

## Morrison's Jig (Port Uí Mhuirgheasa, The Stick Across the Hob, Maurice Carmody's Favourite)

E Dorian

Em D Em D

Em D G D Bm D

Em

1. D Em G D Bm D

2. D G D G Em D Bm D Em

Alternate Part A, Peter Cooper

Source: Marcel Picard, Harold Kenny, Dennis Wilson - *The Kingston Collection of Irish Dance Tunes*, adapted James Morrison (1893 - 1947) was another of the great Sligo fiddle players.

This well-known tune is named after Morrison, who recorded it in the 1930's; however, Morrison did not compose it but rather had it from a Dromlacht, County Kerry, accordion player (a member of his band) named Tom Carmody who knew it as 'The Stick across the Hob' (Taylor, 1992). Carmody learned it from his father, Maurice. Philippe Varlet mentions that the tune (which Morrison was supposed to have learned the night before the recording session, according to Harry Bradshaw) was to be called 'Maurice Carmody's Favorite' on Morrison's 1936 Columbia recording, but that the record company's proofreading was not what it should have been and one batch was labelled 'Maurice Comedy's.' [Morrison frequently paired the tune with 'Richard Brennan's Favorite']. — *Fiddler's Companion*

### James Morrison (3 May 1891 - 1947)

James Morrison, known as "The Professor", was a notable South Sligo-style Irish fiddler.

He was born in Drumfin on the Coach Road to Sligo near Riverstown on 3rd May, 1893. His father had a small farm and made an additional living as a builder and carpenter. This was great fiddle and flute and country-house dance country and, while there was music in the family, it was all around him in the wider community...At the age of seventeen he was employed by the Gaelic League to teach the Connacht style of stepdancing at their language school in County Mayo.

He sailed to America in 1915 at the age of Twenty-one and, after a brief stay in Boston, moved to New York, where he won the fiddle competition in the New York Feis in 1918. He taught dancing and fiddle and one of his pupils was Paddy Killoran from his home area... Later they were to work together professionally, and with Michael Coleman. Jim Morrison made many records between 1921 and 1936.

Morrison was one of the leading Irish music teachers in New York in the 1930s and '40s. In addition to the fiddle, he could play the flute and button accordion (and wrote a tutor on the latter) and taught hundreds of young Irish-American students to play traditional music on various instruments.

Source: <http://www.irishfiddle.com/morrison.html> and Wikipedia.

The official James Morrison website, hosted by the Riverstown Branch of Comhaltas: <http://www.morrison.ie/> is temporarily off-line at time of writing.