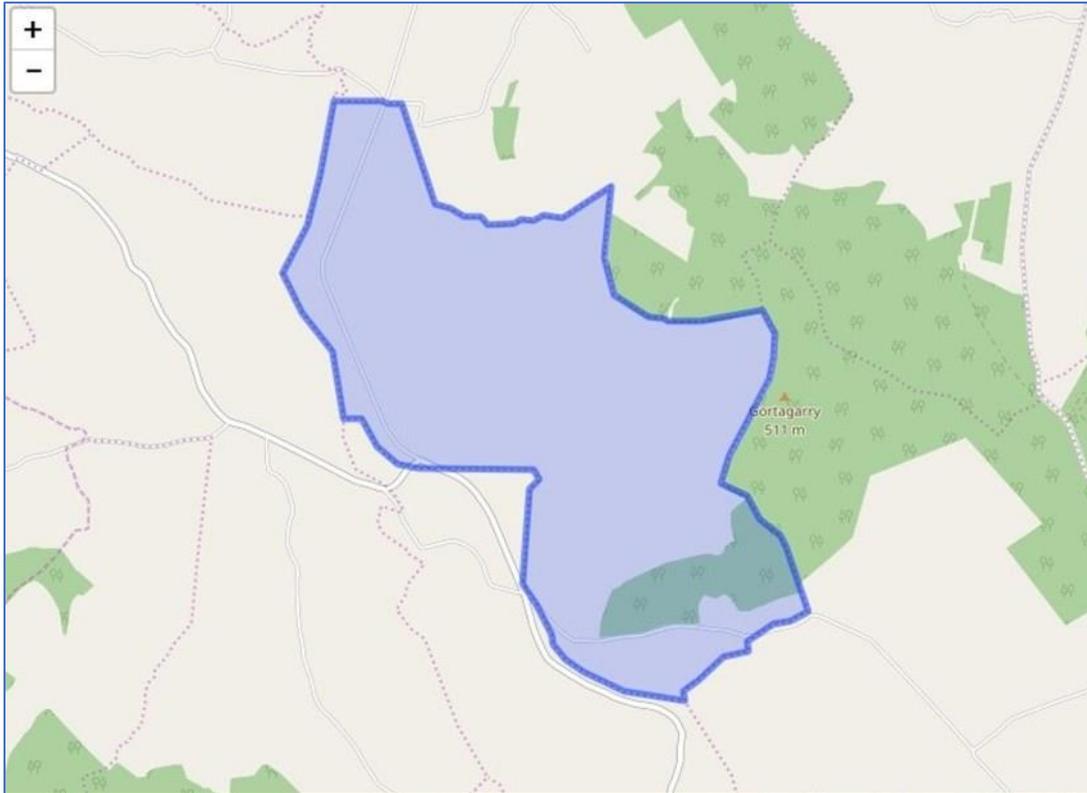


Gortagarry Townland through the Centuries

GORTAGARRY ON WWW.TOWNLANDS.IE



Gortagarry townland has an area of:

- 2,707,102 m² / 270.71 hectares / 2.7071 km²
- 1.05 square miles
- 668.94 acres / 668 acres, 3 roods, 30 perches

Gortagarry borders the following other townlands: Ballinlough to the west, Blakefield to the north, Curraheen to the south, Glenaguile to the west and Killoskehan to the east.

GORTAGARRY IN THE 1654-56 CIVIL SURVEY and 1656-58 DOWN SURVEY

Ireland in the 1650s lay in ruins. Twelve years of calamitous warfare led by Oliver Cromwell had destroyed the country's infrastructure and resulted in the death of over 20% of the Irish population. A massive transfer in landownership from Irish Catholics to English Protestants was planned and, for this to happen, the land had to be accurately surveyed and mapped.

The Civil Survey

A survey without mapping known as the Civil Survey was carried out in 1654-56. This was based on the records of the original owners of the lands. PDFs of the results for County Tipperary in two volumes can be freely downloaded from <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/digital-book-collection/digital-books-by-county/tipperary/simington-the-civil-survey/>. (The results for Gortagarry are in Volume 2.)

The record for the townland of "Gort Igarry" appears among those for that part of the Parish of "Aghnamaydull" that lies in the Barony of Upper Ormond. The record shows the proprietor of this and some other townlands to be "Marcus Magrath of Bleane Esqr Irish Papist". Gort Igarry contained 1 plowland (a plowland was the area of arable land that could be ploughed in a year by a team of eight oxen). The area was estimated to be 232 plantation acres (the plantation or Irish acre was 7840 square yards and was equal to 1.62 statute acres). This consisted of 100 acres of arable land, 12 acres of "meddow", 100 acres of pasture and 20 acres of "shrubby Wood". The record says that there were no acres of "Land unprofitable" and that the value of the whole was 18 pounds.

The record goes on to say:

"The sd Plowland is bounded on the South by the Generall Lyne with the Territory of Ikeryn. On the East with the lands of Ballynneany. On the West with the lands of Gortavalla. And on the North with the lands of Cuologe, all in this parish.

The sd Marcus Magrath the ppietor in fee by descent from his Father & Grand Father who purchased the same from ye Kennedyes long before the Rebellion, as wee are informed.

Upon the sd Plowland there is noe buildings."

See below for copy of this record.

THE PARISH OF AGHNAMAYDULL

Proprietors names in 1640.	Denominaçon of lands	Number of plantn. Acres by estimate	Lands pfitable & the quantity	Lands unprofitable & the quantity	Value of ye whole & each of ye sd lands
Rory oge Kenedy of Couloge Gent. Wm. Kenedy of Curragh-modagh Gent. and Theobald Butler of Kiloskehane Esqr. Irish Papists	Couloge one Pld	A. 184 : 00 : 00	Arable 100 : 00 : 00 pasture 060 : 00 : 00 meddow 006 : 00 : 00 Under Wood } 018 : 00 : 00	A 000 : 00 : 00	li. s. d. 018 : 00 : 00
		<p>The sd pld is bounded on the East with ye lands of Ballyneany, on ye South with ye lands of Gurteene Garry, On the West with ye lands of Knocklegane, & on ye North with ye lands of Ballybeg (all in this parish)</p> <p>The sd Rory Kenedy pprietor in fee by descent from his Ancestors of two Fowerths one Eight & one 16th part of a pld of the sd pld of Couloge.</p> <p>The sd Wm. Kenedy pprietor in fee by descent from his ancestors of one Eight part of a pld of the sd pld of Couloge.</p>		<p>The sd Theobald Butler pprietor in fee by purchase long before the Rebellion (as Wee are informed) of one 8th & one 16th pte of a pld of the sd pld of Couloge.</p> <p>The sd pprietors severall pportions of the sd plowland are not distinguished by meares or bounds.</p> <p>Upon the sd lands standeth one thatcht house & some cabbins.</p>	
Marcus Magrath of Bleane Esqr. Irish Papist.	Gort Igarry 1 pld	A 232 : 00 : 00	Arable 100 : 00 : 00 meddow 012 : 00 : 00 pasture 100 : 00 : 00 shrubby Wood } 020 : 00 : 00	A 000 : 00 : 00	li. s. d. 020 : 00 : 00
		<p>The sd Plowland is bounded on the South by the General Lynne with the Territory of Ikeryn, On the East with the lands of Ballyneany, On the West with the lands of Gortavalla, And on the North with the lands of Couloge, all in this Parish.</p>		<p>The sd Marcus Magrath pprietor in fee by descent from his Father & Grand Father who purchased the same from ye Kenedyes long before the Rebellion, as wee are informed.</p> <p>Upon the sd Plowland there is noe buildings.</p>	

The Down Survey

The Civil Survey was followed by the Down Survey carried out in 1656-58.

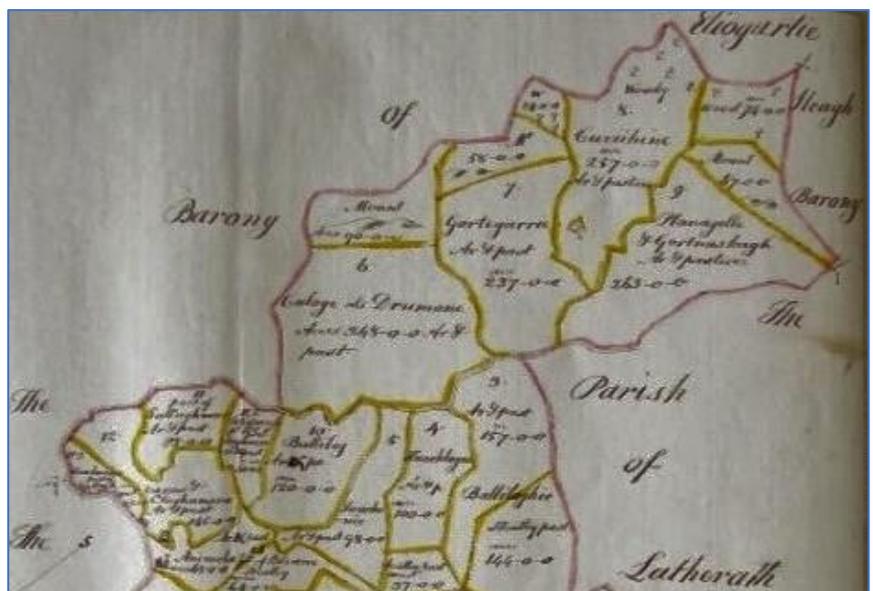
The teams of surveyors were mainly former soldiers.

The results, including maps showing every townland, are available on an excellent interactive website at www.downsurvey.tcd.ie. (This map showing Gortegarry is taken from that site.)

In the *Book of Distribution in the County of Tipperary (Down Survey 1654)* in Tipperary Studies in Thurles there are records to accompany the Down Survey

which give details of the names of English planters to whom lands were being granted. (This does not seem to be available online.) Under Agnameadle Parish in the Barony of Upper Ormond the following entries appear:

Proprietors			Debenturers
Marcus McGrath	Cullogue alias Dromine (spelling unclear)	17 acres	John Short
Marcus McGrath	Gortegarry	113-2-27 acres	John Short



GORTAGARRY IN LATER RECORDS FROM THE 1600s

Tipperary's Families: being the Hearth Money Records for 1665-6-7 (by Thomas Laffan)

		PAROCHIA DE AGHAVAMEDILL	
ll.	... 1 2	James Magrath, de Killogornoy	... 1 2
agowna	... 1 2	Dermott Ryan	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Willm. Meara	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Wm. Terney	... 1 2
alarahagh	... 1 2	Mathew Mullaghny	... 1 2
agh	... 1 2	Mathew Corboy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teig Corboy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Thomas Pendergrast	... 1 2
honian	... 1 2	Thomas Dermody	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Loghlin Ryan	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teige Magher	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Donnogh Kerenane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	James McMorrogh	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Thobald Stapleton	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Wm. Dwyer	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Giles Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Daniell Larkane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Hugh McDermott	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Donnogh Dwyer, de Ballibegg	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Wm. Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Edmond Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Hugh Kenedy, Knocligane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John Flanury	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Phillipp McJohn	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teige Kenedy, Ballinlogh.	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Mahane Flanury	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	James Flanury	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Connor Meara	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Thomas Core, de Bleane	... 2 4
"	... 1 2	Teige McWilliam	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John McWilliam	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John McWilliam	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Donnogh Twohy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Mathew Deane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John Stapleton, de Balinney	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Phillip McRory	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Geffery Moress	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Roger Kenedy, de Coolooge	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Daniell Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Edmond Bane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Thomas Peacock	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Richard Corr	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John Short, de Gortgarry	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Robert French	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Edmond Bourke	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Nicholas Benett, de Curyhine	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Connor Meara	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Connor McMorrogh	... 1 2

(50)

EDULL—Continued.		Hths. s.	
libegg	... 1 2	Geffry Marnell	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	ineligible	...
"	... 1 2	Roger Oge Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Donnogh Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2		
"	... 1 2	John Short	... 2 4
"	... 1 2	Robert French	... 2 4
"	... 1 2	James Hihily	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John Spellane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2		
"	... 1 2	Teige Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teige Clavane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Hugh Kenedy	... 1 2
hinvorry	... 1 2		
"	1 & a forge	Mahoone Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 2 4	John Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Thomas Wells	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Phillipp Glessane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	About 22 names ineligible	...
"	... 1 2	Teige Ryan	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teige Welch	... 1 2
ckourna	... 1 2	Connor Ryan	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Daniell Barry	... 1 2
"	... 1 2		
oilemore	... 2 4	William Donn	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Martin Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Connor O'Hayly	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teige O'Meara	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Phillipp Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Teige Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2		
"	... 1 2	John Powell	... 2 4
"	... 1 2	Daniell Mosse	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Edmund McNamara	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Owen McDaniell	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	William McDaniell	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Dermott Glissane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Daniell Glissane	... 1 2
"	... 2 4		
"	... 1 2	Marcus McGrath	... 2 4
"	... 1 2	Dermott Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Phillipp Kenedy	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	James Toben	... 1 2
"	... 2 4	Bryan Higgin	... 1 2
"	... 2 4	Dermott Mara	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Daniell Glessane	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Lawrence Dwire	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	John McMiragh	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Rossa Baragra	... 1 2
"	... 1 2	Phillipp Quilane	... 1 2

Tipperary's Families by Thomas Laffan lists the name of the head of each household in the parishes of the baronies of County Tipperary subject to the hearth tax introduced during the reign of King Charles II.

The records demonstrate how society, in particular the Gaelic Irish, had recovered following the upheavals of the Cromwellian invasion and plantations just over a decade before. The Gaelic Irish population of Tipperary had returned and now outnumbered the Protestant planters.

Tipperary's Families is freely downloadable from <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/digital-book-collection/digital-books-by-county/tipperary/laffan-tipperarys-familie/>

The 1665 record for "Parochia de Aghavamedill" shows three heads of household for "Gortgarry": John Short de Gortgarry 1 hearth, Robert French de Gortgarry 1 hearth and Edmond Bourke de Gortgarry 1 hearth. (The tax for one hearth was 2 shillings.)

The 1666-67 record for "Parish of Anamedull" shows four heads of household for "Gortgarry": John Short 2 hearths, Robert French 2 hearths, James Hihily 1 hearth and John Spellane 1 hearth. (The tax for two hearths was 4 shillings.)

This John Short was baptised in Tring, Hertfordshire, on 28 August 1648. His parents were John and Sarah Short. John Short was born in about 1610 and died in 1654. His widow, Sarah, married William Kentish in 1656.

Abstracts of Grants of Lands under the Acts of Settlement and Explanation A.D. 1666-1684

The following records appear in *Abstracts of Grants of Lands under the Acts of Settlement and Explanation A.D. 1666-1684*:

Sarah Kentish alias Short, relict of John Short and John Short her son - part of Killustie with a castle thereon 245 acres prof. 306 acres unprof. in Clare 32 acres; barony Middlethird, Co. Tipperary. Total 449 acres 3 roods 32 perches statute. Total rent £4-4-4.5. 7/12/1666 (p.71)

Tipperary John Short (listed as son of Sarah Kentish in index) in Gartegarry in N.E. part thereof 113 acres 2 roods 27 perches in Drumeene 17 acres Total 211a 2r 33p stat in bar Upper Ormond. 3/12/1677 (p.238)

There is no record of John Short or his mother ever taking possession of Killustie Castle (which is near Fethard in South Tipperary) so it seems that John came to Ireland and settled in Gortgarry by 1665 when he would have been a youth of about seventeen (unless his baptism took place when he was more than an infant).

GORTAGARRY IN A SIGNIFICANT 1825 DEED

The Registry of Deeds in Henrietta Street, Dublin, is a repository of records of wills, land transactions in Ireland and other deeds from 1709 onwards. These records are progressively being made accessible online through the Registry of Deeds Index Project at <http://irishdeedsindex.net/index.php>.

One of these deeds made in 1825 provides a rich source of information about Gortgarry because it refers back to deeds made in the previous century. (The original record is of Deed 542706 found on page 371 of book 804 in the

Registry). This deed transferred ownership of lands at Gortagarry from Thomas and Elizabeth Spinner to George Fawcett for 8,000 pounds. The following is an abstract of the contents of the deed:

- *1671 Grant of Curraghine and other lands by King Charles the Second to James Stopford. 1677 Grant of Gortagarry and other lands by King Charles the Second to John Short. 1677 Grant of Gortagarry and other lands by King Charles the Second to Richard Penn.*
- *Right title and interest of the above lands became legally vested in John Short of Gurteen, Tipperary.*
- *A 9 June 1739 deed was made in consideration of the marriage of John Short to Francis Spinner in which John Short agreed with Charles Spinner to settle lands of Gortagarry for his life and his children or heirs.*
- *In 1762, John Short and his eldest son, Johnathan Short, granted Gortagarry in the Barony of Upper Ormond to Thomas Spinner of Milltown, Kings County for eleven hundred pounds subject to rent and covenants.*
- *John Short and his wife Francis recovered Gortagarry.*
- *In 1777, John Short of Shinrone, Kings County, who held title to these lands of John Short and Jonathan Short, sold them to Henry Palmer in trust for Thomas Spinner.*
- *The said John Short and Lucinda levied a fine.*
- *In a 1 October 1796 marriage settlement for Elizabeth Drought and Henry Spinner, son of Thomas Spinner of Milltown - Gortagarry and other lands were put in trust to provide for Elizabeth Drought and their children.*
- *James Sheppard of Clifton, Tipperary County, was appointed as the assignee of Henry Spinner because of Henry's Insolvent Acts (bad debits).*
- *On 1 January 1825, Henry Spinner did grant Gortagarry to Thmas Bernard for the use of Henry Spinner to create a trust to preserve the contingent remainders and raise money for his children and other purposes. Henry Spinner then sold these lands to James Sheppard for the benefit of his creditors.*
- *On 23 Apr 1825, these lands were then sold to John Kirwan.*
- *On 2 July 1825, Thomas Spinner heir at law of Henry and Elizabeth Spinner sold Gortagarry to George Fawcett for 8,000 pounds. The parties to this memorial were (1) Thomas Spinner, eldest son and heir at law of Henry Spinner then of Moate, Westmeath County; (2) the said Henry Spinner and Elizabeth Spinner, his wife; (3) John Kirwan of the City of Dublin, Gentleman; (4) Thomas Bernard of Castle Bernard, Kings County; (5) George Fawcett, Merchant, of Roscrea, Tipperary County; and (6) Henry Spinner and Elizabeth Spinner, children of Henry and Elizabeth Spinner of Moate, Westmeath County.*

It would seem that the family of John Short who was granted lands in Gortagarry and Dromeen moved to Gurteen, a townland on the road from Dunkerrin to Templemore but that they and descendants retained ownership of the lands in Gortagarry.

GORTAGARRY IN GRIFFITH'S VALUATION (1848-64)

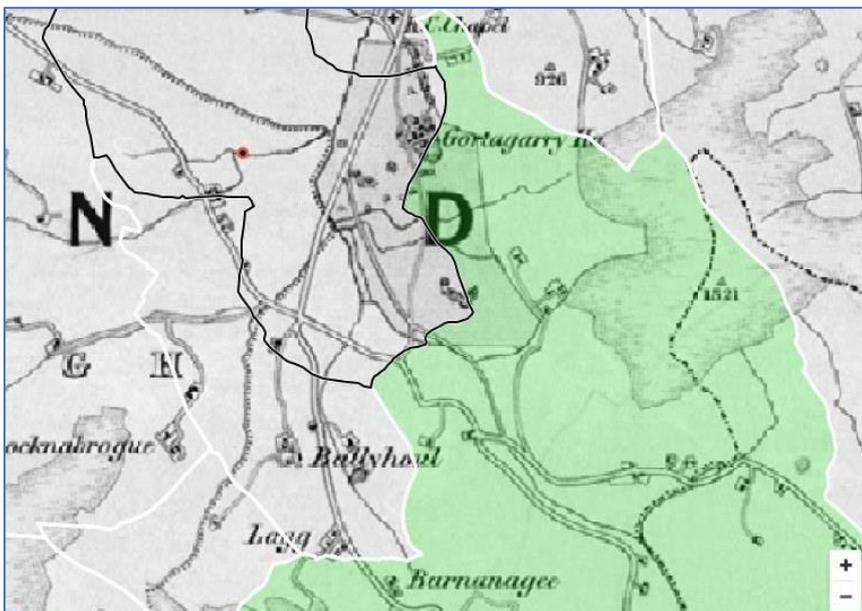
The primary valuation of Ireland or Griffith's Valuation - carried out between 1848 and 1864 to determine liability to pay the Poor rate (for the support of the poor and destitute within each Poor Law Union) - provides detailed information on where people lived in mid-nineteenth century Ireland and the property they possessed. Griffith's Valuation is fully searchable online, free of charge.

The record for Gortagarry is at <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/index.xml?action=doNameSearch&PlaceID=1201684&county=Tipperary&barony=Ormond,%20upper&parish=Aghnameadle&townland=Gortagarry>.

For the farm around the Gortagarry House, the record shows Thomas Harden as occupier and George Fawcett as landlord. The total area of the farm is given as 393 acres, 3 roods and 37 perches. The net value of the land was assessed as 162 pounds and 5 shillings and that of the buildings as 7 pounds and 1 shilling.

Maps accompanying the Griffith's Valuation are available through the same askaboutireland.ie website and one showing Gortagarry House follows below, as does a copy of the Valuation record for all the properties in Gortagarry Townland.

1	a	William O'Brien,	Richard F. Power, Esq.	House, offices, and land,	126	2	32	50	8	0	3	10	0	69	18	0
-	b	Matthew Maher,	William O'Brien,	House,	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	0	0	0	8	0
		GORTAGARRY. (Ord. S. 28.)		Total,	126	2	32	50	8	0	3	18	0	00	6	0
1	a	Thomas Harden,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, offices, and land,	393	3	37	102	5	0	7	1	0	169	6	0
-	b	Constabulary,	Thomas Harden,	Barrack,	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	8	0	7	8	0
2	a	Patrick Shea,	George Fawcett, Esq.	Land,	37	0	20	13	4	0	-	-	-	13	4	0
3	a	Patrick Shea,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House and land,	76	1	12	12	3	0	1	3	0	13	6	0
4	a	William Keshan,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, offices, & land,	42	2	21	11	14	0	1	0	0	13	4	0
5	a	John Maher,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, offices, and land,	42	2	21	11	14	0	1	0	0	12	14	0
6	a	Mrs. Maher (Wm.),	John Maher,	House,	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	0	0	7	0
7	a	Roger Maher,	George Fawcett, Esq.	Office and garden,	1	3	21	0	14	0	0	4	0	0	18	0
8	a	Timothy Gleeson,	George Fawcett, Esq.	Land,	21	3	23	4	8	0	-	-	-	4	8	0
9	a	Michael Dwyer,	Timothy Gleeson,	House,	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	0	0	3	0
10	a	Malachi Guilmarin, jun.	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, offices, and land,	14	1	8	5	14	0	1	3	0	6	17	0
11	a	Malachi Guilmarin,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, offices, and land,	20	2	28	8	9	0	1	0	0	9	9	0
12	a	Michael Guilmarin,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, office, and land,	28	2	14	7	7	0	0	17	0	8	4	0
13	a	Vacant,	Michael Guilmarin,	House,	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	0	0	3	0
14	a	Thaddeus Gleeson,	George Fawcett, Esq.	House, offices, and land,	33	3	22	14	13	0	2	7	0	17	0	0
15	a	Patrick Ryan,	Thaddeus Gleeson,	House and office,	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	0	0	7	0
		GLENAGUILE. (Ord. S. 28.)		Total,	671	1	12	252	14	0	24	2	0	276	16	0



Finally, here is a view of Gortagarry House on the 1890 Ordinance Survey map.

This completes this journey through the history of Gortagarry (House) through about the years from 1654 to 1890.

I hope that it will prove of interest to those interested in the history of the Short / Shortt families of Tipperary.

John Shortt