

Oxford Reference

The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland

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McCull

Variants: MCCOLE, COLL, MCCALLA, MCCULLA, MCCULLEY, MCCULLY

- **Current frequencies:** GB 3482, Ireland 56
- **GB frequency 1881:** 2812
- **Main GB location 1881:** Argyll and Glasgow
- **Main Irish location 1847–64:** Donegal

Irish, Scottish Gaelic: from **Mac Colla** (earlier *Conla(e)*), from a personal name borne by three brothers who were the legendary ancestors of the kings of mid-Ulster. The name has been explained as possibly meaning 'great chief'. Woulfe says that in Ireland the surname was sometimes pronounced with a final fricative as *Mac Collach*, one possible origin of McCULLOUGH.

Further information:

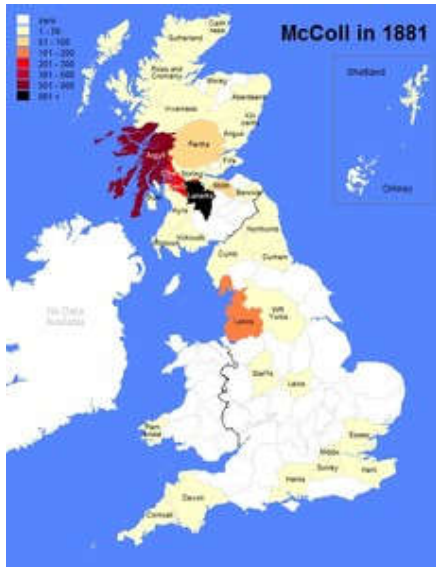
McCull is the name of a Scottish clan associated with Clan Donald and in particular with the lands of Appin in N Argyll. However the personal name *Solomon* was also used in the family, and there is an alternative interpretation as *Mac Sholla*, a name once found in Ireland as *McSolly*. Woulfe notes that in Ireland the personal name *Colla* was common among the MacDonnells and MacSweeneys, both families tracing their origin back to Scotland and ultimately to the 'three Collas' in Ulster.

Early bearers:

Scotland:

Ranald M'Choill, 1579 in Privy Council of Scotland Register (Argyll); Matthew M'Koll, 1720 in Edinburgh Guildry (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Donald Maccoll, 1759 in IGI (Kildalton, Argyll); Catharine Maccoll, 1765 in IGI (Ardchattan, Argyll); Mary Maccoll, 1766 in IGI (Inveraray, Argyll).

Ireland: Loughline McColla, 1585 in Fiants Elizabeth §4608 (Trustan, Galway); Wm. oge, Theobald, and Edm. McColly, 1590 in Fiants Elizabeth §5539 (Glintreige, Galway); Mannasse mcHugh, Melaglyne duffe McKolly, and Loaghlin mcBreane Makolly, 1591 in Fiants Elizabeth §5542 (Ballimakolly, Roscommon); Donaugh grome McColl, 1601 in Fiants Elizabeth §6556 (Antrim); Edm. McCollae, shot, and Walter McCollae, 1601 in Fiants Elizabeth §6574 (Bellanamore); Donchye growma and Allister mcDonchy growma McColla, 1602 in Fiants Elizabeth §6633 (Antrim); Teige mcHenry oge McCole, 1602 in Fiants Elizabeth §6734 (Monaghan).



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McColl, 1881 frequency.

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