

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

WHORM Subject File Code: GI002
Case file Number(s): 028454

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 9, 1981

file
1028454
4620
GI 002
PP 012-03

Dear Mrs. White:

Gift
How can I thank you for what you have done in putting together the book and then paying such a glowing tribute to me. And how kind you were to send copies to Jim Brady and Tim McCarthy. Tim will be back, fully recovered, on the Security detail in a matter of days, and Jim is doing very well. The prognosis is virtually complete recovery and ability to return to his job, but it will take longer time.

In case you don't know it, let me tell you how very much this means to me because my father, having been orphaned at the age of six, had never known much or told me much about his family. All these years I've had Reagans and Regans come to me trying to establish some relationship and I have felt helpless. To have this history is just more than I can find words to thank you for. Incidentally, in your book you mentioned the first cattle drive over Refugio Pass. I had read of that in the book, Santa Barbara, The Grand Ranchos and don't know whether you're aware that the original trail went through what is now our ranch. In fact, there is a rock on our ranch that still bears the carved initials "J.C. January 15, 1905." I realize the cattle drive went before that but this is evidence of where the trail crossed our property. On a trip to Ireland some years ago, I stood on Cashel Rock and went through the ruins at the old castle there. To think that I now know I was at the scene of some of my own family's history.

Again, my heartfelt thanks for giving me a family tree of which I am very proud.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

X

Mrs. Patricia Meade White
627 De La Vina
Santa Barbara, California 93101

RR/lrs

810610

Patricia Meade White
627 De La Vina
Santa Barbara, California 93101

May 18, 1981

Dear Mr. President:

I hope you enjoy this brief account of the O'Regan original homelands and their flight with the Wild Geese to America after 1691. I could have written more, particularly on the first cattle drive to the Gold Fields over Refugio Pass, led by an Irishman. But finances limited me to 100 pages. If this sells well, I will revise the second edition to include California.

The Irish government has been most cooperative in supplying me with photographs of O'Regan country, since the information I uncovered 12 years ago in Ireland was unknown there. In fact, they withheld the announcement of the "find your ancestors" plan as in the enclosed clipping, until I wrote Mr. O'Hanlon that the book would be back from the printers on May 1.

It will interest you to know that a documentary based on the book is being considered in Ireland through family connections of Philip Whelan (O Faolain), an associate. Of equal interest is that he also informs me that Mr. Sun, an international trader from Mainland China, who has spent six years in Chinese government service, is interested in translating the book into Chinese for distribution in China. The Chinese have great respect for history and ancient families.

I can't resist, in closing, to say that I envy you your beautiful Arabian. The 25 years I spent in Los Angeles, I was so absorbed in the ownership of a part Arabian TWH palomino, "Irish Gold," that I did no writing - only research. My Virginia grandfather always said that the Whites lost their plantation raising race horses. John White owned the first colt in America sired by the Godolphin Arabian. I finally gave Irish Gold to the Ranch for the Junior Blind in Malibu - or I would never get back to writing.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Meade White

P.S. I have asked your staff to deliver copies to James Brady and Timothy McCarthy. Early immigrants of those families appear in the book.