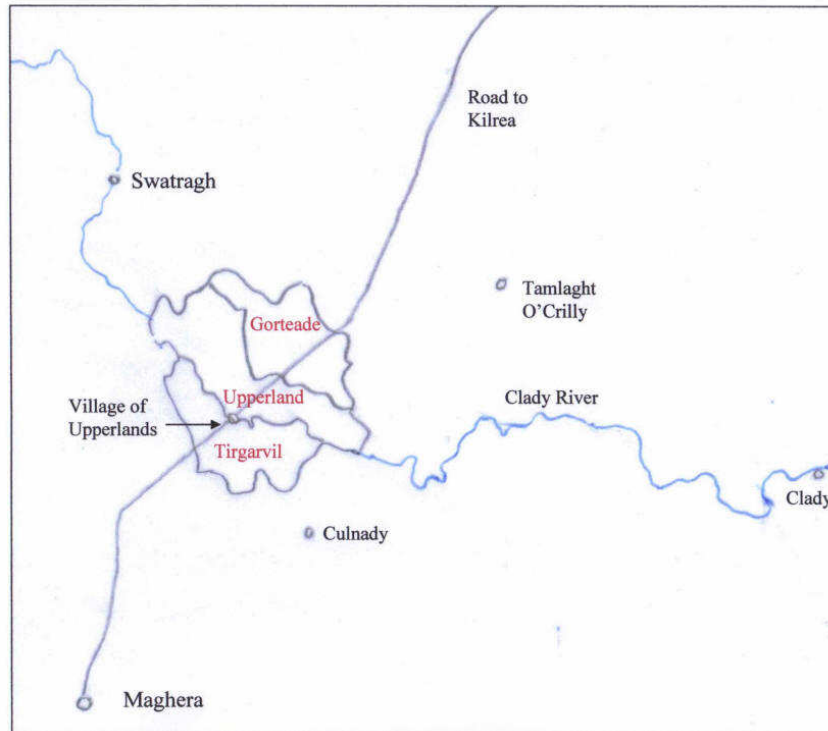
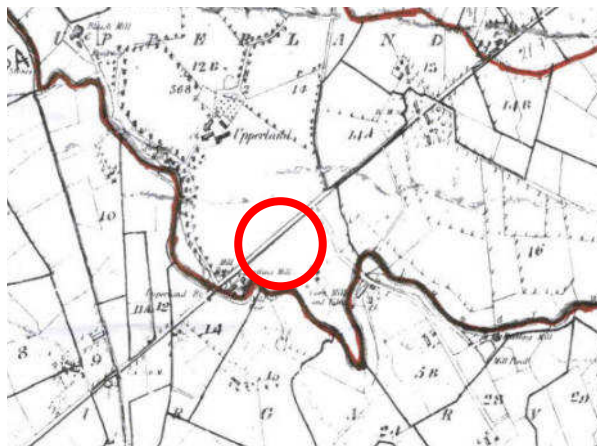


## The Family of Robert Montgomery living in Upperlands in 1901

Robert Montgomery and his family were listed in the 1901 Census Enumerators' Returns for the townland of Upperland. The family actually lived in the village of Upperlands. Note that the official name for the townland is Upperland but the village is known as Upperlands. The map, immediately below, shows the general location of Upperlands within the wider district.

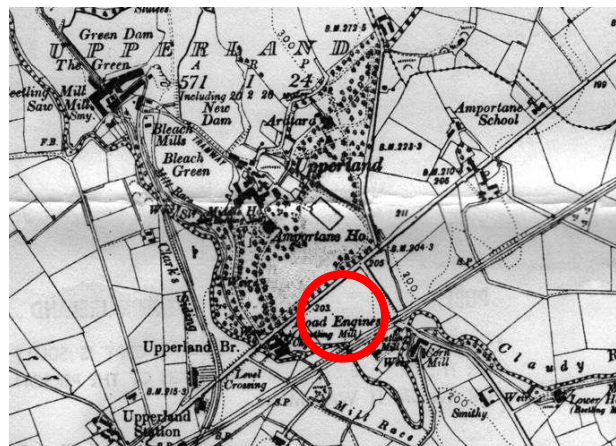


Valuation Map 1859



PRONI: VAL/12/D/32B

OS Map 1905



PRONI: OS/6/5/32/3

### 1901 Census [Swatragh DED] [PRONI: MIC354/5/37]

Robert Montgomery, his wife, four sons and his nephew Robert McClintock lived in a house in the village of Upperlands. I have not been able to find the exact location of his house but I am certain it was somewhere inside the red circle on each map. There was considerable development within the village between the two maps. Clarks of Upperlands who owned the linen mills in Upperlands had begun building houses for their workers in the 1880s and the Armstrong family were living in one of those houses in 1901. The house was slated, had 4 front windows and 4 rooms.

House No.	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
21	Robert	Montgomery	Head of Family	Presb.	Read & write	40	M	Millwright	Married	Co. Antrim
21	Agnes	Montgomery	Wife	Presb.	Read & write	28	F		Married	Co. Antrim
21	John	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Cannot read	5	M	Scholar	Not married	Co. Antrim
21	William	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Cannot read	3	M		Not married	Co. Antrim
21	Thomas	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Cannot read	2	M		Not married	Co. Derry
21	Samuel	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Cannot read	3 mths	M		Not married	Co. Derry
21	Robert	McClintock	Nephew	Presb.	Cannot read	14	M	Apprentice Wheelwright	Not married	Co. Antrim

Wallace Clark makes particular mention of Robert [Bob] Montgomery and Robert ['Wee Bob'] McClintock in his book, *Linen on the Green*. On page 94 he points to the increased demand for linen due to the outbreak of the 1914-18 war and he writes:

Upperlands was busy as never before, and now suffered from the death of Bob Montgomery, the famous engineer who had built up the place over the last eighteen years. His sturdy bald-headed figure, intense gaze and great toothbrush moustache had made light of many a problem. Bob McClintock, his nephew, [known as 'Wee Bob'] who had served his time in the workshop and on the arrival of the first motor car became the Ardtara chaffeur, was appointed in his place, a post he held for forty years. It was a testing job involving construction and maintenance of water power, building and machinery, for Upperlands isolated in the country has always done much more of its own work than would a city firm, able to sub-contract. One of Bob's first responsibilities was the installation of four beetling engines at the Mill and a new gas engine to drive the Jubilee.

The above quotation adds some life to the bare statistics of the 1901 census Returns.

Robert Montgomery's name first appears in the Griffith's Revision Book for the townland of Upperland in 1902 [PRONI: VAL/12/B/34/27A-E]. As mentioned above, he and his family were living in a house that had been built in 1889 as part of the new slated houses that Clark family had built for their workers. The fact that Bob's son Thomas [aged 2 in 1901 Census Returns] was born in Co. Derry indicates that the family had to been living in the village of Upperlands since 1899. This date is likely to be more accurate than the dates in the Revision Books. Exact matching up of dates between the 1901 Census Returns and the Griffith's Revision Books is not always possible. In such situations the birth certificate is usually the more accurate.

### **Marriage of Robert Montgomery and Agnes McClintock**

Robert Montgomery had come from around Ballymena. His marriage certificate shows that he had married an Agnes McClintock, daughter of Robert McClintock, labourer, in Ahoghill 2nd Presbyterian Church on 14th December 1894. Robert's father, John, was a finisher and Robert, himself, was a millwright. The witnesses were Robert McClintock and Agnes Patton. Both Robert and Agnes lived in the townland of Lisnafillan. Given that Robert's age was listed in the 1901 Census as 40 and his wife's age as 28, they must have been born c.1861 and 1873 and married at c.33 and c.21.

This information on the marriage came from a search of the *UHF births, marriages and deaths online database*. A copy of the printout from the computer can be seen on the next page. Details of the marriage can also be seen in the marriage registers of 2nd Ahoghill which cover the years 1836 to 1920.

You could, of course obtain a copy of the marriage certificate from GRONI in Belfast or the local registration office in Ballymena. Alternatively, you could visit the GROI at Lower Abbey Street in Dublin and obtain a photocopy of the entry in the marriage register.

To do this you will need to know the registration district where the marriage was registered, the year the marriage took place [as well as the quarter of the year in which it took place] plus the volume and page no. of the book

containing the marriage entry. In Abbey Street you will be able to search the green marriage index books for this information. Alternatively, the same information can be found in the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* database which is part of the *Church of Latter Day Saints* [LDS] website. The results of a search for the Montgomery/McClintock marriage is shown below. Note that McClintock in the indexes is spelt M'Clintock. Most Mc names in this period are indexed as M' regardless of how the name is actually spelt in the marriage register. Incidentally the official marriage certificate won't contain any more information than that given above.

Name: Robert Montgomery  
 Registration district: Ballymena  
 Record type: MARRIAGES  
 Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1894  
 Volume: 1  
 Page: 113

Name: Agnes M'Clintock  
 Registration district: Ballymena  
 Record type: MARRIAGES  
 Registration date - quarter and year: Oct - Dec 1894  
 Volume: 1  
 Page: 113

**Copy of the database entry from the UHF website**

Field	Value
Type	Civil Marriages
Date Of Marriage	14/12/1894
Husband Firstname	ROBERT
Husband Surname	MONTGOMERY
Husband Townland / Street	LISNAFILLAN
Husband Occupation	MILLWRIGHT
Husband Age	FA
Husband Denomination	Presbyterian
Husband Marital Status	Bachelor (Previously unmarried)
Husband Father Firstname	JOHN
Husband Father Surname	MONTGOMERY
Husband Father Occupation	FINISHER
Husband Mother Firstname	
Husband Mother Surname	
Husband Witness Firstname	ROBERT
Husband Witness Surname	MCCLINTOCK
Wife Firstname	AGNES
Wife Surname	MCCLINTOCK
Wife Townland / Street	LISNAFILLAN
Wife Occupation	
Wife Age	FA
Wife Denomination	Presbyterian
Wife Marital Status	Spinster (Previously unmarried)
Wife Father Firstname	ROBERT
Wife Father Surname	MCCLINTOCK
Wife Father Occupation	LABOURER
Wife Mother Firstname	
Wife Mother Surname	
Wife Witness Firstname	AGNES
Wife Witness Surname	PATTON
Denomination	
Comment	BY LICENCE REV F BUICK.
Street	AHOGHILL 2ND Presbyterian
Town	BALLYMENA
Area	AHOGHILL.
County	CO ANTRIM

## Births of the children of Robert and Agnes Montgomery

Details of Robert and Agnes's four sons, born between 1895 and 1901 are given in the 1901 Returns. They also had four daughters, born between 1902 and 1907. The entire family is listed in the 1911 Census Returns.

Note that Robert has been somewhat careless in filling in the census form. Firstly he leaves a number of blanks. This is not crucial since it is fairly obvious what should be there. However, with regard to place of birth he is clearly wrong with himself, his wife and some of his children – see below.

### 1911 Census [Swatragh DED] [NAI: 1901 Online Census]

House No.	Forename	Surname	Relationship	Religion	Education	Age	Sex	Profession	Marriage	Where Born
42	Robert	Montgomery	Head of Family	Presb.	Read & write	53	M	Millwright	Married	Co. Derry
42	Agnes	Montgomery	Wife	Presb.	Read & write	40	F		Married	Co. derry
42	John	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Read & write	15	M	Apprentice Engineer		Co. Derry
42	Wm. Longmore	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Read & write	14	M	Scholar		Belfast
42	Thomas	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Read & write	12	M	Scholar		Co. Derry
42	Samuel	Montgomery	Son	Presb.	Read & write	11	M	Scholar		Co. Derry
42	Agnes	Montgomery	Daughter	Presb.	Read & write	9	F	Scholar		Co. Derry
42	Margt. Ellen	Montgomery	Daughter	Presb.	Read & write	7	F	Scholar		Co. Derry
42	Ann Jane	Montgomery	Daughter	Presb.	Cannot read	5	F			
42	Mary Elizabeth	Montgomery	Daughter	Presb.	Cannot read	3	F			
21	Robert	McClintock	Nephew	Presb.	Cannot read	14	M	Assistant Engineer	e	

Married 17 years – children born alive 8 – 8 still alive in 1911.

Apart from their first two sons who were born in Co. Antrim, their children were born in in the Maghera Local Registrar's District within the Magherafelt Superintendent Registrar's District in Co. Londonderry. I had little difficulty in finding the Maghera births in the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* database - see table below. I have not looked at their births or baptisms in any detail. Apart from their exact date of birth and registration, I would not expect to find anything that I don't already know.

Name	Superintendent's Registration District	Local Registration District	Registration Date - Quarter & Year	Volume No.	Page No.
Thomas Montgomery	Magherafelt	Maghera	Apr - Jun 1899	1	762
Samuel Montgomery	Magherafelt	Maghera	Jan - Mar 1901	1	713
Agnes Montgomery	Magherafelt	Maghera	Oct - Dec 1902	1	668
Margaret Ellen Montgomery	Magherafelt	Maghera	Jan - Mar 1904	1	701
Ann Jane Montgomery	Magherafelt	Maghera	Jan - Mar 1906	1	732
Mary Elizabeth Montgomery	Magherafelt	Maghera	Oct - Dec 1907	1	788

According to the 1901 Census the first two children, John and William, were born in Co. Antrim. However, in the 1911 Census they are listed as being born in Co. Derry and Belfast respectively. I am certain that the Co. Derry against John is wrong. His father has even stated that he and his wife were born in Co. Derry, but clearly they were born in Co. Antrim. The Belfast entry against William's name is probably correct. I checked the births for

Co. Antrim on the UHF site but drew a blank for both children. This is because the civil districts where the births were registered and the churches where they were baptised, have not been included in the UHF database.

If John was born in Co. Antrim, and not Belfast, he was likely to have been born in the Ballymena/Ahoghill area 1895/96 and was probably baptised in either 1st, 2nd or 3rd Ahoghill Presbyterian Church. There are baptismal registers in each of the three churches as follows - 1st Ahoghill, 1841-1922; 2nd Ahoghill 1835-1901; 3rd Ahoghill 1859-1962.

I chose 2nd Ahoghill where Robert and Agnes were married and found John's baptism. He was born on the 30th November 1895 in Lisnafillan and was baptised on the 4th May 1896. I also found, what I am fairly certain is the registration of his birth in the "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes" database - Ballymena Registration District - Oct - Dec 1895 - Vol. 1 - Page 73.

However, finding William's birth or baptism was more difficult. I have no idea when the family moved to Belfast or where, exactly within Belfast, they lived. I'm assuming that Robert, who was a millwright, was working in some kind of mill within the city. Clearly, if I could find William's birth certificate, I would know where the family were living.

I searched the *Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes* database for any registrations in the Belfast Registration District of the birth of a William Montgomery or a William Longmore Montgomery during the period Oct - Dec 1896 to Apr - Jun 1898. This covered the most likely period between the births of John and Thomas when William could have been born. The results of the search are shown below.

Name	Superintendent's Registration District	Registration Date - Quarter & Year	Volume No. Page No.
William Montgomery	Belfast	Oct - Dec 1896	1 243
William Montgomery	Belfast	Apr - Jun 1897	1 105
William Montgomery	Belfast	Jul - Sep 1897	1 361
William Montgomery	Belfast	Jul - Sep 1897	1 366
William Montgomery	Belfast	Apr - Jun 1898	1 266

I had that the middle name Longmore might have narrowed the search but no such match turned up. The problem here is which one is "my" William Montgomery? John had been born in November 1895, so my guess is that the 1898 birth is less likely. Probably the 1897 births are the most likely but there are three of them. As yet, I have not verified any of these births. If I knew in which local registrars' district within Belfast the birth was registered I could ring up GRONI in Belfast and probably get a result.

One name appears in both the 1901 and 1911 Census Returns - that of Robert McClintock. As the Census indicates he was Robert McClintock's uncle. 'Wee Bob' McClintock, as he was known in Clark's Mill in Upperlands, had followed his uncle to Upperlands and was training to be a millwright probably under his uncle's the watchful eye. It is easy to see how he acquired the nickname 'Wee Bob'.

William, aged 3 in the 1901 Census Returns fought in World War I and was awarded a Military Medal. As yet, I have not investigated this any further.

## Conclusion

From a genealogical point of view researching this family within Co. Londonderry was relatively straightforward [excepting the difficulty of finding the birthplace and exact date of their couple's second son, William]. I have not really looked in any detail at the family's life in Co. Antrim where Robert and Agnes were born. I chose this family because it was an example of how people in the engineering side of industry often acquire their skills in one area and then move to another area. There are also examples of this in the William Street locality study where the shirt industry attracted engineers from outside the City Londonderry.