Ronald Denniston of Longford.

Generation 1.
**Alexander Denniston** (1663-1723), lived in Drummeel, Co Longford.  
Source: Headstone in Old Clonbroney:  
1st Wife: Ms Lewis daughter of Samuel Lewis, merchant of London, married c1685.  
Source: Memorial 14536, dated 1719 in Registry of Deeds Dublin.  
2nd Wife: Catherine Montgomery married in 1715. Catherine died in 1754.  
Source: Headstone in Old Clonbroney and Marriage Licence Bond Kilmore & Ardagh.  
Prerogative Wills index, Ardagh Wills Index.

Generation 2.
**Samuel Denniston** (abt1687-abt 1747) of Drummeel, Co Longford.  
Alexander (1) and Samuel (2) of Drummeel purchased an estate on Lough Allen in Co Leitrim in 1715. Samuel Denniston of Drummeel names his eldest son as Edward in Memorial no 55465 in 1734. Samuel was dead by 1747/48 when Edward of Drummeel disposed of the Lough Allen Estate to Charles O Hara.  
Wife: Unknown.

Generation 3.
**Edward Denniston** (abt 1715-died after 1782) of Drummeel, Co Longford.  
Sources: Longford Voter 1788, Memorial 55465 etc.  
Wife: Unknown.

Generation 4.
**Samuel Denniston** (1744-1804) of Drummeel, purchased the lands of nearby Drumnacross from his father’s Aunt and Uncle, Margaret Denniston Frazer and Francis Frazer in 1775.  
Wife: Rebecca (1741-1801).  
Sources: Headstone in Old Clonbronney, Voters List, Encumbered Estates Court record 1851.

Generation 5.
**Edward Denniston** (abt 1770-after 1834) of Drumnacross, Co Longford.  
Listed in Tithe records of 1834.  
Wife: Ellen. They married in 1804.  
Sources: Tithe Books, family Bible, family correspondence from America 1831.

Generation 6.
Samuel Denniston (1804-1876) of Drumnacross.  
Noted in Encumbered Estate Court as heir of Samuel (1744-1804) in respect of the Drumnacross lands.  
Wife: Fanny Speir.  
Sources: church records, Griffiths Valuation 1850’s, family Bible, Civil death record.

Generation 7.
Edward Denniston (1850-1917) of Drumnacross.  
Wife: Margaret Ann Denniston (1860-1918) 3rd cousin.  
Edward and Margaret married Westport Co Mayo in 1894.  
Sources: Church records, Civil Records, 1901 and 1911 census.
Generation 8.
Samuel Denniston (b1896) of Drumnacross
Wife: Georgina Grey (b1895)
Samuel and Georgina married in 1920.
Sources: Church records, civil records, 1901 and 1911 census.

Generation 9.
Edward Samuel Denniston (b1923)
Wife: Aileen O Connor.
Married in Co Mayo in 1946.
Source: Civil Registration Records.

Generation 10.
Ronald Denniston.

Records used or reviewed in the preparation of the tree.

Alexander Denniston (1663-1723)
Alexander was an officer under St. Ruth in 1691 at Athlone and aided in the defense against the English. After the battle followed the period in which it is said that Ireland had no history, a period that developed tyranny on the part of the government and bitter suffering on the part of the people. This induced Alexander to move to Scotland to avoid persecution. In 1702 he returned to Ireland, where he remained quiet and secluded for a time in the town of Granard, until the ascension to the throne of George I in 1714, when the Whigs obtained ascendancy and all adhering to them were taken into favour. In 1727 when George II came to the throne, Parliament passed bills that disenfranchised 5/6ths of the population of Ireland. Other legislative measures convinced many that Ireland was to be treated as a conquered country.

History of the Town of New Windsor, Orange County, N.Y., by Edward M. Ruttenber

Some people claim that Alexander Denniston (1663-1723) came from Paisley; Renfrew Scotland. This appears to be incorrect. I examined the Burgh records of Paisley up to the 1630’s and there was no mention of Denniston’s. This included tax records etc. The church records for Paisley or Abbey Parish that survive are as follows.

Marriages from 1670, Baptisms from 1676.
These are just too late to confirm if Alexander was born there in 1663/64.
The first records of Dennistons in the registers are as follows.
Robert Denastowne married Marie Alexander on 14th June 1672.
This Robert did not apparently live / remain there as there is no further record of him.
The earliest baptism in the records is
John Denneston son of John Denneston baptised on 17th February 1712.
There were no Denniston baptisms recorded in the 36 years between 1676 and 1712.

This is a very strong indication that Alexander did not come from Paisley. It may be possible that some member of the family was there for a few years and Alexander was born during that period. The more likely reason is that this Denniston family had its origins in Paisley in
the 1200’s and it was a way of saying in folk / family history that Alexander was of that family which was then represented by the Denniston’s Lairds of Colgrain, Dumbarton.

XXX

Old Clonbroney Cemetry.

(1)

"Here lyes the body of Alexander Denniston Late of Dromeale who departed this life ye 15th day of August Anno Dom 1723 in ye 60th year of his Age. This monument was erected by his wife Catharine Denniston Alias Montgomery in testimony of her affection to him."

(2)

“Here lyeth awaiting the Resurr ection the Bodies of the deceased Samuel Denniston of Drumnacr oss who departed this life 10th of May a.d. 1804 aged 60years, Rebecca Denniston his wife who depd this life 9th March 1801 aged 60 years. This Monument is Erecd by their Sons Andrew and Edmond Denniston.”

(3)

Here lyes the Body of Allex Denniston of Leitrim Awaiting the resurrection of ye Just who Departed this life Augt ye 7th 1767 aged 7(?) years. Also his Daur Jane Departed this life May 1771 aged 28 years.
Note: The Leitrim mentioned above is a townland in Co Longford and not Co Leitrim. These inscriptions were recorded about 100 years ago by a local doctor J.F. Keenan and published in the journals of “The Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead”. He also notes about the grave of Allex Denniston of Leitrim “stone lying on the ground chipped by weathering. In a different place from the other Denniston monuments there is another Denniston stone beside this, covered, broken, and inaccessible”

Marriage Licence Bonds.
Dioceses of Kilmore and Ardagh.

Margret Denison married Francis Frazer 1714 (a daughter Margaret is mentioned in George Denniston’s (1658-1717) will, and the Rev John’s wife was Margaret, so it could possibly be his daughter also)
Alexander Denison married Catherine Montgomery 1715 (Alexander 1663-1723)

Alexander Denniston married Agnes Little 1716 (Alexander Jnr of Leitrim, Longford)

John Denison married Mary Reid 1718 (went to PA)

Elizabeth Dennison married Charles Clinton 1721 (went to NY 1729)

Jean Dennison married John Trumble 1721

Andrew Dennison married Ann McKeon 1724. (Possibly Haycock Run, Bucks Co PA)

Alexander Dennison married Elizabeth Beaty 1727 (The Alexander who went to NY in 1729 with the Clinton party)

Esther Dennison married David Frazer 1727

Jean Dennison married David Phares 1727

Sarah Denniston married William Little 1748

Jane Denniston married William Harkness 1750

Mary Denniston married Daniel Bleakly 1751

Co Leitrim is in the Diocese of Kilmore, Longford is in the Dioceses of Ardagh. There were two ways of getting married, one was by publishing the banns and the other was by licence. The banns were read out on three consecutive Sundays before the marriage asking if there was any reason why the couple could not marry. The other was by Marriage Licence bond. This involved getting people to go guarantor and a bond was required in case the minister married somebody who should not have married i.e. close cousins or people already married etc. The wealthier tended to use the MLB’s. Despite the fact that many of these were Presbyterian the marriage licence bonds are proof that these marriages took place within the Church of Ireland. Many Presbyterians and
Roman Catholics at this time, especially if they had property had to marry within the Church of Ireland as any other religious marriage was not recognised by the state and this would result in inheritance problems.

XXX

**Voter Lists.**

To be a voter you had to be Protestant, have a lease for at least 3 years. The valuation had to be 40 shillings or over. The most common were £20 and £40 leaseholders. Poorer Protestants are thus not included. Women did not have a vote. Only about 1000 people are included on the 18th century freehold voters list for Longford. The voting age was 25 in the earlier period and afterwards reduced to 21. These lists provide some very interesting family connections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voter</th>
<th>Abode</th>
<th>Freehold</th>
<th>Year Registered</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Denniston</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Granard</td>
<td>January 1769.</td>
<td>L. Upton ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Denniston</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Glannagh</td>
<td>1789</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans Denniston</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Springtown</td>
<td>1789</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Denniston</td>
<td>Drumnacross</td>
<td>Drumnacross</td>
<td>1789</td>
<td>£40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Denniston</td>
<td>Drumnacross</td>
<td>Moneylagan</td>
<td>1775</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Denniston</td>
<td>Drumeel</td>
<td>Drumeel</td>
<td>1782</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Denniston</td>
<td>Edgeworthstown</td>
<td>Edgewortstown</td>
<td>1785</td>
<td>RLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Denniston</td>
<td>Aughafin</td>
<td>Aughafin</td>
<td>1788</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following are dated c1788

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voter</th>
<th>Abode</th>
<th>Freehold</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Denniston</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Glannagh (note Alex in 1789)</td>
<td>Mr Greville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Denniston</td>
<td>Drumeel</td>
<td>Drumeel</td>
<td>Lord Granard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Denniston</td>
<td>Drumnacross</td>
<td>Moneylagan</td>
<td>W G Newcomen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have adjusted the order of appearance in the Voter Book to link certain branches. The abode and where the freehold was located are interesting. Often you come across a person with a freehold and you are not certain of the connection between another with the same name with a different freehold. In this case you have people with different freeholds which are a good distance from each other but they are living in the same abode.

XXX

**Wills**

Up to 1857 wills in Ireland were based on and recorded by the ecclesiastical dioceses of the Church of Ireland rather than by county or district.
Index of Ardagh Wills (includes Longford)
Alexander Denniston, Drimeele, Co Longford. Dated 1723, proven 1724. Drimeele is Drumeel. This is the only entry in the book up to 1850, however I have come across the following, James Denniston, date 1836, Ardagh, Address, Drumman (near Edgeworthstown). National Archives ref: IAR/1836/F53. This proves that the index was not complete.

Other related family Wills.
Frazer Francis Drumnacross Longford 1778
Frazer Margaret Longford 1778
(Samuel (b1744) took over his father’s Aunt & Uncle’s lease to Drumnacross in 1775)

Index of Kilmore Wills 1701-1857. National Archives.
No Dennison / Denniston etc.

Index Prerogative Wills of Ireland.

Prerogative wills were wills which covered those people with property in more than one diocese.
There are 14 Denison/Dennison/Denniston listed in the prerogative wills.
The ones relative to Leitrim and Longford are.
1718  George Deniston, Dublin, merchant
1758  Jane Denistone, Usk parish, Co Kildare, widow.
1754  Catherine Denniston, Drumall, Co Longford, widow.

George Deniston 1658-1718, husband of (1) Isabelle Godfrey and (2) Jane Craig. George had property in Leitrim and in Dumbarton, Scotland when he died.

Jane Craig Deniston 1669-1758. Died aged 89.
George and Jane’s daughter Elizabeth married Jonathan Harbourne on April 19, 1734, St. Mary’s, Dublin, Dublin, Ireland. They lived in Dunlavin Co Kildare. Jane appeared to be living with them. Elizabeth only outlived her mother one year. She died on the 6th November 1759.

Jane Montgomery Denniston (abt 1690-1754) of Drumall (Drumeel), Longford.
Jane was the second wife and widow of Alexander (1663-1723) of Drumeel. What is interesting about this will is that Jane had property in two dioceses while her husband only had property in one.

What I find very strange about the wills is the absolute lack of wills in Leitrim (Kilmore) and that none were recorded for Longford (Ardagh) for the period 1724-1857. Some of the families in both areas were obviously very prosperous. They had property and effects to leave to their families. I have noticed this lack of registered wills with other more prominent families in Leitrim. Were they made and not registered, just held by their legal representatives or most likely their church representative? It is also likely that the index that survived may not have been complete as with James 1836 above.

XXX
Church Records.

The following church records are available online.

**Roman Catholic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Baptisms</th>
<th>Marriages</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clonbroney</td>
<td>1828-1901</td>
<td>1828-1901</td>
<td>1828-1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgeworthstown</td>
<td>1837-1920</td>
<td>1838-1920</td>
<td>1838-1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granard</td>
<td>1778-1950</td>
<td>1782-1950</td>
<td>1811-1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longford/Templemichael</td>
<td>1811-1930</td>
<td>1810-1930</td>
<td>1802-1930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Church of Ireland**

<table>
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<th>Marriages</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clonbroney</td>
<td>1821-1901</td>
<td>1823-1901</td>
<td>1822-1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgeworthstown</td>
<td>1801-1901</td>
<td>1801-1901</td>
<td>1802-1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granard</td>
<td>1820-1901</td>
<td>1820-1901</td>
<td>1820-1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longford/Templemichael</td>
<td>1796-1901</td>
<td>1770-1901</td>
<td>1796-1901</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Presbyterian**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Baptisms</th>
<th>Marriages</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co. Longford</td>
<td>1839-1901</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I reviewed some of the early church records, mainly burial records to see if they would add to the existing knowledge. Unfortunately they added little.

The following are the relevant records I reviewed.

**Thomas Denniston. (Marriage)**

Date of Marriage: 5\textsuperscript{th} October 1854, Clonbroney Parish.
Address: Drumeel, Longford. Denomination: Church of Ireland.
Father: John Denniston, Drumeel.
Wife: Mary Anne Elliot.
Address: Drumeel. Father James Elliott.
Witness: William Foster and Thomas Elliott.
Note: This Thomas and his wife Mary Anne from Longford were alive in 1901 and living near Westport in Co Mayo.

**Margaret Ann Denniston.**

Date of Baptism: 13\textsuperscript{th} August 1859, Oughaval Church of Ireland, Co Mayo.
Address: Westport, Co Mayo.
Father: Thomas Denniston, Land bailiff.
Mother: Mary Ann.
Note: this Margaret Ann born in Co Mayo married Edward Denniston (b1850) of Drummacross, Longford and appears in the 1901 census living in Longford.

**Edward Denniston:**

Date of baptism: 5\textsuperscript{th} October 1850. Corboy Presbyterian, Longford.
Address: Drummacross, Longford.
Father: Samuel Denniston.
Mother: Fanny Speir.
Note: husband of Margaret Ann above.

XXX
Tithe Applotment Books, 1823-1837

The tithe records are a good source of early 1800’s information. In the case of Leitrim some of the parishes had tithe maps as well as details of the amount and type of land held. It also listed the amount of Tithes payable. I have not reviewed these records for Longford and have just listed what is available on Ancestry.

Andrew Denniston, 1833 - Drumnacross, Clonbroney, Longford
Edwd Denniston, 1833 - Drumnacross, Clonbroney, Longford
Samuel (1805) and John (1808) by the time of Griffiths in 1830’s.

James Denniston,1833 - Drumeel, Clonbroney, Longford, Ireland
John Denniston,1833 - Drumeel, Clonbroney, Longford, Ireland
Thomas Denniston,1833 - Drumeel, Clonbroney, Longford, Ireland
William Denniston,1833 - Drimeel, Clonbroney, Longford, Ireland
William and Alexander by the time of Griffiths.

XXX

Encumbered Estates Court

The famine of the 1840’s left Ireland in a wretched state, thousands had died or emigrated. Many estates were into debt and were unable to meet their obligations. The Encumbered Estates Act of 1848 was introduced to allow for the sale of distressed mortgaged properties. It was hoped that the act would attract English investors who would improve and modernize Irish agriculture. The act of 1849 established the Encumbered Estates Court, which had the authority to sell estates on the application of the owner or people who had a claim on the estate. After the sale the proceeds were distributed among the creditors, and the new owner was granted deeds or title to the estate.

Drumacross 1851.

This is a portion of a document dated 1851 relating to one such sale. It is not the Denniston’s who are selling Drumnacross but their landlord and it is the rental income he is selling as the land was held under a lease renewable for life made in 1715 by Francis Frazer, and on the death of a person named on the lease it could be renewed for one peppercorn. From this we can see that Samuel Denniston of Drummeel took over the lease in February 1775. We can see that Samuel’s (1744-1804) son Edward (b abt 1770) was dead by 1851 and that it was Samuel (1804) and his brother John (1808) who were heirs to the property. The reference to late currency relates to the Irish Pound pre the Act of Union 1800. It was valued at approx 92% of the English Pound so the £57-7s-7d “old currency” would be about £53 stg
In addition the area in question was listed in Irish or Plantation acres which are approx 1.64 times a statute acre with the 94 acres Irish equating to approx 155 acres.

Griffith’s Valuation 1854 Drumnacross.

In 1854 Samuel and John had divided the original 155 acre farm.

XXX

Drumnacross Denniston’s Family Bible Abstract.

Edward Denniston & Ellen Denniston were married on Aug 23rd 1804.
Samuel Denniston was born on Aug.2nd at 6 in the afternoon 1805.
Ellen Denniston was born Jan 25th 1807.
John Denniston was born March 30th 1808.
Edward Denniston and his twin brother July 29th 1810.
Twin brother was Thomas.
Rebecka Denniston born 30th Oct.1812.
Julia Maria Denniston born Mar. 4th 1815.
Poor Thomas departed this Life April 17th 1837.(Med Student)

As supplied by Ronnie Denniston from their family Bible.

XXX

Deeds in the Registry of Deeds in Dublin.

Memorial 14530 of 1719

A memorial of a deed of Indenture bearing date the 20th day of March in the year of our Lord 1718 (1719) made between Elizabeth Hume of St Johnston (Ballinalee) in the county of Longford and Alexander Denniston of Drumeel in the same county on one part by virtue of a Dower to them from Samuel Lewis of the city of London and Alexander Denniston Jnr of Aughnahane in the county aforesaid of the other part.
Elizabeth Hume was the widow of Hugh Galbraith (1654-1703) of Glasgow who lived in St Johnston, Longford. He was a Glasgow and London merchant. She was Elizabeth Lewis daughter of Samuel Lewis. In the 1680’s like many Scots and Irish Hugh Galbraith was involved in affairs in London under the Stuart king Charles 2nd. For Alexander to be dowered land by Samuel Lewis it has to mean that he was married to Samuel Lewis’s daughter and that Alexander and his sister in law eventually transferred these lands to Alexander Jnr. (Elizabeth’s nephew).

The Lewis family held lands in the area as the following shows.

“The Lewis family held lands in Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon. William Lewis is also recorded as a lessor of property in the parish of Kilronan, barony of Boyle, at the time of Griffith's Valuation. The "Landowners' Survey" of 1876 notes that the land owned by William Lewis, now held by Capt. W. Bond, with an address at Edgeworthstown, owned over 300 acres in county Roscommon at that time. In November 1877, over 1000 acres of the estate in the baronies of Dromahaire and Leitrim, county Leitrim and the barony of Boyle, county Roscommon, were offered for sale in the Landed Estates Court by the trustees of the marriage settlement of William Bond and Mary Letitia Bond, nee Lewis.”

http://www.landedestates.ie/LandedEstates/jsp/family-show.jsp?id=646

The Lewis marriage introduced the name Samuel into the family. There is no record of the name Samuel being used in Scotland in the period up to 1700.

Ms Lewis’s sister Elizabeth married Hugh Galbraith (1654-1703) who had a younger brother Capt Robert Galbraith Esq of Clooncorick, Co Leitrim, whose will was proven in 1712. (Clooncorick is adjoining the 11,000 acre Craig / Denniston Leitrim Cavan Estate of George Denniston). This Captain Robert Galbraith was Robert Craig’s Leitrim agent in the late 1600’s and early 1700’s prior to the marriage of George Denniston to Robert Craig’s sister Jane in 1700. This is an abstract prepared by Philip Crossle the genealogist of a court case prior to the destruction of many Irish records in the Four Courts in 1922.

Exchequer Bill:- John Beatty, Plaintiff. Robert Craig, Robert Galbraith, John Cranstowne, and William Irwin, Defendants. 20 Feb. 1701

Plaintiff John Beatty of Aghaband, county Cavan, gent. Sheweth. That Robert Craig of Castlecairgh, county Cavan, Esq., in 1698 and for several years before was seized of an estate of inheritance of one pole of land called Aghaband, county Cavan, and being so seized PLT and Adam Noble, then of Aghaband, gent., applied in 1698 to Craig for a lease of said lands,

Craig wrote a letter to tenant dated 9 Nov. 1700 whereby he promised to turn Irwin out of the premises and give tenant possession as by said letter produced, may appear. That Craig desired Capt. Robert Galbraith, who was attorney or agent for Craig to turn Irwin out of the premises and put tenant in possession and to give tenant a lease. Now so it is Robert Craig combining with Capt. Robert Galbraith, and with John Cranstown and William Irwin in order to defraud plaintiff has never executed said lease to plaintiff and refuses to do so and has given Irwin a lease thereof for several years.

National Archives Dublin.

George Denniston (1654-1718) and his brother Arthur took over Capt Robert Galbraiths role as agent for the estate before the estate was transferred to George Denniston in 1703 as his marriage portion.

XXX

The Earl of Granard to Samuel Denniston, Andrew Denniston, John Denniston and James Thompson.
Memorial 54465 of 1734.

“a Memorial of a deed of lease bearing date the 11th November 1734......the Earl of Granard of the one part and Samuel Denniston, Andrew Denniston, John Denniston and James Thompson all of Drumeel in the County of Longford.
Yearly rent of £54.
The lands of Drumeel, Carro, Enkinouaghe, Cartronreagh and Brughny in the parish of Clonbroney.
For the natural lives of Andrew Denniston one of the parties and during the natural lives of Edward Dennistone eldest son of the said Samuel Denniston.”

Alexander (1663-1723) and Ms Lewis Denniston also appeared to have had sons Samuel (abt 1690-1745) and Andrew (abt 1699) and John. Andrew married an Ann McKeon in 1724. (Marriage Licence Bond, Kilmore and Ardghe Dioceses.) There is no record of Samuels’s marriage but he was married. In a memorial deed no 54465 in 1734 it mentions Edward as the eldest son of Samuel Denniston of Drummeel. I would estimate that this Edward was born about 1715-1720.
The three Dennistons who purchased the Lough Allen Estate in 1715, Alexander (1663-1723) Archibald (1652-abt 1720) and Samuel (abt 1690-1745) where all dead in the late 1740’s when Edward Dennistone disposed of the estate to Charles O Hara.

XXX

Memorial 96857
Edward Dennistone to O’Hara.
the transfer of the 4000 acre Lough Allen Estate in Co Leitrim by Edward Dennistone to Charles O Hara.

XXX

Military Records.

Gustavus Denniston. Born Raphoe, Donegal Served in 6th Dragoon Guards; Royal Irish Invalids. Discharged aged 61. Covering date gives year of discharge.
WO 97/1199/43. Discharged in 1802

Henry Deniston. Born Clonbroney in Longford Served in 66th Foot Regiment Discharged aged 40 after 18 years of service
WO 121/14/345. Discharged in 1792

Samuel Dennison. Born Longford, Longford Served in 28th Dragoons (Light); 8th Dragoons; 5th Royal Veteran Battalion Discharged aged 36
WO 97/40/4. Served 1804-1826

**Thomas Denniston.** Born Longford, Longford Served in 16th Dragoons (Light); 17th Dragoons (Light); 25th Dragoons (Light) Discharged aged 34
WO 97/40/7. Served 1808-1828

**William Dennison.** Born Edgeworthstown, Longford Served in 2nd Foot Regiment Discharged aged 56 after 22 years of service
WO 121/24/12. Discharged in 1795

The references WO 97 etc are the references in the National Archives in London. The references to Longford, Longford mean born in or near the town of Longford in Co Longford.

**Captain Sandys’s Company Longford Militia Muster - Oct 1799**

John Denniston  [Sergeant]

From these records we have:
Gustavus Denniston born in 1741 in Raphoe Donegal.
Henry Deniston of Clonbroney, born in 1752.
William Dennison, born in or near Edgeworthstown, Longford in 1739.
Samuel (1790) and Thomas Denniston (1794) of Longford town.
The record for Gustavus Denniston is the most interesting. He was born in Raphoe, Donegal in 1741 and when he came out of the army he settled in the town of Longford.

Gustavus Denniston died at the age of 87 and was buried in St John’s church in Longford town in 1828. The church dates from 1710.

Gustavus was married and living in Longford.
Name: William Deniston
Baptism/Christening Date: 19 Feb 1799
Baptism/Christening Place: TEMPLEMICHAEL,LONGFORD,IRELAND
Mothers name: Elinor McKeon

Father's Name: Gustavus Deniston
Portion of the service record of Gustavus Denniston.

Estate maps.

There are good estate maps available for Longford. One in particular is relevant for the Dennistons. It is the Estate maps drawn up in 1795 for the Greville Estates. In the freeholders section we have seen that in 1788 John Denniston of Leitrim had his freehold in Glannagh and his landlord was Mr Greville. In 1789 Alexander Denniston of Leitrim was the freeholder while John had a freehold in the town of Granard. This is the map of the Granard section of the Greville Estate.
John Denniston business premises were at no 47. Directly across the road at no 14 were the premises of Alexander Burrows Esq. and a few houses down the street at no 40 was the Rev John Burrows. These maps are available in the Longford Library for researchers and will add further information such as the size of the land holdings held by the Denniston’s at Glannagh etc.

John was an importer of flax seed from America. There are a number of newspaper references of Denniston owned ships and Denniston captained ships bringing flax seeds to places like Belfast and Newry in the mid 1700’s from Pennsylvania.

The Belfast ship Clarendon, under Capt J Deniston, arrived with Philadelphia flax seed, lumber and public papers.

I have noted the Burrows of Granard, neighbours of John Denniston because of Alexander Denniston, his son, who fled to America after the rebellion of 1798. Alexander’s family married into a Burrows family in America. A descendant of Alexander, Charlie Burrow has Alexander’s telescope plus family bible etc. He has a very good site here. [http://burroweb.com/ahnen00034_Alexander_Denniston.aspx](http://burroweb.com/ahnen00034_Alexander_Denniston.aspx)

A Longford, Raphoe Donegal and Waterford connection.

January 15 1864
January 12, at the Cathedral Church, Raphoe, by the Rev. E.T. Stubbs, A.M., senior Curate, and Chaplain to the Right Honourable Earl Castlestuart, assisted by Rev. Robert T. Deniston, A.B., junior Curate, brother of the bride, Surgeon Pope, A.B., L.R.C.S.I., to Ellen Jane, only daughter of the late James Deniston Esq., Drumeel, county Longford, and niece of Robert T. Scott, ESQ., Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Fleetwood, late Surgeon of 76th Regiment. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party returned to the Deanery, where they were hospitably entertained at a sumptuous dejeuner.
Richard Henry Pope, magistrate and MD/surgeon was born in Waterford 1840. Both Richard and Ellen Jane were alive and living in Donegal in the 1901 census. How they met and what if any family connections were between them is unknown but you would have to consider the Rev William Denniston who was in Waterford from 1733 to 1761 as being a possible link. I do not have details of some of his daughters or who they married.

Alumni Dublinaens. A register of the Students, Graduates, Professors and Provosts of Trinity College in the University of Dublin, 1593 – 1860.

Deniston, Robert Thomas. Pen Mr Trimble, Jan 14th 1856, aged 25: son of James, Private Gent: born Longford. BA Winter term 1859, MA Summer term 1868. Robert was a curate in January 1864. He must have returned to Trinity College Dublin to continue his studies.

Ellen Jane was dead by 1911. At that time (1911) RH was living in Bray Co Wicklow with some of his daughters. Their son Richard Pope (b 1870) (also an MD) was living in Belfast in 1901 with his wife and son Denniston Pope. Richard and family went to Australia, and he was killed there in an accident in 1919 (hit by a tram on the way to a visit) and the family then went to England.

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FRANCIS BARBER.

Colonel Francis Barber was the son of Patrick Barber, Esq., who was born in the county of Longford, in Ireland, at a place called the Scotch Quarters. His maternal ancestors were Scots, of the name of Frazer, and he married Jane, the daughter of Francis Frazer, some years before his migration to America, in 1749 or 1750. After a short residence in New York, he removed to the then small village of Princeton, in New Jersey, where the subject of this memoir was born, in the year 1751. After Francis had entered the college, or the classical school attached to it, his father removed into the county of Orange, in the state of New York. He received appointments to civil offices under the colonial and state governments of New York, and his ashes now repose in the family cemetery in Orange county, beside the untimely grave of his gallant and lamented son. After Francis Barber had finished his education at Princeton he took charge of the academy at Elizabethtown, New Jersey; and the classical department under his charge was soon distinguished. He was charged with the instruction of several young men, who in after life rose to the highest eminence. Among others, Alexander Hamilton was placed at this, school by Governor Livingston, himself a ripe scholar, whose preference for the school is the best evidence of his confidence in the teacher. Upon the breaking out of the revolutionary war, Francis Barber, with his two younger brothers, John and William, devoted themselves at once to the service of their country. John commanded a company in the New York line, and Francis and William were officers in the New Jersey line. Francis received a commission from congress, bearing date the 9th of February, 1776, as major of the third battalion of the New Jersey troops.

http://books.google.ie/books?id=kgUFAAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA5-PA37&dq=%22francis+frazer%22+longford&hl=en&sa=X&ei=aY0HT_rE4uYhQfjw_mdCQ&ved=0CDAQ6AEwAA

Jane (Denniston) Frazer of Drumnacross.

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Flax Growers List 1796.

The Irish Linen Board published a list in 1796 of people it made awards to in respect of growing flax for the production of Linen. Awarded based on the number of acres planted. They only named people by parish and county. These were the Denniston’s listed.

Alexander Deniston, Longford, Longford.
John Deniston, Granard, Longford.
Thomas Deniston, Granard, Longford.

This did not add a lot of information.

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Directories.

Directories can be a great source of information. There are a few from the late 1700’s and from the early 1800 to the 1900’s there are more numerous.

Hans Denniston Letts Directory 1814.

Woodville House was in the townland of Larkfield on Lough Gowna. Many people believed that Hans Denniston was in America at this time. The house was on a magnificent estate near the lake. It is now a Forestry park.

Family Stories.

Family stories are rarely correct, they are very rarely in the correct order but I have found that there is almost always some element of truth in them, and it becomes a matter of researching them rather than accepting them. I will mention three of them here.

1) My family had a story of a Quaker marriage. I came across an Eliza Collinder who had converted before her marriage to William Denniston (b1695) son of George Denniston (1654-1718). The Collinders were a Waterford and Dublin based Quaker family.
2) A descendant of Samuel ("Perpetual Motion") Denniston (1771-1852), not Wayne (kit 200147) has this to say.

Notes for SAMUEL DENNISTON:
Family tradition says he was of the House of Lords, but ran away from a wicked stepmother and grew up poor on an island above Niagara Falls. (Grand Island, New York).
Children of SAMUEL DENNISTON are:
iv. HENRY DENNISTON, b. Unknown; d. Unknown.

Notes for HENRY DENNISTON:
Henry Denniston was born around 1800 and lived in Erie County, New York in 1834, when he bought from the United States, 80 acres of Section 36, Nankin Township, Wayne County, Michigan (Cert #10766) near John Denniston's farm.

Kathleen D. Ward kward@netonecom.net

What Kathleen means is that the family belonged to the Laird (Lord) Dennistouns family of Colgrain, Dunbarton. In addition Henry is not a name associated with the Longford Dennistons yet we have seen in the military records that a Henry Denniston was born in Clonbroney Parish in 1752.

3) The family story of Cecil Anderson aged 94 when recorded in 2006.

I was told the following story on a number of occasions by Aunt Lizzie (Dennison) as a teenager while on walks with Aunt Lizzie around Ballyhome in Bangor.

After University his father contacted friends in London. He wanted his son to get some polish in London – good horseman – spent money freely – told to find a wife in London. Met 19-year-old beautiful girl who was 8th girl in a family of 8 girls. The father of the girls was an Army man. The son asked for the girl’s hand in marriage. The dowry paid for the girls reduced as you went down the line such that there was no dowry for the 8th. They went to live in the big house on the West Coast of Ireland.

While there was no University involved this story appears to be about the Denniston Lewis marriage. This Dennison family are belong to the Manorhamilton branch of the family and in their latter years had a pub in Sligo.
They can be seen here in the 1911 census.
http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/reels/nai003876026/

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1831 Family correspondence.
When available family correspondence can provide great information.

Uncle John and Uncle Joseph.
Cousin William working with his uncles splitting staves.
Sent him a letter from Uncle Andrew.

This letter from John Denniston (1808) was sent from Manhattan Island New York in 1831 to his father Edward (abt 1770-abt1850) in Drumnacross, Co Longford.
It provided some very interesting family information and social history.

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Other branches of the Longford family such as those who went to America in the 1700’s will be dealt with separately,

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Family Tree of Alexander Denniston (1663-1723).

Ronald’s line is in green.
A lot of people are not included due to constraints of space.