

Your Family Tree: 20

HOW TO USE GRIFFITH'S VALUATION

Griffith's Valuation, 1848-64, is the first Valuation to list all occupiers of land, tenements and houses in Ireland. It is therefore one of the principal sources for family history. It is available in both manuscript and printed form in PRONI. The printed volumes are on open access in the Public Search Room.

Alternatively, you can now search the Griffith's Valuation online at www.askaboutireland.ie free of charge. This is the simplest and most straightforward way to find the information you seek.

The screenshot shows the 'Ask about Ireland' website. At the top is a green header with the site name and a search bar. Below the header are navigation links: 'About Us', 'Links', 'Contact Us', and 'Accessibility'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'Reading Room', 'Learning Zone', 'Libraries', and 'ENFO'. The main content area features a large blue banner for 'Griffith's Valuation' with a map and a photograph of people. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links: 'Griffith's Names', 'Griffith's Places', 'Name Books', 'Thoms', 'Search Tips', 'Upload', 'About GV Maps', and 'Read More'. The search form is titled 'Use this form to search for a particular family name in Griffith's Valuation'. It is divided into two sections: 'Step 1 - Mandatory' and 'Step 2 - Optional'. Step 1 requires a 'Family Name' and has an option to 'Include similar names'. Step 2 allows users to choose a 'County' and optionally a 'Barony', 'Union', and 'Parish'. A 'Search' button is located at the bottom right of the form. A footer note suggests using the 'Griffith's Names' search option for more powerful results.

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Griffith's Valuation

The Primary Valuation was the first full-scale valuation of property in Ireland. It was overseen by Richard Griffith and published between 1847 and 1864. It is one of the most important surviving 19th century genealogical sources.

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Use this form to search for a particular family name in Griffith's Valuation

Step 1 - Mandatory

First, enter a family name (and a first name, if you wish)

Family Name

☐ Include similar names ?

Step 2 - Optional

Then choose a county, and (optionally) a Barony, Poor Law Union, and/or a Parish

First Name and/or Barony ?

County Union ?

Parish ?

Search

For a more powerful place name search, and to find all the recorded occupants who lived in a particular place, use the [Griffith's Names](#) search option.

However, if you are unsure of where your family came from, you should check the Householders' Index which is on open access in the Public Search Room in PRONI and follow steps 1-6 below. You may already know the townland or town where your

family came from so you need first to identify the Poor Law Union, barony and parish in which the townland/town is located and then follow steps 4-6 below.

1. Use the Householders' Index to find in which County the name is most prevalent.
2. Having done this the Householders' Index will indicate in which Barony/Parish the name is most often found.
3. In the Parish section of the Householders' there will be information to tell you which Union (ie the Poor Law Union) the Parish is in, eg Lisburn Union, Co. Antrim.
4. The printed Griffith's Valuation books are arranged by Poor Law Union so next go the relevant Poor Law Union book which will give the page numbers for the required Barony/Parish and the townlands therein.
5. Search the pages of the Barony/Parish for the required name. When found, the details beside the name will show the type of property, acreage and valuation.
6. The numbers in the first column in the printed Griffith's Valuation books give the plot numbers of each holding which are demarcated on the valuation maps. The small letters in the same column refer to houses which will also be marked on the valuation maps. Directly underneath the name of each townland in the Griffith' Valuation books you will find the Ordnance Survey (OS) sheet number (also used for the valuation maps) for the map of that townland.
7. The valuation maps are listed as follows:

Valuation Reference	Area
VAL/2A/1/ sheet number	Co. Antrim
VAL/2A/2/ sheet number	Co. Armagh
VAL/2A/3/ sheet number	Co. Down
VAL/2A/4/ sheet number	Co. Fermanagh
VAL/2A/5/ sheet number	Co. Derry/Londonderry
VAL/2A/6/ sheet number	Co. Tyrone

Maps should be ordered by county and sheet number as indicated with each townland name in the valuation books.