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PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON/DC

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PRESIDENCY. THE MUCH IMPROVED CLIMATE FOR
WORLD PEACE BEARS TESTIMONY TO THE FRUITS OF YOUR LABOUR. WISHING
YOURSELF AND NANCY MANY YEARS OF HAPPINESS,
CON DONOVAN,
COUNTY COUNCILLOR,
BALLYPOREEN.

COL NIL

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JOHN P. COSGROVE

926 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20045
202/628-3400

September 3, 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

What is Ballyporeen like on a sunny and bright day in July?

Well, we experienced such a pleasant day last July 6, driving from Dublin to Mallow.

The enclosed snapshots will show you what Ballyporeen is like on a normal summer day. The USA and Irish flags flying over the O'Farrell Bar and the world-known Ronald Reagan Lounge.

Other Ballyporeen scenes show the main street, the building which will be the Ronald Reagan Centre.

There's even a picture of Meaney's Bar and Lounge. Apparently George Meany dropped an "e" when the family arrived in the Bronx!

Then, other pictures show the Bush Service Station, B. Bolger Motors in Dublin, and even a Cosgrove Bar and Lounge.

You'll recognize the USA Embassy in Ballsbridge; Hal Roach presenting his latest record album to Charge d'Affaires John Boyle. Then, you'll recognize Phoenix Park, Kilmainham Jail (one of Ireland's historic places, Eamon DeValera was the last prisoner there).

Inside cover, the crew of the Irish Sail Training Vessel "ASGARD II" visiting The White House last May 31. Captain Eric Healy is in the red jacket.

Thought you'd enjoy this break from your very heavy schedule. Keep up the good work, keep well. With kindest regards to Mrs. Reagan.

Sincerely,



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: May 25, 1989

To: Kathy O.

Anne Higgins sent this into work this a.m. saying it should be in President Reagan's archives file. So am sending it on to you for your disposal.

How are you enjoying California by now? We sure miss you around here. A lot of things just aren't the same but then again change is good for everyone.

Take care!

PATSY SKIDMORE
Presidential Correspondence
Office
Room 94, x7610

AMBASSADORS FAREWELL: In June, American Ambassador Robert F. Kane, at left, and Irish Ambassador to the U.S. Tadhg O'Sullivan attended the Foundation outing at The Family Farm, Woodside, California, together for the last time in official capacities.

Ambassador Kane returned to his law practice in Redwood City, California, and Ambassador O'Sullivan became his country's representative to the Soviet Union. Citations were given to both for their service as Directors of the Foundation and for their dedicated support.



the AMERICAN IRISH foundation report

FALL
1985

"In the tradition of President John F. Kennedy and President Eamon deValera, who together launched The American Irish Foundation, I encourage private citizens to build up those institutions—cultural, educational, and in social service—which keep the Irish heritage green."

President Ronald Reagan
June 7, 1985

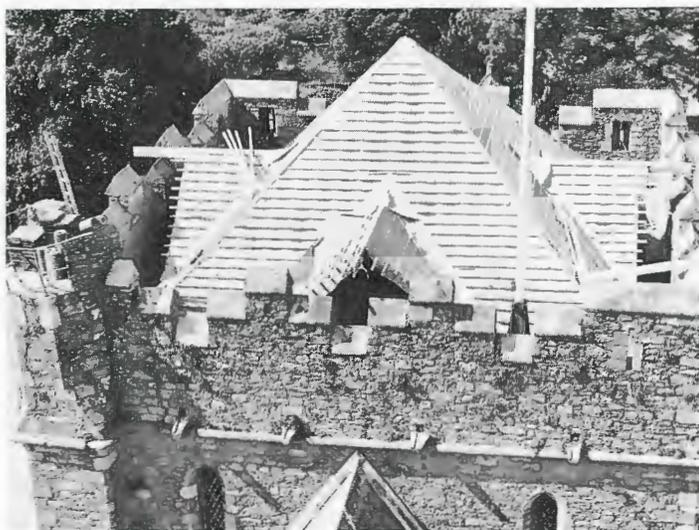
"We have been deeply impressed by the strong personal commitment which your members have to the welfare of our country and the affection which they display for Ireland and the Irish."

Tadhg O'Sullivan
Ambassador of Ireland to the U.S.
June 7, 1985



THE 1985 AIF LITERARY AWARD: A gathering of great Irish writers and poets was brought together for the presentation of the 1985 American Irish Foundation Literary Award at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence in Dublin, Ireland on June 28th.

From the left: John A. Boyle, American Charge d'Affaires, who was the host in the absence of the Ambassador, and previous recipients of the Award: Brian Friel (1981); Thomas Kilroy (1974); and John McGahern, this year's winner; Foundation President John Brogan; and poets Richard Murphy (1983); and Seamus Heaney (1973).



CATHEDRAL TOWER RESTORED: *St. Canice's Cathedral in Kilkenny is one of Ireland's most beautiful early churches; it dates back to the 13th Century. The Foundation provided a grant of \$5,000 toward the repair of its central tower which had dangerously deteriorated. The work in progress can be seen in this picture of the tower.*



MAYO LANDMARK: *The restoration fund of the landmark Holy Trinity Church in Westport, Co. Mayo, received a Foundation contribution. Here the Rector, Rev. Noel C. Francis, is shown with the church in the background.*



Irish Directory for Southern California

Foundation Director Emmett McGaughey, Chairman of the Southern California chapter of the AIF, at left, is pictured at the reception celebrating the publication of "The Irish Cultural Directory of Southern California" by UCLA. At right, Mr. Arthur Gribben, a native of Ireland, one of the two compilers of the invaluable resource book which was published in response to a demographic surprise provided by the 1980 U.S. Census. It revealed that the largest Irish population in this country is in California. About 3.7 million of that state's citizens claim Irish heritage and a substantial percentage of these live in Southern California.

To assist in providing a unifying link for Southern Californians of Irish heritage, the Foundation provided a grant of \$5,000 to underwrite, along with the L.A. *Times Mirror*, publication of "The Irish Cultural Directory of Southern California." The directory, compiled and published by the University of California Los Angeles, includes chapters on Irish annual events, classes, clubs, musical groups, fraternal organizations as well as contributions of the Irish to the development of Southern California.

Dr. Franklin D. Murphy, former Chancellor of UCLA, and who now heads the Executive Committee of the *Times Mirror*, was Honorary Chairman of the project. He is a member of the Foundation's National Committee.

The Irish Exile

Emigrants and Exiles: Ireland and the Irish Exodus to North America (\$35.00) will be published by Oxford University Press in October. This fascinating volume by Dr. Kerby Miller is based on Foundation sponsored research of letters, diaries and other materials written by Irish emigrants. It would make an excellent Christmas gift to anyone interested in the history of Irish in America.

FIELD DAY PAMPHLETS: Actress Siobhan McKenna officially launched the series of pamphlets published by the Field Day Theater Company in May at the Orchard Gallery in Derry.

The pamphlet series, which deals with different aspects of the relationship between culture and history in the context of contemporary Irish politics, are by outstanding Irish authors; pictured here are three. From the left: Richard Kearney, Seamus Deane, and Declan Kiberd. To Miss McKenna's right is Playwright Brian Friel, a director of Field Day. The Foundation provided a grant for the project.



IRISH PRINTS TOUR U.S.: A grant from the Foundation to the National Gallery of Ireland was made to provide a conservation program for the gallery's collection of fine prints. One such, "A Profile of a Young Man" by Antonio del Pollaiuolo, at left, is being included in an exhibition of eighty-two master European drawings organized by the Smithsonian Institute for a tour of U.S. museums.



NEW IRISH ART: The Foundation provided funds for the catalogue of the exhibition "Divisions, Crossroads, Turns of Mind: Some New Irish Art" which will be brought to the United States. Sponsored by the Ireland American Arts Exchange, Inc., it will open November 8th at the Williams College Museum of Art. One of the exhibit pieces: "Lurking Shadows" by Aileen MacKeogh, at right.



COUNTERMOVEMENT AT TRINITY: The first major outdoor contemporary sculpture by an Irish artist to be sited at Trinity College was made possible by benefactors of the Foundation. "Counter Movement" by Michael Warren was unveiled on the campus of the 16th Century university on July 1st. Pictured in the foreground are: from left, Ted Nealon, T.D.; Foundation President John Brogan; Sculptor Michael Warren; AIF Board Chairman A. W. B. Vincent; and Trinity Provost Dr. W. A. Watts.



NEWPORT IRISH FESTIVAL: An excellent Irish Festival Concert was given by Salve Regina College in Newport, Rhode Island with Foundation assistance. The College Madrigal Singers are pictured at the performance on March 9th.



WEXFORD FESTIVAL: Again the Wexford Opera, which has received Foundation grants, had another successful season. This scene is from the 1984 production of "Le Astuzie Femminili" with, from the left, Peter Christopher Runge, Raul Gimenez, and Arturo Testa. The 1985 series will begin October 23rd.



WASHINGTON PARADE: A waving John P. Cosgrove and his wife, Pat, represented the Foundation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in the Nation's Capitol. They are pictured passing the National Archives. Mr. Cosgrove is a Director and former President of the Foundation.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION: Members of the Northern Ireland Community Education Association prepare to attend a conference at Ulster University, Jordontown. The NICEA helps to develop awareness of community problems and assists the people to find the confidence and skills to deal with the problems on a community basis. An AIF grant supports their work.



ABBEY RESTORATION: Duiske Abbey in Gaignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, was once a major monastic center in Ireland. This is the entrance to the Chapter House from the Cloister. Restoration is being aided by a \$5,000 Foundation grant.

RECONCILIATION: *Glencree Centre for Reconciliation was founded in 1974 as a response to the violence in the North. It works to discover and promote the conditions for a just and peaceful resolution to the conflict there. The Foundation contributed \$5,000 to the construction of the Youth Wing of the Centre in Bray, Co. Wicklow.*



THE RIOT ACT: *Another Field Day project aided by the Foundation – its theater production of “The Riot Act” by Tom Paulin.*

Here is a scene from the play, based on Sophocles “Antigone,” in which the chorus leader, Ciaran Hinds, is surrounded by the chorus.



AMERICAN CHAIR: *In July, Foundation officers visited University College, Dublin, to discuss the Chair of American Studies which brings a visiting professor from the United States annually to the College. The Chair was established with Foundation support. Pictured at UCD from left to right, front row: John Brogan, AIF President; Dr. Thomas Murphy, UCD President; and A. W. B. Vincent, Foundation Chairman; back row: Professor Bonal McCarthy and Dr. Ronan Fanning of the University faculty.*



CHILDREN OF THE NORTH: *Voluntary Service Belfast wanted to provide a summer play program for young children in troubled Belfast. The Ireland’s Children Committee of the Foundation helped with a grant. Here, the Lord Mayor of Belfast, John Carson, visits youngsters participating in the program at the play center in North Belfast.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 7, 1985

For reasons you will understand better than anyone else, I am especially delighted to send greetings to everyone at the High Tea of the American Irish Foundation. Please let me join in the honor tendered today to Liam Canniffe, Consul General of Ireland, for his contributions to cordial relations between the two nations.

In the tradition of President John F. Kennedy and President Eamon De Valera, who together launched the American Irish Foundation, I encourage private citizens to build up those institutions -- cultural, educational and in social service -- which keep the Irish heritage green. I encourage pride in the men and women of Ireland who in such great numbers and in such great measure contributed to our nation's enrichment. And I particularly want to encourage Americans to let their foreign investment and vacation dollars find a profitable haven in Ireland. As a recent visitor to Ireland, I know how well spent and well invested that money will be.

Nancy joins me in wishing all of you a day to remember, and every happiness. God bless.

Ronald Reagan

Chicago Celebration

National Committee Member Barry Carroll was the Chairman of a Foundation High Tea to honor Liam Canniffe, the respected Consul General of Ireland in Chicago, who was leaving for a new post. Held in the Chicago Club, in June, it attracted prominent leaders of the area.

The above letter was received from President Reagan on that occasion. At right, the smiling President wore his American Irish Foundation tie at a St. Patrick's Day reception at the Irish Embassy in Washington.



John McGahern Receives 1985 AIF Literary Award

The American Irish Foundation presented its Literary Award for 1985 to the novelist and short story writer John McGahern. John J. Brogan, President of the Foundation, announced the awarding of the prize at a luncheon on Friday, June 28 at The American Ambassador's residence, Phoenix Park. The luncheon was hosted by The Charge d'Affaires and Mrs. John A. Boyle, in the absence of the Ambassador.

In making the presentation to Mr. McGahern, Mr. Brogan said, "We are pleased to recognize another outstanding Irish writer, and one we believe will more than match his past accomplishments in the years ahead."

Mr. McGahern, 50, is the author of several critically acclaimed novels including *The Barracks* (1962), *The Dark* (1965), and *The Leavetaking* (1974). His new work, *High Ground*, will be published in the autumn.

Mr. McGahern was born in Dublin and educated at University College, Dublin. He and his wife now make their home in Aughaboneil, Foxfield, Co. Leitrim. His writings have been translated into several languages. He has been a visiting professor of literature at Colgate University and lectured at other American colleges and universities.

The Foundation's Literary Award has a cash stipend of \$10,000. The first recipient of the Award was the poet Austin Clarke. Subsequent winners have included Seamus Heaney, John Banville, Dervla Murphy, Aidan Higgins, Mary Lavin, Benedict Kiely, Brian Friel, Michael McLaverty, Richard Murphy, and Thomas McCarthy.

William V. Shannon, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, is Chairman of the Foundation's Literary Award Committee.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORMED

An Advisory committee has been formed by the Foundation to provide advice to the Board concerning grants in literature and the arts.

Foundation Dinners Honor Clark and Moynihan

Foundation dinners in New York and Los Angeles will honor two distinguished Americans of Irish heritage. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan and former Secretary of the Interior, Hon. William Clark will be presented the AIF Award for Distinguished Leadership.

The dinner for Senator Moynihan will be held at the Pierre in New York on September 23rd. Honorary Chairman for the dinner is Charles E. F. Millard and the Chairman is D. J. Carey, III.

The Los Angeles dinner honoring Secretary Clark is set for November 14th at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Chairman for the dinner is Emmett McGaughey and Honorary Chairmen are Hon. Peter H. Dailey and Hon. John Gavin.

AIF President John Brogan welcomed all to the events, stating, "We are delighted to have the occasion to pay tribute to these outstanding leaders, and I know that all who attend the dinners will have a wonderful time."

For information:

New York: Mira Sheerin, Telephone No. 212/755-1190

Los Angeles: Lis McMillion, Telephone No. 231/666-3552
or the Foundation Executive Secretary: Thomas F. Jordan,
Telephone No. 415/752-3053.

It will be chaired by Professor William Shannon, AIF Literary Award Chairman. In forming the committee, Professor Shannon stated that the group would be particularly helpful in selecting the Literary Award recipient each year.

Committee Members are: *Poets*: Richard Murphy, Thomas McCarthy, and Seamus Heaney; *Writers*: Mary Lavin, Benedict Kiely, Tim Pat Coogan, and John Broderick; *Playwright*: Thomas Kilroy; *Artist*: Robert Ballagh.

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"The interest shown in the work of The American Irish Foundation by so many prominent friends of Ireland is most encouraging; especially heartening is the increase in members of the National Committee, a group which provides special support for the Foundation's grant programs."

The National Committee



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Contributions to The American Irish Foundation are tax deductible and are deeply appreciated.

September 13, 1985



J. WILLARD MARRIOTT 1900-1985

By John P. Cosgrove, Executive Director
American Historic & Cultural Society Inc.

The business successes of J. Willard Marriott were duly recorded and repeated in print and on the air at the time of his death on August 13.

But another story, his love of country and his continued efforts to stir a spirit of patriotism throughout this nation should have been told on September 17. On this date Mr. Marriott would have been observing his 85th birthday.

It is significant that John Willard Marriott was born on the anniversary of the initial approval of the Constitution of his beloved country in 1787.

Constitution Day and Independence Day were important days in his life. One marks the anniversary of his birth, the other the birthday of the United States of America.

This dedicated American, who ceaselessly toiled to preserve and advance basic, "old-fashioned" patriotism, also perceived the merits of the country's progress in opening new frontiers, such as the space program.

Mr. Marriott provided the impetus for the launching of the Honor America program which had its origin in the "difficult times" of the 1970s when the nation was approaching a dangerous state of polarization between the so-called "hard hats" with their rigid super-loyalty values, and the hippies, yippies, Weathermen, SDS-ers and similar groups shouting epithets of revolution from the opposite extreme.

Chairman Marriott was the organizing genius in rounding up a bipartisan group of nationally known speakers, religious leaders, entertainers, musicians, legislators and other notables for a massive celebration in Washington. The publication U.S. News & World Report noted, "The crowd was estimated at 350,000 to 400,000, designed to praise the nation and its government -- rather than to protest its policies."

After that splendid celebration (some say it marked the beginning of the return to patriotism and a renewed spirit to show America's colors), Bill Marriott believed the enterprise should continue as a bipartisan support for the nation's Bicentennial, just six years away. This became another distinguished milestone.

In 1975, formal government recognition of the bipartisan project was achieved by passage of a joint resolution of Congress establishing the 21 days between Flag Day (June 14) and Independence Day (July 4) as a special period in which to pay homage to our country.

In many communities across the land programs were unfurled to Honor America, sparked by Chairman Marriott's letters to members of Congress, governors and mayors, notes to community leaders and veterans organizations. Source material and feature articles were distributed to the media from Bill Marriott on the historical significance of Flag Day and Independence Day. Films and a stereo record album were produced and distributed to schools.

During the Bicentennial year 1976 the Honor America presentation burgeoned into a booming success. (The organization's

official name is the American Historic and Cultural Society, Inc.) A glittering theatrical presentation entitled "Let Freedom Ring Again" with inspirational and patriotic themes was staged in the Concert Hall of the Kennedy Center, Washington.

During the 15 years of Honor America endeavors, Mr. Marriott's admiration for the Constitution constantly grew more steadfast. This celebrated document's bicentennial will be marked with a special observance in 1987.

"Designed to weather the most turbulent storm," he wrote in 1984, "the Constitution has been amended and interpreted, but never discarded. The document's amendments reflect the growth of this nation, and illustrates the ability of a republic to correct its inequities without revolution. x x x We Americans are fortunate in possessing a remarkable instrument of government, and the preservation of its fundamental structure is one of our basic responsibilities."

Bill Marriott never stopped loving his country and the opportunities it provided him, born to a struggling sheep farmer in the Marriott Settlement, Utah. His heart condition may have slowed him, but his heart's desire never faltered in his inspired leadership, never losing the touch nor understanding of his fellow man.

Always forward looking, Bill Marriott's last project was to focus on the efforts of our Space Program, in particular the men and women who participated in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration missions starting with Alan Shepard's May 5, 1961 flight, just twenty-five years ago next year.

He wanted to mark the quarter century by honoring American space missions so that generations to come would be apprised of our efforts to circle the earth, walk on the moon, and to work and live in space so as to inspire today's youths on to more successful adventures to benefit mankind.

The Spirit of '76 was born again in Bill Marriott. We who knew him through the Honor America days were privileged to see and appreciate the spiritual and evangelical side of a great patriot, a remarkable nephew of our Uncle Sam. END

MAY 31, 1985 The Captain and crew of Ireland's
Sail Training Vessel "ASGARD II" visits The White House.





DATE: July 6, 1985

SUBJECT: RONALD REAGAN CENTRE BALLYPREEN

DATE: Co. Tipperary

SUBJECT: IRELAND

VISIT BY PATRICIA

& JOHN P. CESSGROVE

DATE: WASHINGTON DC

SUBJECT: _____



DATE: July 6, 1985
SUBJECT: MAIN STREET
BALLYPOREEN

DATE: _____

SUBJECT: _____
ASHFORD CASTLE
CONG

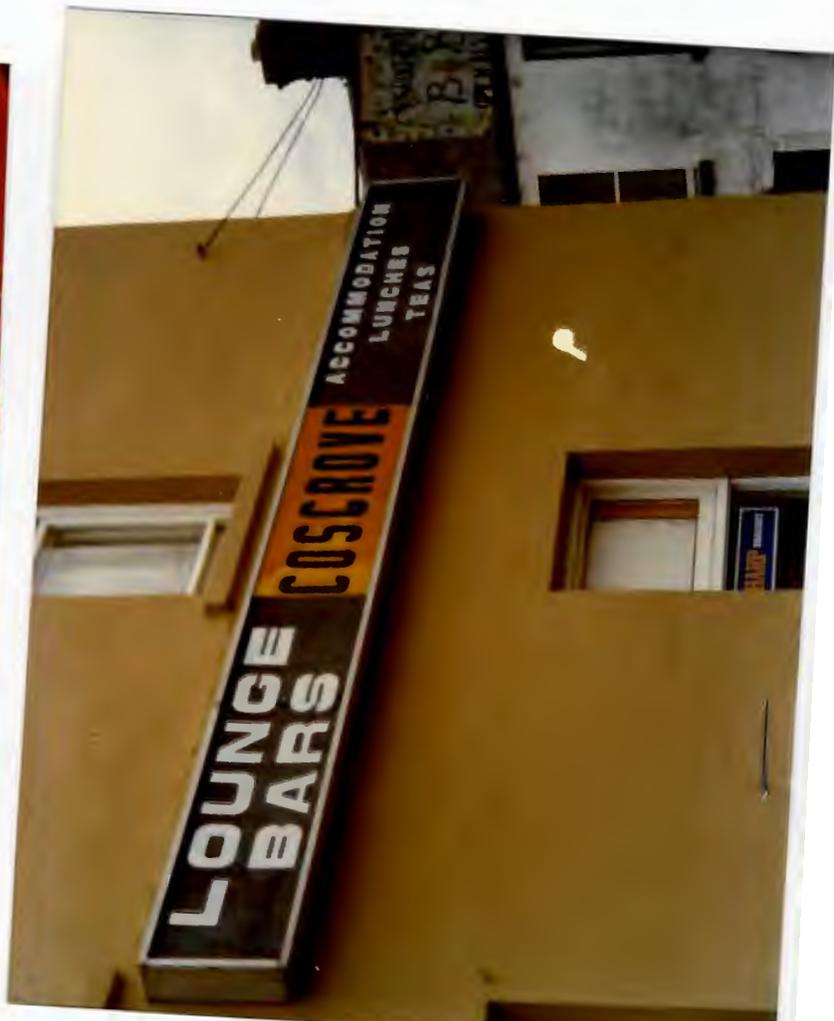
DATE: _____

SUBJECT: MEANEY'S
BAR & LOUNGE
BALLYPOREEN



To John Meaney - with our Auntie's photo, King's Best Whisky & Warm Regards
Louise & Paddy O'Brien





DATE: July 2 1985

SUBJECT: _____
USA EMBASSY
DUBLIN IRELAND

DATE: _____

SUBJECT: CHARGÉ & AFFAIRS
JOHN BOYLE &
HAR ROACH,

DATE: IRISH HUMORIST

SUBJECT: PRESENTS
NEW ALBUM

"He must be joking"





DATE: JUNE 30 1985

SUBJECT: HISTORIC
KILMAINHAM JAIL
DUBLIN

DATE: 1787-1924

SUBJECT: LAST POLITICAL
PRISONER WAS

DATE: EAMONN DE VALERA

SUBJECT: _____

**KILMAINHAM JAIL
AND MUSEUM**
OPEN TO VISITORS
FOR
CONDUCTED TOURS
Sundays Only, 3p.m. to 5p.m.
Admission 50 Children 20^p

KILMAINHAM JAIL

BEGUN IN 1787, WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED IN 1796 AND BY THE END OF THAT YEAR HELD EIGHT POLITICAL PRISONERS INCLUDING HENRY JOY McCracken WHO COMMANDED THE UNITED IRISHMEN IN THE NORTH AND WAS HANGED AT BELFAST IN 1798.

FROM HERE THE BROTHERS SHEARES WERE TAKEN TO THE GALLOWES IN NEWGATE IN 1798 AND FROM HERE ROBERT EMMET WAS TAKEN TO BE HANGED IN THOMAS STREET IN 1803.

NAPPER TANDY WAS A PRISONER HERE AND SO WERE MICHAEL DWYER, ANNE DEVLIN AND THOMAS RUSSELL - "THE MAN FROM GOD KNOWS WHERE" WHO WAS HANGED IN DOWNPATRICK.

IN 1848 THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER, WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN, PATRICK O'DONOGHUE AND TERENCE BELLEW McMANUS WERE IN KILMAINHAM AND FROM HERE WERE TRANSPORTED AS CONVICTS TO AUSTRALIA.

IN 1862 THE OLD EAST WING WAS REPLACED BY THE LARGE COMPOUND CONTAINING 102 CELLS AND THESE WERE FILLED BY FENIAN CAPTIVES IN 1865-'67. AMONG THESE WERE O'DONOVAN ROSSA, CHARLES KICKHAM, JOHN O'LEARY AND JOHN DEVOTT.

IN 1881-'82 THE LAND WAR KEPT THE CELLS FILLED WITH NUMEROUS POLITICAL PRISONERS. PARNELL WAS HERE AND SO WERE TIM HEALY, WILLIAM O'BRIEN, FATHER SHEEHY AND MICHAEL DAVITT.

IN 1883 TWENTY-SIX OF THE INVINCIBLES WERE IN KILMAINHAM AND FIVE OF THEM WERE HANGED HERE - JOE BRADY, DAN CURLEY, MICHAEL FAGAN, THOMAS CAFFREY AND TIM KELLY.

IN 1916 ALL THOSE TRIED BY COURT-MARTIAL WERE IMPRISONED HERE AND FOURTEEN OF THE LEADERS WERE SHOT IN THE "STONE-BREAKERS' YARD". THE BROTHERS PEARSE, CLARKE, MacDONAGH, PLUNKETT, CEANNT, MacBRIDE, HEUSTON, DALY, O'HANRAHAN, COLBERT, MALLIN, MacDIARMADA AND CONNOLLY.

IN 1920-'21 THE JAIL WAS KEPT FULL OF IRA PRISONERS SIX LEFT HERE TO BE HANGED IN MOUNTJOY - THOMAS WHELAN, PATRICK MORAN, THOMAS BRYAN, PATRICK DOYLE, FRANK FLOOD AND BERNARD RYAN.

THE CIVIL WAR OF 1922-'23 FILLED THE JAIL AGAIN. FOUR MEN OF THE ANTI-TREATY FORCES WERE SHOT HERE - JAMES FISHER, RICHARD TWOHIG, PETER CASSIDY AND JOHN GAFFNEY.

THE LAST PRISONER HERE WAS PRESIDENT DE VALERA. THE JAIL WAS CLOSED IN 1924 AND LEFT TO FALL INTO RUINS UNTIL 1960 WHEN THE KILMAINHAM JAIL RESTORATION SOCIETY SECURED A LEASE OF IT FROM THE GOVERNMENT WITH A VIEW TO PRESERVING IT AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT AND CONVERTING IT INTO A HISTORICAL MUSEUM - BY VOLUNTARY LABOUR. THE MUSEUM WAS FORMALLY OPENED AT EASTER 1966.



