

Descendants of John Heffron c1845

1-John Heffron b. Cir 1845, Co. Mayo, Ireland, d. Apr 1909, Ballyglass, Mayo

+ Letitia Joynt b. 1849, Kilfian, Mayo, Ireland, m. 1871, Killala (Civil Registry), d. Feb 1937, Ballyglass, Mayo, par. Henry Joynt and Mary Corcoran

2-Mary Heffron b. 22 Jul 1872, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 14 Jul 1961, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, Bur. Pittsburgh, PA, USA

+ James Kilgallon b. 19 May 1874, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, m. 27 Jun 1900, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. Feb 1918, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-John Kilgallon b. 6 Mar 1905, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 25 Nov 1990, Bur. Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh

+ Mary Moore Bur. Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh

3-Mary Letitia (Mamie) Kilgallon b. 22 Jul 1909, d. Cir 1993, Bur. Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh

+ John Ambrose b. 3 Aug 1907, m. 9 Aug 1949, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 1957

2-Bridget Heffron b. 4 Apr 1874, Ballycastle, Mayo, d. 12 Jul 1959, Bur. Pittsburgh, PA, USA

2-Thomas Heffron b. 22 Jul 1876, Mayo, Ireland, d. Jun 1900, Ballyglass, Mayo

+ Ellen Keane b. Cir 1883, par. Unknown and Bridget Keane

3-Mary Heffron b. 1900

2-Anne C. Heffron b. 14 May 1878, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. Jan 1918, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

+ John C. Reilly b. Jan 1871, Mayo, Ireland, m. 16 Sep 1902, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 1 Nov 1927, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-John J. Reilly b. 28 Oct 1903, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 21 Jun 1986, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-Margaret C Reilly b. 8 Jul 1905, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 22 Apr 1983, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-Charles Edward Reilly b. 8 Sep 1908, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 7 Jun 1982, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-James Reilly b. 5 Sep 1910, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 31 Jul 1970, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

+ Mildred James b. 1923, m. 30 Apr 1949, Holy Rosary Church, Pittsburgh, d. 1982

4-Living

4-Charles M. (Chuckie) Reilly b. 22 Sep 1953, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 25 Jan 2012, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

4-Letitia (Tishie) Reilly b. 6 May 1956, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 26 Jan 2018, Sarcoxie, MO, USA, Bur. Sarcoxie, MO, USA

+ Palmer

3-Thomas B Reilly b. 19 Oct 1912, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 19 Sep 1989, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-M. Letitia Reilly b. 20 Oct 1914, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 22 Nov 1982, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

+ Paul H. Anderson b. 24 Aug 1916, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, m. Nov 1943, d. 22 Feb 2006, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, Bur. Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-Anne C Reilly b. 9 Jun 1917, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 25 Nov 1998, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

2-John Heffron b. 31 May 1880, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. May 1982, Ballyglass, Mayo

+ Ruth M. Dugan m. 1940, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

2-Edward Heffron b. 1882, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. Mar 1968, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

+ Rose Fitzpatrick b. 1886, Co. Down, Ireland, m. 1914, Nanty Glo PA, d. 21 Aug 1921, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, Bur. Calvary Cemetery, Pittsburgh

3-Sarah Catherine Heffron b. 24 Aug 1917, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

+ Francis X. Quinlin b. Jul 1915, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, m. 27 Nov 1941, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, d. 19 Nov 2005, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

3-Leticia Conalie Heffron b. 1919

Descendants of John Heffron c1845

3-John Leo Jr. Heffron b. 1915, d. 5 Sep 1983, Sharpsburg, PA

+ Ruth Dugan b. 1917, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, m. Oct 1940, Nanty Glo PA, d. 1993, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

2-Catherine (Katie) Heffron b. 1884, Ballyglass, Mayo

+ Michael Sweeney b. Cir 1890, Killerduff, Mayo, m. 29 Mar 1921, Ballycastle, Mayo, par. Living and Living

2-Henry Heffron b. 1886, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. 11 Nov 1944, NYC, NY

2-Margaret Heffron b. 1889, Ballyglass, Mayo

2-Ellen Heffron b. 1891, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. 28 Mar 1983, Ballyglass, Mayo

+ Unknown

3-Nora b. 1913, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. 22 Sep 1971, Ballyglass, Mayo

3-Michael b. 1919, Ballyglass, Mayo, d. 28 Mar 1983, Ballyglass, Mayo

2-Michael Heffron b. 1893, Ballyglass, Mayo

(No Surname)

Michael (1919-1983) 2
 Nora (1913-1971) 2
 Unknown 2

AMBROSE

John (1907-1957) 1

ANDERSON

Paul H. (1916-2006) 1

CORCORAN

Mary 1

DUGAN

Ruth (1917-1993) 2
 Ruth M. 1

FITZPATRICK

Rose (1886-1921) 1

HEFFRON

Anne C. (1878-1918) 1
 Bridget (1874-1959) 1
 Catherine (Katie) (1884-) 2
 Edward (1882-1968) 1
 Ellen (1891-1983) 2
 Henry (1886-1944) 2
 John (1880-1982) 1
 John (Cir 1845-1909) 1
 John Leo Jr. (1915-1983) ... 2
 Leticia Conalie (1919-) 1
 Margaret (1889-) 2
 Mary (1872-1961) 1
 Mary (1900-) 1
 Michael (1893-) 2
 Sarah Catherine (1917-) 1
 Thomas (1876-1900) 1

JAMES

Mildred (1923-1982) 1

JOYNT

Henry 1
 Letitia (1849-1937) 1

KEANE

Bridget 1
 Ellen (Cir 1883-) 1

KILGALLON

James (1874-1918) 1

KILGALLON

John (1905-1990) 1
 Mary Letitia (Mamie) (1909-Cir
 1993) 1

LIVING

(No Given Name.) 1, 2

MOORE

Mary 1

PALMER

(No Given Name.) 1

QUINLIN

Francis X. (1915-2005) 1

REILLY

Anne C (1917-1998) 1
 Charles Edward (1908-1982) 1
 Charles M. (Chuckie) (1953-
 2012) 1
 James (1910-1970) 1
 John C. (1871-1927) 1
 John J. (1903-1986) 1
 Letitia (Tishie) (1956-2018) 1
 M. Letitia (1914-1982) 1
 Margaret C (1905-1983) 1
 Thomas B (1912-1989) 1

SWEENEY

Michael (Cir 1890-) 2

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF HEFFRON HISTORY

This essay is an attempt to characterise the Heffron family in my ancestors. The main protagonists are two women, Letitia Joynt Heffron (ca1949.1937) and her oldest daughter Mary Reilly Heffron (1872-1961). These two women raised two generations of households with 10 children. No mean feat at any time in any country.

Letty Joynt was born in Kilfian, County Mayo in 1849 or 1850. There are no records for her (or most anyone else) at this time. In a census taken in 1851 to attempt to estimate the effects of the Great Famine after the potato mould, disease and emigration more than decimated Ireland. Letty was listed then as living with John Heffron, a farmer in Doonfeeny. She grew up in the Heffron family, eventually marrying the oldest son John. She would have ten children with him, the oldest son Thomas being born about 1870. He died early in 1900 according to the family tombstone in Doonfeeny old cemetery. Mary (“Nana” to the next generations), emigrated to Pittsburgh alone at the age of 16. Her younger sisters Anne and Bridget (“Agnes” was her second name and the one she used most of her adult life) emigrated to America in the 1890s. In the 1900 US census all three are listed as servants at the Negley Blvd home of the banker James Mellon.

Anne and Mary married John J Reilly and James Kilgallon in 1901. Bridget never married but moved in with her brother Edward after his wife Rose died in 1913,

The next oldest Heffron, John stayed in Mayo and may have lived in another house in the area. He only shows up in the 1901 Irish census as head of the family at the age of 21. His younger brothers Edward (1882) and Henry (1885) emigrated to the US sometime after 1900-1905. Henry stayed at first with the Kilgallons, whereas Edward rented an apartment behind the Reilly in Fletcher Way - the “alleyway” where the oldest Andersons played in the 1950s.

Anne and John Reilly had 8 children, 7 of whom had normal long adult lives. Their first child, Letitia lived less than a year and was the first buried in the Reilly plot of Calvary Cemetery. Mary and James Kilgallon had 2 children who reached adulthood. At least two short-lived children are buried separately in Calvary.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF HEFFRON HISTORY

During the Spanish flu pandemic, both Anne Reilly and James Kilgallon (a city policeman) died in 1918. Both are buried in Calvary. The remaining two families moved in together in the Reilly house at 7130 Hermitage street by the 1920 census. Whether they married or not is a moot point, John Reilly died of stomach cancer in 1927. His death certificate was signed by their son Edward - it is not clear whether Nana could read&write,

Both Edward and Henry drove streetcars in Pittsburgh. Edward continued there until retirement. Henry was drafted/volunteered for WWI in 1918. He may have been overseas but was back in Pittsburgh by 1920. He never married and probably retired. He died in NYC on Nov 11,1944 and is buried there. Edward had three children by his wife Rose before her death in 1923, The Heffrons on Race St. in Homewood and later in Sheridan are Rose,Jane and John Leo,Jr. By 1930 Agnes lived with him 7141 Race St and helped raise his family. Agnes died in 1959 and Edward in 1968. Both are buried in Calvary. Of their three children, each married and had grandchildren for Edward.This essay will not pursue these relatives any further because someone may object to being so catalogued. Each may feel free to pursue this list to times after 1950. The census data from then are already public.

On the Kilgallon/Reilly side, James and Mary Kilgallon had only two adult children. John Kilgallon became a letter carrier and union official in Pittsburgh until his death in November 1990. His wife Mary Moore Kilgallon had one son, John “Jackie” born about 1952. He was their only child. Mary Moore Kilgallon is buried with James and Mary Reilly Heffron in Calvary cemetery. (Sect 8 Row1. Their two short-lived daughters are in Calvary plot 8-5-107.

John J Reilly had a flourishing horse/buggy shop at 7133 Kelly st. Among his clients was Henry Clay Frick. This shop was among the best of its sort, but John J realised early that autos were taking over the streets.. He bought a hotel in the Strip district with its own bar and distillery.. This enabled him to purchase the large house at 7130 Hermitage St where the 7 Reilly children grew up with the 2 Kilgallons. Most Reilly (and Kilgallons before) worked in the railways. Ed,John and Tom were drafted and served in N Africa. James got a Pa liquor license in Wilknsburg. He married Mildred Joyce and they had 3 children, two of whom are now deceased and their home on Princeton st has been repossessed.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF HEFFRON HISTORY

Mary Letitia “Mamie” Kilgallon, as did M Letitia “Tish” Reilly became an accredited Pugh school teacher. Mamie marries a lawyer, John Ambros and they bought a house on Carnegie Place. After John died of a stroke in the mid-fifties, the remains unmarried Reillys moved to a house a few doors down from her. This resulted in a dilemma for the family since Nana didn’t want to go to a home, The married children took turns housing Nana, but the next generation then divided into two halves which didn’t speak to one another except at funerals. Eventually, Nana needed more professional care and went to a nursing home, but only survived there a few mnths. She died at 88, approximately the same age as Letty Heffron, in 1961. She is buried at the Kilgallon plot in Calvary but with both Reilly and Kilgallon names. This is the end of a saga of 2 women who managed more lives than just their dozen children.

His older brother Patrick and family moved out to Western Pennsylvania and stayed there after Patrick’s death in 1939 when his wife Catherine moved back to Pittsburgh. She died shortly thereafter. They had three daughters and a son. The oldest daughter Mary died in 1919. The two girls married after 1940 when the family lived at 917 Washington Blvd. The son Edward married his wife Margaret before then. The youngest daughter married JP Doyle afterwards.

Back in Mayo, John Reilly was the head of family in the 1901 census. By 1911 he had moved on. His gravestone with wife Gidget and daughter is probably theirs. The others stayed with Letty and most were probably unmarried Family legend has one son becoming a priest. That could only have been Michael. Ellen was listed as a school teacher in the 1911 census. She probably never married. Margaret (b, 188) probably did, but there are precious few sources. Tara Merz’ visit could be a source of more information, or at least a few romantic yarns. She should not forget to kiss the Blarney Stone for the gift of gab, which would be useful in her practice.