

# The Driscoll & Prendergast Story

## Second Edition

Compiled by

\*\*\*\*\* - Parents' and current generation, names on request

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### My 3rd Great Grandparents

**Johanna (?) 1797- 1865 & \_\_\_\_\_**

**(?) Coakley & Mary (?)**

**Thomas Healy & Johanna Jordan**

**Patrick Garry & Hannah (?) 1802-**

**Patrick McLaughlin & Mary Keegan**

#### Johanna (?)

**Descendants** - John H. Driscoll, John A. Driscoll, John J. Driscoll Sr., John J. Driscoll Jr.. \*\*\*\*\*

Johanna arrived in New York from Ireland in 1837, with her children James, Johanna and John (my 2nd great grandfather). She died in December of 1865. It's possible that she ran a boarding house at this time, because there is an article in the Brooklyn Eagle, a month prior to her death, about a fire at Mrs. Driscoll's boarding house at 85 Hudson St. only three doors away from where she died at 91 Hudson St. Her death certificate indicates she was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. There is no record of her burial at the cemetery, but there is a record on the same day for "James Driscoll, his own" No other information is available. I was informed by the cemetery staff that the lack of records was not unusual in the mid 19th century. It is possible that James Driscoll buried "his own" mother. At this time I am assuming that this is our Johanna and will try to find more later.

#### (?) Coakley & Mary (?)

**Descendants** - Mary Coakley, Honora Coughlin, John A. Driscoll, John J. Driscoll Sr. John J. Driscoll Jr.-  
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Nothing is known of **Mary's** husband and very little of her. She was born in Ireland and probably immigrated to Massachusetts between 1832, the birth of her daughter Mary, in Ireland (my 2nd great grandmother) and 1839, the birth of a son John, in Boston. In 1875, she is living next door to both of these children on Columbia St. in Brooklyn.

### Thomas Healy & Johanna Jordan

**Descendants** -Thomas Healy - Patrick Healy - Mary Anastasia Driscoll -John Driscoll Jr. - \*\*\*\*\*

Not much is known about **Thomas** and **Johanna** other than he was a farmer and they were living in Ireland in 1850. Since his grandson Patrick was of Irish descent, I assume Thomas and his one known son Thomas,(my 2nd great grandfather), were Irish.

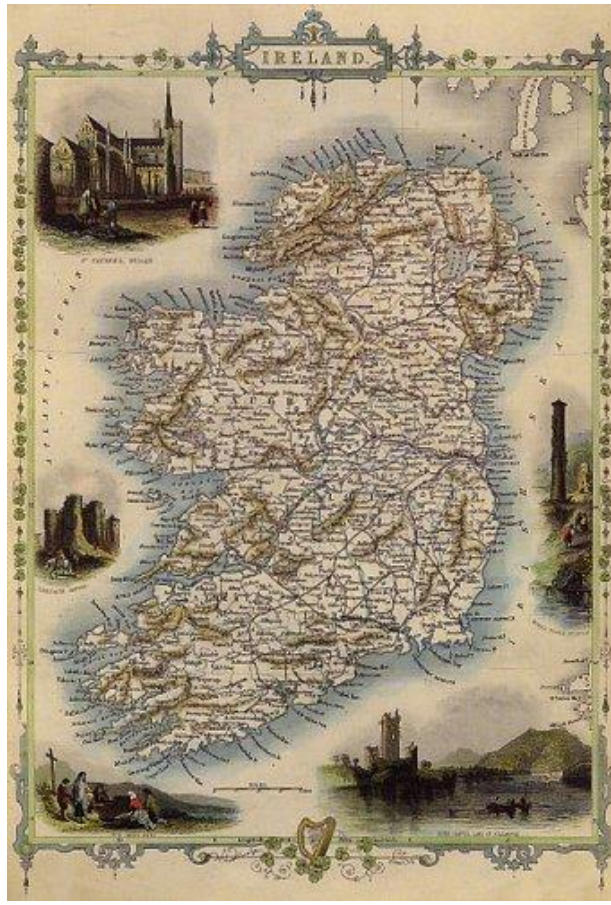
### **Patrick Garry & Hannah (?)**

**Descendants** – Bridget Garry - Patrick Healy – Mary Anastasia Healy – John Driscoll Jr. - \*\*\*\*\*  
**Patrick** was a blacksmith. born and more than likely died in Ireland. **Hannah**, also Irish, moved at some point to England but not Patrick. They had two known daughters, Mary and Bridget (My 2nd great grandmother). Mary, born in 1818, married Michael Flannery in Ireland, They moved first to Sheffield England around 1850 and lived there with Mary's mother Hannah, then together with their son, Patrick, came to the States aboard the DeWitt Clinton in 1854 from Liverpool. I don't know what happened to Hannah after that. She may have moved back to Ireland. I will write more on my great grandmother Bridget in the next group of ancestors.

### **Patrick McLaughlin & Mary Keegan**

**Descendants** - Ann McLoughlin, Mary Anne Deren, Mary A. Healy. John J. Driscoll Jr., \*\*\*\*\*

Nothing is known about **Patrick** and **Mary** other than they were Irish. Since their one known daughter, Ann, (my 2nd great grandmother) was from Northern Ireland, they too probably were.



## My 2nd Great Grandparents

**John H. Driscoll 1824 -1883 & Catharine M. Ryan 1833 -1896**

**Daniel Coughlin 1824 -? & Mary Coakley 1832 -?**

**Thomas Healy 1827-1908 & Bridget Garry 1827-1900**

**Anton Deren 1826-1898 & Ann McLoughlin 1835-1919**

**Patrick Prendergast & Mary Gavin**

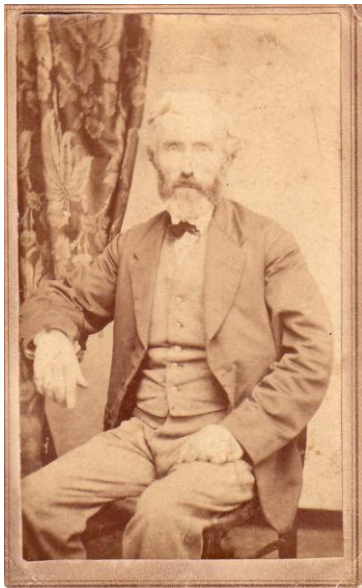
**John Jordon & Bridget Neilsen**

**Peter Curley & Katie (?)**

**William Byrnes & Ann E. Jennings**

### John Driscoll & Catharine Ryan

Descendants - John A. Driscoll - John J. Driscoll Sr. - John J. Driscoll Jr. - \*\*\*\*\*



**John Driscoll**



**Catharine Ryan Driscoll**

**John H. Driscoll** was born in County Cork Ireland in 1824. He was educated in a national school in the City of Cork until the age of thirteen. He was, in his own words, "... well versed in the four R's, as they were called, reading writing and arithmetic." When he was reminded that he mentioned four, he explained "I studied reading writing and ciphering; I did not study much grammar..." He was a native of Kilbonane. (Description next page).

The following is from A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland,  
by Samuel Lewis  
published in London in 1837

KILBONANE, a parish, in the barony of EAST MUSKERRY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER. 3 miles (N. W.) from Crookstown, on the river West Bride, and the roads from Cork to Macroom and from Mallow to Bandon; containing 1740 inhabitants. It comprises 4827 statute acres, as apportioned under the tithe act, and valued at £3519 per ann.; about three-fourths are arable and pasture land; the waste consists chiefly of exhausted bog and some elevated heathy ground in the south; the state of agriculture is unimproved. At Aherlow are extensive and valuable quarries of limestone, which supply the greater part of the lime of Bandon and the interior of the country on both sides for agricultural purposes and for building and ornamental architecture, and from which has been taken stone for the ornamental part of the new court-house of Cork. The principal seats are Lodge, the residence of the Rev. P. French; Aherlow, of — Barter, Esq.; New Grove, of W. H. Holland, Esq.; and Livias, of Mrs. Ellard. The living is a vicarage, in the diocese of Cork, and in the patronage of the Bishop; the rectory is impropriate in — Rye, of Rye Court, Esq. The tithes amount to £410, of which £201. 16. 3. is payable to the impropriator, and £208. 3. 9. to the vicar. The church, a neat small edifice, was erected in 1834 by subscription. There is neither glebe-house nor glebe. In the R. C. divisions the parish forms part of the union or district of Kilmurry. The parochial school is supported by the vicar, and there are several private schools in the parish. There are some remains of the old church; and at Cloghduff, in the western part of the parish, great quantities of human bones have been often found, but whether it is some ancient burial-place, or the scene of some long-forgotten battle, is not known.

In their book *“The Everything Irish History & Heritage Book”* Amy Hackney Blackwell and Ryan Blackwell explain that the church underwent a dramatic change after the Great Famine. It seems that before this change the Catholic Church in Ireland was a combination of Catholicism and Celtic paganism. John Driscoll was probably a member of the pre-reformed church. From that book come the following passages:

*The Post famine period in Ireland ushered in something of a devotional revolution. In the late 1840s, the number of priests and nuns increased dramatically at the same time that the general population was shrinking from death or emigration. The Church itself underwent major reforms.*

*Father Paul Cullen became archbishop of Armagh in 1849, at the end of the Great Famine, and he spent the next thirty years modernizing the Irish Church. He called the famine the work of God intended to purify the Irish people, whose Catholicism was too steeped in superstition and whose clergy was too tempted by avarice and sex; he also thought there were simply too many Catholics for the existing clergy to serve. He professionalized the clergy and introduced a variety of new rituals, including novenas, stations of the cross, parish missions, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. These changes brought the Irish Church more in line with Rome.*

*Post-famine Catholics became more devout than their ancestors had been, and Catholic priests had more power over them. People enthusiastically joined new religious societies and embraced such devotional aids as the rosary, pilgrimages, shrines, processions, devotion to the Sacred Heart or the Immaculate Conception, and spiritual retreats. Older “magical” events and events such as wakes, agricultural celebrations, and bonfires became less important.*

*Few Catholic churches had been built in the 1700s, but in the mid-1800s, Catholics once again started erecting churches and cathedrals. Middle-class Catholics willingly donated funds to help construct churches, symbolically reclaiming their role in the public sphere and their historic traditions.*

John arrived in New York on August 7, 1837 aboard the ship *Spring*, 283 tons, from Liverpool. Using the method given me by the Curator of Nautical Archeology, North Carolina Maritime Museum, I calculated the *Spring* to be about 80 ft. in length with a 22 ft. beam. A very small ship to be crossing the stormy North Atlantic in.

John probably boarded in Queenstown (Cobh). He travelled with 40 year old **Johanna Driscoll**, 17 year old **Johanna Driscoll Jr.** and 20 year old **James Driscoll**. These are more than likely his mother and siblings. Of these two siblings I know little. James and John were both tailors. He is listed on the ship manifest as a twelve year old when he was actually thirteen. This was probably to save on his fare.

The 1830's and 1840's was an exciting era in America that saw among other things, the creation of the Republic of Texas, the first wagon trains to California, the birth of Jesse James, and the publication of Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven", as well as the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill.

John had at least two other sisters, **Nelly Driscoll** (1805 or 1815-1865) apparently unmarried. She came to the States in abt. 1845. In 1850 she lived in Manhattan, with her sister and brother-in-law, Margaret and John Austin (They may have owned a boardinghouse). In 1855, she lived in Brooklyn, with cousins named Newsam in the same building as her brother John and his wife Catherine. Back to Manhattan in 1860 with the Austins, And again back to live with her brother John where she died in 1865. When Nelly passed away on February 12, 1865, she was buried in First Calvary Cemetery, in a grave next to the one her brother John bought in 1859. On November 6, 1859, four adjacent graves were purchased by John, his brother-in-law, John Austin, his cousin George Newsam and a man named Foley. This was the day after Margaret Austin, John's sister died. Nelly was buried with her sister. These graves became family plots for the four families.

John's other sister, **Margaret Driscoll** (1821-1859) was married to John W. Austin. John was a stage driver, born in Vermont. He died at Blackwell's Island Charity Hospital in 1870. The Austins had one son, John W. Austin Jr. 1845-1876.

John became a naturalized citizen on October 28, 1844 in the Marine Court of NYC. His witness was his brother-in-law John W. Austin. In about 1852 he married **Catharine M. Ryan**. Catharine was born on July 12, 1833 in Ireland, immigrated about 1842, and lived in Brooklyn for the next 54 years until her death. She was naturalized sometime before the 1892 NY State Census was taken. They had eight children: John Augustus (My Great Grandfather), Thomas F., Johannah, Margaret E., Francis, Mary Kate, William J., and George F.

From 1850 to 1862, in various directories, John is listed as a sailmaker, a natural occupational transition from being a tailor. As a sailmaker, it is possible that he worked in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. He was probably there when they built the USS Monitor in 1862 photo at right.

From *Brooklyn an Illustrated History* by Ellen M. Snyder Grenier comes the following: *By 1852, the yard at Brooklyn was called the “second in importance in the country” by Capt. Mackinnon in his Atlantic and Transatlantic Sketches Afloat and Ashore. Shipbuilding was in full swing. It was a complex operation that required the talents of skilled artisans, including*



*shipwrights, riggers, **sailmakers**, ropemakers, caulkers and blockmakers. .... Between the beginning of the war and its end in 1865, workers built and launched fourteen large vessels and fitted out as cruisers over four hundred commercial vessels before taking up a less active postwar pace. .... The workers hired to build and refit ships of the fleet under naval supervision were largely civilians.... Jobs at the yard were greatly prized, in part for their comparatively short hours. By 1872 yard workers, many of them local Irish immigrants, put in eight-hour days at a time when workers elsewhere were still working twelve hour days.*

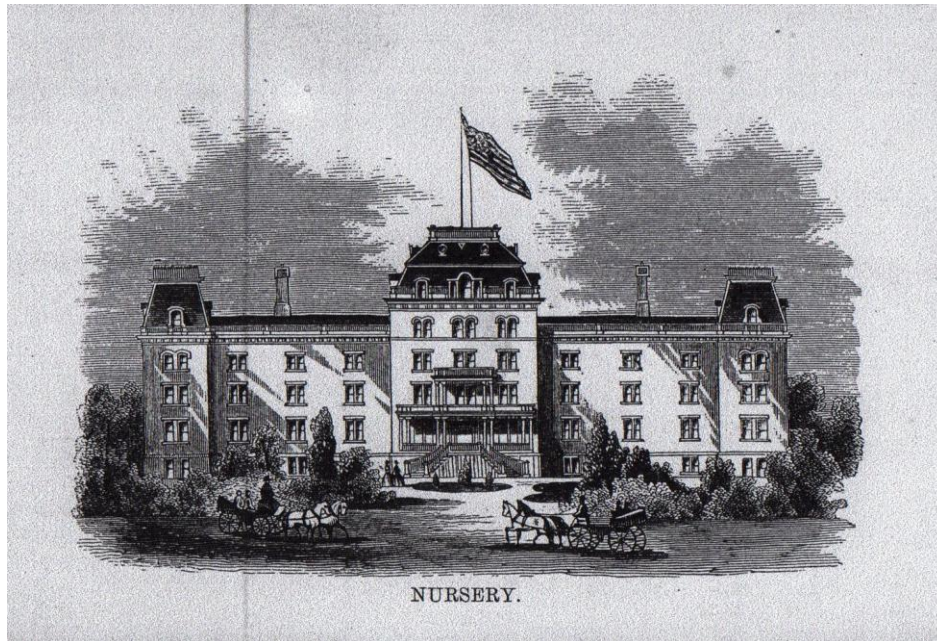
Between 1850 and 1853 John was living in the 3rd Ward of Brooklyn City, which is very close to Wallabout Bay (The Brooklyn Navy Yard), then DeGraw and Van Brunt Streets and Harrison Alley. All of these locations are right on the waterfront.

By 1855 John and Catharine have moved to the corner of Smith and Nelson and lived there until 1865, which is in the now the Carroll Gardens section of Brooklyn. In 1863, John became a Supervisor for Kings County and served on a number of Standing committees. He replaced his cousin George A. Newsam in this position. George went on to work as a Roundsman, Assistant Keeper and eventually Keeper of the Kings County Penitentiary. It was a transitional period for John, as he was still listed a Sailmaker in the directories of the time. In 1865 the family moved to Flatbush where after the Civil War, between 1865 and March 1, 1875, John was the Superintendent of the Kings County Nursery in Flatbush and Catherine was the Matron.

From the Annual report of the Board of Supervisors of Kings County 1865, comes this note: "A change has been made in the government of the Nursery, consisting in the appointment of Mr. John Driscoll, a gentleman of well worth and benevolence, to control of the institution, under the title of Keeper, his amiable wife taking the matronly care of the children. A decided improvement in the management of that charity has fully justified the new arrangement."

The Nursery was one part of the County's institutions, which also included the Almshouse, Lunatic Asylum and Hospital. Today it is the Kings County Hospital Center. Catharine continued as Matron until February 1, 1873 when the Committee of Commissioners of Charity discharged her as part of cost cutting.

In an excerpt from the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, October 14, 1874 John is quoted as saying "I have a wife and six children, four of them live here; the other two generally spend Sundays here. ... I have three sleeping rooms beside the spare room upstairs; the parlor and dining room used in common with the matron the teachers and others"



*The direction of Institutional care of orphans and neglected children changed course in the mid-nineteenth century. In 1854, forty-seven boys and girls between the ages of seven and fifteen boarded a train in New York City; they were destined for a rural community in southwestern Michigan. This was the beginning of an exodus that transferred well over 100,000 homeless children from cities such as Boston, New York and Cincinnati to entirely different lifestyles in small towns and farms in states in the Midwest, the South and the West. ----John Cerny "Research in Business Employment and Institutional Records"*

By reading articles from the Brooklyn Daily Eagle between 1867 and 1875, it appears that politics had a great influence on John's career. There are other articles besides the ones listed here. A synopsis including excerpts and my interpretation follows:

Feb 12, 1867

The designation "Superintendents of the Poor" was substituted by: John Driscoll "Warden of the Nursery." A report of the condition of the Nursery found it "...a great deal better than might be supposed... with so poor - ventilation." and the rooms "as clean and well kept as their crowded state would admit." They condemned the present system of taking paupers from the almshouse to use as nurses.

Mar 12, 1868

"The Board of Superintendents consisted of five men elected for three years—," and have in their "charge the County Almshouse, Nursery, Lunatic Asylum and Hospital" The Nursery "is in charge of Mr. John Driscoll keeper, and Mrs. Driscoll matron..." "... "affirm the present condition of the County Institutions to be a credit to the county..."

Dec 24, 1869

A report on the building extension for the Nursery, including overcrowded conditions in early 1867, authorization for loan (Mar.11, 1867), naming of architects (Nov 11, 1867), presentation of plans (Apr. 2., 1868), and proposals received ( May 18, 1868). It was built in 1868-69 with new plumbing and heating. Thanks expressed to Mr. Driscoll.

Nov. 29, 1870

A negative article on the whole Board of Supervisors and Board of Superintendents. "Institutions not designed for support of political paupers" "...finding employment and titles for the army of officials they have pensioned on the public." - etc.

Apr. 1, 1871

Positive story on John, as Superintendent.

Feb 1, 1873

Catharine Driscoll dismissed as matron in a reduction of staff and salary cuts. \$12,000 saved.

Aug. 1, 1873

Annual report of John Driscoll. Positive.

Aug 8, 1874

A very positive visit by a reporter. Interview with John. Children at dinner "demolition of huge plates of 'stirabout'" " little ones...all as fat as small sized pigs." "occasional sore eye" " were in remarkably good health."

At this point Gertrude Lefferts Vanderbilt entered the picture. The town of Flatbush was settled in the 1600's by Dutch farmers. The Lefferts and the Vanderbilts families were original landowners, who became very wealthy and influential. They went on to include County Treasurers, members of Congress, and other prominent figures. Gertrude Lefferts married Judge John Vanderbilt in 1846; John Vanderbilt was at times County Judge, State Senator and candidate for Lieutenant Governor. He was described in his obituary as

“King County’s Favorite Son.” Gertrude also went on to write “The Social History of Flatbush” in 1881. When she became involved in the Kings County Nursery, the press coverage appears to have turned on a dime.

Aug 27, 1874

Article citing a motion to institute an investigation of the Nursery. Quoting an article which appeared in the New York World, Aug 19, “Mrs. Vanderbilt, a charitable lady of Flatbush, who seems to take a great interest in the children cared for in the Kings County Nursery” Mrs. Vanderbilt adopted and transferred a 10 yr. old named John Golden, a Catholic, to her Protestant institution on Flatbush Ave. He escaped and returned to the Nursery. Mrs. Vanderbilt contended He “ran back to the idleness of the Kings County Nursery”

Sept 1, 1874

Supervisors’ visit to County Institutions to look for payroll padding. The Nursery is not mentioned, but the article seems incomplete.

Sept 2, 1874

The headline reads in part “...The Squabble Raised by Mrs. Vanderbilt...A Mother's Dying Request Contemned ... What Mr. Driscoll has to Say on the Subject” and goes on to tell of recent communication from Mrs. Judge Vanderbilt to the Board, as well as the President, Mr. Wheeler, about her complaints of the management of the Nursery. In particular about the boy, John Golden. Driscoll explained that the boy came here with his mother as a baby, and the mother, on her deathbed, asked John Driscoll to make sure the boy was raised as a Catholic. But he could not interfere when the Commissioners of Charities gave the boy to Vanderbilt. Mrs. Vanderbilt said the mother once requested the First Directress of the Home in Flatbush Ave. to bring up the child, “a diametrically opposite request”. The supervisors then made an inspection of the buildings including the Nursery which was described as “dilapidated condition...faulty in construction, but poorly ventilated” “grossly neglected by county authorities ... for many years” As to the Superintendent, he is allowed “only two or three paid nurses” “these facts ought to be borne in mind when visitors undertake to criticise the Nursery”

Oct 14, 1874

A Special Committee of the Board of Supervisors inspected the Nursery. This is a scathing report on the physical condition of the building as well as “little mites of children in the wards ... found huddled together at the lee side of...bundles of straw, called beds”

Oct 15, 1874

Very negative article entitled “Slaughter of the Innocents”... “food...that would poison pigs” “torture in its worst forms” etc.

Oct 19, 1874

“Mrs., Judge Vanderbilt Gives Her Experiences to the Committee” She testified as to the condition of the Nursery: “children generally dirty and ragged” “Idiots, deaf mutes and blind allowed to mingle with other children” John Driscoll refused to open his books to her without an order from the Commissioners. “... she was surprised at his refusal, because he had shown them to one of the ladies” “...she didn't suppose that her visits to the Nursery were welcomed.” A different version of the John Golden story: She states the boy was seen among the children (at 12, too old to be there) and she asked Mr. Driscoll about him, who told her of the dying mother's request to look after the child. She applied to Mayor Hunter who gave an order of surrender, and she took possession of him. He then escaped back to the Nursery. “Mr. Driscoll was very much displeased at the boy being taken away...”

Dec 5, 1874

An article about “What to Do with the Children?” “...a great source and continuous anxiety to very many and well meaning ladies...” “The ladies... desire...they be allowed to take all the healthy children... and find homes... regardless of the parents’ wishes... all over the far West. “The supervisors “milder plan”...



“recommended that the Nursery...indeed be abolished” “...the children provided with homes ...within the several institutions of Kings County.”

Dec 5, 1874

“...An Unexpected Official Visit to the Public and Private Institutions...” Six private asylums were visited, then the only public one, Kings County Nursery of which it was said: “Of course the contrast was too great not to be noticed, yet it would be unfair to charge it home to the Superintendent and Matron, because with the limited means furnished them, they seemed to be doing their best for the children. “ and” compared favorably with other children in county institutions,...”

Dec 12, 1874

“What shall be done with the county's Poor?” A meeting as to the question of the children; “At the invitation of the Special Committee of the Board of Commissioners of Charities, consisting of Messrs. Cunningham, Midas and Raber, the Ladies' Local Visiting Committee on the Nursery, headed by Mrs. J.B. Stranahan and Mrs. Judge Vanderbilt, ...” and others. Two plans proposed: one by the Board of Supervisors and another by the Ladies' Visiting committee. The first...Abolish the Nursery and distribute the children among private orphanages. “the second, being that of the ladies,...children should be sent out West...” “It seemed to be the object of the ladies to get rid of the children somehow.”

Dec 16, 1874

The report of the Investigating Committee. Another scathing article on all the Kings County Institutions, singling out John Driscoll for vilification. “...Superintendent...Mr. Driscoll not a success.” and “Utter Incapacity of Mr. Driscoll to control those under his charge.”... “ Miss Dora B. Robinson testifies;...found three boys up in the pear tree—‘getting pears’... “ Have you made a complaint to Mr. Driscoll?... Yes sir. ...He said the boys were as good as average boys.” Mr. Robert Robinson said, “if you asked them what it was for, they said they did not get enough to eat in the institution. Those boys troubled the cherry trees through the neighborhood.” “...evidence of Mrs. Vanderbilt...asked him to let me see the books, and he said he did not intend to let me or any of the ladies see the books,...” Mrs. Vanderbilt ... “My first visit was on January 8th, 1874; ... wards entirely too crowd ...irregularly heated...” “I visited ...Feb, 27 when Mr. Driscoll tried to refuse me admission....I had my furs on... and was still very cold.” The article continues: “What shall be the future of the Nursery” etc. etc.

Feb 18, 1875

Article on Pauperism - “The Kings County Nursery...Recommendations for its Improvement”

Feb 18, 1875

Headline – “Resignation of the Superintendent” “Gentlemen... In consequence of declining health which at present hinders me from discharging as thoroughly as I would like the duties of my position, I herewith tender my resignation as Superintendent of this Department, the same to take effect the first day of March. Respectfully, John Driscoll, Superintendent.” Commissioner Cunningham, offering additional help and a chance to show his executive ability under the new system expressed regrets, and doubts as to the reason of health. “It was well a known fact, heretofore, Mr. Driscoll had not sufficient help to conduct the Nursery... now as paid nurses were given to the Nursery, it was only equitable to give Mr. Driscoll a chance under the new direction. It was not fair to send him out under a cloud before his people,...” The resignation was accepted. Com. Cunningham then nominated Mr. Bernard Bogan as successor. The Chair ruled the motion out of order for the present.

Feb 25, 1875

Com. Raber recommends Bernard Bogan for Superintendent. ... “Com. Cunningham said he didn't want to be cut off in that way” that Bogan was “nominated by him at the previous meeting.” Bogan was appointed.

Mar 25, 1875

“Conference With the Ladies” ... Mrs. Judge Vanderbilt was asked her opinion of the Nursery at present. She responded to “suspend all comments until he had time to carry out the reforms he had promised.”

Jun 10, 1875

Headline - "The Breaking Up of The Kings County Nursery" No provisions made for the maintenance of the Nursery and decision made to transfer the children. Staff reductions announced.

Jun 12, 1875

Bogan stated "...he couldn't see how he could manage.." "... in fact it was his intention...to ask for three more nurses, as the number already in the institution was inadequate to attend properly to the care of all the children."

Aug 12, 1875

Story on the transfer of the children to private institutions. "... there shall be no tampering with their religious faith..." The reasons for the condition of the Nursery was then blamed on "Pauper Nurses were responsible for the filth; the Board of Supervisors and Commissioners of Charities must share the responsibility for the defective ventilation." A large number of the nurses were "... dirty, drunken and dissolute creatures, who smuggled whisky into the building..." "With such help the honest man that was acting as Superintendent was powerless to keep the place in anything like a presentable condition. Beside, he was unaided by the controlling majority in the Board. They allowed the building to go into utter decay."

Aug 14, 1875

Article on clearing out of the building.

#### My opinion

It is evident that the whole system seemed corrupt and being used for political posturing. If the building was expanded in 1868-69, with new heating and plumbing, why did these improvements fail so soon? John Driscoll received positive news coverage until Mrs. Gertrude L. Vanderbilt entered the picture. It seems that stemming from the incident with the boy, John Golden, over his religion, the slant and intensity of news coverage went downhill. She, and the others of the "Ladies Local Visiting Committee on the Nursery", apparently wanted to do away with the children altogether. Although reporters placed blame of the condition of the Nursery on the Commissioners of Charity, the Board of Supervisors, and lack of funding and support for Superintendent Driscoll, he still became the scapegoat. His resignation was obviously pressured. While Commissioner Cunningham expressed regrets at the announcement, it was just lip service; he had a replacement waiting and immediately nominated Bernard Bogan, a nomination that was ruled out of order. At the next meeting, Com. Cunningham took offense when another commissioner recommended Bogan for the job. After the Nursery was closed, later that year, Bogan went on to become one of the Commissioners of Charity of Kings County, and in 1878 was arraigned and tried for Malfeasance in office. I could not find the verdict of the trial, but where there is smoke.....

By 1875 John was back living on Smith St. at no. 331, and lived there until 1880. He was once again listed as a Sailmaker, but is not shown to have a "Usual Place of Employment" which is one of the columns in the 1875 NY State Census. So, at this point, he may be unemployed. In June of 1880 he was living at 354 Smith St. with his wife, four of his children, John A, Margaret, William, George and his Daughter-in-law Nora. Perhaps the reason of declining health was, in part, the cause of his resignation because by June of 1880 he had been out of work for at least the previous twelve months, had chronic bronchitis and was deaf and dumb. He died on March 7, 1883, just two months before the official opening of the Brooklyn Bridge, at the age of 58, at his home at 350 Baltic St. He was waked from his home on March 9th, and a Requiem Mass was said at St. Paul's R.C. Church. He was buried in First Calvary Cemetery in the grave he bought on November 6, 1859.

On April 20, 1895, John was removed to Holy Cross Cemetery and re-interred in the family gravesite. Catharine had bought this plot at Holy Cross Cemetery when their son Thomas died in 1893.

She was living at 239 Bergen St. when she died on May 18, 1896. She passed away on the same day as her son John A.. He had been ill, and when she learned that he had died at ten o'clock in the morning, she could not recover from the shock and she herself died at eleven forty five that night. In her obituary, Catharine was noted as having "... for years been a devout member of Our Lady of Angels' congregation and was active in the charities of the parish." Her funeral Mass was said at The Church of Our Lady of Mercy on Debevoise Pl. and she was laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery on May 21, 1896.

## **Daniel Coughlin & Mary Coakley**

**Descendants** – Nora Coughlin – John J. Driscoll Sr. - John J. Driscoll Jr. - \*\*\*\*\*

**Daniel Coughlin** was born in Ireland about 1824. Between 1860 and 1885 He and his family lived in the 12th Ward of Brooklyn, at different times on Columbia St., Congress St., Huntington St., and Centre St. He was a mason by trade in 1860, and a plasterer between 1870 and 1885. He became a naturalized citizen before the 1870 Federal Census was taken. He married **Mary Coakley** who was born in Ireland about 1832. They had seven children that I know of. They were Mary, Daniel, Honora (My great grandmother) Sylvester, John and Patrick. Another John is listed as a child but I believe it is my great grandfather visiting his in-laws home at the day of the census.

## **Thomas Healy & Bridget Garry**

**Descendants** – Patrick Healy – Mary Anastasia Healy – John J. Driscoll Jr. – \*\*\*\*\*

**Thomas Healy** and **Bridget Gany** were born in Ireland. They had five children, John, Thomas, Patrick, (my great grandfather), Honora and Dennis. They immigrated to England, more than likely because of the failure of the potato crop in Ireland and the subsequent famine. Ireland easily produced enough food to feed itself, but it was destined for export. The Catholic tenant farmers' plots, where they could grow their own crops, were so small that only the potato would yield enough food to last them through the winters. The failure of that crop was compounded by the refusal of the British government to halt food exports in order to feed the people. An estimated million died and millions more emigrated to the United States, England, Australia and Canada, reducing Ireland's population by about half.

*Paddy's Lament* by Thomas Gallagher gives a description of the reason for the Irish hatred of the British: *France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, and Russia all suffered a potato blight in 1846-47. But unlike British-ruled Ireland, they stopped all other food exports to make up for the loss. With virtually its whole population starving, Ireland under self-rule would have done the same thing. Indeed, the Irish Parliament of the eighteenth century, before the union with Britain in 1800, had more than once in times of distress prohibited the export of grain. But Ireland under British rule was powerless to counter the blight as other countries did. The potato had become the crucial food because all other food produced in Ireland was destined under Britain's economic scheme to be eaten elsewhere. It was the scheme, rather than the lives the Irish were losing, that British government officials held sacred.*

Thomas and Bridget were married at St. Marie's R.C. Church on November 13, 1850. The church was only two months old at the time. For the next decade they lived and worked in the Crofts of Sheffield; in Pea Croft, Hollis Croft, Sheppard St. and Allen St. Below are photos of Pea Croft on the right and Sheppard St. on the left in about 1900.



While Thomas remained a laborer, working at masonry and farming, his sons learned the trade of cutlery. The following narrative by Ted Cummings is about the Crofts and St. Marie's and the problems Catholics faced in England at that time.

## **AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING 1846-1853**

### *The Crofts*

In 1846, the flight of the emigrants escaping from a starving and heavily-oppressed Ireland started and was accelerated by the Potato Famine. A great number of the Irish arriving by way of Liverpool settled in the western seaport towns, others continued an easterly journey to Prescot, St. Helen's, Warrington and further to Salford and Manchester.

At the time, the cutlery and tool industries in the Sheffield area were developing prosperously as a consequence of the recent Industrial Revolution. There was obviously work to be had and this, over the next few years, undoubtedly attracted those immigrants who ventured over the Pennine hills and, with only very few exceptions, the immigrants arriving in the Sheffield area at these times had walked all the way from the Liverpool docks where they had disembarked. A fair proportion of the Sheffield steel work at the time was centred upon an area known generally as 'the Crofts' and this had given rise to a maze of courtyards, gennels and squares, lined and surrounded by a mass of working-class tenements and back-to-back houses with commonly shared outside latrine lavatories, water pumps, troughs, tanks and stand-taps. The Ordnance Survey map of 1851 showed that, within a quarter-mile radius of Jervis Court, the site of the present Church at the top of White Croft, works operated producing steel

and iron in Solly Street, Hollis Croft, Edward Street, Wheeldon Street, Well Meadow Street, Broad Lane, Tenter Street, Bailey Lane and Snow Lane. Intermingled with these metal-producing works were scores of small (often one-man) workshops making cutlery, files, springs and general hand tools, hand-forging their end products under the most primitive of working conditions in dark corners and alleyways where the light of the sun never penetrated. In the same radial area, the hundreds of dilapidated houses, thrown up by the Industrial Revolution gave shelter to those who toiled long hours in these local works and to their families. 'The Crofts' consisted of Hawley, Hollis, Lee, Pea, School, Sims, White and Workhouse. Of these, Hollis, Lee and White Crofts still exist under their original names, Pea Croft was renamed in 1901 as the lower half of Solly Street, and Workhouse Croft which extended from Campo Lane to West Bar is now Paradise Street. It was here, in the Crofts, that most of the Irish Immigrants found work and refuge after their ordeals of hunger and travel and these were the surroundings in which they were to live, multiply and have their existence, die and be followed by their families for the next nearly ninety years. Most of them, coming as they did from a predominantly Catholic country, were themselves devout Catholics - and this created the next problem. The first Catholic history of the Crofts is so inextricably linked with Saint Mary's (Marie's) church in Norfolk Row that it would be impossible to tell the story without extensive reference to the Mother church. Following the Catholic Emancipation Act becoming statutory in 1829, Catholicism in Sheffield moved slowly but surely out of the dark ages of penal times until, on 25th March 1847, building commenced of a new church on the site, in Norfolk Row, of the modest chapel which served as an almost disguised place of worship for the remaining faithful Catholics in Sheffield. Some reference will be made later to the survival of Catholic life and faith in the outlying districts of Sheffield as these also have a marked bearing on the central theme. St. Mary's Church, costing £10,563., to seat 1500 people and completed three years after building commenced, was opened and dedicated on 11th September 1850 and was the only place of Catholic worship in the whole of Sheffield. Consequently, it attracted in their hundreds, the devout and faithful of the immigrants whose numbers by this time, had grown to thousands. However, despite their common faith, the poverty and shabby life condition of the Crofts Catholics were so obvious that their presence was received with open hostility by some of the indigenous Catholics at Saint Mary's church. False rumour has long had it that the immigrant Catholics were obliged to stand behind a roped-off part of the church while the autocratic English knelt and sat comfortably in their rented pews. While it was true that many of the English had private pews, this rumour should be scotched in that the only 'ropes' which separated them from the immigrants were the silk cords, with their ring and hook attachments, which were commonplace at the ends of each pew which was reserved by the payment of pew rent. In fact, such cords can still be found in many of the older non-Catholic churches and chapels. It is reasonably certain however, that the immigrants were restricted to the side aisles of the new church and this, coupled with the overt antagonism which they appear to have faced, induced in a relatively brief period of time after St. Mary's was opened, a sense of resentment among the occupants of the self-made ghettos around the Crofts which culminated, in 1851, in their virtually open rebellion.

Bridget's sister **Mary** and mother **Hannah** also moved from Ireland to Sheffield and lived similar lives also in the Crofts. Mary and her husband **Michael Flannery** had at least one son, **Patrick**, born in Ireland. No mention is made of Hannah's husband, and it's possible he stayed in Ireland, because when the Flannerys left

England for New York and settled in Brooklyn, in 1853 aboard the *DeWitt Clinton*, Hannah did not go with them. She may have returned to Ireland.

Thomas and Bridget also must have travelled back and forth to Ireland. Their son John was born in Sheffield, Thomas in Ireland then Patrick, Honora and Dennis back in England. Perhaps her mother Hannah returned when Thomas was born in 1855.

When the family immigrated to the United States, they came over two years apart. Thomas and his oldest son John arrived on June 5, 1865 aboard the *SS City of Limerick* out of Liverpool. They probably worked in New York until they could bring over Bridget, Thomas, Patrick and Dennis. I don't know what happened to Honora. I have some leads that say she may have died in Ireland, but nothing solid yet.

The *SS City of Limerick* pictured below on the right, was originally the *SS African* built by Smith of Glasgow, Scotland. Tonnage: 1,529. Dimensions: 281' x 34'. Single-screw, 10 knots. Geared beam engines. Three masts and one funnel. Clipper bow. Iron hull. Lengthened to 331 feet (2,536 tons); also compound engines installed, 1870. Sold to Wm. Ross & Company (Thistle Line) in 1880. Listed as missing at sea in 1881, with the loss of 43 lives.

Bridget and her other three sons arrived aboard the *SS. France* on December 4, 1867. Once in the States, I lose track of John. There was one indication that he returned to England, married in Sheffield and then went to Boston, but the marriage certificate has the wrong name for his father.

The British vessel *SS France* shown below was built by T. Royden & Sons, Liverpool in 1867 for the National Line. She was a 3,572 gross ton ship, length 385.6ft x beam 42.4ft,

clipper stem, one funnel, three masts (rigged for sail), iron construction, single screw and a speed of 10 knots. There was accommodation for 80-1st and 1,000-3rd class passengers. Launched on 4/6/1867, she sailed from

Liverpool on her maiden voyage to

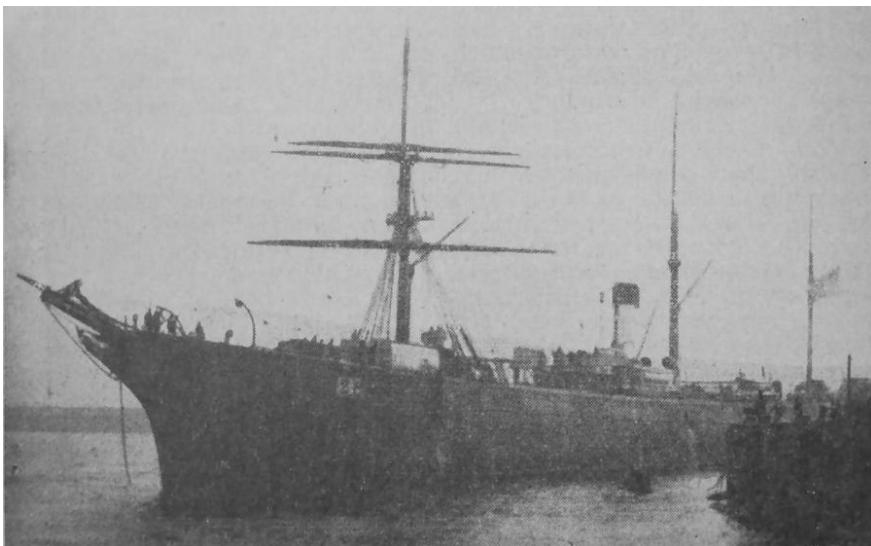
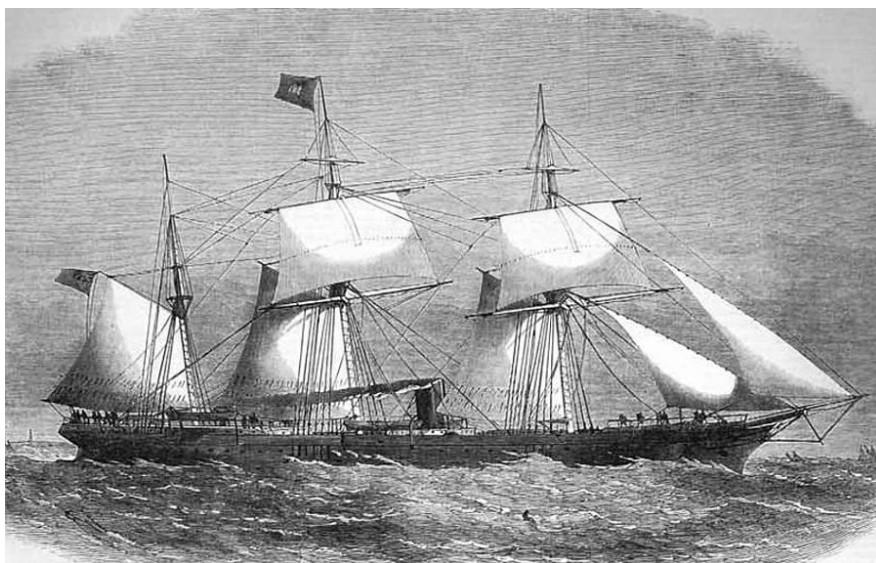
Queenstown (Cobh) and New York on

13/10/1867. On 4/2/1874 she commenced her first voyage from London to New York and between

1874-1896 continued this service except for 5 voyages from Liverpool.

She was rebuilt to 3,723 tons in 1874 and was fitted with compound engines by J. Jones & Sons, Liverpool in 1880.

On 17/1/1896 she started her last London - New



York voyage and was sold the same year. [North Atlantic Seaway by N.R.P.Bonsor, vol.2,p.613]

The family moved first to New Lots, then settled into the Bushwick section of Brooklyn, where Thomas Sr. was at various times, a laborer, peddler, and worked in a spoon factory, His main occupation though seems to be construction, where he was a flagger (laid tiles), mason and a paver. He became a naturalized citizen by the 1875 NY State Census.

Bridget died on June 13,1900 and Thomas on October 4,1908. Both were buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn.

## **Anton Deren & Ann McLoughlin**

**Descendents** - Mary Anne Deren – Mary Anastasia Healy – John J. Driscoll Jr. - \*\*\*\*\*



**Anton Deren**

**Anton Deren** was born in Bremen Germany in May of 1826. He came to the United States about 1855 and settled in the Cyprus Hills area of Brooklyn. He was a well digger by occupation. Somewhere along the way, he changed his name to Anthony. He married **Ann McLoughlin**, daughter of **Patrick McLaughlin** and **Mary Keegan**. Ann was born on December 18,1835, in Northern Ireland. (The 1910 and 1920 Fed. Censuses show her birth as Ireland; but the 1930 Census shows it as Northern Ireland and that would have been the first census after the formation of the Republic of Ireland, where "place of birth" was differentiated between the two.) She immigrated about 1848. Apparently neither Anton nor Ann became citizens.

Anton and his wife had at least four children, Mary Anne, (my great grandmother), Patrick H., John J. and Julia.

Anton died on February 2,1898. Ann lived another 20 years, passing away on January 2,1919 in her home in Woodside. Both are buried in Holy Cross Cemetery.

## **Patrick Prendergast & Mary Gavin**

**Descendents** - Myles Prendergast - James Patrick Prendergast - Anna Marie Prendergast - \*\*\*\*\*

**Patrick Prendergast** and **Mary Gavin** were both born in Ireland. As far as I know, neither immigrated to the United States. They had at least two children, Myles, (my great grandfather) and James. There is evidence they came from Co. Mayo, which I am following up on.

## **John Jordan & Bridget Neilsen**

**Descendents** – Mary Jordan – James Patrick Prendergast – Anna Marie Prendergast – \*\*\*\*\*

**John Jordan** and **Bridget Neilsen** were born in Ireland. As far as I know neither immigrated to the United States. There is some confusion as to Bridget's name. On her daughter Mary's marriage certificate her name is listed as Bridget Neilsen, on Mary's death certificate it is **Mary Neafsey**. Since the information on death certificates are filled out by someone else, it may be incorrect. I have used Bridget Neilsen as the correct name. They had at least one child, Mary Jordan,(my great grandmother.)

## **Peter Curley & Katie (?)**

**Descendents** – William Curley – Catherine Agnes Curley – Anne Marie Prendergast – \*\*\*\*\*

**Peter Curley** and his wife **Katie** were both born in Ireland. His occupation was that of a labourer as of his son's marriage in 1865. They had at least one son, my great grandfather, William Curley.

## **William Byrnes & Ann E. Jennings**

**Descendents** – Anne E. Byrnes – Catherine Agnes Curley – Anna Marie Prendergast – \*\*\*\*\*

**William Byrnes** and **Ann E. Jennings** were born, died and were buried in Ireland. They had at least one child, Ann E. Byrnes, my great grandmother.



## My Great Grandparents

**John Augustus Driscoll (1853-1896) & Honora Coughlin (1858-1915)**  
**Patrick Healy (1857- 1930) & Mary Anne Deren (1860-1935)**  
**Myles Prendergast (1847-1908) & Mary Jordan (1847-1916)**  
**William Curley (1838-1887) & Ann E. Byrnes (1850-1924)**

### John A. Driscoll & Nora Coughlin

Descendants - John J. Driscoll Sr. - John J. Driscoll Jr. - \*\*\*\*\*



**John Augustus Driscoll**



**Honora Coughlin Driscoll**

**John A. Driscoll** was born on June 8, 1853 in Brooklyn, NY. He was the oldest of eight children of John H. Driscoll and Catherine Ryan. He spent his entire life in Brooklyn, Living with his parents at various houses in the 12th Ward and at the Kings County Nursery in Flatbush. Then back on Smith Street in the 12th Ward until his marriage.

He married **Honora Coughlin (Nora)**, on February 8, 1880 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church, on Court St. in Brooklyn. The church was so named because when it was built it had a view all the way to the harbor. The 1880 census showed the couple living at 354 Smith St. with his parents. He was also recorded with Nora at his in-laws home six days later on June 11, 1880 at 22 Huntington St. They may have been visiting when the census enumerator came by.

Nora was born in Brooklyn in April of 1858. She was the second of seven children. Her siblings were:

**Mary (Mamie)** (1856- 1943) who, in about 1890, married **Michael Heffernan** (1856-1950) Michael was a lieutenant for the FDNY. They had at least one child **Michael** in 1894, who died at the age of two months.

The Heffernans bought two parcels of land in 1919 in Springfield Gardens; 219-08 138<sup>th</sup> Rd. in which they lived after 1920 and 219-12 138<sup>th</sup> Rd. These were later the homes of my parents and my paternal grandparents. Mary and Michael are buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. Originally Mary was buried in another grave, then, about five months later removed to the Heffernan family plot.



Left to right in the photo above are, standing, Michael Heffernan, Nora Coughlin Driscoll and Mary Healy Driscoll. Seated are Mary Coughlin Heffernan and Frank Driscoll. Photo taken at Sheffield Manor. ca. 1920

**Daniel** (1858-1896) Dan was a plasterer by trade like his father, His wife's name was **Mary** (?). They lived in and around the Carroll Gardens area, on Centre St. Huntington St. and Columbia St. Daniel is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery.

**Sylvester** (1861-1913) In about 1888 he married a girl named **Mary English** (1869-1916) She was the daughter of Irish immigrants, **William English** and **Annie Crowe**. Sylvester and Mary had seven children; **Jennie** (1889-), **Mary** (1892-), **Nellie** (1894-), **William** (1897-1961), **Irene** (1905-). and two that did not survive childhood. He was a laborer who lived, as his siblings in the same area of Brooklyn.

**John** (1862- ) a boxmaker and a laborer..

**Patrick** (1865- ) a tin merchant who owned his own business

**Julia** (1869- ) Of the last three siblings I know little.

During his life, John A. Driscoll was a shipping clerk, a laborer and a salesman. In 1881, the couple was living at 261 Smith St., and between 1888 and 1890 they were at 563 Clinton St. Then to 152, 154 and 155 Luquer St. in the 1890's. They had five children; Ada, John Joseph Sr. (my grandfather), Francis Bonaventure, May C. and George.

John A. had an artistic flair as evidenced by a surviving pen and ink sketch of a face done in 1870.(right) He died of Consumption on May 18, 1896, at the age of 42, in his home at 154 Luquer St. Brooklyn. His mother died later on the same day. He was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery on May 20, 1896.



John A. Driscoll had five siblings:

**Thomas F. Driscoll** (1855-1893) Born in Brooklyn and baptized at St. Mary Star of the Sea, Court St. He was a shipping clerk, and a letter carrier, but mostly a musician, who, on February 5, 1880, married **Sarah McKearney** (1853-1900), the daughter of **Patrick McKearney** and **Mary Sheridan**.

Thomas "played the accompaniments on the piano...in all the pieces sung." which included "Little Nell", "Perhaps She is on The Railway" and "Now is the Month of Maying." ... Brooklyn Daily Eagle July 20, 1874.

The couple lived on Warren St., Butler St., So. Portland Ave. and Park Pl. in Brooklyn. After Thomas' death on July 3, 1893, at the age of 37, Sarah went on to become a police matron. She moved to Lewis Ave. and Lexington Ave. where she died on February 19, 1900. They had one child, **Thomas Jr.** born April 1, 1885. Upon his mother's death, Thomas' uncle, George F. Driscoll, was appointed his guardian, George sent him to Sacred Heart Academy in Westchester.

**Johanna Driscoll** (1857- 1916) She was born on August 20, 1857 and baptized at St. Mary Star of The Sea.



She attended St. Mary's Academy, which was attached to the church and conducted by the Sisters of Charity. She graduated in 1873 and at the closing exercises, in a drama entitled "Fairy Grotto" she acted as the "Queen". She received "Honors for strict observance of school rules." and was "one of the young ladies whose sweet voices, well timed gestures, &c, won the most applause." She also won a gold medal for "Composition, Analysis, Astronomy, Algebra, Map Drawing etc." - from the Brooklyn Eagle 7/18/1873.

She became a teacher at Old Public School #3 in Brooklyn and remained there until she married **Frederick William Carlin** in about 1879. Fred, born Oct 12, 1854 in Brooklyn, was the eldest son of **Patrick Carlin** and **Catherine McDermott**, both Irish immigrants. Of Fred's father Patrick, it was written: Patrick Carlin, was one of the most expert stonecutters and masons who ever came to the metropolis. He was born in county Derry, Ireland, and learned his trade under his father, who was an expert workman. Patrick Carlin filled out his period of

apprenticeship faithfully, and came to the United States in young manhood. His skill and thoroughness were soon recognized by his employers and he was called to the position of foreman for Thomas Sullivan, who subsequently became president of the Brooklyn City Railroad. Mr. Carlin was too progressive and enterprising to long act as a subordinate part. In the course of a few years he engaged in a contracting and building business on his own account, in which he successfully continued throughout the remainder of his active life, retiring in 1898. Many prominent edifices in Brooklyn testify to his ability and conscientiousness as a builder, among them a number of public schools, St. Charles' church, the large Planet Mills buildings, the Buchanan & Lyle tobacco works, on Carroll street; the car barns for the Brooklyn City Railroad at Third avenue and Fifty-eight street, covering a full block of ground, and a large number of elegant private residences. At whatever stage of his career, he was a leader among his workmen, and his example spurred them to their best effort. He was a thorough mechanic, and had the ambidextrous facility of using one hand as readily as the other. He was a man of genuine public spirit, taking an active part in the advancement of all community interests, and was held in respect and confidence in whatever circles he moved. He was a Catholic in religion, and a member and liberal supporter of the Catholic Orphans' Asylum Society. In politics he was a Democrat, and he was an active and trusted ally of General Slocum in the formation of the Independent party. He died in 1902, at the age of seventy-six years, having survived his wife, whose maiden name was Catherine McDermitt, to whom he was wedded in Ireland, and who died about 1891. They were the parents of six children: Susan, Catherine, Patrick J., John C., F.W., and Thomas J. Carlin. ----- From A history of Long Island from it's earliest settlement to the present time, volume 3, by Peter Ross, William Smith Pelletreau, Lewis Pub. Co., New York, 1905.

Like his father, Fred. and his cousin John C. continued in the business and joined Fred's brother Patrick J. in P.J. Carlin & Co. Of Patrick J. it was written:

Patrick J. Carlin was the second child and eldest son in the family. He was born in County Donegal, Ireland, and came to this country a babe in his mother's arms. He had little opportunity for education, for he left school at the age of eleven to learn the trade of bricklayer under his father. His ambition, however, would not permit him to content himself with the knowledge he had thus far obtained, and after the labor of the day, he attended a night school under the instruction of Mr. William J. Dainty, who was a most capable teacher and took a warm personal interest in him. His apprenticeship lasted the old-country period of seven years, and at the end of that time he was so thorough a mechanic that he became his father's foreman, and, at the age of twenty-one, his partner, and the association was maintained until 1876. As an incident of these days, Mr. Carlin recalls the fact that his father once (in 1865)

contracted to build a house on Atlantic avenue and Grand avenue, a point so far outside the city that he was obliged to pay extra wages to the workmen to induce them to go such a distance.

After his partnership with his father had been dissolved, Mr. Carlin entered into the contracting business for himself, and during the succeeding years was busily employed with many of the most important building contracts in Brooklyn, among them Hall of Records, the Brooklyn Savings Bank, the Brooklyn Fire Headquarters, the New York and New Jersey Telephone Building, the West Shore Railroad shops, the Boys' High School building, and a score more of public school edifices in Brooklyn; the church at St. John's place and Seventh avenue, and several other churches, besides a large number of private residences of the best class, such as Guido Pliesner's and Charles M. Pratt's on Clinton Avenue.

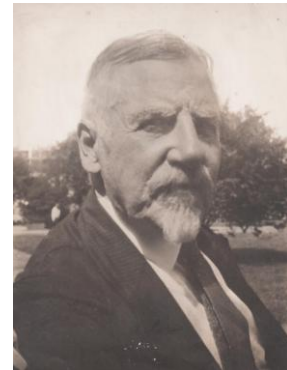
In 1894 Mr. Carlin associated himself with his brother, F.W. Carlin, and his cousin, John J. Carlin, in the firm of P.J. Carlin & Company. The new organization has fully maintained the high reputation which was established by its founders, and is recognized as the first of its class in New York. It has built, among other large edifices, the Eagle Warehouse, and all the telephone stations (in value amounting to about a half million dollars), in Brooklyn; the city prison in New York; St. John's Hospital, in Long Island City; the Fahey Watch Case Factory in Sag Harbor; the Naval Academy building and sea-wall at Annapolis, Maryland; and is now building the new Harlem Hospital, and the Glockner building at Fulton and Greenwich streets, and the power station for the Rapid Transit Subway, in New York; and the extension to the Williamsburg Savings Bank and A. I. Namm's store, in Brooklyn.

Besides giving his attention to the management of his large business interests before stated, Mr. Carlin is prominently identified with numerous commercial and political bodies, to whose purpose he devotes intelligent interest. He is a member of the Manufacturers' Association; of the arbitration board of the Master Masons' Association of the city of New York; and president of the Employers' League of Brooklyn. He is a Catholic in religion, and a liberal supporter of various benevolences conducted under the patronage of the church; he is secretary of the board of trustees of St. Mary Hospital; a member of the Roman Catholic Orphans' Society, of the Catholic Benevolent Legion, and of the Catholic Knights of America. He is also a member of the Order of Elks, the Hanover Club, and the Juniata Club. A Democrat in politics, he adheres to the cardinal tenets of his party, and opposed the candidacy of Bryan for the presidency, in the national convention of 1896, in which he was a delegate. He was a member of the Democratic general committee when Andrew D. Baird was a candidate for mayor, and gave hearty support to that gentleman.

Mr. Carlin was married in Brooklyn in 1873, to Miss Catherine Lennon, and of this marriage were born seven children: J.P., Catherine A., Harry V., Frederick T., Francis J., and Genevieve. Mrs. Carlin died in 1892, and Mr. Carlin was married to Miss Lillian F. Raynolds, and of this union were born five children: Raymond, P.J., Leo, Lillian, and Charles. The family residence is on Clinton avenue, and Mr. Carlin's offices are in the Garfield building, Brooklyn. ---- From A history of Long Island from its earliest settlement to the present time, volume 3, by Peter Ross, William Smith Pelletreau, Lewis Pub. Co., New York, 1905.

The company also built many notable buildings in Brooklyn and elsewhere. at one time its operations totaled \$125,000,000. In Brooklyn, the firm built the Main Post Office, the Institute of Arts and Sciences, the Prison ship Martyr's monument, the Brooklyn Savings Bank, the Hall of Records, Fire Headquarters, the Real Estate Exchange, Boys High School, several armories and a number of Catholic churches.

Fred apparently had some financial difficulties. His granddaughter, \*\*\*\*\*, remembers the following: "My father, George, said that his father, told him that he could have gone bankrupt, but it wasn't the honorable thing to do. So he paid all of his debts, every penny he owed, sold his house and moved into a boarding house." Fred, shown at right, was identified with numerous Catholic Charities in Brooklyn. He and Johanna, now called Joan, lived on Bay Ridge Parkway in 1905. By 1910 they had moved to West Shore Rd. and 92nd Street in Brooklyn. Johanna passed away of cancer on June 9, 1916. In 1937, Fred moved to Rockville Centre Long Island, where on January 27, 1940 he died of a heart attack. They were buried in the Carlin family plot in Holy Cross Cemetery. They had five children, **Frederick J. Jr., George A., Thomas G.** and two that died in infancy. They also adopted the son of Johanna's sister Margaret, Walter Jefferys. (see Margaret E. Driscoll)



Frederick William Carlin Jr. was born April 21, 1889 in Brooklyn. His grandniece, \*\*\*\*\*, remembers: "My mother said Fred Carlin was born without his right hand. She said he had a wooden hand, and wore a gray glove over it. He always put his hand behind his back when he went to shake hands, shaking with his left hand. He was a prime athlete. So were his brothers, but he was better than they. On the 75th anniversary of Poly Prep (which all the brothers went to) he was listed as an outstanding athlete. My grandfather and Thomas, while excellent athletes, didn't make the list."

Fred was an all-scholastic football halfback at Polytechnic Prep. and could not fight in the First World War because of his missing hand. He worked as a salesman and ran his own cigar store before working for the Dept. of Education in Brooklyn. He married **Helen E. Cassidy** on November 8, 1916 and they had five children. He died on November 12, 1937 and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery.

George Andrew Carlin (on right) was born November 30, 1890 in Brooklyn. He was going to be named after George F. Driscoll, but since he was born on St. Andrew's day received his name instead. He attended Amherst College and studied law at Fordham and was admitted to the NY Bar. During World War one, he served as a Sergeant with the First Army Headquarters of the AEF in France. He worked for the Brooklyn Eagle, the Evening Sun, the New York Herald, and then became London Correspondent for the Edward Marshall Syndicate. He also worked for Metro Pictures and Warner Bros. In 1930 he became the Editor of United Features Syndicate, and in 1936, the General Manager. As head of United Features, he, at various times, syndicated such writers as Westbrook Pegler, Raymond Clapper, Drew Pearson, Marquis Childs, Thomas L. Stokes, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Ernie Pyle, Randolph Churchill and Heywood Broun; the comic strips, L'il Abner, Tarzan, Nancy, as well as Bill Mauldin's cartoons. His daughter \*\*\*\*\* used to go to picnics at Hyde Park. she met the Roosevelts and spent a weekend once at the White House. On April 26, 1922, he married **Mary Carr** at St. Francis Xavier Church in Brooklyn. The family lived on 4th Ave. in Brooklyn, then Sidney Place, before moving to Garden City on long Island. They had five children, \*\*\*\*\*, **George Patrick** 1925-2011, \*\*\*\*\*, \*\*\*\*\*, and **Michael** 1932-2010.



George passed away on November 30, 1945 and Mary on June 9, 1967. they are buried in Holy Rood Cemetery in Westbury, NY.

Thomas G. Carlin, shown below, was born in June 1892. He was a sports hero in his younger years, the "star" of the victorious football team at Polytechnic Inst. in 1908 and he played baseball, basketball and football for Heffley in 1911. In Aug. 1913 he secretly married **Corinne A. Swayne**, at Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken NJ. She was the daughter of **James A.** and **Corinne C. Swayne** of Bay Street Brooklyn. Since both young Tom and Corinne were well placed in Brooklyn society, the marriage made the Brooklyn Eagle, the Evening Telegram and the New York Herald, when it was announced by the family in March of 1914. There was one daughter from the marriage, **Patricia Ann**, who in 1937 married **Matthew J. O'Hara**.



Tom joined the 23rd Regiment of the NY National Guard and later served with the 47th Infantry of Brooklyn and the 105th Infantry. Between 1917 and 1930 he was with the 69th Infantry (Fighting Irish). From a phone conversation with his niece \*\*\*\*\* and grandniece \*\*\*\*\*, I learned "he was a hero in WWI and made Captain in the field in France. He was gassed and had slurred speech after that."

The marriage did not last and eventually they divorced. Tom retired from the Army in 1930 and was living at 62 South Elliott Pl. in Brooklyn. In 1932, Tom married **Eleanor Armstrong** and the couple moved to Washington D.C. He died

in the V. A. hospital in New York on February 27, 1959 and is buried along with Eleanor in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington D.C.

**Margaret Eleanor Driscoll** (1859-1928), shown on right, was born on July 27, 1859 and was also baptized at St. Mary Star of the Sea. Like her siblings, she grew up on and around Smith Street in Carroll Gardens and in Flatbush. She married a man named **Jefferys** and they had one son, Walter, born on December 27, 1880. When her husband died, she allowed her sister Johanna and brother-in-law Frederick Carlin to take over responsibility of raising her son, and he became known as **Walter Jefferys Carlin**, shown below on left. He lived with his step-parents, but in 1910, the census has him living with his mother at 571 Ninth St. On November 9, 1911, he married **Jeanette King**, the daughter of **Elliott H. King**. The couple moved to 548 Third St. in Brooklyn, and eventually to 35 Prospect Park West. They had one daughter, **Marjorie**



**Carlin**. In his life, Walter was a lawyer, a banker and member of the New York City Board of Education. In 1916 he was a Major in the Army and he served during the first World War. He was, at one time, Commander of the 47th Infantry. He made Colonel and in almost all recorded instances is referred to by that title. As a lawyer, he represented his uncle, George F. Driscoll in various cases. Other positions held by Walter were President of the Emerald Association, Chairman of Brooklyn Borough Drive for the Greater New York Fund, Director of the Brooklyn Rotary Club and Chairman of Archbishop Molloy's Lay Committee for Charity (Brooklyn Catholic Charities) among others.

Walter had the unfortunate experience of being aboard the *Andrea Doria* when on July 25, 1956 it was rammed by the *Stockholm*. and sank. He survived, but his wife, Jeannette, was one of the 46 who perished in the accident. The following is a partial recount of the events:

.....About 10:30 p.m., as the Greens and Ruths were finishing dinner, a third couple approached the table. Colonel Walter G. Carlin and his wife, Jeanette roomed in cabin 46 next to the Ruths' cabin 48 in the first-class section on the Upper Deck. By coincidence they were also assigned deck chairs next to the Greens, so the three couples became frequent shipboard companions.

"Will you join us in the lounge for a drink?" Jeanette Carlin asked Beverly Green.

"We've already invited Jean and Donald," Mrs. Green replied. "Why don't you join us?"

Mrs. Carlin appeared ready to accept the invitation, but her husband looked tired and doubtful.

"Why don't we just go up, pack, and get ready for bed?" he said.

Carlin extended his arm to his wife and together they walked out of the dining room. The Carlins made their way to an elevator near the middle of the ship. They rode up one level to the Upper Deck, then walked forward through the hallway past the Ruths' empty cabin, to their number 46. It was on the starboard side, about one-third of the way back from the bow and almost directly beneath the Belvedere Lounge. The cabin was spacious and comfortable, with two single beds separated by a dressing table.....It was slightly past 11:00 p.m.,

when, about thirty feet below the Greens and the Ruths, Jeanette Carlin selected a book from her luggage and pulled the covers of her bed over her to escape the air conditioning. Walter Carlin walked down a narrow passageway of the cabin that extended back toward the corridor. The bathroom was located at the end of the passageway. Just as he pulled out his toothbrush, he steadied himself against a sharp left turn the ship seemed to be making.....In Upper Deck Cabin 46, Colonel Walter Carlin, his toothbrush in hand, was knocked off his feet in the bathroom. Bruised and dazed he staggered back to the bedroom for his wife Jeanette. Amidst the smoke and swirling dust he saw her bed was gone and all that was left was wreckage and a hole in the wall. Beyond that, the night air, the fog and the sea. Jeanette was gone.



Margaret E. Driscoll remarried **Arthur Washington Gilbert**. (1847-1916). Arthur had been previously married to **Harriet Foote**. (1847-1915). He was an accountant who lived in the same building as Margaret. He is shown as a widow in 1910, but Harriet didn't die until 1915. He died the following year, leaving Margaret a widow for the second time in her life. She moved in with her sister Johanna and Fred. She is fondly remembered by her grandniece \*\*\*\*\*, as a nurse who took care of her sister Johanna and her house when she was not well. \*\*\*\*\* also remembers her father, George Andrew Carlin, as being devoted to Margaret and that he called her "MaMadge," After the deaths of her husband and her sister,



Margaret moved to 1416 Pacific St. Atlantic City, NJ. She died in East Orange, NJ on May 24,1928. Her son Walter, had her remains brought back to Brooklyn, where she was laid to rest with Arthur in Green Wood Cemetery.

**Photo:**

**Margaret (MaMadge) Driscoll Jefferys Gilbert and Johanna (Joan) Driscoll Carlin with Johanna's sons George, Fred and Tom**

**Francis Driscoll** (1861-1862) and **Mary Kate Driscoll** (1863-1866) Both of these children died young. Francis was born December 3,1861, was baptized in St. Mary Star of the Sea on December 15,1861 and died Just a year later. Mary Kate was born on October 15,1863 was also baptized in St. Mary's and died in January 1866 at the age of three. Both are buried in Calvary Cemetery. Infant mortality was very high in the 19th Century.

**William Joseph Driscoll** (1865-1918) was born in April 1866, baptized in Holy Cross Church, on Church Ave. Brooklyn. This was more than likely the parish the Driscolls attended while in Flatbush. After working as a clerk in 1880, a plumber in the early 1890's on Baltic St., and serving as a Corporal in the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the NY National Guard, William became a letter carrier for the U.S. Post Office in 1893. In 1896 he married an English girl **Fannie Jackson** (1876- ) They moved around a lot, living on Bergen St., Wyckoff St., Hoyt St., Pacific St., Fourth Pl., Court St., Third St. and Seventh St. in Brooklyn and raised two children, **Catherine** born July 1899 and **George William**, born April 4,1900. In 1897, William served as Chairman of



**Holy Cross Church**

the floor Committee for the Postman's Ball, at which "Mrs. Driscoll was gowned in pink" according to the Brooklyn Eagle.



**St. Thomas Aquinas Church**

I believe, William became the patriarch of the family when his older brothers passed away at early ages (Thomas at 37 and John at 42). He may have been instrumental in my grandfather, John J. Driscoll Sr., who was only 14 when his Dad died, joining both the NY State Guard and the Post office. William died on August 21,1918. His funeral was at St. Thomas Aquinas Church and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. After his death, Fannie moved to 14th St. with her daughter Catherine and son-n-law **Fred Merschoff**.

**George F. Driscoll** (1871-1941) was born on September 28,1871, almost 20 years after his oldest brother John A. His mother at this time was about 40 years old. He was baptized in Holy Cross Church. He lived

with his parents in Flatbush and Smith St. and then with his mother on Bergen St. until her death. He began his career as a bricklayer and stone mason. His grandson, \*\*\*\*\*, recalls him working for a man named Paddy Moccia, who was in the foundation business, which is probably how he got started in the business. I would also think his brother-in-law, Fred W. Carlin, who was already established as a builder, also had a great influence on George. (shown on left). On April 1, 1902, he began the George F. Driscoll Co. with capital of \$415. His company went on to be very successful. \*\*\*\*\*



remembers The Driscoll Co. as being one of the primary contractors on the Pentagon in Washington D.C. and George's great granddaughter, \*\*\*\*\*, says they built Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Convent and P.S. 99 is a school in Kew Gardens, Queens.

Among the firm's other construction projects were the Abraham Lincoln High School, Brooklyn, the John Adams, the Andrew Jackson, and Grover Cleveland High Schools in Queens, Public Schools 204, 205 and 239 in Brooklyn, and PS106 in Queens, the Canal St. Post Office, a firehouse in Forest Hills, the Kings County Nurses Home, sections of the West Side Highway, the Jamaica Sewage Treatment Plant, The Hunts Point Sewage Disposal Plant, the Army Base in Trinidad, the U.S.

Navy Building in Arlington, VA, the Lindsay Park Housing Development in Brooklyn, buildings for the University of Massachusetts, (including Coolidge Hall, John Adams Hall, John Quincy Adams Hall, Kennedy Hall and Washington Hall - each 22 floors), Trinity Hospital in Brooklyn, the Bronx County Jail, the Federal Building at the 1939 World's Fair, the Market Building for NYC., the Post Office in Great Neck, L.I., the Federal Office Building no.2 in Arlington, VA, Twenty one 14 story apartment buildings that formed the nation's largest Veteran's Co-ops near the site of the 1939 World Fair, 1357 family Woodside Houses, the US Housing Authority East River Houses, a residential colony near Amuay, Venezuela for Creole Petroleum, the Sound View Houses in the Bronx, the Robert Wagner Sr. Houses in East Harlem, the New York Foundling Hospital in Manhattan, the International Hotel at N.Y International Airport (JFK), buildings at the new campus of St. John's University in Jamaica Queens, the Manhattanville Houses, the Aristocrat of Murray Hill, 310 Lexington Ave, the Bronxville Village, the Fresh Meadow's Residential Development, the Big Six Towers in Woodside, Queens, the DeWitt Nursing Home at 79th St., the Charlesbank Apartments in Boston, MA .....etc. etc, ----- Sources- New York Times various articles and Emporis Buildings.

On October 17,1900 he and **Harriet Hannigan** (1877-1947), pictured on right, the daughter of **David J. Hannigan**, (1845-1923) and **Catherine Smith**, (1849-bef 1910) were married at St. Agnes Church in Brooklyn and they honeymooned in Niagara Falls. Harriet was born on October 26,1877 in Brooklyn and in her earlier years was employed as a copyist. They resided on Bergen, State and Sackett Streets in Brooklyn before purchasing a home at 470 9th St. Brooklyn in 1904. By the 1920's they also owned an estate at 108 Spring St. Huntington Long Island. And in 1930 they had a home at 597 2nd St. Park Slope, Brooklyn. \*\*\*\*\* recalls the Huntington property as a 40 acre estate with a manor house of 20-25 rooms and a full casino in the basement. He also recalls that George, while in Europe, fell in love with a Bavarian Bar. He purchased it, had it broken down and moved to his estate at Huntington, where it was reassembled.



George was at different times: Director of the International Union Bank, Director of the Union Fin. Corp., President and Director of the Brooklyn Lafayette Corp., Vice President and Director of the Lafayette National Bank, Director of the Daurweir Corp., and Trustee of the Brooklyn Lodge of Elks. He was also a member of the Montauk Club, the National Democratic Club, the Cathedral Club, Brooklyn Lodge 22 B.P.O.E. and the St. Patrick's Society of Brooklyn.

He died at his 2nd St. home on February 25,1941, after surviving prostate cancer surgery for two years, and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. Harriet died of natural causes six years later on March 28,1947 and was buried with George.





**The Company Building on Union St. Brooklyn, NY**

George and Harriett had four sons, **Frederic J., George F. Jr., David Joseph and John J. Frederick J.** was born in 1901. He grew up at the 9th St. residence and by 1920 had a job as bookkeeper in a contractor's office, probably his Dad's. He went on in the George F. Driscoll Co. to become the Vice-President by 1932, Treasurer by 1935 and President after his father passed away in 1941. About 1923 he married **Dorothy Katherine Cornell**, the daughter of **Henry Albert Cornell** and **Anne Frances (?)** of Montgomery Place, Park Slope. Dorothy was born in 1901.

Other positions Frederick held were Director of the Lafayette Bank, President and Director of the Building Contractors and Mason Builders Assn. of Greater New York, President and Governor of the Building Trades Employers' Assn., Director of Moccia Construction, Director of the New York Building Congress, Trustee of the Greater New York Savings Bank, Brooklyn, Director of the Metropolitan Builders Assn, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Lafayette National Bank, lay Trustee Fordham University and Lay Chairman Catholic charities, Diocese of Brooklyn and in 1958 he received an Honorary Degree from Fordham.

The family moved to 8246 Kew Gardens, Queens. His granddaughter \*\*\*\*\* recalls that the house originally was across the street on a lot that the George F. Driscoll Co. built P.S. 99 on. George had the house relocated and gave it to them as a wedding present. The couple spent the rest of their lives there. They had three children, \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* , **John H.** (1932-1988) who



married **Nancy Pierce** (1936-2006), and \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* , \*\*\*\*\* , Fred Jr.'s daughter, also remembers, The photo on the right as "My favorite picture of my Grandpop Driscoll, Fred J. Driscoll Sr. This is what I think of when I think of him. He was so handsome, so classy, and just such a wonderful person. We all belonged to Lawrence Beach Club in Atlantic Beach, Long Island, and when Grandpop would walk in through the gate, you couldn't help but notice him. He had such a way about him. My Grandma Driscoll (on left) was very stylish. She had lots of different color glasses (frames) and she would change them based



upon her outfits. My memory is that her shoes, dress, pocketbooks, and glasses were all properly coordinated. She also had a closet filled with all of her pocketbooks. Each pocketbook had a small black comb and a penny inside. She was an amazing seamstress and made most of my dresses when I was little. She was also a great cook and hostess."

Fred died on February 3, 1977. \*\*\*\*\* recalls "He had a special birthday dinner with his three children at Lawrence Beach Club in July 1976 and then was dead the next February. He looked the picture of health at

that dinner, but he knew he was dying." Dorothy passed on April 7,1987. Both were interred in Holy Cross Cemetery



George and Harriet's second son was **George F. Driscoll Jr.** born in Brooklyn about 1903. He attended Brooklyn Prep. High School and in 1921 was the Captain and played end for the football team. In 1923 he married Rita (?). George and Rita owned a home at 150 86th St. in Brooklyn, where they lived for about twenty years. He was a contractor working for a builder in 1930, more than likely his Dad, and went on to be the Vice President of the George F. Driscoll Co. By 1953, they had moved into the house at 597 2nd Street in Park Slope. they had six children, \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* , who married \*\*\*\*\* , \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* , \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* .

**George as Captain of Football team in 1921**

Their youngest son, **David Joseph**, was born about 1906. He almost lost his life in an auto accident at the age 21 when his car overturned on the Huntington-Northport Highway and he fractured his skull and suffered other injuries. In 1930 after recovering, he was an office assistant while living in the 2nd Street house. He married **Eleanor C. Busch**, the daughter of **William** and **Rosina Busch** on June 27,1932 in Suffolk County, N. They had one son, \*\*\*\*\* who married \*\*\*\*\* .

After the death of my great grandfather, John Augustus Driscoll in 1896, between 1897 and 1898, Nora was shown as a dressmaker living at the 154 Luquer St. address. By 1900 she had moved to 144 Luquer and was a housekeeper living with her three surviving children, John, Frank and May. When she died on April 4, 1915 she was residing at 658 Dawson St. in the Bronx. Her son John had her remains moved to 563 Clinton St. where she was waked. She was buried in the same grave as her husband in Holy Cross Cemetery on February 8, 1915.

## Patrick Healy & Mary Anne Deren

Descendents - Mary Anastasia Healy - John J. Driscoll Jr.- \*\*\*\*\*



**Patrick Healy**



**Mary Anne Deren Healy**

**Patrick Healy** was born in 22 Court, Allen St. Sheffield, England on September 4, 1857. He was baptized in the new St. Vincent's Church in White Croft. St. Vincent's had been built as a church where the Irish Catholics could worship. They had faced some resentment at St. Marie's, built six years before, from the indigenous Catholics, (see pg. 13).

The story of St Vincent's begins midway through the nineteenth century at the height of the Industrial Revolution when thousands of Irish immigrants moved to England. Many of who, after disembarking in the Liverpool Docks, were attracted by the increasingly prosperous cutlery and tool industries and actually walked across the Pennines in order to reach Sheffield. At this time most of Sheffield's iron and steel industry centered around the Crofts; a huge area of small courtyards and alleyways stretching right from Scotland Street in the north down to Paradise Street in the south and spread across Solly Street, Hollis Croft and either side of Tenter Street and Broad Lane. It was here the majority of the Irish - of whom were mostly catholic - settled, and where two thirds of the population lived in severe poverty in overcrowded back-to-back houses. During the early part of the nineteenth century the Penal Laws established during the reign of Elizabeth I that restricted the practice of the Catholic faith, had began to be relaxed. This lead to a tremendous catholic revival and in 1853 lead by Fr Edmund Scully, the head of the Sheffield Mission at the newly built St Marie's Catholic church in the city centre, a school-chapel was built in middle of the Crofts. Therefore it became possible for the Irish Catholics to attend Mass and once again fulfill their religious obligations. *It took a while, but gradually over the next two to three years there was a steady increase of children attending the school and children and adults present at the Masses. Although money was scarce in the immediate vicinity, funds were forthcoming from afar. Neighbouring towns and wealthy business people had donated hundreds of pounds to the proposed building of a new church. In May 1854 The Catholic Young Men's Society (CYMS) was formed, and with it brought a greater sense of spiritual awareness amongst the community. A little over two years after the first Vincentians arrived in Sheffield, enough money had*

been raised to start building the new church, and Fr Burke wasted no time in turning his vision into reality. The contract was signed with builder, Mr. Bernard Carr, for the sum of £1,650 and on the 25 March 1856, the Vicar General, Dr Joseph Render laid the foundation stone on a plot of land called White Croft. Just 8 months later, St Vincent's Church was officially opened and dedicated in the presence of Bishop Briggs of Beverley and Dr Roskell, the Bishop of Nottingham. Fr Burke and Fr Plunkett, were the first priests to celebrated Mass there on the 15 December 1856 - the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Sheffield Telegraph reported the opening of the completed church as follows: 'The opening of the new Catholic Church in White Croft took place yesterday morning. The attendance was very numerous. The new church completed a series of edifices completed within the last two to three years in this neighbourhood for the education and religious instruction of the poorer Catholics who are very numerous in White Croft and the surrounding locality.' Over the next few years, despite being in a deep industrial depression, the parish continued to grow and on Easter Sunday 1860, five thousand people were recorded to have received Holy Communion.

In 1861, Patrick was living at 1 Court, Sheppard St. with his parents and siblings. He immigrated to New York Aboard the *S.S. France*, (right) arriving on December 4, 1867, along with his mother, and his brothers, Thomas and Dennis.



Using skills he probably learned in England, he got employment in a spoon factory by 1880 in Brooklyn. Between 1881 and 1905, he was an ironworker, laborer in a tin factory and a riveter. In about 1877, he married **Mary Anne Deren**, the daughter of Anton Deren and Ann McLoughlin. Mary Anne was born on September 2, 1860 in Brooklyn. She had three siblings that I know of, all younger than she and all born in Brooklyn. **Patrick H. Deren** was born in 1867. He was a stone cutter who married **Isabelle Sellers**, (1876- ) the daughter of **William Sellers** and **Elizabeth Smith**. Patrick and Isabelle had two children **Charles Henry** and **Jesse B.** Mary's next brother was **John J. Deren** born about 1872 and he was a plumber and Her younger sister was **Julia Deren**, born about 1878.

Patrick Healy had four siblings. His oldest brother **John Healy**, was born in Sheffield on June 2, 1853 and was baptized in the Cathedral of St. Marie. He immigrated aboard the *S.S. City of Limerick*. on June 5, 1865, along with his father, two and a half years before his mother and brothers. I lose track of John once he is in the States.

His other older brother, **Thomas Healy** was born in Ireland in May 1855. After arriving in the States, he settled in the Bushwick area of Brooklyn. He began, like his father and brothers, as a spoon maker, but then became a mason between 1892 and 1905, a trade he no doubt learned from his Dad. In about 1881 he married **Agnes Verity** (1861-1899), the daughter of **Samuel Verity**. Agnes and Thomas' great granddaughter, **\*\*\*\*\***, recalls that Agnes was not a Catholic, but raised her children as Catholics. They had eight children, **Catherine** (1881-1889), **Bridget** (Gertrude)(1884-1962), **John Joseph** (1886- ), **Agnes Veronica** (1887- ), **Thomas** (1891- ) **William** (1893- ), **Anna** ( 1896- ) and one child who died in infancy. Thomas' wife Agnes died on December 28, 1899. She was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. Thomas died six years later at the Metropolitan Hospital on Blackwell's Island (Roosevelt Is.). He was buried with his wife on November 20, 1905.

As mentioned with her parents, Patrick's sister **Honora Healy**, may have died early on in life. She was born in Attercliffe, Yorkshire, England which is about a mile east of the Crofts area of Sheffield, on March 16, 1860, and was baptized on April 1, 1860 in St. Marie's. A year later she is shown living in the Crofts.

**Dennis Healy** was Patrick's youngest sibling. Born on August 14, 1862 in Wadsley Bridge, Yorkshire, West riding, England, about two miles north of the Crofts area and baptized in St. Marie's. In his occupation, he followed his brother Thomas as first a spoon maker then a mason. He died of Tuberculosis at the age of 36 and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Patrick and Mary Anne had fourteen children of which only seven were surviving as of 1910. (As of 1900 six were surviving out of twelve.) The seven children who passed away were Bridget, Catherine, Jane, Dennis, and three others of whom I do not yet know their names. The surviving children were Julia , Mary Anastasia (my grandmother), Margaret, Thomas J., Adele, John J. and Joseph A.

It is hard for most of us today to fathom the untimely deaths of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, especially the death rate among children. In the case of the Healys this tragedy is magnified as they lost so many children. Although they lived in Brooklyn, parallel conditions existed in Manhattan, about which Jacob A. Riis wrote his book "How the Other Half Lives". I have included the following excerpt from that book:

**excerpt from: *How the Other Half Lives*  
*Studies Among the Tenements of New York***

**By Jacob A. Riis, 1890**

*.....Life in the tenements in July and August spells death to an army of little ones whom the doctor's skill is powerless to save. When the white badge of mourning flutters from every second door, sleepless mothers walk the streets in the gray of the early dawn, trying to stir a cooling breeze to fan the brow of the sick baby. There is no sadder sight than this patient devotion striving against fearfully hopeless odds. Fifty "summer doctors," especially trained to this work, are then sent into the tenements by the Board of Health, with free advice and medicine for the poor. Devoted women follow in their track with care and nursing for the sick. Fresh-air excursions run daily out of New York on land and water; but despite all efforts the grave-diggers in Calvary work over-time, and little coffins are stacked mountains high on the deck of the Charity Commissioners' boat when it makes its semi-weekly trips to the city cemetery. Under the most favorable circumstances, an epidemic, which the well-to-do can afford to make light of as a thing to be got over or avoided by reasonable care, is excessively fatal among the children of the poor, by reason of the practical impossibility of isolating the patient in a tenement. The measles, ordinarily a harmless disease, furnishes a familiar example. Tread it ever so lightly on the avenues, in the tenements it kills right and left. Such an epidemic ravaged three crowded blocks in Elizabeth Street on the heels of the grippe last winter, and, when it had spent its fury, the death-maps in the Bureau of Vital Statistics looked as if a black hand had been laid across those blocks, over-shadowing in part the contiguous tenements in Mott Street, and with the thumb covering a particularly packed settlement of half a dozen houses in Mulberry Street. The track of the epidemic through these teeming barracks was as clearly defined as the track of a tornado through a forest district. There were houses in which as many as eight little children had died in five months. The records showed that respiratory diseases, the common heritage of the grippe and the measles, had caused death in most cases, discovering the trouble to be, next to the inability to check the contagion in those crowds, in the poverty of the parents and the wretched home conditions that made proper care of the sick impossible.*

In 1900, Patrick was a riveter in a tin factory, living at 141 Linden St., Brooklyn, and Mary Anne was a shop girl at a dry goods store. In 1901, they were living on Troutman St. It was here that Patrick became a US citizen, becoming naturalized on May 27, 1901 in the District Court in Brooklyn.

310

## District Court of the United States

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
*Patrick Healy*  
 By occupation *tinna riveter*

PETITION.  
 Filed *May 27* 1901

TO BE ADMITTED A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The above named applicant, being over twenty-one years of age, hereby petitions to be admitted to become a Citizen of the United States of America, and avers that he arrived in the United States before he became eighteen years of age, and has ever since resided therein.

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
 this *27* day of *May* 1901  
*Percy B. Gilks* Commissioner.  
*Patrick Healy* Applicant.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
 Eastern District of New York, } ss.: I, *Patrick Healy*  
 the above named applicant, do declare on oath, that it is *bona fide* my intention, and has been for two years next preceding this application, to become a citizen of the United States; and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty, whatever, particularly to the *King of Great Britain & Ireland & Emperor of India*  
 of whom I am now a subject. So help me God.

Sworn to before me this *27* day  
 of *May* 1901  
*Percy B. Gilks* Deputy Clerk.  
*Patrick Healy* Applicant.

By 1910 they were at 100 Hart St. His occupation at this time was a janitor in an apartment building, a job he held until his death.

He and Mary Anne separated sometime before 1917. His son Thomas indicated in the World War I draft registration that he, Thomas, was the sole support for his wife, three children, *mother* and brother. (Probably 13 year old Joseph). By 1920 Mary Anne had moved to Pearle Place, Springfield, in Queens, NY. She was listed as "Head of Family 2" and her son Thomas was listed as "Head of Family 1" in the 1920 census at the same address, which may indicate a two-family house. She also states she was a *widow*, indicating a reluctance to admit to separation at the time. Patrick died on June 17, 1930 at 942 Myrtle Ave. in Brooklyn, and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, in the plot he purchased on June 29, 1896 to bury his daughter. By this time Mary Anne had moved to 27 Brooklyn Ave. Hempstead Gardens, Nassau, NY, which she rented for \$50 a month, and had two boarders. She passed away on March 29, 1935, and was buried in St. John's Cemetery in Middle Village.

Buried with Mary Anne are two of her grandchildren, Margaret Schmidt (1919) and Julia Schmied (1918). The original owner of the grave was Julia Schmith, and the holder of the deed now is M. Dekker. Dekker is the name of Mary Anne's Grandson-in-law. Julia Schmith may be her daughter (second marriage) Dekker would have been Julia's son-in-law.

## Myles Prendergast & Mary Jordan

Descendents - James Patrick Prendergast – Anna Marie Prendergast – \*\*\*\*\*

**Myles Prendergast** was born in Ireland on October 16, 1847. I have some evidence that indicates he came from County Mayo, but nothing solid yet. He immigrated to the States between 1863 and 1870. He was a boiler maker by trade, an occupation that is documented from 1872 to 1904. **Mary Jordan** was born on October 29, 1847 in Ireland. She immigrated about the same time as Myles. They were married on Sept. 9, 1872 in Brooklyn. Myles' brother James, was his best man. The couple settled in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, and like others of their time, moved from place to place frequently as more favorable rents became available. They went back and forth between Second St., Tenth St, First St. and Third St. These streets later had names rather than numbers, they lived on Kent Ave. and Wythe Ave.;

Williamsburg had its own street numbering system that, in contrast to current trends in street nomenclature, actually scrapped its numbers in favor of names. In the 1800s, the numbered streets began at the East River, so Kent Avenue was 1st Street, Wythe Avenue was 2nd Street, Berry St. was 3rd Street, Bedford Avenue was 4th Street, Driggs Avenue was 5th Street, Roebling St. was 6th Street, Havemeyer St. was 7th Street, Marcy Avenue was 8th Street, Rodney Street was 9th Street, and Keap Street was 10th Street, Hooper Street was 11th and Hewes Street was 12th. . By the time of his death, they were living at 440 Pulaski St., a home they owned.

Myles had one brother I know of, **James J. Prendergast**, born in May of 1852. He came to the States in about 1871 and like his brother lived in Williamsburg. In about 1875, he married **Bridget Gavin**, daughter of **Thomas Gavin** and **Margaret Cosgrove**. Bridget was born in Swineford, County Mayo, Ireland in 1861 although other records show her being born up to ten years earlier. They actually moved around the neighborhood *more* than his brother did, living on 10th St., North 7th St, 1st St., Wythe Ave., Wyckoff Ave., Kent Ave., 8th St., Huron St. and North 6th St. James was also a boiler maker and I imagine he worked with Myles. He and Myles became naturalized citizens between 1892 and 1900 and Myles wife, Mary before 1905.

James and Bridget had two surviving children out of six births, **John P. Prendergast** was born in Brooklyn in 1876, He may have married **Bridget A. (?)**, born in Ireland in 1881, who immigrated in 1894. Bridget gave birth to three children, none of which survived. At this time they lived on Driggs Ave. I believe Bridget died about 1910, but I still have to get documentation on this. In 1911 John married a girl named **Margaret (?)**, who was born in Brooklyn in 1883. Margaret and John had one son, **Thomas Prendergast**, born 1912. James and Bridget's other child was their daughter, **Mary Alice Prendergast**, born in Brooklyn August 1881, who married **Anthony Andrew Layton**.

As recalled by his grandson\*\*\*\*\* James took his own life on July 27, 1903 at his residence at 551 Kent Ave. His death certificate shows he died of carbolic acid poisoning. It also shows he was a widower at that time. He was buried in Calvary Cemetery on July 30, 1903.

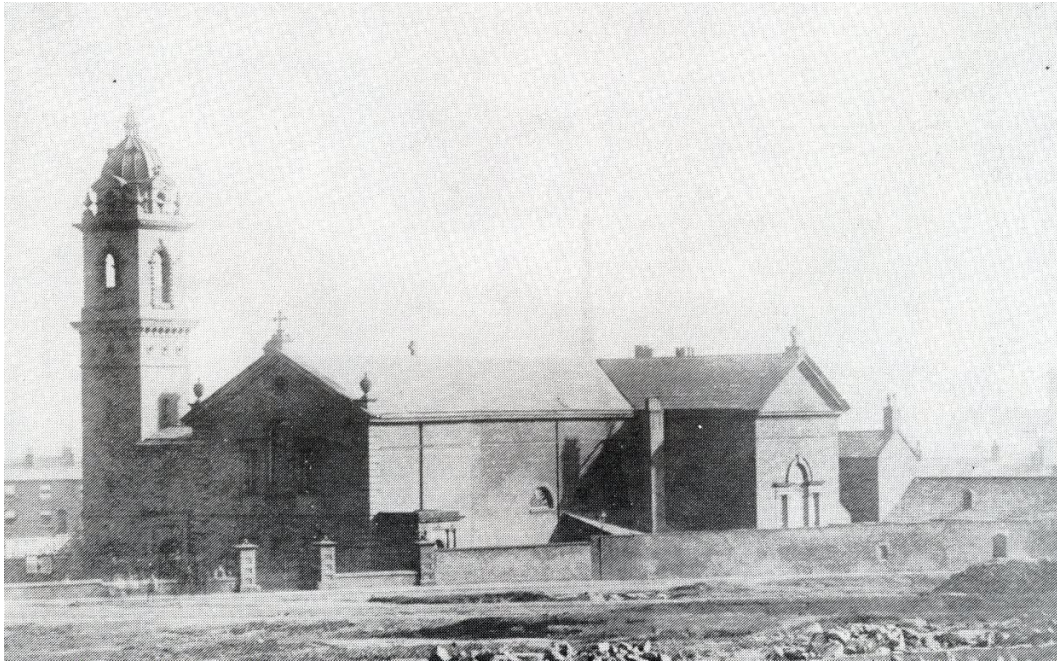
Myles and Mary Prendergast had four children, Patrick John, James Patrick (my grandfather), Susan and Myles J.

Myles died on October 30,1908 and was buried on November 2,1908 in First Calvary Cemetery, Queens, N.Y. After the death of her husband, Mary continued to live at 440 Pulaski St. where she died in on January 3, 1916. She was buried with Miles on January 5, 1916.

## William Curley & Ann E. Byrnes

Descendants – Catherine Agnes Curley – Anna Marie Prendergast – \*\*\*\*

**William Curley** was born about 1839 in Ireland. At some point he emigrated England and moved to St. Helens, which is just outside of Liverpool. The local area developed rapidly during the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries into a significant center for coal mining and glassmaking. Both prior and during this time it was also home to a cotton and linen industry (notably sail making) that lasted until the mid-19th century as well as salt, lime and alkali pits, smelting, and brewing. Many of the Irish leaving their country came to this area for the work it provided.



The original Lowe House Chapel

He married **Mary Collins**, also from Ireland who was born in 1845, the daughter of **Michael Collins**. The wedding was in Lowe House Chapel of St. Mary's R.C. Church on February 19 1865. At the time, William's occupation was in chemical labourer (A chemical labourer is a person who would have processed metal or gas immersed in chemicals and heated in a blast furnace.) They lived at John Hills Brow (hilltop) in the village of Parr, on the eastern side of St. Helens. The church was made possible by the contribution of Mrs. Eccleston (whose maiden name was Lowe), the widow of John Gorsuch Eccleston of Eccleston Hall who in 1793 donated a piece of land for a chapel to be built on. The original church (shown above) was replaced with a new and current building which opened in 1929.

They had seven children all together, two in England. Ellen and Thomas and four in New York City, Peter, three who died young (Annie and two others) and an unnamed child who may or may not have lived. They immigrated to the United States between 1867 and 1870 and lived on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Neither was educated as they could not read or write as of the 1870 Census. William was employed as a laborer at that time. Mary died on November 30 1875, at 647 E. 9th St., as a result of hemorrhaging, the day after the birth of her seventh child. She was laid to rest on December 3, 1875 in Calvary Cemetery.

Within a year of Mary's death, William married **Ann E. Byrnes**. Annie, as she was called, was born in County Mayo Ireland on February 2, 1850. She immigrated to the States about 1865. William and Annie continued residing in the same area of New York, and like others of their time, moving frequently. Between 1877 and 1887, they were living on 12th St., Ave. C, 15th St., 14th St. and 16th St. At



this time, William was first a truck driver, then an Ostler. Originally, a Hostler was the host of an Inn or (H)ostelry. It later became the man employed to look after the horses of the visitors. Added to the surviving children of his first marriage, were six more with Annie; William Joseph, Nora, Mary E., Catherine Agnes (my grandmother) and Martin Francis.

William died of Double Pneumonia on September 7, 1887 and was buried In Calvary Cemetery on Sept 9th. Annie lived for another 36 years. She remained in the neighborhood, moving from Mulberry St., to Madison St., to Henry St., and then to Catherine St. At 83 Catherine St, she was living in the same building as the Lane family, whose son Daniel would later marry Annie's daughter Mary. By 1910 she moved to 638 Cumberland St. Brooklyn, then, around 1918 to 2391 Catalpa Ave. Queens. She was here about six blocks from her daughter Catherine, at 2586 Madison St., where she finally moved to and spent her last years.

\*\*\*\*\* recounts in her "Family History" that *she had a slight brogue, and always wore a long black mourning dress. She didn't approve of modern ways of dressing, so when she passed her granddaughters Anne and Catherine in their short dresses, she would purse her lips and give the skirts a downward tug.*

She died on February 3, 1924 and was buried in St. John's Cemetery in Middle Village, Queens on February 6th.

## My Grandparents

**John Joseph Driscoll Sr. (1882-1954) & Mary Anastasia Healy (1881-1960)**

**James Patrick Prendergast (1877-1949) & Catherine Agnes Curley (1884-1962)**

### John J. Driscoll & Mary A. Healy

Descendants – John J. Driscoll Jr. – \*\*\*\*\*



**John J. Driscoll Sr.**



**Mary A. Healy Driscoll**

**John J. Driscoll Sr.** was born on March 23 1882 in Brooklyn, New York, the second of five children. It was just a year after Wyatt Earp, his brothers and Doc Holliday had the famous shootout at the O.K Corral in Tombstone Arizona against the Clanton and McLourey boys, and just a year before the official opening of the “eighth wonder of the world”, the Brooklyn Bridge. He was baptized at St. Mary Star of the Sea, on Court St. as was his sister **Ada Driscoll**, who was born on November 22, 1880 and died of *Dysentery* on July 31, 1881 at the age of eight months. She was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in a grave her father bought the same day, August 2, 1881.

This grave, Section Vernon Square, Range J, grave #48, has no marker, but there is a Driscoll stone on grave #44. No relatives are interred in grave #44, it is a different family entirely. The stone is small and it is not inconceivable that it was placed there by a family member at a later date. It may have been placed on the wrong grave because few of the graves in Range J have any stones. It is difficult to find J #48 unless you



line it up with another #48 from a different range or measure it from the road. (all graves being 24 inches wide.) I think the stone was placed by a family member inadvertently on #44 instead of #48, a distance of only eight feet.

John's younger brother **Francis Bonaventure Driscoll** was born on August 25, 1885. Frank, as he was known, was an errand boy at fifteen, a driver of a flour wagon at twenty-five, a driver for a florist at thirty-five and a shipping clerk at thirty-seven. When he registered for the World War I draft, in 1918, he was living at 413 Dean St. and driving for Charles Abrams of 22 Hoyt St. Frank was short and slender with blue eyes and brown hair. He developed *chronic pulmonary tuberculosis* and was admitted to the Seaview Hospital on Staten Island, which opened in 1913 as tuberculosis sanitarium. It was there, in 1952, that physicians developed the drug that would ultimately cure the disease. He died there on June 4, 1923, and his brother, John had a high mass said for him at Our Lady of Perpetual Health on 60<sup>th</sup> St and Fifth Ave. in Brooklyn. He was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery on June 6, 1923.



John's other sister was **May C. Driscoll**. She was born in January of 1888 in Brooklyn. Before she married **Amerigo Francis Bacci** in 1906, she worked for the telephone company. Amerigo, born April 13, 1886 in Manhattan, was 5'4" tall with a medium build, brown eyes and brown hair. His six siblings were **Emma, Frank, Italo** and three other sisters. Amerigo and his twin brother Italo (proudly named by their immigrant parents) worked for their father **Michele** (Michael) in his liquor business. Amerigo was a bartender in 1910 and a sales clerk in 1918. By Jan 2, 1920, three weeks before Prohibition, Michael had moved on to owning his own grocery store; but Amerigo, on January 13<sup>th</sup>, just six days before Prohibition, was still a liquor salesman. In 1910, the couple was living at 48 Park St. in Manhattan with their two children **Everett M.** born in 1907 and **Elvira R.** born in 1909. Between 1918 and 1930, they were living in Brooklyn at 442 61<sup>st</sup> St. They had two more children, a son **Wilbur J.** born in 1911 and a daughter **Miriam** born in 1913. By 1920 he had his own grocery store. All four children were living with them in 1930 and Amerigo was a manager for a tobacco company at this time. May died on January 29, 1932 and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. One of the secondary causes of her death was *Arthritis Deformus*. This disease is prevalent in the Driscoll family.

John had one other brother, **George Driscoll** who like his sister Ada died very young. George was born in March of 1891, baptized at St. Mary Star of the Sea and died of *Pneumonitis* following an attack of *Diphtheria*, complicated by *asthma*, just three and a half years later. He passed away on September 14, 1894 at his parents' home at 154 Luquer St., and was buried beside his sister Ada in Holy Cross Cemetery on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

When John was about six years old he was living at 563 Clinton St., and was only fourteen when his father died in 1896. I think his Uncle William was an influence on his life because John, like his uncle, joined the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the N.Y. National Guard. (The 14<sup>th</sup> Brooklyn), on August 6<sup>th</sup> 1900, for a five year hitch, and later joined the Post Office. He was 5'5" tall, 120 Lbs. with a slender build, and had brown eyes and brown hair and a ruddy complexion. When he joined the 14<sup>th</sup>, the Spanish American War had just ended. In comparison to the Civil War, where tens of thousands died in a single day, this war was called a "splendid little war" by the Ambassador to England in a letter to



Teddy Roosevelt, because of total battle losses of 460. The war gave Cuba its freedom, and the United States annexed Guam and the Philippines and Hawaii to boot. (because the Japanese were looking at it.)

John was promoted to Corporal on June 4, 1902, and again on Aug 29, 1904. I'm not sure, but it sounds like he may have been demoted at some point. In September 1904, he was on field maneuvers in Manassas, Virginia, on the same grounds that the "Battle of Bull Run" was fought in 1861.

John had a talent for art, and took his first painting lesson on Feb 22, 1903. Below on right is an oil painting John did in 1904.

He met **Mary Anastasia Healy** on August 16, 1900, just ten days after he enlisted in the National Guard. She was a 19-year-old shop girl in a dry goods store, living at 141 Linden St. Mary was born on Sept. 20, 1881 in Brooklyn. Her thirteen siblings were:

**Julia Healy**(1879-1948), who married **Terence Kiernan** (1868 - 1932 ) in 1898. They lived on Gates Ave. in Brooklyn, where Terrence worked as a bricklayer. They had four or possibly five children; **Regina** (1908 - ), **Frances**, (1910-1944) and possibly **Anne**, and two others who died before 1910. I think Terence died in 1932 and Julia remarried **Alexander (Lex) Smith** ( -1951) sometime before 1935. Julia's daughter Frances married **Arthur Wanke**, and Anne married a man named **Dekker**. Julia died on January 18, 1948 and Alexander on June 25 1951.



**Margaret Healy** (1883-1928), born on March 27, 1883 on Bushwick Ave. Brooklyn, who, in 1900, married **Anton Dirmeir** (1880-1936 ) born in Munich, Bavaria, who immigrated in 1885 and was a machinist at a printing press. They lived on Gates Ave , Hamburg Ave. and Madison Ave. in Brooklyn before moving to Van Courtland Ave. in Ridgewood, Queens and eventually to Springfield Gardens in the 1920's, to live at 138-01 219th St., just around to corner from Margaret's mother. The Dirmeirs had two children, **Anthony** (1901-1967), who married **Gertrude C. Hawkins** (1902- ) and had three children, and **Marie** (1903-1908). Margaret died of heart failure on October 3, 1928 and Anton of liver cancer on September 8, 1936. Both are buried in St. John's Cemetery.

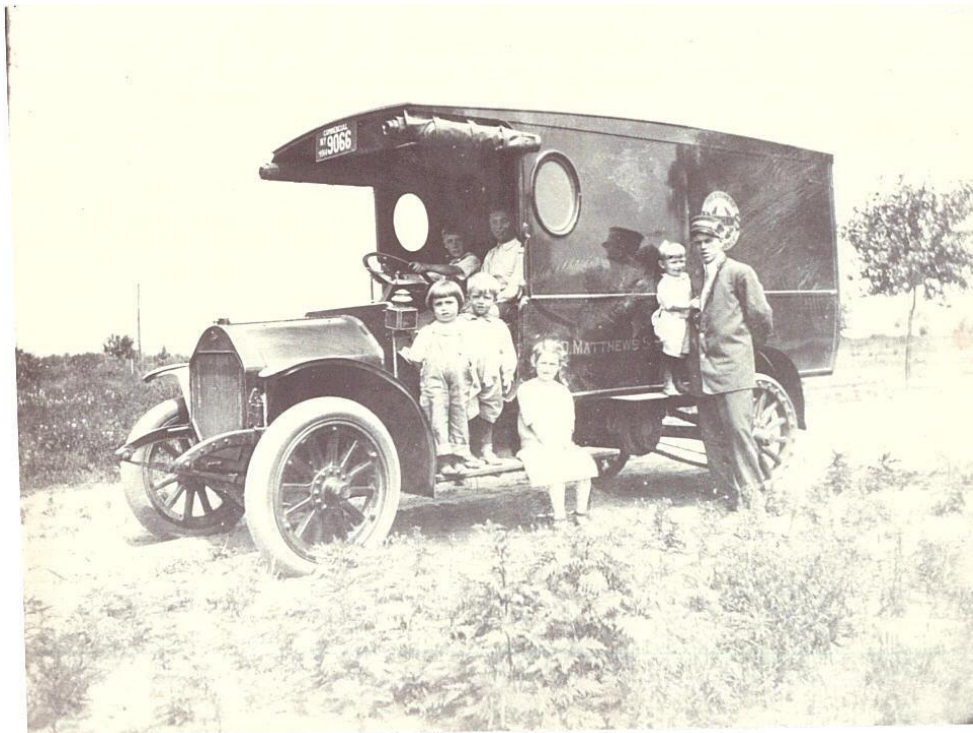
**Thomas Joseph Healy** (1886-1939), was born on September 25 1886 in Brooklyn. He was 5'9" tall and slender with blue eyes and brown hair. He worked as a clerk and a Certified Public Accountant before becoming the proprietor of a coal company by 1930. He married **May A. McGuire** (Maggie) (1884-1959), an Irish girl who immigrated in 1905, within a year of her arrival. Like the rest of his family, he migrated from Brooklyn to Queens, moving from Hamburg Ave. (near his sister Margaret) in 1907, to Harman St. Ridgewood in 1910, to Rosedale in 1912 and eventually to Pearle Pl. (now 218th St.) in Springfield Gardens by 1917. He and Maggie had five children; **Irene C.**(1907-1993) who married **Edward Lauritsen** (1918-1973) and had one son, **\*\*\*\*\***. Ed was a World War II Navy veteran who sailed aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Lexington, known as the "*Blue Ghost*". **Thomas Jr.**(1910-1910) who died after only two days, **Virginia Z** (1911- ), who married a man named **Southard**, **Gerald F.** (1917- ) and **Deren** (1920- ). Thomas died in June 1939 and Maggie, on May 29, 1959. May is buried in St. Charles Cemetery in Farmingdale, Long Island.

From left to right:  
Julia,  
Margaret,  
Thomas,  
Adele,  
John and  
Joseph.



**Adele Veronica Healy** (1889-1918) was born on January 31, 1889 in Brooklyn. About 1907, she married **William Henry Andrew Schmied** (1884- ) William had many jobs, ranging from brick layer to butcher to peddler of farm products. They lived in Brooklyn, on Central Ave and Howard Aves and in Queens, on Evelyn Street in Middle Village. Tragedy hit the family in 1918/19, when Adele died on September 20th, from Tuberculosis followed by their one year old daughter **Julia** on December, 27th and their youngest daughter **Margaret** just two months later, February 10 1919. Both daughters died in the New York Foundling Hospital. The two infants were being taken care of a relative in Springfield Gardens at the time, probably their grandmother, while Adele was sick. A six month old son, **William**, predeceased the girls on March 22, 1914. By 1920, the two remaining daughters, **Adele Antenette** born May 28, 1909, their eldest, and **Veronica** born June 1915, were living in St. Joseph's Home for Girls in Flushing Queens. Of these two girls, Veronica was still living at St. Joseph's in 1930. Adele was buried in St. John's Cemetery on September 23, 1918.

**John Joseph Healy** (1893-1962) was born at 32 Melrose St. on June 10.1893. He was just 20 years old when he married **Lillian Evelyn Lee**, the 21 year old daughter of **Robert Lee** (1860-1930) and **Sarah Carr** (1860- ). Lillian was born on July 6,1892 and grew up in Brookhaven on Long Island. The couple lived on Nicholas Ave. in Brooklyn and Foxall St. in Ridgewood Queens. John started out as a bank clerk, but then became a truck driver, originally working for Rosenthal Engine, and then contracting on his own. He was 5'10" tall with a medium build, brown/hazel eyes and brown hair. They had one daughter, **Norma L.** (1916-1992) Norma married **Charles E. Wallace** in 1938 and had one son, \*\*\*\*\*who married \*\*\*\*\* Norma and Charles divorced in 1944 and she remarried **Donald M. Graff** in 1946. They too divorced in 1962. She passed away in Miami, Florida on January 3, 1992. Her parents, John and Lillian, moved to Bushnell, Florida, where they too divorced in 1954. John died on May 13, 1962 and was buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, Ocala, Florida and Lillian passed away on December 3, 1983. She was laid to rest in Southern Memorial Park, Miami.



"Uncle John with A.D Matthews truck. Ray at wheel, Tootie alongside of him, Jack, — , Ruth on running board, Unk and Dave."  
(Ray, Jack, Ruth and Dave are Driscolls)

**Joseph A. Healy** (1903-1935) Joseph was the youngest of Mary Anastasia's siblings. He was born in October 1903 and as far as I know, did not marry. He was a clerk and a truck driver, who was living with his mother in Hempstead Gardens, Nassau, as late as 1930. He died in June, 1935 and was buried in the Cemetery of the Resurrection in Farmingdale Long Island.

Mary's other seven siblings died very young. There was a child born before 1881 who died before 1900, an unnamed daughter born Aug 3, 1884 who died after two days, **Bridget Healy** born 1888 who died before 1900, **Katie Healy** born Aug 12, 1895, who died on June 26, 1896, **Jane Healy** born May 10, 1897, who died just three months later on Aug 28th, **Dennis Healy** born April 28, 1899 and lived for two months, passing away on June 22, 1899 and another child who was born and died between 1900 and 1910. Jane, Katie and the unnamed daughter are interred in Holy Cross, and I assume the rest are also.

John Joseph Driscoll and Mary Anastasia Healy were married three years after they met, in St. Brigid's Church in Brooklyn, on November 18, 1903. Mary's brother Thomas was the best man and Lillie Corrick was the maid of honor. John was living at 1436 Greene Ave. and Mary at 115 Floyd St. at the time, a few doors away from 105 Floyd St. where 1905, they lived along with the Driscoll and Healy families. They had four children Raymond, Ruth, \*\*\*\*\*. (my father) and David. Between 1903 and 1911 the family moved around Brooklyn, eventually heading east to Queens. In 1913 they lived on Lawrence St. (222nd St.) in Springfield Long Island at a house called Sheffield Manor.(below left)In 1916 they lived at 26 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, in 1920, on Pearle Place with Mary's mother, and by 1925 they finally settled down at 219-12 138<sup>th</sup> Rd., in Springfield Gardens.(below right). In 1919 this property, as well as 219-08, was owned by John's Aunt and Uncle, Mamie (Coughlin) and Michael Heffernan.



John was appointed "regular clerk" at the Brooklyn Post Office Station V on July 1, 1902, along with his friend James H Byrne (my father's godfather). He remained there, in Brooklyn, until at least 1911, with his annual salary going from \$800 to \$1200 in that time. He was a member of the Improved Order of Heptasophs (Seven Wise Men). The I.O.H. split from the original order in 1878 because of a disagreement whether the order should offer life insurance. The I.O.H. wanted to. John had a benefit certificate for \$1000. He remained a P.O. clerk, until sometime before 1942 when he is shown as being retired.

John suffered from Rheumatoid Arthritis, as did his sister May, mentioned above, and his sons Ray and David. When he died on August 17, 1954 in Queens General Hospital, the reason was listed as "natural causes", but he had been afflicted by this disease for a long time. In a letter from his brother-in-law Amerigo, dated March 28, 1948, he writes, "I hear that you have been laid up for some time with arthritis. It is certainly



a miserable affliction and I hope that you are making some progress in overcoming it." When he passed away, Mary wrote in her datebook, "My dear, may you rest in peace." He was buried in St. Charles Cemetery on Aug 20, 1954.



Mary, \*\*\*\*\*, John Sr., \*\*\*\*\* and Ruth, Sept 2, 1941

Mary lived for a time after with Dave and Helen at 45 Wilton St., New Hyde Park, NY. She developed Cancer of the transverse colon and passed away at the Floral Park Nursing Home on April 1, 1960. She was buried on April 4, 1960 next to her husband John at St. Charles Cemetery.

My memories of my grandfather are vague, as he died the year we returned home from living in Caracas. I remember him tinkering with his radio, and assembling my first two wheeler. As for my grandmother, my memories are of her listening to Bishop Sheen on the radio. My sister \*\*\*\*\* remembers her making us pray the rosary when she came next door to visit. \*\*\*\*\* wrote down her memories of them:

*After "Released time" religious instruction at St. Clare's in Rosedale on Wednesdays when I was 12 to 14 (1943-45) I would ride my bike to Grandma and Grandpa Driscoll's home in Springfield Gardens, Queens, NY. Grandma would give me a shopping list for the A&P, post office, hardware store or whatever she needed. Grandpa was usually sitting in his chair in the dining room, sometimes with a radio he was fixing or tinkering with on the table in front of him. Grandpa suffered with arthritis and had great difficulty walking. He used two canes. He would greet me "Hello Girl". Grandma would often give me a letter to take to the post office and airmail to my Uncle \*\*\* Driscoll who worked I believe in Trinidad at the time. Grandma, who I remember as a gentle, kind person would have a dish of stewed prunes or homemade applesauce (then not my favorites) waiting for me when I would come back from the store with groceries, etc. She liked to keep the radio on and listen to the latest news. As I was leaving Grandma would try to give me a quarter. I*



*would say "no" but her insisting made me glad later she won out! Grandma and Grandpa had a beautiful garden in their backyard. In the spring azaleas, wisteria, bleeding heart flowers and so much more were in bloom. Uncle Dave Driscoll took care of the yard as Grandma and Grandpa got older.*

*In about 1948 or 1949 Grandma and Grandpa's children, Ray, Ruth, \*\*\* and Dave got together and bought them a TV. If I remember right it cost \$500. Sometimes on a Sunday night our family would go over*

*and gather around to watch "Toast of the Town" or whatever show would come on the tiny screen. We were fascinated!*

*When I was older a memory of hearing Grandpa Driscoll was taking 8 aspirins a day for his arthritis pain left a lasting impression. As he became severely crippled and eventually was in the hospital he was given cortisone. The reaction he had changed his appearance so, that our Mom and Dad did not want us to see him.*

*There was a short time after Grandpa passed Grandma lived with us. When she was diagnosed with cancer I think she was in a nursing home in Floral Park, NY. I remember her living also with the Dave Driscolls and being confined to bed. My Dad cried at her funeral Mass at St. Mary Magdalene's in Springfield Gardens, NY. It was the first time ever I had seen my Dad cry and I was in my late twenties.*

*When we were very young I remember a couple living next door to Grandma and Grandpa. Their names were Aunt Mamie and Uncle Jake. Aunt Mamie seemed very old with a lot of longish grey hair. Uncle Jake was bent over and used a gnarled Irish looking cane to get around. I don't know if they were related to Grandma or Grandpa or just friends. After they died I think their house was rented for a while and later bought by Uncle \*\*\*\* and Aunt \*\*\*\* Driscoll.*



## James P. Prendergast & Catherine A. Curley

Descendants – Anna Marie Prendergast – \*\*\*\*\*



**James P. Prendergast**



**Catherine A. Curley Prendergast**

**James Patrick Prendergast** was born on March 21, 1877 in Brooklyn, New York, the third of four children. His older brother, **Patrick John Prendergast**, was born in August 1873 and passed away at 388 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Brooklyn, on February 5, 1875 from *Dilation and Cerebral congestion*. He was only a year and a half old. He was buried in First Calvary Cemetery in Queens. James' sister **Susan Prendergast** was born Jan 1, 1875 at 38 Second St. Brooklyn. She worked at different jobs through her life, beginning as a Saleslady in 1900, a buyer for a department store in 1910 and assistant chief clerk for a railroad in 1920. In about 1910 she married **John Nally**, who worked in the wrought iron business making ornamental gates. They had one son, **Morris Nally** in 1911. John Nally died before 1920, and Susan married **John Kieran**, who worked as an electrical repairman and in wire manufacturing. He was also married previously. Susie and her brother did not get along. According to his son, James William, James Patrick was "rough and ready" and Susie was "high and mighty"

When her bother Myles died (see below), Susie inherited the house at 440 Pulaski St. In 1920 she is shown as the owner of 336 Pulaski, with 440 being rented to another family. By 1930, 440 is owned by an Isaac Zeldes. The entire neighborhood seems to have changed from predominantly German and Irish in 1910 to Russians, Poles and Eastern Europeans.

On November 20, 1946, Susan was shot by a stray bullet fired by patrolman Francis De Feis of the Poplar St. station, while he was pursuing a fur thief suspect who had freed himself while being escorted to the station. She was waiting with her son Morris for the DeKalb Ave. trolley, at the height of the early evening rush period, on her way home from visiting her husband in the Norwegian Hospital, where he was recovering from pneumonia. She was hit in the abdomen by one of four shots fired by De Feis and was taken to Cumberland hospital where she passed away the next morning. She was buried in St. John's Cemetery on November 25th.

James' younger brother was **Myles J. Prendergast**. He was born on May 12, 1880 in Brooklyn. He began working as a Driver between 1897 and 1899, then as a Cooper in 1900, and finally for the Department of Buildings as a foreman and attendant from 1904 until his untimely death on March 9, 1910 from tuberculosis. He remained a bachelor all his life. Myles was a member of the Holy Name Society, St. John's Catholic Club

and the Sixth Assembly District Democratic Club. Following a requiem mass at St. John the Baptist Church, he was laid to rest in the family plot at Calvary, with his father and brother. His estate files show he owned \$1500 in real estate. I am assuming he inherited the house from his father which then passed to his sister Susan, his older brother James being married by within weeks of his death.

James Patrick Prendergast was 5' 7 ½" tall and 140 lbs. with a medium build, blue eyes and black hair. At 23 he was working as a truck driver. He was appointed to the F.D.N.Y. on June 24, 1903 in Eng. Co. 55 at 1367 Rogers Ave. Brooklyn. His badge no. was 2913. His job at one point was driving the horse-drawn water wagon. He was promoted to 4th Grade July 24, 1903, 3rd Grade July 24, 1904, 2nd Grade July 24, 1905 and 1st Grade July 24, 1906. He was transferred to Eng Co.106, at 189 Pearl St. Brooklyn on Aug 1, 1903, then to Eng. Co. 118 at 650 Hart St. Brooklyn, on Oct 1, 1909, which became Eng. 218 on Jan 1, 1913, then he was transferred to Hook & Ladder Co. 136, located at 91-12 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave Queens, on Sept. 1, 1913 and finally to Eng. Co. 31 in Manhattan on Lafayette St. on May 18, 1922 where he remained until his retirement on Jun 2, 1924. He retired on \$1250 per annum. After his career as a firefighter, James became a watchman for the telephone company and a messenger for a bank, where he worked for many years.

Engine Co. 31, where he finished his career, was organized on October 20 1865 and served proudly until it was disbanded on November 25 1972.

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The firehouse at 87-91 Lafayette St., near White St., a three-story brick and stone structure with attic, was opened in 1896. It once housed four fire-fighting units and a battalion headquarters. It was "retired" from active service in 1966 when the last remaining unit, Engine Co. 31 moved to Duane St.

The firehouse became a tourist attraction shortly after opening when the turn of the century newspapers around the country and overseas wrote about the "French chateau fire station."

No less colorful were the designers of the building. The architect was Frenchman Napoleon Lebrun, who worked with the renowned Stanford White.

The 17 horses in the quarters gave this house the largest equine population in the department. The changeover from horses to motor apparatus started in 1912. (Paraphrased from an article by Vincent Lee, NY Sunday News, Feb. 9, 1975)



87-91 Lafayette St. abt. 2004 (Eng. 31 is still over center bay doors)

The following is an excerpt from "A Ghost Story, Engine 31" by Donald Van:

*I think it was in the summer of 1972 that I first heard of the firehouse in lower Manhattan. I read in the newspaper that the city was going to sell a firehouse at public auction. Not thinking much of it at the time I just happened to be on Canal Street one day and came across that firehouse with a notice of sale posted on it. I could not believe my eyes; it was gorgeous almost like a gingerbread house or a French chateau. I asked myself how could the city sell such a beautiful building? It was one of a kind. I wondered then about the history behind that building and about the men who once worked there.*

*One day, many years later, while in the basement of the Fire Museum I came upon an old photo of that building and this time I learned it was the former quarters of Engine Company 31. It was still early so I*

*decided to walk down to Canal Street and see if I could re-find the old firehouse. I had remembered that it was south of Canal but didn't know on what cross street it was on. I kept walking east on the southern side of Canal Street and kept looking south at every intersection. When I got to Lafayette Street there it was, two blocks south. I walked up to it but it was locked so I went across the street and took a photo of it. I then saw some people going in and I went across the street, spoke to them, and asked if it would be ok to have a look inside.*

*I met with the new owners and showed them the old photo of Engine 31, which they now owned. They let me walk around and I could just feel and almost hear the sounds of the past. There was a tremendous sense of history in that building and I seemed to feel it very strongly.*

James met **Catherine Agnes Curley** who used to pass the firehouse on her way to school. They fell in love and married on March 27, 1910, at the Church of the Sacred Heart, on Adelphi St. She was born August 7, 1884 at 403 East 14<sup>th</sup> St. in New York City, the fifth of six children born to Ann and William Curley; all of them born in Manhattan. She had a stepsister **Nellie Curley**, born December 7, 1865 and two stepbrothers, **Thomas Curley** born Dec 21, 1866, who died on August 23, 1895 at the City Hospital on Blackwell's Island and was buried in Calvary Cemetery, and **Peter Curley** born 1870. Nelly and Thomas were born at Hills Brow, Parr, St. Helens, Lancashire, England, and Peter in New York. They were from her father's marriage to Mary Collins.

Her oldest brother, **William Joseph Curley**, was born March 25, 1877. He was medium height, slender build, with gray eyes and brown hair. He worked in the printing business all his life, as a clerk, mailer for newspapers, and then magazines, and also as a printer for Schwineler Press in Queens. He was over fifty years old when he married Sophie Lombardi. The family story is that William married the widow Sophie who had eight children. the facts are a bit more complicated. She was the widow of **Anthony Lombardi** who was born in 1874, in Italy, the son of **Andrea Lombardi** and **Maria Pasini**, and who immigrated in 1902 and worked as a waiter, died in September 1924 and was buried in Old St. Raymond's Cemetery in the Bronx. Anthony had two children, **Andrew Lombardi** (1904- ) and **Mary Lombardi** (1906- ) from his previous marriage to **Clara Gessi** (1885-1907). Clara, also an Italian immigrant, was the daughter of **Carlo Gessi** and **Maria Massotti**. She died on August 14, 1907 and is also buried in St. Raymond's.

Sophie was born **Sofia Alebardi** in 1893 in Milan, Italy. She was the daughter of **Sante Alebardi** (the son of **Angelo** and **Rachael Alebardi**) and **Emma Bede** (the daughter of **Joseph Bede** and **Catherine Puno**).

Sophie was 5'2" tall with a natural complexion, brown hair and brown eyes. She immigrated to the United States aboard the *S.S. Tartar Prince* from Genoa to New York., arriving on August 18, 1898. She made a trip back to Italy and returned on January 23, 1915 aboard the *S.S. Re D'Italia* again from Genoa. She married Anthony Lombardi on April 8, 1917 at St. Francis Church in Manhattan and had one daughter with him, **Emma Lombardi**, born March 1918. Sophie had two sisters, **Maria Alebardi** (1894- ) and **Angelina Alebardi** (1901- ). So, before she met William, Sophie was the mother/stepmother of three children.

The family story is that William and Sophie met at work, where William was a bookbinder. I have not yet found Sophie working as a bookbinder, but her sister Marie did in 1920. Perhaps Marie introduced the them to each other after the death of Sophie's husband Anthony. William and Sophie married between 1930 and 1940 and had one daughter, \*\*\*\*\*. They moved to 55-01 103 St. Corona Queens, probably to be near Sophie's parents. William died on October 18, 1940, from cancer, and was buried on the 21st in St. John's Cemetery, leaving Sophie a widow again.

Catherine's sister, **Nora Curley** was born on September 28, 1878 at the Avenue C address. She only lived for 13 years, dying from Pneumonia on January 21, 1892. She was buried in Calvary Cemetery.

Catherine's other sister **Mary E. Curley**, was born in 1879. Mamie, as she was known, grew up on the Lower East Side. In 1900, the Curleys were living in the same apartment building as **Bartholomew** (1850-1920) and **Bridget Lane** nee **Hallisey** (1843- ) and their seven children. The Lanes were Irish immigrants who arrived here in about 1886. All seven of their children were born in Ireland. Their middle son, **Daniel Francis Lane**, born in County Kerry Ireland on July 1, 1873, was a tall stout man with blue eyes and light hair, who became a naturalized citizen in 1892. On September 11, 1895, he married **Mary Ellen Higgins** who was born in New York in 1872. Mary Ellen was the Daughter of **Michael Higgins** and **Bridget Dolan**. Their son, **Daniel Joseph Francis Lane Jr.**, was born July 20, 1896 in Plainfield, New Jersey. Mary Ellen died in the birth of their second child who was stillborn in 1898. Daniel Jr. married **Grace Ward** (1898-

2000). Grace, the daughter of Civil War veteran **Maurice Ward** and **Catherine Foley**, was said to be the oldest person on Staten Island when she passed away. Dan and Grace had at least one child, \*\*\*\*\*.

Daniel Jr. was 5' 11 1/2", 200 lbs. with brown hair, brown eyes and a ruddy complexion. He held various jobs in his life including publishing, retail liquor merchant and printing. He ran Lane's Irish House (Also known as Paddy Shea's and Lane's Irish House), an eating and drinking establishment with live music in Coney Island. Before it was Lanes, it was Paddy Shea's Grisley House.

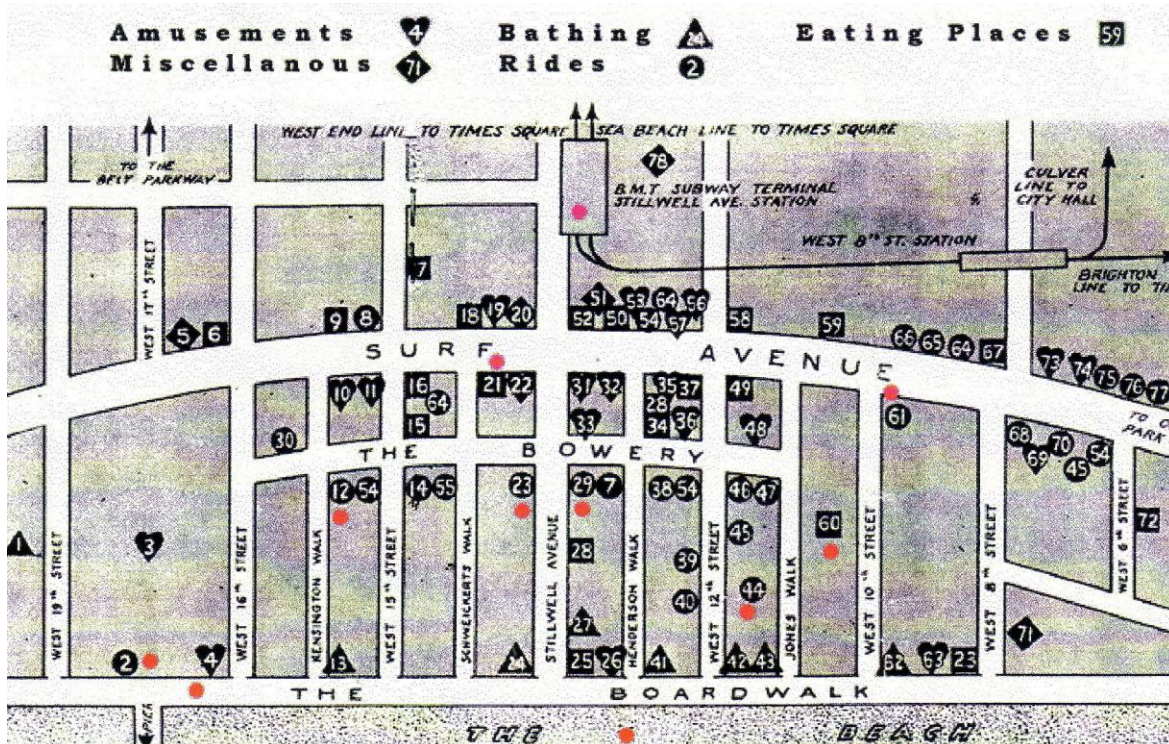
Bowery St. was one of the most colorful places at Coney Island. This street ran from Tilyou's walk (now W. 16th Street) to Jones Walk. In his story "The Day of Rest at Coney Island" Elmer Blaney Harris describes what existed on the Bowery. Part of that description follows:

*Paddy Shea's Grisley House, originally on the Bowery.....for years... attracted a middle class crowd mostly of Irish descent who enjoyed a 12 ounce glass well-brewed beer and had an affection for songs and dances of their homeland. When Prohibition and the subway came in 1920, Paddy wouldn't sell liquor illegally.*

*Reduced profits and high rents forced him to move to a new location on Surf Avenue.*

*The mass of visitors that poured from the subway demanded cheap drinks as well as food. While Shea allowed patrons to bring their own basket lunches, they preferred cheap soft drinks like sarsaparilla and lemon soda. He refused to lower the quality of his drinks or their size and instead trimmed entertainment. Instead of hiring a piano player, he bought a mechanical player piano that played Irish tunes when fed with nickels.*

A 1949 map shows Lane's Irish House (#15 on map) back on the Bowery at 15<sup>th</sup>. In 1955 it was offered for sale in the New York Times Classified "Business Opportunities" section.



Daniel Jr. predeceased Grace by thirty years, passing away on November 26, 1971. He was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Mary Curley married the widow Daniel Lane Sr. in 1904. He was an Oiler at a pumping station for the City of New York Water Department from 1915 until his retirement in 1928. They moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn in 1916 where they lived on Erasmus St., Madison St. and East 31st St. They had two girls **Norine F. Lane** born on November 6, 1913. She was sickly for the last seven years of her young life, passing away on October 13, 1928 at the age of 15 and buried in Holy Cross. Their second girl, **Anna Lane** was born in August of 1918. She was an epileptic, but not severe. She married **Joseph Wynne** and had four children, \*\*\*\*\* , \*\*\*\*\* , \*\*\*\*\* , and \*\*\*\*\*.

Daniel Lane passed away on October 8, 1939 and Mary just five months later on March 29, 1940. Both were interred in Holy Cross.

Catherine's brother **John Joseph Curley** was born June 26, 1882. He was 5'7" tall, 155lbs. with blue eyes and brown hair and a ruddy complexion. Like his father-in-law, John was a bookbinder most of his life. He married **Julia Keiser** on Feb. 7, 1917. Julia was the third oldest of the eight children of a first generation German American, **Frederick Keiser** (1858-1924) and English immigrant **Elizabeth Pierce** (1860-1928).



John and Julia had a daughter, **Florence Curley** (shown on right with her brother Jackie) born November 17, 1917 Florence married **Richard C. Connors** and had a son, \*\*\*\*\* who in turn married \*\*\*\*\*, and two daughters, \*\*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\*\*. Florence and Richard moved to Salisbury Maryland, where Richard passed away on April 25, 1993 and Florence on March 6, 2002. John and Julia's son, **John Curley** (Jackie) was born April 11, 1920. He married **Mildred M. Bauer**, born January 24, 1921 in Wilkes-Barre Pennsylvania, the daughter of **Joseph Bauer** and **Henrietta Iboch**. John and Mildred had four children, \*\*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\*\*.

When Julia passed away at the age of 50 on May 20, 1937, Jackie was taken in by John's sister Catherine Prendergast, and his daughter Florence went to live with John's sister Mary Lane. Julia was buried in St. John's Cemetery. John Curley stayed in Brooklyn, where he and Julia spent their married life and died on February 22, 1955.

Catherine's younger brother was **Martin Francis Curley** was born at 510 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St. on Aug. 27 1886. He remained a bachelor all his life. His occupation was an elevator operator. He claimed an exemption from the World War I draft, because he was the sole support for his mother; yet he served, and contracted tuberculosis in boot camp. He died from that disease in Seton Hospital in the Bronx on April 6, 1922. He was buried in St. John's Cemetery.

James and Catherine moved to 1380 DeKalb Ave. Brooklyn, in about 1913 and then to 2586 Madison St., Ridgewood, Queens in about 1918, before finally settling down in Hollis, at 90-54 199<sup>th</sup> St., with their three children, James William, \*\*\*\* (my mother) and Catherine Winifred. Photo below is James with granddaughters \*\*\*\*\* on left and \*\*\*\*\*.

\*\*\*\*\* recalls a story told to her of her grandfather taking her for a walk one day in her stroller. *"I must have been fairly young because he gave me my bottle to drink. Our outing took several hours, during which time I didn't get one drop of milk because he forgot to take out the disk that sealed the baby bottle before putting the nipple on it. The two Catherines were furious - especially since I was covered with pretzel crumbs he fed me while we were in the neighborhood bar and grill."*



Their granddaughter \*\*\* remembers *"I loved visiting my Grandma because we had so much fun together; she called me Dolly and let me eat all the candy I wanted. On Saturday afternoons, we would go to the pictures at the Valencia Theater in Jamaica. There we watched whatever was playing, Johnny Belinda, with Jane Wyman, .... Detective Story with Kirk Douglas..... I loved every minute, even though my mother did not approve. The theater was so elegantly decorated, with velvet seats, and a ceiling of swirling white clouds against a blue sky when the lights were on. A man played the organ before the movie started."* Grandpa Prendergast was as taciturn as Grandma was chatty. I remember going to their house

*and being told not to touch his pipes or cigars, which were lined up on the table next to his big leather chair in the parlor. .... When the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball game was on, Grandpa listened and puffed away on his pipe. I was not allowed to sit on his lap then or say a word."*

Granddaughter \*\*\*\*\* also wrote in her "My Family History": "*Catherine Curley, my maternal grandmother, was a really loving grandmother. I remember her taking me to Jamaica on the bus so that we could go shopping at the five and ten stores ( her favorite places). She was a good sport and would also take my brother \*\*\* and me to see Santa Clause at Gertz Department Store each Christmas Eve. We would go by bus and then take two buses back to St. Boniface Church in Elmont for confession. My father would then pick us up - thereby giving my mother a full day to prepare for Christmas dinner and presents. Catherine liked to fix things. One day she decided my doll had an ugly face so she took it to the Ideal Toy Factory Doll Hospital in Jamaica and had them change the head! My mother was furious because the doll was supposed to look like a newborn baby - and it was pretty ugly. Another time I left a doll out in the sun and the face got discolored. Grandma decided to paint the face pink to make it look better. It was so awful I screamed."*

Grandma Prendergast was a jovial, loving woman who enjoyed playing Crazy Eights with \*\*\*\*\* and me when she minded us for my parents. Her favorite TV show was *Beat the Clock*. My mother told me that Grandma made "bathtub gin" during Prohibition. She also loved to paint. Not pictures, things. At one time she painted an oval table black. At a later time, my father took this table and stripped it of its paint and refinished it. There was actually a beautiful piece of furniture hiding under the paint! James died on November 19, 1949, in Jamaica Hospital, and was buried in St. Charles Cemetery. Catherine sold the house in Hollis and moved to an apartment on Jamaica Ave. and 196<sup>th</sup> St., where she lived until she moved in with her daughter Catherine in 1957. She lived there until her death on March 24, 1962. After a funeral Mass at St. Boniface R.C. Church in Elmont, she was laid to rest next to her husband in St. Charles Cemetery.



**Mary, Cathy (holding \*\*\*\*\*), Kate, Anne, Jim**

My parents generation is available on request.

