

## The Siege of Ennis (Ireland)

Source: This particular version was collected in Ulster and is danced in parts of Donegal, Fermanagh, Tyrone, and elsewhere. I give the version as I danced it in basic form with Paddy Joe and Peggy Gormley and Michael and Margaret McKenna at the Inn "The Blacktown Arms" on the Tyrone/Fermanagh border.

I have danced this dance and its variants in almost every county of Ireland, North and South, to almost every possible type of music. It is one of the most popular of the "official" Irish ceili dances, though most often danced in unofficial fashion. It can be found introduced into a program of old-tyme, ballroom, country-western, rock or disco dancing. There are even special ceilis called on occasion to one of these genres, e.g., disco-ceili.

Irish Title: Ionsai na hInsha (oohn-see nah hen-shuh)

Music: Reels, but jigs are also used, and polkas too.

Formation: Lines of two couples, four facing four, up and down the hall.

### Meas

### Pattern

#### INTRODUCTION.

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|----|-----|--|
| A1 | 1-8 | Advance and Retire (two Promenade steps fwd; two Promenade steps bkwd).<br>Repeat.   |
| A2 | 1-4 | Sidestep exchanging places with side cpl--L-hand cpl passes to the R and behind; R-hand cpl passes to the L and in front. End with two three's. (Couples slipsides). |
|    | 5-8 | Same as A2, meas 1-4 returning home--L-hand cpl to R and behind; R-hand cpl to L and in front.   |
| B1 | 1-8 | Outside people swing opposite while inner four form a basket and swing.<br>( <i>Anticipate!</i> with two threes).  |
| B2 | 1-4 | Advance and Retire.  |
|    | 5-8 | Advance and pass through--cpls with their backs to the music form arches to face a new line of 4. (Progression).   |

Presented by Danny and Joan Hathaway