

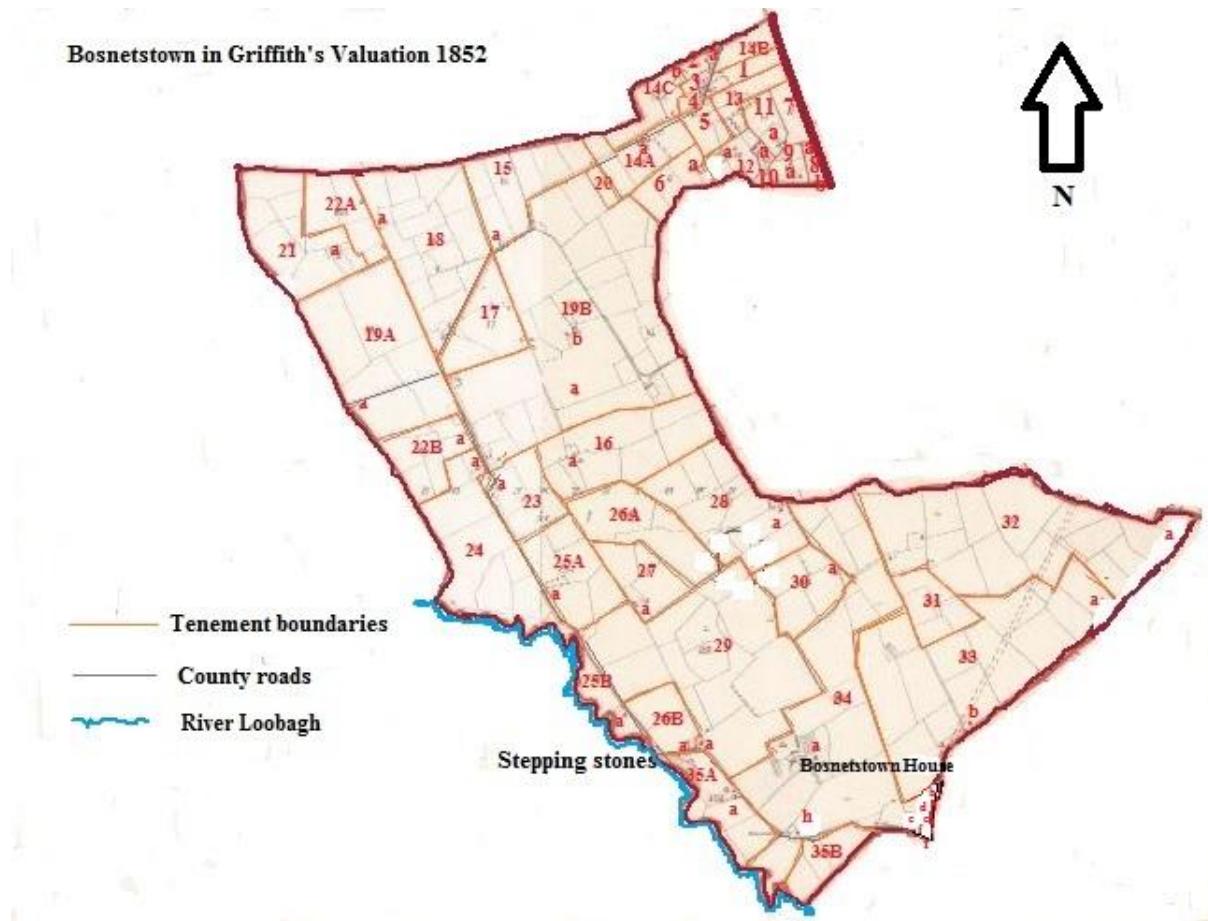
Griffith's Valuation

Between the years 1826 and 1864 the location, the names, the boundaries, the acreage and the value of the townlands of Ireland became the central focus of three major British government initiatives.

- **The Boundary Commissioners** set down the exact boundaries of the townlands of Ireland.
- **The Ordnance Survey Department**, made up of personnel from the British Army Corps of Engineers, scientifically surveyed and mapped every townland in the country. The maps drawn are known as the Ordnance Survey maps.
- **Richard Griffith** and his team of valuers from **the Valuation Office** used the Ordnance Survey townland maps to describe, catalogue, and assess each tenement in every townland. The results were published in a volume titled General Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland (nowadays known as **Griffith's Valuation**). The printed version of each townland summarizes in its eight columns the copious amount of information gathered for each tenement or holding. The location of the tenement can be identified in the accompanying maps using the corresponding numbers and letters.

Griffith Valuation is not a census. It covers the owners and occupiers of land, and assessed the value on which each identifiable 'parcel' of land and/or property should be taxed. Only the head of each household is identified. Family relationships and other personal information were not recorded. For this reason, few women and no children are included. Also, those who lived in poverty were not recorded but the owner of every parcel of land in the country in the mid nineteenth century is identified. In the case of Bosnetstown the owner was Lord Lisle.

According to Griffith's Valuation, Lord Lisle held the townlands of Bosnetstown and Moorstown as part of his estate in the parishes of Kilfinnane, Effin and Emlygrennan in 1852. His estate also included Clonfert and Kilmeen in the baronies of Duhallow and Mogeely in County Cork.



It should be noted that there are some mistakes in the first edition of Griffith's valuation for Bosnetstown which is available online. These errors were corrected subsequently and may now be viewed in the Cancellation Books in the Valuation Office.

The land in Bosnetstown was valued at an average of £0-19-0 an acre while the buildings in the townland ranged in value from £5-5-0 to £0-5-0. The total area of approximately 784 acres was held by thirty-eight individuals with lots ranging in size from 137 acres to less than one acre.

Occupiers of land in Bosnetstown in 1852¹

- **Griffin** Timothy Griffin held Lots 1,2,3 and 4 and lived in a house on Lot 2 as indicated by the lower case *a* on the accompanying map.
- **Wallace Jeremiah** Wallace held Lots 5 and 6 and he lived at *a* on Lot 6. **David** Wallace held 14A and also lived there as signified by the lower case *a*. **Patrick** Wallace held lots No14B and 14C and he lived on 14C as indicated by the lower case *b* marked on the holding. **John** Wallace held Lots 22A and 22B and lived at *a* on Lot 22B.
- **Quinn** John Quinn held Lots 15, 16, and 17. **John** Quinn lived at *a* on Lot 16 and **Johanna** Quinn lived in a house marked *a* on Lot 15.
- **Flanagan Cornelius** Flanagan held Lot 7. He also held Lot 8 in common with **James** Flanagan and they both lived on that lot, Cornelius at *a* and James at *b*.
- **Minahan** Michael Minahan held Lot 9 and lived at *a* on the lot.
- **Lane** Patrick Lane held Lot 10 and lived at *a* on the lot.
- **Lynch** James Lynch held Lot 11 and also lived there at *a*.
- **Flynn** John Flynn held Lots 12 and 13 and lived at *a* on Lot 12
- **Sheedy Thomas** Sheedy held Lot 18 and lived there at *a*. **Johanna Sheedy** held Lots 26A and 26B and lived at *a* on Lot 26B. **Mary Sheedy** held Lot 27 and lived there at *a*.
- **Fitzgerald** William Fitzgerald held Lots 19A and 19B. He lived at *a* on Lot 19B and he had undertenants on his holding. Thomas **Hanley** held Lot 20 from William Fitzgerald. Timothy **O'Brien** also lived in a house marked *b* on Lot 19B.
- **Meade** John Meade held Lot 21 and lived there at *a*.
- **Bennett** John Bennett held Lot 23 and also lived there at *a*.
- **Slattery** Martin Slattery lived at *a* on Lot 24 which he held.
- **Brazill Matthew** Brazill held Lots 25A and 25B and lived at *a* on Lot 25A. **Mary Brazill** lived at *a* on Lot 25B. **Jeremiah Brazill** held Lots 35A and 35B and he lived at *a* on Lot 35A.
- **Condon David** Condon held 28A and lived there at *a*. **Richard Condon** held Lots 29A, 29B and 34. He lived at *a* on Lot 29A. He had six undertenants on Lot 34 at *b,c,d,e,f* and *h*, each of them renting a house and garden. The tenants were **Jeremiah Carey**, **James Staunton**, **Roger Duan**, **Bridget Dunworth**, **Patrick Halfpenny** and **Matthew Kelly**.
- **Burke** Walter Burke held Lot No 30 and lived there at *a*.
- **Hayes John** Hayes held Lot No 32 and lived there at *a*. **Maurice Hayes** held Lot No 33 and lived there at *a*. **Michael Meade** was an undertenant on Lot 33 and lived in the house marked *b*.
- **Sweeny** Michael Sweeny held Lot No 31 but there was no house on the property so he lived elsewhere.

The pages for Bosnetstown can be viewed at the following link. However, it must be noted that the errors in the first edition (which is available online) were subsequently corrected in the working books and these may be viewed in the Valuation Office, Dublin.

¹ Information on occupiers of the tenements in Bosnetstown was found in the Cancellation Books for Kilfinane Civil Parish in the Valuation Office, Abbey St. Dublin