KILDOWNET HALF SET

This set is from Achill Island of Mayo County, Ireland. Bar-counts for dance patterns are shown in bold. The total bar count for each Figure includes an eight-bar introduction of music.

Step pattern: Gents begin forward on the left foot and ladies begin forward on the right foot; the movement is danced as shown with each Figure. Swing in ceili hold and follow the opposite lady around at his position; ladies do not chain on the way to home. Visit: Holding crossed-hands in front, couples dance forward to face the position on the left, backward to opposite, forward to face the next left position, and backward to home; this crossover must be danced fluidly with no delays at any position; the lady must move slightly ahead of the gent when visiting the first and third positions; the gent must move slightly ahead of the lady when visiting the second and fourth positions.

Walkabout: When all dance, turn to face anticlockwise and dance a box (square); take one long step (gents begin left foot, ladies begin right foot) and one short step; dance on-the-spot and turn to the face the next box-corner dancing 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3; gents begin the second and fourth long step with the right foot and ladies begin with the left foot. Also, gents only crossover dancing the walkabout step; they turn to place instead of turning a box-corner.

Swing in waltz hold: Two dancers stand side-by-side, facing the same direction (gent on the left) and he places his right arm behind on the lady's shoulder and they take right-hand-in-right there; they hold left hands in front.

FIGURE 1: REELS (112 BARS) Dance lift-2-3-4.
All couples: advance and retire twice, holding crossed-hands in front; crossover clockwise (visit, see heading); swing in ceili hold; ladies chain; swing; first gent and second lady swing in center (2 bars in, swing4, reverse to home) as first lady and second gent turn once in-place; (Turn by leading with the inside shoulder -- ladies thus clockwise and gents anticlockwise.) visit (see heading); second gent and first lady then swing in center as second lady and first gent turn once in-place as above; visit; ladies chain, dance around the opposite gent and he keeps the lady's arm and continues to sweep/turn her to his left into the Little Christmas position; little Christmas; advance and retire twice, holding crossed-hands; swing.

FIGURE 2: POLKAS (168 BARS) Dance down-2-3 and as shown.
All couples: house each other; walkabout (see heading); swing in waltz hold; dance sevens (Mayo-style with beginning weight on the leading foot) to opposite and to home; gents dance back-to-back to opposite and ladies dance back-to-back to home; house each other; dance sevens to opposite and to home; house each other; ladies chain; swing in waltz hold; gents crossover left-shoulder-to-left dancing the walkabout step; (One long step to center1, 2, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, bow, one long step to opposite1, 2, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, and turn anticlockwise to place on the last 1-2-3); swing in waltz hold; face and slide in and out, holding crossed-hands (1-2-1-2, 1-2-1-2-4); pass through to opposite, ladies left-shoulder-to-left in the center with gents on the outside and all pass left-shoulder-to-left to place; face and slide in and out, holding crossed-hands; pass through to home, ladies left-shoulder-to-left in the center with gents on the outside and all pass left-shoulder-to-left to place; swing in waltz hold; gents crossover left-shoulder-to-left, again dancing the walkabout step; swing in waltz hold; walkabout; house each other.

FIGURE 3: REELS (144 BARS) Dance lift-2-3-4.
All couples: lead around anticlockwise, holding crossed-hands in front; turn the lady under clockwise with both hands; partners left-arm hook and dance around; swing in ceili hold. First couple: take sweetheart hold and advance and retire once as second couple stand holding right-hand-in-right at the lady's shoulder; advance and turn the lady out at second gent's left. Second gent take first lady's left hand at her left shoulder and first gent takes the ladies' inside hands for a wheelbarrow hold; trio-and-one advance and retire on4; ladies cross left-shoulder-to-left and dance in beside the opposite man; swing in ceili hold; gents left-arm hook in center, doubling the last two bars, and dance in beside their own partner at the opposite position.

Repeat from with the second couple leading. All couples: lead around anticlockwise, holding crossed-hands; turn the lady under clockwise with both hands; partners left-arm hook and dance around; swing in ceili hold.

FIGURE 4: FLINGS (Variable BARS) All couples dance in a room-encircling ring.
All couples: take waltz hold and dance with gents turned slightly toward the wall and ladies turned slightly toward the center; lift (very slight hop) on the trailing foot (gents right, ladies left) and step on the leading foot - gents forward and ladies backward against the wall; lift on the leading foot above and step back on the original trailing foot - gents stepping backward and ladies stepping forward; lift-1-2-3 sideways - gents left, ladies right; repeat from except gents and ladies dance the opposite directions; repeat the five lines above; full house (lift-2-3-4)6; double2; repeat from until either the dancers or the musicians decide to finish.