

Dwyer-McAllister Cottage



Meet Michael Dwyer

Michael was born in the Glen of Immal, County Wicklow. His father was a farmer and Michael worked looking after horses at a local Inn. Michael first learnt about the fight for Irish freedom at school.

Michael joined the United Irishmen in 1797 at the age of 25. The United Irishmen were dedicated to achieving equal rights for every Irish person and fighting for Irish freedom from British rule.

When the rising started in 1798, Michael was the captain of the Ballymanus Corp. During June 1798, he fought in Wexford and Wicklow.

After the rebellion, Michael and some of the other soldiers escaped into the Wicklow Mountains where they continued to fight against the British army.

Word search

Find the rebels weapons

h	l	p	t	d	c	w	t	s	b
m	h	o	r	m	e	t	a	l	a
n	h	d	x	u	a	s	d	o	p
s	t	o	h	s	e	p	a	r	g
c	m	p	w	k	q	s	c	b	h
t	d	f	k	e	l	i	e	f	s
a	p	i	s	t	o	l	s	l	f
r	v	i	d	e	w	u	s	i	n
g	s	m	k	o	a	f	u	n	k
e	r	z	v	e	t	g	b	t	d
t	k	n	i	f	e	y	r	l	c
s	v	c	l	p	n	w	e	o	e
m	d	x	m	m	o	x	d	c	t
w	u	r	j	e	y	p	n	k	e
z	d	z	v	d	a	t	u	o	y
a	y	i	z	h	b	a	l	l	s
e	l	a	r	l	g	n	b	g	u
r	a	n	g	e	e	k	f	h	i

balls

bayonet

blunderbuss

flintlock

grapeshot

knife

metal

musket

muzzle

pike

pistol

range

shot

target



Meet Sam McAllister

Sam McAllister was born in Ulster and very little is known about his youth. His family were Presbyterians and he may have come to Wicklow to work in a textile factory.

He joined the Antrim Militia on the 1st April 1798, just before the outbreak of the rebellion. He fought for the British Crown before deserting during the battle for Arklow in June 1798 and joining the rebels. It is possible that he met Michael Dwyer during this battle.

After the rebellion, he escaped to the Wicklow Mountains with other rebels under the command of Captain Michael Dwyer.

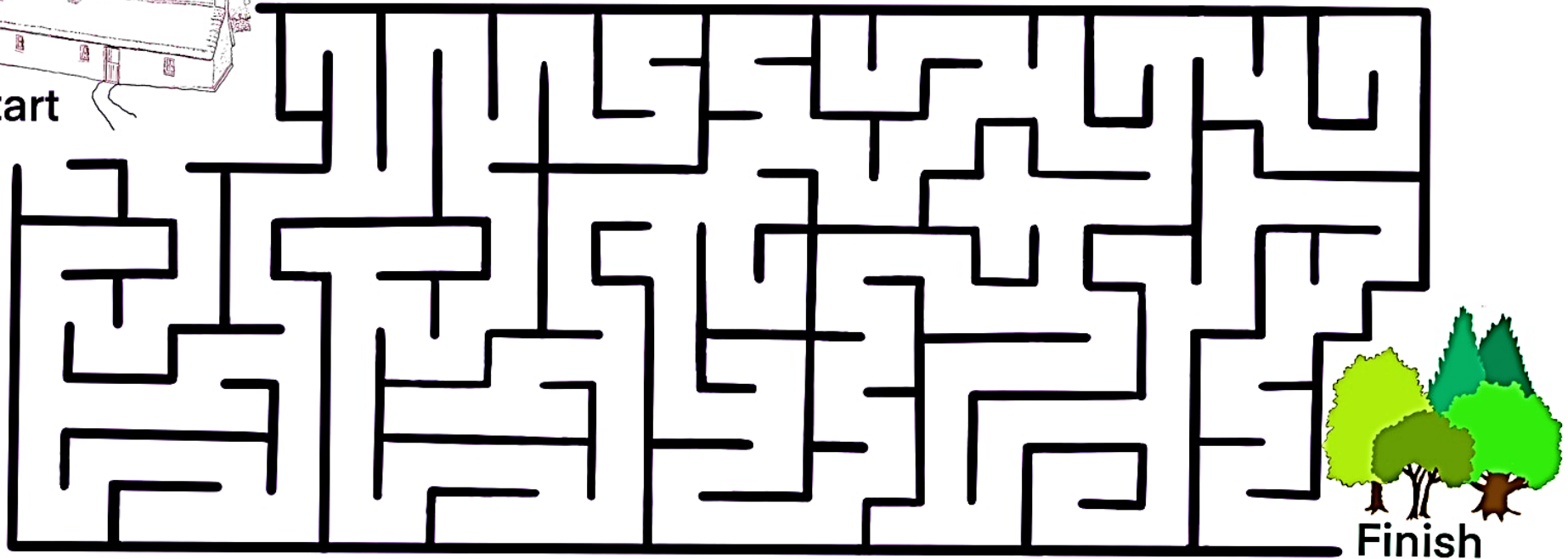
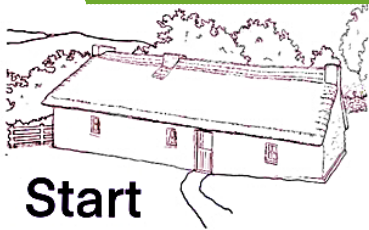
The Story of Dwyer-McAllister Cottage

The night of the 15th February 1799 was dark, cold and snowy. Captain Michael Dwyer and the rebels were hiding out from the British army in three cottages in Derrynamuck, deep in the Wicklow Mountains. They were betrayed by an informer who led the army to their door. The rebels in two of the cottages surrendered and were captured.

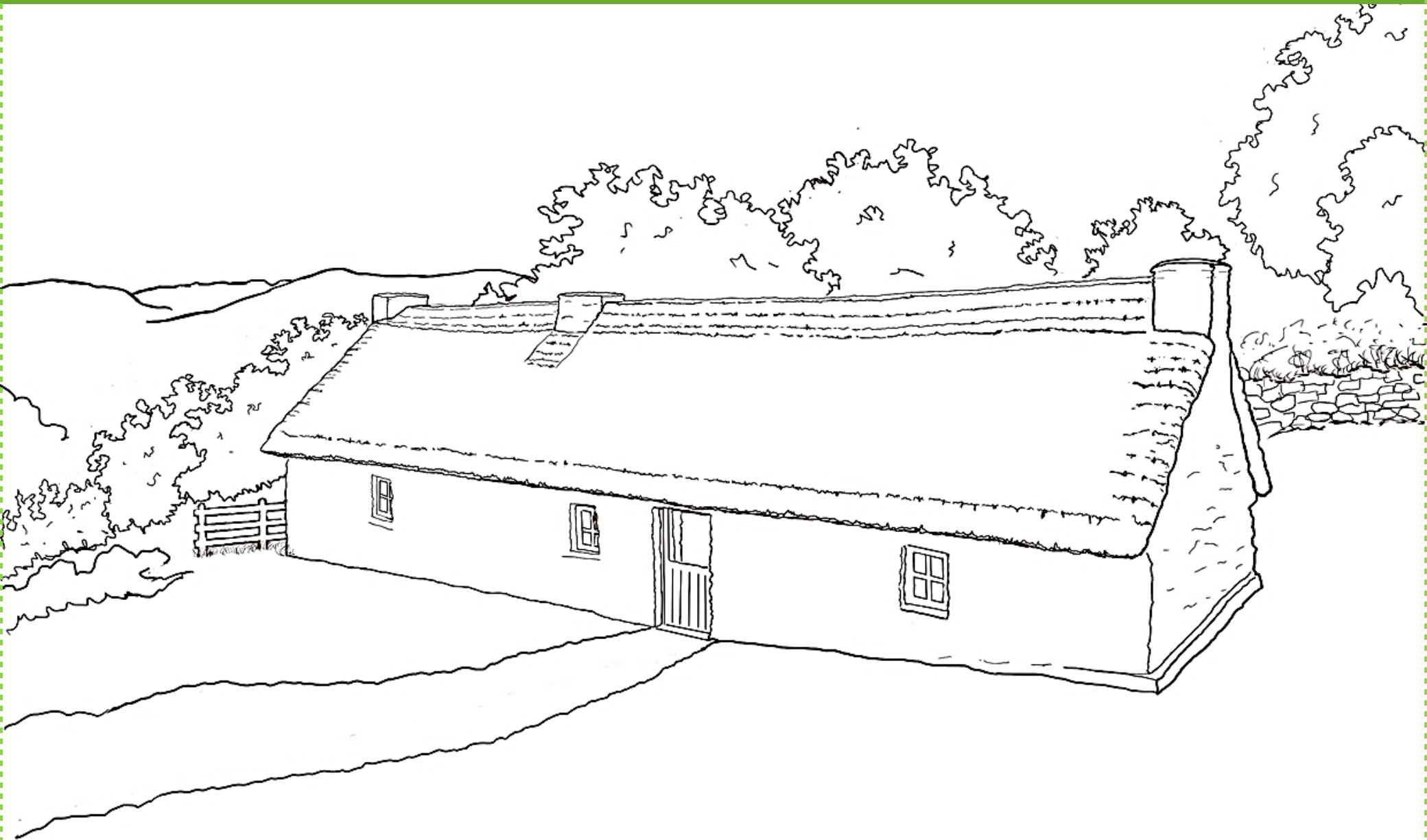
Dwyer, Sam McAllister and a couple of other rebels decided to hold out and fight on after negotiating safe passage for the women and children that lived in the cottages.

In the gun fight that followed, most of the rebels were injured and the cottage caught fire. In an act of bravery, Sam McAllister stood in the doorway and the British soldiers fired on him. As they were re-loading, Dwyer dashed out of the cottage and ran for safety. Sam died of his injuries and Michael continued to fight for Irish freedom for another four years.

Help Captain Michael Dwyer escape into the Wicklow Mountains through this maze.



Draw in the soldiers and rebels during the attack on the cottage.



Micheal Dwyer's story

Michael continued to fight against the British army from the Wicklow mountain until his surrender after Robert Emmet's failed rebellion in December 1803. He spent 18 months in Kilmainham gaol before being transported to Australia on the convict ship, the Tellicherry. Michael's wife Mary went with him to Australia, but they had to leave their four young children behind in Dublin because they were too young to travel.

In Australia, Michael and Mary became farmers. Two years later, Michael became Constable of Liverpool, Australia. Michael and Mary made their home in Australia and never returned to Ireland.

Can you spot 10 differences between these two versions of the Tellicherry

