

Case Study

Pinpointing the Bowes Irish Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland

www.irishorigenes.com



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyrone Bowes'.

Dr Tyrone Bowes
15th July 2014

If you have Y-DNA tested contact me (tyronebowes@gmail.com) for a free consultation. If you have not DNA tested contact me to find out how.

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INTRODUCTION

A simple painless commercial ancestral Y chromosome DNA test will potentially provide one with the names of many hundreds of individuals with whom one shares a common male ancestor, but what often perplexes people is how one can match many individuals with different surnames? The answer is quite simple. Roughly 1,000 years ago one's direct medieval male ancestor, the first for example to call himself 'Bowe' was living in close proximity to others with whom he was related but who inherited other surnames like Carroll, Dooley and Flanagan. Given that 1,000 years have passed since paternally inherited surnames were first adopted, there will be many descendants of those individuals some of whom will today undergo commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing. Hence the surnames of one's medieval ancestor's neighbours will be revealed in today's Y-DNA test results.

In Ireland surnames can still be found concentrated in the area where they first appeared or in the area where ones ancestors first settled. One can therefore use census data to determine the origin of the surnames that appear in one's Y-DNA results, identifying an area common to all, and reveal one's '**Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland.**' The paternal ancestral genetic homeland is the small area (usually within a 5 mile radius) where one's ancestors lived for hundreds if not thousands of years. It is the area where one's ancestor first inherited his surname, surrounded by relatives who inherited others. It is the area where ones ancestors left their mark in its placenames, its history, and in the DNA of its current inhabitants. Since modern science can pinpoint a paternal ancestral genetic homeland it can also be used to confirm it by DNA testing individuals from the pinpointed area.

Notes of caution!

1. In Ireland each of the estimated 1,500 unique surnames had a single founding ancestor, that's an estimated 1,500 Adam's from whom anyone with Irish ancestry can trace direct descent. But science has demonstrated that only 50% of individuals with a particular Irish surname will be related to the surnames founding ancestor, the other 50% of people will have an association that has arisen as a result of what are called 'non-paternal events,' usually a result of adoptions or infidelity.
2. Often people are looking for their DNA results to trace back to a specific area. One must remember that the results reflect one's ancestor's neighbours from around 1,000 years ago. As a result if your recent Irish ancestors were descended from 9th Century Viking raiders, 12th Century conquering Normans, or 16th Century Planters, your DNA results will reflect earlier English, Scottish, Welsh, and possibly Scandinavian origin. I have estimated that only 60% of those with Irish ancestry are related to the pre-Christian Celtic tribes of Ireland. One must approach this process with an open mind!

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Interpreting the Y-DNA results

The surnames of the people with whom one shares a common male ancestor are **NOT RANDOM**; some surnames appear as frequent genetic matches, see **Figure 1**. To pinpoint a paternal ancestral genetic origin one must identify one's recurring surname matches as they are more likely to reflect the surname of ones medieval ancestors neighbours, see **Figure 2**.

Steps	Name	Y-DNA	Most Distant Ancestor
3	Mr. [redacted] Bowe ←	Y-DNA87	Michael Bowe, Ballyouddilly, Johnstown, Kilkenny, I
3	Mr. Prendergast		Private
4	[redacted] n Bowe ←	Y-DNA87	Michael Bowe, bapt son Patrick 1878 Ballyfin Laois
4	J [redacted] Carroll →	Y-DNA87	
4	[redacted] Bowes ←	Y-DNA111	Denis Boe, bef. 1800, prob. Muckalee Parish, Klike
4	Flanagan ←		Private
4	Mr. Springer		Private
5	[redacted] Redmond	Y-DNA111	REDMOND
5	[redacted] Springer	Y-DNA87	Lawrence Springer, b. 1647, Barbados, died Rhode I
5	Flanagan ←		Private
5	Dr. Flanagan ←		Private
5	[redacted] Lee	Y-DNA87	Patrick Lee, b.c. 1836, Ireland
5	Flanagan ←		Private
5	[redacted] Carroll →	Y-DNA87	Patrick Carroll
5	[redacted] Springer Jr.	Y-DNA87	SPRINGER, Lawrence
5	[redacted] Bowe ←	Y-DNA111	Edmund Bowe 1726-1794, Lough, Kilkenny, Ireland
6	[redacted] Green	Y-DNA87	1905, New York
6	[redacted] Dooley ←	Y-DNA87	John Dooley b. 15 July 1823
6	[redacted] Springer	Y-DNA111	John Springer b. 1620 and d. 1680
6	[redacted] Martin	Y-DNA87	Samuel Andrew Martin, born 29 Sep 1849 in TN prob.
6	Duke		Private
6	[redacted] Carroll →	Y-DNA87	Denis Carroll 1809, NL Canada
6	[redacted] Purcell	Y-DNA87	
6	Purcell		Private
6	[redacted] Mitchell	Y-DNA87	
6	J [redacted] d Flanagan Jr. ←	Y-DNA111	
6	[redacted] P Springer	Y-DNA87	SPRINGER, John
6	Flanagan ←		Private

Figure 1: Snapshot of my Y-DNA results. Upon Y-DNA testing one receives the names of people with whom one shares a common male ancestor. Some of these surnames reappear as genetic matches; Bowe/Bowes (red arrows), Carroll (green arrows), Dooley (purple arrow), Flanagan (orange arrows). The reason one matches individuals with different surnames is that those surnames arose among a group or related males when paternally inherited surnames became common (in Ireland around 1000 years ago). Plot where the surnames revealed in Y-DNA testing originate and one will reveal an area common to all, or rather where one's direct male ancestor lived when he first inherited his surname.

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		Y-DNA test results											
		67 marker								37 marker			
Haplogroup	exact	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	exact	-1	-2	-3	-4
Bowes	R1b	-	-	Bowe/Bowes (x7)	Carroll (x15) Springer (x6) ¹ Flanagan (x7)	Lee (x5)	Green (x3) Dooley (x8) Purcell/Pursel (x6) Mitchell (x2) Martin (x5) Kelly (x8) ¹	Crow (x5) Murphy (x3) Roach (x2)	-	-	Fuller (x2)	-	Treacy/Tracy (x4) Ainsworth (x4) ¹ Smith (x20) ² Egan (x5) Ryan (x15) Wray/Ray (x5) Norman (x4) ¹ Bathurst (x2) Ferguson (x5) ² Raines/Rains (x5) Bird (x3) Rainey (x2) Powell (x3)
TIMELINE		(to shared ancestry)		1200-1000AD	1000-800AD	800-600AD	600-400AD						

Figure 2: My recurring surname matches as revealed by commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing. Each Surname appears at the earliest point at which it occurs as a DNA match, for example the first match with a Bowe or Bowes occurs at 64 of 67 markers but not all Bowe/Bowes may match at that level. In brackets are the numbers of different individuals with that surname who appear as a genetic match. Coloured font is indicative of the ethnicity associated with each surname; **Irish**, **Norman/English**, **Scottish**, black font indicates surnames with multiple possible ethnicities. Surnames in **bold** occur greater than 3 times. ¹Multiple individuals from the same close family tested; these are excluded from further analysis. ²The majority of these matches occur at the 12 marker level and hence the shared ancestry may precede the appearance of surnames by many hundreds of years.

WHERE DO THE BOWE(S), CARROLL, AND DOOLEY SURNAMERS ORIGINATE?

The appearance in my Y-DNA results of genetically recurring surnames of exclusively Irish origin like Dooley, Flanagan, Treacy, Egan and Ryan reveals a paternal ancestral link with Ireland, see **Figure 2**. While those recurring surnames in my DNA results that are not of Gaelic-Irish origin are associated with Norman, Gallowglass or later plantation settlement within Ireland, see **Figure 2**.

My genetic matches to others called 'Bowe' or 'Bowes' who tested independently of me means that I still retain the surname of my founding ancestor (the Bowes 'Adam') who lived approximately 1000 years ago when paternally inherited surnames became common. To reveal where my Bowe-Adam lived I must explore where the surnames that appear as my closest and most frequent genetic matches occur within Ireland. My **closest** and **most frequent** genetic matches are to multiple individuals called Bowe(s), Carroll, and Dooley, see **Figure 2**. The 1911 census of Ireland was released online in 2010 and this allowed me to explore where the Bowe(s), Carroll, and Dooley surnames were found within Ireland. I discovered that all 3 were associated with County Laois; one of the smallest and least populated Counties in Ireland, see **Figure 3**. Put very simply the Bowe, Carroll, and Dooley surnames arose among a group of related males living in County Laois an estimated 1000 years ago when paternally inherited surnames first appeared.

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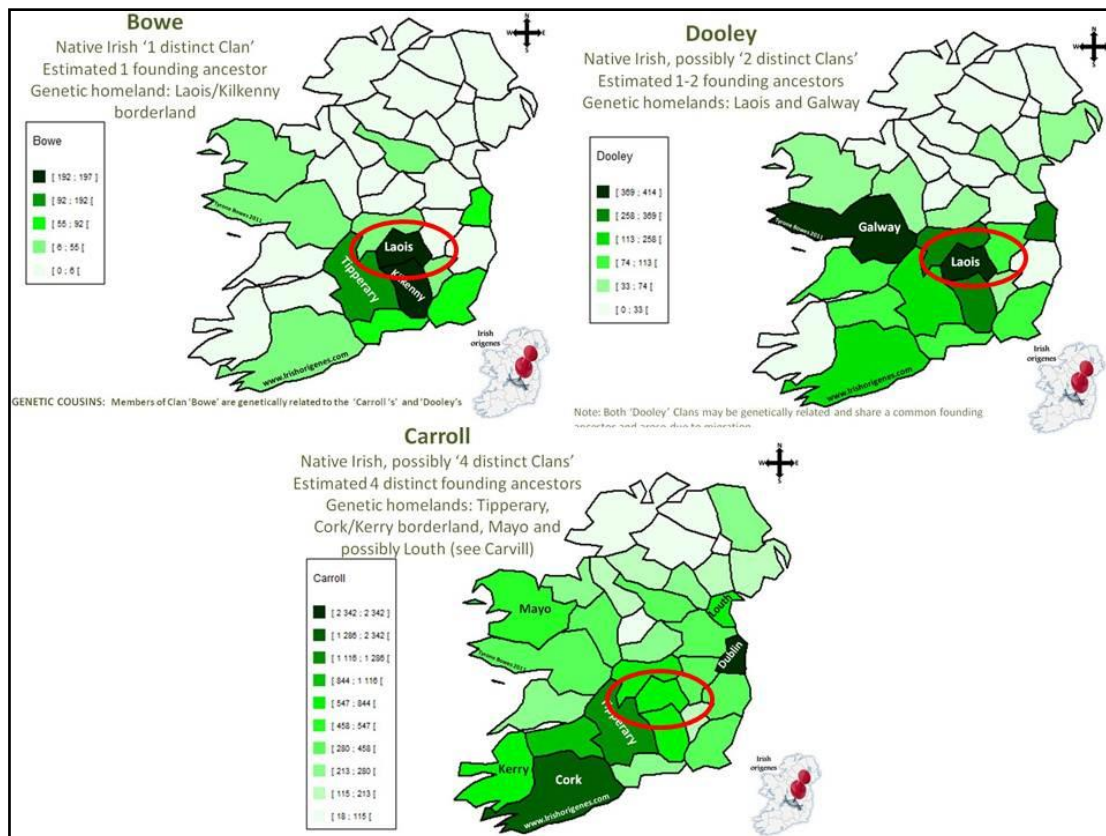


Figure 3: Surname distribution mapping reveals a paternal ancestral link with County Laois. The Irish Origenes Surname distribution maps reveal that Bowe and Dooley are associated with County Laois where Carroll is also common. All of these genetically recurring surnames are associated with County Laois which covers roughly 1,700 square kilometres or 660 square miles (about half the size of Rhode Island).

Pinpointing My Bowe's Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland

The method of using genetically recurring surname matches as revealed by commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing to pinpoint a paternal ancestral genetic origin works by exploiting the link between the Y chromosome, surname, and land, which are typically passed from father to son through the generations. In the absence of a link to the land the process becomes more challenging. The link with the land is greatest amongst the farming community and since farmers in Ireland can still be found farming the lands where their ancestor lived when he first inherited his surname one can plot where farmers with the surnames that appear in one's Y-DNA results cluster and pinpoint one's Irish origin. The Irish Origenes Surnames of Ireland map shows where farmers with a particular surname cluster in 1911 and examination of the Irish Midlands as it appears on this map reveals Bowe farmers clustering in County Laois close to the border with Kilkenny and surrounded by the surnames that appear as my closest and most frequent genetic matches, see **Figure 4**.

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Figure 4: The Irish Origenes Surnames of Ireland map showing where **Farmers** associated with each surname cluster in 1911. By sticking a pin on the recurring surnames as revealed by my Y-DNA test results one can see a clear paternal ancestral link with County Laois. Purple pin shows position of Bowe farmers, Green pins indicate Dooley, Carroll, Treacy, Ryan, and Crowe farmers, while Red pins show the location of Purcell and Powell farmers.

The Clan Territories of Medieval Ireland

The Irish Origenes Clan Territories of Ireland map was reconstructed based on the location of 1,375 castles and towerhouse (see **Figure 5**) found throughout Ireland and their known historical association to a particular Clan or Family. A commercial ancestral Y-DNA test result will typically reveal shared ancestry with one or more of the prominent Clans and Families that once ruled over the territory where ones paternal ancestors lived. An examination of County Laois as it appears on the Clan map reveals many of the surnames that appear as recurring genetic matches in my Y-DNA results including O'Carroll, MacEgan (Egan), Purcell, and Fitznorman (Norman), see **Figure 6**. My Gaelic Irish 'Bowe' ancestors lived in an area that bordered the lands conquered and settled by the Normans and this close proximity accounts for the genetic matches to Purcells and Fitznormans which represent adoptions or infidelities that have occurred between close neighbours over many hundreds of years.

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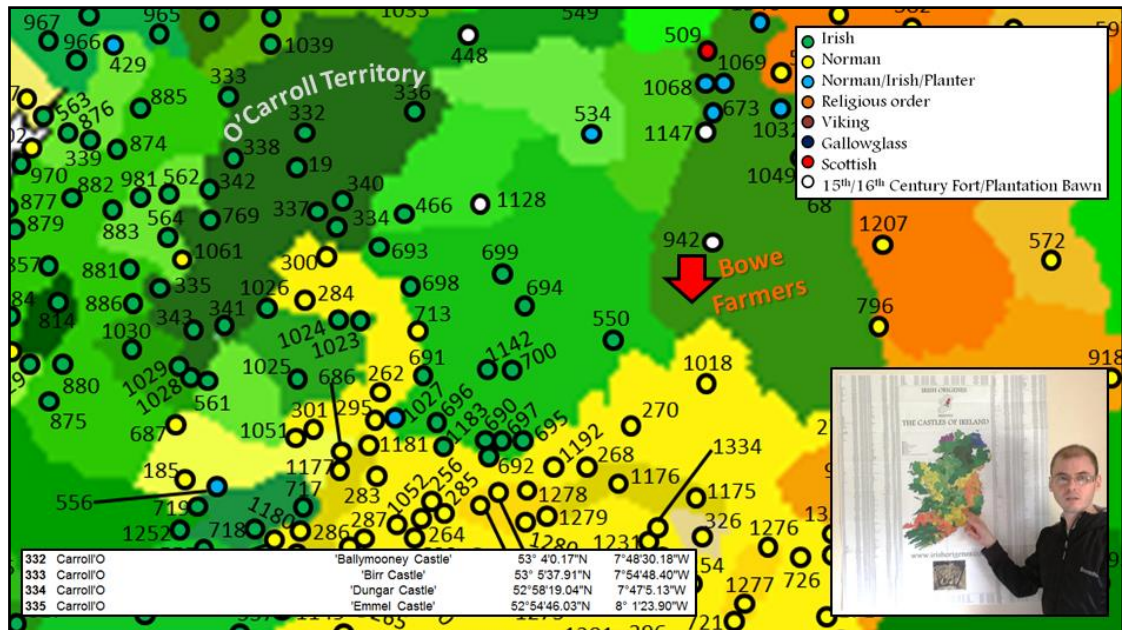


Figure 5: The Irish Origenes Castles of Ireland Map. The Castles of Ireland map details the precise location, name, and historical association to a particular Clan or Family of 1,375 castles and towerhouse found throughout Ireland. This information allowed for the reconstruction of the Medieval Clan Territories of Ireland Map (Figure 6).

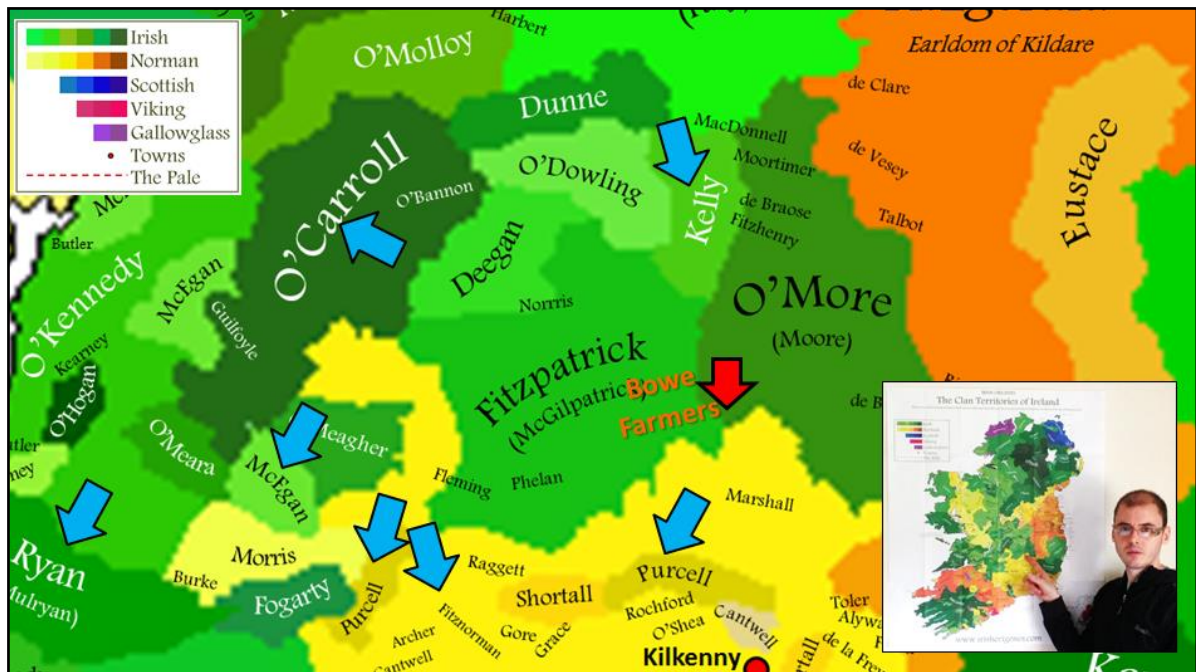


Figure 6: The Clan territories of Laois and surrounding Counties at the time of King Henry VIII. This map was reconstructed from the location of 1,375 castles in Ireland (see Figure 5). In 1911 Bowe farmers (red arrow) cluster close to the territories of the Irish Clans of O'Carroll, Ryan, Kelly, MacEgan, and the notable Norman families of Purcell and Fitznorman (blue arrows); all surnames that appear among my recurring genetic matches (see Figure 1).

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The Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland

My genetic matches as revealed by commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing point to a male ancestor (the Bowe-Adam; the first to take that surname) living in County Laois about 1000 years ago when paternally inherited surnames became common in Ireland. Evidence of my 'Bowe' Clans long ancestral link with County Laois is clearly evident in the placenames found close to where the Bowe farming community clusters in 1911; these include Bowe's crossroads, Bowe's bridge and Toberboe (Boe's well). In addition, one also finds potential Bowe placenames in Aghaboe (which could translate as Bowe's field) and Shanboe (Old Bowe), see **Figure 7**. There are also many placenames in this area associated with my genetic cousins the Carrolls and Dooleys; including Ballycarroll (Carroll's town), Carroll Hill, Killadooley (Dooley's forest or church) and Dooley's crossroads.

My Bowe paternal ancestral genetic homeland is situated close to the town of Abbeyleix in County Laois, see **Figure 8**. It was there that my Bowe-Adam lived surrounded by genetic relatives who became Carrolls, Dooleys, and Flanagans. My ancestors lived in this area when the Norman with surnames like Purcell, Powell, and Fitznorman arrived and this close proximity is reflected in the genetic matches to people with these surnames. My ancestors long association with this area is reflected in the placenames one finds there and in the DNA of its current inhabitants.

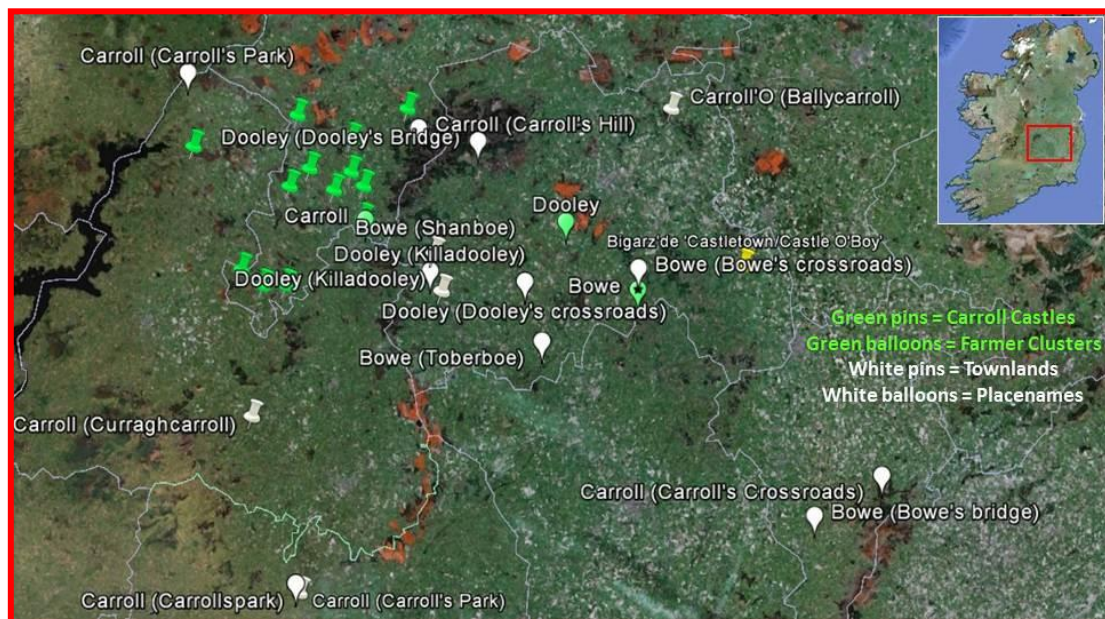


Figure 7: Placenames in County Laois and bordering Counties that are associated with my genetic relatives. Evidence for one's ancestor's long association with an area is often reflected in Irish placenames. Close to Bowe's crossroads (where the Bowe farming community clusters) one finds Toberboe (Boe's well), Aghaboe (Bowe's field?), Bowe's bridge, Shanboe (Old Bowe?), and many placenames associated with my genetic relatives, particularly the Carrolls and Dooleys.

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Figure 8: My Bowe Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland located on the Laois/Kilkenny border. About 1000 years ago when paternally inherited surnames became common my direct male ancestor inherited the surname 'Bowe' while his genetic relatives inherited others like Carroll, Dooley, and Flanagan. My paternal ancestral genetic homeland (**orange broken circle**) is found just east of Abbeyleix where Bowe farmers still cluster today surrounded by their genetic relatives and by placenames that reflect their long association with this area.

Historical Proof of my Bowe Ancestors long ancestral links with Laois

Most Irish surnames have been extensively anglicised and Bowes is no different. However, once a paternal ancestral origin has been identified the clues as to the evolution of one's surname can be pieced together from historical records. Adrian Martyn (A medieval researcher based in Galway City) identified a poem called the Cantreds of Ely O'Carroll which was written hundreds of years ago and describes the territories of my genetic relatives the O'Carrolls. In this poem are listed the Clans loyal to the O'Carrolls some of whom appear as DNA matches to me including the O'Carroll, Dooleys, Flanagans, and Egans (Hegan), see **Figure 9**. Adrian also identified many references to my Bowe ancestors in County Laois and bordering Counties from the Tudor Fiants and Papal records, see **Figure 10**. These snippets reveal that my ancestors were undoubtedly Gaelic Irish; as they are referred to as **O'Bowe**, **O'Bow**, and **O'Boe** in both Norman and Papal records.

The most frequent genetically recurring surname in my Y-DNA result is Carroll. The O'Carrolls are also the most notable Irish Clan to appear in my DNA results. They were known as the 'Ely O'Carroll' and controlled a 400km² territory in Southern Offaly which borders Laois, see **Figure 6** and **7**. Given the importance of genealogy in medieval Ireland it is highly likely that my Bowe ancestors would have been well aware of their connection to such a notable and royal family as the O'Carrolls. I was therefore curious to know what

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happened to the Ely O'Carrolls. It turns out that the O'Carrolls lost their lands during the Cromwellian Conquest and because they were Catholics they were unable to regain their Irish lands during the restoration of Charles II. However, as compensation they received lands in Maryland where the family became known as the Carrolls of Carrollton. The hereditary Chief of the Ely O'Carrolls was one of the signatories of the US declaration of Independence, see **Figure 11**.

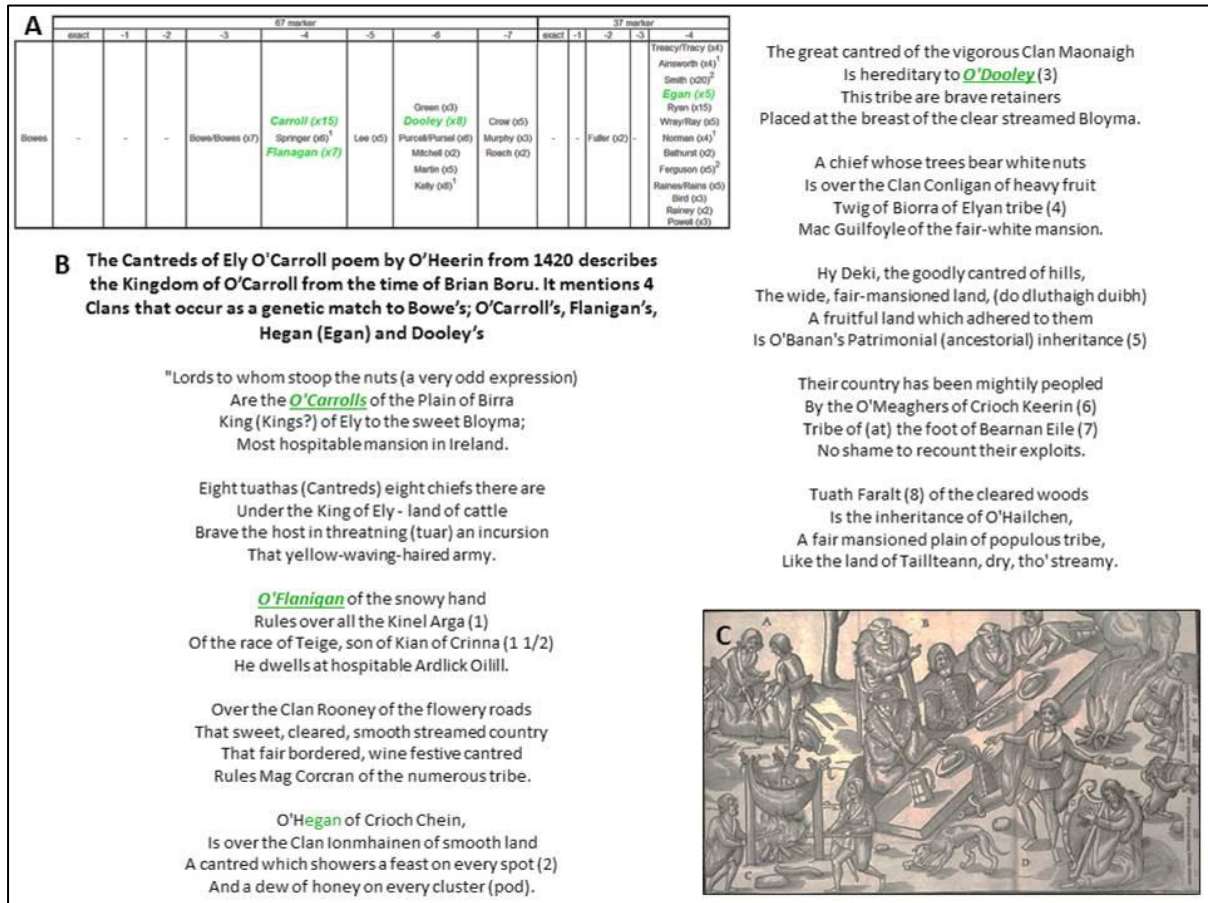


Figure 9: The Cantreds of Ely O'Carroll. This poem (B) was written by O'Heerin in 1420AD and describes the Kingdom of O'Carroll from the time of Brian Boru (hundreds of years earlier). It mentions 4 Clans (A and B) that appear among my genetically recurring surname matches including O'Carroll, Dooley, Flanagan, and Egan (Hegan).

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Historical references to my Bowes ancestors in Laois/Kilkenny/Tipperary borderlands

From the Tudor *fiants*:

"163 (118). Pardon to Jordan Morreyse, of Croghan, county Tipperary, husbandman; especially for the death of **Phillip O'Bowe**, ploughman." Dated 6th April 1548 (page 104, fiants of Edward VI).

"2035 (1631.) Pardon to ... **John O'Bow**, late of Brownestown, ..." dated 11 January 1572. page 261.

"5370 (4286.) Pardon to ... **Phillip O Boe**, of Corristowne, ... co. Kilkenny." dated 4 November 1589.

"6191 (5017.) Pardon to ... **Edm. Obowe** ... This pardon shall be of force only for persons born or residing in the province of Munster, or County of Kilkenny." dated 17 February 1598, pages 317-18.

"6484 (5240.) Pardon to ... **Rich O Boe**, husb., ...". dated 28 March 1601. page 401.

From the "Calandar of Papal Registers:

Papal Letters vol. xv 1484-1492" the index lists three men surnamed "**O Bogue (OBinyde, Oboe, Obuy)**"

1 - John, Canon of Aghmacart, to have rectory of Kildellig, number 688.

2 - Patrick, priest of Ossory diocese, to have rectory of Rath saran and vicarage of Erke, number 674 (dated 19 April 1491, states "Patrick Obinyde, priest, d. Ossory", was the illegitimate son of unmarried parents. Apparently he also had a family).

3 - William, priest of Lismore diocese, to have vicarage of Rathdonan, number 358 (dated 25 February 1489)

Courtesy of Mr Adrian Martyn Medieval researcher, Galway City, Ireland

Figure 10: Historical references to my ancestors in Laois and bordering Kilkenny. There is a wealth of historical records detailing ones medieval ancestors. A search of the Tudor Fiants and Papal Registers reveal a number of references to my Bowe ancestors in Laois and surrounding Counties. These sources also reveal that my ancestors were Gaelic Irish (**O'**) and not of Norman origin.

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Figure 11: Charles Carroll in John Trumbull's signing of the Declaration of Independence. Charles Carroll was a wealthy Maryland planter and an early advocate of independence from Great Britain. He served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and Confederation Congress and later as first United States Senator for Maryland. He was the only Catholic signatory of the Declaration of Independence. A direct descendant of Charles Carroll has Y-DNA tested and is a DNA match to me!

DNA EVIDENCE CONFIRMS MY ANCESTRAL LINK WITH COUNTY LAOIS

Since I first uncovered my ancestral link with County Laois using only my commercial DNA test results a number of Bowe or Bowes either living in, or with ancestral links to County Laois (or with bordering County Kilkenny) have been recruited or have participated in commercial ancestral DNA testing and have appeared as a close DNA match to me, see **Figure 12**. These DNA results prove conclusively my paternal ancestral origin within County Laois dating from at least 1000 years ago. In addition in 2014 I discovered that Joe Dooley, President General of the Sons of the American Revolution (SARS) is one of the Dooleys who appears as a genetic match to me, see **Figure 13** and **14**. Not only does Joe Dooley's DNA results link his paternal ancestors to County Laois, he also has a genealogical papertrail that records his earliest known Dooley ancestor in the Townland of Trumra in Central Laois in 1810AD. Finally, a direct descendant of Charles Carroll of Carrollton (**Figure 11**) has also participated in commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing and is a DNA match to both Joe Dooley and I. The DNA results conclusively prove that the Bowes, Dooleys, and Carrolls emerged from a tribal group of Gaelic Irish living in the remote Irish Midlands approximately 1000 years ago.

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67 MARKERS - 49 MATCHES

Genetic Distance	Name	Y-DNA	Most Distant Ancestor	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Terminal SNP	Match Date
3	[redacted] Bowe	Y-DNA67	Michael Bowe, Ballycuddihy, Johnstown, Kilkenny, I	R-P312		1/19/2012
4	[redacted] Bowe	Y-DNA67	Michael Bowe, bap son Patrick 1878 Ballyf, Laois	R-P312		7/25/2011
4	[redacted] Bowes	Y-DNA111	Denis Boe, bef. 1800, prob. Muckalee Paris, Kilke	R-DF21	DF21	10/6/2010
5	[redacted] Bowe	Y-DNA111	Edmund Bowe 1726-1794, Lough, Kilkenny , Ireland	R-P312		10/6/2010
6	[redacted] Bowe	Y-DNA111	William Bowe, Kilkenny , most likely Ireland	R-DF21	DF21	10/6/2010

Figure 12: Bowe and Bowes who appear as my close genetic matches. There are 5 Bowe or Bowes who appear as a close genetic match to me. All of these Bowes tested independently of me. One Bowe records an earliest known ancestor in County Laois, while the remainder record earliest known ancestors in bordering Kilkenny (red circles).

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25 MARKERS - 439 MATCHES

Genetic Distance	Name	Y-DNA	Most Distant Ancestor	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Terminal SNP	Match Date
0	[redacted] Dooley	Y-DNA37	H	R-P312		11/8/2011
0	Dooley		Dooley	R-P312		11/13/2009
0	[redacted] Dooley	Y-DNA67	H02/02 - Thomas Dooley, b. 1804, Danesfort, Kilkenny	R-DF21	DF21	4/30/2008
1	[redacted] Dooley	Y-DNA67	John Dooley b. 15 July 1823	R-P312		2/29/2012
1	[redacted] Dooley	Y-DNA67	H - Jeremiah Dooley, b.c. 1790 Ireland	R-M269		1/26/2010
1	Dooley		K02/01 - Charles Michael Dooley, b. 1886, IL	R-L21		8/18/2008
1	Dooley		H02/01 - Patrick Dooley, b. ca 1810, Ireland	R-P312		3/4/2005
1	Joseph W. Dooley	Y-DNA111 FF	H01/01 - John Dooley, b. 1811, Trumera , Ireland	R-DF21		3/4/2005

Figure 13: My Dooley genetic matches. Joe Dooley (blue arrow) appears as a genetic match to me. His earliest known Dooley ancestor is recorded in the Central Laois townland of Trumra in 1810AD (red circle). He is descended from the Dooleys of Central Laois who appear as the closest genetic relatives to my Bowe ancestors in **Figures 4 and 8**.

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Figure 14: Separated at birth approximately 1000 years ago. Joe Dooley (right) and I (left) share a common male ancestor an estimated 1000 years ago just prior to the appearance of paternally inherited surnames. Our common ancestor lived in a tribal group of related males in County Laois, but crucially when paternally inherited surnames became common my ancestor became 'O'Bowe' while Joe's ancestor became O'Dooley. Although I only rediscovered my paternal ancestral link with County Laois through DNA testing Joe Dooley has a paternal ancestral papertrail leading back to Trumra in Laois as early as 1810AD. We are both a genetic match to a direct descendant of Charles Carroll of Carrollton a hereditary Chief of the Ely O'Carrolls.

If you have Y-DNA tested contact me (tyronebowes@gmail.) for a free consultation. If you have not DNA tested contact me to find out how. There is an 85% success rate in pinpointing ones Irish Origin.