

UÍ CHEINNSELAIG

Descended from Labraid Laidech, son of Bressal Bélach, son of Fiachu Baicced, son of Cathair Mór. The **Uí Cheinnselaig** dynasty branched out into the powerful sept of the [Sil Fáelchán](#) (Mac Murrough), as well as the septs of the [Uí Felmeda Thes](#) (Murphy), the [Uí Felmeda Tuaid](#) (O'Garvey), the [Sil Chormaic](#), the [Sil Máeluidir](#) (Hartley), the Uí Fergusa of Wexford, the Clann Guaire, and the Clann Fiachu meic Ailella.

Alfred Smyth (*Celtic Leinster*) provides an interesting theory on the rise of the Uí Cheinnselaig. He cites an early center of power of Uí Cheinnselaig based at Rathvilly in Carlow, as shown by early tradition in the *Vita Tripartita* of St. Patrick, as well as by earlier documents in the *Book of Armagh*. The monastery of St. Mullins in southern Carlow had earlier claims to Uí Cheinnselaig patronage than did the house of Ferns in Wexford, which by the 11th century became the overall center of their dynastic power. He speculates the Uí Cheinnselaig 'invaded', not earlier than the 5th century, through the pass of Gowran from Ossory, in order to explain how St. Mullins had earlier connections to the group, as well as to explain how the Uí Cheinnselaig broke the power of Uí Bairrche by seizing the Slaney valley from Rathvilly to Tullow, thereby separating the Uí Bairrche of north Carlow from those of southern Wexford. In addition, the Foathirt, allies of Uí Bairrche, shared the same fate and were separated into two groups. Smyth goes on to speculate the Uí Cheinnselaig expanded into Wexford down the Slaney valley through a pass between the Balckstairs and the Wicklow Mountains.

An early Uí Cheinnselaig genealogy: (Rawlinson)

Éna m. Donnchada m. Murchada m. Diarmata m. Donnchada qui fuit Máel na m-Bó m. Diarmata m. Domnaill m. Cellaig m. Cinaída m. Carpre m. Diarmata m. Rudgaile m. Áeda m. Onchon m. Fáelchon Taulchatait m. Fáeláin m. Síláin m. Éogain Cáech m. Nath Í m. Crimthaind m. Énnai Ceinnselaig m. Labrada m. Bresail Bélaig m. Fiachach Ba Aiccid m. Cathaír Máir.

The Annals cite:

- For 405 After Niall of the Nine Hostages, son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhoin, had been twenty seven years in the sovereignty of Ireland, he was slain by Eochaidh, son of Enna Ceinnseallach, at Muir nIcht, i.e. the sea between France and England.

- For 586 The battle of Magh Ochtair was gained by Bran Dubh, son of Eochaidh, over the Ui Neill, at the hill over Cluain Conaire, to the south.
- For 593 Cumuscach, son of Aedh, son of Ainmire, was slain by Bran Dubh, son of Eochaidh, at Dun Bucat.
- For 594 After Aedh, son of Ainmire, son of Sedna, had been twenty seven years in the sovereignty of Ireland, he was slain by Bran Dubh, son of Eochaidh, in the battle of Dun Bolg, in Leinster, after Aedh had gone to exact the Borumha, and to avenge his son Comusgach upon them.
- For 597 The sword blows of Bran Dubh in Breagh.
- For 601 The battle of Slaibhre was gained by the Ui Neill over Bran Dubh, son Eochaidh, King of Leinster; and Bran Dubh, i.e. son of Eochaidh, was killed by the Airchinneach of Senboithe Sine, and his own tribe.
- For 605 Bran Duibh, king of Laegen, son of Eochaidh mc. Muireadhaigh mc. Aedha mc. Fheidhlim mc. Enna Ceinnsealaigh mc. Labrada mc. Breasail Belaigh mc. Fiacha ba Aicceadha mc. Cathair Mhoir
- For 644 Bolgluatha, Lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 741 Seachnasach, son of Colgan, Lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 742 Seachnasach, son of Colgan, King of South Leinster, died.
- For 753 Cathal Ua Cinaetha, chief of Ui Ceinsealaigh, died.
- For 756 The battle of Bealach Gabhrain was fought between the men of Leinster and Osraighe Ossory, in which the son of Cucerca had the victory, and Donngal, son of Laidhgne, lord of Ui Ceinsealaigh, and other chieftains along with him, were slain.
- For 764 The battle of Fearná (Ferns) was fought by the Ui Ceinn Sealaigh, in which Dubhchalgach, son of Laidhgne, [and reigning Ui Ceinnsealaigh king], was slain [by Cennselach of Sil Maeluidir].
- For 765 A conflict between the Ui Ceinnsealaigh, in which Edersgel, son of Aedh, son of Colgan, had the victory, and in which Ceinnsealach, son of Bran, was slain by him.
- For 773 Edersgel, son of Aedh, son of Colgan, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 788 Cairbre, son of Laidhgne, lord of South Leinster, died.
- For 804 A battle between two parties of the Ui Ceinnsealaigh, in which Ceallach, son of Donnghall, was slain.
- For 813 Cuchoingalta, son of Cathal, lord of South Leinster, died.

- For 817 Cathal, son of Dunlaing, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 826 A battle was gained over the foreigners by Cairbre, son of Cathal, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh.
- For 834 The capture of Cairbre, son of Cathal, lord of South Leinster.
- For 842 Cairbre, son of Cathal, King of South Leinster, died.
- For 851 Eachtighern, son of Guaire, lord of South Leinster, was treacherously slain by Bruadar, son of Aedh, and Cearbhall, son of Donghal. Bruadar, son of Aedh, was himself slain at the end of eight days afterwards, by the people of Echtighern, in revenge of their lord.
- For 856 Ceallach, son of Guaire, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 861 Tadhg, son of Diarmaid, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, was slain by his own brethren.
- For 865 Ceanannan, son of Ceallach, heir presumptive of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 867 Donnagan, son of Ceadfadh, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, was slain. Conang, only son of Flann, son of Conang, was slain by the Ui Ceinnsealaigh.
- For 874 Cairbre, son of Diarmaid, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, was slain by his own brethren.
- For 874 Dunghal, son of Faelan, Tanist of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 875 The plundering of Ui Ceinnsealaigh by Cinneidigh, son of Gaeithin, lord of Laeighis; and numbers were slain by him.
- For 877 Flannagan, son of Faelan, heir apparent of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 899 Riagan, son of Echtighearn, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 899 Faelan, son of Guaire, lord of Ui Ceinnsealaigh, died.
- For 922 Tadc, son of Faelan, king of Ui Ceinnsealaigh.
- For 933 Cionaedh, mac Coirpre, lord of Ua Ceinnsealaigh, was slain by Gallaibh Locha Garman.
- For 936 Bruadar, mac Duibhghiolla, lord of Ua Ceinnsealaigh, was slain by Tuathal, son of Ughaire.
- For 1024 Mhaolmórdha mac Lorcáin, lord of Ua Ceinnsealaigh.
- For 1115 Donnchadh ua Maoil na m-Bo, lord of Ua Ceinnsealaigh.