.

It is important to note that the Ballyhanna site is situated on the Lower Erne, a major waterway, providing a route from the Atlantic Ocean to inland Ireland and a natural border between the ancient Kingdoms of Connacht and the Uí Néill's Donegal. The mouth of the Erne at Ballyshannon is a scant 14 mile/22 km sail from Killybegs and is a natural harbour used since early times. The Gaelic translation for Killybegs is 'Na Cealla Beaga' which means 'little cells' due to its association with a monastic settlement in the area. The inlet of Killybegs has been inhabited since prehistoric times, and there is evidence of as many as twenty ring forts circa 600-900 AD. Killybegs was the main port of Tír Conaill into the 16th century AD when the Ó Domnaill's were chieftains.

It happened at this time, i.e., in the month of April, that a ship came from Spain with a small party to confer with the Irish. It came to the territory of Conall, son of Niall, to the harbour of Killybegs, in the western part of Tir Boghaine, to the east of the glen which the famous Columba blessed. They came from that to Donegal, where O'Donnell was. They were glad to meet each other, and they were entertained honourably by O'Donnell, and he gave them presents of hounds and horses, and they returned and took with them an account of the country.⁷²

Equally significant is Kiltasheen, located to the north of Roscommon town, positioned on elevated terrain that overlooks Lough Key and the Boyle River. The site features a substantial D-shaped earthen enclosure known as the "Bishop's Seat". Inside this enclosure lie the remnants of a church dating back to the 12th century, along with a nearby burial ground. Just beyond the enclosure, the remnants of a small fortified structure can be found, believed to be the "Bishop's Palace", which

⁷² Lughaid O'Clery, The Life of Hugh Roe O'Donnell, pg. 135

was constructed by the Bishop of Elphin in 1253 AD. This location is historically linked to the O'Connor kings of Connacht, especially during the 13th century AD.

The remains in the R-M222 clade found in The Faroes and Iceland are most likely due to Irish missionary settlement in the 6th and 9th centuries AD. These settlements also followed ancient navigation routes. One of these remains was found to be in the R-BY35297 clade which appears to be a clade that flourished parallel to the R-DF105 clade under the R-M222.

The ancient burial finds in Counties Meath, Galway, Roscommon, and Donegal can all be associated with the geography of the Dál Cuinn. The Southern Uí Néill conquered Co. Meath, while their northern cousins founded Aileach in western Ulster. At one time, the kingdom of Connacht was the biggest province in Ireland in terms of both land and population. By 1050 AD, the Connachta had extended their rule in Co. Roscommon to Counties Galway, Mayo, Sligo, and Leitrim.

5. Conclusion

This comparative analysis of surnames tells us that on average, 50.5% of the kits who have done any kind of further Y-DNA testing, fall under the R-DF104 clade and especially its R-DF105 clade. No other group under the major I, J, or G clades, or even other subclades under the major R clade, comes close to this figure, nor would the totality of surnames match the chieftain line to the degree that the R-DF104 clade does. Using the R-DF104 clade as the baseline, the next largest clade is I-M253 at 6%; R-L513 after that at 5.5%; and I-M223 at 3.3%.

Without any doubt, the chieftain surnames associated with the Dál Cuinn are in the R-DF104 clade, with a particular clustering under R-DF105. The evidence of these chieftain families under the R-A18726, R-BY35731, R-FGC23742, R-BY35727, and R-ZZ87 clades supports something more than just a gathering of clades. They provide supporting evidence of the accuracy of ancient genealogies from a tribal culture, their social and biological aspects of life, as well as their beliefs, practices, and cognitive socio-political organization. Genealogy was not an occasional look through the family bible for the tribal Irish, they lived and breathed it daily.

The genealogies do not stop with Tairdelbach Már Ó Conchobair, or his forbearer Eógan Sríab at the R-A259 clade. The Uí Briúin were a part of the Teóra Connachta and the overarching factor and combining clade for all of these subclades is the R-DF105 clade, or the FATHER clade for Brión, Fiachra Foltsnáthach, and Niall Noígíallach. The genetic cladogram's inception at the R-DF104 clade matches the genealogies recorded by historian families like the Mac Fir Bisig, the Ó Cléirig, etc. and preserved by men like John O'Donovan. The genealogy of the four sons of Eóchád Muigmedón is consistent in every genealogy the author is aware of. Sadly, the fourth son Ailill's descendants were effectively exterminated by the Ó Conchobair in 792 AD.⁷³ We have no records of them to correlate with the Y-DNA.

The R-DF105 clade allows for Brion's sons, Dau Galach and Conall Oirbsen, to be brothers so that R-A18726 and R-BY35730 respectively can be found in their descendants. It also allows for Fiachra Foltsnáthach's sons Feradach Daithe and Amalgaid to be brothers so that R-FGC23742 and R-FGC35727 respectively can be found in their descendants.

Latin literacy arriving in 5th century AD Ireland cannot be the only factor for the diminishing reliability of these genealogies, since Irish tribal culture involved the memorizing of names of each

⁷³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muirgius_mac_Tommaltaig#Struggle_for_the_throne

person in a line of descent to their local king. This might be a difficult concept for some who have been largely raised in a culture of English primogeniture, where disassociation from tribal groups has been the norm, but for the Irish their tribes were a living record of genealogical knowledge. Social status and laws were the core of Irish life. The lack of contemporaneous sources is due to this culture of verbal genealogy. It wasn't until the time of Dau Galach that consideration was even given to capturing genealogies in books like the Cin *Dromsneachta*. Ollam memorized genealogies in long poems and later recorded them in law books. There are numerous references in the existing source texts to older source texts that are no longer extant; but that does not mean the older source texts never existed or that recorded information in those that did not survive that was used in the subsequent source texts was not valid.

The Mac Firbis family is a good example of how the socio-political consciousness of the Irish culture and these memorized poems were transferred to paper. “Those of the lowest rank among a great tribe traced and retained the whole line of their descent with the same care which in other nations was peculiar to the rich and great”, noted John O’Donovan in *Miscellany of the Celtic Society*, “for, it was from his own genealogy each man of the tribe, poor as well as rich, held the charter of his civil state, his right of property in the cantred in which he was born, the soil of which was occupied by one family or clan, and in which no one lawfully possessed any portion of the soil if he was not of the same race as the chief.”

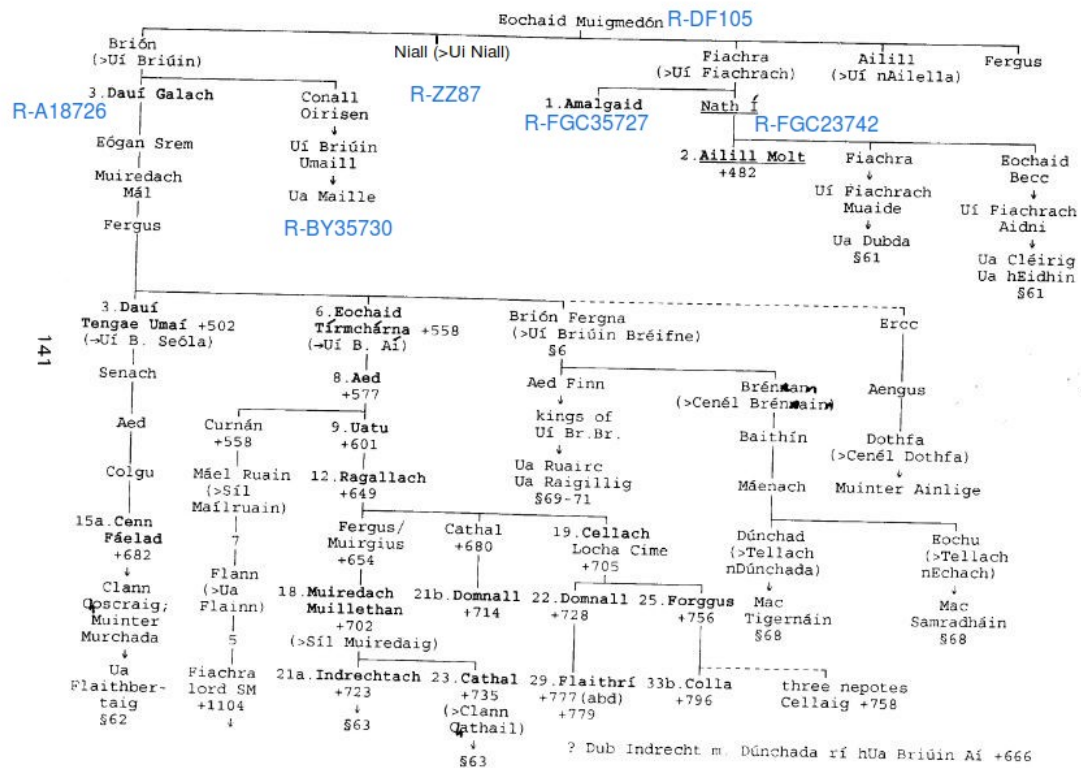


Figure 0019. Dál Cuinn Genealogy Correlated with the Y-DNA

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Visual correlation trees from: The genealogies, tribes, and customs of Hy-Fiachrach, commonly called O'Dowda's country, D. McFirbis, and Genealogical tables of medieval Irish royal dynasties, B. Jaski.

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