

The estate of Raymond Patrick Kennedy

STATUS — DOCUMENT NEEDED · Bona Vacantia reference BV966062/1 · died New Milton, Hampshire, 30 August 1996

Conclusion: Raymond Patrick Kennedy died at New Milton, Hampshire, on 30 August 1996, and his estate passed to the Crown. He was born Patrick Raymond Kennedy on 20 February 1909 at Glynwood, County Westmeath, the son of John Kennedy, a painter, and Agnes Kennedy formerly Dowd, and that birth entry agrees to the day with the date of birth his own death registration carries. Both parents are named, a brother and a sister are identified from the same register, and the two brothers are found living together in 1939 in the district he would die in. He was single at thirty on that return, no marriage of his is indexed in England and Wales, and no issue is traced. No grant of representation is indexed for him and no notice was placed. The case turns on the whole-blood sibling rung, which is occupied and unresolved: neither Joseph Kennedy, born in 1907, nor Mary Jane Kennedy, born in 1904, is shown to have died or to have left issue, and a Lilian Kennedy of the sister's birth year died in his own district in his own year. One ordinary document carries the case: that woman's death certificate, which states her date and place of birth and names her informant, and so either ties her to this family or excludes her from it. No document read states a value for the estate. The thirty-year bar fell on 30 August 2026; the case has left the Crown's list, and no claim by anyone is now possible.

HD Genealogy & Technology · 30 September 2026 10:05 BST, second edition · claim bar 30 August 2026, now passed
This edition brings the first edition of 21 August 2026, as extended on 24 and 25 August 2026, to the house standard. It puts a status on the top line and states the conclusion in one paragraph. The references are re-authored to the referencing guide as identifiers of their sources, numbered 1 to 26 exactly as before, with two added at the end for the Crown's own list; the volume, page, schedule and register numbers that the first edition printed in its sentences now sit in the references beside them. The passages that explained how the indexes behave and how each search was built are removed from the text, and where such a point is a consideration about a source it is kept once, as that reference's note. The narrative of the file's own earlier readings is removed: what those readings found is stated as findings. Nothing is withdrawn. Every finding, every control and every negative of the first edition stands, and that edition remains on file exactly as supplied.

Supplied complete and without restriction on internal circulation. No living person is named in this file.

The thirty-year limit on claims against this estate ran out on 30 August 2026. The case no longer appears on the Crown's list, and no person — heir, firm or stranger — can now claim any part of it. This file is published as a worked demonstration of how this practice opens a case and what it writes down, including what it does not know. Nothing in it entitles anyone to anything.

THE MAN ON THE LIST

The Crown's archived list of January 2022 gives Raymond Patrick Kennedy as having died on **30 August 1996 at New Milton, Hampshire**, with his marital status unknown, no date or place of birth, no kin, and the local district council entered as the informant.²⁷ The list read on 30 September 2026 no longer carries the case, while it still carries three other Kennedys, so the absence is a removal and not a misread.²⁸

His death is registered at New Forest in the September quarter of 1996, the registration district that covers New Milton, and the index prints his date of birth as 20 February 1909 and his forename as Raymond alone.¹ It is the only Raymond Kennedy death registered in that district in that quarter: every Kennedy death indexed nationally for the quarter was read, 336 entries, and the one namesake of the quarter is registered at Gloucester with a different year of birth.²

HIS BIRTH: GLYNWOOD, COUNTY WESTMEATH, 1909

No Raymond Kennedy birth is indexed in England and Wales in the nine years around 1909, and the index was answering: every Kennedy birth of the four quarters nearest his own was read, 763 entries, and

none is a Raymond.³ Nor is one indexed in Ireland under that forename across the same nine years, on a reading that also took in every Kennedy birth registered in Ireland in 1909 alone, 821 entries.⁸

He was registered as Patrick Raymond, the two given names in the reverse of the order the Crown's list and the death index carry them. The register entry, read from the image, records a birth on 20 February 1909 at Glynwood, in the Athlone district of County Westmeath, to John Kennedy of Glynwood, a painter, and Agnes Kennedy formerly Dowd, the informant a woman present at the birth.¹¹ The identification does not rest on the name: **the date of birth agrees to the day with the date his own death entry carries**, thirty years later and in another country,¹ and no other Kennedy birth is registered anywhere in Ireland on that day.¹¹

HIS FAMILY

Two independent records describe the same household, and they agree. **The census of Ireland of 2 April 1911** finds the family at Glen, in the Tubbrit district electoral division of County Westmeath: John Kennedy, head, married, aged 29, born County Tipperary; Agnes Kennedy, his wife, married, 29, born County Westmeath; Joseph Kennedy, son, 4; and Raymond Kennedy, son, 2; all Roman Catholic.¹⁶ The younger son is entered under the name he would carry to England and die under, which ties the registered Patrick Raymond of the birth entry to the Raymond of every later record.

The parents' marriage is a strong candidate and not a proven one. The Irish marriage index holds a marriage of John Kennedy and Agnes Dowd in the Borrisokane district of County Tipperary in June 1903, the county the father gave in 1911 as his own birthplace; it is the only marriage of a John Kennedy to an Agnes indexed anywhere in Ireland between 1900 and 1912 that fits this family, the other two being registered at Dublin South in 1912 and at Belfast in 1909 under a different groom's surname.¹³ The index shows neither party's parents and no address, so nothing ties the entry to Glynwood except the surnames, the county and the date.¹³

A sister is registered at the same address. Mary Jane Kennedy was born on 10 April 1904 at Glynwood to the same John Kennedy, painter, and the same Agnes Kennedy formerly Dowd, before the same informant.¹² She is named here because a woman born in 1904 cannot be living.

Beyond those three children the register is silent, and it was asked from both sides. Every Kennedy birth registered in the Athlone district from 1904 to 1908 was read, twenty-one entries, and only the two carry the mother's maiden surname Dowd.²² Every Kennedy birth registered anywhere in Ireland from 1903 to 1925 to a mother of that maiden surname was read, seventeen entries across eight districts, and only the two Athlone entries belong to this couple.²³ A child born after the family left Ireland would appear in neither reading, so the sibship is bounded rather than closed.

THE BROTHER, AND THE HOUSEHOLD IN ENGLAND

By the autumn of 1939 the two brothers are in Hampshire, in the same house, on the same schedule. **The 1939 Register records them at Cannon Street, Lymington:** Raymond, date of birth given as 14 February 1909, single, in agricultural work;¹⁴ and Joseph, date of birth given as 1 May 1907, single, in house work.¹⁵ The head of the household is a widow keeping house, and a man of the mother's maiden surname is also in it. The obvious reading, that the widow is the brothers' own mother under a second married name, was tested against the Irish marriage index from 1909 to 1940, which holds three marriages of an Agnes to a man of the widow's surname, at Londonderry, Dublin and Drogheda, none consistent with this family; the reading is left open, and no relationship between her and them is claimed anywhere in this file.²⁶ The household holds six people, four of them shown and two officially closed, and nothing is inferred about the two.¹⁴

Raymond's stated date of birth in that return is six days out from the one his birth and death entries agree on. A self-reported date on a wartime return does not unsettle an identification carried by an exact agreement between two civil registers. The return also answers the spouse question from a document rather than from an index: **he was single at thirty.**¹⁴

Joseph Kennedy is the person this estate most probably passed to, because a brother of the whole blood and his issue stand ahead of every other class the statute reaches after a childless, unmarried death. His 1939 record is open, which is the archive's own statement that he has died, and the register does not say

when.¹⁵ His death is not registered in England or Wales under his own name and date of birth: the index from 1916 to 2007 returns 187 deaths of the name, of which four carry a 1907 date of birth, on 15 February, 22 July, 20 August and 20 September, and none is 1 May.²⁰ Nor is his birth found in Ireland on the day he himself gave: no Kennedy birth at all is registered in Ireland on 1 May 1907, on a reading that returns four Kennedy births for a comparison day in 1906, so the index was answering.²¹ A date given from memory thirty-two years later, a birth registered late, or one never registered would each produce that result, and nothing is inferred from it.

BETWEEN IRELAND AND HAMPSHIRE

Two controlled negatives fix when the family left. He is not enumerated anywhere in England and Wales in 1921, on a reading that returned 1,446 Kennedy entries of any forename in the same birth-year window,¹⁷ and he is not in the 1926 census of the Irish Free State, on a reading that returned 168 entries for a John Kennedy of his father's birth years.¹⁹ He was in Ireland in 1911 and gone from the twenty-six counties by 1926.

The 1911 census of England and Wales holds three men of his name, at Oldham, Salford and Leicester, and none is him;¹⁸ a partial transcription of the same census, read earlier, holds none.⁷

NO SPOUSE, NO ISSUE

The marriage index for England and Wales was read two ways across his whole adult life, 1927 to 1996. Nationally it returns 101 marriages of a Raymond Kennedy, none consistent with a man living in the New Milton area, and none with the middle initial P in a south Hampshire district.⁴ Every Kennedy marriage registered in his own district and its predecessors across the same span, 34 entries, was read, and not one is a Raymond.⁵ The 1939 return says the same from the other direction.¹⁴ No spouse is traced, and no issue is traced or indicated.

A KENNEDY OF THE SISTER'S BIRTH YEAR, DEAD IN HIS DISTRICT IN HIS YEAR

A Lilian Kennedy, born in 1904 by the date of birth her death entry carries, is registered dead in the New Forest district in the same quarter of 1996 as Raymond, in the same volume of the index.² Her birth is not in the England and Wales index: eight Lilian Kennedy births are indexed nationally from 1901 to 1907, none in the quarter her stated date of birth would predict, none in Hampshire or a neighbouring county, and none attributable to her.¹⁰

Proximity in a death volume states a shared district and quarter of death and nothing about kinship, and nothing is claimed. But this family contains a daughter born in April 1904 whose fate is untraced, and a Kennedy woman of that birth year dying in that small district in that year now sits beside her.¹² The two recorded dates of birth are three weeks apart, and a name is not a relationship. **Her death certificate settles it in one reading,** and it is the first document named below.

NO GRANT, AND NO NOTICE

No grant of representation is indexed for him. The digital index of grants was read for his name against his date of death, both narrowly and widely, and returns nothing on either reading; the index covers England and Wales only.⁶ No deceased-estates notice stands in the official journal under this case's reference, on a reading in which a known reference returns its own single notice.⁹

NO VALUE IS DOCUMENTED

No document read on this case states a value for the estate. No grant is indexed, so no grant states one, and the Crown's list prints none.⁶²⁷ No property-based estimate is offered: no document read gives an address he owned, and nothing read shows a property in his name.

THE SECTION 46 LADDER, RUNG BY RUNG

— **Spouse** — CLOSED: single at thirty on the 1939 return,¹⁴ no marriage of his indexed nationally across his adult life,⁴ and none among the Kennedy marriages of his own district.⁵

— **Issue** — CLOSED on the record as it stands: no marriage of his is found from which issue would be sought, and none is indicated by any record read.⁴⁵¹⁴

— **Parents** — IDENTIFIED, and neither can be living: John Kennedy, born about 1882 in County Tipperary, and Agnes Kennedy formerly Dowd, born about 1882 in County Westmeath.¹¹¹⁶ The father's death is not registered in the Athlone district from 1909 to 1930.²⁵ Neither death is found.

— **Brothers and sisters of the whole blood, and their issue** — OCCUPIED and unresolved: Joseph Kennedy, born 1 May 1907 by his own 1939 statement,¹⁵ and Mary Jane Kennedy, born 10 April 1904.¹² Neither death has been found, and neither can be shown to have left issue or to have left none. The sister is not in the household in 1911,¹⁶ and the obvious explanation, that she died in infancy, does not hold: every Kennedy death registered in her own district from 1904 to 1915 was read, thirteen entries, and none is a girl of her age.²⁴ This is the rung the estate turns on.

— **Brothers and sisters of the half blood, and their issue** — UNREACHED: no second marriage of either parent has been searched, beyond the one reading of the Irish index for the 1939 widow.²⁶

— **Grandparents** — UNREACHED: the parents' marriage is an index candidate only, and neither parent's parents are named by any record read.¹³

— **Uncles and aunts of the whole blood, and their issue** — UNREACHED: a live whole-blood sibling rung stands ahead of them.

— **Uncles and aunts of the half blood, and their issue** — UNREACHED, for the same reason.

WHAT REMAINS OPEN

— **Joseph Kennedy's death** is the largest open point. The England and Wales index prints an age rather than a date of birth before 1969 and ends in 2007, so a death before 1969 would not be found by his date of birth,²⁰ and Ireland, Scotland, Northern Ireland and any death abroad are untried for him.

— **Mary Jane Kennedy's fate.** She could have died anywhere outside her own district, or gone anywhere.²⁴

— **The parents' marriage** rests on an index entry; the register entry would name both parties' fathers and settle it.¹³

— **The original 1911 return** was not read: the household was read through a transcription, and the original carries the mother's own count of children born and children still living, which is the one record that would close the sibship outright.¹⁶

— **The General Register Office's own online index of births** was not read for him: that is unreachable, not negative.

— **MyHeritage's record collections** were not reached for him: unreachable, not negative.

THE DECISIVE DOCUMENTS

Lilian Kennedy's death certificate. Registered in the New Forest district in the September quarter of 1996, in the same volume as his own entry, with a date of birth of 1 May 1904 on the index.² The certificate states her date and place of birth and names her informant and the informant's relationship, and so either connects her to this family or excludes her. General Register Office, £12.50. It is the cheapest document on the file with the largest swing.

Raymond Kennedy's own death certificate. New Forest district, September quarter 1996, date of birth 20 February 1909 on the index.¹ Its value is the informant's name and relationship, the one contemporary record that may name a person still connected to him in 1996. General Register Office, £12.50.

The parents' marriage register entry. Borrisokane district, County Tipperary, June 1903.¹³ It names both parties' fathers and would turn a strong candidate into an identification, and open the uncle-and-aunt classes if the sibling rung fails.

ABOUT THIS ACCOUNT

This file was prepared by HD Genealogy & Technology from public and archived official records, to Genealogical Proof Standard discipline: every assertion above carries its source; every negative is dated

and carries the check that makes it trustworthy; no living person is named; nothing is inferred beyond what a cited record states. Index entries are described as index entries; the two Irish birth entries were read from the register images, and the 1911 household from a transcription. The origin, the parentage and the two siblings are evidenced from civil registers and a census; the parents' marriage is a candidate and says so; what became of either sibling is not established, and the file says that too.

Please check it. Every reference is to a public record any researcher can open independently. If any reference does not say what it is said to say here, the fault is this file's, and correction is invited.

This is genealogical research and not legal advice; entitlement is a question of law for the reader to determine. No living person is named, none has been approached, and no contact details are supplied. Two records in the 1939 household are officially closed and are treated as closed throughout. A negative finding is dated rather than permanent: records are digitised and released continuously, and this account speaks as at the date on its first page. And once more: this estate is time-barred and cannot be claimed.

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