Researching Huguenot Settlers in Ireland

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Keywords
Huguenots--Ireland

Abstract
This study is a genealogical research guide to French Protestant refugee settlers in Ireland, c. 1660–1760. It reassesses Irish Huguenot settlements in the light of new findings and provides a background historical framework. A comprehensive select bibliography is included. While there is no formal listing of manuscript sources, many key documents are cited in the footnotes. This work covers only French Huguenots; other Protestant Stranger immigrant groups, such as German Palatines and the Swiss watchmakers of New Geneva, are not featured.

Biography
Vivien Costello (nee Le Clerc) is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin where she studied French and German. She has been engaged in researching Huguenot settlers in Ireland for over 20 years and is a Fellow of the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland. She is chairman of the French Huguenot Fund, Dublin’s oldest charity (founded in 1716), which still has Huguenot descendant annuitants and which owns Europe’s only surviving nonconformist Huguenot cemetery at Merrion Row, Dublin (established 1693). Vivien’s publications include: Irish Huguenot Records in James G. Ryan (ed.) Irish Church Records (Flyleaf Press: Dublin, 1992 & 2001), and Researching Huguenot Officers in the British Army, 1688–1713, Genealogists’ Magazine, Vol. 28, No. 8 (December 2005).

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation
Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byufamilyhistorian/vol6/iss1/9

Huguenot Family Names in Ireland. In the 17th and 18th centuries French Calvinist Protestants were persecuted and alienated by a Catholic monarchy, causing as many as 500,000 of them to flee the country. The French Church, Portarlington. Unlike the Huguenots, the Palatine settlers were farming people, they mostly stayed on the land and for the most part their descendants living in Ireland to-day are still farmers. The Irish Palatine Association are very active in researching and preserving the history of Ireland’s Palatine families. Article updated: March 31, 2017 | Image Credits.