



## *McOsker – McCusker – McCosker Family Newsletter*



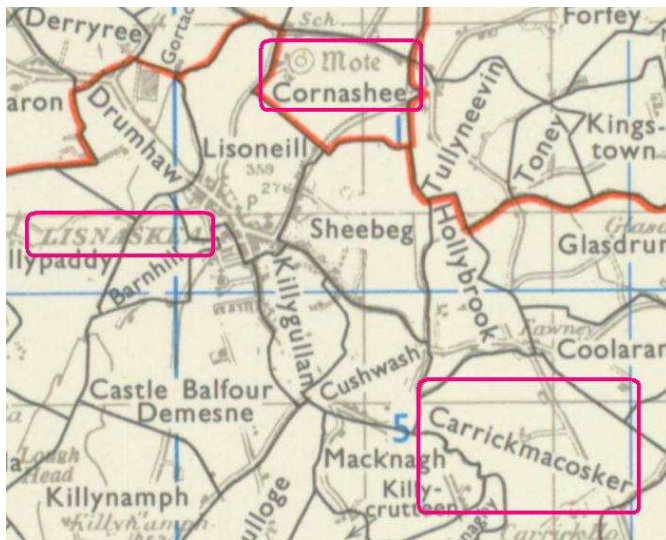
**March 2013**

We believe that we have more circumstantial evidence of our family link to the ancient Maguire kings.

The first Maguire king, Donn Carragh Maguire, 1260 – 1302, was born at Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh, and Lisnaskea served as the center of power for the senior Maguire line until 1625.

Donn Carragh, and subsequent kings, were crowned at Sciath Gabhra. All the authorities take it that Sciath Gabhra was the Mote Fort, in the townland of Cornashee, about a mile from Lisnaskea. It is very likely the site of a pre-Christian burial mound and because of its hallowed past was probably chosen as the coronation place of the Maguires. It was said by a local Maguire historian that when the Maguire chiefs and princes were inaugurated that signal fires were set ablaze on the mound. These fires signaled to the surrounding communities and clans that a new Chieftain had been chosen.

Cornashee translates to ‘hill of the fairy mound’



*Maguire clan inauguration site (Sciath Gabhra) at Cornashee, Lisnaskea. Photograph courtesy of Stuart Moore.*

Carrickmacosker is about 3 miles from Lisnaskea, the birthplace of Donn Carrach, and about 5 miles from our ancestral inauguration site, and its close proximity to these places of Maguire power must indicate its importance. We believe that Carrickmacosker (and our family names) originated with the sons of Oscar Maguire (mac Oscair). Oscar was the great-grandson of King Donn Carrach.

### **An Old Irish Blessing**

May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.  
May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam.  
May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.  
May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours!

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