

The Baxter Story

5.0 The Baxters and the Moloughneys did not know each other in Ireland. The Baxters came from County Cavan and the Moloughneys from Tipperary. On this side of the water, the relationship was both physically close (Tom Baxter lived next door to Dan Moloughney - Lots #1 and #2 of Concession #4, Nepean), as well as socially close.

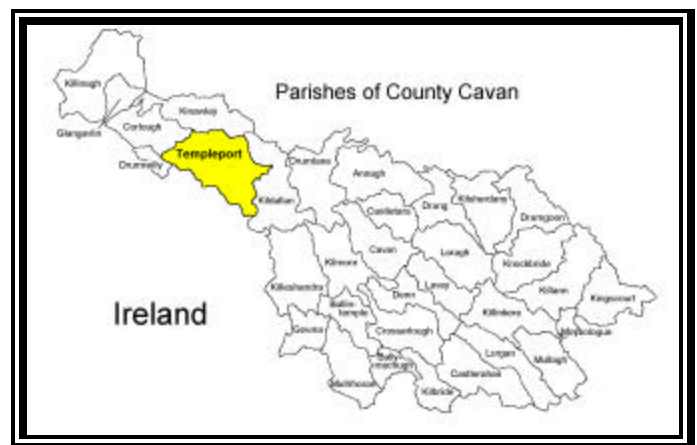
James T. Baxter came to Canada from County Cavan, Ireland in 1827/28, bringing with him a wife and a baby daughter. In 1872 one of his sons was to marry Margaret Moloughney and in this way the families first became inter-related. Some of the subsequent relations were as follows:

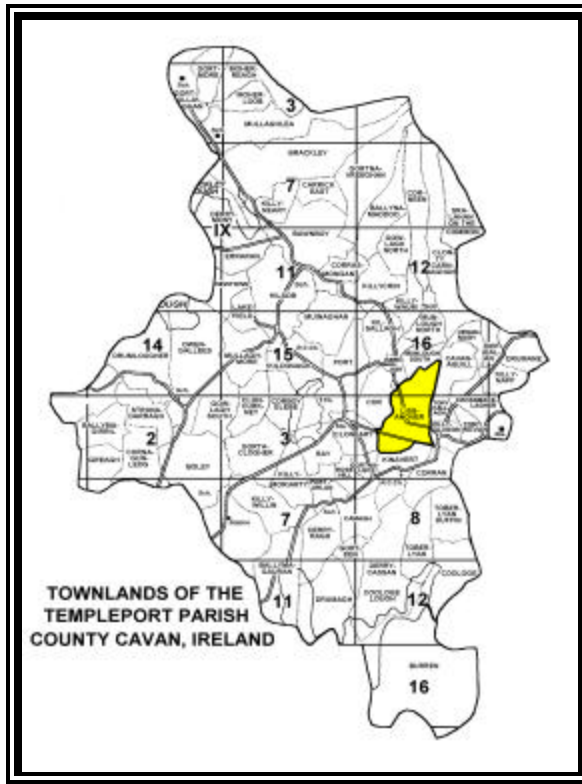
- ❖ On Feb 26, 1887 Thomas Baxter and Margaret (Moloughney) Baxter were godparents for Daniel Thomas, son of Mick Costello and Ellen Moloughney.
- ❖ On June 5, 1888 Ellen Baxter and Mick Moloughney were godparents for James, son of Dan Moloughney and Elizabeth Monahan.
- ❖ On Jan 1, 1889 James Baxter and Winnie Tobin were godparents for Helena, daughter of Martin Howe and Ann Moloughney.
- ❖ On July 28, 1889 John Baxter and Mary Howe were godparents for Patrick, son of Dan Moloughney and Elizabeth Monahan.
- ❖ On March 7, 1890 John Baxter and Ellen Mary Baxter were godparents for Margaret, daughter of Martin Howe and Ann Moloughney.
- ❖ On Nov 5, 1896 James Baxter and Mary Dourley were godparents for William Joseph, son of Dan Moloughney and Elizabeth Monahan.
- ❖ On March 15, 1898 Thomas Baxter and Margaret (Moloughney) Baxter were godparents for John Patrick, son of Dan Moloughney and Elizabeth Monahan.

ORIGIN

James Baxter was born in the Parish of Templeport, County Cavan, Ireland sometime around 1788/89. He married Catherine Reilly (born about 1801) in Ireland, probably in Templeport Parish or in neighbouring Drumreilly or Kinawley Parishes. Catholic Church records for the Parish of Templeport commence only in 1836 - too late to record the earlier history of the Baxter or Reilly families.

By Feb 5, 1829 James and his small family were in Bytown where he was working on the construction of the Rideau Canal, along with a Thomas Baxter, also from Templeport Parish and two Reillys from Kinawley Parish. Jim had a wife and one daughter. Thomas Baxter had a wife and three daughters, and there was a Thomas Reilly (single) from 'Kinally' Parish. They were among some 700 mostly Irish families who were in the vicinity of Bytown on Feb 5, 1829, and who signed (or made their mark) on a petition requesting help to bring out family members to Canada. The petition provides the County, Parish, and Townland of origin; number of male and female children; and names and addresses of relatives in the homeland. Jim was No. 642, made a mark rather than signing, came from County Cavan, Templeport Parish, Townland of Loghamar, and had a wife and one child with him - and all his relatives were in Canada?





There is now no trace of the Townland of Loghamar on official maps. In 1901 there were 60,462 Townlands in Ireland. While on average a Townland covers about 350 acres, they vary in size from a few acres to several thousand acres. Names were changed from time to time, or Jim may have been misunderstood - since he could not read nor write, he had no means of checking on what was put on paper. Officials of County Cavan say that Loghamar could possibly be Lissanover / Lisanover, - the Gaelic of which is “Lios an Uabhair”, when translated means “Fort of Pride”. Lissanover is shown on the adjacent map.

Of the 700 families signing the petition, 58 were from County Cavan, and 174 from the Midlands (Counties Tipperary, Kilkenny, King’s and Queen’s). Despite low wages and poor working conditions, contractors on the Canal had no trouble attracting workers. Large numbers of Irish labourers were to be found in Bytown. Irish labour was cheaper than equipment, so “Colonel By had labourers move the earth and rock by pick and shovel to form the stone embankments which can be seen today below Parliament Hill and the Chateau Laurier Hotel”. Construction of the Rideau Canal started in 1827 and finished in 1832.

Their early years in Bytown must have been extremely difficult. “The Irish labourers and their families lived for the most part in Corktown, now Lowertown Ottawa. At first they lived in mud huts and later as squatters in shacks”. Jim and Catherine’s second child, James, was born during this period, in 1829.

When construction was finished in 1832, Jim and Catherine made their way into Marlborough Township, where they settled on farmland that became known as Baxter’s Corners. There they raised a family of nine.

DESCENDANTS

The age of Jim and Catherine at the birth of each child was as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>At Birth of Each Child</u>	
		<u>Father's Age</u>	<u>Mother's Age</u>
T. JAMES Baxter	1788		
Catherine Reilly	1801		
Bridget	1827(?)	39	26
James	1829	41	28
Thomas	1832	44	31
Mary	1834	46	33
Patrick	1836	49	35
Bernard	1838	50	37
Margaret	1840*	52	39
Ann	1842	54	41
John	1845*	56	43

James Baxter, as was the case in many Irish marriages was married late in life, probably in 1826 in his very late 30's. His wife was much younger than he and probably would have been 25 or 26 years of age at the time of the union. The couple eventually settled in Marlborough Township, Carleton County, and proceeded to clear land and raise their family. Census data is notoriously inaccurate since it relies upon the living memory of the person responding to the questions of the enumerator . . . and memory is less than perfect. If we accept the date on which each of their children were born according to Census information, then James Baxter was probably in his very late 30's when his first child was born - and 56 when the last of nine was brought into the world. His wife, on the same basis, was in her late 20's when her first child was born, and 43 at the birth of her last. No record can be found of the date of death nor the place of burial of James Baxter. It is known however, that he died sometime before 1855 since he was not present at the wedding of his son James in that year. His wife Catherine died Oct 9, 1877 and is buried in St. Philip's, Richmond.

Such information as is readily available on their children is as follows:

5.1 Bridget Baxter - the first born child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly; born in Ireland; date of birth not confirmed but believed to be 1827; on Feb 3, 1851 she married Peter Shehan - son of Jim Shehan and Anastasia Malowney in St. Phillip's Church, Richmond; died June 23, 1861; buried in Richmond. They had two children:

5.1.1 Mary Shehan - born April 7, 1852

5.1.2 Ann Jane Shehan - born February 13, 1860

5.2 James Baxter - the second child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly; born in 1829 according to Census data; on Oct 3, 1855 he married Elizabeth O'Connor, daughter of Owen O'Connor and Ellen Roberts in St. Phillip's Church, Richmond. They had at least four children:

5.2.1 Thomas Baxter - born Oct 9, 1856

5.2.2 John Baxter - born Feb 12, 1858

5.2.3 Ellen Jane Baxter - born Apr 6, 1864

5.2.4 Moses Baxter - born Nov 9, 1866

5.3 Thomas Baxter - the third child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly, born in 1832 according to Census records. On Apr 26, 1869 he married Mary Fox, (daughter of Patrick Fox and Mary Dunn, and a sister of the John Fox who was married to his first cousin Catherine Baxter). From this union there was one son:

Mary Fox died on May 22, 1872 at the age of 33. On Aug 13, 1872 Thomas married Margaret Moloughney (born 1850, died Nov 6, 1926; daughter of Michael Moloughney and Ellen Murphy). Their family was raised on the East-half of Lot #1, Concession #4, Nepean Township. Thomas Baxter died of blood poisoning and was buried on November 4, 1891 - in his 61st year according to Church records. This tragic death left his widow, at age 41, with nine living children - ages 1 to 18 years.

5.3.1 John Baxter - born Feb 9, 1870. On Oct 9, 1900 he married Mary Ellen McCarthy (born Jan 6, 1870; daughter of 'Big John' McCarthy and Catherine Moloughney of Killaloe); for more information on the McCarthys see Section 1.2. Mary Ellen died in 1916 and John in 1929; both are buried in St. Philip's, Richmond. The couple

had three children:

- 5.3.1.1 Thomas Leo Baxter born July 22, 1901; he married Mary Ellen (Tierney) Howe on Nov 21, 1935. They had no children.
- 5.3.1.2 Catherine Baxter - born about 1902; died in a car accident in 1924, age 22; buried in St. Philip's, Richmond.
- 5.3.1.3 Mary E. Baxter - born about 1910; became a Nun; died in Vancouver in 1976; buried in Fallowfield Plot #34.
- 5.3.2 James Baxter - born July 3, 1873 - see 1.7.1.
- 5.3.3 Ellen Mary Baxter - born Dec. 27, 1874 - see 1.7.2.
- 5.3.4 Catherine Baxter - born Oct. 30, 1875 - see 1.7.3.
- 5.3.5 Thomas Patrick Baxter - born Jan. 19, 1879 - see 1.7.4.
- 5.3.6 Anne Ellen Baxter - born May 9, 1881 - see 1.7.5.
- 5.3.7 Margaret Theresa Baxter - born June 30, 1883 - see 1.7.6.
- 5.3.8 Michael Baxter - born Mar. 6, 1885 - see 1.7.7.
- 5.3.9 Catherine Mary Baxter - born Oct. 17, 1886 - see 1.7.8.
- 5.3.10 Daniel Baxter - born Apr. 12, 1889 - see 1.7.9.
- 5.3.11 William Joseph Baxter - born May 4, 1891 - see 1.7.10.

5.4 Mary Baxter - the fourth child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly; born May 29, 1834; sponsored in baptism by Fergus Baxter and Bridget Kelly. This Fergus Baxter may have been a brother of THOMAS J. Baxter and T. JAMES Baxter; he was married on February 2, 1844 to Ellen Dolan in St. Philip's Church, Richmond; they had at least one daughter Catherine who was born on June 8, 1845 and who subsequently married Patrick Swain, a son of Michael Swain and Mary Foley in St. Philip's Church, Richmond in February 1864.

5.5 Patrick Baxter - the fifth child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly; born in 1836 according to Census records; on November 11, 1860 he married his first cousin Mary Margaret Baxter (daughter of Thomas Baxter (deceased) and Catherine McGovern) with a dispensation for consanguinity; the witnesses were Thomas Baxter, his brother, and Elizabeth O'Brien; by this marriage there were at least four children:

- 5.5.1 Celina Baxter - born July 7, 1861 - died July 9, 1861

- 5.5.2 Catherine Baxter - born May 16, 1863 - died May 16, 1863
- 5.5.3 Marg. Ann Baxter - born July 22, 1865
- 5.5.4 Martha Ann Baxter - born Jan. 19, 1868. This Martha had an uncle by marriage who was John Fox, i.e. married to Catherine Baxter, sister of her mother. When Catherine (Baxter) Fox died, her husband chose to remarry, and his choice was Martha, a niece by his first marriage.

After the birth of the fourth child, Margaret Baxter herself was to pass on. Her husband Pat remarried on February 11, 1879, - to Elizabeth Burnett. Of this union there were at least four children:

- 5.5.5 Austin Baxter - he did not marry.
- 5.5.6 Jimmy Baxter - married; went overseas in the First World War; didn't come back.
- 5.5.7 Abby Baxter - kept a store in the area and then went to Nova Scotia.
- 5.5.8 Johnny Baxter - Worked on the Streetcars in Ottawa, and then went West.
- 5.5.9 (?) - a daughter who was married to a Burns; died at a young age leaving one son - Joe Burns
- 5.5.9.1 Joseph Burns

5.6 Bernard Baxter - the sixth child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly, born in 1838; married Katie Gleason, a daughter of Denis Gleason and Bridget Howe; no children

5.7 Margaret Baxter - the seventh child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly, born May 29, 1840; no further information.

5.8 Anne Baxter - the eighth child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly, born in 1842; died June 21, 1961; buried in St. Philip's, Richmond.

5.9 John Baxter - the ninth child of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly, born March 11, 1845; no further information.

OTHER BAXTERS

The other Baxter listed in the McCabe List is Thomas J. Baxter, #15, who signed with an "X", came from County Cavan, Templeport Parish, and the Village or Townland of Ballyconnell - he had a brother-in-law James McGovern with a large family in the Town of Ballyconnell - and a wife and three daughters with him. (Parish boundaries have changed through time and Ballyconnell is now in the Parish of Kildallan).

His wife was Catherine McGovern. It is not known whether James McGovern was successful in making the move to Canada, but a Bernard McGovern came to Canada and subsequently married one of Catherine's daughters.

When the canal was completed, Thomas Baxter and Catherine McGovern also moved to Marlborough to begin farming. The origin of James and Thomas (from Templeport Parish), their location in Marlborough, suggest a relationship between the two families. This was confirmed on Nov 6, 1860 when Margaret Baxter (daughter of Thomas J. Baxter (deceased) and Catherine McGovern) married Patrick Baxter (son of James T. Baxter (deceased) and Catherine Reilly), with witnesses a Thomas Baxter (brother of Pat) and Elizabeth O'Brien, in St. Philip's Church, Richmond; - a special dispensation from the Church was required because of the degree of consanguinity. This means that the parents, James and Thomas Baxter, were brothers, or, first cousins at least.

The family of Thomas Baxter and Catherine McGovern was somewhat as follows:

- 5.10 Anne Baxter - married Nov 15, 1841 to Thomas Murphy; at least one child
 - 5.10.1 Thomas Murphy - born Dec 3, 1842
- 5.11 Mary Baxter - married Mar 6, 1848 to Bernard McGovern, no further information.
- 5.12 Bridget Catherine Baxter - married Nov 23, 1840 to William Madden; died July 6, 1897, age 75. They had at least three children:
 - 5.12.1 Patrick Madden - born May 28, 1848
 - 5.12.2 Judith Madden - born June 18, 1850

- 5.12.3 Catherine Madden - born Aug 1, 1851
- 5.13 Margaret Baxter - born 1836; on Nov 16, 1860 she married her first cousin Pat Baxter (born 1836; son of James Baxter and Catherine Reilly); see 5.5
- 5.14 Catherine Baxter - born Feb 12, 1838; on Oct 18, 1865 she married John Fox (son of Patrick Fox and Mary Dunn); at least one child:
 - 5.14.1 Mary Fox - born Mar 2, 1867 - After Catherine's death, John Fox remarried - to his niece (by marriage) Martha Baxter (born Jan 19, 1868; daughter of Pat Baxter and Margaret Baxter).
- 5.15 Michael Baxter - born Mar 21, 1840; died 1882
- 5.16 Ellen Baxter - born June 10, 1842; on Oct 30, 1865 she married William Cumings.
- 5.17 Ann Baxter - born Oct 22, 1845, more confusion by Father O'Connell about death.
- 5.18 Fergus Baxter - may have been a brother of James Baxter and Thomas Baxter; on Feb 2, 1864 he married Ellen Dolan; at least one child:
 - 5.18.1 Catherine Baxter - born June 8, 1845; on Feb 7, 1864 she married Patrick Swain (son of Michael Swain and Mary Foley)
 - 5.18.2 Anne Baxter - may have been a daughter of Fergus Baxter and Ellen Dolan; married Jim Kerrigan, died Feb 2, 1880, age 34.

Thomas J. Baxter died sometime before Nov 6, 1860. Catherine (McGovern) Baxter died Mar 14, 1885, age 80. Both are buried in St. Philip's Cemetery, Richmond.

