

# Chronology Report

<b>Name:</b>	<b>John Coffay, Sr.</b>	
Parents:	Martin Coffay	
Life Range	Abt 1815-1896 Jun 19	
Abt 1815	Birth:	Kilteevan, County Roscommon, Ireland.
1839 Feb 2	Marriage:	<b>Catherine Hanley.</b> In Roscommon and Kilteevan, Roscommon, Ireland. <sup>14</sup>
1840 Jan	Daughter born (#1):	<b>Mary Coffay.</b> Born in Roscommon, County Roscommon, Ireland. Died in 1908 Feb in Baltimore,, Maryland USA.
1841 Sep	Son born (#2):	<b>Martin Coffay.</b> Born in Roscommon and Kilteevan, Roscommon, Ireland. Died before 1850 in Roscommon and Kilteevan, Roscommon, Ireland.
Abt 1843	Son born (#3):	<b>Patrick Coffay.</b> Born in Roscommon, County Roscommon, Ireland. Died on an unknown date in Baltimore,, Maryland USA.
1847 Feb	Daughter born (#4):	<b>Catherine Coffay.</b> Born in Kilteevan, Roscommon, Ireland. Died on 1921 Apr 28 in Baltimore,, Maryland USA.
Bef 1850	Death of Child (#2):	<b>Martin Coffay.</b> In Roscommon and Kilteevan, Roscommon, Ireland.
1850 Apr 13	Emigration:	<b>John Coffey,</b> from Ireland, age 35, laborer, sailed from Liverpool to Baltimore on the ship, <i>Scotia</i> , which arrived in Baltimore on April 13, 1850. <b>Note:</b> John's wife, Catherine, emigrated with her children after him. Their son, John Coffay Jr. was born after John Sr., left Ireland. He saw his son for the first time, in Maryland. <sup>3</sup>
Abt 1851	Son born (#5):	<b>John J. Coffay, Jr..</b> Born in Roscommon, County Roscommon, Ireland. Died on 1898 Nov 23 in Baltimore,, Maryland USA.
1853 Apr 5	Family's Emigration from Ireland:	John's wife, Catherine, emigrated with their children, including William Manion, John Coffay's step-son. They were passengers aboard the ship "Jane Henderson" which sailed from Liverpool to Baltimore. Catherine Coffay, age 40 William <b>Manion</b> Coffay, age 16 Mary Coffay, age 14 Patrick Coffay, age 11 Catherine Coffay, age 4 John Coffay, age 2 <sup>3</sup>
1854	Residence:	Texas, Baltimore County, Maryland, USA. <b>NOTE:</b> John Coffay's daughter, <b>Bridget Coffay</b> , has her birth place as <b>Texas, Baltimore County</b> , Maryland, on her death certificate. This would suggest that her father, John Coffay worked in one of the Texas, MD quarries. When the rest of the family emigrated, they joined John in Texas. By the late 1850s, the family moved to the Baltimore area, near North ave. possibly for employemnt in the quarries along the Jones Falls in that area. John and his sons, John Coffay jr. Michael Coffay, and step-son William Manion all worked as stone cutters at various times.
Abt 1856	Daughter born (#6):	<b>Bridget Coffay.</b> Born in Texas, Baltimore, Maryland USA. Died on 1942 Apr 11 in Baltimore,, Maryland USA.
Abt 1858	Son born (#7):	<b>Michael J. Coffay.</b> Born in , Baltimore County, Maryland USA. Died on 1889 Nov 26 in Baltimore,, Maryland USA.
1859 Oct 15	Naturalization:	Baltimore,, Maryland USA. <b>John Coffey</b> Address: Baltimore County Maryland Certificate no. T's #21 Folio 147 Title and location of court: U.S.D.C. Baltimore MD Country of Birth: Ireland Date of naturalization: Oct. 15, 1859 Sponsor: George Caspar <sup>4</sup>
1860	City Directory:	Baltimore,, Maryland USA. <b>John Coffee</b> , laborer, North av. <sup>5</sup>
1861 Nov 12	Marriage of Step-Son:	Baltimore,, Maryland USA. William Manion and Mary Coyle

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1863 Apr 6 Marriage of Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Mary Coffay and Thomas Lee  
 Daughter:

1864 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffey**, laborer, Falls rd. near Northern av.<sup>6</sup>  
 1868 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, laborer, Cathedral, extended.<sup>6</sup>  
 Abt 1870 Marriage of Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Catharine Coffay and Charles Slunt  
 Daughter:

1870 Census: Baltimore,,Maryland USA.  
 1) **John Coffee**, male, white, age 70, laborer, born in Ireland, both parents of foreign birth, a U.S. citizen.  
 2) Catharine Coffee, female, white, age 60, keeping house. born in Ireland, both parents of foreign birth.  
 3) Catharine Coffee, female, white, age 20, at home, born in Maryland.  
 4) John Coffee, male, white, age 18, laborer, born in Maryland.  
 5) Bridget Coffee, female, white, age 14, at home, born in Maryland, both parents born in Maryland.  
 6) Michael Coffee, male, white, age 13, born in Maryland.  
**NOTE:** Catherine & John are both listed as age 60 in the 1880 census, so their ages here are way off.<sup>7,8</sup>

1877 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffey**, laborer, McMechen, near North av.<sup>6</sup>  
 1877 Feb 2 Marriage of Son: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. John Coffay, Jr. and Helen Kelly  
 1877 Mar 20 News Item: Sun Paper. Baltimore,,Maryland USA.  
**THE ANNUAL SOIREE OF THE MILKMEN** was given last night at Raines Hall, and was largely attended. The programmes included seventeen dances, concluding with a waltz entitled "Farewell to the Sound of the Milkman's Bell" in which a milkman's bell was used by the musicians...Milkmen from the city and Baltimore and Harford counties attended...A disturbance occurred at the ball at half-past two A.M. and John Coffay and John Buckheimer were arrested. Otherwise, everything passed off well.<sup>9</sup>

1879 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, laborer, Mount Royal Hill<sup>6</sup>  
 1880 Jun 8 Census: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Address: Mount Royal Hill  
 1) **John Coffay Sr.**, white, male, age 60, married, laborer, born in Ireland, both parents born in Ireland.  
 2) Catherine Coffay, wife, white, female, age 60, married, keeping home. cannot read, cannot write, born in Ireland, both parents born in Ireland.  
 3) Bridget Coffay, daughter, white, female, age 24, single, at home, born in Maryland, both parents born in Ireland.  
 4) Michael Coffay, son, white, male, age 22, stone mason, born in Maryland, both parents born in Ireland.<sup>7</sup>

1883 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, milk, Mount Royal Hill<sup>6</sup>  
 1884 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffey**, grocer, Mount Royal Hill<sup>6,10</sup>  
 1886 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffey**, milk, Mount Royal Hill<sup>6,11</sup>  
 1889 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffey**, dairy, Mount Royal Hill<sup>6,12</sup>  
 1889 Nov 26 Death of Child (# **Michael J. Coffay**. In Baltimore,,Maryland USA.  
 7):

1891 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, milk, Mount Royal Hill<sup>12</sup>  
 1892 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, dairy, Mount Royal Hill<sup>12</sup>  
 1893 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, dairy, Mount Royal Hill<sup>12</sup>  
 1894 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay**, dairy, Reservoir la.<sup>12</sup>  
 1896 Jun 19 Death: Baltimore,,Maryland USA.<sup>1</sup>  
 1896 Jun 20 Death Notice: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. The Baltimore Sun:  
**COFFAY** - On June 19, at his residence , Mount Royal Hill and North avenue, **John Coffay**, a native of parish **Kilteevia**, county Roscommon, Ireland. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral, of which due notice will be given.  
**NOTE:** "Kilteevia" actually refers to Kilteevan in Roscommon County. This

Name: **John Coffay, Sr.**

- 1896 Jun 22 Burial: was an important piece of information that made it possible to locate Irish parish church records for the Coffays and William Manion.<sup>1</sup>  
 Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Interment Record New Cathedral Cemetery  
 John Coffay Sr.  
 Mount Royal Hill  
 Cause of Death: Dropsy  
 Section H, Lot 269 Address: New Cathedral Cemetery, 4300 Old Frederick Road, Baltimore, MD 21229, USA<sup>2</sup>
- 1896 Jun 23 News Item: Description of Coffay Home & Dairy Business. Baltimore,,Maryland USA.  
**Note:** The day after his burial, The Baltimore Sun Paper published this item about the Coffay home:  
**"Un Unsightly Landmark"**  
*The Old Weather-Beaten Cottage on Mount Royal Hill to Be Removed*  
 "Before the close of the present week, an unsightly old landmark familiar to residents of North and Northwest Baltimore for many years and one that has become a constant detraction to the beauties of Druid Hill Park and the immediate neighborhood, will probably have been removed. It is the weather beaten cottage which has stood for more than thirty years on an eminence at the western extreme of **Mount Royal Hill**, close to the Mount Royal avenue entrance to the park.  
 During all the time of its existence the cottage has been occupied by an aged couple, **John and Katherine Coffay**, who were as well known to residents within many squares of the house as the house itself. They conducted a **dairy farm** until the death of the old man from pneumonia, which occurred last week.  
 But Mrs. Coffay, is cooperative with requests made by the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Company to which the land (a tract of about two acres) belongs, is prepared to move out and the old house will be carted away, together with the stable in the rear and the fences. The company will clean the place up and try as far as possible to give it a more picturesque appearance, and thus relieve the handsome park entrance of one of its chief detractors.  
 The cottage is one of the most singular of edifices and always attracted notice on account of its isolated ugliness. It is a high one-story shanty, build loosely of plain, unpainted clapboards, with narrow windows set in like bad-fitting artificial eyes. A struggling, discouraged vine clings disconsolately to the door, which divides the house and reaches with odd giganticness from the ground to the lofty eaves. The top is surmounted by an immense chimney-pot, made apparently, of an old disused iron boiler."<sup>13</sup>

## Source Citations

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1. *Baltimore Sun Paper Death Notices - Enoch Pratt Library Archives*; microfilm.
2. *New Cathedral Cemetery Records* (Interments and plat books, 1793 - 1977, Baltimore, Maryland. All records are on microform at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore. The plat records only are available at New Cathedral Cemetery, Baltimore).
3. Ancestry.com. Baltimore Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1820-1872 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2004., "Original data: Baltimore, Maryland. Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Baltimore, 1820-1891. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Micropublication M255, rolls # 1-19."
4. Maryland, Certificate #21 Folio 147, U.S. Department of Justice Immigration & Naturalization Record; Maryland State Archives, Annapolis.
5. *Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: John W. Woods, n.d.), 1860.
6. *Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: John W. Woods, n.d.).
7. 1880 U.S. census, Baltimore, Maryland population schedule, Baltimore, enumeration district (ED) 228, p. 20, dwelling 141, family 141; digital images, *Ancestry.com*; citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm T9.
8. 1870 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland population schedule, Baltimore County, 9th District, Post Office: Towsontown, p. 149, dwelling 1016, family 1015, John Coffee; digital images; citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm M593.
9. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985)*.
10. *Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore Maryland: Sheriff and Taylor, n.d.).
11. *Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: John W1 Woods, n.d.).
12. *1887 - 1904 Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: R.L. Polk & Co. B.R. Sheriff, n.d.).
13. "An Unsightly Landmark," *The Baltimore Sun*, June 23, 1896, online archives.
14. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 12 Jan 2009), North America Region, entry for John Coffay and Catherine Hanelly, married Feb 2 1839, Roscommon and Kiltewan, Roscommon, Ireland; , batch no. M701831.
15. Genealogybank.com, "An Unsightly Landmark," *The Baltimore Sun*, June 23, 1896, online archives, p. 10.
16. Baltimore City Health Department, Maryland, death certificate ; Maryland State Archives, Annapolis.
17. Maryland Board of Health, *Baltimore County Certificate of Death* (Baltimore County Maryland).
18. Baltimore City Health Department, Maryland, death certificate no. 53312 (1921), Catherine Slunt (nee Coffay); Maryland State Archives, Annapolis.
19. Baltimore City Health Department, Maryland, death certificate no. F 91167 (1942); Maryland State Archives, Annapolis.