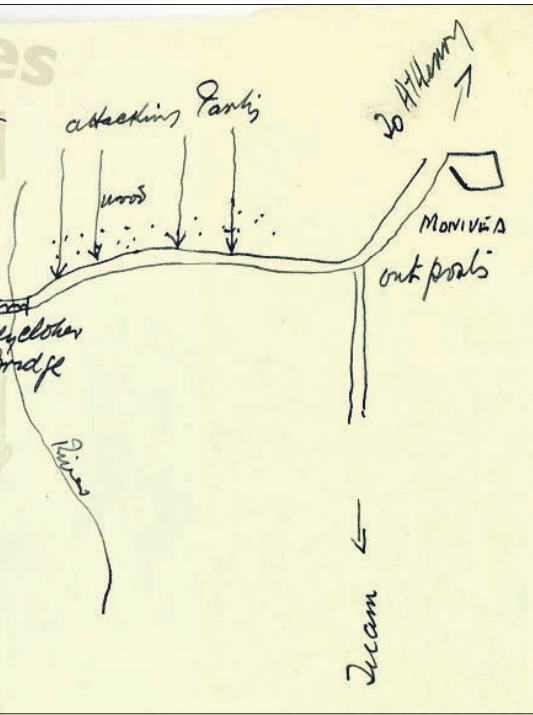
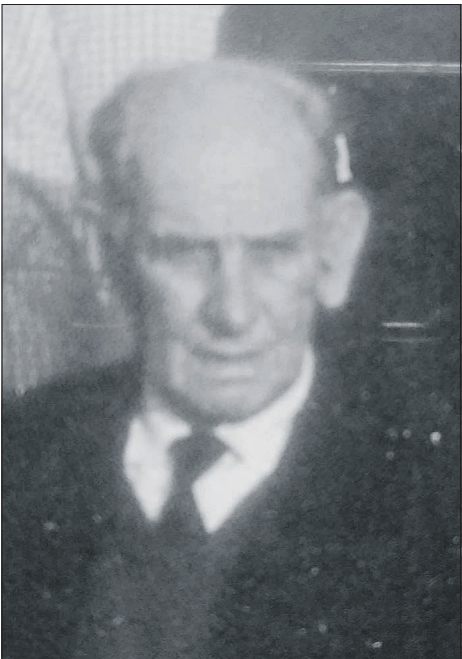


FREEDOM STRUGGLE



HYDE Park House, Ballybaun, Monivea, home of the Hutcheson family.



WALTER Coppinger.



PETER Dolly and Ellen Carrick.

right down to the field below where they had safe cover. Fire from both sides continued for some time. The RIC eventually retreated under safe cover.

One rifle and four bicycles were recovered by the I.R.A. (attacking party). The attack was carried out at great risk, as lorries containing military might pass at any moment. A large number of military were stationed in Athenry, only seven miles away. The arrest of Captain Dolly, 1st Lieutenant Kelly and 2nd Lieutenant King of Monivea Company was ordered immediately after, but all escaped or evaded arrest until after the Truce.

While the Killaclogher ambush was depicted in both contemporary police reports and IRA member recollections as an attack on the RIC, the guerillas were also likely to have had an ulterior agrarian motive.

There can be little doubt that this was a terrifying ordeal for James Hutcheson and his accompanying granddaughters, Jessica and Hilda. Within one month of the Killaclogher ambush James Hutcheson agreed to exit his holding at Ballybane which was later distributed amongst local small landholders.

The Hutcheson family moved initially to Stamullen, Co Meath and later to Castlebellingham, Co. Louth in 2003. Life went the full circle for the family when a grandson of James, Charles Hutcheson, returned to Skehana Church in 1946 to marry his fiancée Eileen Kelly from Windfield Demesne.

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WALTER Costello.



ROBERT (Bob) Lally.



CHARLES Hutcheson with his grandson James.