

The McConaghys came to the North Antrim coast in 1646 from the Isle of Bute in Scotland and generations of McConaghys have been farming in the area ever since.

In 1915 John (*John McConaghy's grandfather*) bought the present home farm in the townland of Ballytaggart, some six miles east of Ballymoney, Ballytaggart Farm is presently under the stewardship of John McConaghy.

It's a 200-acre farm of '*prime pasture and arable*' land on which John has a herd of milking cows. He also grows barley for animal feed.

In 1926, Robert (*John's father*) was born and now a healthy 77-year old, still helps his son John on the farm. It was Robert who about forty years ago, whilst ploughing on his '*wee grey Fergie*' tractor, unearthed a beautifully worked stone age axe-head of porcellanite which probably came from Rathlin Island or maybe Tievbulliagh near Cushendall.

1803 CENSUS

1803 Agricultural Census of North Antrim District of Armoy

Bunshanlony - McConaghy John

John McConaghy was born October 15, 1845 in Co. Antrim, Ireland and died January 12, 1914 in Swarthmore, PA.

He came to this country (*USA*) with his brothers Thomas and James, along with William's 3 sons, Alexander, Moore and William.

The McConaghy family members became Building Contractors in the Philadelphia area.

They were the sons of **Alexander McConaghie** of Magherintendry and Jane Chestnut of Antrim, Ireland.

Alexander and **Jane Chestnut McConaghie** died, within the week of each other, in July 1881 and are buried in the Mosside Churchyard in Ireland.

Their son **John McConaghy** and his wives **Elizabeth Fulton McConaghy** and **Susie Stewart McConaghy** are buried in Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Philadelphia, PA.

*A relative of Jane Chestnut married another **Alexander McConaghy** – her name was **Mary Chestnut** from Antrim in Ireland and they migrated to Australia. A brother of Alexander - **David** - migrated to New Zealand and a cousin – **David** – migrated to Australia.*

Andrew McConaghy married **Matilda Alexander** were Alexander McConaghy's parents

CONVICTS TO NSW

McConaghy James aboard the Phoenix III (*1826*) from County Antrim