

The Black and Tans

In the 1920's my great grandparents house was raided by the Black and Tans. and they used it as kind of a safehouse. The Black and Tans raided this house during the night and the people in the were forced out of bed. During the two or three nights that the Black and Tans stayed there, my great grandparents either had to sleep on the floor or some stayed up all night. Also they had to kill their chickens and pluck the feathers off them to feed all the hungry men. There was no food left in the house by the time the men had left the house as they had eaten all of it. The people in the house also had to obey everything the Black and Tans said or else they would have been tortured or killed. Before they had left, a lot of the houses around this area would have been burned and whoever had a boat the Black and Tans would have sunk it, because they didn't anyone coming after them once they had left. Once the Black and Tans decided to leave the house, my great grandparents had to wash all the blankets and bed clothes in boiling hot water with washing soda as they were covered in fleas and lice. The reason for this is because the Black and Tans had to sleep in old

two houses and out houses which were covered in lice and fleas. These men were also known for sleeping in the coppermine shafts in Horse Island

Kyle O Sullivan

Story told by my nan Mrs. Mary Dwyer