

Baptism	18 September 1830, Aghaboe Parish Church, Laois (Queen's) County, Ireland
Parents	Matthew Brophy and Mary Gardner/Gardiner.
Parent's marriage	Probably 9 February 1830, Aghaboe, Queen's County, Ireland [Matty Brophy m Mary Gorman]
Siblings	Catherine (1831), Richard (1833-1895), Patrick (1834), Mary (1837), Matt (1838)
Wife	Margaret Henchy/Hinchy (1837-1926)
Married	24 May 1857, St Patrick, Adelaide, South Australia
Children	Matthew (~1858- 1860) Honora (~1860-1939) Mary (~1861-1930) John James (~1863-1948) Andrew Patrick (~1865-1944)

When Andrew Brophy was baptised, the family lived at Gortnaclea, near Aghaboe. His father farmed 2 acres of 2nd class land and 6 acres of 3rd class land in 1827. By 1834 they growing family were living at Ballycuddy.¹

At the Queens County Assizes, held at Maryborough in July 1848:

Andrew Brophy, a small boy, was sentenced to be transported for 7 years, being implicated in the killing of a bullock belonging to Mr Scott, J.P., of Mountrath. Two relatives of this prisoner were sentenced to 10 years transportation at Abbeyleix Quarter Sessions, for the same offence.

The newspaper also reported:

As the gaoler and a guard of the 72nd regiment were removing the prisoners from the court-house to the gaol, two of them named Cornelius Ryan and Andrew Brophy, contrived to get off their handcuffs and ran away. Ryan was re-taken, the sergeant of the guard having flung his bayonet after him, which struck him in the leg. The other prisoner effected his escape. Ryan is the policeman who had been sentenced to two years imprisonment for an assault with intent; and Brophy is a small boy about fourteen of age, who was sentenced to be transported for seven years for being concerned in stealing a bullock from Mr Scott, of Mountrath.²

Andrew was sent to Queen's County Gaol, and the prison register recorded:

740. Andrew Brophy, 14, 4'10", grey eyes, light hair, fresh complexion, can't R&W, killing and stealing an ox, committed 10 July 1848, tried 25 July 1848 before Hon Judge Torrens, guilty, 7 years transportation, transmitted to Dublin on 7 May 1849.³

He was received at Newgate Convict Depot in Dublin:

4418. Andrew Brophy, from Queens Co, felony of an ox, 7 years transportation, convicted Maryborough on 25 July 1848, 15, 5'1", grey eyes, light hair, fresh complexion, single, can read, labourer, from Ballycolla, received at Newgate Prison on 7 May 1849, sent to Spike Island Prison on 27 September 1850, former habits not known, conduct good in gaol.

¹ Aghaboe, Ballycuddy, Gortnaclea, Clough and Ballacolla are all within a few km of each other.

² Freeman's Journal - Tuesday 01 August 1848, p4

³ Queen's Co Prison General Register 1848-1853, Book no 1/55/21, item 6

Another Dublin register recorded two different ages for Andrew:

210. Andrew Brophy, from Queens Co, felony of an ox, 7 years transportation, convicted 25 July 1848, 15 (18 written underneath), 5'1", grey eyes, light hair, fresh complexion, single, can read, labourer, committed to on 7 May 1849, transferred to Spike Island Prison on 27 September 1850, good while in gaol.⁴

After a year on Spike Island, off the coast of Cork, Andrew was transferred back to Newgate Prison in Dublin, where his true age was recorded:

838. Andrew Brophy, from Queens, felony of an ox, 7 years, convicted at Queens on 25 July 1848, 21, 5'1", grey eyes, light hair, fresh complexion, single, can read, labourer, Catholic, received at Newgate Prison from Spike Island on 28 November 1851, transferred to Mountjoy Prison on 18 December 1851, good while in prison.⁵

Andrew arrived per *Robert Small* in Western Australia in 1853 and received his Conditional Pardon on 27 January 1855. Later that year, he went to Adelaide per *Sara*, leaving Fremantle on 28 October 1855.

He appears to have gone to Melbourne per *White Swan* in May 1856 and returned to Adelaide in June per *Burra Burra*. There was an unclaimed letter for him in June 1856 at the Adelaide Post Office.

After Andrew married in 1857, he and Margaret lived at Littlehampton near Mt Barker. Their first child, Matthew, was born about 1858. In March of 1858, he placed this advertisement in the Adelaide Observer: ⁶

SHOULD this meet the eye of JAMES or THOMAS GARDNER, born in the Parish of Clough, Queen's County, Ireland, who sailed from Kingston Harbour about seventeen years since, for Hobart Town, their Nephew, Andrew Brophy, would be happy to hear from them, by writing to the General Post-Office, Adelaide.

James and Thomas Gardiner were sentenced to 7 years transportation for malicious assault in July 1840. In August 1840 they boarded the *Egyptian 2* for Tasmania.

Andrew was convicted on 14 October 1858 for obtaining, by false pretences, £14 12 2½ from Christopher Jolly at Mt Barker on 27 September. He was sentenced to 3 months of hard labour at Dry Creek prison. The register says he was 23, married, Catholic, a labourer and arrived in Adelaide in 1854 (*sic*) from Melbourne (*sic*).⁷

By the mid-1860s, the family lived at Gawler. Numerous newspaper articles mention Andrew's dealing with the Gawler Road Board. At one stage, he was black-listed, and the Road Board would not accept his tenders.

⁴ Dublin-Newgate (Richmond) Prison General Register 1849-1858, Book no 1/12/3, item 3; Dublin Smithfield Prison General Register 1844-1849, Book no 1/14/1, item 6

⁵ Dublin-Newgate (Richmond) Prison General Register 1849-1858, Book no 1/12/3, item 3

⁶ Adelaide Observer (SA : 1843 - 1904), 6 March 1858, p8

⁷ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:7KSL-T86Z>

His two brothers, Patrick and Richard Brophy, joined Andrew in South Australia. Patrick arrived per *Adamant* in 1864 and Richard per *Peerless* in 1866. Richard drowned at Gawler in January 1895.⁸ Patrick was convicted of being drunk at Gawler on numerous occasions. He appears to have come to Western Australia by 1903.⁹

1874 was not a good year for Andrew Brophy. In September, he was sentenced to 21 days in gaol for not obeying an order of the Court, on account of £14 due to the Central Road Board. In November, he was declared bankrupt. The newspapers detail his woes.

In October 1886, Andrew was in Court again. He claimed £4 5s for a sick allowance from the Hibernian Benefit Catholic Society. The case is detailed in the *Bunyip* newspaper.¹⁰ Things were about to get a lot worse for Andrew. On the 21 March 1887:

*Andrew Brophy was informed against as being a pauper, and deemed to be a lunatic. Margaret Brophy, wife of the defendant, deposed that she could get no rest at night, as her husband, walked about with a candle. He had put her daughter, and herself, out of the house, and said he was king of Teetulpa. It was three weeks since he first appeared strange in his manner. On the Saturday previous to the complaint he had some drink, but had none since. He fancied he had a lot of chickens, and had made reference to a lawsuit he had. He took his food by himself, and his sleep was very intermittent. He did not threaten witness, only told her to clear out. At this stage the case was adjourned for one week.*¹¹

The following week, an order was made that Andrew should be received into the Adelaide Lunatic Asylum.

Andrew lived for ten years in the Asylum. He died on 19 July 1897, aged 70.

The obituary for Margaret Brophy mentions:

One of the oldest identities in Coolgardie when she died in 1926.

The second daughter of John Hinchy of County Limerick went to South Australia in the 1850s.

She married on 24 May 1857 at St Patrick's, Adelaide, to Andrew John Brophy, eldest son of Matthew Brophy of the parish of Clough, Queen's County, Ireland.

Her son, "Andy" went to Broken Hill in 1885, and his mother, Margaret, arrived a year later. When members of her family moved to Western Australia, she relocated to Coolgardie.

Her husband died 30 years ago.

They lived at Littlehampton, near Mt Barker, South Australia after they married.

They had five children:

Matthew died aged about two years.

John J Brophy, formerly of Menzies and Laverton, now of Spencer's Brook

Andy Brophy, licensee of Colliefields Hotel, Coolgardie; associated with mining enterprises.

Daughters - Mrs W McKendry [Mary] and Mrs G Dunkell [Honora].¹²

⁸ Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912), 25 January 1895, p2

⁹ 1903 WA Electoral Roll. Living with nephew Andrew, and his wife, in Piesse Street, Boulder, labourer.

¹⁰ <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/97211983?searchTerm=andrew%20brophy>

¹¹ Bunyip (Gawler, SA : 1863 - 1954), 25 March 1887, p3; 1 April 1887, p3

¹² Collie Mail (Perth, WA : 1908 - 1954), 25 June 1926, p4

The uncles of Andrew Brophy who were convicted earlier for same crime as him:

*At the Queen's County Quarter Sessions, John Cluney [Clooney] and Jeremiah Gardiner, for feloniously killing and stealing an ox, the property of J. E. Scott, Esq. were sentenced to 15 veers transportation each.*¹³

Newgate Convict Depot, Dublin:

4253. Jeremiah Gardiner, from Queens Co, felony of an ox, 15 years transportation, convicted Abbeyleix on 22 June 1848, 35, 5'4", grey eyes, light hair, fresh complexion, married with one child, can't R&W, labourer, from Ballycolla, received at Newgate prison on 2 April 1849, sent to Spike Island on 20 April 1849, once convicted in 1837 for assault, conduct in gaol is good.

4254. John Clooney, from Queens Co, felony of an ox, 15 years transportation, convicted Abbeyleix on 22 June 1848, 40, 5'7", brown eyes, dark hair, sallow complexion, married with 4 children, can read, labourer, from Ballycolla, received at Newgate prison on 2 April 1849, sent to Spike Island on 20 April 1849, conduct in gaol is good.¹⁴

¹³ Limerick Chronicle - Wednesday 28 June 1848, p1

¹⁴ Dublin Smithfield Prison General Register 1844-1849, Book no 1/14/1, item 6