



TRIM CASTLE

THE MOST
DISTINGUISHED
SURNAME
TREHY

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Ireland already had an established system of hereditary surnames when the Strongbownians arrived. Often the two traditions blended together quite well due to some of their basic similarities, but the incoming Anglo-Norman system brought in some forms that were uncommon amongst the Irish. One of these Anglo-Norman anomalies was the prevalence of local surnames, such as Trehy. Local names were taken from the names of a place or a geographical feature where the person lived, held land, or was born. Originally, the place names were prefixed by de, which means from in French. This type of prefix was eventually either made a part of the surname if the place name began with a vowel or was eliminated entirely. The local surnames of these Strongbownian invaders referred to places in Normandy, or more typically England, but eventually for those Anglo-Normans that remained in Ireland, the nicknames referred to places or geographical features of the island: they became true local names. The Trehy family appears to have originally lived in the town of Troyes in France; the original form of the surname Trehy was de Troyes. The surname Trehy belongs to the large category of Anglo-Norman habitation names, which are derived from pre-existing names for towns, villages, parishes, or farmsteads.

ANCIENT HISTORY

Since the Anglo/Norman invasion of Ireland in 1172, the history of the family name Trehy has been entwined in the legendary green tapestry of the history of the Emerald Isle as surely as if the name had been native Irish.

Using works of legend and fact, researchers have compiled evidence using books by O'Hart, McLysaght, O'Brien and other Irish historians as well as transcripts from the Book of Kells, the Falaise Rolls, Battel Abbey Rolls, the Wace poem, Irish parish records, family histories and ancient land grants. Their conclusions are that the first record of the name Trehy was found in County Clare (Irish: An Clár) located on the west coast of Ireland in the province of Munster, where they were granted lands by Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, after his conquest of Ireland in 1172. They were recruited from the family of Try in Gloucester where they were

Lords of the manor of Alkington. The family is said to be amongst the highest orders of French nobility.

SPELLING VARIATIONS

Your name, Trehy, occurred in many references, but from time to time, the surname was also officially recorded as Troye, Troy, Try, Trye, Trohy, Trohey, Troys, Troyes, O'Trahy, O'Trahey, O'Trehy, O'Trehey and Trahey and these changes in spelling frequently occurred, even between father and son. It was not uncommon for a person to be born with one spelling, married with another, and to have yet another recorded at his wake. The O' prefix, or Mc prefix, was dropped or assumed depending on the fashion of the time.





The ancient Milesian Kings, the legendary history of Ireland tells of the grandson of Breoghan, King of Galicia, Andalusia, Murcia, Castile and Portugal, were the ancient progenitors of the Dalcassian race. Milesius, a great general/king was instrumental in defending Egypt from the King of Ethiopia. In gratitude, the Pharaoh of Egypt gave his daughter, Scota, to Milesius for his wife. Later, Milesius sent his uncle northward from Spain with his own son Lughaidh to explore the western Isles. On finding that his son had been murdered in Ireland by the three resident Kings (the Danans), Milesius gathered an army to take his revenge on the Irish. He died before he embarked on the trip. His remaining eight sons conquered Ireland and renamed it the land of the Scoti.

In 1172 A.D., Dermott McMurrough, in his fight for the position of Ard Righ, requested Henry II of England for assistance. Henry of England commanded the Earl of Pembroke, nicknamed Strongbow, to help Dermott in his fight for the crown of Ireland. Strongbow recruited 2000 trained mercenaries of Norman, Welsh or Cornish background from south Wales and sailed for Ireland. The battles against the untrained, badly clad Irish were short, swift and sure, but, in the end, it was Henry and Strongbow who held the reins of power in Ireland, not Dermott McMurrough. Strongbow doled out to his army commanders much of the confiscated Irish land in southern Ireland. Ironically, after several centuries, the invaders became as Irish as the native families. Those Anglo/Norman surnames such as Burke, Fitzpatrick, Fitzgerald, Power, Prendergast, Walsh, including the family name Trehy, became the backbone of southern Irish society.

The Norman invasion was followed by Cromwell's invasion in 1640, when further loss of land befell the unfortunate Irish people, including the Anglo/Norman settlers. Ulster in the north was seeded with Protestant Scottish and English families. And, again, the sept of Trehy was amongst the great Irish families to lose their ancient territories.

The now Irish family Trehy emerged in later years as a distinguished family in County Clare where they migrated south to Tipperary, they also branched to Troyswood in County

Kilkenny. Another place name owing its name to this family was Castletroy which is now a suburb of Limerick. They became hereditary Mayors and Sheriffs of Limerick. Meanwhile the main branch of the family in Gloucestershire held a family seat at Leckhampton Court. They branched to Hardwick in the county of Gloucester, and there under the name of Trye also served as Sheriff of that county. They became the founders of All Souls College in Oxford, and the name in England generally emerged as Trye of Leckhampton and Hartley Hill. In Ireland the Most Reverend Thomas Troy was Archbishop of Dublin, and founder of St. Patrick's College. This thoroughly Gaelicized Irish Norman family is now more prominent in south Tipperary.

EARLY NOTABLES

Notable amongst the family up to this time was William Trye (1660-1717), of Hardwicke, Gloucestershire, an English politician, Member of the Parliament for Gloucester (1690-1698) and (1702-1705); and Most Reverend Thomas Troy (1739-1823), Archbishop of Dublin, co-founder of St. Patrick's College, Maynooth.

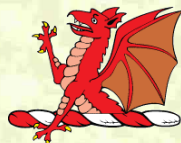




In 1845, the Great Potato Famine culminated several years of famine causing widespread poverty and starvation, and the great exodus from Ireland began. Within fifty years the population was reduced to less than half. Many joined the armada of sailing ships which sailed from Belfast, Dublin, Cork, Holyhead, Liverpool and Glasgow, all bound for the New World. Some called these small ships the "White Sails," others, more realistically, called them the "Coffin Ships," voyaging across the Atlantic when 25 percent of the passengers died at sea.

SETTLERS

There are 47 settlers with similar origins in the Appendix.





CURRENT NOTABLES

Many moved westward with the wagon trains, and settled the mid west, some trekking over the Rockies to the west coast. Some remained loyal to the Crown during the American War of Independence and moved north to Canada, becoming known as the United Empire Loyalists. Others formed the Irish Brigades in the great struggle for independence.

There are 24 notables with similar origins in the Appendix.



The Ancient Arms of



Trehy



Heraldry, in its early form, was probably introduced to Ireland by the Anglo-Normans around 1172, but by then the practice of using symbols to identify important individuals would not have been unknown to the Irish. It was not until much later that heraldry was regulated by the English Crown, and Irish symbols were then included in the armory.



An Achievement of Arms such as the Trehy arms depicted on the left typically consists of these parts: the Escrolls, displaying the family motto and name, the family crest (if any) seen above the helmet, the actual Coat of arms (also known as 'arms,' or 'the shield'), the Helmet depicted below the crest, the Torse on top of the helmet, and the Mantle draped from the helmet. Each of these elements will be described below. Supporters were a later addition to the Achievement; they are somewhat rare, and are usually personal to the grantee.



MANTLE OF TREHY

The mantle was spread over and draped from the helmet and served as a protection, 'to repel the extremities of wet, cold, and heat, and to preserve the armour from rust.' The numerous cuts and slits suggest that it had been torn and hacked on the field of battle. The style or design of the mantling is up to the individual heraldic artist, and it is usually depicted in the main color and metal from the shield. The helmet (or Helm) varied in shape in different ages and countries, often depicting rank. The Esquire's Helm, as depicted here, is generally shown silver, with a closed visor and facing to the dexter (its right). On top of the helmet is a Torse or wreath which was formed by two pieces of silk twisted together. Its purpose was to hold the crest and mantle on the Helm.

MOTTO

The motto was originally a war cry or slogan. Mottoes first began to be shown with arms in the 14th and 15th centuries, but were not in general use until the 17th century. Thus the oldest coats of arms generally do not include a motto. Mottoes seldom form part of the grant of arms: Under most heraldic authorities, a motto is an optional component of the coat of arms, and can be added to or changed at will; many families have chosen not to display a motto.

The coat of arms displayed here for the surname Trehy did not include a motto.

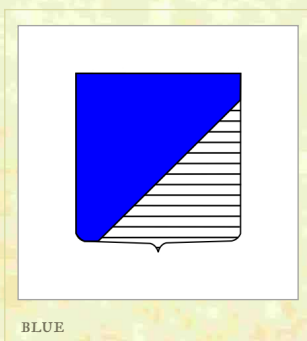
SHIELD

Shields (or Escutcheons) at first were painted simply with one or more bands of color or 'ordinaries'. Later, the ordinaries were used in conjunction with other figures or symbols. The Coat of Arms for the surname Trehy can be described as follows:



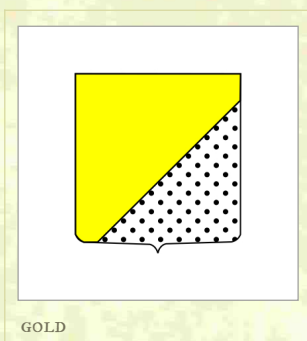
TREHY ARMS

Blue with two gold griffins combatant.



BLUE

Azure (derived from the French word for "blue") represents the color of an eastern sky on a clear day. It also corresponds to the metal tin. The word, "azure" was introduced from the east during the Crusades. It signifies piety and sincerity, and is equated with autumn. In engravings it is represented by horizontal lines.

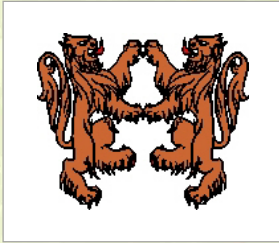


GOLD

"Or" (from the French word for gold) is the tincture of Gold, or in heraldic terms "or," was considered the noblest color.

One of only two metals used in heraldry, it exceeds all others in value, purity and finesse. It represents the light of the sun, and was once borne only by princes. Gold is said to gladden the heart and destroy all works of magic. It is also associated with excellence and achievement, and the bearer surpasses all others in valor.

It is represented on coats of arms by the color yellow, and in engravings by a dotted pattern.



COMBATANT

COMBATANT

Combatant describes two beasts that are rampant respectant, meaning that they are facing each other in the fighting position. Sometimes the term rampant combatant is also used. This design brings the best of both animals attributes with the understanding that the bearer has "control" or can "tame" the animals.

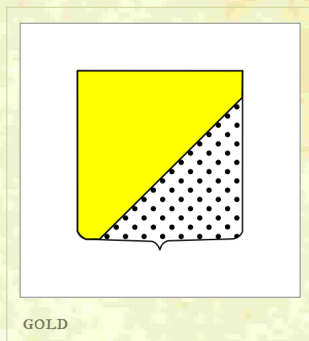
THE CREST

The Crest was worn on top of the helmet, and was usually made of wood, metal, or boiled leather. It provided the double advantage of easy identification and the addition of height to the wearer. The Crest for the surname Trehy is described as follows:



THE TREHY CREST

A GOLD TIGER'S HEAD.



GOLD

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One of only two metals used in heraldry, it exceeds all others in value, purity and finesse. It represents the light of the sun, and was once borne only by princes. Gold is said to gladden the heart and destroy all works of magic. It is also associated with excellence and achievement, and the bearer surpasses all others in valor.

It is represented on coats of arms by the color yellow, and in engravings by a dotted pattern.

HEAD

The Human Head stands for honor. After all, the Head is the center of knowledge, thinking and learning for the body.

"The heads of 'blackamoors' or negroes generally refer to deeds of prowess in the Crusades." ^[1]





APPENDIX - NOTABLE LIST

SURNAME VARIANTS OF TREHY

- Joseph Edward Troy (1931-2023) Canadian Roman Catholic prelate, Bishop Emeritus of Saint John (1986-1997)
- Guy Kent Troy (1923-2023) American modern pentathlete who competed at the 1952 Summer Olympics
- Michael Francis "Mike" Troy (1940-2019) American competitive swimmer, a two-time Olympic champion
- Mr. Christopher Peter Trye B.E.M., British recipient of Medallist of the British Empire Medal 29th December 2018 for services to the Church and to charity^[2]
- Charles Brandon Trye (1757-1811) English surgeon, descended from the ancient family of Trye of Hardwicke in Gloucestershire, elder son of John Trye, rector of Leckhampton, near Cheltenham^[3]
- John Thomas Troy (1739-1823) Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, born at Porterstown, a village near Dublin
- Canon Bertie Troy (1931-2007) Irish Roman Catholic priest and an All-Ireland Hurling Final winning manager with Cork
- Verne J. Troyer (1969-2018) American stand-up comedian, actor, stuntman and performer, best known for playing Mini-Me in the Austin Powers film series, one of the shortest men in the world
- James Trahey, Canadian pioneer shipbuilder from Victoria, British Columbia, known for the Victoria, a passenger and freight sternwheeler built in 1869
- Jane Trahey (1923-2000) American businesswoman and writer, recipient of the Advertising Woman of the Year award in 1969; she received more than 200 awards over the course of her career
- Warner Troyer (1932-1991) Canadian broadcast journalist and writer
- Maynard Troyer (b.1938) American retired NASCAR Winston Cup Series driver
- Eric Lee Troyer (b.1949) American keyboardist and singer/songwriter
- Carlos Troyer (1837-1920) American composer
- Tevi David Troy (b.1967) the former Deputy Secretary of United States Department of Health and Human Services
- Jack Troy (1927-1995) Australian rugby league player
- John Troy (1977-1980) member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly and doctor
- John Troy (b.1971) Irish Offaly GAA hurler and all-star

- John Weir Troy (1868-1942) American Democratic politician, Governor of Alaska Territory 1933 -1939
- François de Troy (1645-1730) French painter and engraver





AMERICAN SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF TREHY

- John Trye, who landed in Virginia in 1620^[4]
- John Trye from England arrived in Virginia in 1624
- Daniel, Edward, James, Jeremiah, John, Michael, Patrick, and William Troy all, who arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania between 1770 and 1870
- Michael Troy, aged 40, who arrived in New York in 1812^[4]
- Patrick Troy, aged 23, who landed in America in 1822^[4]
- John Troy, who landed in Mobile County, Ala in 1840^[4]
- Counl Troy, aged 54, who landed in Mobile, Ala in 1851^[4]
- Reverend Edward Troy, who settled in Tor Bay in 1855
- Cornelius Troy, aged 60, who arrived in Mobile, Ala in 1855^[4]
- Daniel Troy, who arrived in Mobile, Ala in 1861^[4]
- Jeremiah Troy, who arrived in Mobile, Ala in 1868^[4]
- Patrick Trahey, aged 37, originally from Conception Bay, Newfoundland, who arrived in New York City in 1903 aboard the ship "Rosalind" from St. John^[5]
- Bertha Trahey, aged 21, originally from Conception Bay, Newfoundland, who arrived in New York in 1919 aboard the ship "Rosalind" from St. John's, Newfoundland^[5]
- Timothy Trahey, aged 23, who arrived in New York, N.Y. in 1920 aboard the ship "Rosalind" from St. John's, Newfoundland^[5]
- John Trahey, aged 26, originally from Conception Bay, Newfoundland, who arrived in New York in 1920 aboard the ship "Rosalind" from St. John's, Newfoundland^[5]
- Mary Trahey, aged 23, originally from St. Johns, Newfoundland, who arrived in New York in 1920 aboard the ship "Rosalind" from St. John's, Newfoundland^[5]

CANADIAN SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF TREHY

- Michael Trehey, Newfoundland planter at Petty Harbour (1794-1795)^[6]
- James Troy from County Tipperary settled in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1813^[6]
- Mary Troy, who settled in Bonavista in 1813
- Thomas Trahee, married at Harbour Grace, Newfoundland in 1813^[6]
- Catherine Troy, who settled in Harbour Grace, Newfoundland in 1814

AUSTRALIAN SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF TREHY

- Mr. Richard Troy, Irish convict who was convicted in Kings County, Ireland for life, transported aboard the "Atlas" on 29th November 1801, arriving in New South Wales, Australia^[7]
- Mr. Patrick Troy, Irish farm servant who was convicted in County Offlay (King's County), Ireland for 7 years for assault, transported aboard the "Captain Cook" on 5th November 1831, arriving in New South Wales, Australia^[8]
- Mr. Timothy Troy, (b. 1826), aged 18, Irish labourer who was convicted in Ireland, Wexford for 7 years for vagrancy, transported aboard the "Cadet" on 9th April 1844, arriving in Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land)^[9]
- Johanna Troy, aged 19, who arrived in South Australia in 1849 aboard the ship "Elgin"^[10]
- Johanna Troy, aged 19, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Elgin" in 1849^[10]

NEW ZEALAND SETTLERS

SURNAME VARIANTS OF TREHY

- Mr. Thomas Troy, Scottish settler travelling from Glasgow aboard the ship "Storm Cloud" arriving in Otago, South Island, New Zealand on 30th July 1861^[11]
- Patrick Troy, aged 19, a labourer, who arrived in Auckland, New Zealand aboard the ship "Oxford" in 1874
- Timothy Troy, aged 31, a labourer, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Rodney" in 1875
- Mary Troy, aged 30, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Rodney" in 1875
- James Troy, aged 9, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Rodney" in 1875
- Michael Troy, aged 20, a labourer, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waimea" in 1876
- Mary Troy, aged 26, a dairymaid, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waimea" in 1876
- Margaret Troy, aged 19, a dairymaid, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waimea" in 1876
- Judy Troy, aged 9, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waimea" in 1876
- Mary Troy, aged 6, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waimea" in 1876
- Patt Troy, aged 4, who arrived in Wellington, New Zealand aboard the ship "Waimea" in 1876
- Miss Minnie Try, (b. 1859), aged 17, Cornish nursemaid departing on 27th October 1876 aboard the ship "Waipa" arriving in Lyttelton, Canterbury, New Zealand on 24th January 1877^[12]

- Mr. Patrick Troy, (b. 1854), aged 23, Scottish settler travelling from Glasgow aboard the ship "Marlborough" arriving in Bluff, South Island, New Zealand on 4th November 1877^[13]





Here is a listing of some of the sources consulted when researching Irish surnames. The resources below directly or indirectly influenced the authors of our surname histories. We have most of these titles in our library, others we have borrowed or had access to. Source materials have been chosen for their reliability and authenticity. Our research into surnames is ongoing, and we are continually adding to our source library. For each surname history, we seek and refer to sources specific to the surname; these are generally not included in the list below.

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Extra Credit goes to Logicalrealist at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:TrimCastle.jpg> for the picture on the cover.

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