

The Family of Robert Pollock living in the Townland of Moyletra Toy in 1901

This case study came about because I had been asked by Andrew¹ and Christine Wilmot to identify the location of the farm of a William Pollock in the townland of Moyletra Toy, near Garvagh. I was also told that William Pollock was married to a Nancy Faulkner.

Although I knew that I would need to look at the Griffith's Valuation records to locate a farm, I first looked at the 1901 Census Returns for the townland. I found both the Pollock and Faulkner [spelt Falconer] families and the details of each family are shown below.

Robert Pollock, a widower, was listed as the head of a household that consisted of his daughter and two sons. His son William was married and he and his wife, Nancy, had five sons and two daughters. In fact they had six sons. The sixth son, James, was living with his grandparents William J. and Mary Falconer. There was also another son, John and a daughter Margaret living in the household. It is very likely that Robert had other children who were married or had emigrated or, indeed, may have died.

1901 Census [The Grove DED] Pollock family [PRONI: MIC354/5/7]

House No. in Census	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
8	Robert	Pollock	Head of family	Presbyterian	Read & write	65	M	Farmer	Widower	Co. Derry
8	Margaret	Pollock	Daughter	Presbyterian	Read & write	45	F		Not married	Co. Derry
8	John	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	30	M	Farmer's son	Not married	Co. Derry
8	William	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	43	M	Farmer's son	Married	Co. Derry
8	Nancy	Pollock	Daughter-in-law	Presbyterian	Read & write	43	F		Married	Co. Derry
8	Mary	Pollock	Granddaughter	Presbyterian	Read & write	15	F	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry
8	David	Pollock	Grandson	Presbyterian	Read & write	14	M	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry
8	William	Pollock	Grandson	Presbyterian	Read & write	11	M	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry
8	Adam	Pollock	Grandson	Presbyterian	Read & write	10	M	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry
8	Samuel	Pollock	Grandson	Presbyterian	Read & write	8	M	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry
8	Martha	Pollock	Granddaughter	Presbyterian	Read & write	6	F	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry
8	Robert	Pollock	Grandson	Presbyterian	Cannot read	4	M		Not married	Co. Derry

1901 Census [The Grove DED] Falconer family [PRONI: MIC354/5/7]

House No. in Census	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
20	William J.	Falconer	Head of family	Presbyterian	Read only	70	M	Farmer	Married	Co. Derry
20	Mary	Falconer	Wife	Presbyterian	Read & write	60	F		Married	Co. Derry
20	Robert	Falconer	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	20	M	Farmer's son	Not married	Co. Derry
20	Fanny	Falconer	Daughter	Presbyterian	Read & write	22	F	Farmer's daughter	Not married	Co. Derry
20	Sarah J.	Falconer	Daughter	Presbyterian	Read & write	24	F	Seamstress	Not married	Co. Derry
20	James	Pollock	Grandson	Presbyterian	Read & write	10	M	Scholar	Not married	Co. Derry

When did the Pollock family first come to Moyletra Toy and where did they live?

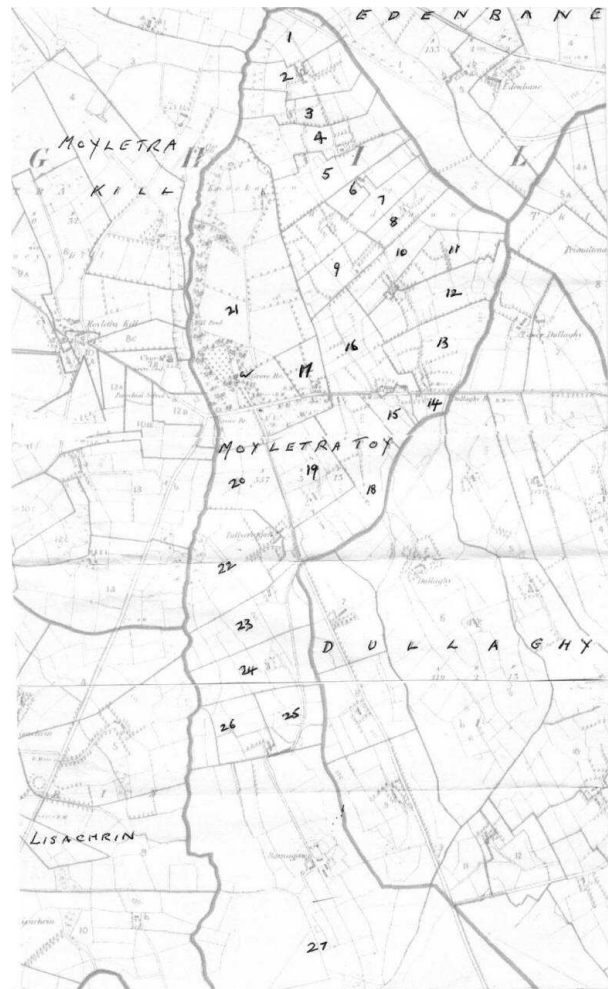
Before looking in detail at the genealogy of these families I wanted to see where the Pollock family lived in the townland in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Unfortunately the Census Returns, although they have house numbers, are of little help. The numbers simply refer to the order in which the enumerator had chosen to enter each house in Form B1, the House and Building Return. This order usually reflects the route that he followed through the townland.

I began by looking at the Griffith's [Tenement] Valuation of 1859. The appropriate page is shown below.

		Names.		Description of Tenement.	Area.		Rateable Annual Valuation.		Total Annual Valuation of Rateable Property.						
No. and Letters of Reference to Map.	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.	A.		R.	P.	£	s.		d.					
PARISH OF DESERTOGHIL.															
MOYLETRA TOY. (Ord. S. 26.)															
1	Neal M'Lary.	James Church.	House, offices, and land.	7	2	11	3	5	0	0	15	0	4	0	0
			New-road, waste.	1	1	14									
2	Daniel M'Lary.	Same.	House, office, and land.	10	0	20	4	5	0	0	15	0	5	0	0
3	William Gilmore.	Same.	House, office, and land.	8	1	35	4	0	0	0	15	0	4	15	0
4	William Kirkwood.	Same.	House, office, and land.	13	1	15	6	0	0	0	10	0	6	10	0
5	John Clinton.	Same.	House, office, and land.	11	2	20	6	0	0	0	10	0	6	10	0
6	James Keelt.	Same.	House, office, and land.	5	0	35	2	5	0	0	10	0	2	15	0
7	James Stewart.	Same.	House, office, and land.	12	2	35	6	10	0	0	10	0	7	10	0
<i>continued.</i>															
8	Robert Patton.	James Stewart.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
	Bernard Keelt.	James Church.	House, office, and land.	5	2	30	2	10	0	0	19	0	2	0	0
9	Thomas Henry.	Same.	House, office, and land.	7	2	15	3	15	0	0	10	0	4	5	0
10	John M'Lary.	Same.	House, office, and land.	12	1	8	6	10	0	0	15	0	7	5	0
11	Alexander Gilmore.	Same.	House, office, and land.	7	2	35	4	0	0	0	10	0	4	10	0
12	John Martin.	Same.	House, office, and land.	12	2	20	6	5	0	0	15	0	7	0	0
13	Reps. John Harkan.	Same.	Land.	13	3	10	6	10	0				6	10	0
14	Richard Harkan.	Same.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
15	James Harkan.	Same.	House and office.							0	10	0	0	10	0
16	James Stewart.	Same.	House, office, and land.	1	3	20	1	0	0	0	10	0	1	10	0
17	Mary Stewart.	Same.	House, office, and land.	3	3	30	1	15	0	0	10	0	2	5	0
18	John Kirkwood.	Same.	House, offices, and land.	14	2	20	4	15	0	0	10	0	5	15	0
19	Robert Kirkwood.	John Kirkwood.	House.							0	10	0	0	10	0
20	Isaac Fleming.	James Church.	House, office, and land.	4	3	5	3	10	0	0	15	0	4	5	0
21	Hugh Holmes.	Same.	House, offices, and land.	19	2	20	8	0	0	0	15	0	9	5	0
22	Mary Holmes.	Hugh Holmes.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
23	Unoccupied.	Same.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
24	William Lamon.	James Church.	House, offices, and land.	11	3	20	5	5	0	0	10	0	6	5	0
25	Anne M'Googan.	William Lamon.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
26	John Church.	James Church.	House, office, and land.	12	0	25	9	5	0	0	10	0	10	5	0
27	Stephen Church.	Same.	House, offices, and land.	63	2	30	32	15	0	0	20	0	40	5	0
28			Land.	20	0	25	10	10	0						
29	Robert Gray.	Stephen Church.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
30	John Mitchell.	Same.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
31	Robert Spoke.	Same.	House.							0	10	0	0	10	0
32	Thomas Coghran.	Same.	House.							0	10	0	0	10	0
33	Thomas Browne.	Same.	House.							0	10	0	0	10	0
34	Martha Johnston.	Same.	House.							0	5	0	0	5	0
35	John Woodburn.	Same.	House, office, and land.	13	2	35	5	5	0	0	15	0	6	0	0
36	Margaret Torrens.	Same.	House, office, and land.	13	1	35	5	0	0	0	10	0	5	10	0
37	William Starratt.	Same.	House, offices, and land.	8	1	35	3	5	0	0	15	0	4	0	0
38	James Gibson.	James Church.	House, office, and land.	11	0	0	5	0	0	0	15	0	5	15	0
39	William Maxwell.	Same.	House, office, & land.	227	1	20	8	15	0	0	15	0	9	10	0
40	Alexander Gilmore.		House, offices, & land.												
41	James Gilmore.		House, offices, & land.												
Total.				557	3	13	192	5	0	26	10	0	218	15	0

However, no Pollock is listed in the townland at that time. However, when I looked at the Griffith's Revision Books I found a Robert Pollock in the book dated [1864-1885] PRONI: VAL/12/B/39/1A He had taken over a farm [No. 19 in Griffith's] from a James Church who had taken over the farm in 1871 from the William Lamon whose name appears in the Printed Valuation of 1859 above. A copy of the particular page from this book is shown overleaf. Robert Pollock's name is entered in red/purple and if you look across the page to the last column you will see the number 82 also in red/purple. This indicates that the change was recorded by the valuer in 1882. Robert could have arrived a number of years before 1882, because the valuer will have recorded the event on one of his periodic visits to the townland and it may have been some time since his last visit. Note that James Church's name and the date [1871] is a different colour. You may have to enlarge the page on the computer screen to make out some of this detail. The farm that Robert took over was number 19 and it is possible to identify the exact location of this farm by looking at the Griffith's Valuation map, a copy of which is shown immediately below the valuation page.

Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of	FAIRBANKS AREAS VALUATION				Total	OBSERVATIONS
	Townlands and Complexes	Immediate Lessees		Land	Buildings	Land	Buildings		
	Moyletra Moy Con ^d								
V. 18 a	Knight Holmes	James Church	The Off stand	19	2 30	8 0 0	1 5 0	9 5 0	
	Robert Holmes	Knight Holmes	Do (Shop)				2 0 0	2 0 0	58.5m. 1860
	Mary Holmes	Knight Holmes	House				0 5 0	0 5 0	
	Unoccupied	same	House				0 5 0	0 5 0	
19 a	Robert Pollock	James Church	The Off stand	11	3 20	5 5 0	1 0 0	6 5 0	71.12
	Robert Pollock	James Church	House				0 5 0	0 5 0	71.12
20	James Pollock	James Church	The Off stand	13	0 25	9 5 0	1 0 0	10 5 0	82.84
21 a	John Paul	James Church	The Off stand	63	2 30	32 15 0	3 0 0	35 15 0	186.63
22	Mary Park	James Church	House	20	0 25	10 10 0	1 15 0	12 5 0	186.775.79
23	Robert Gray	John Paul	House				0 5 0	0 5 0	186.68.71
	John Mitchell	John Paul	House				0 5 0	0 5 0	71
24	Robert Gray	Mary Park	House						186.71.73
				283	14 18 10		20 0	17 0	



Today the house and offices have completely disappeared and the land has been incorporated into the land of other farms owned by the Holmes family. All there is to see today is a large cultivated field which is about the size of the Pollock farm in the nineteenth century - c.12 acres, but absolutely no sign of any dwellings. Apparently, the ruins of the house and offices of this farm were there until the 1970s.

This photograph was taken from the north side of the farm towards the townland of Dullagh.

Finding the farm on the ground was a bit confusing because local people regarded this as Faulkner's farm. You will see why presently.

PRONI: VAL/12/D/5/26C [1858-1881]

I soon discovered that the Pollock family had moved to another farm in the townland and a member of the Falconer family had moved into No. 19. Below are a number of pages from the Griffith's Revision Books that will show when these changes took place. Again, you will probably have to zoom in on each page. The first page from the [1898-1910] book [VAL/12/B/29/1C] follows on from the page in the earlier book. Here you can see William Pollock, Robert's son, taking over the farm at No. 19 in 1907.

VAL/12/B/29/1C [1898-1910]

County of Lancashire RURAL DISTRICT OF Coleraine VAL/12/B/29/1C [1898-1910]

Barony of Coleraine Parish of Devenish Electoral Division of The Grove

Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of Tenement	Ratable Annual Valuation			OBSERVATIONS
	Townlands and Occupiers	Immediate Lessees		Area Statute Measure	Land	Buildings	
	<u>Moylra Toj</u>						
10320 19	<u>Wm Pollock</u>	<u>James Church</u> <u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	11 3 20	5 5 0	1 0 0	6 5 0 1907-1910
10321 20	<u>James Church</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	13 0 25	9 5 0	1 0 0	14 5 0
10322 21	<u>Archd. McCook</u>	<u>James Church</u> <u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	63 2 30	32 15 0	3 0 0	35 15 0 1907
10323 22	<u>James Church</u>	<u>James Church</u> <u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	13 0 25	9 5 0	1 0 0	14 5 0
10324 23	<u>Wm Church</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	13 2 35	5 5 0	0 15 0	14 5 0 1907
10325 24	<u>Robt Falconer</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	13 1 5	5 0 0	0 10 0	5 10 0 1907
10326 25	<u>Wm Pollock</u> <u>James Church</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	8 1 30	3 5 0	0 15 0	12 0 0 1907

98 99

This next page [VAL/12/B/29/1D] shows William Pollock's name stroked out in 1912 against farm No. 19 and the new name of Robert Falkiner inserted. Robert was William's brother-in-law. This explains the modern-day confusion of who had occupied farm No. 19.

VAL/12/B/29/1D [1911-1927]

County of Lancashire UNION OF Coleraine VAL/12/B/29/1D [1911-1927]

Townland of Moylra Toj O.S. 2 Rural District of Coleraine Electoral Division of The Grove

Reference to Map	NAMES		Description of Tenement	Ratable Annual Valuation			OBSERVATIONS
	Occupiers	Immediate Lessees		Area	Land	Buildings	
15	<u>Ernest Lane</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	3 3 30	1 15 0	0 10 0	2 5 0 1912
16 ab	<u>Robt Falkiner</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	Off. r. land	11 2 20	4 15 0	1 10 0	6 5 0 1912
17	<u>Hugh McCook</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	4 3 5	3 10 0	0 15 0	4 5 0 1912
18 a	<u>James Church</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	19 0 20	8 0 0	1 5 0	9 5 0 1912
18 c	<u>John Church</u>	<u>John Church</u>	No. off. r. land		3 0 0	0 15 0	3 15 0 1912
19	<u>Wm Pollock</u>	<u>Infra L.A.P.</u>	No. off. r. land	11 3 20	5 5 0	1 0 0	6 5 0 1912

114 115

This next page from the same revision book [VAL/12/B//29/1D] shows the movement of William to No. 27b in Barnagaw [the southern end of Moyletra Toy] in 1911. By 1923 when William's son, David, took over 27a and c, the family owned all of the farms in Barnagaw.

(A.) VAL/12/B//29/1D [1911-1923] COUNTY OF Londonderry

UNION OF Coleraine [1911-1923] 56

Townland of Moyletra Toy O.S. Rural District of Coleraine Electoral Division of The Grove

Reference to Map	NAME		Description of Tenement	Area	Rateably Annual Valuation						OBSERVERS
	Occupier	Immediate Lessors			Land	Buildings	Highways, Fences, Walls, Hedges, &c.	Total			
124	Robert Holmes	Infra	No off. land	13 1 5	5 0 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	6 10 0	1913 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100	
125	Thos Gibson	Infra		8 1 35	3 0 0	0 15 0	0 10 0	4 15 0			
126	Thos Gibson	Infra		11 0 0	5 0 0	0 15 0	0 10 0	5 15 0			
127 a	James Pollock	Infra		227 1 20	2 15 0	0 15 0	0 10 0	3 10 0			
127 b	James Pollock	Infra		227 1 20	2 15 0	0 15 0	0 10 0	3 10 0			
127 c	James Pollock	Infra		227 1 20	2 15 0	0 15 0	0 10 0	3 10 0			
Total				227 2 13 192 5 0	6 3 33	22 10 0	10 10 0	28 10 0			

Having established where the family lived between 1882 and 1923 I then turned to the question of where did Robert Pollock come from? Some local people thought that the Pollocks had some connection with linen weaving in Garvagh. I discovered two Pollocks in the Griffith's [Tenement] Valuation listed in the village of Ballynameen which is situated on the outskirts of the village of Garvagh on what is today the Kurin Road. Robert Pollock is listed against No. 20 and William Pollock against No. 11. It is impossible to say if these are the Robert or William listed in the 1901 Census Returns.

46 VALUATION OF TENEMENTS. PARISH OF DESERTOGHIL.

No. and Letters of Reference to Map.	Names.		Description of Tenement.	Area.	Rateable Annual Valuation.		Total Annual Valuation of Rateable Property.
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.			Land.	Buildings.	
BALLYNAMEEN—continued.							
VILLAGE OF BALLYNAMEEN—continued.							
11	William Pollock.	James M'Intosh.	House & small garden.	0 0 6	—	1 10 0	1 10 0
12	Owen Watt.	Same.	House & small garden.	0 0 6	—	0 15 0	0 15 0
13	Thomas Heney.	James M'Alister.	House & small garden.	0 0 5	—	1 0 0	1 0 0
14	Thomas Murdock.	Same.	House & small garden.	0 0 5	—	0 10 0	0 10 0
15	Samuel Mullen.	Same.	House & small garden.	0 0 5	—	0 15 0	0 15 0
16	James Canders.	Same.	House.	—	—	0 10 0	0 10 0
17	Margaret Cassidy.	Same.	House.	—	—	0 5 0	0 5 0
18	Mary Cassidy.	Nathaniel Alexander.	House, offices, & garden.	0 0 20	0 5 0	0 10 0	0 15 0
19	Martha Hunter.	Joseph Clyde.	House & small garden.	0 0 5	—	0 15 0	0 15 0
20	Henry Collins.	James M'Intosh.	House & small garden.	0 0 6	—	0 15 0	0 15 0
21	Robert Pollock.	Nathaniel Alexander.	House and garden.	0 0 30	0 5 0	1 0 0	1 5 0
22	John Patterson.	Robert Pollock.	House.	—	—	0 5 0	0 5 0
23	Alexander M'Alister.	Nathaniel Alexander.	Garden.	0 0 10	0 1 0	—	0 1 0
24	George Canders.	Same.	House and garden.	0 1 33	0 10 0	1 0 0	1 10 0
25	William Love.	Joseph Clyde.	House.	—	—	1 0 0	1 0 0
26	Anne O'Kane.	Same.	House & small garden.	0 0 4	—	1 0 0	1 0 0
27	Thomas Wade.	Alexander M'Alister.	House.	—	—	0 5 0	0 5 0
28	John M'Veigh.	Same.	House & small garden.	0 0 6	—	0 10 0	0 10 0
Waste under hos., yds., streets, & sm. gardens.				2 3 35	—	—	—
Total of Rateable Property.				325 3 22	220 6 0	52 10 0	273 16 0
EXEMPTIONS:							
14 d		Nathaniel Alexander.	Grave-yard.	0 2 10	0 10 0	—	0 10 0
Total including Exemptions.				326 1 32	220 16 0	52 10 0	273 6 0

Clearly it was now necessary to look at marriage and birth certificates to get some idea of where people were living at various times before the arrival of Robert Pollock in Moyletra Toy.

I began with the family of William Pollock because of the fact that the 1901 Census Returns [providing the ages given were correct] indicated that William Pollock's marriage and the births of his children would be in the civil registers.

Marriage of William Pollock and Nancy Ann Falkener

I searched the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* database on the LDS [Mormon] website and found the following two marriage entries.

Name: William Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: MARRIAGES
Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1883
Volume: 1
Page: 205

Name: Nancy Ann Falkener
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: MARRIAGES
Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1883
Volume: 1
Page: 205

The same marriage is listed in the *Irish Genealogy: Central Signposting Index* which means that it is in the *Derry ~ Londonderry Genealogy: Marriage Records for Co. Derry* online database. It is also in *Emerald Ancestors* and it can be found in the marriage registers of Boveedy Presbyterian Church.

I chose to look at the Boveedy Presbyterian Church marriage register. The marriage took place on 21st December 1883. William Pollock gave his occupation as a farmer and his age as 25. His place of residence was given as Grove and his father, also a farmer, was Robert Pollock. I now know that although he gave his place of residence as Grove he was actually living in No. 19 [Griffith's map] in the townland of Moyletra Toy. His wife, Nancy Ann Falkner, a spinster aged 26, gave her place of residence as Edenbawn. This was the townland of Edenbane which adjoined Moyletra Toy. Her father was William John Falkner and his occupation was given as labourer. The witnesses to the marriage were George A. Pollock and Joseph Andrews. Who was George Pollock? Was he William's brother?

It is worth pointing out that although the townland of Moyletra Toy is in Co. Londonderry, it was part of the Ballymoney Poor Law Union until 1898 when, after the County Council Act of that year, it was transferred to the Coleraine Poor Law Union. It would be important to know this, if you wanted a copy of the civil marriage certificate.

Births of the children of William and Mary Ann Pollock of Moyletra Toy

I searched the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* database and found the following two entries. Remember, in the Civil Births Index the date given is the date when the birth was registered. I have added the dates of births from either the baptismal register of Boveedy Presbyterian Church or the civil birth register.

Name: Mary Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Jul - Sep 1885 [born 6th Sept. 1885.]
Volume: 1
Page: 135

Name: David Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Jul - Sep 1887 [born 7th July 1887.]
Volume: 1
Page: 146

Name: James Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1888 [born 22nd Oct. 1888.]
Volume: 1
Page: 136

Name: William John Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Jan - Mar 1890 [born 10th Jan. 1890.]
Volume: 1
Page: 143

Name: Adam Faulkner Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1891 [born 1st October 1891.]
Volume: 1
Page: 127

Name: Samuel Alexander Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Jul - Sep 1893 [born 20th June 1893]
Volume: 1
Page: 143

Name: Martha Jane Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Jan - Mar 1895 [born 14th September 1894]
Volume: 1
Page: 139

Name: Robert Pollock
Registration district: Ballymoney
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1896 [born 21st November 1896.]
Volume: 1
Page: 125

Whilst the Boveedy baptismal register was very useful in providing dates of births there were some baptisms missing and, at times, confusion over dates and, in one instance, the name of a child. I decided to visit the GRONI in Belfast to check the civil registration of David, James, William John and Samuel Alexander.

Initially I had thought that Samuel Alexander was called Samuel Gamble, the name by which he was baptised and was called in the 1911 Census. Also, I had thought that James [who was listed in the 1901 Census Returns, aged 10, living with his Faulkner grandparents] was the twin brother of Adam, also aged 10, who was living with his parents. However, as I found out later, James was actually aged 13 in 1901 and Adam was in fact aged 10. The 1901 Census Returns are notoriously inaccurate on ages but usually children's ages are not too far off the mark. Clearly, his grandparents were not entirely sure of his age or simply rounded down his age.

Details of the four births can be seen in the table on the next page. Clearly, Samuel Gamble, as he appears to have been known within the family, was registered as Samuel Alexander. The Gamble would have come from the fact that his grandmother Falkiner was a Gamble. The age of James was also confirmed.

Ballymoney Poor Law Union; Kilrea District

No. in Register	Date and Place of Birth	Name (if any)	Sex	Name and Surname and Dwelling-place of Father	Name and Surname and Maiden Name of Mother	Rank or Profession of Father	Signature, Qualification and Residence of Informant	When registered	Signature of Registrar
44	7th July 1887 Moyletra Toy	David	Male	William Pollock Moyletra Toy	Nancy Ann Pollock Faulkner	Farmer	Registered by William Pollock, father, Moyletra Toy	27th July 1887	Joseph Clarke Registrar
248	22nd October 1888 Moyletra Toy	James	Male	William Pollock Moyletra Toy	Nancy Ann Pollock Faulkner	Farmer	Registered by William Pollock, father, Moyletra Toy	5th November 1888	Jno. Lennox Registrar
415	10th January 1890 Moyletra Toy	William John	Male	William Pollock Moyletra Toy	Nancy Ann Pollock Faulkner	Farmer	Registered by William Pollock, father, Moyletra Toy	23rd January 1890	Jno. Lennox Registrar
399	20th June 1893 Moyletra Toy	Samuel Alexander	Male	William Pollock Moyletra Toy	Nancy Ann formerly Faulkner	Farmer	Registered by William Pollock, father, Moyletra Toy	10th July 1893	Jno. Lennox Registrar

In many ways researching this family from the 1880s to the early years of the twentieth century was relatively straight-forward. The 1911 Census Returns which have just come online [NAI: 1911 Census Online] as I finish this particular case study means that we can see what has happened to the two families by that time. The Faulkner family living in the townland in 1911 consisted of Robert and his sister Sarah, both unmarried. Here are the details of the Pollock family listed in the 1911 Census Returns. The family would still have been living in farm No. 19 at this time.

House No. in Census	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
11	William	Pollock	Head of family	Presbyterian	Read & write	55	M	Farmer	Married	Co. Derry
11	Nancy	Pollock	Wife	Presbyterian	Read & write	56	F		Married	Co. Derry
11	Mary A	Pollock	Daughter	Presbyterian	Read & write	25	F		Single	Co. Derry
11	David	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	23	M	Farmer's son	Single	Co. Derry
11	William J.	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	21	M	Farmer's son	Single	Co. Derry
11	Adam Faulkner	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	19	M	Farmer's son	Single	Co. Derry
11	Samuel Gamble	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	17	M	Farmer's son	Single	Co. Derry
11	Robert	Pollock	Son	Presbyterian	Read & write	14	M		Single	Co. Derry
11	Margaret B.	Pollock	Sister	Presbyterian	Cannot read	57	F		Single	Co. Derry
11	John	Pollock	Brother	Presbyterian	Cannot read	51	M		Single	Co. Derry

Married 27 years – 8 children born alive – 8 still alive in 1911.

William Pollock's father, Robert, was probably dead but his brother John and sister Margaret B. were still living with the family. Six of William's eight children were still living in the house ranging in age from 14 to 25. James and Martha had gone, or at least, were not resident in the house on the night of the Census, 1st April. I have not investigated the whereabouts of these two people. James would have been 23 by 1911 and Martha Jane 17. Instead, I wanted to go back and find out more about William's father, Robert.

Marriage of Robert Pollock to Mary Woodburn

Name: Robert Pollock
Registration district: Coleraine
Record type: MARRIAGES
Registration date - quarter and year: 1852
Volume: 4
Page: 158

Name: Mary Woodburn
Registration district: Coleraine
Record type: MARRIAGES
Registration date - quarter and year: 1852
Volume: 4
Page: 158

Again, this marriage is listed in the *Irish Genealogy: Central Signposting Index* which means that it is in the *Derry ~ Londonderry Genealogy: Marriage Records for Co. Derry* online database. It is also in *Emerald Ancestors*.

The marriage took place in First Garvagh Presbyterian Church on 15th October 1852. Note that this marriage took place within the Coleraine Registration District because Garvagh, in the parish of Errigal, lay within the Garvagh Local Registrar's District which was part of the Coleraine Poor Law Union, which doubled as the Coleraine Superintendent Registrar's District.

As well as the civil registers, the exact same details of the wedding can be found in the marriage registers of First Garvagh Presbyterian Church. These registers cover the years: 1795-1802, 1807-14 and 1822-89. Their marriage is in the 1822-89 section on the microfilm in Coleraine Library. I used the marriage registers to obtain details of the marriage.

Robert Pollock, weaver, married Mary Woodburn, spinster, on the 15th October 1852 in Garvagh First Presbyterian Church. Robert gave his place of residence as Ballinameen [probably Ballynameen Village] and his father, also a weaver, was William Pollock. Mary Woodburn, gave her place of residence as Tullyaghcragan and her father was Alexander Woodburn, a farmer. The witnesses to the marriage were Thomas Turner and Oliver Holmes. Incidentally, Mary Woodburn was a minor, which means she was not yet 21.

Tullyaghcragan was Tullycreggan, a cluster of houses in Moyletra Toy [Nos. 22 and 23 on the 1859 Griffith's map, above]. Incidentally, Moyletra Toy was one of those townlands where local place names were used for a number of localities within the townland. The southern part of the townland was known as Barnagaw. Tullycreggan was in the middle of the townland just across the road from No. 19 on the Griffith's map where Robert Pollock moved to around 1882. The northern part of the townland was known as Grove and another part as Woodtown and, at the very top of the townland, I noticed the name Knockaleen on the 1858 map.

Births to Robert and Mary Pollock

With the exception of their son John, all of the births of their children took place before 1864, the date when compulsory registration of births began. The entry of the registration of John's birth from the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* is shown below. He was actually born on the 15th April 1865 and was baptised in First Garvagh Presbyterian Church on 19th October 1865. This baptism is recorded in the church baptismal register. The only other child recorded in this register was George, born 13th April 1862 and baptised on 27th July 1862. I think this must be the George A. Pollock who was a witness at the wedding of William Pollock and Nancy Ann Falkner in 1883. Both George and John were born in the townland of Killyvally.

The reason that the children born between say 1853 and 1864 are not recorded in the baptismal register is because the baptismal registers only cover the following years: 1795-1816, 1822-49 and 1859-1945. We know from the 1901 Census Returns that William was born some time around 1858 and Margaret c.1856. I suspect that there was another child before Margaret, who could have either married, emigrated or died before 1901. There could have been other children born after 1865 but I have not looked for them. Note that the age given for John in the 1901 Census was 30, yet he must have been 35 or 36. Ages given in the 1901 Census often make people younger than they really were. He then gave his age as 51 in the 1911 Census. According to his birth certificate he was actually 46 in 1911. So much for the ages of some people in the Census!

Name: John Pollock
Registration district: Coleraine
Record type: BIRTHS
Registration date - quarter and year: 1865

As his marriage certificate revealed, Robert Pollock was a weaver, as was his father William. Unfortunately, I have not been able to trace his ancestors back to the latter years of the eighteenth century when the linen trade was at its height. I have, however, had a look at the distribution of the surname Pollock throughout the Baronies of Coleraine and Loughinsholin in 1831 and 1740.

The surname Pollock throughout the wider area

Below is a table showing Pollock families listed in the 1831 Census Returns in the wider area. It may be that one of these persons is Robert's father or mother, but it would require a look at church registers to do this. Admittedly the records of First Garvagh Presbyterian Church do go back to 1795 but are very difficult to read.

Parish	Townland	Forename	Surname as spelt in Census Returns	Surname [Standardised]
Aghadowey	Inchadoghill	Widow	Polick	Pollock
Desertoghill	Movenis	Margaret	Pollock	Pollock
Desertoghill	Tirkeeran	David	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Altikeeragh	James	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Altikeeragh	Robert	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Ballywildrick Beg	Joseph	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Dunalis Beg	James	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Knockmult	John	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Knockmult	Thomas	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Quilly	Peggy	Pollock	Pollock
Dunboe	Quilly	Samuel	Pollock	Pollock
Errigal	Cah	William	Pollock	Pollock
Macosquin	Cashel	Charles	Poke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	Conly	Poke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	David	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	Henry	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	James	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	James	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	James	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	Jane	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	John	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	John	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	John	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	Samuel	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Leck	Thomas	Polke	Pollock
Macosquin	Ringrash	Craig	Polke	Pollock
Tamlaght O'Crilly	Drumoolish	Andrew	Pollock	Pollock
Tamlaght O'Crilly	Drumoolish	Archibald	Pollock	Pollock
Tamlaght O'Crilly	Drumoolish	John	Pollock	Pollock
Tamlaght O'Crilly	Drumoolish	Robert	Pollock	Pollock
Tamlaght O'Crilly	Drumoolish	Robert Jun.	Pollock	Pollock
Tamlaght O'Crilly	Drumoolish	Thomas	Pollock	Pollock

The table below shows Pollocks in the wider area in 1740.

Barony	Parish	Townland	Forename	Surname as spelt in 1740 Returns	Surname [Standardised]
Coleraine	Dunboe	Not specified	James	Palke	Pollock
Coleraine	Dunboe	Not specified	Thomas	Polke	Pollock
Coleraine	Macosquin	Not specified	Ann	Palke	Pollock
Coleraine	Macosquin	Not specified	Wm	Palke	Pollock
Coleraine	Macosquin	Not specified	Charles	Polke	Pollock
Coleraine	Macosquin	Not specified	Jn	Polke	Pollock
Loughinsholin	Tamlaght O'Crilly	Not specified	George	Policke	Pollock
Loughinsholin	Tamlaght O'Crilly	Not specified	John	Policke	Pollock

Of course, these two tables simply indicate the presence of the Pollock surname in certain parts of the baronies of Coleraine and Loughinsholin. Note the spelling of the surname in the actual documents.

The 1740 table relates to a period in the middle of the eighteenth century when areas within the county were still being settled. The 1831 table relates to a period when the population had risen to unprecedented levels and the land was becoming overpopulated. Certainly in Moyletra Toy the rise in population in the later eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries was fuelled by the linen industry. In the Ordnance Survey Memoir of 1835 for the Parish of Desertoghill, p. 17, it is stated

"There are 37 houses in Moyletra Toy, in 35 of which there are from 1 to 3 looms in each, and the weaving trade carried on extensively as there are many who live entirely by weaving."

William Pollock, William of 1901's grandfather, and Robert Pollock, William of 1901's father, were heavily involved in the domestic linen industry in Ballynameen, near Garvagh. The fact that Robert moved to Moyletra Toy in 1882 and he and his son were describing themselves as farmers in the 1901 Census, signalled the fact that the domestic linen industry was no longer as important as it had been at the beginning of the century.

¹ Andrew is a grandson of Martha Pollock, aged 6, in the 1901 Census Returns. My thanks to the family, particularly Christine, for supplying me with information. My thanks, also, to the Holmes and Gibson families of Moyletra Toy for their help in locating farms within the townland.