

Concert

to mark the rededication of

GOLDENBRIDGE CEMETERY and ANNUAL DANIEL O'CONNELL COMMEMORATION

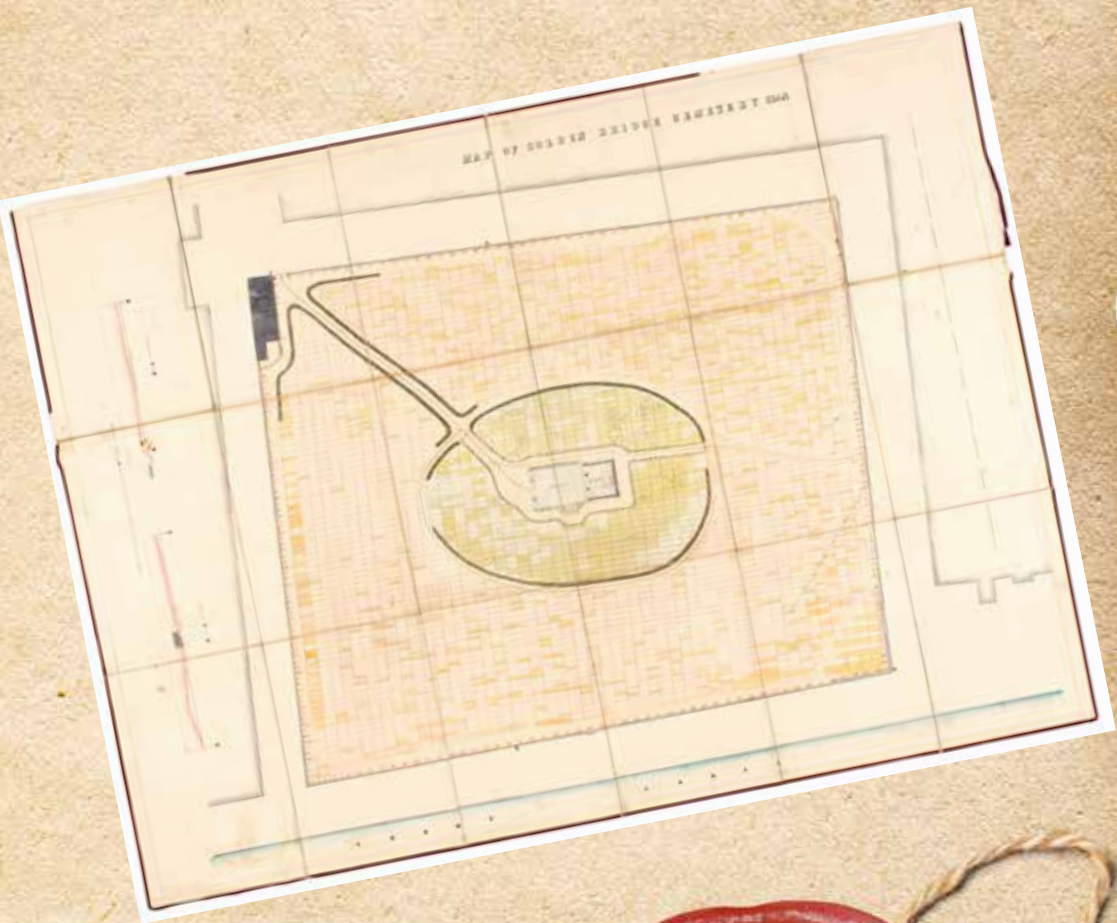
Sunday 14 May 2017



FOUNDED IN 1828

GLASNEVIN TRUST

DARDISTOWN GLASNEVIN GOLDENBRIDGE
NEWLANDS CROSS PALMERSTOWN



Introduction



Glasnevin Trust is truly gladdened to announce the reopening of Goldenbridge Cemetery as a working graveyard. 189 years on from the first burial and 148 years since its “closure” the Trust sees a renewed role for the Cemetery. Not only will it be open to new burials but the cemetery is inextricably linked with the local community’s efforts to revitalise the area. The refurbishment of Richmond Barracks has been a huge success, bringing together local and national resources; the reopening of the cemetery complements this initiative. Working in conjunction with Richmond Barracks and Dublin City Council, Goldenbridge Cemetery will be reintegrated into the Dublin 8 community. The Cemetery will gradually be refurbished. The Gate lodge will be restored and become a studio for artists. Richmond Barracks will continue to incorporate tours of the Cemetery as part of their offering.

Over the coming years the Glasnevin Trust Resident Historian, working with Richmond barracks, Trinity College History Department and local historians, will endeavour tell life story of as many as possible of those buried in Goldenbridge.

When the Cemetery opened Daniel O’Connell and his committee organised a concert on the site to raise funds. 189 years later Glasnevin trust is delighted to host a concert at the Temple in Goldenbridge to mark the inaugural “Culture date with Dublin 8”.

John Green
Chairman, Glasnevin Trust

Order of Service

Welcome,
Mr John Green,
Chairman of Glasnevin Trust

Speech by Catherine Byrne T.D.,
Minister of State for Communities and National Drugs Strategy

Daniel O' Connell speech re-enactment

Musical recital by St. James's Brass and Reed Band

Lecture by Professor Maurice Bric, University College Dublin

Ecumenical Blessing

Wreath laying ceremony

Musical recital by
Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

Conclusion of event



Burial Ground Committee

Tuesday 6th of November 1827.

At a Meeting of the Burial Ground Committee at the
Committee rooms, Corn Exchange

The very Rev^d Dr. Coleman B. G. in the Chair

The following Resolutions were adopted:—

That a Committee of five Members be appointed
to select five Gentlemen to act as trustees to the Burial Ground

That the Rev^d Francis Joseph Strange be
requested to act as permanent Secretary

That a sub. Committee of five be appointed to inspect
the grounds proposed for our purchase.

Messrs Richmond - Bowen - Sugens - Malton and Reynolds.

Mr. Hughes having taken the Chair, the thanks of the Committee
were given to Dr. Coleman.

Daniel O'Connell
Nicholas Mahon
David Lynch
James Power
Rt. Hon. O'Connell
Sir The Comdr. Port
at 10 o'clock

These Gentlemen were written to, to request
their acting as trustees.

Goldenbridge Cemetery

From the time of the Reformation onward, Catholics were not permitted to have any cemeteries of their own and buried their dead in the grounds of old churchyards and monasteries or in Protestant Churchyards. Legally Protestant clergy of the established church were the only ones permitted to recite funeral prayers but over time there was a growing willingness to allow Catholics have a very brief time for prayers at the graveside. However, when William Magee, an evangelist and steadfast opponent of Catholic Emancipation, became Archbishop of Dublin, all compromise was abandoned.

One particular incident marked a turning point and the start of a huge change for Catholics. In St. Kevin's Churchyard in September 1823 Dr. Michael Blake Catholic Archdeacon of the Dublin diocese was about to offer some quiet graveside prayers when a Protestant sexton, who many believed was working on the orders of Archbishop Magee, stopped him.

The funeral was that of Arthur D'Arcy a well-known and respected Dublin citizen whose brother would later become Lord Mayor. He had died suddenly in an accident and his funeral attracted a large crowd. This incident, witnessed by many, propelled the issue onto a wider stage. This was probably the intention of those who had made the intervention but it had unintended consequences for Archbishop Magee and his supporters.

The debate that followed naturally involved Daniel O'Connell who was at the height of his powers and, with the Catholic Association, was pushing for greater Catholic rights. In a signature move O'Connell forced the issue and became determined to establish a cemetery that would be open to those of all religions and none.

A committee was formed to carry out the far from simple process of setting up a cemetery and in 1828 they managed to secure this land at Goldenbridge for a fee of £600.

The following years proved very successful for the cemetery and demand resulted in a sister cemetery being opened at Glasnevin. In the 1860s the War Office moved to try and close the cemetery claiming it at first to be a public health risk, which was dismissed, and then by arguing that funeral traffic was a disruption to the adjoining barracks. There was a huge outcry and it took two years before it was finally agreed that Goldenbridge would remain open to burials for those who already had plots but would close to new burials. Burials have continued at a slower rate since then and today Goldenbridge holds the graves of many historically significant figures.

The Consecration

The consecration ceremony for Goldenbridge took place on 15 October 1829. A temporary chapel had been erected within the grounds of the cemetery for the purpose of the ceremony and Rev. Mr. Canavan curate of St. James's performed the service. Tickets to the historic event were sold for 2s. 6d. with approximately 200 people attending and the proceeds going towards the Parochial Free School Fund. Alongside the 200 attendees were soldiers and officers from the nearby Richmond Barracks who were not required to pay for their ticket. The significance of the occasion was described by the *Freeman's Journal*, which stated;

"It is extraordinary what a degree of anxiety has prevailed during the last week particularly, to have consecrated this cemetery, where the remains of the deceased may be peaceably interred without molestation, delay, or the interference of legalized disturbers of the tranquility of the grave. It will be no longer necessary for the Catholic Priest or Dissenting Minister to supplicate 'in writing pursuant to Act of Parliament,' liberty to attend the remains of their parishioners or friends to the tomb. Such was the desire of some families to have their deceased relatives interred in this New Pere la Chaise that four coffins with their contents were already deposited in the vaults, beneath the temporary chapel..."

The article also gave a good description of the cemetery at the time of its opening, it shows how little the cemetery has changed from then to the present day;

"The field which contains two Irish acres is situated between the Richmond Barracks and the Grand Canal, it is well enclosed by a stone wall about nine feet high. At the entrance, which is at the south-western angle, is a neat and commodious two stories high house, which is to contain apartments for the chaplain and the sexton. The ground is nearly square and is intersected with neat gravel walks. A number of young trees, comprising willows, weeping ash, larch and sycamore are planted at distances of eight feet by six feet asunder, in straight lines, which intersect each other. In the centre is a small ellipse, within which there is to be erected a chapel, the foundation of which is already laid. This temple is to be open for the performance of the burial service to the clergymen of all denominations of Christians, without expense and without distinction."

The Mortuary Chapel

The designer of the mortuary chapel at Goldenbridge was Patrick Byrne (circa 1782-1864). Byrne was a prolific architect, responsible for building many Catholic churches throughout Dublin including St. Paul's on Arran Quay. On his death William Meagher the parish priest at Rathmines wrote of him; "Of this gifted man whose talents and disinterested care have laid us under such obligations, of him who designed the portico of St Paul's and erected the majestic shrine of St Audoen's and the solemn cathedral-like pile of St James and the bold and beauteous dome of our Lady of Refuge, of the accomplished and good and generous Patrick Byrne how truly may it not be said that he regarded the beauties of classical and mediaeval art with equal reverence, studied their several excellencies with equal assiduity and wrought upon the principles of both with equally supereminent success." The neo-classical design of the Goldenbridge chapel is typical of the period but it is also remarkably similar to the mortuary chapel erected at Père-Lachaise. Goldenbridge, as Ireland's first garden cemetery, took much inspiration from its French predecessor established in 1804. The Goldenbridge chapel was completed in 1835 and serves a dual-purpose. Beneath it are vaults that were built to house guards and Cuban bloodhounds that would protect the cemetery against bodysnatchers who would attempt to dig up and steal corpses from cemeteries in order to sell them to those who were studying anatomy and medicine. A staircase within the walls of the chapel would allow them to reach the roof and view the surrounding area, while the high walls that surround the cemetery were completed before any burials took place in order to reassure those who were burying their loved ones within the cemetery that they would be well protected.



Goldenbridge Graves

Goldenbridge Cemetery contains many historically significant and interesting graves within its walls. Those whose last resting place it holds include:

W.T. Cosgrave: Politician, revolutionary, first head of government of the Irish Free State and one of the most influential political figures of 20th century Ireland.

Frank Burke: Member of the Irish Volunteers who was killed in the fighting at the South Dublin Union and also a step-brother of W.T. Cosgrave

Patrick O'Kelly: A veteran of the 1798 rebellion in Kildare who later published an account of his experiences including his role in the surrender of the United Irishmen in the area.

Eugene Lynch: An 8 year old child killed during the 1916 Rising. One of forty children to lose their lives during the fighting.

Mary Anne Jenkins: A member of Cumann na mBan who served during the 1916 Rising, War of Independence and Civil War.

Andrew Clinch: A doctor and rugby player who played for Ireland between 1892 and 1897. Was picked for the British Lions team that toured South Africa in 1896 and was later President of the IRFU.

Thomas O'Flanagan: A United Irishman and printer to the prominent revolutionary figures and movements of the late 18th and early 19th Century; from Lord Edward Fitzgerald to the Young Irelanders.



New Graves

There are 4,250 graves in the cemetery of which 498 have been identified as available for purchase at this time. These graves are available in Sections C, D and parts of Section F

We will be using our records to identify other graves that will become available in the future.

There will also be columbaria for the interment of cremated remains to be located in the Chapel Circle and around the boundary walls.

Golden Bridge cemetery has been designated by Glasnevin Trust as a conservation cemetery. In order to preserve the character and ambience of the cemetery, the following rules apply to the type of monument that can be placed on family graves:

- Monuments must be manufactured in a similar style and material to the monuments five monuments to the left or to the right of the grave where the monument is being placed
- No polished stone may be used.

Income derived from the sale of graves and columbaria at Golden Bridge cemetery will be used exclusively for the conservation, restoration and maintenance of Golden Bridge cemetery.

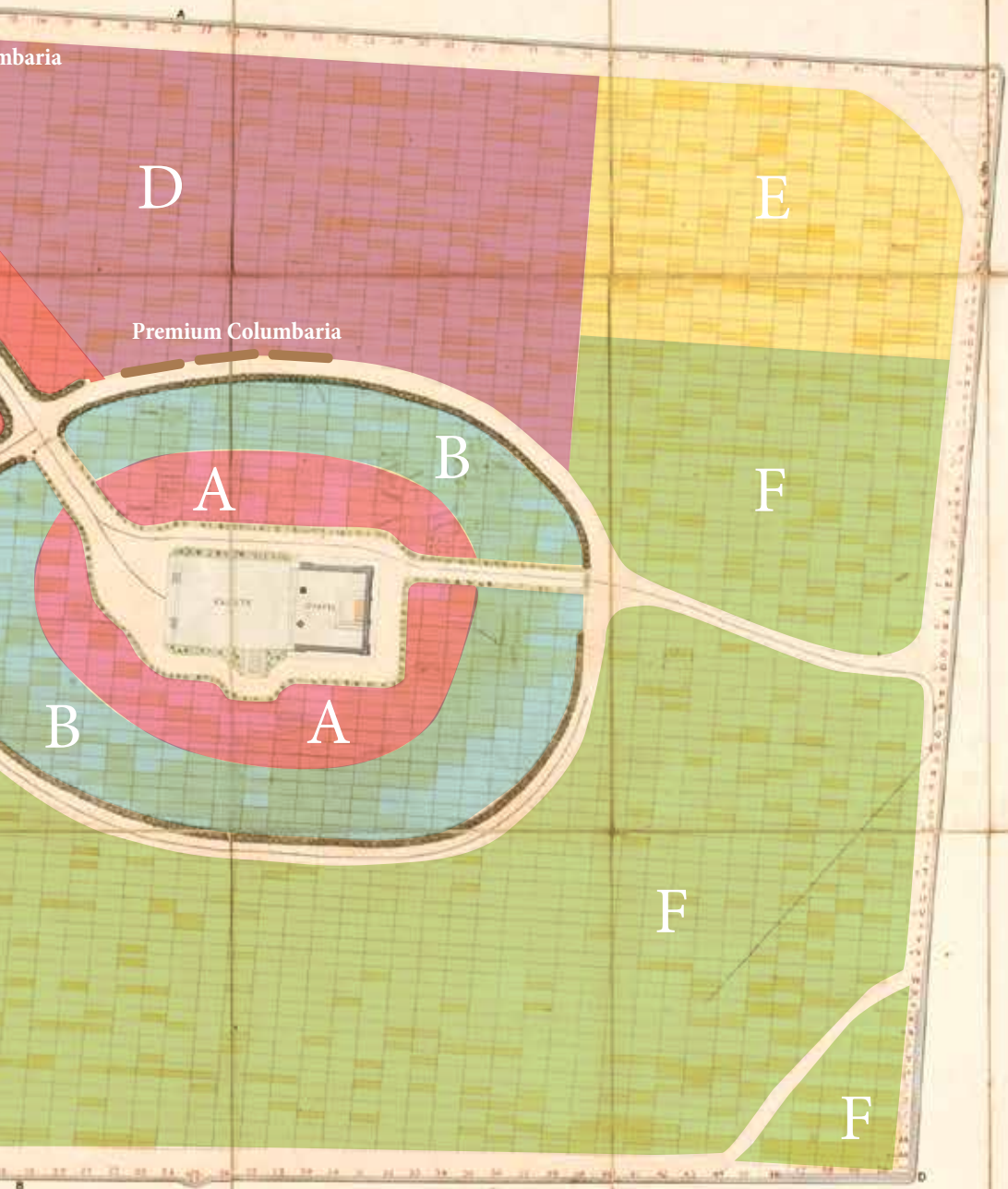
The table below indicates the current proposed pricing of graves and Columbaria that are available.

	Grave Purchase €
Section F	2,175
Section E	2,500
Section D	3,000
Section C	3,950
Section B Chapel Circle	Reserved / On Application *Limited Availability
Section A Chapel Circle	Reserved / On Application *Limited Availability
Premium Columbaria	3,000
Standard Columbaria	2,500
Grave Opening Fee €1,100	



MAP OF GOLDEN BRIDGE CEMETERY 1868

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