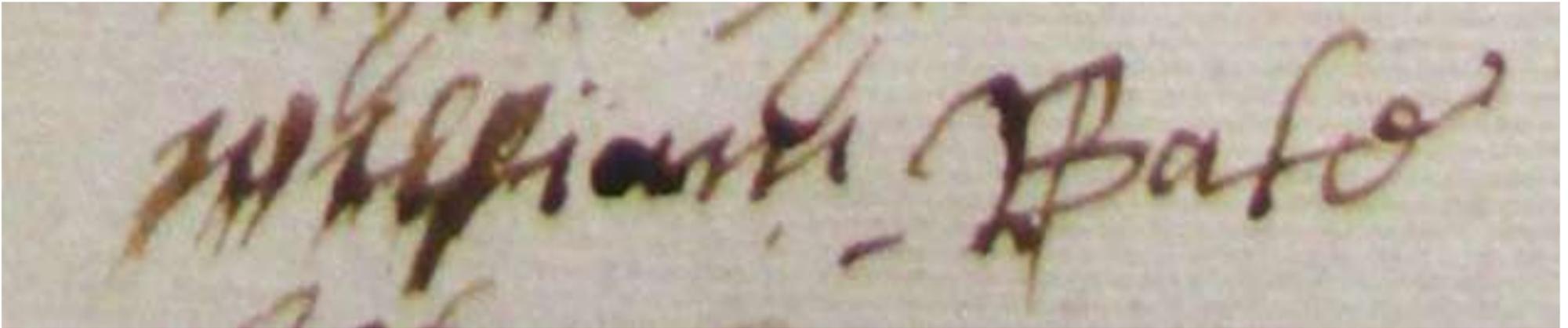


# William Bates:

lived at Ballymurrin from 1671 to 1681



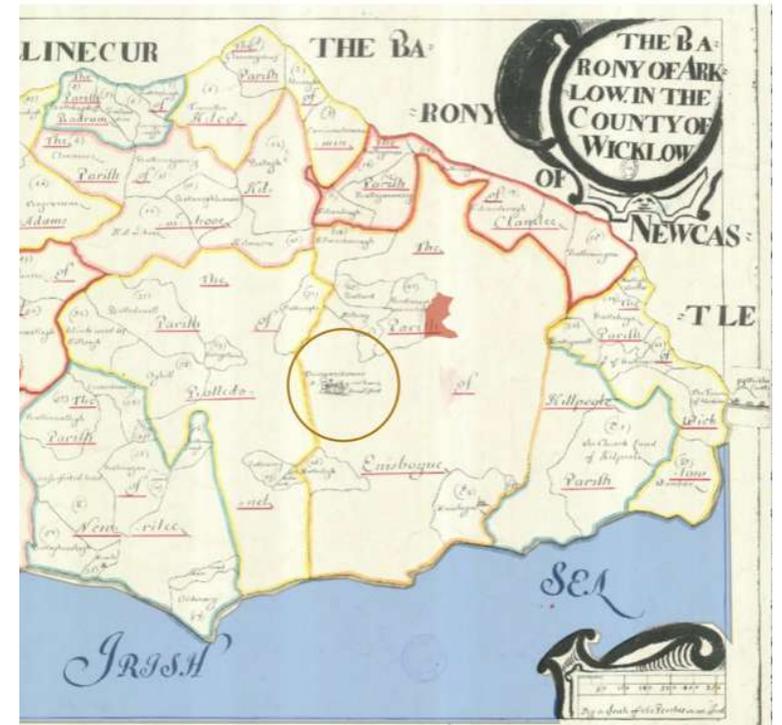
Signature of William Bates, as witness to a marriage in County Wicklow, between Samuel Grundy and Ann Whickham in 1680

**Below, left:** Looking down on Ballymurrin Quaker Farmstead from the hillside pastures of Ballymurrin Upper **Below, right:** The map of the Barony of Wicklow from William Petty's 'Down Survey', 1654 for Oliver Cromwell to locate catholic ownership of land for confiscation and re-distribution. Ballymurrin Lower is highlighted in red.



Ballymurrin Quaker Farmstead, Wicklow

1668 - 2018



350 years ago: Quakers came to Ballymurrin 2

## Introduction

My temerity to write about William Bates is not so much initially related to the Quakers or to the name Bates. It stemmed from an opportunity to live in a very old farmhouse 30 miles South of Dublin, reputed to have been lived in by Quakers. Little else was known its history. As architects we were attracted to the beautiful yet austere appearance of the building and its attractive courtyard layout, and we were curious to put an accurate date on the building of the farmstead.

We contacted the Quaker Historical Library in Dublin, initially in 1995, to help us find out more about Ballymurrin House in Wicklow. We arrived for our appointment to find a substantial pile of documents on the table, which we were invited to peruse. They included registers of all births, marriages and deaths in the Wicklow area and a collection of records of meetings of Quakers. So started our journey into researches which were well outside our fields of expertise as architects; genealogy and history, and a little theology.

We were able get close to the date for the building of Ballymurrin House relatively easily, by drawing conclusions from the available information on births, marriages and deaths. We established through documentary evidence that the farmstead had been lived in since 1668. As we proceeded, it was evident that the period we were looking at, from the sixteen sixties to the sixteen nineties, was a tumultuous one, especially for religious groups like the Quakers, with persecution and harassment motivating families to move from England to Ireland in search of a more peaceful and tolerant life.

However, that was not to be the case; their difficulties persisted, and many long suffering Irish Quakers saw the opportunity to make a second new life in America, especially in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. William Penn had been 'convinced' and became a Quaker in Ireland, as well as heir to the fortunes of his father, Admiral Sir William Penn. The son's wealthy background and Quaker commitment stimulated him to encourage Quakers to seek a new life based on a more liberal agenda and a guarantee of religious freedom.

Meanwhile, back at Ballymurrin in the 1990s, we had embarked (optimistically) on a ten-year program to restore the house and its outbuildings and to faithfully represent them as a rare example of self-effacing, plain, seventeenth century architecture. We are still working at it, nineteen years on... Our reward is to live in a beautiful, simple house with generous rooms in a stunning undulating landscape, close to the sea in the foothills of the Wicklow 'Mountains'. In 2010, the buildings, very belatedly, were designated as of being of national, historical, architectural and cultural interest by our Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht, after which we opened our doors to the public to show its unique architectural features to the public, for sixty days a year.

### Below:

Image painted by Sarah Bates Horton emphasises the location at the foothills of the Wicklow 'mountains' and re-imagines an intriguing gated stone wall at the rear of the building



## 1 Dunganstown Castle, and Sir John Hoey, Knight

We don't have to travel far from Ballymurrin to understand its origins. Ballymurrin is in the ancient parish of Ennisboyne, with Dunganstown Castle and Church at its centre. This parish on the East Coast of Ireland, is where St Patrick, according to tradition and scholarly place-name work, is reputed to have landed. He brought Christianity to Ireland in the year 430AD, one thousand and six hundred years ago generating from this church site the parish within which Ballymurrin is situated.

The castle was burned during the Catholic rebellion of 1641. The Protestant Hoey family rebuilt part of the castle and continued as a family in residence until 1850, a tenure of over 250 years. Their legacy is the church at Dunganstown and the ruins of both Castle and the great house.

The Ballymurrin lands, at the time of Cromwell's notorious survey of Catholic lands in 1654 and subsequent confiscation, were owned by Sir William Parsons, a Lord Justice, Protestant, who lived at Milltown about three miles away. Sir John Hoey of Dunganstown married his daughter, Jane Parsons. Sometime between 1664 and 1668, 223 acres of land, the townland of 'Ballymooranbegg', (Ballymurrin Lower) was acquired by the Quakers from those families. The first recorded date of Quakers' settling there is 1668.

(This information is extracted from the book 'Credo', about Dunganstown Parish, by Canon Robert Heavener, published in 1993 by Cromlech Books, Jordanstown, Ireland)

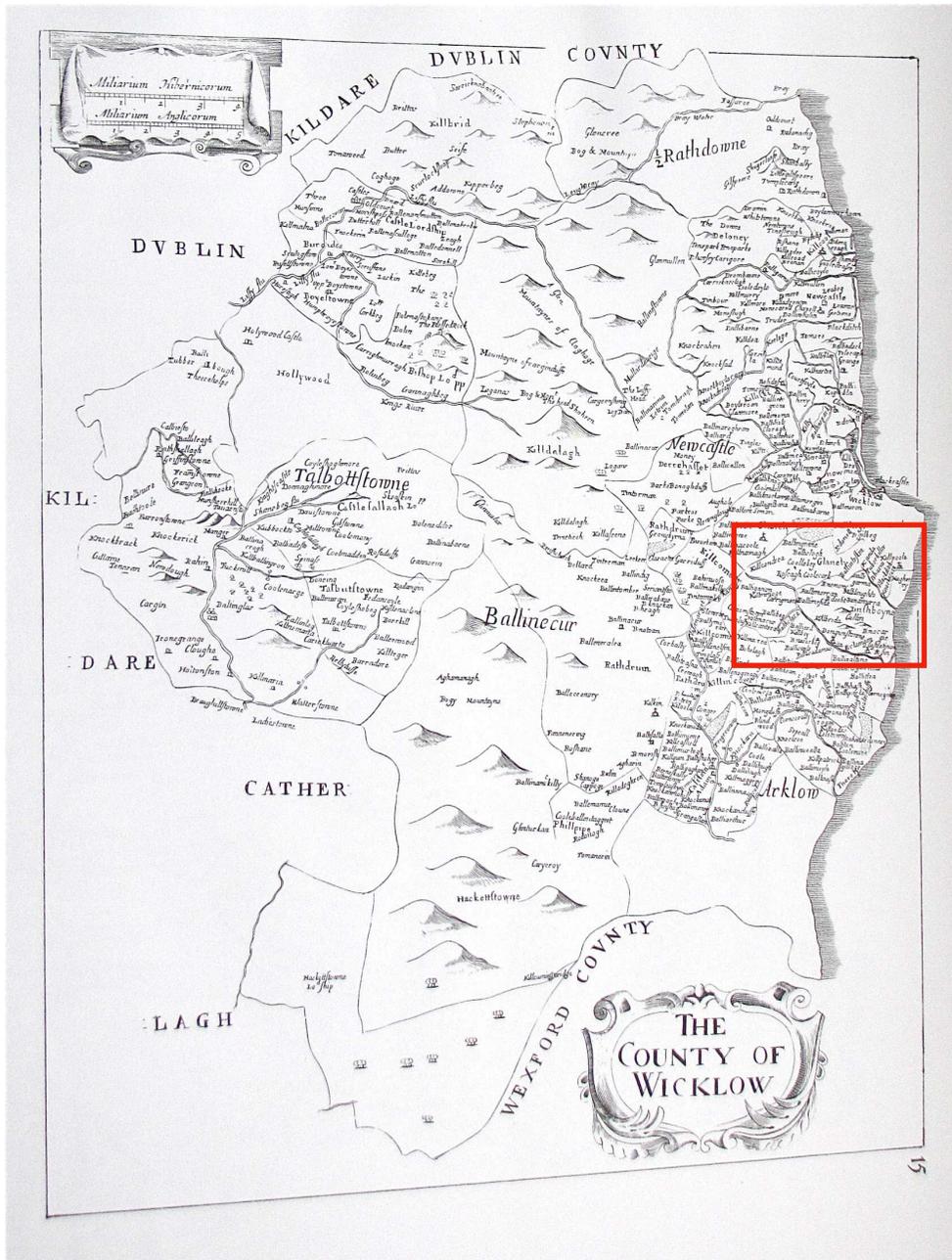


The Society of Friends have a burying-ground at Ballymurrin

“This is the location of the present church. The lands for the chapel were donated by the Quaker residents of Ballymurrin House .

We understand that the lands of Ballymurrin were among those granted to Hoey in the 1650s, following confiscation from catholic families.”

Extract from LEWIS'S TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY, 1837



## 1685 Sir William Petty's map

Sir William Petty carried out a full survey of Ireland as Surveyor to Oliver Cromwell. Petty prepared maps of every part of Ireland in which the location of catholic land was identified in order to arrange confiscations after the Civil Wars. 1642 - 1651, when 618,000 out of a population of 1.5million died ; 41% of the population.

Petty published this map in 1685 as a definitive record of his survey of the County of Wicklow. Map photographed by permission at Ballymore House, Co Wexford.



## 1685 William Petty's map includes 'Ballmorran' - now Ballymurrin

Part of the map is enlarged to show position of Ballymurrin and

Dunganstown, parish of 'Inishboyne' on the East coast of Wicklow

## 2 The first family recorded to be living in Ballymurrin Quaker Farmstead

They were the **Judds**, Ambrose, born in Brandon Ferry, Suffolk in SE England, and his wife, Jane (Eves), from Leicestershire in England's Midlands. In Ireland, at the time of their marriage, she was living in Ballykeane, about five miles from Ballymurrin. Ambrose moved from Suffolk to live in Dunganstown in 1651, we assume within the estate, and before the Quaker movement was initiated by George Fox. Ambrose and Anne were both Quakers at the time of their marriage. Their first born child, Robert was born at 'Ballymoranbeg' on 25th of February 1668. This is the first recorded birth at Ballymurrin Lower, in the original register in the Quaker Historical Library. From the register we know, too, that Ambrose Judd "husband of Ann Judd (she died in 1724) quietly departed this life at his own habitation in Ballymoran the 17th of the 1st month in 1726/7, in the 95th year of his age and was buried at Friends Burying Place at Ballymorrán". They had nine children between 1668 and 1689. We know from this that Ambrose lived in Ballymurrin (the most recent spelling) for 58 years, during which time **William Bates** made his first appearance on the records.

# 1654- Ballymooranbeg

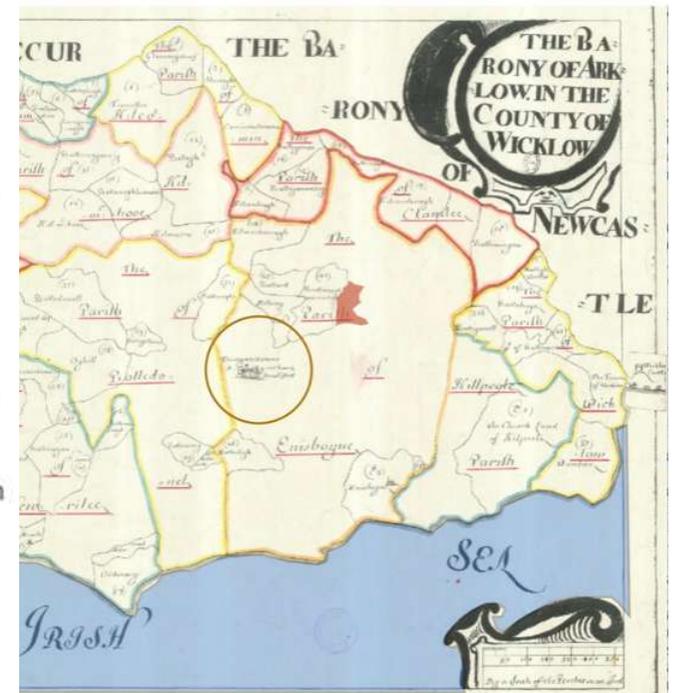
(Ballymurrin Lower today) listed in Down Survey register

This is the Down survey map of the Barony of Arklow. It shows those areas where confiscation of lands would be applied. The blank areas were not included as 'old' protestant owned; the parish of Ennisboyne (now Dunganstown Parish) shows large areas of land, not to be forfeited and most likely connected with Dunganstown House, circled above.

**Ballymooranbeg (Ballymurrin Lower)** shown in colour, was not identified on this map which showed forfeited lands of Catholics and did not show Protestant lands. However Ballymooranbeg was listed in the accompanying register, with the following information, Prop: Sir Wm Parsons, acres prof: 223, rent to Sir Wm Parsons, (who lived in Milltown, Rathnew).

**Dunganstowne**, at the heart of the Parish of Ennisboyne is at the lower end of the map shown as a sketch and captioned 'A great house demolished'. The owner in 1654 was Sir John Hoey. He married Jane, daughter of Sir Wm Parsons who was proprietor of Ballymooranbeg at that time. He died in 1664.

(Information from Registers in Quaker Historical Library. Information on Down Survey from **Credo, Dunganstown Parish**, by Robert Heavener, 1993)



### 3 William Bates in Ireland at Ballymurrin

William Bates did indeed live at Ballymurrin Quaker Farmstead, yet it is difficult to find out a great deal more about him and his family, except through the "Collection of the Sufferings of the People called Quakers" from 1650 to 1689, published in 1753, and records of "Tithes taken from Irish Quakers".

The Bates family name is recorded twice in the Wicklow Quaker Registers as living in Ballymurrin; when a son, Joseph, was born there in 1675; and when their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, (claimed to have been born in Ireland in 1662), was married to Mark Eves, from Ballycane, (Ballykeane today) a nearby Quaker house. That marriage was held in 1680 at Ballycane, shortly before William and the rest of the family were to embark in Dublin for New Jersey.

His children are recorded, from genealogical research sources as follows, with their (birth dates: Source Roots web's World Connect Project: Fowler)

**William Bates**, Born 1635, in England, Married to Mary Ball

**Elizabeth**, Born about 1662 in Ireland;

**Jeremiah**, about 1665, in County Wickloe, Ireland:

**Abigail**, Before 1666 in Ireland:

**Sarah**, B 1671 in Wickloe Ireland:

**William**, about 1672, in Wicklow, Co Ireland:

**Joseph**, B 23 Dec 1675 at Ballymoran, County Wickloe Ireland (First Wicklow Quaker record of Bates family)"

This is difficult to digest, but it leaves in question the birth dates shown above up to 1671, when there is no evidence of his being in Wicklow as a Quaker. It may be that he lived in the Wicklow area and became a Quaker after 1671, or that he lived outside Wicklow before 1671.

#### William Bates

Born **1635** in **St Dunstan and All Saints, Middlesex, England** ?

Son of [father unknown] and [mother unknown]

[sibling(s) unknown]

[spouse(s) unknown]

Father of [Joseph Bates](#)

Died **November 8, 1700** in **Newton, Gloucester, New Jersey** ?

Profile manager: [Doug Lockwood](#) [send private message]

Last modified 10 December 2015.

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Categories: [Quakers](#).

#### Biography

##### Spouse & Children

Mary Ball 1642 – 1692

Elizabeth Bates 1662 –

William Bates 1664 – 1737

Jeremiah Bates 1665 – 1729

Abigail Bates 1666 – 1690

Jeremiah Bates 1671 – 1723

Sarah Bates 1671 – 1730

Joseph Bates 1675 – 1734

The scanned page copy is from Wikitree, <http://wikitree.com>, and is managed by Doug Lockwood and was last modified in 2015.

Sources of information for Genealogy of William Bates and family.

This information is included in the two books on emigrant Quakers to America and on various websites, yet some of it may be inaccurate.

The scanned copy from Wikitree, <http://www.wikitree.com>, previous page, is managed by Doug Lockwood and was last modified in 2015.

The births of **Sarah**, 1671, and **Jeremiah Bates** 1671, are not recorded in the Wicklow Quaker Records, although **Joseph's** birth is included.

(**Elizabeth Bates** b.1662, married **Mark Eves** in 1680, at which time she lived at Ballymoran, with Ambrose Judd and family. (Mark and Elizabeth moved to a house also owned at that time by Ambrose Judd, Mark's father: "Hearth Money Rolls, Co Wicklow 1669. This was a tax on fireplaces and kilns, Parish of Ennisboheene (sic) Townland: Ballytuskin [Ballyteskin] p 63. Ambrose Jud (sic) had 1 hearth. (1 fireplace)" Ballintuskin is about three miles from Ballymurrin).

She had six children, died in 1690. Mark remarried in 1692, to Elizabeth Grundy and had a further nine children. This information is drawn directly from the Wicklow Register of Births, marriages and deaths of Quakers) : Elizabeth is buried in Ballymurrin Quaker Burying Ground beside Ballymurrin Farmstead

### 3 William Bates in Ireland at Ballymurrin (cont'd)

Information on William is limited, yet gives the sense of a committed man of integrity.

He attended the Wicklow Monthly meetings, as well as the constituent meetings at Ballymurrin and would have been influenced by the strength of character of Thomas Trafford, who stood up to the harassment of the 'so-called Quakers', then used as a term of defamation. It cost him dearly, by imprisonment in the jail at Wicklow...He was in jail for non-payment of tithes (taxes due to the established Anglican church),- when one of the first Wicklow monthly meetings was broken up and the participants imprisoned.

This extract from the *Sufferings* tells us that William Bates was in Wicklow in 1670. He was arrested along with eighteen other Quakers named "at a Meeting in the House of Thomas Trafford in Wicklow and committed to Wicklow Gaol. At the following sessions they were indicted, and on refusing to enter into Bonds to traverse the indictment, were all of them, except one, committed to prison".

Another extract, from *The Rise and Progress of People Called Quakers* records John Bank's visit from England in 1671 which initiated the setting up of a Meeting House in Wicklow: "...on his return to Dublin he went to Wicklow again, there being a letter from thence signifying that the people desired another Meeting, which, notwithstanding the opposition of the Priest, was held there peaceably,...and although the Priest, as soon as he had the opportunity, began to prosecute and imprison Friends for Tithes, and such like things, and got several put into prison that came to visit that place, yet Truth prospered, and a Meeting was set up in that town and still continueth."

Quakers had a conscientious objection to the payment of tithes to the local representatives of the established church. The Book "Tithes taken from Irish Quakers, a Testimony against taking and paying of Tithes" records the punishments and confiscations over a period of nearly thirty years, from 1650 to 1689, the year that King William and Queen Mary signed the enactment of the Act of Toleration, granted to Protestant Dissenters, which initiated a gradual change in the treatment of Quakers. The frequent occasions when Tithes were extracted in kind and by force continued until at least 1680; two examples here are quoted from the *Wicklow Register of Sufferings* which involved William Bates directly and a further example of petty aggravation, a form of harassment which affected every Quaker.

(1678), "**Mark Newby** (who travelled to West Jersey with William) and **William Bates** had three carloads and a half of hay worth nine shillings forcibly taken from them for ye use of Priest Stanton for tithe"

(1680) "**William Baite** had taken from him, by David Willcock one spade and one pair of hand bellows worth four shillings for two shillings and six pence: demanded for the use aforesaid".

(1680): Thomas Trafford is punished "...for opening his shop upon the twenty fifth day of the 12th month (called Christmas day) and was committed to prison by James Stanly, deputy sovereign and kept till night. As Quakers disapproved of Christmas Day and its excesses, this appears to have been a small, but deliberate act of civil disobedience...

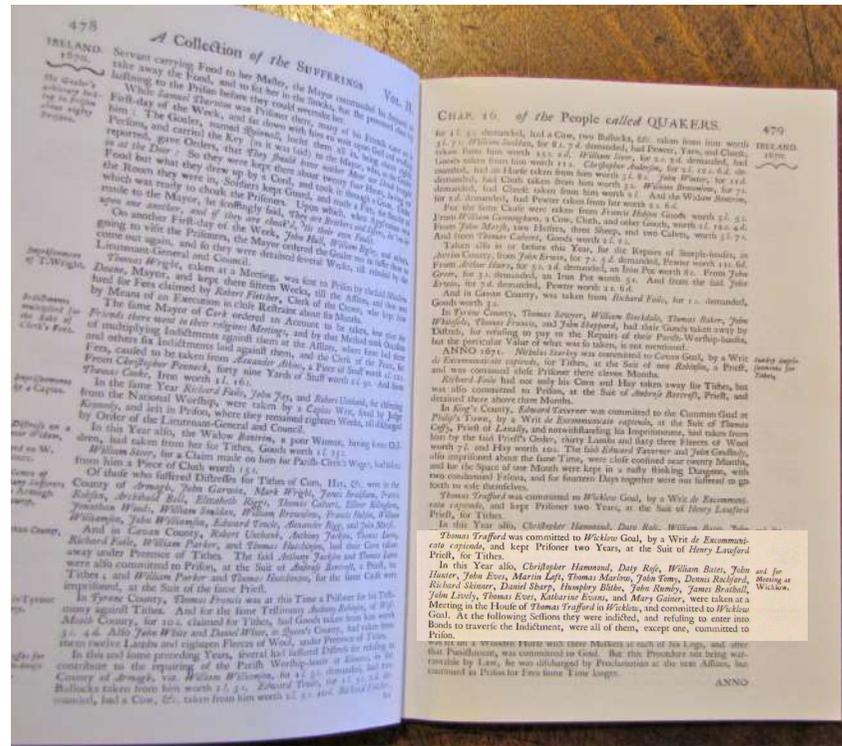
### 3 William Bates in Ireland at Ballymurrin (cont'd)

The records of the sufferings of Quakers run to hundreds of pages and two volumes and serve to explain the difficult lives and constant harassment by civil authority, and the attraction for Quakers of emigration to a more liberal life in America.

William Bates was one of those who decided that Ireland had not fulfilled the promise of peaceful times anticipated from his home in England, and he took steps to emigrate:

During the decade of the 1670s, notable Quaker, William Penn, son of Admiral Sir William Penn was authorised to set up a haven in the New World for persecuted Quakers. Before this he had been charged by his father to look after extensive lands and property in Cork County, Ireland, during which time he became "convinced" and joined the Quakers, suffering imprisonment briefly, which strengthened his resolve to seek a better life for Quakers. His father's connections with King and Court were a major factor in his achievements in the States of New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania as it was to become.

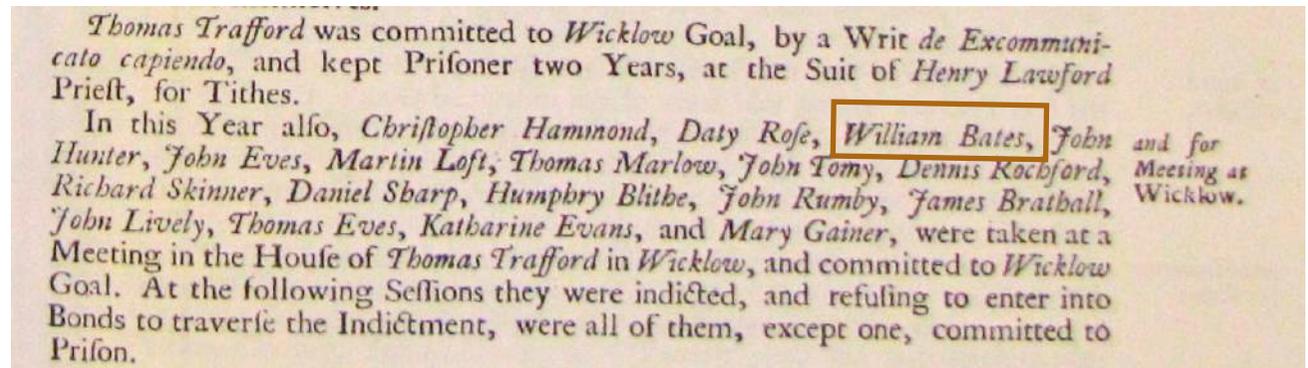
The grant to his father of about 400,000 square miles of land in America from King Charles II, in March 1681, included the present State of Pennsylvania, parts of New Jersey and Delaware. Not a small gift for favours received...all of which was confirmed by the King in an Indenture of 1682 which gave absolute ownership to twenty four proprietors altogether.

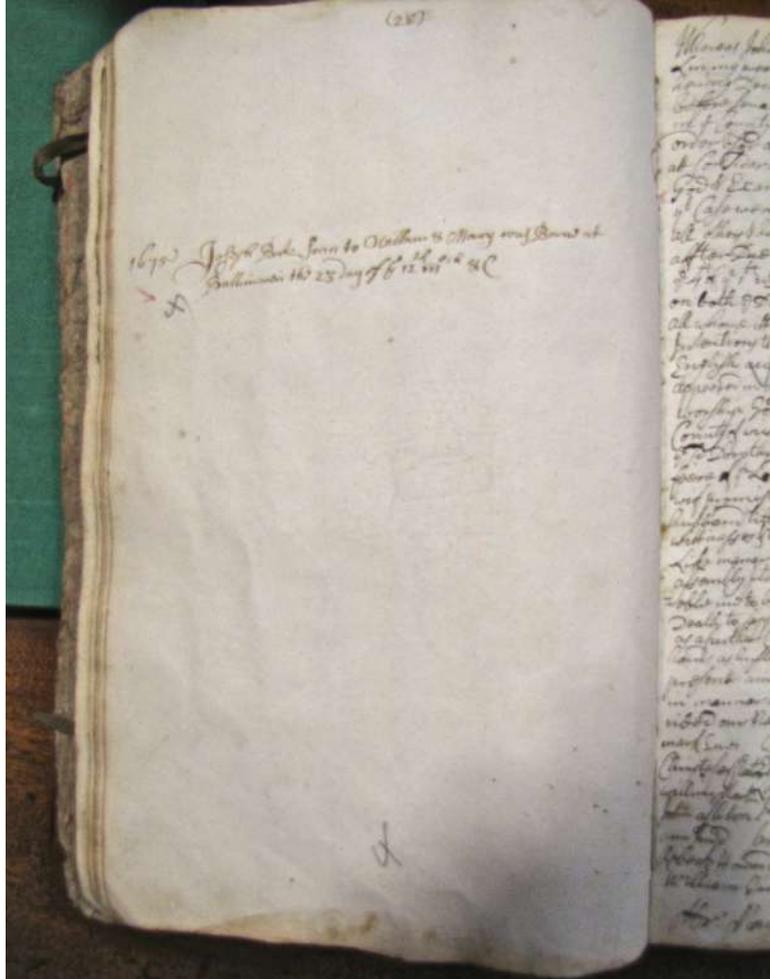


The book, left, is the second volume 1753 of:

'A Collection of the SUFFERINGS of the PEOPLE called QUAKERS For the Testimony of a Good Conscience'

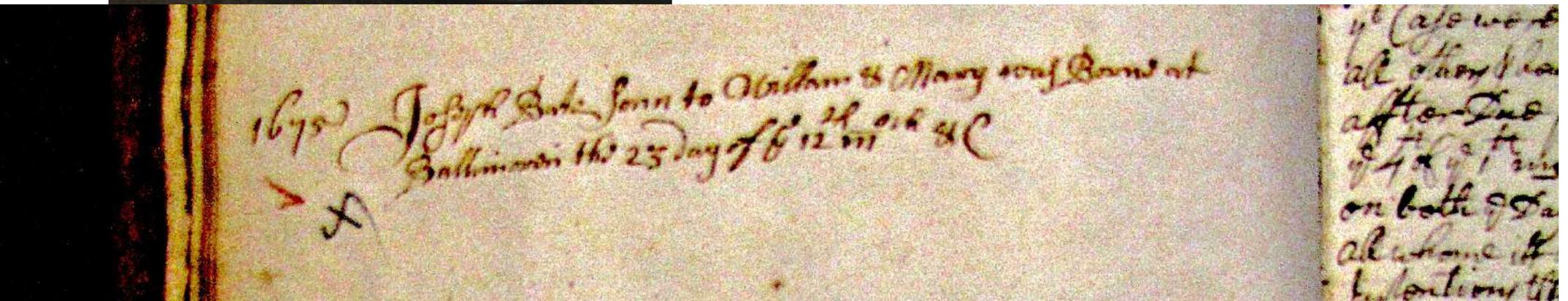
The extract below enlarged refers to the 1670 meeting at Wicklow which resulted in 18 Quakers being imprisoned. Thomas Trafford was imprisoned for two years 'for Tithes'

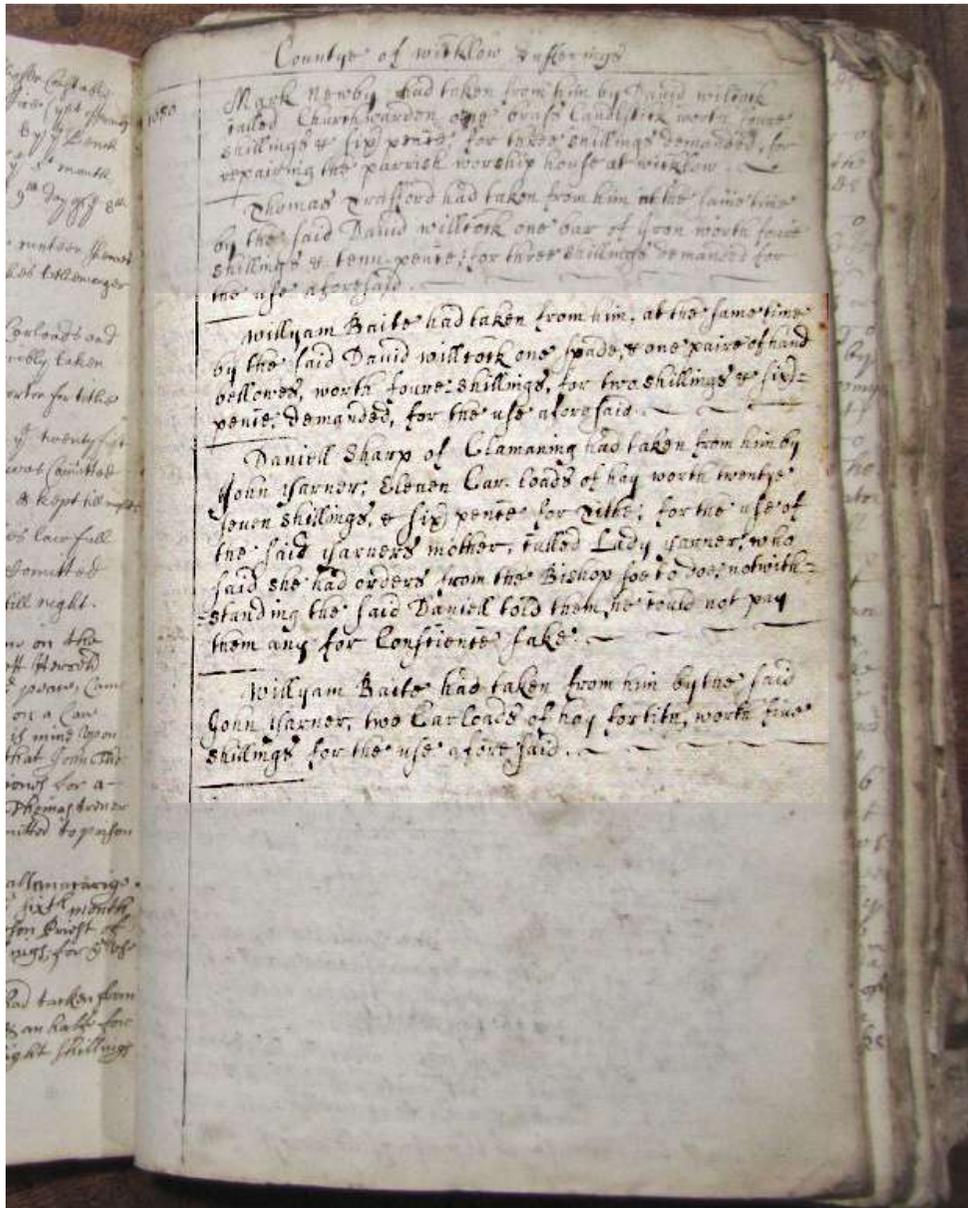




1675 Joseph Bate born to William & Mary -- Born at Ballimorin the 23 day of the 12th mo. (SiC).

Recorded in the Wicklow Register of Friends (p. 28), at Friends Historical Library in Stocking Lane Rathfarnham. It was an unusual entry with no other record of the Bates family other than that of the burial of their eldest, Elizabeth (Eves), in 1681. It is probable that the family were considered 'temporary residents'





The text, left, is taken from the records of the "County of Wicklow Sufferings". The date at the top, left of the page is 1680. The top of the page names Mark Eves (from Ballinteskinn about two miles from Ballymurrin) and Thomas Trafford, (who lived in Wicklow Town and hosted the Monthly meetings). The fourth paragraph records Daniel Sharp of Clamaning (now Clonmannon, just North of Wicklow Town). The two William Baite paragraph transcriptions read as follows:

*Willyam Baite had taken from him, at the same time by the said David Wilcock one spade, one pair of hand bellows, worth four shillings, for two shillings and sixpence, demanded for the use aforesaid.*

*Daniel Sharp of Clamaning had taken from him by John Garner, eleven car. loads of hay worth twenty seven shillings and sixpence for tithe: for the use of the said Garner's mother, called Lady Garner, who said she had orders from the Bishop so to do, notwithstanding the said Daniel sold them, he would not pay them anything for conscience's sake.*

*Willyam Baite had taken from him by the said John Garner, two car loads of hay for tithe, worth five shillings for the use aforesaid*

#### 4 William Bates and family emigrate to West Jersey

In 1681, William Bates embarked on his voyage to New Jersey, He had acquired a Certificate of share in land for 250 acres in the Irish Tenth in 1677 from William Penn in Dublin. Robert Turner of Dublin also received deeds then. He became William Penn's agent and fellow landowner in West Jersey. Although he had the certificate for some time, he did not leave Ireland until Nov 1681. In April 1681 his eldest daughter, Elizabeth produced a granddaughter, Abigail, born at Ballintuskin (now Ballinteskin, three miles from Ballymurrin) . Three months later, he received his Irish Certificate (from his meeting house Friends in Ballikean stating that he was a suitable Quaker for a new community), along with Mark Newby , County Wicklow, Ireland (originally written incorrectly as Bellicare in *Immigration of Irish Quakers*) on the 21st June 1681. Equipped with his Certificate, with four other colleagues, William chartered a ship from Dublin and set sail with families for New Jersey on the 19th September to arrive safely at Salem, New Jersey on the 18th November after a voyage of two months. And the rest, as they say, is history...



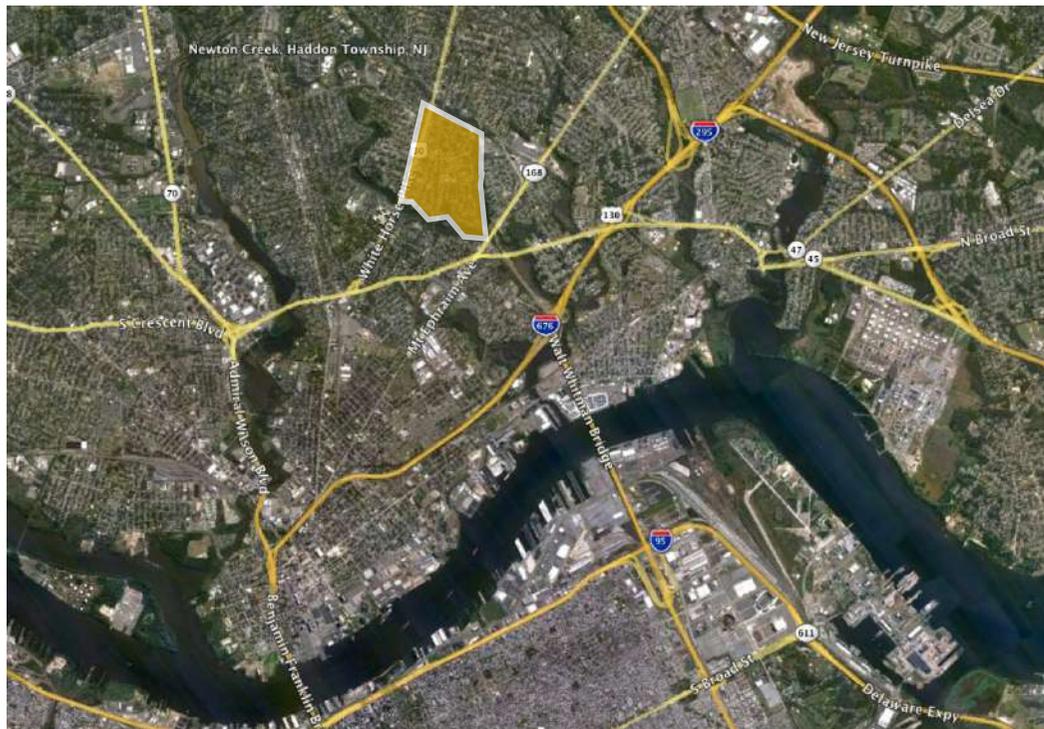
William Bates' family safely sailed across the Atlantic in a 'Pink' sailing ship

In the [Atlantic Ocean](#) the word pink was used to describe any small ship with a narrow stern, having derived from the Dutch word *pinckte*. They had a large cargo capacity, and were generally [square rigged](#). Their flat bottoms (and resulting shallow draught) made them more useful in shallow waters than some similar classes of ship. In the 1730s pinks were used in cross Atlantic voyages to bring [Palatinates](#) immigrants to America.<sup>[1]</sup>

This model of ship was often used in the Mediterranean because it could be sailed in shallow waters and through coral reefs. It could also be manoeuvred up rivers and streams. Pinks were quite fast and flexible.

**Above:** Antoine Roux - Jean Meissonnier, *Voiliers de l'Époque romantique*, Edita Lausanne, 1991, ISBN 2-88001-273-2, p.44

**Left:** Google map of Haddon and Newton Creek township today. William Bates' plot from 1681 is shown, between White Horse Pike and Mt. Ephraim Avenue. **Delaware** River separates **Philadelphia** City Centre, Pennsylvania, just four miles away, from William's plot





**Above:**  
Newton  
Creek in  
2018 -

Newton  
Creek  
Watershed  
Association -  
facebook



**Right:**  
Newton  
Friends Burial  
Ground

#### 4 William Bates and family emigrate to West Jersey (cont'd)

The latter part of this extraordinary story will be known to Bates Bulletin readers as it is this source which took us into exploration of the life in West New Jersey of William and his family, so well recorded in two books of the nineteenth century, and clarified by the New Jersey State Archive.

*“ And, by the good providence of God we arrived in the Capes of Delaware the eighteenth day of November following, and so up the bay until we came to Elsinburg, and were landed with our goods and families at Salem, where we abode the winter. But it being very favourable weather and purchasing a boat amongst us, we had an opportunity to make search up and down in that which is called the Third Tenth which had been reserved for the proprietors dwelling in Ireland, where we might find a place suitable for so many of us to settle down together, being in these early times somewhat doubtful of the Indians, and at last pitched down by that which is now called Newton Creek, as the most invitingest place to settle down by, and then we went to Burlington, and made application to the commissioners that we might have warrants directed to Daniel Leeds, the Surveyor General, to survey unto every of us so much land as by the constitution at the time was allotted or a settlement, being five hundred acres or what we had a right to which accordingly we obtained...”*

*“...All which of us, excepting William Bates who took on the southerly side of Newton Creek, we took our land in one tract together for one thousand seven hundred and fifty acres, bounding in the forks of Newton Creek and over to Cooper's Creek... ..And after sometime finding some inconveniency in having our land in common together being at ye time settled at ye place now called Newton in ye manner of a town for fear as aforesaid at which being removed we came to an agreement to divide. George Goldsmith he chose the head of the creek. Thomas Sharp the forks or lower end of the land next towards the river by which means the rest kept to their settlements without any disadvantage to themselves.*

*And so ye land was divided according to every man's right.*

*Given under my hand the 3rd month, 3rd, 1718*

*Thomas Sharp*

“ 3ly Hannah Asbury her father an Englishman her mother borne in Ireland.”

THE IRISH QUAKER SETTLERS OF NEWTON, NOW IN CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

THOMAS SHARP, “ woolstead comber,” of Dublin, nephew of of Anthony Sharp, a wealthy Quaker merchant of that city, was one of the leaders of the Irish Quaker settlement of Newton, N. J. He has left the following interesting account of his immigration and settlement, written in 1718:<sup>1</sup>

“ Let it be remembered y<sup>t</sup> upon y<sup>e</sup> nineteenth day of September, in y<sup>e</sup> year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and eighty-one, Mark Newby, William Bates, Thomas Thackara, George Goldsmith and Thomas Sharp, set saile from y<sup>e</sup> Harbor belonging to y<sup>e</sup> city of Dublin in y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom of Ireland, in a pink called *J<sup>o</sup> owner's adventure*, whereof Thomas Lurtin, of London, was commander, and being sick in y<sup>e</sup> city, his mate John Dagger, officiated in his place, in order to transport us, and if we might settle ourselves in West Jersey, in America. And by y<sup>e</sup> good providence of God we arrived in y<sup>e</sup> Capes of Delaware y<sup>e</sup> eighteenth day of November following, and so up y<sup>e</sup> bay until we came to Elsenburg, and were landed with our goods and families at Salem, where we abode y<sup>e</sup> winter. But it being very favourable weather and purchasing a boat amongst us, we had an opportunity to make search up and down in y<sup>e</sup> which was called y<sup>e</sup> Third tenth, which had been reserved for y<sup>e</sup> proprietors dwelling in Ireland, where we might find a place suitable for so many of us to settle down together, being in these early times somewhat doubtful of y<sup>e</sup> Indians, and at last pitched down by y<sup>e</sup> which is now called Newton creek, as y<sup>e</sup> most invitingist place to settle down by, and then we went to Burlington, and made application to y<sup>e</sup> commissioners y<sup>t</sup> we might have warrants directed to Daniel Leeds, y<sup>e</sup> Surveyor General, to survey unto every of us, so much land as by y<sup>e</sup> constitution at y<sup>e</sup> time was allotted for a settlement being five hundred acres, or y<sup>t</sup> we had a right to, for a taking up it under, which accordingly we obtained.

“ At which time also Robert Zane, who came from ye city of

<sup>1</sup>Liber A, of Gloucester County deeds, page 98, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Trenton, N. J. (See Judge Clement's *First Settlers in Newton*, 24-26.)

Dublin, and had been settled in Salem, four years before, joined in with us who had a right to a tenth, Mark Newby to a twentieth, William Bates to a twentieth, Thomas Thackara to a twentieth, Thomas Sharp (out of his uncle Anthony Sharp's right) a twentieth, and George Goldsmith (under ye notion of Thomas Starkey's right) a tenth; all which of us excepting William Bates who took his on ye southerly side of Newton creek, we took our land in one tract together for one thousand seven hundred and fifty acres, bounding in ye forks of Newton creek and so over to Cooper's creek and by a line of marked trees to a small branch of ye fork creek and so down ye same as by ye certificate of it standing upon record in ye Secretary's office it doth appear. And after some time finding some inconvieny in having our land in common together being at ye time settled at ye place now called Newton in ye manner of a town for fear as aforesaid at which being removed we came to an agreement to divide. George Goldsmith he chose the head of the creek, Thomas Sharp the forks or lower end of the land next towards the river by which means the rest kept to their settlements without any disadvantage to themselves.

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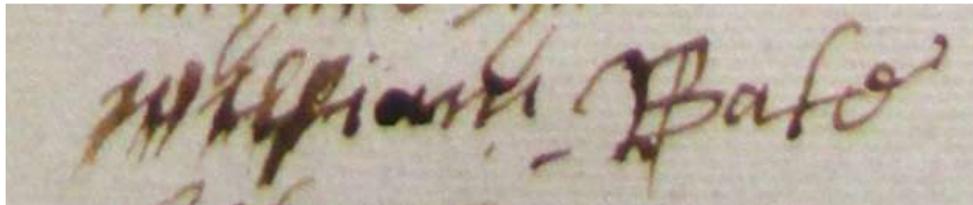
Given under my hand the 3rd month, 3rd, 1718.

THOMAS SHARP.”

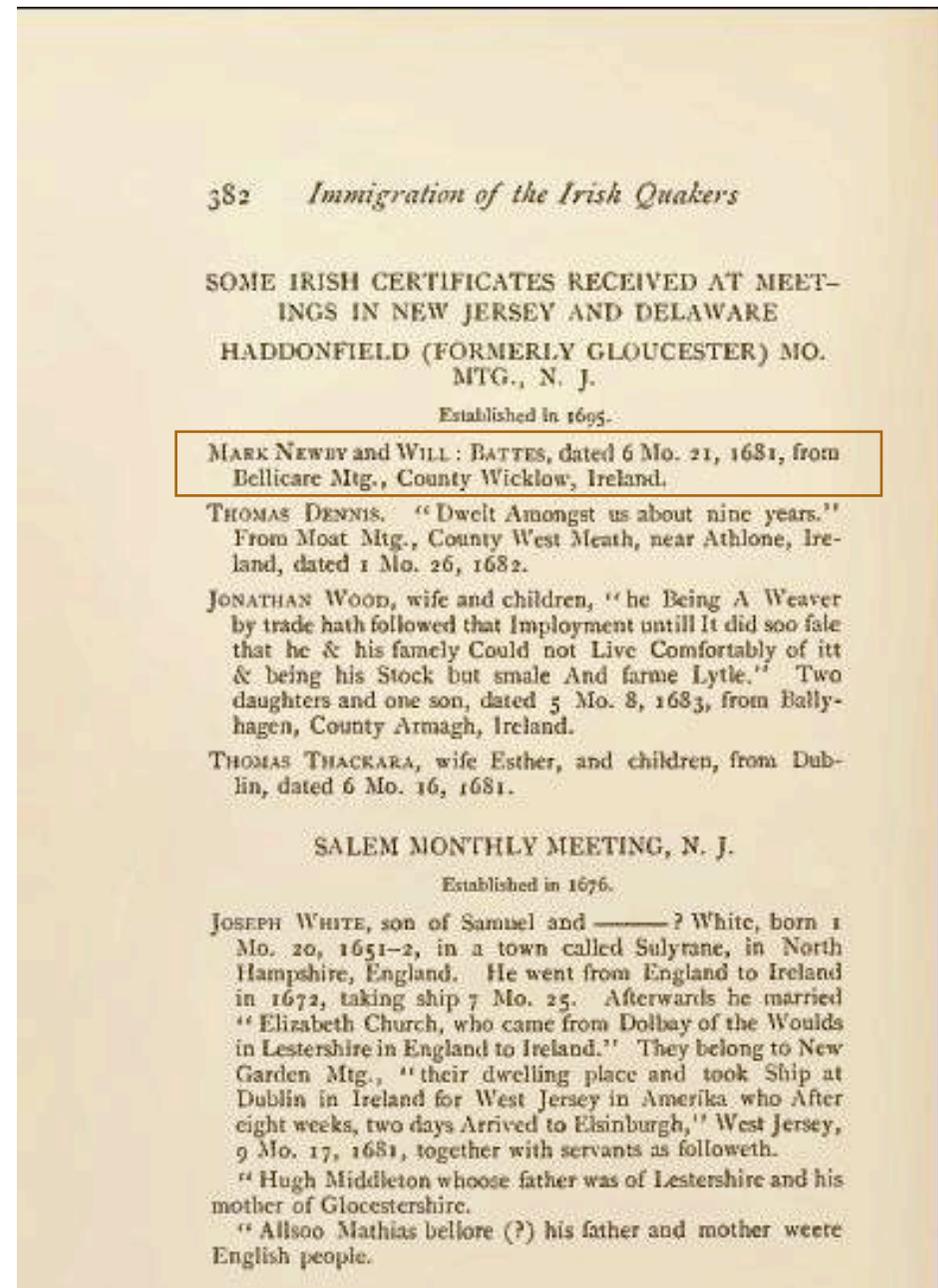
William Bates went on to have a distinguished position as representative of the Third Tenth of West Jersey and acted as a public servant in planning the highways of the State. He is also thought to have built the first Meeting house - "There can be no doubt who planned and built the first meeting house at Newton in 1684; who constructed the plain unpretending galleries, in which sat the forefathers of this people..." (*Sketches of the First Emigrant Settlers in Newton Township*)

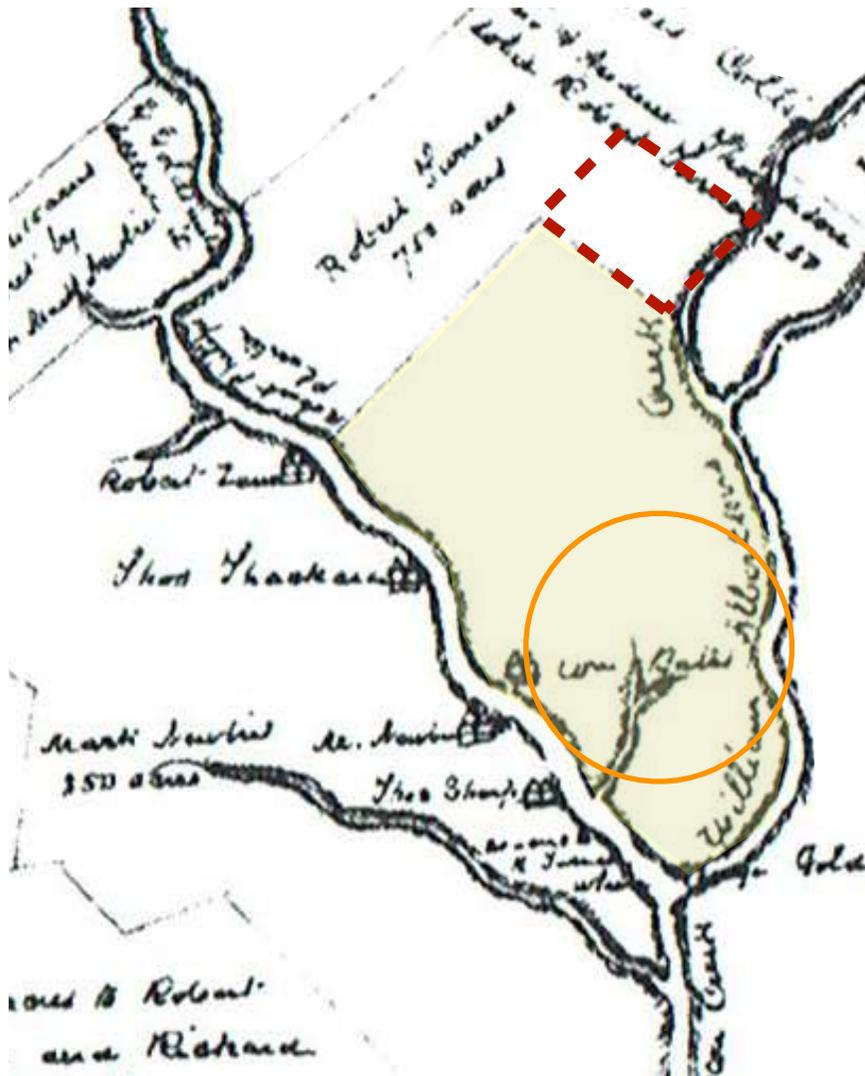
William died in 1700 and was buried in Newton Friends' Burying Ground. I am not aware that any memorial headstone may still be in existence, but I do have an image of the Place.

His story; the challenge of his life in difficult times; his skills as a master builder; the will to stand up to harassment and imprisonment, the determination to find a haven for himself and his family; his family's befriending of the Indians; and his service in the administration and government of New Jersey, have brought to life, for me and no doubt for others, the processes by which families struggled to achieve a lasting peace and a future, when the New World became a renewed focus for freedom and liberty of spirit.



William's witness signature from the Marriage Certificate of Samuel Grundy and Anne Wickham solemnised in Ballykeane, Co Wicklow, in the second month of 1680.



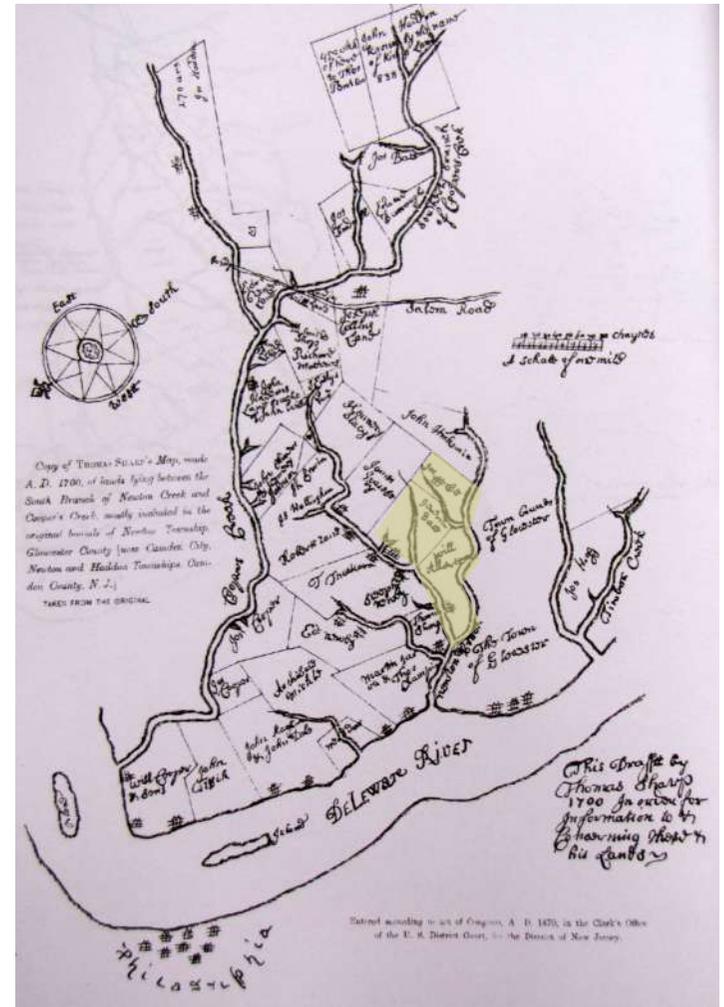


Copy of a map (reduced from the original) of Robert Turner's Land in Newton Township, Gloucester County NJ

Left: "Copy of a Map produced from the original, of Robert Turner's Land in Newton Township Gloucester County NJ"

Robert Turner was William Penn's agent in West New Jersey. The map shows the plot chosen by William "Wm. Bates on map)" across the Creek from those lands chosen by his companions. It was further added to in the Thomas Sharp map for the County records

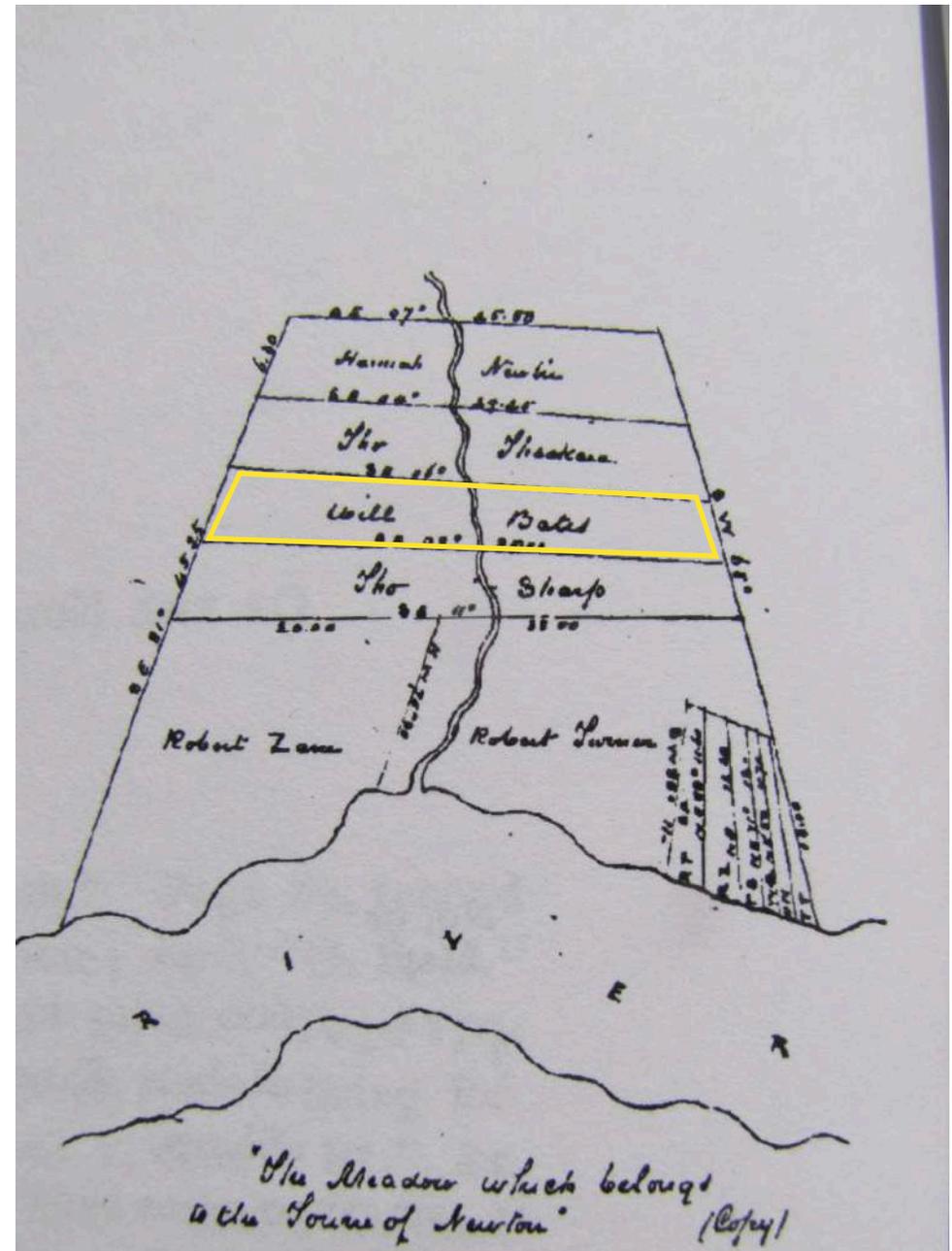
The maps on this page and facing page are reproduced from 'Sketches of the First Emigrant Settlers in Newton Township...' republished by British Library



Above: Copy of Thomas Sharp's map made in 1700, showing between the South Branch of Newton Creek and Cooper's Creek. William Bates' enlarged plot is shown coloured

**William Bates** acquired 250 acres in West Jersey from William Penn in 1677 and registered it in 1681, after choosing his plot on arrival in West Jersey. Plot No 2, is derived from the Turner map of 1681. It is shown in yellow. **(Facing page)** Extension of the lands to provide for three sons, Jeremiah, Joseph and William is drawn as a dotted line. From descriptions accompanying the Google map, the land is definitely aligned (see P.12) with White Horse Pike, **left** side on the map. After extension, the boundary on the **right** side is said to extend beyond the Black Horse Pike, the line of which was decided when he was a representative for the Irish Tenth in the Legislature of the Province, and one of the commissioners for laying out highways.

**Right,** This map shows the meadows belonging to the 'Towns of Newton' beside the Delaware River. Will. Bates share is outlined in yellow. The additional land was needed for fodder.



Ballymurrin Quaker Farmstead, Wicklow

1668 - 2018

350 years ago: Quakers came to Ballymurrin 17

## 5 Ballymurrin House and The Burying Place at Ballymurrin

Ballymurrin was home for William Bates and his family for at least a decade, from 1670 to 1681. When he arrived Ambrose and Anne Judd were living on the site, in a modest version of a farmstead, which is still there, but in ruin behind the main house. It is likely that it was William who exercised his skills as a builder and architect, and worked for a number of years to craft a significant architectural piece, a beautifully proportioned house with generous rooms, not at all grandiose but simple and "serviceable to truth" as Quakers would have wished. Upon completion of the house there was room for at least three families; William, his wife and six children were in occupation during their abode in Wicklow.

Ballymurrin was a substantial farm of 223 acres, which would have needed a number of locally based people to work the land. It is still an undulating landscape little changed by modern development and recalling the character of its past use by its mature hedgerows of deciduous trees, oak, ash and beech, with hedges of holly, whitethorn, gorse, hazel and brambles. The land is very good and the climate is benign, so there is good growing for cereals and grazing for cattle. The farm probably began with what we call the first homestead behind the main house,

Yet within a decade or so it grew to include a building which was a combination of residential and agricultural accommodation, the second farmstead. This was followed with the five bay farmhouse, attached to the living area of the second farmstead. Some time, maybe thirty years later, a further two bays were added to produce a dower cottage, a place for the elderly to live in as the next generation took over the running of the farm. This range of buildings in a straight line stretched to about 160 feet in length, and 16ft deep, the depth of a single room. On either side and creating a rectangular courtyard, extended a cow shed on one side and a stable and cart shed on the other. The courtyard originally was divided with a wall to incorporate a working yard, at the cow shed side, and a walled garden in front of the main house. There were several separate buildings behind the courtyard buildings, difficult to imagine all their uses but the 1911 census identified the outbuildings uses as 13, and gave us this list: 1 stable, 1 coach house, 3 cow houses, 2 calf houses, 1 dairy, 1 piggery, 1 fowl house, 1 boiling house, 1 shed and 1 store. The farm has been divided from the farmstead, where we live, and there is no longer agricultural activity in the buildings. Over time, we have re-roofed and put to use most of the buildings.

The farmstead had its own burying ground on the Ballymurrin lands. Many well known Quakers were buried there including Elizabeth Eves, eldest daughter of William Bates, as well as the parents and three of the children of the Judd family, first residents of Ballymurrin. Although some 140 people are buried there from the Wicklow area, there are only four headstones. Quakers gave up using headstones in 1671, because they believed in equality of people and their spirit and did not agree with the trend for headstones to become ornate and grandiose. This constraint was dropped in the 1850s: the Pim family, have four headstones in one corner of the burying ground. The Burying Ground today is a walled rectangular area with mown grass and mature trees around the edge, a place of quiet and solitude. The burying ground was transferred into ownership of the 'Society of People called Quakers' in 1812 from the Pim family, then the current owners of the farm and lands,

although the continuous ownership of the place was maintained, whilst names changed through marriage, it was not sold to non-Quakers until 1874.

We have rescued the building identified as the second farmstead, Although used latterly as a Dairy. Originally, part of it was used as a forge with a massive clay and wattle chimney which remains, unchanged. Two other kitchens survive, both with walk-in chimneys and bread ovens to the side. We use the loft upstairs as a studio, and the 'dairy'/'forge' is now in habitable residential use, with minimal changes.

The 3 cow houses listed in the 1911 census were derelict when we arrived. We rescued and converted them into our 'Old Milking Parlour', which is rented. In the renovation we were careful to retain the features and character of the original building.

The stables had an unfortunate event some winters ago when extreme rain affected the stability of the roof which collapsed. We rebuilt that and have it dry, but unused other than for storage. The garden surrounding the house, about one and a half acres, had an orchard to the rear and a walled garden at the front. We have planted new hedges of hornbeam and willow and a group of silver birch trees. The surrounding farm fields have mature hedges and we are well sheltered from wind with a lovely pastoral outlook.

**Below:** Quaker Burial Ground at Ballymurrin





## 5 Ballymurrin House and The Burying Place at Ballymurrin (cont'd)

The map, **left**, shows the extent of the farm, the townland of Ballymurrin Lower, when it was originally leased from William Parsons. Some time later the adjacent townland of Ballymurrin Upper was also leased bringing the total size to over 350 acres of good farmland. This map was part of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland from 1840. During famine times in the mid-1840s many landowners became insolvent. The Pim family were unable to maintain the whole of the farm.

They sold, through the Court of the Incumbered Estates in Ireland, the Ballymurrinmore portion, the area to the right of Ballymurrin lower, some 194 acres, in 1855.

The map, numbering the tenancies was used by the Landed Estates Commission to prepare the land for sale in 1874. It was described as the estate of Lydia Pim, Widow. The farm and its buildings was bought by the Byrne Family, Mary, and Edward. At that time there were two substantial properties on the site, the farmstead and a more recent house, Woodville House. On the map the complex was named Woodville House. The courtyard of the farmstead is evident, with the new house, built sometime close to 1800 as a classical villa, directly South. The Burying Ground is identified in red as it was not part of the sale at the time. There is an accompanying schedule of the various tenancies, which no doubt accumulated during the early nineteenth century. The land form and field divisions have not changed; the landscape still keeps the scale of the eighteenth century layout of the farm.

First about Marriages, and the manner of accomplishing the same  
 Secondly Concerning Parents, and Masters of Families instructing  
 their Children and Servants.  
 Thirdly Advice to such as be Rich in the things of this world to  
 be serviceable in the Truth.  
 Fourthly that Friends in the Ministry to Meet once a Quarter  
 at the province meeting, and the two friends appointed to be  
 concerned about Worship and Ministry &c. so that at next  
 provinces meeting is the time appointed to meet.  
 To combine friends Godly care to Visit Families &c.  
 Against all striped and painted hangings, fine Shining Glittering  
 Tables, Stands, Chests of drawers, Dressing Boxes, large Looking  
 Glasses, and painting Rooms with many Colours &c. that all  
 may be plain and serviceable, decent according to Truth, against  
 swelling, Carving or Images.

1694  
 301  
 That friends keep out of needless and superfluous Excess  
 of Wine & Brandy or taking Tobacco &c. at Burials.

Example of minutes from a Provincial Quaker Meeting in 1694, where a number of advices were given within the minutes, for action by local meetings, as follows:  
 'First about Marriages and the manner of accomplishing the same.

'Secondly Concerning parents and Masters of families instructing their children and servant.

'Thirdly Advice to such as be Rich in the Things of this world to be serviceable in the Truth.

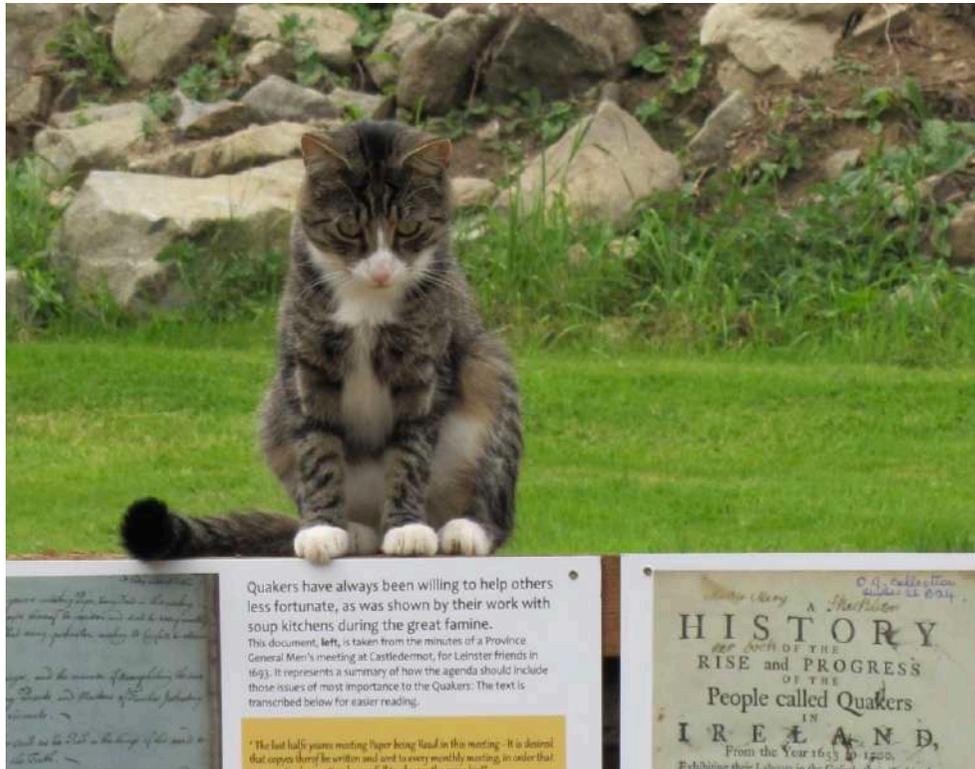
'Fourthly that Friends in the Ministry to meet once a Quarter in the Province meeting and the two friends appointed to be concerned about Worship and Ministry so that at next province is the time to meet

'Fifthly To combine friends Godly care to Visit Families etc.

'Sixthly Against all striped and painted hangings from Shining Glittering Tables, Stands, Chests of drawers, Dressing Boxes, Large Looking Glasses, and painting rooms with many colours etc. That all may be plain and serviceable, decent according to Truth, against Scrolling, Carving or images.

'7thly That Friends keep out of needless and superfluous Excess of Wine and Brandy or taking tobacco etc. at Burials'.

This is our Bates, keeping a close eye on the exhibition panels in the first Farmstead



## Sources of Information

The first realisation of the significance of William Bates beyond his stay in Ireland came from a request from Stephen Bates from the US by email some years ago - could we confirm that William Bates lived in Ballymurrin and when? This led us into the literature of the lives of Irish emigrants to America, and Newton Township in particular. We followed up his reference to the Bates Association, became members and receive their news sheet. Sandy Bates and her family visited us in march 2016. This year 2018 we shall be visited by Sarah Bates Horton and families. This account of William Bates has been prepared to celebrate their visit, which coincides with the 350th anniversary of when Ambrose Judd and Anne Eves married in 1667 and had there first child, Robert, at Ballymurrin in 1668

The internet has yielded a huge amount of information about West Jersey from the 1670s onwards, when the Bates children were marrying and settling themselves on land adjacent to William's at Newton Creek, Three books, listed below were especially significant in understanding the emigration and immigration of Irish settlers.

**A History of the Rise and Progress of the People called Quakers in Ireland from the Year 1653 to 1700**, Thomas Wight, Dublin 1751 ( An original copy of this book was given to me after Ross and Robina Chapman visited the house from Newry in 2012. It is a treasure which will always reside in this house at Ballymurrin.

**Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania 1682-1750** ALBERT COOK MYERS, M.L. published in 1901

**Sketches of the First Emigrant Settlers in Newton Township, Old Gloucester County, West New Jersey** JOHN CLEMENT 1877

Most of the information included about William and his family in Ireland was sourced from the Ireland **Quaker Historical Library** at Rathfarnham, Dublin. The support there of Glynn Douglas and Christopher Moriarty has been huge, along with so many Quakers who have visited the Farmstead over the years and shown great enthusiasm for the place and its stories. The access to Trinity College Dublin through its websites on the **1641 Rebellion** and the **Down Survey of 1654**, its library and its history lectures about Ireland from 1600 to 1800 were invaluable. We thank you all, and hope the this account of William Bates' sojourn in Ireland will be appreciated, and elaborated with further information of which we might not be aware.

**Philip and Delphine Geoghegan** at Ballymurrin Quaker Farmstead, July 2018

