

# The Frend Family of Boskill

by Garry Ahern

The Boskill/Templemichael area of Caherconlish has endured land confiscation in the Cromwellian period, encampment of the Williamite armies in 1690 and 1691, and a significant Civil War episode in 1922. The modern townlands of Boskill<sup>1</sup> and Templemichael<sup>2</sup>, in the civil parish of Caherconlish, are almost identical in acreage and they lie on either side of the Caherconlish to Dromkeen road. Over the years, Boskill was by far the more populous of the two townlands. In 1841, Templemichael had just four inhabited houses, whereas Boskill had thirty<sup>3</sup>. This was all part of territory held by the De Burghs/Burkes until its confiscation in the mid-seventeenth century. Then, Captain John Frend, one of Oliver Cromwell's officers, was granted over 3,000 acres of land in County Limerick. Burke's genealogy of the family refers to Captain Frend becoming High Sheriff of the county in 1659-60<sup>4</sup>. The confiscated lands he gained in Caherconlish parish included the modern townlands of Boskill, Carrigoreilly, Hundred Acres East (including the entire northern side of High Street, Caherconlish), Knockanea, Knockatanacashlane and Templemichael. The Frends built their first house in Boskill townland and it gave its name to the family seat.

## *King William at Caherconlish, Boskill Lodge or Boskill House?*

In the late 1600s, Captain John Frend (or possibly his son, Benjamin,) built Boskill Lodge, in Boskill townland. Later, the family residence was the more spacious Boskill House, in the adjoining townland of Templemichael. Boskill Lodge was built on ground overlooking Caherconlish village, a site close to the present Caherline GAA Club grounds known as Fr Hayes Memorial Park. King William III and his army camped here in 1690, prior to his unsuccessful assault on Limerick. The duration of the King's stay

has varied in accounts from a fortnight<sup>5</sup> to just two nights<sup>6</sup>.

The Williamite army returned in 1691, more than 20,000 strong, but this time without William. The Primary Valuation map (c. 1850), shows Boskill Lodge, situated in Boskill townland, amidst topographical features which are derived directly from the Williamite encampments. These include Parkanore/'Páirc-an Óir', and Parkaphrinca/'Páirc an Phrionsa', with 'The track of King William's Road' leading away from Boskill Lodge. The same map shows Boskill House in Templemichael townland. Some confusion has arisen from the apparently inadvertent reversing of the houses' names in O'Donovan's Ordnance Survey Name Books. Boskill Lodge is described as a house 'built in 1800 by Capt. Benj. Friend', situated 'near the centre of Templemichael townland'<sup>7</sup>. This is clearly not the house used in 1690. Likewise, this source also refers to Boskill House as the house 'which (William's army) fortified with large trenches about it, which were, the last of them levelled about 1833.'<sup>8</sup> It seems clear, therefore, that the house used by William of Orange was Boskill Lodge, in Boskill townland, dating from the late seventeenth century, rather than Boskill House<sup>9</sup>, in Templemichael townland, which dates from about 1800.

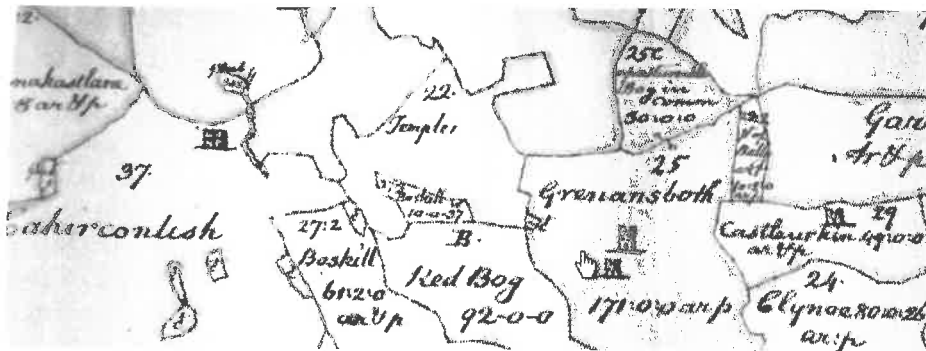
## *Templemichael*

'Teampail Mhichíl' was a church and burial ground which is believed to date from the earliest Christian times, but information on this is sparse. It is possible that the church served the immediate area, long before the development, from about the early thirteenth century, of adjacent Caherconlish, with its castle and church. In 1595, among grants made to one George Sherlock was land which had formerly 'been granted in mortmain to the Church of St. Michael (now Templemichael) in the Barony of Caherconlish, occupied by persons called Converbini.'<sup>10</sup> In 1661, the area was referred to as 'the village and hamlet of Temple Michael', in relation to the petition by Baroness Brittas (Margaret Burke).<sup>11</sup>

In the mid-seventeenth century, most of the area was designated 'Temples'. This was subsequently mapped in the nineteenth century by the O.S. as Templemichael<sup>12</sup> which was then 'halfe plowland meareth on the east with Grenane on the South and West with Boskill and on the North with Cnockanagh all in the said pish of Caherkinlish'. While the proprietor had been 'William Lord Burke Barron of Castleconnell Irish Papist', the estimated eighty (Plantation) acres of 'the said lands is mortgaged to the children of Piers Butler of Bansigh'.<sup>13</sup>

OS Map extract showing location of Boskill House and Boskill Lodge





Extract from Down Survey Map, 1650, Caherconlish Parish.

(Note "Temples" at centre of image)

Below: Frend family crest



In 1819, human bones and old coffins were unearthed during cultivation at Teampaill Mhichíl, suggesting that burials there may have continued into perhaps the mid-eighteenth century.<sup>14</sup> In the 1830s, the grass-covered ruins of the church, then levelled, lay within a field planted with fir trees. The church building had measured approx. sixty feet by thirty feet. The site was 'said to have been a friary old' and 'to have had a spacious graveyard about it'.<sup>15</sup>

Until at least the late nineteenth century, the site was referred to as 'Ginkel's Grave'. While General Godart Van Ginkel died at Utrecht, Holland, this local tradition was not totally unfounded. Following a 'plague' in the Williamite camp, soldiers from Ginkel's army were buried there in 1691, something established to his satisfaction in the 1890s by local clergyman, antiquarian, and writer, Rev. J.F. Lynch, Rector of Caherconlish.<sup>16</sup>

### Beenvult

Beenvult was an area north-east of Boskill House, around the summit of the hill there. One of the earliest known references to this feature occurred in 1300 AD, as part of the listing of the extent of the Manor of Carkenlis. At that time, seventy-eight arable acres of 'Benmolt' were let by the burgesses of the town (Caherconlish) to various tenants.<sup>17</sup> In an 1825 map, Beenvult merited entry, apparently a distinct area in its own right,<sup>18</sup> as did 'Benvult' in subsequent six-inch O.S. maps which highlighted the fox covert there. In the late nineteenth century, the area was described by one writer as 'tastefully planted and known by the name of Beenvult- the gable-like peak of the sheep'. An earthen fort-mound which was at the foot of the hill was had been long demolished by the 1890s.<sup>19</sup> It is surprising that the Ordnance Survey did not include Beenvult among the minor place-names it listed in the area.

### The Frend Family

*Arms: Gules A chevron between three buck's head, cabossed, erm).*

*Family crest: A buck's head, as in the arms.*

*Motto: Aude et Prevalis'*

*('Dare and you will prevail').*

*Seat: Boskill, Caherconlish, Co. Limerick.*<sup>20</sup>

The Adventurers Act of 1642 provided for advancement of sums of money by 'Adventurers' to fund the suppression of the 1641 rebellion. The 'Adventurers' return on their investment was rendered in commensurate grants of forfeited land in Ireland. 'John, son of Elizabeth Frind', was among those English adventurers listed who, having 'paid in full', were listed as subscribers, in the name of the Corporation of Dartmouth, for land in Ireland.<sup>21</sup> It is not known whether this John was of the same family, or possibly even the same person, as the John Frend a 'Captain of a Troop of Horse' in Cromwell's army.<sup>22</sup> Oliver Cromwell's second son, Henry Cromwell, had been commissioned in 1649 to raise a 'regiment of horse' as re-enforcement of his father's forces in Ireland and Captain John Frend served as an officer in that regiment. In 1655, Cromwell junior was sent by his father to be Commander-in-Chief of the army, a position he held until 1659.<sup>23</sup> In that year, re-organisation of the army in Ireland resulted in the regiment he had raised coming under the command of Colonel Peter Wallis, whose four regimental Captains included John Frend.<sup>24</sup> When one Lieutenant Whaley was removed from that position (for some euphemistically-described misbehaviour),<sup>25</sup> Cornet Tilly became Lieutenant to Captain John Frend. Lieutenant Jonathan Friend, also listed in that regiment, may have been a relative of John Frend, possibly his second son, who bore that name.

Captain John Frend wasted no time in capitalising on his position. By 1655, he was listed as a property-owner in

Limerick city<sup>26</sup> and in 1658 he took out a lease on Corporation lands.<sup>27</sup> Captain Frend was among those recorded by the Court of Claims concerning their claim of rights as soldiers serving in the army in the Commonwealth period. The grant to John Frend of 3,187 acres, under the Act of Settlement, was confirmed in 1666.<sup>28</sup> Following his reported service as High Sheriff in 1659/60, John Frend appears to have continued for some years as a member of the City Council. By 1662, Charles II had been restored as King. Along with Sir Ralph Wilson of Caherconlish (then Governor), John Frend was among 'the Mayor, Alderman, Sheriffs and Common Council of Limerick City,' who soon nailed their colours to the mast in support of the King's representative in Ireland. All were signatories to a 'humble and hearty address' to James, Duke of Ormonde, the newly appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland:

The news of your appointment filled the hearts of the loyal English and Protestants here with joy. Your gallantry in time of rebellion and subsequent loyalty can never be forgotten. We have no sympathy with the inhuman treachery and contemptuous disloyalty of former inhabitants and are loyal to the King. We approve your endeavours in support of the Royal cause "against the old and new erroneous enemies of our church and kingdom's peace".<sup>29</sup>

Having gained land, position, and property in the city, Frend's 'seat' was Carrickareely/ Carrigoreilly, near Caherconlish. In time, his eldest son, Samuel Frend, J.P., (High Sheriff, County Limerick, in 1705), succeeded him there.

*Frend Family of Boskill - Succession*<sup>30</sup>

<b>First Names</b>	<b>Place in Family</b>	<b>Commonly Described as</b>	<b>Also</b>	<b>Died</b>
John	?	Captain of a Troop of Horse Officer in Cromwell's army, 'Of Carrickareehy, <sup>31</sup> Co Limerick.	High Sheriff, Limerick, 1659-60	1673
Benjamin	4th and youngest son	of Boskill, Templemichael and Knockanea, Co. Limerick, and of Ballyreehy, King's Co.		1718
Benjamin	Only surviving son	of Boskill, Co. Limerick, and of Ballyreehy, King's Co.	High Sheriff, Kings's County 1717	1721
John	Elder son	of Boskill, Co. Limerick, and of Ballyreehy, King's Co., and Dollinstown, Co. Meath.	High Sheriff 1740	1749
Benjamin b. 1739	Eldest son	of Boskill, Co. Limerick and of Cloheen, King's Co.	Freeman of Limerick, 11.5.1762. High Sheriff, Co. Limerick, 1776 & King's County, 1782.	1809
Benjamin b. 1778	2nd surviving son	of Boskill, Co. Limerick, and Rocklow, Co. Tipperary.	Justice of the Peace	1858
Benjamin Bunbury b. 1813	Only son?	of Boskill, Co. Limerick	Justice of the Peace	1875
Benjamin b. 1844	Only son	of Boskill, Co. Limerick	Major, 60th King's Rifles	1883
Edith Margaret	Eldest daughter	of Boskill, (m. 1st, Geo. J. Minchin, m. 2nd Major. H. Sheil)		1921
Agnes Elizabeth	2nd daughter	of Boskill, (m. Robert de Ros Rose)		1934

His second son, Jonathan, moved to Kilmurry, County Kilkenny, and died in 1671. His third son, John, was an army officer. The youngest son, Benjamin (---1718), became the first Frend whose seat was Boskill. It is likely that it was in this Benjamin Frend's time that the first local Frend residence was constructed.

***Barring the Entail of an Estate***

At Boskill, the Frend successors included five men named Benjamin. One of these, Benjamin Frend (1739-1809), who was Mayor of Limerick in 1792,<sup>32</sup> used a legal ploy then permissible to bar the entail of his estate.<sup>33</sup> The father bequeathed his estate to his second surviving son, Benjamin (1778-1858). His first-born son, John, had died at the age of twenty-two and the next in line George Culloden (Frend) was 'by-passed'. However, despite being denied his inheritance he seems nevertheless to have prospered, marrying into the landed Roberts family of Mount Rivers, County Cork, having eleven children, and living to the age of seventy-five. His eldest surviving son and heir, was Lieutenant Colonel William Causabon Frend (1821-1886), with seats



George Frend J.P. (1850-1921)

at Rootiagh, County Limerick,<sup>34</sup> and Silver Hills, King's County (Offaly).

The eldest son of William Causabon Frend was George Frend J.P. (1850-1921), originally of Rootiagh, County Limerick. Later, at Silver Hills, King's County, he was a farmer and land agent, and a magistrate

in both Counties Tipperary and King's County. By initiating legal actions against tenants owing rent, his life was apparently under threat. In December 1920, while riding in his horse and trap near his home, he came under gunfire, sustaining several wounds. Although receiving early medical attention from a local doctor, he died a week later. Whether this was an authorised I.R.A. action or otherwise is unclear and no charges were ever brought against Frend's killers.<sup>35</sup> Fifty years later, George Frend's great-grand-son and namesake was a noted Tipperary hurler.<sup>36</sup>



George Frend, Tipperary hurler.  
(Courtesy 'Sportsfile')

This family journey has bridged race, religion, and culture, over three centuries, confirming the ever-complex nature of so many Irish genealogies.

### *Some Frend Marriages*

Many of the Frend marriages link the Boskill line with other landed and influential families. Benjamin Frend (1739-1809) married Arabella, daughter of George Purdon, M.P. for Counties Clare and Cork.

Benjamin Frend (1778-1858), had an artificial leg and apparently gained a reputation as a formidable character. Caleb Powell, High Sheriff, referred to him as: 'the late Ben Frend, who had an iron leg which some thought the softest part of him'.<sup>37</sup> This Benjamin Frend married Elizabeth Gough. While their nominal seat was Boskill, they lived principally at Rocklow House, near Fethard, County Tipperary.<sup>38</sup> Elizabeth was sister to Lord Gough, of Woodstown, Limerick and India.<sup>39</sup> Benjamin Frend, 'Senior Magistrate for County Limerick and brother-in-law of Lord Gough', died at Rocklow in 1858.<sup>40</sup> In 1853, his second son, Captain George Frend, was married at Gibraltar to Emily, daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir R.W. Gardiner, who was the governor and commander of British forces there. John William, second son of Benjamin Frend (1813-1875), married, in 1851, Elizabeth, second daughter of Matthew Moore, Rector of Caherconlish.<sup>41</sup> This John William Frend may have been the 'Mr William Frend of Boskill', from whom firearms were taken in an attack on his house in March 1847.<sup>42</sup>

John Frend, who died in 1849, firstly married Margaret, daughter of Colonel Josias Campbell of Drumsna, County Leitrim and following her death, married Jane Vereker of Roxborough, Limerick.

John's sister, Anna Frend, married William Gabbett of Caherline.

### *Whiteboy Activity*

Agrarian agitation by the Whiteboy<sup>43</sup> movement and activities, such as the ploughing up of pasture on estates and cattle-maiming, was common over the second half of the eighteenth century. In the late 1780s, such activity had been directed at the local Frend holding and two men were convicted. A Proclamation published by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland entitled 'Reward for the Apprehension of Rightboys in County Limerick' appeared in the newspapers.<sup>44</sup>

Richard Bags and Michael Quane, two alleged Night Boys or Whiteboys, had been sentenced and 6 January 1787, had been set as 'one of the days for execution of sentence', which was that both men be 'whipped through the town of Caherconlish'.

Benjamin Frend J.P. was in attendance in his official capacity to witness this punishment when he 'was most violently struck on the head with a stone by some malicious persons unknown, which gave him a severe cut on the head.' Next morning, John Hickey, a herdsman, found that two of Frend's cows had been badly mutilated. As a result, on 22 January, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and his Council issued a Proclamation offering a reward to anyone 'discovering' within the ensuing seven months the 'person or persons who threw the said stone or were concerned in the cutting and haughing of said cows'. Fifty pounds was to be paid to the 'discoverer in respect of each and every person so discovered and convicted as aforesaid'.<sup>45</sup> Despite his injuries Alderman Benjamin Frend J.P. survived to tell the tale. While he had been resident at Boskill some months

earlier, his death in 1809 occurred at St. John's Square, Limerick. That was a new and fashionable town-house location for the well-to-do, such as Ambrose Wilson of Caherconlish, who had a house there.<sup>46</sup> In 1773 this Benjamin Frend had married Arabella, daughter of George Purdon M.P., who, along with Edmond Sexton Pery, had been a prime mover in the construction of the square. Both men had houses there<sup>47</sup> and it is possible that Frend's death there was in the house of his father-in-law, Purdon.

### *Famine Relief Committee*

During the Famine period, Benjamin Frend, was a member of the twenty-man Caherconlish Relief Committee, instituted in April 1846. For whatever reason, he was not, listed among Committee members who between them subscribed a total of fifty-nine pounds to the Relief Fund. In 1843, he was reported to have 'unsolicited, made a reduction of 26 per cent in the rents of his tenantry in the county of Limerick'.<sup>48</sup>

### *Benjamin Bunbury Frend J.P.*

Benjamin Bunbury Frend (1813-1875) was a member of the County Limerick Grand Jury. Like his father previously, he also merited reference in the pen-pictures of the High Sheriff, Caleb Powell, (who seems to have been entertained at Boskill House): 'Benjamin Frend of Boskill ---- has a good estate tho' the junior branch of his family is a hospitable good fellow and has his house in very nice order'.<sup>49</sup>

Clearly on good terms with his Roman Catholic neighbours, Benjamin Bunbury Frend was secretary of a local Catholic parish fund-raising committee in 1870. The committee raised money to defray the costs of Fr. William Cooney, P. P., against whom an award had been made by a Limerick jury in a notorious slander case taken by a parishioner. In a formal presentation of the collection, (at which the parish priest was vigorously defended), Frend was commended for his role. He had 'taken the deepest interest in the success of the case', and 'subscribed £5 to the presentation fund, has been an active and energetic treasurer of it'—and was 'an honest, Conservative gentleman, and one of the most respectable members of the aristocracy in the South of Ireland'.



Rocklow House

The attendance included 'about thirty of the influential, respected and independent farmers and landholders of Inch St Laurence and Caherline (parishes).'

Unfortunately, interested or not in the case, Frend was prevented from hearing all the compliments at the formal presentation because of a 'large hunt' in which he was obliged to participate was taking place on the same date at Fethard.<sup>50</sup>

His role as a Justice of the Peace included sitting on the bench at Ballyneety Sessions. At the Petty Sessions, there in July 1871, he sat, along with fellow magistrates John Monsell, D.F. Gabbett and James R. Barry, to hear a case which involved cross-suing for abusive and threatening behaviour by several parties. One of these, Michael Gleeson, had been the plaintiff in the earlier slander case, arising from which Frend had headed the fundraising committee to aid the defendant.<sup>51</sup> Benjamin Bunbury Frend died at his residence in Boskill in May, 1875<sup>52</sup> and was buried in Caherconlish graveyard. Surprisingly, perhaps, his is the only Frend family name to be found on memorial inscriptions there. His wife, Jane, died at 10, Eden Terrace, Limerick, in 1891.

### *End of the Boskill Line*

Benjamin Bunbury Frend's only son, Major Benjamin Frend (1844-1883), the last in the male Boskill line, pursued a military career. Born in 1844, his army career began as a cadet at Sandhurst and he sailed for India as part of the 60th Irish Rifles Regiment in 1866.<sup>53</sup> In 1875 he advertised the Boskill House herd of over sixty dairy cows and follower stock for sale. He also put the lands up for letting and 'left to join his regiment in India'.<sup>54</sup> About this time, Benjamin Frend of Boskill, '*a benevolent Landlord*', who was credited (in 1876) with ownership of over a thousand acres in County Limerick, gave '*a liberal abatement of rent*' to tenants on his Limerick estates.<sup>55</sup> It is unclear if he was then home on leave or abroad and acting through a land agent. Major Benjamin Frend died, unmarried, in India in 1883 and was buried in Dalhousie Civil Cemetery, Himachal Pradesh. Boskill House then passed to his two married sisters, Edith Margaret and Agnes Elizabeth.

Gate-Lodge, Boskill House. (Courtesy National Inventory of Architectural Heritage).



Edith Frend had married George Minchin of King's County and by 1896 was living at Busherstown, Roscrea.<sup>56</sup> Agnes had married Robert de Ros Rose of Ahabeg, Carrigparson, and in 1896 was living at Ardhu, Limerick. Following her first husband's death, she married Major Henry Sheil.

By 1916, the former Frend lands of the townlands of Boskill (part), Hundred Acres East, Knockanea, and Templemichael (part), in the joint estate of Edith Margaret Sheil and Agnes Elizabeth Rose, had been sold under the Lands Purchase Acts.

### *The Gate Lodge, Boskill House.*

The enduringly attractive tall, pitched roof, three-bay, gate lodge has remained in use as a residence for at least a century-and-a-half, although one account dates it from about 1820, with two distinct phases of construction. This possibly reflects some extension or alterations when the major work was carried out on the main house in the late nineteenth century. The gate lodge is a single-storey building with pitched slate roofs with fish-scale pattern and considered to be of unusual design.<sup>57</sup> It stood at the edge of the demesne of Boskill House, at the entrance to the avenue.

### *Boskill House*

Boskill House was on an elevated site in Templemichael townland, affording fine views over the surrounding countryside. Built by Benjamin Frend in 1800, at an expense of about £600, the approach was via a gate lodge and avenue. The house was a two-storey structure, measuring<sup>58</sup>

forty-five (13.7m) by thirty-six feet (11m). Not on a lavish scale compared to contemporary mansions, the house, along with its out-offices, attracted a Primary Valuation of just £18. (By comparison, Charles Wilson's nearby Caherconlish House, including buildings and gate-lodge, was then valued at £40). By 1889 Boskill House had been considerably enlarged, with a gate lodge, and possibly additional out-offices, now added and it attracted a revised valuation of £30-15-0.<sup>59</sup> The two-storey and slated main house then included an entrance hall, drawing room, dining rooms (old and new), eleven bedrooms, dairy-larder, scullery, pantry, store-room, and a wine cellar.<sup>60</sup> There was also a well within the house, a common and essential feature then.<sup>61</sup> In 1923, the house, with an estimated rental value of £62 p.a., was stated by then current standards to be 'rather small and plain'.<sup>62</sup> Outside, there was stabling for six horses, with two coach-houses, a harness-room, and the usual farmyard houses.<sup>63</sup> The 1901 Census recorded that Boskill House was in the sole occupation of Louisa Croker, spinster, but in 1906 the house was unoccupied, being looked after by a caretaker.<sup>64</sup> By 1911, the twenty-six-room house was then occupied by John Neligan (also Nelligan), his wife, Mary (Minnie), and their infant son, William. John Neligan, who later lived with his family in the gate lodge building, became (under the Land Purchase Acts) became the proprietor of a farm which included the ruins of Boskill House, its demesne, farmyard, and gate-lodge.



Commandant Richard O'Connell



Commandant Séan Moylan

### *A Civil War Battle*

During the Civil War, the Free State Army occupied Boskill House, designating it Caherconlish Barracks. In the summer of 1922, Anti-Treaty forces were offering considerable resistance in County Limerick and in July there was, for a time, at least, a significant shift in the conflict in their favour. The Anti-Treaty forces hoped to maintain control of the Kilmallock/Bruff/Bruree areas, and thus of the rail and road lines from Limerick city southwards to Cork and Kerry. It was in that context, that a motor car, reportedly carrying four Free State soldiers from Caherconlish barracks, was captured by Anti-Treaty forces at Adare. They were carrying arms, ammunition and explosives, said to be

intended for use in a planned destruction of a bridge on the Limerick to Newcastle West road at Adare. Maintaining barracks at Caherconlish and Kilmallock, which were 'weakly garrisoned', was later viewed by the Free State command as a mistake.<sup>65</sup>

Boskill House had been occupied for more than three months when, at about 8.30 a.m. on 12 July 1922, it was attacked by a party of Anti-Treaty forces. The date of the attack was an ironic coincidence, considering the area's 1690 association with William, Prince of Orange. Accounts of the matter varied, depending on source. Commandant Séan Moylan, Anti-Treaty Director of Operations, was named as the leader of the attacking party but Commandant Peter Kearney, 3rd West

Cork Brigade has also been suggested as having filled that role.<sup>66</sup> There is no evidence that Anti-Treaty leader, General Liam Lynch, was at Boskill House at this time, although he is known to have been there on at least one occasion during that period when he called by the gate-lodge 'with blood in his stockings'.<sup>67</sup>

An Anti-Treaty press release referred to one of its columns which had been 'operating 'Tipperary side (sic) and Limerick City'. This unit 'attacked and captured Caherconlish Free State post, fifty-four of the garrison surrendered after a three-hour fight. Twenty-two rifles and some revolvers were captured, as well as big supplies'. That report went on to state that those captured included two Brigade Commandants and seven other officers, and that 'further re-enforcements were being sent from Limerick'.<sup>68</sup>

Another account of the battle described how petrol was thrown through the drawing-room window, bombs inside then exploding, the house being set alight and burned to the ground.<sup>69</sup> Those forced to surrender, numbering forty-seven in total, included local man, Dick O'Connell, Commander of the Mid-Limerick Brigade area, Liam Hayes T.D. the Brigade O.C., and five other Free State officers.<sup>70</sup> The captured troops were marched under escort to Tipperary barracks.<sup>71</sup> The forced surrender of the garrison and its entire brigade staff, most of who were held for almost a month, was an embarrassment and a setback, albeit a temporary one, for the Free State command in the region.



Limerick anti-Treaty fighters outside the Glentworth Hotel in 1922

In 1923, a claim for compensation for the destruction of the house and its contents was lodged on behalf of Benjamin Frennd Rose, of London, son of Agnes Elizabeth Rose (née Frennd). The claim embraced damage to the house and contents, destruction of furniture, and damage to stables, other out-offices, and the gate-lodge.<sup>72</sup> In August 1923, an advance of £1,000 was made by the British Government, on condition that this would be recouped from any subsequent insurance award. Initially, a memo from the Office of Public Works to the (Irish) Department of Finance had stated that as a 'commandeered property' Boskill House was ineligible for compensation and that the matter should be proceeded with

through the courts under the Damage to Property (Compensation) Act, 1923. Over the remaining years of that decade, the claim was to be the subject of persistent correspondence between the Office of Public Works, the Department of Finance, the British Colonial Office, Limerick Court, the State Solicitor for County Limerick, and the solicitors for the claimants.

## Endnotes

- Boscaill, meaning unclear, see [www.logainn.ie](http://www.logainn.ie)
- Teampaill Mhichíl, the church of Michael.
- Census of Ireland for the Years 1841 and 1851 (Statistical Reports). The recorded population of Boskill townland in 1841 was 181, (in thirty houses), a figure which, post-Famine, in 1851, had plunged to ninety-eight (in fifteen houses). Interestingly, in the same period, the population of Templemichael townland, where Boskill House was located, rose from thirty (in four houses) to fifty-seven (in seven houses).
- Burke's Irish Family Records*, Burke's Peerage, (London, 1976). Other records of office-holders do not confirm this.
- Field Name Books of the County and City of Limerick with the Place-Names, English and Irish as explained and fixed by John O'Donovan. Ordnance Survey of Ireland 1839-40 with the addition of The Ordnance Survey Letters for Co. Limerick, Caherconlish parish, available at: <http://limerickcity.ie/Library/LocalStudies/FieldNameBooksofLimerick>
- J.F. Lynch, Caherconlish, in *Cork Archaeological and Historical Journal*, Series II, Vol. II, 1896.
- Field Name Books, Caherconlish parish, op. cit.
- Ibid.
- Boskill House had its own notoriety in 1922, during the Civil War.
- 1595 Fiants, Elizabeth, 5950. Mortmain, (literally 'dead hand'), which was later outlawed, concerned the transfer of land to monasteries or corporations, thus precluding Crown intervention.
- Calendar of State Papers, Ireland, 1661 - *Draft of the King to the Lord Justices for Margaret, Dowager Baroness of Brittas*. See: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
- Down Survey Map, Caherconlish Parish, available at: <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/history-heritage/special-collections/down-survey-maps>
- Robert C. Simington, *The Civil Survey A. D. 1654-1656 County of Limerick, with a Section of Clanmaurice Barony, Co. Kerry - Vol. IV*, (Dublin, 1938).
- J.F. Lynch, Caherconlish, op. cit.
- Field Name Books, Caherconlish parish op. cit.
- J.F. Lynch, Caherconlish op. cit.
- Newport B. White, (editor), *The Red book of Ormond, from the fourteenth-century original preserved at Kilkenny castle, with missing portions supplied from the fifteenth-century transcript in the Bodleian library*, (IMS 1932).
- James Coffey, Map of County Limerick, 1825.
- J.F. Lynch, Caherconlish, op. cit.
- Burke's Irish Family Records* (1976) op. cit. James Fairbairn, *Fairbairn's Book of Crests of the Families of Gt. Britain and Ireland* (London, 1905).
- Calendar State Papers of Ireland*, 1642. See: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
- Burke's Irish Family Records* (1976) op. cit. Spelling variations of the surname include 'Friend', 'Frend', 'Frind', and 'Frint'.
- Micheál Ó Siochrú, *God's Executioner, Oliver Cromwell and the Conquest of Ireland* (London, 2008.)
- Firth/Davies, *The Regimental History of Cromwell's Army*, Firth/Davies (1892-1957.)
- Calendar of State Papers, Ireland*, 1659. See: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/Lt>. Whaley's misdemeanour was deboistnesse (denoting licentious or dissolute behaviour.)
- Civil Survey*, Limerick op. cit.
- Brian Hodkinson, The Limerick Corporation Index of 1843, *North Munster Antiquarian Journal* No. 39, 1998-9, p.92 (6) also available at: [http://www.limerickcity.ie/media/Media\\_9181\\_en.pdf](http://www.limerickcity.ie/media/Media_9181_en.pdf)
- John O'Hart, *Soldiers of the Commonwealth*. (1884).
- Calendar State Papers of Ireland*, 1662. See: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
- Burke's Irish Family Records* (1976) op. cit.
- While given as Carrickareehy in Frend genealogies, it almost certainly refers to the Carrigareely/Carrigoreilly area, where John Frend was granted over 600 acres in 1666.
- Freeman's Journal*, 24 December, 1792.
- Joseph Byrne, *Byrne's Dictionary of Irish local History*, (Cork, 2004). This allowed the potential passing of lands and other property to persons not in the Frend family line.
- Rootiagh townland is in the parish of Crecora, near Raheen, County Limerick.
- Seán Hogan, *The Black and Tans in North Tipperary, Policing, Revolution and War, 1913-1922*. (Nenagh, 2013). There is no reference to George Frend in any of the Witness Statements or Pension Papers in the Bureau of Military History for that period.
- A leading player with his club, Toomevara, George Frend played for his county at Under-21 level and went on to play at senior level for Tipperary right through the 1990s, notably as captain when Tipperary won the National Hurling League Final in 1994.
- Etienne Rynne, (editor), 'Caleb Powell, High Sheriff of County Limerick, 1858, sums up his Grand Jury' in *North Munster Studies: Essays in commemoration of Monsignor Michael Moloney* (Limerick, 1967).
- NUIG Landed Estates Database at: [www.landedestates.ie](http://www.landedestates.ie)
- A statue erected to Lord Gough, astride his horse in the Phoenix Park, was repeatedly 'mutilated', before its near-destruction by an explosion in 1957. In 1990 it was relocated to the grounds of Chillingham Castle in Northumberland, England.
- Limerick Chronicle*, 3 March, 1858.
- Garry Ahern, 'Caherconlish Rectory-the Norman Garstin Connection', in *Lough Gur and District Historical Society Journal* 2016. Elizabeth's sister, Mary Moore, had earlier married William Garstin and their son became the artist, Norman Garstin.
- Limerick Chronicle*, 30 June, 1847. About that time, William Frend was listed in Griffith's Valuation as the occupant of a house in Templemichael and also of one at nearby Greenane.
- The term Whiteboy was interchangeable with Rightboy, Night Boy and various other sobriquets.
- Freeman's Journal*, 25 January 1787 and the *Volunteer Evening Post* 27 January 1787.
- 'Reward for the Apprehension of Right boys in County Limerick, 22-1-1787', in *The Proclamations of Ireland*, (Vol. IV, 1760-1790, Part 1.)
- Limerick Chronicle*, 6 September, 1809. Kevin Hannan, 'St John's Square' in *Old Limerick Journal*, Vol. 4, September 1980.
- Ibid.
- Freeman's Journal*, 26 May, 1843.
- Caleb Powell*, op. cit.
- Irish Times*, 11 April, 1870
- Cork Examiner*, 8 July, 1870. Gleeson's case was one of those dismissed.
- Cork Examiner*, 24 May, 1875.
- The Times*, 15 September, 1866.
- Nenagh Guardian*, 7 February, 1877.
- Freeman's Journal*, 14 February, 1882.
- J.F. Lynch, Caherconlish, op. cit.
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage available at: [www.buildingsofireland.ie](http://www.buildingsofireland.ie)
- National Archives of Ireland, Valuation Office Tenure Books, Parish of Caherconlish.
- The Cancelled Books of Griffiths Valuation, available at the Valuation Office, Abbey Street, Dublin.
- The National Archives of Ireland (NAI), Post Truce Compensation Files; Fin/comp/2/13/521 (NAI).
- Ibid
- Ibid— (OPW survey.)
- Census 1901 available at: <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie>
- The Cancelled Books of Griffiths Valuation.
- Michael Harrington, *The Munster Republic*. (Cork, 2009). Richard Mulcahy papers in UCD Archives.
- John O'Callaghan, *The Battle for Kilmallock*, (Cork, 2011).
- Mrs Mary Nelligan, (in conversation with this writer, c. 1960.)
- Southern Star* 15 July, 1922.
- NAI, Fin/comp/2/13/521.
- O'Callaghan, op. cit.
- Southern Star*, 22 July, 1922.
- Re-glazing seven windows in the gate-lodge came to 14s-0d. The overall estimate, totalling £13,816-19s, was co-signed by R. Gelston, Civil Engineer, and W. Clifford Smith, Architect.

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