

## **French/Irish Catholic Pue/Pew's in County Meath**

**Goal:** To establish when and where the Pew's came from originally. If unable to find records on my family, will explore history of Pew families that lived in their surroundings, in Ireland, New York and Iowa.

**Grandpa Clems Memoirs:** The following is the family history as told by Grandpa Clem Pugh to Gloria Owen in 1975. "I will start with my dad (*John Pugh, son of Patrick*)- he was born in **County Mayo, Ireland**, in the year 1842, the 15th day of August. As I remember, he was the oldest of the family. He had two brothers, Jim and Frank and a sister, Kate. She passed away at the age of 12. (*we found the records in County Meath*). Also, no mention of *Patrick or his Dad and Step mom. the 1865 New York Census shows them all together although John is not living with them.*

My dad had an Uncle Jim who came to the States in the early 1850's and it was through him that my dad came over. His uncle sent him money for his fare. There was a James Pugh in Middletown in 1860, no where to be found afterwards. Dad came in the year of 1856 at the age of 14.

Dad's first job was a water-boy for a railroad crew. He later worked in the building trade. He was what they called a hod carrier. His job was to carry the bricks and mortar up to the bricklayers. He was asked how he liked his job and said, "Just fine, the man up above did all the work". (That's the Irish for you!)

As time went on, he saved and sent transportation for his two brothers. They also worked in New York City for a time but they all started West, each going their separate way. They were separated for years not knowing where each other was. It was in the early 1900's that they found out where each other was living. My dad's brother Jim came to Summit in 1909 to visit (*not sure about this as the James on the census died before 1900*). After leaving New York City, my dad landed in St Louis, Missouri, where he worked on the Levees on the Mississippi River. About that time they were starting to build the Union Pacific Railroad from Omaha, Neb., West. He started working in the spring of 1865. He worked with it until the year of 1869, May 19th. At this time the crews from the west met the crews from the east at Promontory Mountain where they drove the Golden Spike. He said it was a great thrill. He often told of the experiences they had- Indian raids, trying to steal clothes and supplies from camp.

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After he left the Union Pacific, he came to Cedar Rapids, Iowa and still worked at railroading. He worked with the Rock Island Railroad Company"

**Family Lore:** Escaped from France for religious persecution. Name was originally **DePugh**-proof- headstone of children of John and Julia DePugh. My Uncle John said "they had land and money and left it all "

### Questions:

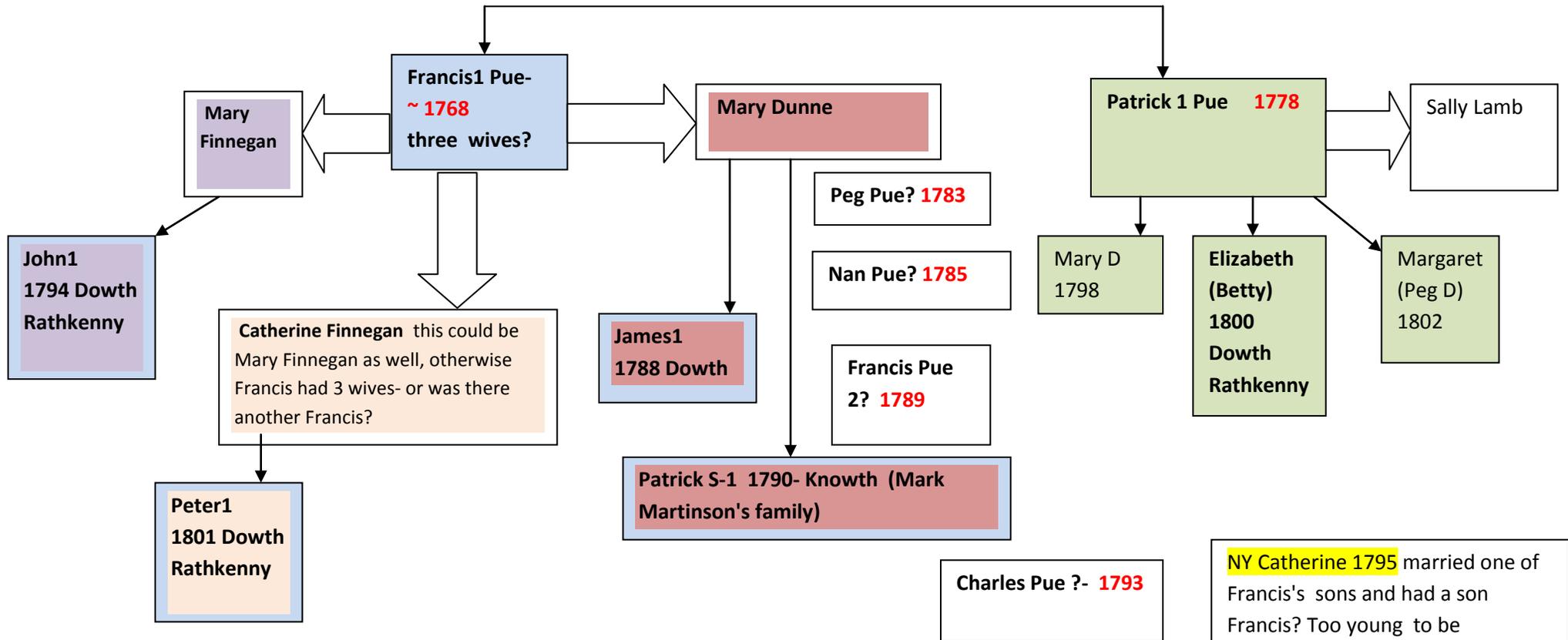
1. Were they Hugonauts or did they flee during the French Revolution?
  - Hugonaut time frame would be around 1660
  - French Revolution time frame would be 1788 to 1799. Some of the births in Rathkenny pre-date the French Revolution. According to historian in Slane there were alot of French fighting British in skirmishes, recruited by the Pope during that time. *Get more information*
2. What port would they have landed in from France? Dublin?
3. It may have taken a while for them to get to Meath- did some settle in Dublin- did some go on to Longford? There are Pue's in County Down, but they are Church of Ireland. All of the Pughs in my family who came from Ireland were Catholic, so I have been concentrating on the Catholic ones only. Per genealogist in Cobh, don't give up on the Mayo-Meath connection.

**I am hoping to find some documentation in historical records about a group of French immigrants settling in the Meath area.**

Griffith's Evaluation has a Charles and George Puigh in Dowth. There is a Francis Phew in Kentstown. *I think George is Pat's brother and Francis may be their father. I think Charles is his uncle.*

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Rathkenny Meath Pugh's First documented generation of Pugh births Rathkenny. Highlighted information from Rathkenny records.



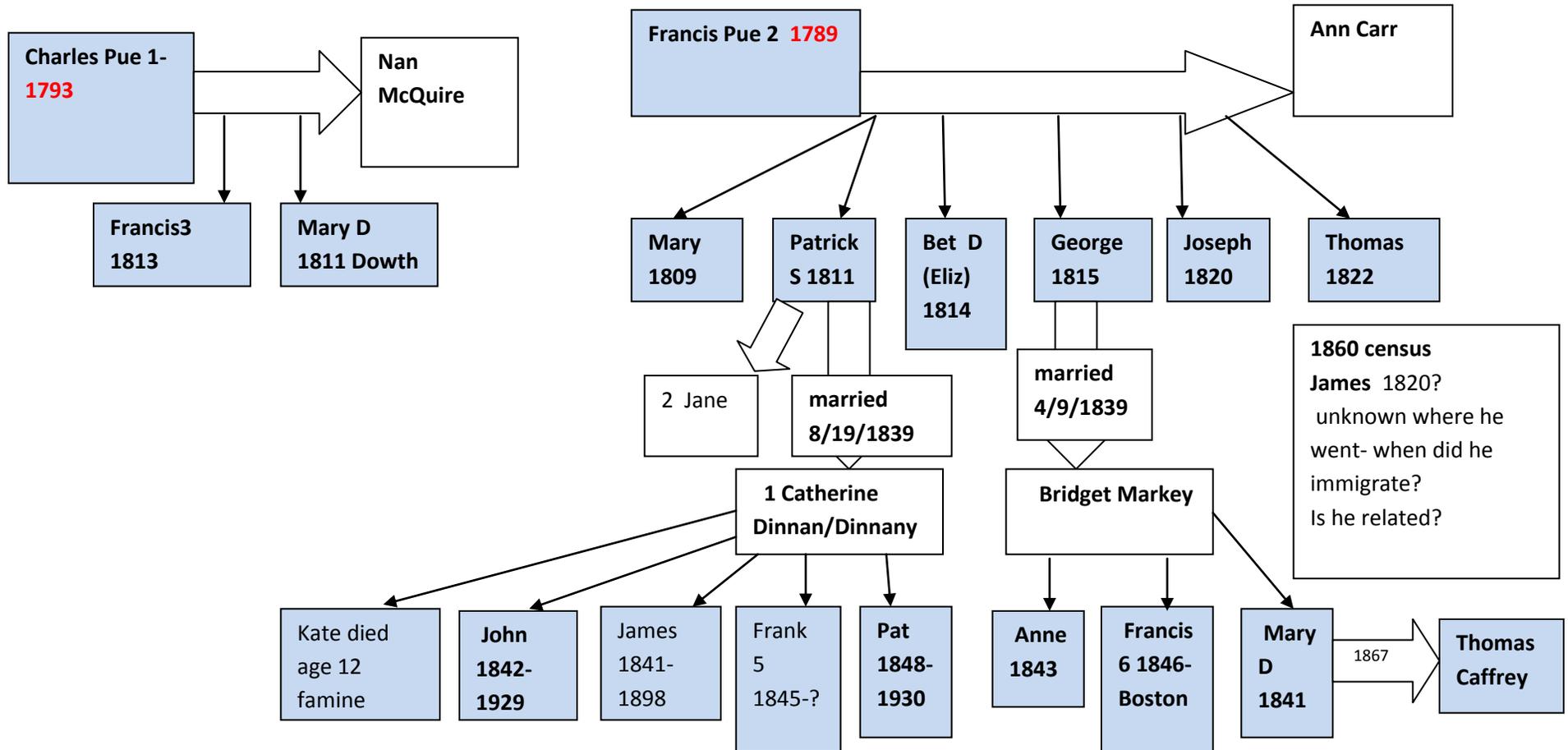
*Parents of Pew's born in Rathkenny - age approximate 20 years from birth of first child*

NY Catherine 1795 married one of Francis's sons and had a son Francis? Too young to be Catherine Finnegan. She married John or James, based on naming

Where does James 1831 fit in?  
May be brother to NY Francis

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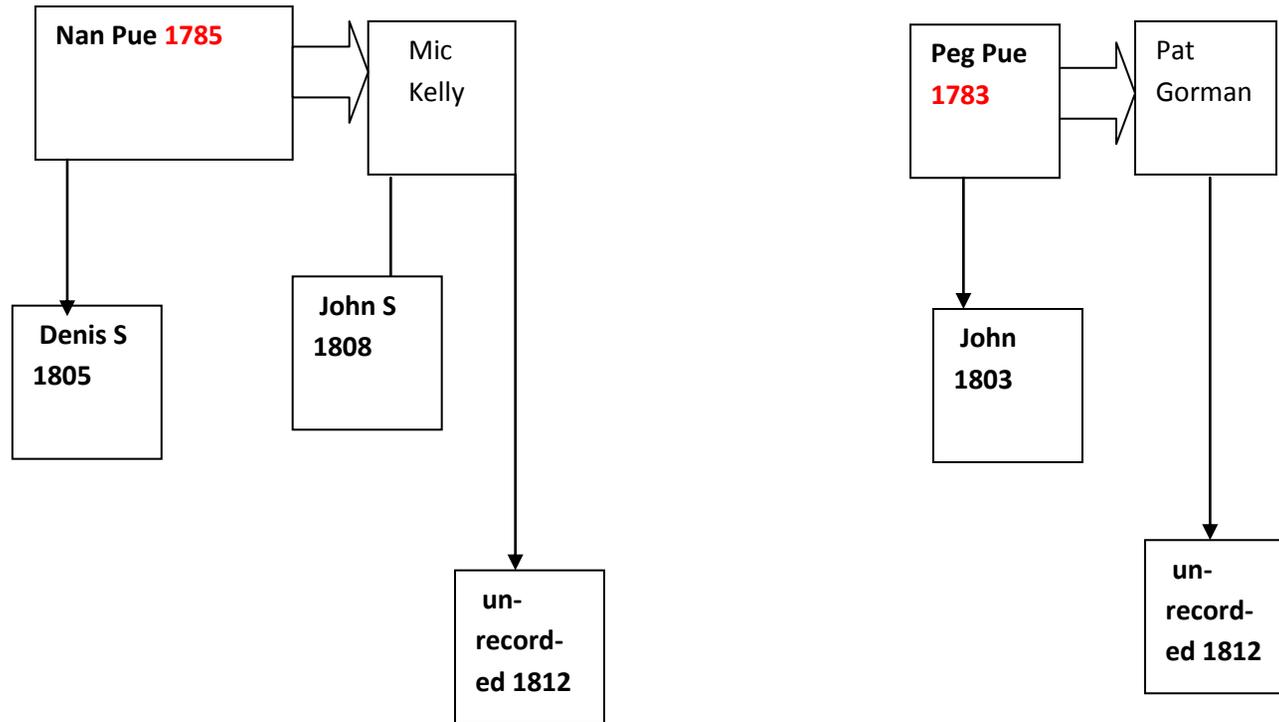
hypothesis- Francis was brother to NY Catherine Pugh's husband (John, James or Peter, naming pattern would suggest John?) **Then Patrick would be a cousin to Frank 1822** and Mary in NY



Theories (in red)- Charles and Francis were siblings, born to Francis 1 or Patrick 1 - most likely Francis per naming pattern

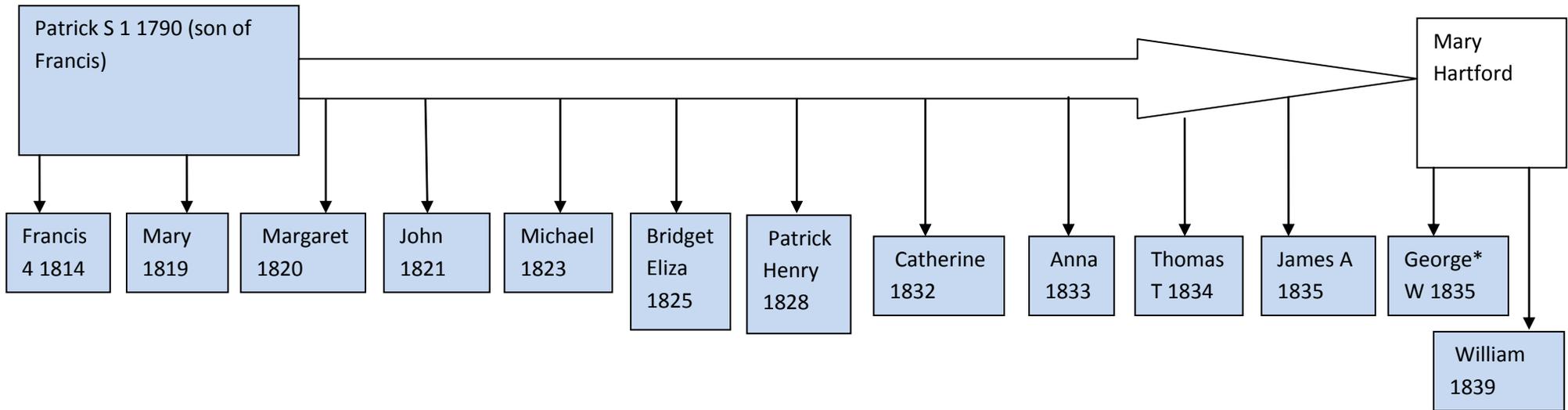
John is the only record we have found in Ireland all though Patrick's death certificate names Catherine Denenny and Patrick Pugh as his parents- the rest are from family stories/US records.

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## French/Irish Catholic Pue/Pew's in County Meath

Second generation of Pugh's born in Rathkenny continued- this information was taken from information posted by Mark Martinson, and I have not been able to contact him personally



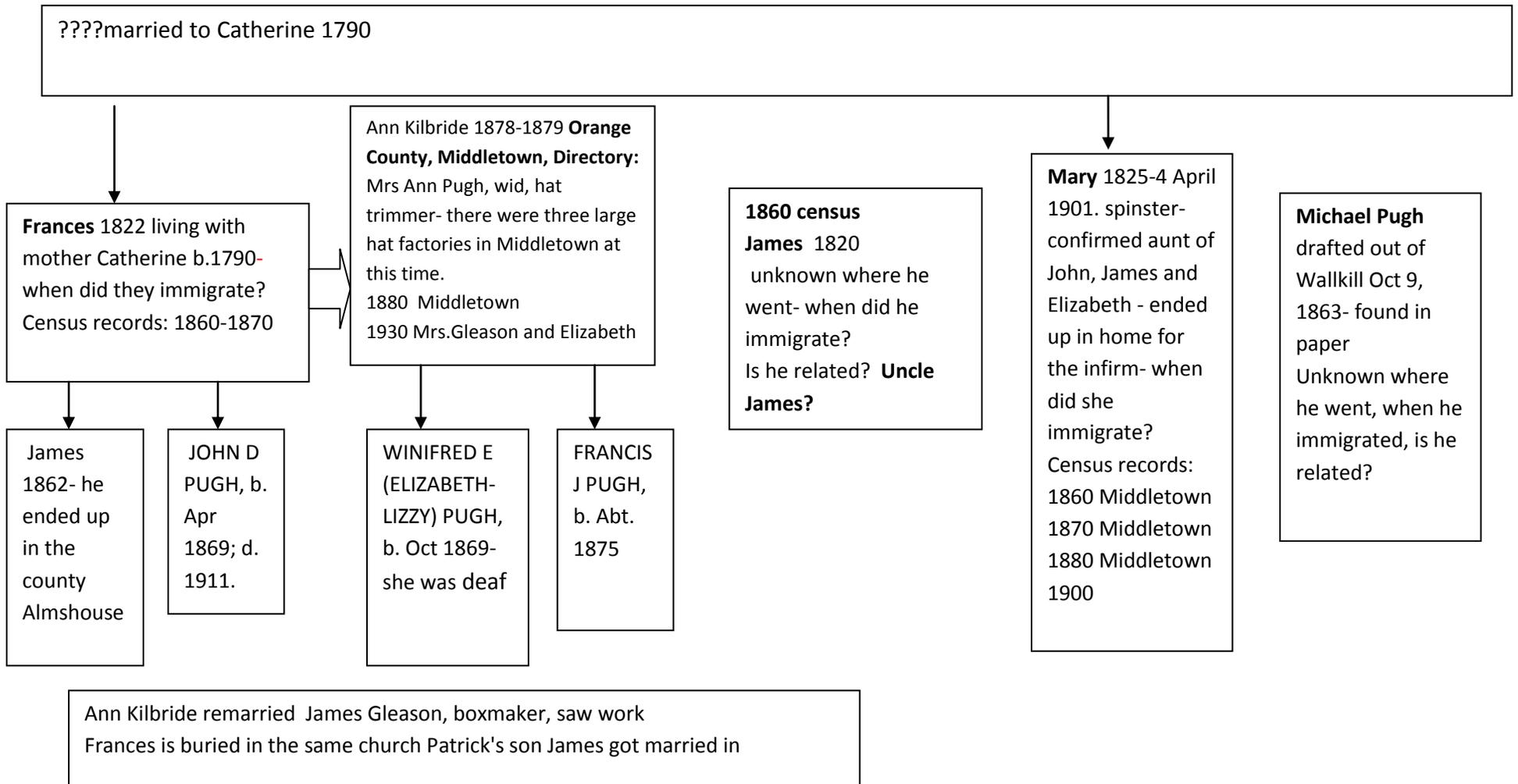
Patrick Pew was born 5 Aug 1790 in Knowth, Rathkenny parish, County Meath, Ireland, the son of Francis Pew and Mary Dunne. Patrick married Mary Hardford about 1814 in Ireland, presumably Rathkenny. There are five known children born to this couple in Rathkenny: Francis born in 1814, Mary born in 1819, John born in 1821, Michael born in 1823, Bridget born in 1825. Margaret was born around 1820 but I have been unable to find any documentation. In about 1826/28 Patrick Pew and family immigrated to the Madrid / Waddington area in Saint Lawrence Co., New York where seven more children born, Information from Mark Martinson

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New York Pugh's from Ireland - found in Middletown NY where Patrick was found in 1860, son James 1841 was drafted from Middletown, son John 1842 was in New York just before 1860.

Middletown is 67 miles from NYC, situated on the NY and Erie RR, central to Hudson and Delaware rivers.

NY Pugh's came after 1850- no records in Middletown in 1850 census

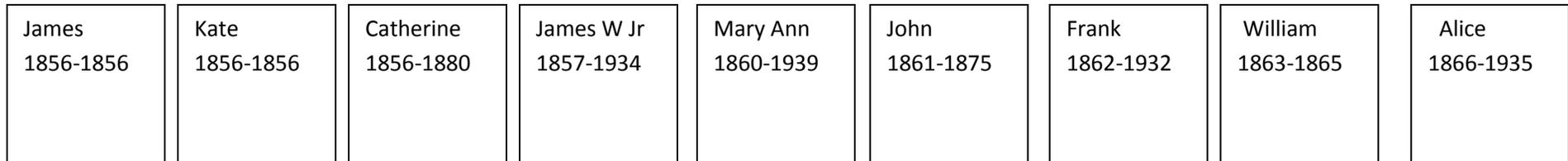


## French/Irish Catholic Pue/Pew's in County Meath

### IOWA PUGHS

James Pugh 1830 **came in 1852**  
**Census: 1860**  
1870 Cass Twnship, Cedar, Iowa  
1880 Moved to Greene County, Iowa  
1900 Greene County sons James and Frank married and living in Greene County.  
1910 Greene County His son Frank is living with daughter in McCook County, SD

Alice Fagan ,  
came in 1852



**Theory:** US Pugh's in Middletown NY and Tipton Iowa connect to County Meath

**Fact:** James Pugh came to NY city in 1852, met and married Alice **Fagan** in NYC.

**Theory:** She had family in Cedar County, Iowa, so they made plans to move there. There were a lot of Fagans in Cedar County, from County Meath originally.

**Fact:** James and Alice started to head west, daughter Katie was born in Schuylkill, Pa in 1856.

**Theory:** Family in Pa- Did he work there for awhile, or was it just on their way? There is a lot of Irish history there, could have worked on the RR or in the iron mines.

Find marriage records

Between census records, unless there is a 1855.

Otherwise, church records for birth and marriage records -obits to connect them to other family

## Family of Patrick Pugh come County Meath

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Patrick 1811- **get naturalization papers**  
Census: 1870 Middletown NY  
1880 Mechanicsville, Iowa- died

### Immigration records:

Patrick Pugh, age 49 (1815)  
Jane 40 (1824)  
Francis 19 (1845)  
Patrick 15 (1849) came to America on the "City of New York",  
Port of Departure Liverpool England.

2 Jane -2nd wife- based on information on 1900 census, she  
had 2 children

Census: 1865, 1870 Middletown NY  
1880 Mechanicsville, Iowa 1895 Cedar County  
1900 Mechanicsville 2 children, one living, b. 1827  
1905 Atlantic with John's family **get naturalization papers- no  
death records found**

Kate died age 12  
famine?

1 Catherine Dineen/Dinneny- I am  
assuming she died in Ireland

Pat 1849- birth records confirmed  
Census: 1870? son was born in New Jersey,  
they were in Iowa by 1873. Has a son 9 yrs  
old in 1880- living in Mechanicsville . Death  
records at church in Nebraska say parents  
Patrick Pugh and Catherine Dineen

John 1842 NY-Missouri-Utah-Iowa-SD When they "headed west", they went to Iowa,  
and John went down the river to Missouri.  
John Pugh naturalized in New York County, November 21, 1861  
Address 41 Worth Street Former Nationality English witnessed by Michael Bradley, 43  
Lawrence St NY City ???? Worth is 5-6 Ward Census 1860 ? 1870 Mechanicsville  
with James and Ellen. 1872 John (1842) marries Julia Merritt, from Mechanicsville  
1880 Shelby County, Iowa 1900 Atlantic Township, Cass County, Iowa  
1905 Atlantic 1907 Summit, SD 1910 and 1920 Summit, SD

Frank 1845 **Naturalization Papers for Francis Pugh Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 1868**  
address 69 Greene St witnessed by Owen Gannon 64 Watt Street  
Supreme Court New York County  
Greene is Ward 8-15, Watt is Ward 8 Rolls 794 and 795  
1870 Frank 1848 Middletown, NY?  
1880 Frank Pugh (1845) working as hired hand **2 Franks**

Son of James  
Patrick (1868) born in  
Iowa, parents born in  
Ireland and Anna 1872  
are living in Atlantic

### James Pugh 1841

James Pugh, 10 Aug 1860, age 18, from Liverpool, England, ship name Lady Franklin, arrived in New York –probably James  
1841- brother? Also Elen Carroll age 16 and brother age 18, but not her  
James (1841) went to Civil War from Middletown, mustered out in 1865

### Naturalization Papers for James Pugh Oct 22, 1867

New York County Oct 22, 1867 Address Middletown Orange County NY Former Nationality English  
Witness James Kelly, Middletown, Orange County

Married Oct 29<sup>th</sup>, 1867 witnesses John Carroll and Eliza Gormican (Gorman/O'Gorman)

Census 1870 Mechanicsville, Cedar County, Iowa with John  
1880

1890 **Faulk County, South Dakota**

1891- James passes away age 51 1910, 1920 and 1930 Ellen still in Faulk County

Frank 1848, came  
prior to 1868,  
probable  
naturalization papers,  
lived in NY in 1870,  
NY-Boston-probably  
George's son  
1880 Boston  
**1900 Frank, born in  
1847**