

Littell Families of America

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A Word of Welcome

Hello, and welcome to the 2011 issue of Littell's Living Age. As we build up its cyber pages with your research, queries and photographs, I hope others will stop by the site to read and make connections with our extended Littell family. Stop by often and feel free to email me with your queries and contributions: editor@littellfamilies.com

Please put LLA in the subject line.

Happy hunting!

Sue Johnpeter

LLA Assistant Editor

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A Visit To Hazelhatch, Ireland

By William Adams Littell, Jr

Hazelhatch, Ireland is of special interest to the Littell (Little) clan, who had its roots in this ancestral home.

The lost inheritance to this property is best described by George Hathway Littell in the Fall 1983 and Spring 1984 issues of *Littell's Living Age**, in which the name Little also is recorded.

My father, William Adams Littell, at the age of 11 (circa 1914), visited the property with his father, Archibald, in the belief that the Littell family had just inherited the Hazelhatch property as a life estate after the demise of the Bell family, as explained in George Hathway Littell's reports.

My father was very disappointed that the property wasn't a castle but instead, a stone building having dirt floors that were shared with the animals. The only old stone home of vintage in the area is now the country estate called Ringwood.

We stopped at one of two pubs on the canal that only served beverages (no food) to search for information. We were told that Ringwood previously had been a B&B run by "invitation only." We also learned their horse, Workman, won the Derby in 1950. The estate had tight security, but when I explained my "Yank" family interest, they welcomed us in.

The property was beautiful, with its own "Ring of Stone," believed to be the home of Leprechauns. I must say that standing where our early Irish family roots began was an emotional experience.

Should I ever return, I would like to visit the old cemetery and perhaps talk to a shop owner named Bell in nearby Celbridge to see if there is any family connection. Perhaps I can find a local researcher to unlock our inheritance found in Dublin Castle, as George Hathway Littell described.

If you ever decide to visit Hazelhatch, I suggest you pick up a Discovery Map 50 in downtown Dublin. You'll find Hazelhatch 11 miles due west toward Celbridge, Kildare County. From Dublin, you take the DART system by rail 15 minutes to Hazelhatch-Celbridge. From the station, it is a short walk south toward the canal that will bring you to Ringwood and the pubs on the canal. From the station, a free bus will take you to the town for food, etc.

The pictures below are the best I could take from my VCR tape of this visit. Those interested in a copy of the tape may contact me at WmALittell@aol.com

Click on pictures below to make larger



****(To clarify the author's lineage: James Littell, merchant of Market Hill, County Armagh in Ireland, married Alice Moffitt. Their two sons, William and James, came to America in time for the Revolutionary War. Squire William, as he is known, settled in Beaver County, PA. David Littell was a son of Squire William. The Rev. Dr. David Samuel Littell was a son of David. The Rev. Dr. Joseph Anderson Littell was a grandson of David. William Adams Littell, Jr., is a great-great-grandson of David.)***

ABSTRACT (From Betham"s Genealogical Abstracts)
RELATING TO THE WILL OF JOHN MOFFITT

(Photocopy supplied by the Public Record Office of Ireland)

235 Moffitt John of Hazelhatch Co. Dublin Gent - dated () of July 1750 - and 23rd Aug't 1750

Sons in law George Bell and James Little - Grandsons John Bell and David Bell - Grandson William Little - daurs Elizabeth Bell - Alice Little - Mary Moffitt - & Abbe M--

GRANT OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE
OF JOHN MOFFITT

(Photocopy supplied by the Public Record Office of Ireland)

Entry Grant of Admon. W. A. John Moffit Prerogative Court 1750

MOFFITT Adm'on of the Goods and so forth of JOHN MOFFITT late of Hazelhatch in the County of Dublin . . . with his Will annexed (having and so forth) was granted by the Most Reverend Father GEORGE and so forth also Judge and so forth to George Bell of the City of Dublin Merchant and one of the Trustees named in said Will of said dec'd, no Ex'or being named in said Will he having first personally Sworn (Saving and so forth) DATED the twenty third day of August in the year of Our Lord 1750 And he has to Exhibit an Inventory on or before the last day of February next ensuing.

(In making the above references available the Public Record Office of Ireland (OIFIG IRIS PUIBLI) stated that they "examined the Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland for the period 1750 to 1858 but found no record of the Wills of James and Alice Littell. I regret to have to inform you that the will of John Moffitt

of Hazel Hatch, Dublin, did not survive the destruction of this office in 1922.")

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