



# Diaspora Stories

Ancestor's Name: Michael Joseph Murphy  
 Place of birth (if known): unk.  
 Your Name: John Barimo  
 Contact (optional): (083) 042-5942

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Mine is a story of returning from the Irish Diaspora in that I have settled into Cork City. From Miami in the USA I have travelled the world and found no other place like Cork. Although my recent ancestors hailed to Galway and Mayo, my Mom always said our roots were Cork. I assume they were displaced during English occupation. It was my great-grandfather Michael Joseph Murphy that left for America during famine years only to return and <sup>work</sup> in Manchester <sup>for a few years</sup> before resettling north of Tuam, Galway Co. He lived the rest of his days as a carpenter who grew sugar beets and sheared sheep. It was my ~~mom~~ mother, Mary Murphy, who took ~~her~~ to the seas again only to be in New York for the world fair <sup>when war broke out</sup> in 1939. She was advised not to return since Uboats were torpedoing steamers. And so, she established a life in America, and eventually married an American, and started a family. In the spirit of my adventurous ancestors, I have reconnected my family to Cork in the past year, and am loving every minute of it.

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I agree to submit this story for publication by Skibbereen Heritage Centre.

Signed: *J Barimo*  
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**SKIBBEREEN HERITAGE CENTRE**  
 Old Gas Works Building,  
 Upper Bridge Street, Skibbereen,  
 West Cork, Ireland, P81WK06  
 T: (353) 28 40900  
 E: info@skibbheritage.com  
 W: www.skibbheritage.com