



BLARNEY CASTLE

THE MOST
DISTINGUISHED
SURNAME
KAILL

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ORIGINS

The original Gaelic form of Kaill was Mac Cathail or O Cathail, while is derived from the personal name Cathal, which is generally Anglicized as Charles. Kaill is derived from the Old Irish "catu-ualos" which means "valor or powerful in battle".

ANCIENT HISTORY

The ancient Irish culture has produced many distinguished family names native to the Emerald Isle, not the least of which is the name Kaill. The world-wide influence of the Irish in the arts, theater, industry, commerce, literature, and the sciences, is disproportionate to the size of that tiny island.

Historical analysts have researched the works of authors such as O'Hart, Woulfe, MacLysaght, and O'Brien, as well as public records of baptisms, parish records, charters and ancient land grants. Despite the loss of records caused by a fire in the Dublin Public Records Office in 1922, an irreparable disaster to Irish history, there is still sufficient evidence available to produce a sketch of the Kaill history.

Researchers found that the family name Kaill first emerged in County Kerry and Tipperary as there are at least two distinct septs of the name. The first sept from County Kerry descend from the Heremon line of kings and were known as the Cahills of Connaught. The second sept claim descent from the Ir line of kings and were located at Corkashinny, or the parish of Templemore, Tipperary. This line further branched to the eponymous Ballycahill, Tipperary. Both branches descended from O'Connors, the Kings of Connacht, specifically "Cathal," also known as Conor na Luinge Luaithe, when anglicized means "Conor, the Swifter-Sailing Ship"^[1] which may elude to the seafaring coat of arms used by the family.

SPELLING VARIATIONS

The name Kaill appeared in many references with different spellings including Cahill, O'Cahill, Kahill, Cawhill, Cahille, Cahil, Cahaly, Cahell, Cahel, Caughell, Kahil, Kahel, Caill, Cail and Cayhill, and others. Sometimes even references to the same person could have different spellings. Many appeared when the Gaelic root was anglicized in several different ways. Also, church officials and scribes spelled the name phonetically, contributing further to the list of very similar names. The abbreviation of Mac in front of a name, meaning 'son of' is popular in Irish names, although this is no guarantee that the name is Irish. The Scottish also use Mac as well as Mc, but the prefix 'O,' meaning 'grandson' or 'descendant of,' is almost always Irish.

EARLY HISTORY

While there is not much factual knowledge of early Irish history, there is an abundance of legends involving ancient Celtic Kings, Queens and heroes. The Celts did not commit their knowledge to writing and instead they relied on a strong oral tradition to remember and pass on events in their history. Another purpose of this oral tradition was to celebrate past warriors at feasts and celebrations, and to prepare new ones for battle with tales of glory. As a result the stories became more fantastic the more they evolved, and how strongly they are based on fact is uncertain. There are many different viewpoints on the issue though, and some historians still have faith in the old legends.

There was an early invasion of Ireland in about 1000 B.C. by a Celtic race from the South, likely from the area of Spain. The books by O'Hart state that these people, the Milesians, were descended from King Milesius of Spain. He turned his attention northward to Ireland to fulfill an ancient Druidic prophecy during a 26 year famine, that he believed was his punishment for not attempting to fulfill it earlier. He sent an army to explore the fertile island and when he found that his uncle had been murdered by three resident Irish Kings, Milesius gathered another army to take revenge. He died, though, before he embarked on the trip, leaving his remaining eight sons to conquer Ireland.

The great Gaelic family of Kaill emerged in later years in Galway, Kerry and Tipperary. One of the more colourful ancestors was Gilla Mo Choinne O'Cahill, Lord of Kinelea East and West who was slain by Shaughnessy, the son of Gilla na Naemh Crom Ó Seachnasaigh, after having been betrayed by his own people. His son then slew Opichin Guer, but he too was slain by Conor, son of Hugh, the son of Cathal Crowderg; such was the violent and troubled times in early Ireland. The family name originates from the western part of Ireland, from the counties of Galway and Clare, near the shore of Galway Bay. Many of the family name can now be found in the counties of Tipperary, Kerry and Clare. The prefix 'O' is rarely used today. The Chief of Kinelea lead the most influential O'Cahills during the early part of the mediaeval age.

EARLY NOTABLES

Notable among the family at this time was Flan O'Cahill, martyred in 938; Daniel O'Cahill, brother of Bogh O'Cahill, chief of the Clan, forfeited under the Cromwellian settlement, his castle and the lands of Ballycahill having to move to Ballyglass, County Mayo in 1654; and Father Daniel William Cahill (1796-1864), American lecturer.

THE GREAT MIGRATION

In about 1167 Dermott MacMurrough, King of Leinster, was defeated in a feud and requested aid from King Henry II of England, who opportunistically allowed him to enlist the help of his subjects. Richard de Clare, or Strongbow, became Dermott's greatest ally. He landed in Ireland in 1170 and solidified the earlier victories of other Norman Lords with the presence of his great force. The success of the Normans in Ireland prompted the King of England to arrive with his own army in 1172, and reaffirm the allegiance of his subjects, as well as establish himself as the overlord of the other kings and chiefs in Ireland. He succeeded, and in so doing, permanently linked England to the affairs of Ireland.

SETTLERS

- Ludovick Kaill, who landed in South Carolina in 1739^[2]

As well as 179 more in the Appendix.

CURRENT NOTABLES

The greatest influx of immigrants to the United States occurred between the 1840s and the 1920s. Between these years, around 37 million immigrants arrived in the United States. Many of these later settlers followed opportunities westward.

There are 29 notables with similar origins in the Appendix.

HISTORIC EVENTS

There are 1 historic event entries in the Appendix.

CONCLUSION

APPENDIX - NOTABLE LIST

SURNAME VARIANTS OF KAILL

- Paul Calle, American artist, painter of American historical events
- Juan José Calle y Calle, lawyer in Peru
- Michael Caughill, American writer, known for *Winter of Frozen Dreams* (2009)
- Thomas Cale (1848-1941) American politician, delegate to the United States House of Representatives from the District of Alaska
- Mabel Cahill (1863-1905) Irish championship tennis player
- Edward Cahill (1867-1941) Irish Jesuit priest and academic
- Thaddeus Cahill (1867-1934) American inventor of the teleharmonium, the first electromechanical musical instrument
- Pandeli Cale (1879-1923) one of the signatories of Albanian Declaration of Independence
- Thomas Jay "Tom" McCahill III (1907-1975) American automotive journalist
- William T Cahill (1912-1996) Republican Governor of New Jersey, 1970-73
- William Raymond "Ray" Cale (1922-2006) Welsh dual code rugby international player
- Tom Cahill (1924-1983) Australian politician from New South Wales
- James Francis Cahill (1926-2014) American art historian, curator, collector, and professor at the University of California, Berkeley
- Leo Cahill (b.1930) American former professional football coach with the CFL
- John Weldon "J.J." Cale (1938-2013) American Grammy Award winning singer-songwriter and musician, best known for his songs "After Midnight" and "Cocaine" made famous by Eric Clapton
- Jim McCahill (b.1939) English football chairman
- Bruce Cale (b.1939) Australian jazz double-bassist and composer
- Thomas Vincent Cahill (b.1940) American scholar and writer
- John Davies Cale OBE (b.1942) Welsh musician, composer, singer-songwriter and founding member of the experimental rock band The Velvet Underground
- Mark P. McCahill (b.1956) American developer of Internet technology

APPENDIX - HISTORIC EVENT LIST

HMS REPULSE

HMS Repulse was one of the world's fastest battleships. She participated in many campaigns during her time, but eventually sunk on the 10th of December 1941 by a Japanese Aircraft. After witnessing the explosion of the HMS Hood she took torpedo fire and quickly capsized, 508 men lost their lives.

SURNAME VARIANTS OF KAILL

- Mr. William T Cahill, British Leading Seaman, who sailed into battle on the HMS Repulse and survived the sinking^[3]

APPENDIX - SETTLER LIST

AMERICAN SETTLERS

- Ludovick Kaill, who landed in South Carolina in 1739^[2]

SURNAME VARIANTS OF KAILL

- Thomas Calle, who arrived in America in 1637^[2]
- Thomas Calle, who arrived in New England in 1637^[2]
- Susan Cale, who arrived in Maryland in 1672^[2]
- William Cale, who landed in Maryland in 1672^[2]
- Aiolce Cales, who landed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1683^[2]
- Alice Cales, who landed in Pennsylvania in 1683^[2]
- Elizabeth Cahill, a bonded passenger, who arrived in America in 1735
- Thomas Cahill, an "enforced emigrant" sent to America from Ireland in 1737
- Henrick Cahill, aged 19, who landed in Pennsylvania in 1738^[2]
- Nicholas Cail, who landed in Georgia in 1741^[2]
- Daniel Cahill, who arrived at Marblehead, Massachusetts in 1768
- John Cahill, who settled in Maryland in 1774
- Dominikus Kail, who arrived in America in 1783^[2]
- Jeremiah Cahel, who arrived in Mississippi in 1798^[2]
- Petrick Cahill, who landed in America in 1807^[2]
- Juan DeLa Calle, who arrived in America in 1814^[2]
- Martin DeLa Calle, who landed in America in 1814^[2]
- Peary Cahill, who arrived in South Carolina in 1821^[2]
- Fco Calle, aged 18, who landed in New Orleans, La in 1830^[2]
- James Cayhill, who arrived in Maryland in 1833^[2]

CANADIAN SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF KAILL

- Denise Lemaistre Cahel, aged 22, who arrived in Montreal in 1659
- Francois Cahel, who landed in Montreal in 1662
- John Cale, who arrived in Nova Scotia in 1750
- John Cahill, who settled in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1763^[4]
- Mr. George Caughill U.E. who settled in Canada c. 1783^[5]
- Mr. George Frederick Caughill U.E. who settled in Canada c. 1783^[5]
- Mr. George Reuben Caughill U.E. who settled in Canada c. 1783^[5]
- Edward Cahill, who settled in Freshwater, Newfoundland in 1791^[4]
- Patrick Cahill, who settled in Musketta, Newfoundland in 1795^[4]
- Elizabeth Cahil of Caplin Cove was married in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1815^[4]
- John Cahill, who landed in Nova Scotia in 1818

- Elizabeth Cahill, who landed in Nova Scotia in 1830
- Margaret Cahill, who landed in Nova Scotia in 1831
- George McCahill, aged 25, who arrived in Saint John, New Brunswick aboard the ship "Eleanor Gordon" in 1834
- John Cahill, who arrived in Nova Scotia in 1835
- Elizabeth Cahill, who arrived in Nova Scotia in 1837
- Mary Cahill, aged 30, who arrived in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1837 aboard the brig "Thetis" from Cork, Ireland
- Ellen Cahill, aged 30, who arrived in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1837 aboard the barque "Robert Watt" from Cork, Ireland
- John Cahill, who arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1843
- Mr. Bernard Cahill, aged 36 who emigrated to Canada, arriving at the Grosse Isle Quarantine Station in Quebec aboard the ship "Virgilia" departing from the port of Liverpool, England but died on Grosse Isle in October 1847^[6]

AUSTRALIAN SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF KAILL

- Sylvester Cahill, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Orleana" in 1840^[7]
- Ellen Cahill, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Orleana" in 1840^[7]
- John Cahill, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Orleana" in 1840^[7]
- Thomas Mark Cahill, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Orleana" in 1840^[7]
- Mary Ann Cahill, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Orleana" in 1840^[7]
- Thomas Cahill, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Navarino" in 1848^[8]
- Mary Cahill, aged 16, who arrived in South Australia in 1849 aboard the ship "Elgin"^[9]
- Daniel Kail, aged 17, a labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1849 aboard the ship "Macedon"^[10]
- Mary Cahill, aged 16, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Elgin" in 1849^[9]
- Daniel Kail, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Macedon" in 1849^[10]
- Edward Cahill, aged 22, a labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1851 aboard the ship "Prince Regent"^[11]
- Leonard Cahill, aged 22, a labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1851 aboard the ship "Reliance"^[12]
- Edward Cahill, aged 22, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Prince Regent" in 1851^[11]

- Cornelius Cahill, aged 29, a farm labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Charlotte Jane"^[13]
- Pat. Cahill, aged 25, a farm labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Charlotte Jane"^[13]
- Mary Cahill, aged 20, a servant, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Charlotte Jane"^[13]
- Margaret Cahill, aged 27, a servant, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Charlotte Jane"^[13]
- Patrick Cahill, aged 25, a labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Marshall Bennett"^[14]
- John Cahill, aged 23, a labourer, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Marshall Bennett"^[14]
- Catherine Cahill, aged 20, a servant, who arrived in South Australia in 1852 aboard the ship "Marshall Bennett"^[14]

NEW ZEALAND SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF KAILL

- Timothy Cahill, aged 21, a farm labourer, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Jessie Osborne" in 1867
- Catherine Cahill, aged 19, a servant, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Jessie Osborne" in 1867
- Fergus Cahill, aged 50, a farm labourer, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Dorothy Cahill, aged 42, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- James Cahill, aged 14, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Thomas Cahill, aged 12, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Charles Cahill, aged 12, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Fergus Cahill, aged 21, a shepherd, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Patrick Cahill, aged 18, a carpenter, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- John Cahill, aged 16, a plumber, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Ellen Cahill, aged 22, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- Julia Cahill, aged 17, a servant, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waitangi" in 1874
- John Cahill, aged 25, a farm labourer, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Salisbury" in 1876
- John Cahill, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "British King" in 1883

- Mary Cahill, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "British King" in 1883;

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Extra Credit goes to Guilhem D. at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Blarney_Castle.JPG for the picture on the cover.

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