

**Fieldnames tend to be spoken rather than written. They reflect the language of the people owning and working on the land and sometimes the names of past landowners. In these ways fieldnames, like townlands, hint at histories of people and place.**

'Croft' is a Scots name given to the field near a house where animals were kept, still in use in Ballycastle. Other fields in this townland are called 'holm', a Scots word for river meadow. They are:

- the Strong Holm
- Willie's Big Holm
- Connor's Holm
- James Irwin's Holm

The Far Long Run and the Near Long Run use a Scots term for a division of land.



Fieldnames in Ballycastle townland show a strong Scottish influence.\*

In Formoyle there is a field called the Quaker. 'Qua' or 'quaw' is a word used in Scotland and Ireland for a marsh or bog. It is possible that the name 'Quaker' indicates quaking ground.



Derelict farmhouse in the Quaker, built by Sam Moore and abandoned in the 1960s.



Tommy Moore and a friend taking a break from cutting corn at Formoyle. The land is now used only for grazing cattle. (Courtesy of William King)

All five sons of Sam Moore emigrated to America and the family name has now died out in Formoyle. (Courtesy of William King)



The Green Knowes in Knockmult refers to a small grassy hill. 'Knowes' is a word for hill in Scotland and northern England.



Abandoned farmhouse and outbuildings close to the Green Knowes in Knockmult.

In Ballyhackett Glenahorry a steep, hilly field is called the Hanging Brae, and in Ballycastle a sloping field is called the Back Brae. 'Brae' is a Scots and northern English dialect word for hill and comes from the Old Norse word for eyelid.

The Hanging Brae in Ballyhackett Glenahorry.



Many landowners call fields they have bought by the names of those who owned them or lived there. Examples include:

- Maryann's Field in Tibaran
- Neilly's Meadows and McCormick's Land in Ballycastle
- McCready's in Altibrian