

# Case Study

## Pinpointing Patrick Duffy's Irish Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland

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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 lots of individuals with many 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 'Duffy' was living near others with whom he was related but who inherited other surnames like Lydon, Corcoran, and Campbell. 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.

Surnames in Ireland can still be found concentrated in the areas where they first appeared, or in the area where one's 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 one's 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. Science has demonstrated that each of the estimated 1,500 unique Irish surnames had a single founding ancestor, which is an estimated 1,500 'Adams' from whom anyone with Irish paternal ancestry (and with one of those unique surnames) can trace direct descent. But science has also demonstrated that only 50% of males with a unique Irish surname will be related to their surnames founding ancestor (*the surname-Adam*), the other 50% of males will have an association that has arisen due to 'non-paternal events,' usually a result of adoptions or maternal transfer of the surname.
2. Often people are looking for their DNA results to trace back to a specific area. One must remember that the results typically reflect one's ancestor's neighbours from around 1,000 years ago. As a result, if one's Irish paternal ancestor was descended from a Viking raider, Norman, or Plantation settler, then one's Y-DNA results may reflect earlier English, Welsh, French, Scottish, and possibly Scandinavian origin. One must approach this process with an open mind!

## Patrick Duffy – An Irish Origenes Y-DNA Case Study

### Interpreting the Y-DNA test results

To pinpoint a paternal ancestral genetic homeland, one must first identify the surnames that appear as one's closest genetic matches in a commercial ancestral Y-DNA database, see **Figure 1**. Those surnames, particularly those that recur among one's closest genetic matches, will reflect the surnames of one's medieval ancestral neighbours. Patrick Duffy's most frequent genetic surname matches as revealed by commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing are detailed in **Figure 2**.

111 Marker Matches						
Last Name	Match Date	Markers Tested	Genetic Distance	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Paternal Country of Origin	Earliest Known Ancestor
T	July 13 2021	1 to 111	10	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
67 Marker Matches						
Last Name	Match Date	Markers Tested	Genetic Distance	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Paternal Country of Origin	Earliest Known Ancestor
T	July 13 2021	1 to 111	5	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 111	5	R-M269	Ireland	Patrick Duffy
37 Marker Matches						
Last Name	Match Date	Markers Tested	Genetic Distance	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Paternal Country of Origin	Earliest Known Ancestor
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 37	1	R-M269	Ireland	
T	July 13 2021	1 to 111	3	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 37	3	R-M269	Ireland	Michael Duffy, b. 1780
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 37	3	R-M269	Ireland	
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 111	4	R-M269	Ireland	Patrick Duffy
25 Marker Matches						
Last Name	Match Date	Markers Tested	Genetic Distance	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Paternal Country of Origin	Earliest Known Ancestor
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 37	0	R-M269	Ireland	Michael Duffy, b. 1780
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 37	0	R-M269	Ireland	
Corcoran	July 13 2021	1 to 700	1	R-BY16785	Ireland	Patrick Corcoran 1798 ca. Roscommon, IR (Aghacarra NB, Co. Sligo, b. 1809
Leyden	July 13 2021	1 to 111	1	R-M269	Ireland	
Corcoran	July 13 2021	1 to 700	1	R-F175981	Ireland	Thomas Corcoran, b. 1833 and d. 1917
Seppala	July 13 2021	1 to 67	1	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Arroyo III	July 13 2021	1 to 67	1	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Jones	July 13 2021	1 to 700	1	R-BY16787	Unknown Origin	
Leyden	July 13 2021	1 to 700	1	R-BY16787	Unknown Origin	
Putnam	July 13 2021	1 to 37	1	R-M269	United States	William Jess Putman, d. 1980
LEYDEN	July 13 2021	1 to 111	1	R-CTS4466	Ireland	John Leyden b: 1830
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 67	1	R-L21	Ireland	Michael Duffy, Carrowtrasna, County Mayo, Ireland
Leyden	July 13 2021	1 to 111	1	R-M269	Unknown Origin	Thomas Charles Lyden
Leyden	July 13 2021	1 to 111	1	R-DF21	Unknown Origin	Kenneth James Leyden
T	July 13 2021	1 to 111	2	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Ward	July 13 2021	1 to 700	2	R-BY16790	Unknown Origin	George E. Ward b.1894 d.1953
Ward	July 13 2021	1 to 700	2	R-BY16790	Unknown Origin	George E. Ward b.1894 WV d.1953 WV
Campbell	July 13 2021	1 to 111	2	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 111	2	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Campbell	July 13 2021	1 to 700	2	R-BY16783	United States	Adam Campbell, b. 1802 NC, d. 1873 Ala.
Ramirez	July 13 2021	1 to 700	2	R-Y17099	Dominican Republic	Octavio Ramirez, b. 1948
Duffy	July 13 2021	1 to 37	2	R-M269	Ireland	
Leyden	July 13 2021	1 to 37	2	R-M269	Ireland	Leyden, R-L130
Putnam	July 13 2021	1 to 67	2	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Putnam	July 13 2021	1 to 67	2	R-M269	Unknown Origin	George Putman, b. 1858 and d.1942
Putnam	July 13 2021	1 to 700	2	R-FT67492	England	John De Pottenham, 1200-1250
W	July 13 2021	1 to 67	2	R-M269	Unknown Origin	
Campbell	July 13 2021	1 to 37	2	R-M269	Scotland	Adam Campbell (1802) of Charleston, SC
Campbell	July 13 2021	1 to 111	2	R-L130	Scotland	Adam Campbell 1802 - 1873
Wright	July 13 2021	1 to 700	2	R-FT67492	Unknown Origin	

**Figure 1:** Snapshot of Patrick Duffy's closest genetic surname matches as revealed in a Y-DNA STR database. The more Y-DNA STR markers two people share, the more recent their shared paternal ancestor once lived. Patrick Duffy's closest genetic surname matches are **NOT RANDOM**; he matches others named Duffy (**black arrows**) who tested independently. Duffy is an Irish surname, and the dominance of other Irish surnames like Leyden (**red arrows**), Corcoran (**green arrows**), Campbell (**purple arrows**) and Ward (**yellow arrows**) which also recur among his Y-DNA genetic relatives confirms a paternal origin within Ireland. Highlighted font indicates each surnames associated ethnicity or the location of an earliest paternal ancestor; **Irish/Ireland**, **Scottish/Scotland**, **Irish-associated**, **English/England**.

## Patrick Duffy – An Irish Origenes Y-DNA Case Study

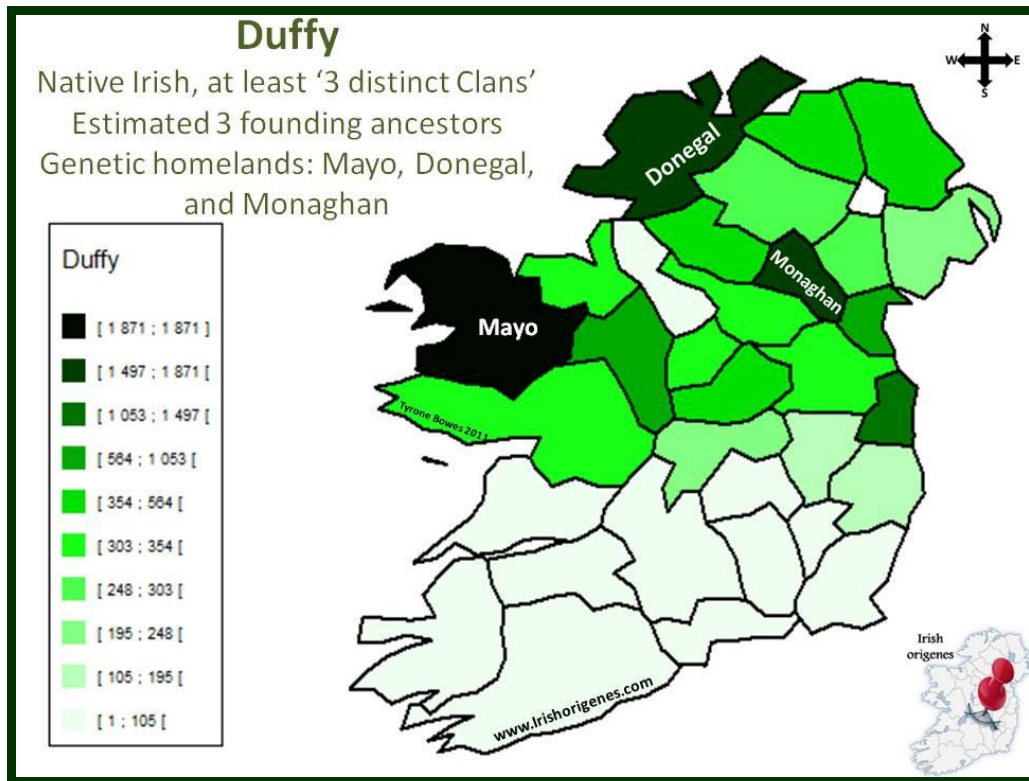
Test Subject	Haplogroup	Y-DNA Recurring Surname Matches		
		67 Markers	25 Markers	
		Genetic Distance	Genetic Distance	
		5	1	2
Patrick Duffy	R-M269		Corcoran (x2)	Ward (x2)
		Duffy (x7)	Layden/Leydon/Lyden/Leyden (x6)	Campbell(x4)
			Putnam (x4)	

**Figure 2:** Patrick Duffy's Y-DNA recurring genetic surname matches reveal a paternal ancestral origin within Ireland. Surnames are shown at the point at which they first occur as a genetic match, figures in brackets are the numbers of individuals with a particular surname that appear as a genetic match in the Y-DNA STR database. For example, the first match to an individual named 'Layden' shares 24/25 STR markers, but not all 6 genetically matching males named Layden, Leydon, Lyden or Leyden may match at that level. The dominance of Irish-associated surnames among the Patrick's closest recurring Y-DNA STR matches indicates a paternal ancestral origin within Ireland. Highlighted font indicates each surnames associated ethnicity; **Irish**, **Irish-associated**, **English**.

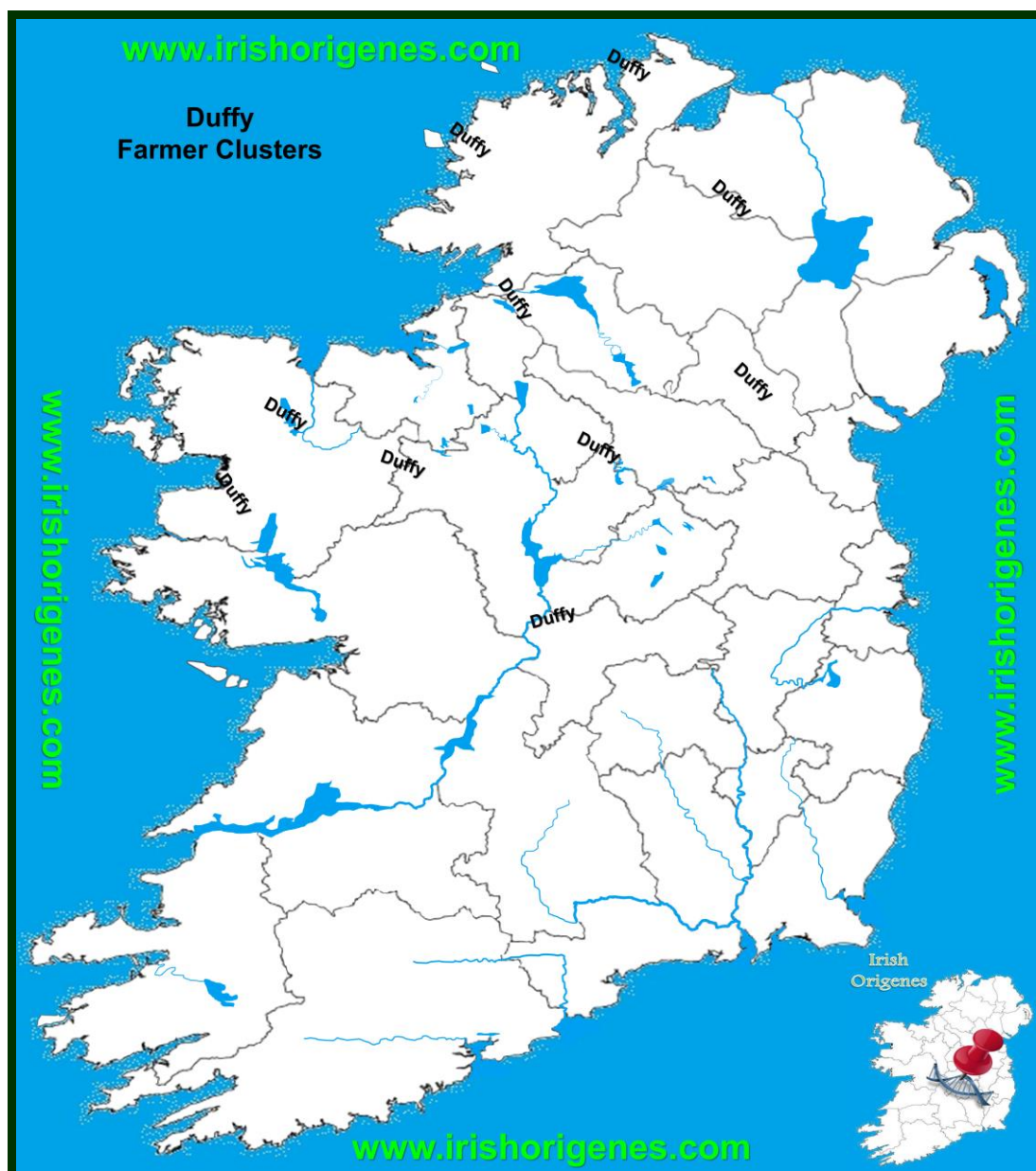
Upon commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing Patrick matched other males named 'Duffy' who tested independently, see **Figures 1** and **2**. This indicates that Patrick is directly descended from a 'Duffy-Adam,' literally the first male (Adam) to take that surname who lived approximately 1,000 years ago. Duffy is an exclusively Irish surname, and the dominance of Irish surnames among Patrick's closest and most frequent Y-DNA genetic matches confirms a paternal ancestry origin within Ireland, see **Figures 1** and **2**.

### The Duffy Surname in Ireland

The 1911 census of Ireland revealed 11,727 individuals named Duffy. Those individuals were not scattered uniformly throughout Ireland but concentrated within the north and west, see **Figure 3**. Since surnames arose in an agricultural society, farmers with each surname can still be found concentrated in the area where their surname first appeared or in the areas where one's ancestors first settled. Distribution mapping of Irish farmers named 'Duffy' reveals them concentrated in at least 10 distinct locations, see **Figure 4**. This indicates that there were at least 10 geographically distinct clans within Ireland that have given rise to the 'Duffy' surname. Each clan was potentially founded by an unrelated/genetically distinct 'Duffy-Adam' (although some may be related and arose due to migration). Since Patrick has the Duffy surname, together with Y-DNA matching Duffy genetic relatives, and a Y-DNA revealed Irish origin; his paternal ancestry is linked with one of ten locations within Ireland, see **Figure 4**.



**Figure 3:** Distribution mapping of the Duffy surname in Ireland. An examination of the distribution of all individuals named Duffy in 1911 reveals that they were not distributed evenly throughout Ireland but concentrate in the north and west. Image taken from the Irish Origenes Surnames database <https://www.irishorigenes.com/surnames-database>



**Figure 4:** The Duffy farming communities. The 1901 census of Ireland revealed 1,112 farmers named Duffy. Distribution mapping of Duffy farmers reveals 10 geographically distinct groups. Each group may represent an unrelated clan, each potentially founded by an unrelated and genetically distinct Duffy-Adam. Patrick's Y-DNA results reveal that his paternal ancestry is linked with one of these ten locations within Ireland. Each surname is positioned in the location where farmers with that surname concentrated in early census data. The most common spelling is detailed in each location. Surnames are positioned as they appear on the Irish Origenes Medieval Surnames of Ireland map, free to view: <https://www.origenesmaps.com/> Surname search function available at: <https://analysis.irishorigenes.com/surnames>

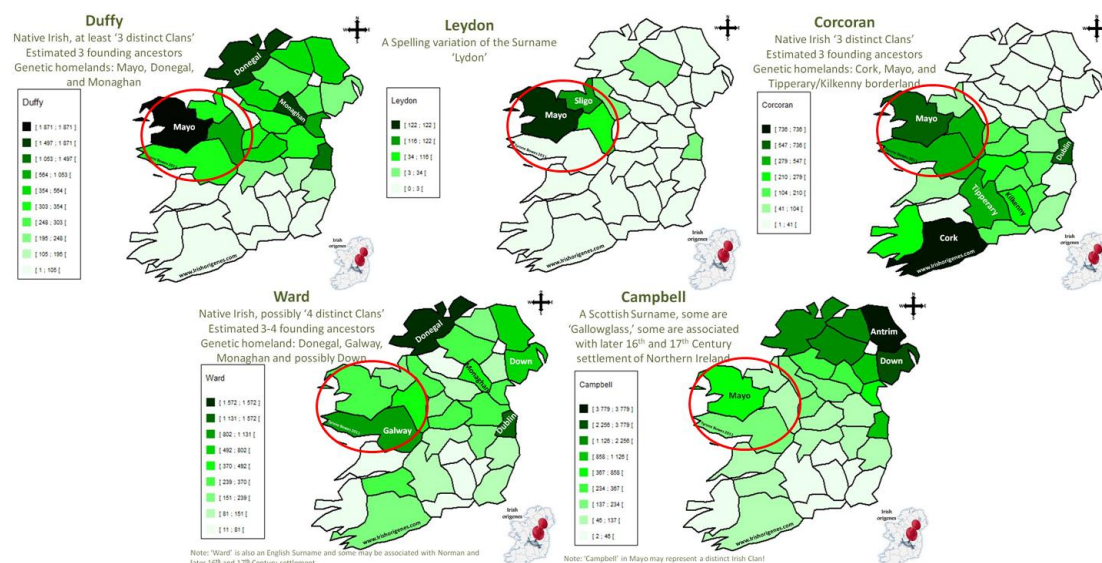
### A Paternal Ancestral origin within the west of Ireland

The method of using genetic surname matches as revealed by commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing to pinpoint one's paternal ancestral genetic homeland 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 among the farming community, and since farmers in Ireland can still be found

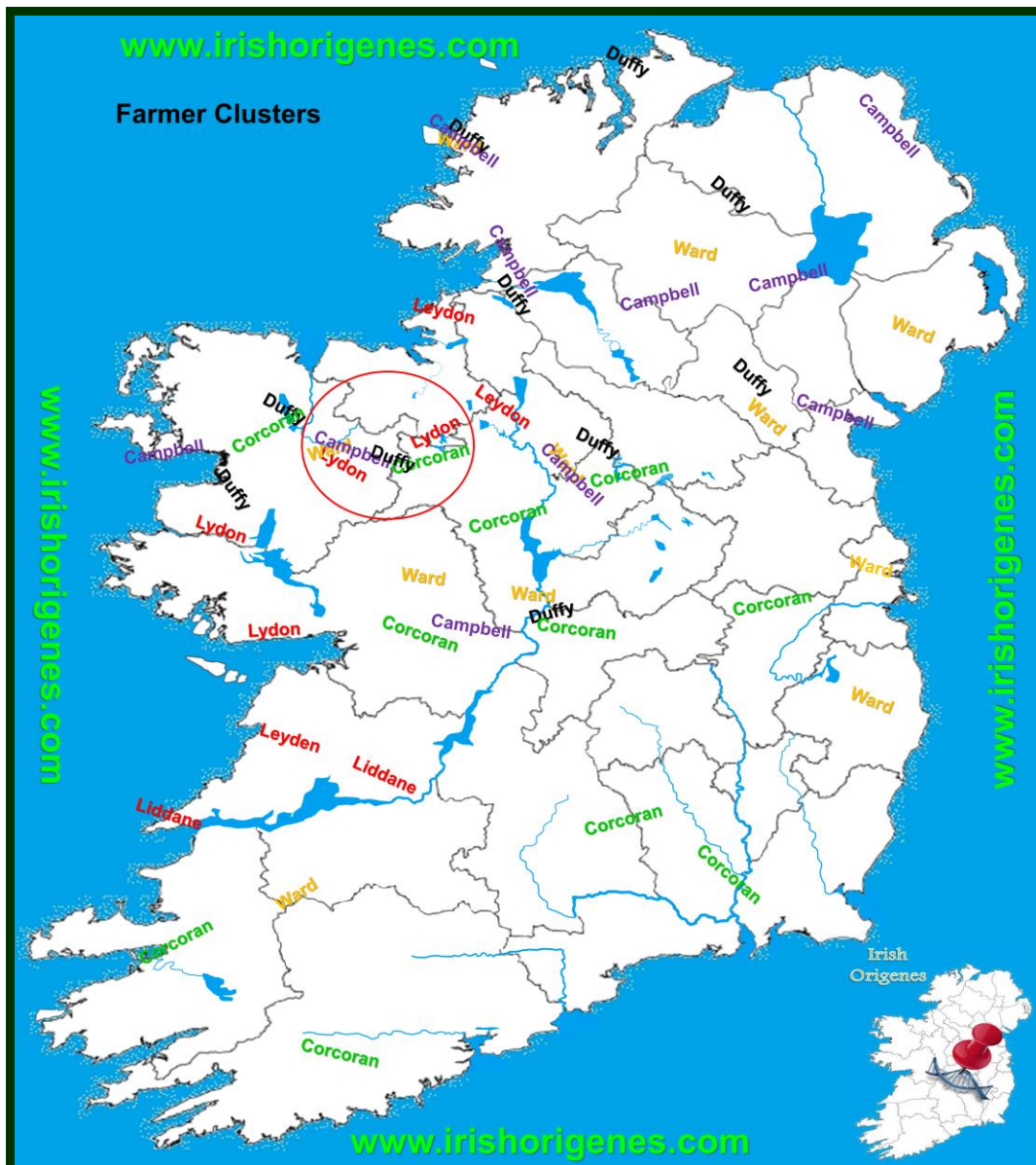
## Patrick Duffy – An Irish Origenes Y-DNA Case Study

farming the lands where their ancestor lived when he first inherited his surname or where one's ancestor first settled within Ireland, one can plot where farmers with the surnames that appear in one's Y-DNA results originate, and identify an area common to most, if not all. This means that a Duffy from Donegal will upon Y-DNA testing be a match to males named Doherty, McLaughlin, and McGee; surnames associated with the far northwest of Ireland. In contrast, a Duffy male from County Monaghan will be a Y-DNA match to males named McKenna, McGuire, and Connolly; surnames associated with Southern Ulster.

An examination of Patrick's Y-DNA results reveals that the Irish Leydon/Lydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward surnames appear as his closest and most frequent surname matches, see **Figure 2**. Distribution mapping of all individuals named Duffy, Leydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward reveals that they are all associated with Connaught in the west of Ireland, see **Figure 5**. Overlay mapping of the Duffy, Leydon/Lydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward farming communities reveals that they only found together in the borderlands of Counties Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo, see **Figure 6**. An examination of the Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo borderlands as it appears on the Irish Origenes Surnames of Ireland map reveals Patrick's Duffys surrounded by surnames that appear among his most frequent Y-DNA genetic matches, see **Figures 1, 2, and 7**. The Y-DNA genetically matching surnames revealed in Patrick Y-DNA results arose among a tribal group of Gaelic Irish males living in County Mayo an estimated 1,000 years ago.



**Figure 5:** Distribution mapping reveals a paternal ancestral connection with Connaught in the west of Ireland. Distribution mapping of all individuals named Duffy, Leydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward reveals a common area of association within Connaught (red circle) in the west of Ireland. Image taken from the Irish Origenes Surnames database <https://www.irishorigenes.com/surnames-database>



**Figure 6:** Overlay mapping reveals a paternal ancestral origin within the Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo borderlands. Commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing reveals that the Duffy, Leydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward surnames arose among a tribal group of related Irish males. Overlaying mapping of the Duffy, Leydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward farming communities reveals that they are common surnames associated with multiple locations BUT crucially only occur together within Mayo and bordering Roscommon and Sligo (red circle). Each surname is positioned in the area where farmers with that surname concentrate in early census data. The most common spelling is detailed in each location. Surnames are positioned as they appear on the Irish Origenes Medieval Surnames of Ireland map, free to view: <https://www.origenesmaps.com/> Surname search function available: <https://analysis.irishorigenes.com/surnames> Automated Y-DNA analysis program available at <https://analysis.irishorigenes.com/upload>





**Figure 7:** The surnames of the Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo borderlands. An examination of the Pre-Plantation surnames associated with East County Mayo and its borderlands (as it appears on the New 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Irish Origenes Medieval Surnames map) reveals the Duffy surname (**black arrow**) together with surnames that appear among Patrick’s closest and most frequent (**red arrows**) Y-DNA genetic matches. These surnames arose among a tribal group of Gaelic Irish males who lived on the Mayo/Roscommon borderlands. Each surname is positioned in the location where farmers with each surname concentrate in early census data. The most common spelling is detailed in each location. Image taken from the Irish Origenes Medieval Surnames of Ireland map, free to view: <https://www.origenesmaps.com/> Surname search function available: <https://analysis.irishorigenes.com/surnames>

### The Clan Territories of the west of Ireland

By the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries Ireland was a patchwork of territories which were dominated by over 400 of the most notable Irish clans and Norman families. The Irish Origenes Clan Territories of Ireland Map was reconstructed based on the location of castles and towerhouses and their known historical link to a particular clan or family. Commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing and research at Irish Origenes has revealed that most males with an Irish paternal origin will exhibit shared (paternal) ancestry with one or more of the prominent clans or families that once ruled over one’s paternal ancestral genetic homeland. While Patrick’s Y-DNA matches are dominated by Gaelic Irish surnames, an examination of the Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo borderlands as it appears on the Irish Origenes Clan map reveals an area dominated by Norman families, see **Figure 8**. The Normans conquered much of the west of Ireland, and many would later adopt the Gaelic Irish language, customs, and surnames (like McCostello, McMorris and McPhibbin), see **Figure 8**. The supplanting of Gaelic Irish chieftains with Norman Lords on the Mayo/Roscommon borderlands explains the lack of matches to prominent Gaelic Irish clans in Patrick’s Y-DNA results.

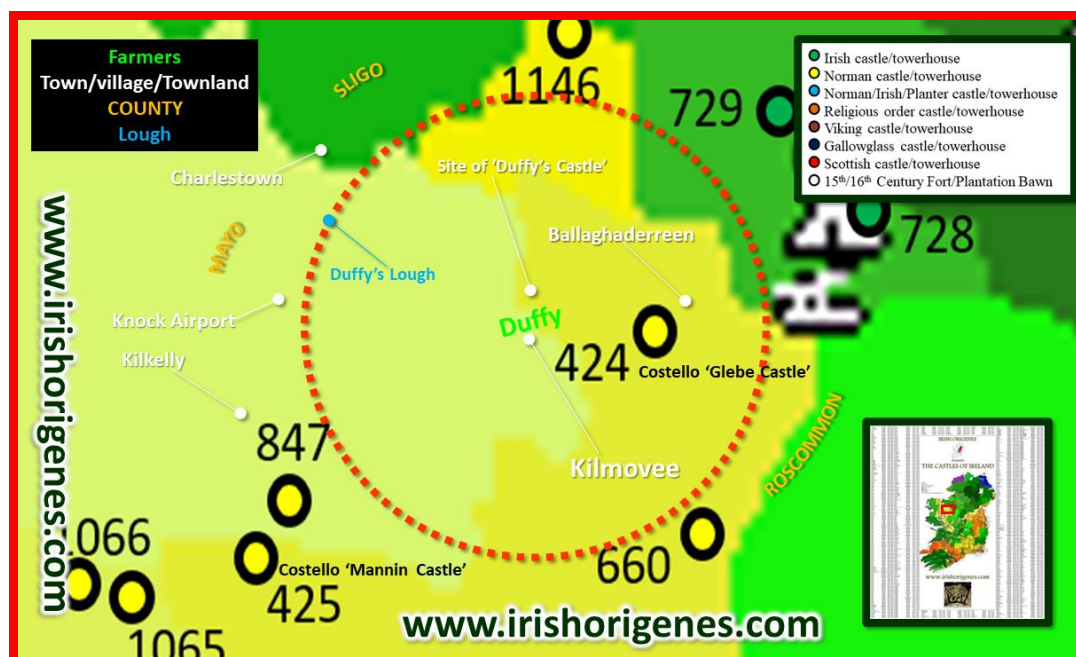


**Figure 8:** The Clan territories of the Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo borderlands. An examination of the Modern borderlands of Counties Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo as revealed by the Irish Origenes Clan Territories map reveals an area dominated by Norman families bordered by Irish clans. The area where Patrick's Duffys (**black arrow**) lived was conquered and ruled by Norman families which explains the lack of prominent Gaelic Irish clans among his Y-DNA results. The Irish Origenes Clan Territories map was reconstructed based on castle locations and their historically associated clans and families. Image taken from the Irish Origenes Clan Territories of Ireland map, free to view: <https://www.origenesmaps.com/>

### Patrick Duffy's Irish Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland

Early census data reveals that the 'Duffys' concentrate in the farmland that surrounds the village of Kilmovee in East Mayo which lies close to the Roscommon and Sligo borders; and it is there that Patrick's Irish Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland is to be found, see **Figure 9**. It was there that Patrick's Gaelic Irish paternal ancestor lived when paternally inherited surnames became common approximately 1,000 years ago and where his direct male ancestor first acquired the 'Duffy' surname. His Gaelic Irish 'Duffy-Adam' lived surrounded by male relatives who would take other surnames like Leyden, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward. When one's paternal ancestors have been associated with a location for a long time, one will often find evidence of their long ancestral links in the surrounding placenames and monuments. An examination of the surrounding area reveals the site of 'Duffy's Castle' near Kilmovee and 'Duffy's Lough' midway between Knock Airport and Charlestown, see **Figures 9** and **10**. Patrick's paternal ancestors will also have left evidence of their ancestral links with this area in its history, and in the DNA of the current inhabitants.

## Patrick Duffy – An Irish Origenes Y-DNA Case Study



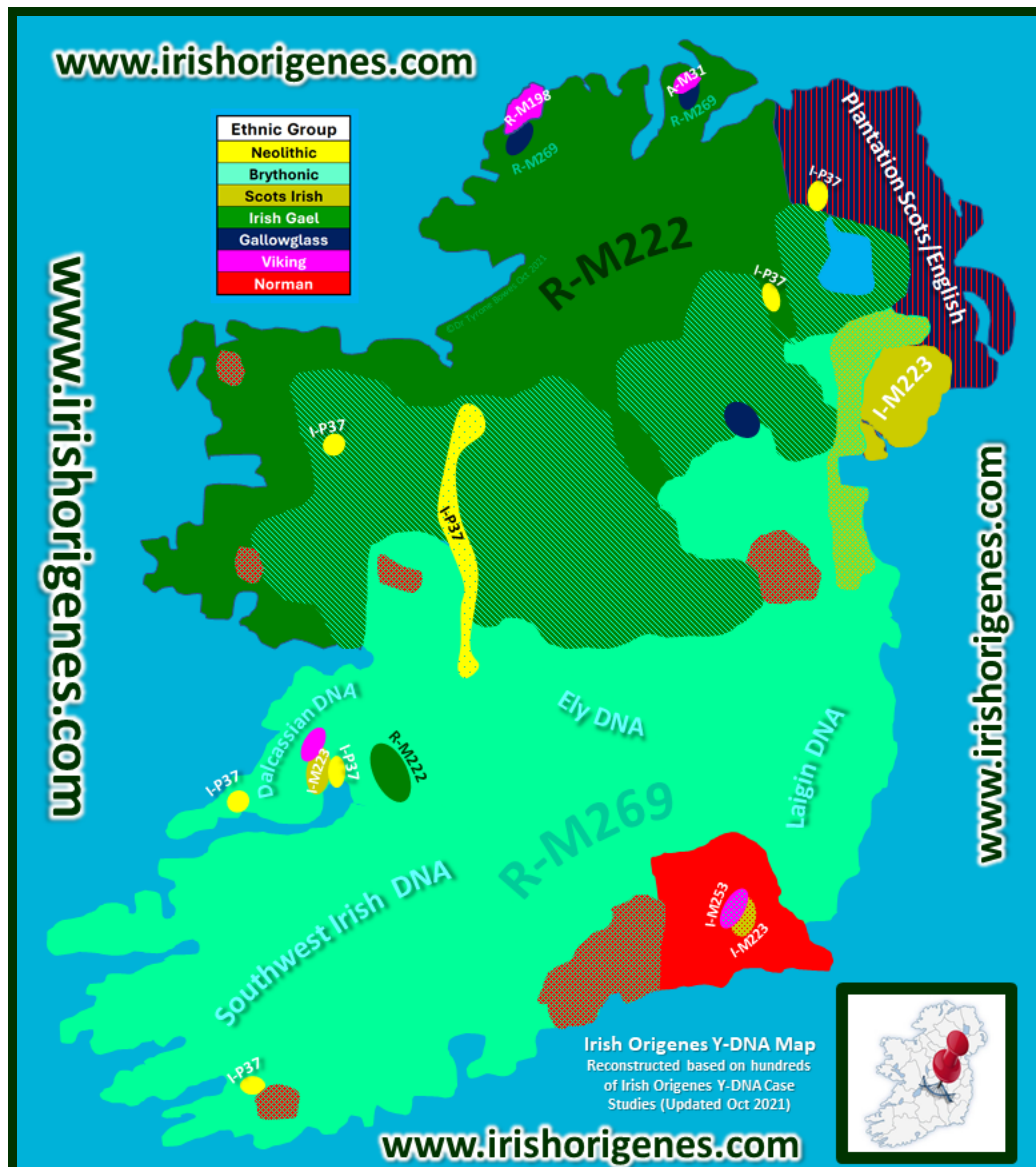
**Figure 9:** Patrick Duffy's Irish Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland. Early census data reveals that farmers named Duffy concentrate in the area surrounding Kilmovee village in East Mayo close to the Roscommon border, and it was there that Patrick's direct Gaelic Irish paternal ancestor lived when surnames first appeared in Ireland approximately 1,000 years ago (orange broken circle), and where his paternal ancestor first acquired the 'Duffy' surname. His founding Duffy-Adam lived among Gaelic Irish males with whom he shared common paternal ancestry but who crucially acquired other surnames like Leydon, Corcoran, Campbell, and Ward. In the surrounding area one finds the site of 'Duffy's castle' and Duffy's Lough which are associated with his ancestors. Patrick's paternal ancestors will also have left evidence of their ancestral links with this area in its history, and in the DNA of its current inhabitants. Image taken from the Irish Origenes Castles of Ireland map, free to view: <https://www.origenesmaps.com/>



**Figure 10:** Site of 'Duffy's Lough.'

### Brythonic Celts

Commercial ancestral Y-DNA testing and research at Irish Origenes has revealed that the modern Irish males are a mixed bunch descended from Neolithic farmers, Celts (Ancient Britons and refuge Gauls), Vikings, Normans, and 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Century Plantation settlers, see **Figure 9**. Patrick's M-269 Haplogroup indicates that his paternal ancestors were the Brythonic Celts whose Y-DNA genetic signature dominates both Britain and Ireland. Patrick's is descended from the Celts who arrived in waves from Central Europe from around 800BC onwards.



**Figure 9:** The Irish Origenes Y-DNA Map of Ireland. Y-DNA Case Studies at Irish Origenes reveals an ethnicity map of Ireland (<https://www.irishorigenes.com/content/irish-dna>). Patrick's paternal ancestors were descended from the Brythonic Celts whose genetic signature dominates Ireland. The Brythonic Celts of both Ireland and Mainland Britain share a common origin, the descendants of Celts who arrived in waves from Central Europe from around 800BC.

### How to confirm a pinpointed 'Paternal Ancestral Genetic Homeland'

One must keep in mind that this is a scientific approach to identifying a paternal ancestral origin, and that the connection to an identified area can be confirmed by Y-DNA testing males with a particular surname from the identified area. Confirmation of the paternal ancestral link with the Duffys of East County Mayo will require the recruitment of farmers named Duffy from the farmland that surrounds Kilmovee townland.

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