

Fig. 5: McCarthy Sept names and Agnomina in use in the past few centuries

Sept / Agnomen / Derived surname	Parent sept (Note 1)	Spec or Def (Note 3)	Approx. location	(Suggested) meaning / discussion	Info. Source	McCarthy Study Group (Note 2)	No. in Project
of Ardcanaght	Mór	Def	Ardcanaght, Kerry	Descendants of Finghin Dubh Mac Cárthaigh. Y-DNA testing indicates a much closer relationship with Samuel Trant McCarthy's family than suggested in his book <i>The MacCarthys of Munster</i> . If Samuel is right about his provenance, that of the MacCarthys of Ardcanaght is also from Cormac of Dunguile, and not from Donogh, son of the Cormac MacCarthy Mór who died in 1359.	1 (p. 314), 2 (p.150), 4	A2a	1
of Ardtully	Mór	Def	Kenmare, Kerry	aka MacFinghin MacCarthys	1 (p.283), 2 (p.148 et al.), 24	B2	1
Bawn/ Bawnie		Spec	Bantry area	(i) Applied to Darby McCarthy (b. circa 1765) the first of five known sons born to a father of the same name who settled in Clashduve in Adrigole parish after being evicted from Lauragh in Tuosist parish. The son Darby left Adrigole and was in Bofickil, Eyeries where he turned to cattle trading. The agnomen is said to have been coined when he subsequently arrived in Bantry with a white cow (bó bhán in Irish), allegedly the cheapest to buy. (ii) White-haired (also used for other surnames).	5, 11, 22	B2	3 (Note 5)
Bawn			Cashel townland, Kilmacabea parish, Co. Cork	As (i) or (ii) for Bawn / Bawnie above?	12		
Beadai			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Biogach (now Begerach / Begarach)		Spec	Townland of Two Gneevies, Drimoleague	(Ó D): Biogach = chirpy, twitching (muscular), startling. (D): Bagarach = threatening or intimidating	15	D2	1
Breachna			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Brannda		Def	Skibbereen area	Skibbereen family involved in smuggling of French brandy	17		
Breadin			Cregane, Co. Cork		21		
Breainc			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Brogach		Spec	Crookstown, Co. Cork?	Association with shoes (shoemaker?). Y-DNA testing indicates that the holder of this agnomen has O Donovan origins.	15	A2a	1
Buidhe		Spec	Timoleague and Barryroe area (but see right).	Sallow-skinned [?]. (Also used with other surnames). While ref. 21 refers to a specific instance, it has been used to distinguish specific members of McCarthy families (e.g. Donogh Buidhe, of the Sliocht Cormac of Dunguile) and in association with other surnames.	1 (p. 301), 21		
Cas			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Cawasca, Casga (Cásca)		Spec	Timoleague and Barryroe area (and elsewhere?)	Associated with Easter (e.g. a birth on Easter Sunday)	5, 21		
Ciarach					7		
Ciochta			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Cnoic, Knu(i)ck, Kunick		Spec	West Cork	Of the hill. Y-DNA testing indicates that these are a branch of Co. Cork O Crowleys, who themselves descend from Uí Chairpri Aebhdha and not as suggested in many sources from the McDermotts of Co. Roscommon.	5	A2a	4
Corky			Desertserges / S. part of Enniskeane parishes		2 (p.175), 8		
Cowhig			W. Caheragh parish		7		
Crime(e)n, Cremin, Cremeen		Spec	Widespread in West Cork	Relating to the progeny of one or more Cremin families. The claim that these are descendants of Dermot Mac Cárthaigh Reagh and the daughter of O Croimin is not currently supported by Y-DNA data. Note: present day Cremin and variant	5, 7, 8, 10	E1	3 (see left)
Cruig (Cruaidh)		Spec	Togher, Dunmanway area	Stern, hard. Y-DNA testing indicates O Sullivan origins many centuries ago.	15	A1a	3
Daunt			Bealad W (Kilmeen RC parish)	Non-McCarthy surname in own right: identifies maternal origins?	13, 14		
Downing						B3	1
of Duhallow	Mór	Def	Orig. of barony of Duhallow, N.W. Cork	(Major sept)	1 (p. 251)		
Duna	(i) Reagh	Def	Ballyneadig and Lyradane, but widespread	(i) Connected to Diarmuid an Duna (of the fortress), Lord of Carbery 1453-1473	9		
For (ii): aka Dooney / Downey and variants	(ii) Norsa	Def	Glennachroim (Dunmanway environs)	(ii) In the Sliocht Feidhlimidh sept an Duna first appears in Tadhg an Duna (1588-1648), of Dunmanway Castle, son of Tadhg an Fhorsa (see Norsa). It was anglicised as O Downey, i-Downie and variants thereof. It was subsequently associated with the progeny of two great great nephews of this Tadhg, Dermot and Owen; their brother Cormac's progeny adopted the agnomen 'Glas'.	23		
Fars(h)ing / Forshing (Fairsing)		Def		Generous	5	B3	2
Guideach / Guida(gh) (Galbhdeach)		Def	Orig. from Garralacka, Co. Cork	Strong, substantial	7, 16	A1b	4
Galda				Foreign	7		
Glas	Norsa	Def	Gleann a' Chroim (Dunmanway environs)	This was first applied to the father of the first Dónal MacCarthy Reagh (whose own son Dónal was founder of a Sliocht Glas in the 15th century). If an Irish language word, as would seem likely at that time, it would simply translate as 'green'. In the genealogy written by Daniel MacCarthy Glas however, its initial use appears to be as an anglicisation of the Irish epithet <i>na nGlas</i> , applied to the 15th century Dermot, father of Tadhg an Fhorsa I (p.64 in Source 23). Daniel here translates <i>na nGlas</i> as 'of the sword'. It is reintroduced five generations later for Cormac na nGlas who died about 1735 and had lived at Tullyglas, distinguishing Daniel's line from those of Cormac's two brothers, who used the <i>an Duna</i> agnomen (See <i>Duna</i> ). In the four generations from Cormac down to Daniel, <i>glas</i> appears to have been viewed as an Irish word, again [?] translating into English as 'green'!	2 (p. 174), 9, 23	A1a	1
Gortin			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Leaca			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Lyragh (Ladhraich)		Spec	Manch, Dunmanway		18		
Manntach			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Meenig / Muineagh		Spec	Bandon to Timoleague	(i) From <i>maoineach</i> (=1) wealthy, (2) beloved, treasured), a source of the Mooney surname. (ii) From <i>Muimhneach</i> (=Munsterman), as used by Bishop King Cormac Muimhneach MacCarthy. Moynihan derives from the diminutive of Muimhneach. These McCarthys share approx 13th century ancestry with both Mooneys and Moynihans!	5, 16, 20	A1b	4
Mointeain / Mountain		Spec	Widespread in Co Cork and south-west Kerry	<i>Móintin</i> = a small stretch of moorland or bog. Association with same, or from a townland bearing the name Mointeain, Mouteen etc.? Also used for other surnames.	7, 10, 16		
Mór		Def	Co. Kerry	The senior MacCarthy line ( <i>Mór</i> = Great), tended to be applied from the time that the appellation king of Desmond died out. Various other lines much later introduced <i>Mór</i> to denote the senior member of their sept but it strictly applies to the line which terminated with the death of Domhnall, the Earl of Clancare, in 1596.			
Mucklagh	Clann Tadhg Ruadh na Scairte	Spec	West of Durrus, Co Cork	<i>Muchfalach</i> = a place where swine are fed	1 (p. 318)		
of Muskerry	Mór	Def	Muskerry	Descendant of Dermot Mac Cárthaigh, created Lord of Muskerry in 1353.	1 (p. 175), 2	B2	1
Norsa		Def	Inch, Kilbarry	From Teige an Fhorsa (contemporaneously anglicised as Onors) MacCarthy of the Sliocht Feidhlimidh. However the one claimant to this agnomen is of a considerably different genetic provenance, on the Mór side of the McCarthy tree, under SNP A9070.	15	B2	1
Quirke			Timoleague and Barryroe area		21		
Rabagh (Rábach)	Reagh	Def	Widespread in Co Cork. (from Kilmaloda?)	Dashing, generous	1 (p.167), 2, 5, 7	B3	1
/ Cals	Reagh > Rabagh	Def	Knocks W, Bealad W (Kilmeen RC parish)	Callaghan McCarthy family of Knocks W / Bealad W	15	B3	1
Reagh (Riabhadh)		Def	South and west Cork	(Major sept) Swarthy	Multi	B3	1 (Note 4)
Rohane		Spec	Beara Peninsula	A family which had migrated to Beara Peninsula from Carrigrohane, just west of Cork City.	11		
Salleach		Spec	Dromore (Caheragh parish)	(Some connection with a) willow tree	7		
Sliocht Cormac of Dunguile	Mór	Def	Orig. Ballycarbery (near Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry)	Descendant of Cormac, 2nd son of Tadhg na Mainstreach Mac Cárthaigh		B2	1
Sowney / Souney		Spec	West Cork	The numerous McCarthy R-L21 Group F1 participants are either from the contiguous Drimoleague and Caheragh parishes, or from Kildoe. The sole R-L21 Group D participant also gives Kildoe as his provenance. Etymology: (i) Inhabiting the banks of the River Saivenose. This river, along the banks of which the juniper (aka savin from <i>sabhan</i> , not <i>samhan</i> as in ref 25) grows, passes through the parish of Caheragh, which McCarthy Sowneys have occupied even in recent times. It is suggested in ref. 25 that these McCarthys occupied the stretch of the river 'below' the falls, ' <i>sabhan thíos</i> ', pronounced 'Sowneys'. (ii) Similar to (i): Associated with / originating from the townland of Gurteenasowna, Goirtin na sabhna in Irish (= little savin/juniper field). (iii) A connection with <i>Samhna</i> , genitive of <i>Samhain</i> : <i>Lá Samhna</i> , the ancient Celtic festival on 1st November, or <i>Mí na Samhna</i> (=November).	25 7, 12, 16	D F1	1 10
Simons		Def	Barryroe, Co. Cork	Originating in a Simon McCarthy	15		
Spáinneach / Spawnach	of Muskerry	Def	Carrignavar, Co. Cork	Spaniard. Descended from Domhnall or his son Cormac <i>Spáinneach</i> , of Carrignavar, Co. Cork	5, 7, 16		
of Springhouse	Reagh	Def	Bansha, Tipperary, Co Tipperary		1 (p.153)		
Strock (Stracaire)		Def	Glenbeg and Cummeendeach, Ardgroon district of Eyeries Parish	Big, powerfully built man	11		
Tallin / Tollin / Talún		Spec		(i) Of the salt ( <i>an tsalainn</i> ) (ii) or (iii) Of the land or crooked, deceitful ( <i>Talún</i> )	5, 7, 19	B3	2
Clann Teige Dall(ain)				<i>Dall</i> = blind. Teige, son of Domhnall Gott, was blinded by a cousin. One or the other of two significant clusters in R-L21 Group B3 is suspected as his progeny, later said to be a "widespread and wealthy" branch. See also Clann Teige Ilen.	1 (p. 105)		
Clann Teige Ilen		Def	(See right)	Family of a Tadhg MacCarthy located on the River Ilen, on north side of Skibbereen. Suggested by some to be synonymous with Clann Tadhg Dall although that is not yet supported by genetic evidence. 55% of O'Driscolls are Hg I2a1a and the one participant claiming this origin looks to be an O'Driscoll NPE.	2 (pp 170, 304), 3 (p.172), 8, 16	Hg I2a1a	1
Tul(l)ach		Spec	Kilbarry	(i) <i>Tulach</i> = mound, low hill; occurs in place names, e.g Tulach townland (Ichigeelagh parish). (ii) relating to a specific incident in a blacksmith's forge	(i) 7, (ii) 19	B3	1
Turk	Cl. Teige Ilen ?	Spec	(See right)	(i) <i>Torc</i> (= wild boar, a lord or king, one well-off). (ii) Association with Turkhead, near Skibbereen?			See Cl. Teige Ilen

Note 1: According to written records or family lore (not necessarily true)

Note 2: Letters not preceded by "Hg..." refer to R-L21 Groups.

Note 3: Where appropriate, meaning offered is considered either 'speculative' or 'definite'.

Note 4: As claimed in some literature but not yet substantiated.

Note 5: One of these is of the same family but pre-dates the introduction of the Bawnie agnomen by one generation.

Sources:

Note: sources 5, 7 and 8 and many entries under Source 12 provided / highlighted by Susan J Barretta (see Skibb Girl's County Cork Pages - <http://www.corkgen.org/publicgenealogy/cork/>)

(D) or (Ó D). Suggested by Irish/English dictionary entries: Dineen or Ó Dónaill respectively.

1. *The MacCarthys of Munster*, by Samuel Trant McCarthy (1922)

2. *Gleanings from Irish History* by W F Butler (1925)

3. *History of West Cork and the Diocese of Ross*, by Rev W. Holland (1949)

4. *History of Kerry* by Jeremiah King

5. Southern Star / *Stray Leaves of a Notebook* (08 Feb 1936)

6. Irish Folklore Commission project: Schools Manuscript Collection, UCD (1937/38).

7. Southern Star / *Our Dublin Letter* by Peadar Ó hAnnracháin (13 Jul 1946)

8. Southern Star / *The O Regans - to fore in East and West Cork* (08 Apr 1989)

9. *The Book of Irish Families, Great and Small* by Michael C O Laughlin (1997)

10. Ancestry.com posting / *The Surnames of Co Cork* by Tim Cadogan

11. Rootsweb posting (Beara-L Archives) by Riobard O Dwyer (19 Apr 2004)

12. Title Applotment transcriptions

13. Griffiths Evaluation (researched by N D McCarthy)

14. Earl of Bandon Estate Papers (researched by N D McCarthy)

15. Acquired during McCarthy Surname Study research and not otherwise listed

16. Meaning or Irish origin / spelling proposed by Pádraig Mac Cárthaigh (UCC)

17. Acquired through contacts made by Susan Barretta

18. Dunmanway Historical Association

19. Suggested by Martin McCarthy

20. Suggested by N D McCarthy

21. *Timoleague and Barryroe* by Fr. James Coombes (1968), page 83. Submitted by Tony McCarthy

22. Lore known to present day members of the family.

23. *A Historical Pedigree of the Sliocht Feidhlimidh. The Mac Carthys of Gleannachroim*, by Daniel MacCarthy Glas

24. *Journal of Cork Historical and Archaeological Soc.* (1896, pp 234-238)

25. Southern Star / *The Sowney Name* (18 Apr 1959)

Will anyone with constructive comment on the above and / or who can add to this list of agnomina, please contact Nigel McCarthy at ndmccarthy10 AT gmail.com?

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