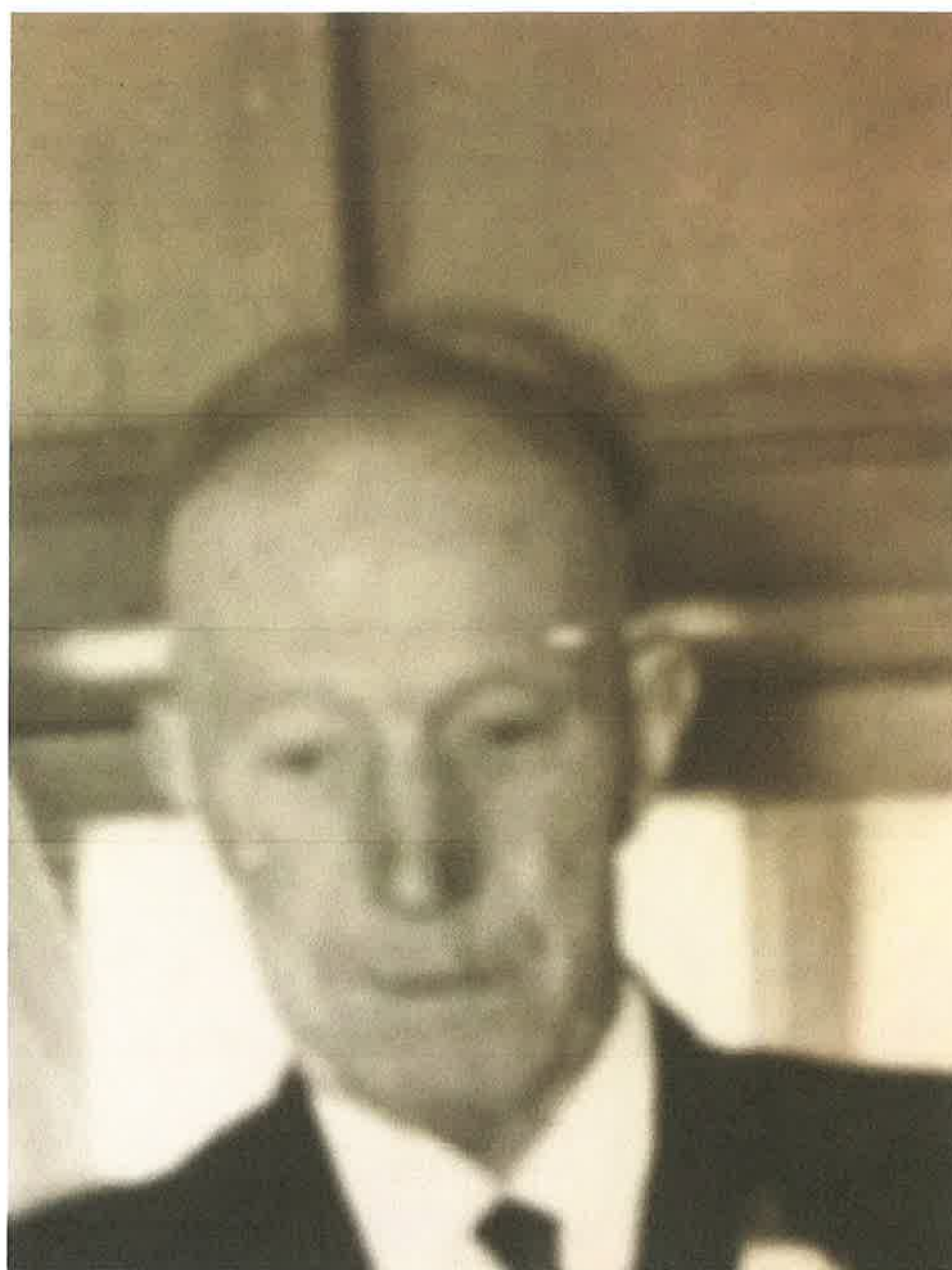




John Hurley

1894 – 1977



(own collection)



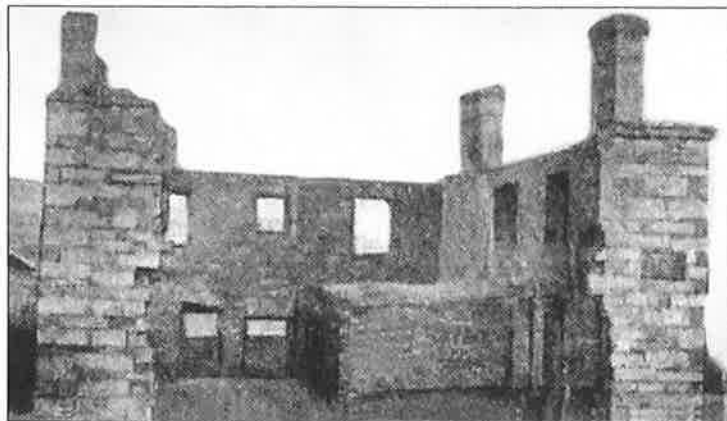
John Hurley

My Great Grandad on my dad's side was John Hurley. He was born in Curraghnaloughra, Drinagh in 1894 to his parents James and Ellen.

In 1917 he joined the IRA and in that year he attended parades in Leap and Skibbereen. When Eamon De Valera was in Skibbereen John Hurley was there with the local company IRA.

At this point in time he was living on a farm with his uncle in Corran North, Leap. John served the IRA for six years from 1917 until 1923. In July of 1921 he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant of the Drinagh IRA.

In 1920 John travelled to Kealkil, Bantry to the training camp. In the following year he and other men went to Rosscarbery to blow up the RIC Barracks, under the command of T. Barry (the leader of the 3rd Cork Brigade.)



Ruin of RIC Barracks

Ruin of RIC Barracks

In the same year, John stole field glasses from a British Captain who was on home leave.



He also collected money for arms and collected the Dáil Loan and he did some work for the Election.

He dispatched a column to Dunmanway (14 miles) to retrieve the belongings of the column and the spark plugs for the motor cars that belonged to the Drinagh Company IRA. John also scouted ahead of sixteen horse and traps for 35 miles and he was successful in that they were not attacked by any Black and Tans. In 1921 he also took part in the burning of Bandon work house which burned down most of its buildings.

In his later life he bought a farm in Tullyland, Bandon where he and his wife, Mary (nee McCarthy) had eight children four boys and four girls. John died in 1977 and at the age of 83 and Mary died in 1990.

APPLICATION FOR MEDAL

Give full particulars and nature of service rendered up to and including the 11th July, 1921: -

Joined the Volunteers 1917. Attended parade at Feaps 1917, reviewed by the Late G. Michael Collins. Attended parade at De. Velers's Meeting at Skibberen Dec 1917. Organising, attended parades, drilling & manufacture of pipes & raides for Arms. seized field glasses from Captain of British Army who was home on leave attended Training Camp, Kealkil, Barty, 1920. being 2nd Lieutenant of Coy in Command of J. Barry. In Coy area did sentry at Brigade H. 2. Dumps laid & in charge of road cutting, collection of Dail Loans & Arms Funds & Election Work in the Wick Lough area carried a despatch from the Column to Dunmanway 14 mls & took back plugs of motor car belonging to Colm. The Military were read about the town it was the day (the Late Canon Mangan was shot) I ran a mile as you should have a permit to get them, Scouted the column for a mile a dangerous road & they travelling on 16 Horner's Traps. Took part in the blowing up of Ross Barrack Barrack. Was promoted to O.C. of Company from 1st April to July 11 1921. Scouted for 4 armed men who were travelling in Horse & Trap for a distance of 35 mls, for a Lewis gun & ammunition the day before Glanadaw Ambush Dunmanway & all but cycled into 50 Traps & had to re-out back again in the morning to where the Column were waiting at Glanadaw. Got a despatch from J. Barry to take 12 men into the next Co. area to guard the Column for night. Had to report at Head 2. & got orders from J. Barry to place a man at every fillet while ~~placing~~ a man at one, & that went off, I had a narrow escape & Reported same to J. Barry. Had repaired Column, scouring the area for 2 days I was then on the Pub. Charge of enemy prisoners for 2 wks. Took part in the burning of Bandon Work House.

Full Christian Name and Surname: -

John Hurley

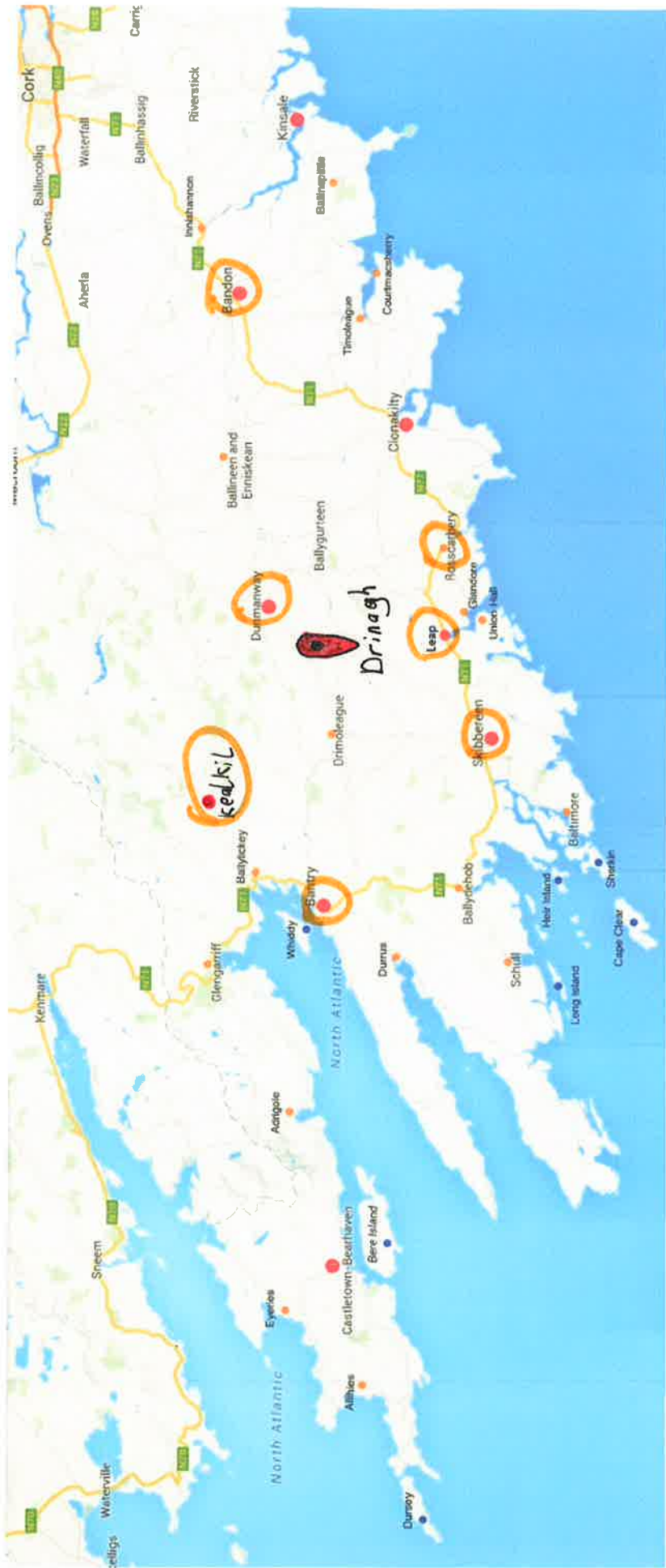
Present Address: -

Tullyland

Bandon

Co Cork

NOTE: - FINAL CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS THE 30th November, 1944.



Map of West Cork
Marking Some of
the Places My
Great Granddad went
With the IRA.