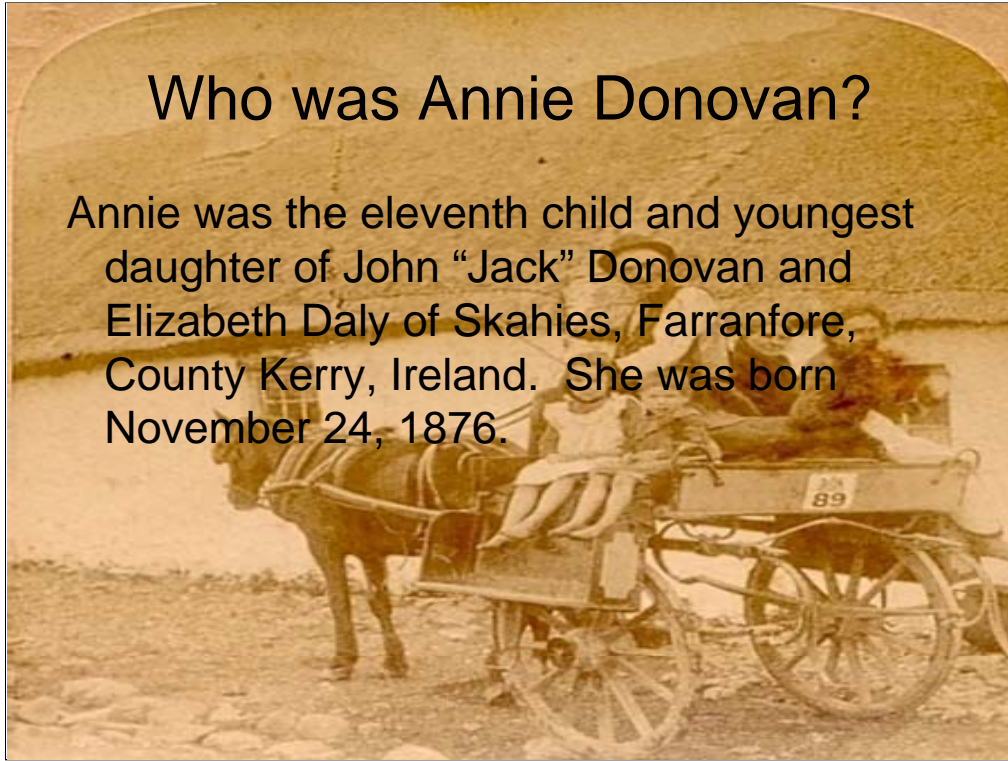




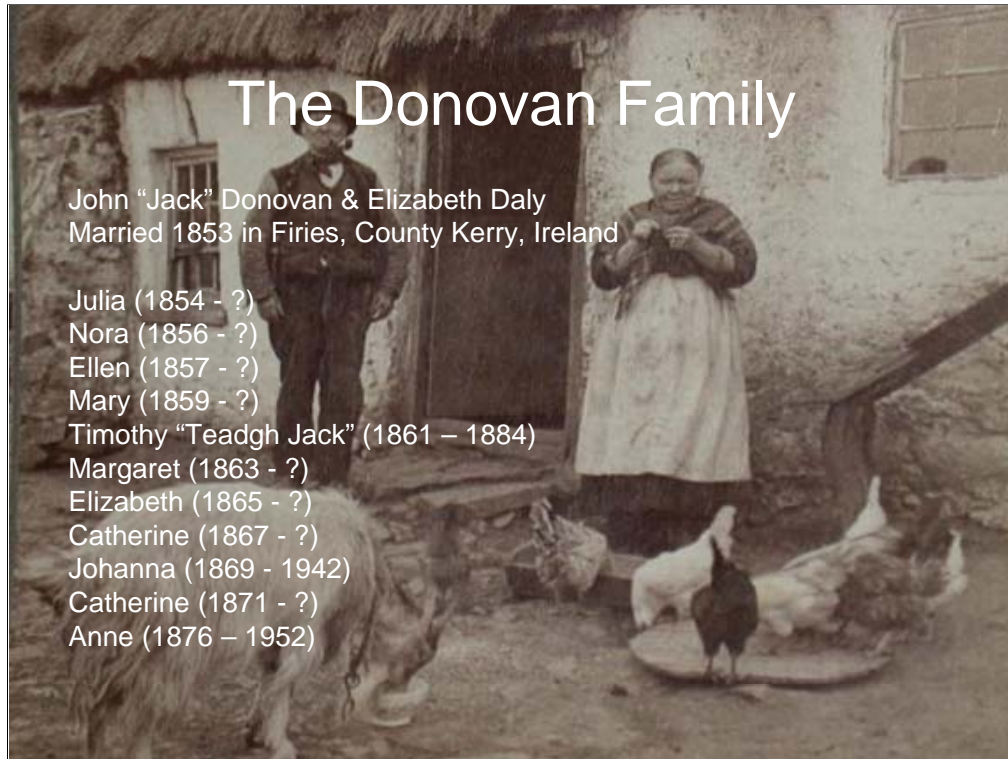
Hello everyone, my name is Jane Deedy and I have spent the last couple of years researching the various branches of my family tree. It has amazed me how much information is available from various sources. When deciding whom I should pick to talk about today, I settled on Annie's story since I was able to find clues about her life from passenger records, census records, historical records, city directories, and land and deed records. Another important source of my information about Annie and her family was found in the Family Record Report created by Shaun Bresnahan. Shaun spent over a decade researching his family tree, traveling numerous times to Ireland. Lucky for me, it turns out we are distant cousins, his work has been a treasure trove of information. Just as Shaun has been an invaluable resource to me in learning more about the Donovan's and Daly's, Clare Tozeski has been equally so in providing me with additional Deady information. Both Shaun and Clare are here today and I want to take this opportunity to Thank them both publicly for all of their research efforts and years of hard work. While much information is available, it is the searching and finding of that information which is the time consuming part. When records could not be found, Shaun took his research a step further by seeking out Irish relatives and over the years gained from them much of the information that would otherwise have been lost to us. I thank you both, Shaun and Clare, as do all of the many Deedy and Donovan descendants in the room today.

## Who was Annie Donovan?

Annie was the eleventh child and youngest daughter of John “Jack” Donovan and Elizabeth Daly of Skahies, Farranfore, County Kerry, Ireland. She was born November 24, 1876.



She was the youngest daughter and eleventh child of Jack Donovan and Elizabeth Daly. The images you will see in this next series of slides were all taken in the early 1900's in County Kerry Ireland. The scenes depicted are meant to give you an idea of what Annie would have seen and experienced growing up in the area.



Born in 1876, Annie was 22 years younger than her eldest sibling Julia. While I am not sure when Annie's parents, Jack Donovan and Elizabeth Daly were born, I do know that they married in 1853 in Furies, Ireland.





## Historical Context

- Great Potato Famine (1845 – 1849)
- In 1845, 24% of all Irish farms were one to five acres in size, while 40% were five to fifteen acres. Farms so small that only potatoes – no other crop – would suffice to feed a family.
- Shortly before 1845 the British Government reported that poverty was so wide-spread that one third of all small holdings could not support their families, after paying their rent – most took seasonal migrant work to make ends meet.

To better understand Annie's family, it is helpful to know what historical events likely impacted her. While the Great Potato Famine was over by the time Annie was born, it was a four year event her parents survived and lived through as teenagers.



## Historical Context (cont.)

- Evictions were only recorded starting in 1849. 250,000 evictions were recorded between 1849 – 1852. Not counted are “voluntary surrenders”. A common practice was for wealthy local landowners to offer a small amount of money and the promise that starving families would be taken in by the workhouse.
- Quarter-acre clause (enacted 1847): no tenant holding more than a quarter-acre of land would be eligible for public assistance either in or outside the workhouse. This law was seen as a cost-effective “estate clearing” device by the British Tory government. However, the Tories eventually repealed the law, admitting it was “indirectly a death-dealing instrument.”

## Historical Context (cont.)

- 1851 British Census Commission conclusion, after reporting that the Irish population had fallen to 6,552,385 from 8 million in 1845: "In conclusion, we feel that although the population has been diminished in so remarkable a manner by famine, disease and emigration, and has been since decreasing, the results are, on a whole, satisfactory."



Julia Donovan & Thomas Fitzgerald  
Nora Donovan & John Fitzgerald  
Ellen Donovan  
Mary Donovan & (?) Riordan  
Timothy "Teadgh Jack"  
Margaret Donovan & John Moriarty  
Elizabeth Donovan & Patrick O'Keefe  
Catherine Donovan  
**Johanna Donovan & Edward Deedy**  
Catherine Donovan & Humphrey Shea  
**Annie Donovan**

I mentioned before that Annie was the youngest of eleven children. The Donovan family may have been poor, but they were rich in women. A few things to note about this list of names. The eldest Donovan girls, Julia & Nora (some 20 years older than Annie) married a pair of brothers, Thomas and John Fitzgerald. The story I heard from Shaun Bresnahan is the men were both about 20 years older than their young brides. This was a result of the famine years. So many women had died, that there was a lack of brides for the men. They had to wait for the next generation of girls to grow-up before marrying themselves.

Other names on the list to note is Annie's older sisters Elizabeth O'Keefe, Johanna Deedy (my great-great grandmother) and Catherine Shea. These names will crop up again a little later in the presentation.



## Emigration

- Annie departed from Queenstown, Ireland (now Cobh, Ireland) aboard the S.S. Pavonia on September 7, 1898 and arrived in Boston September 15, 1898.



At about the age of 22, Annie left Ireland and immigrated to the United States. The image seen here was taken on board a ship looking back at Queenstown, Ireland about 1900. This likely would have been Annie's last view of Ireland.

QUEENSTOWN. "E" LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN IMMIGRANTS FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION. 428 List No. "E" 416

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1893, to be delivered to the Commissioner of Immigration by the Commanding Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in the United States.

S.S. PAVONIA, sailing from QUEENSTOWN, 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 1898, Arriving at Port of BOSTON, 189

No.	Age	Sex	Birthplace	Parents	Religion	Profession	Education	Marital Status	Health	Character	Remarks	Signature	Date
1	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
2	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
3	23	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
4	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
5	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
6	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
7	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
8	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
9	11	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
10	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
11	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
12	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
13	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
14	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
15	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
16	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
17	23	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
18	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
19	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
20	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
21	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
22	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
23	11	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
24	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
25	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
26	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
27	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
28	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
29	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
30	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
31	23	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
32	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
33	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
34	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
35	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
36	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
37	11	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
38	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
39	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
40	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
41	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
42	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
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44	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
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46	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
47	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
48	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
49	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
50	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
51	11	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
52	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
53	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
54	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
55	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
56	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
57	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
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60	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
61	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
62	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
63	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
64	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
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66	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
67	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
68	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
69	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
70	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
71	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
72	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
73	23	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
74	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
75	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
76	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
77	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
78	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
79	11	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
80	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
81	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
82	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
83	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
84	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
85	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
86	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
87	23	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
88	21	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
89	19	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
90	17	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
91	15	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
92	13	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
93	11	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
94	9	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
95	7	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
96	5	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
97	3	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
98	1	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			
99	27	M	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Farmer	Primary	Married	Good	None			
100	25	F	Irish	John & Mary	Roman Catholic	Housewife	Primary	Married	Good	None			

APPROVED BY THE MASTER OR COMMANDING OFFICER, ON FIRST OR SECOND NOTICE.

Signature: *W. J. S. Stephens* Date: *18/9/98*

Signature: *W. J. S. Stephens* Date: *18/9/98*

I have uncovered Annie's passenger record. We see here that Annie sailed on September 7th, 1898 for Boston.

## Passenger Info

- Name in full: Annie Donovan
- Age: 20
- Sex: Female
- Married or Single: Single
- Calling or Occupation: Servant
- Able to Read/Write: yes/yes
- Nationality: Irish
- Last Residence: Killarney
- Seaport for landing in the United States: Boston
- Final destination in the U.S.: Roxbury
- Ticket to final destination?: No
- By whom was passage paid: Self
- Whether in possession of money: \$20.00
- Ever before in U.S.: No
- Whether going to join a relative, If No, name and address: No, Sister, Mrs. Keefe, 33 Leon St. Roxbury
- Ever in Prison or Almshouse or supported by charity: No
- Polygamist: No
- Under contract for employment?: No
- Condition of Health, Mental & Physical: Good
- Deformed or crippled, Nature and cause: No

When Annie left Ireland, she stated she was 20 years old, had worked as a servant, had \$20 in her pocket, and was heading to Roxbury to join a sister – Mrs. Keefe of 33 Leon St.

This is likely Annie's older sister, Elizabeth O'Keefe. So when Annie left Ireland she had a destination and older siblings to ease her transition into American life.





# 1910 Census

**Household Members:**

Crompton, Charles - Head of Household - 44yrs old  
Fitzgerald, Katherine - Servant - 24yrs old  
Donovan, Annie - Servant - 29yrs old  
Fitzgerald, Thomas - Servant - 24yrs old  
Fitzgerald, James - Servant - 21yrs old

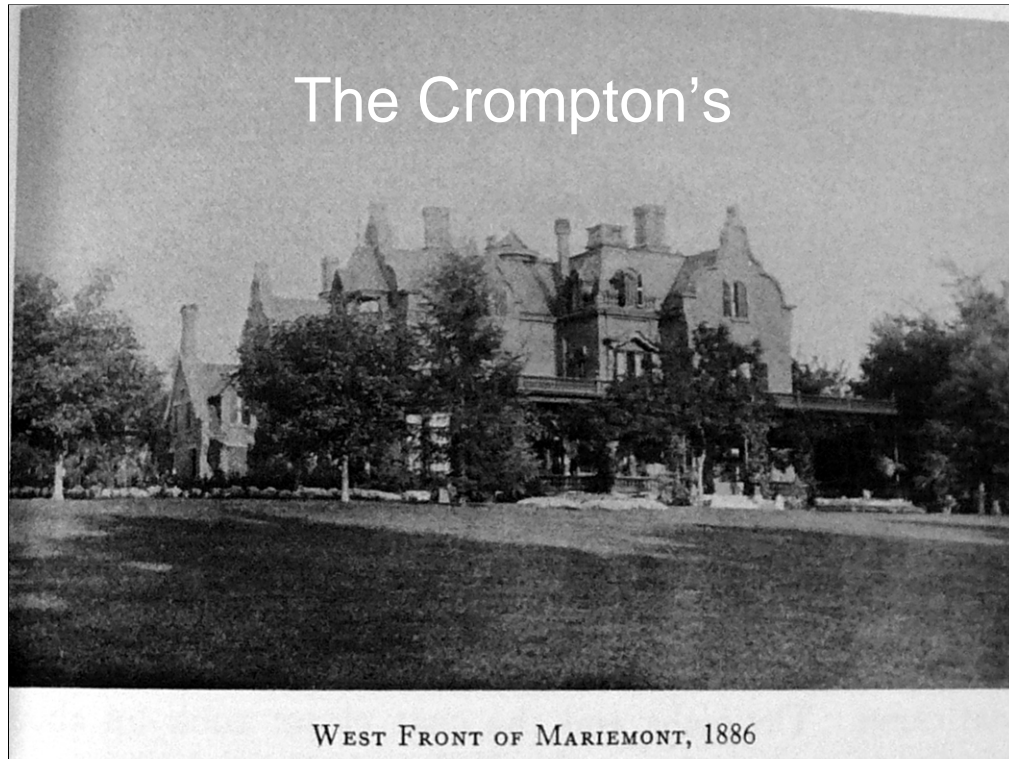
**When Immigrated:**

Fitzgerald, Katherine - 1907  
Donovan, Annie - Servant - 1899  
Fitzgerald, Thomas - Servant - 1907  
Fitzgerald, James - Servant - 1909

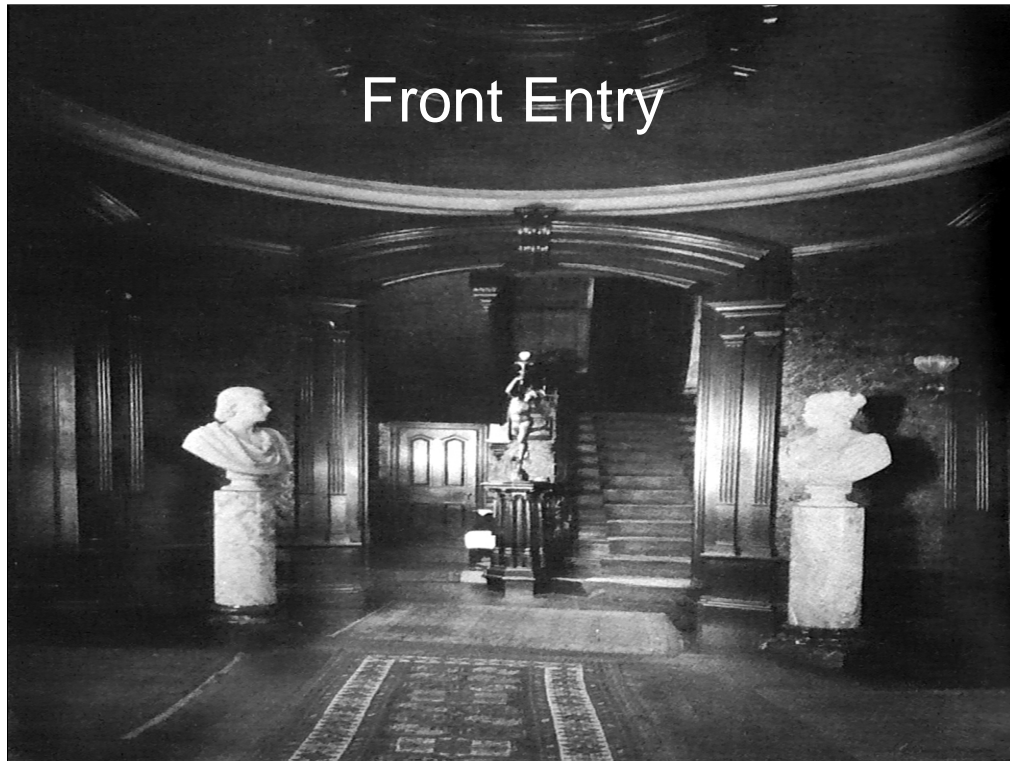
**Occupations:**

Crompton, Charles - Farmer - Farm  
Fitzgerald, Katherine - Servant - Private Family  
Donovan, Annie - Servant - Servant - Private Family  
Fitzgerald, Thomas - Servant - Farm Hand - Farm  
Fitzgerald, James - Servant - Farm Hand - Farm

Annie is now living in Worcester and working as a servant in the Crompton household. Listed alongside Annie are three Fitzgerald's. As you will recall, Annie's older sisters both married Fitzgerald men. Through passenger records I feel confident in saying these three Fitzgerald's are Annie's niece and nephews.



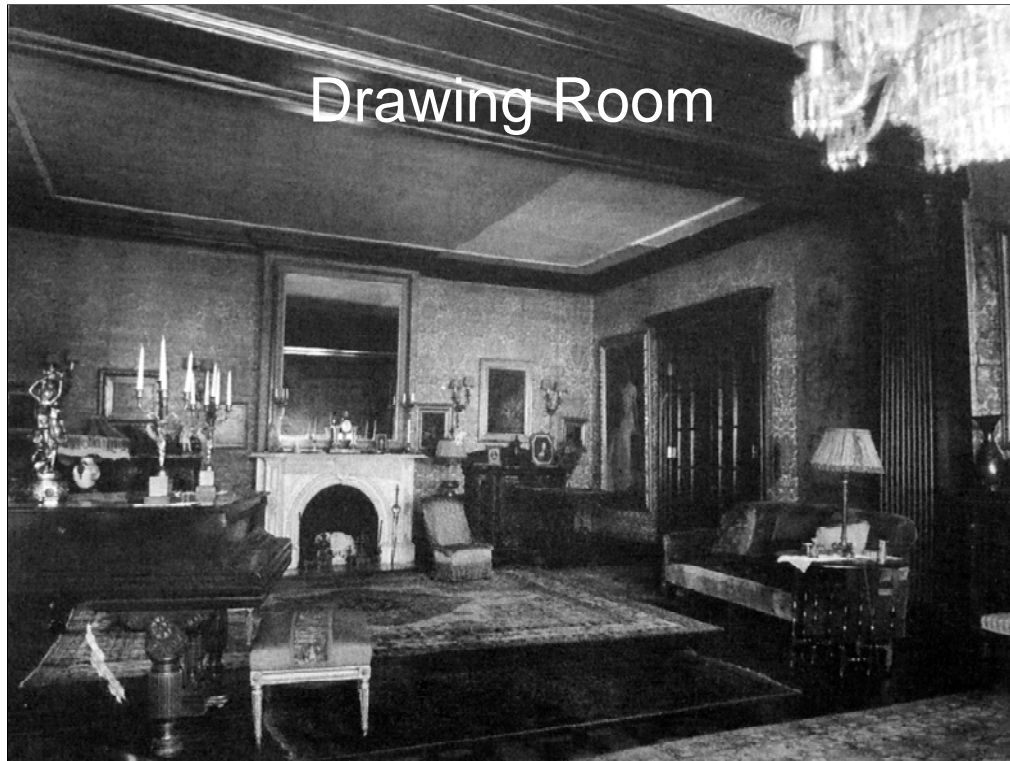
Annie was fortunate in her employer. The Crompton's were a very wealthy Worcester family. They owned the Crompton & Knowles Loom works. The next series of slides shows the Crompton's home called "Mariemont". The images were all obtained from the book titled "Mariemont" by Charles Crompton (published 1952). As I page through the images I want you to remember back to the earlier images of County Kerry and then think of what Annie must have felt when she first arrived in Worcester to work and live at the Crompton estate.

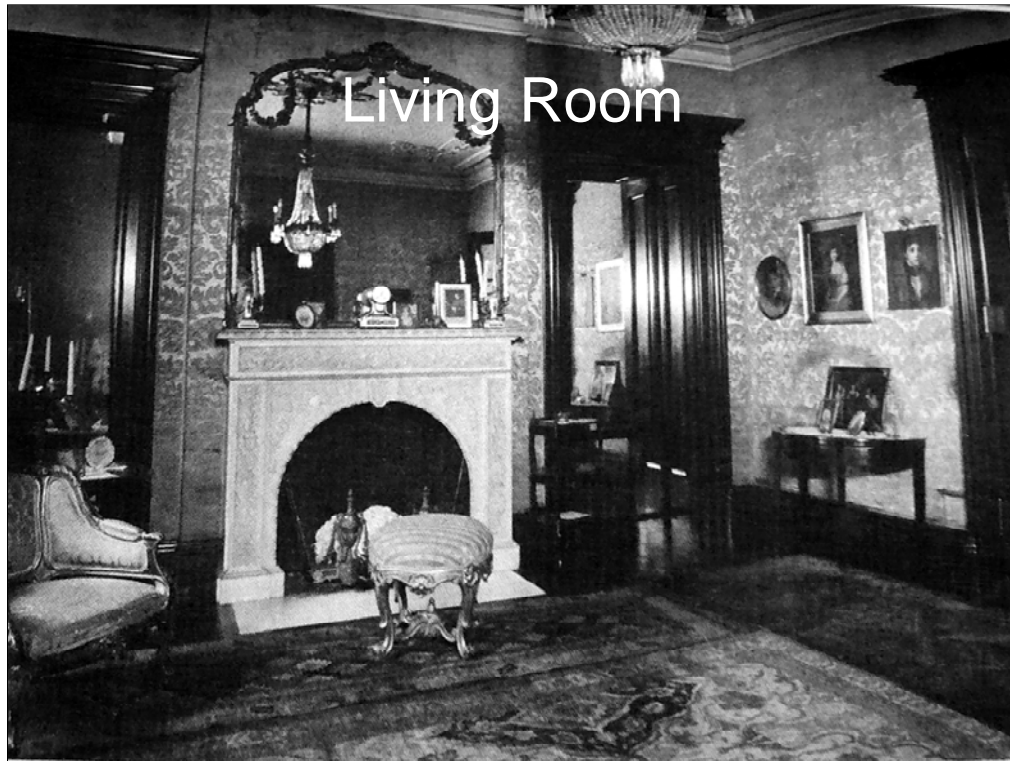


## Dining Room





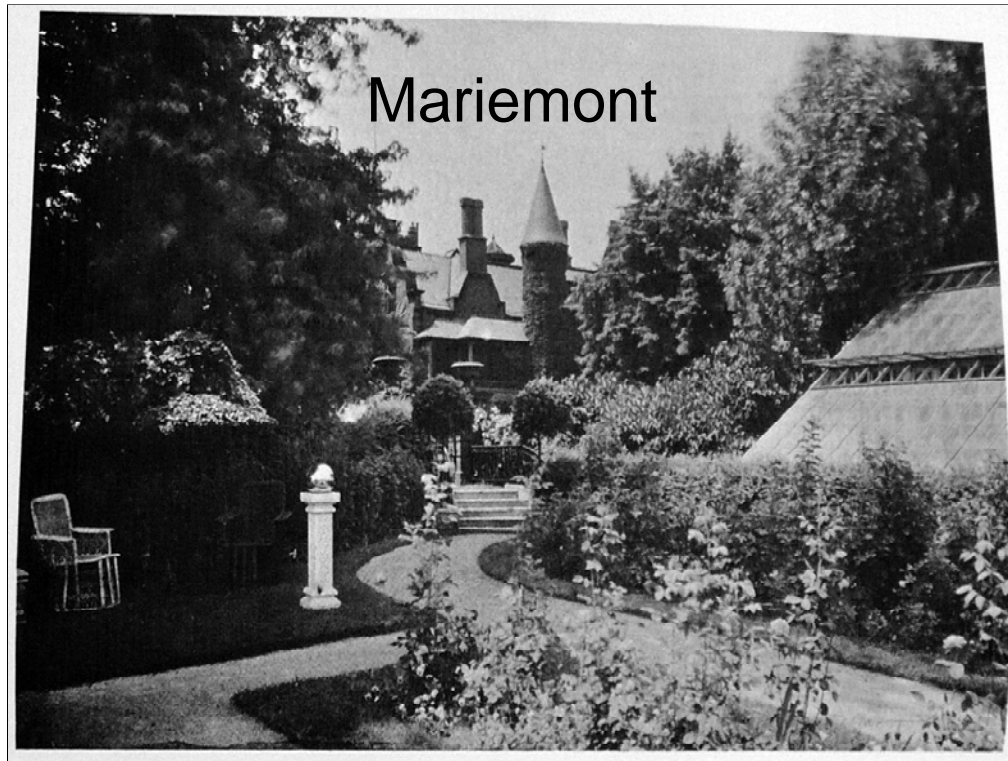


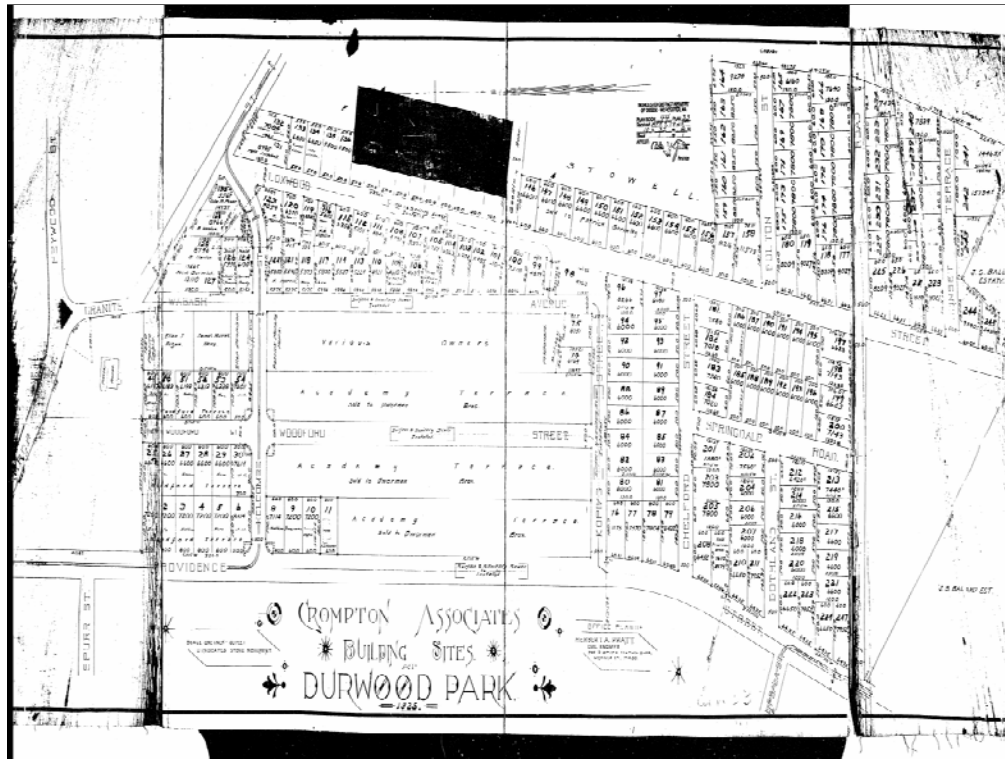




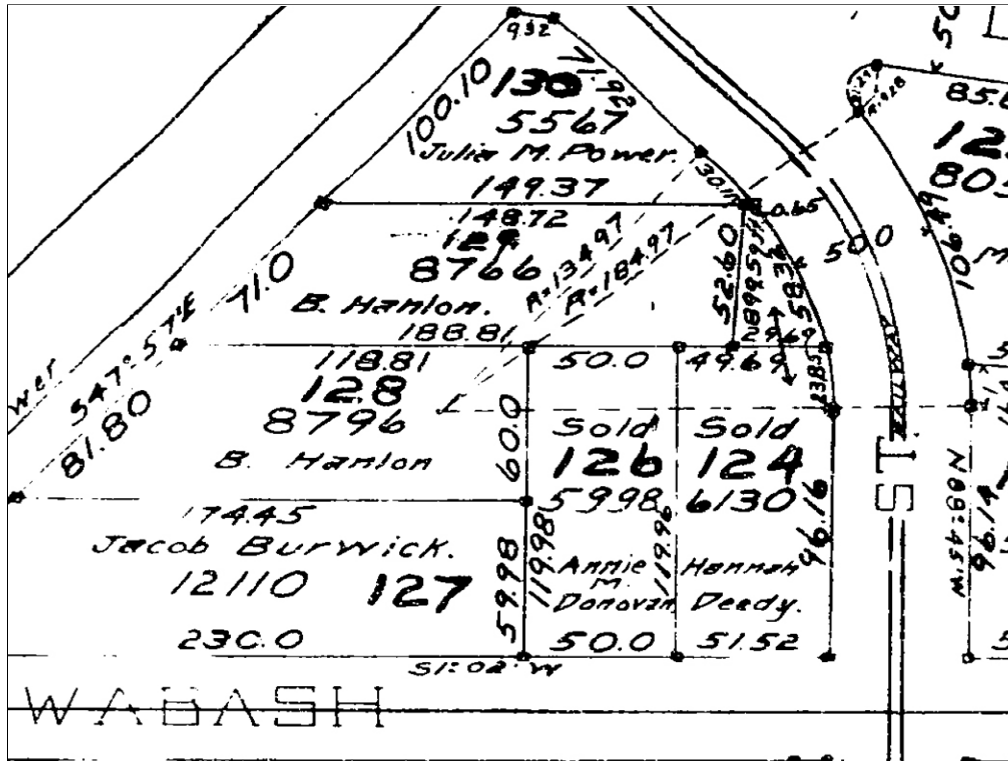








As Worcester continued to grow, the Crompton's sectioned off their farm and started selling lots of land. In 1913 I found a deed showing Annie M. Donovan purchasing the lot at 10 Wabash Avenue for "\$1 and other considerations" from George Crompton.



But you will notice that next to Annie's lot is 12 Wabash Ave which was purchased by her sister (my great-great grandmother) Hannah Deedy in 1912. A couple of things are interesting about Hannah's deed. First, she was a married women, yet the deed clearly gives her first mention on the title "One Dollar and other valuable considerations paid by Hannah Deedy of Worcester County of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts wife of Edward B. Deedy". This wording was very strange for the times, but if Hannah's relationship to Annie was the means through with this purchase was conducted from the Crompton's, that could explain Hannah's prominence on the deed. Also, Hannah's deed was executed one year earlier than Annie's – yet the lots are side-by-side. Perhaps the Crompton's had reserved these lots for the sisters?

**1 Wabash Av—Con****Building—Con**

Kelley Walter J  
Moynihan Anna r  
3 Regan Wm H  
5 English J Henry  
English John H jr r  
English Mary E r  
Regan Annie Mrs r  
Adams Wilfred J  
Levine Phil H  
7 Lazerowich Israel  
Mitchell Michl  
Mitchell Alex  
Mitchell Irene A r  
Mitchell Paul r  
9 Burns Thos F  
Burns Cath A r  
11 Fell Michl T  
Sarson Lawrence E r

**Building—Con**

Weintraub Bella S r  
Weintraub Robt r  
8 Jakubiak Martin P  
Jakubiak Irene S r  
10 Shea Helen F  
Crompton Chas r  
Donovan Annie M r  
Sanderson Jas B jr  
Sanderson Jas B r  
Fitzgerald Jas J  
Fitzgerald Cath M r  
12 Deedy Edw B  
Deedy Eliz G r  
Deedy Rita M r  
Freedman Geo  
Deedy John G  
Deedy Edw T r  
Deedy John G jr r  
**Holcombe crosses**

By 1947 the Crompton estate Mariemont had been sold and then torn down to make way for St. Vincent's hospital. In the 1948 Worcester directory, Annie Donovan is now seen living at her home at 10 Wabash ave along with her longtime charge, Charles Crompton.

I am not yet clear on why Charles Crompton (nephew of George Crompton) was living with his former housekeeper after the sale of his estate. But his residing with Annie shows just how dedicated she was to the Crompton family. Annie passed away in 1952 at the age of 76.



This concludes my presentation on Annie Donovan. Thank you.