

Kilmainham Gaol Document Pack

# NOTES FOR THE TEACHER

Teachers know from experience that the educational benefits of a visit to a site such as Kilmainham Gaol are multiplied when preparation and well-directed follow-up are part and parcel of the tour. This pack, comprising documents and a trail booklet, is designed to help this process. The visit to the Gaol could take place at the beginning or at the end of the study of a particular historical period.

There is a variety of ways in which the teacher might use the Gaol to enhance the learning of a particular class. What we set out here is not meant to be exhaustive, neither is it suggested that the teacher attempt to cover all of the topics listed. What we hope to do is to point out some of the valuable resources of the Gaol. The teacher, in the context of the class, selects what is useful and discards the rest. Some teachers may find something that orients them rather than directs them. Whatever the teacher does with this resource pack, we are certain that Kilmainham Gaol can be a fruitful source for the Environmental Studies curriculum in primary schools and for the Civics and History syllabi in post-primary schools.

#### In the pack you will find:

- (A) two accounts of gaol life in the eighteenth century.
- (B) some prisoner records.
- (*C*) an extract from the gaol register for June 1806.
- (D) extracts from the gaol register listing children who were imprisoned.
- (E) some documents describing the gaol diet.
- (F) a copy of the Daily Mail which gives behind-the-scenes details of the 1916 rising.
- (G) a montage of photographs of the gaol.
- (H) a trail booklet.

The documents will help the teacher to examine aspects of the social and political history of the nineteenth century. The gaol may be viewed as a mirror, reflecting aspects of life in Ireland at the time.

**Document A:** This document comprises two accounts of gaol life in the eighteenth century. The class investigation could focus on the prisoners' diet, lack of heating and lighting, bedding and 'gaol fever'. Words to find the meaning of are: *irons, victuals*, and the origin of the name *Philipstown*.

**Document B:** Document B shows photographs of two prisoners in Kilmainham Gaol. Photography came into use in the 1860 s. One of the prisoners is a Fenian suspect. The second photograph shows the use of a mirror to get a profile in the same picture.

**Document C:** This random selection of prisoners during a particular period gives an indication of the types of crime for which prisoners were committable. Children will be interested in the 1806 equivalent of car stealing prisoners 1091 and 1100, and the sentence passed on them. Why was prisoner 1106 committed? What was the significance of the date 1806? This leads into a discussion of the Napoleonic wars and the threatened invasion.

**Document D :** The list of children who were in the gaol might promote discussion and debate on the crimes and punishments in the list. What crimes were they charged with? What conditions in society led them to commit these crimes? What age was the youngest? How many girls, boys? What punishments were meted out? The number of children who were never charged? Did 'not guilty' mean no punishment? Did punishment prevent further crime? The Teacher might lead the Class to compare the 1830s and the 1990s in relation to the type of crime committed by children; the different punishments given; to consider the different social contexts regarding both the crimes and the punishments; and also the different attitudes of society. There may be a recognition that in some ways the attitudes are not so different. There may be the opportunity to discuss the reasons for the different attitudes of the twentieth century in relation to crime and punishment.

**Document E:** These extracts from the Inspector General's Report introduce the topic of food and a study of the nutritional value of the prison diet. Note the lack of fresh vegetables and fruit. A comparison can be made between the diet of short and long term prisoners. The letter of the medical officer raises some interesting questions. Might it help to have children measure out and weigh 5 oz. of bread?

**Document F:** Some teachers might find the photocopy of pages one and two of the *Daily Mail* a useful resource. The account of the wedding of Grace Gifford and Joseph Mary Plunkett, with the report of the purchase of the wedding ring gives a different slant to the Rising. Mrs. Gifford's description of Countess Marcievicz and the family contexts give a slant that some might find brings a more human dimension to the study of the period. The other reports in this newspaper will broaden the context of the Rising - the World War, the use of poison gas in the war, the introduction of daylight saving time - and might lead one to realise how much things remain the same.

**Document G:** The montage of pictures of Kilmainham Gaol will enhance the work done with the other documents in the pack, but can also stand on its own as a source of research activity.

#### Document sources

- A. The National Archive in the Four Courts is where one can examine the Gaol Registers.
- B. The National Archive in Dublin Castle houses the Reports of the Inspector-General of Gaols. Documents and photographs of State Prisoners are also housed here. The Act of the Irish Parliament that authorised the establishment of the 'new' Kilmainham Gaol is there to be studied.
- *C.* The National Library is where one can find the copies of newspapers of the period of operation of the gaol.
- D. 'A History of Kilmainham Gaol The Dismal House of Little Ease' by Freida Kelly (Mercier Press, 1988) covers the whole period when the gaol was 'caring' for its guests and should find a place in the class library.

### **Document** A

#### Two accounts of Gaol life in the eighteenth century.

Source: The Irish Parliamentary Debates, 1783 - 84 (National Library, Joly 32841)

#### (i)

On 1 March 1784 Mr. Chatterton presented a petition on behalf of one Felix Pritchard, a debtor in Philipstown Prison. The petition described in graphic detail the appalling conditions in which Pritchard "for three years past .....had suffered many hardships.....loaded with irons of at least eleven pounds weight, often deprived of the use and benefit of fire; and when in the late inclement season he procured firing for his victuals, it was at the peril of his life a fire could be lighted up in the place of his confinement for want of ventilation, by which he was in great danger of suffocation."

#### (ii)

Later in his evidence Fitzpatrick pointed to three other general deficiencies: bad food, insufficient and dirty bedding (even where it was merely straw) and the lack of medicines and medical attendance. As with the location, construction and design of prisons, he had no difficulty in relating these to what appears to have been the committee's leading concern, infectious diseases. But he himself spoke as if the sources of gaol fever and 'the general Hardship that the Prisoners Labour under' were practically identical. A good example of this conflation is his handling of the insecurity of prisons, which he presented as the key to explaining the miseries and the diseases alike.

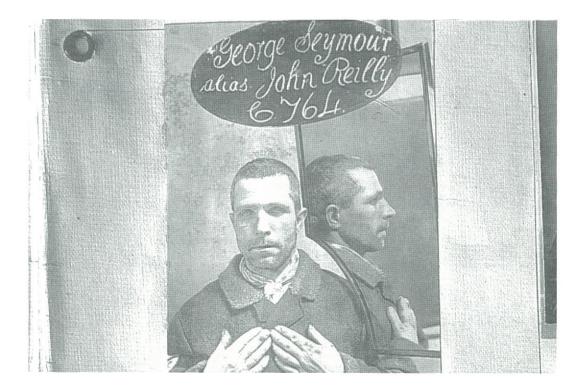
The Jail of Naas, is a strong Proof of this Assertion, for as the upper Parts of it are so insecure, the Criminals are confined in the most loathsome dark Dungeons, the Passage to those is from the Street, through a dark Entry, guarded by three different strong Doors and so dark are those Dungeons, that there is no seeing without Candles, and...(so) damp and filled with stinking Vapors, that Candles with Difficulty burn; the only Passage for either Light or Air, is a small Window to each of those Cells, scarce fourteen Inches square, and even that small Space is, in a great Measure, occupied with Iron Bars; in the smaller of those Dungeons, the 29th of last Month, there were lying on the cold damp Ground, scarce defended with Straw, six double-bolted Criminals, two of them without any Sort of Covering, save a little Straw and Mats made of the same, which they substituted for Blankets.\*

Fitzpatrick went on to describe one of the pathetic implications of the want of 'necessaries', yard and proper food at Naas: the gaoler, in his 'humanity', allowed the chained prisoners to beg in the street all day outside the prison door.

\*Extract from: "Report from the Committee appointed to enquire into the present state, situation and management of the Public Prisons, Jails and Bridewells of this Kingdom", l7 December 1783. <u>Sir Jeremiah Fitzpatrick and the Politics of Social Reform</u> (London, 1981) Oliver MacDonagh.

## **Document B**





#### 11109 1116 1117 1115 1114 1113 1112 1111 1106 1105 1108 1107 1104 1103 1102 1101 1100 1099 1098 1097 1096 1095 1094 1092 1091 1090 No. LIST OF PRISONERS ENTERING KILMAINHAM GAOL JUNE 1806 1093 William Mansergh Thomas Hill Charles Deveey Robert James John Lewis Charles Dowd Martin Egan Philippi Ceconi Simon Giles Prisoner's Name Elizabeth Kerr Thomas Martin Michael Cahill Patrick McDermott Alex Campbell James Doran William King John Gallagher Felix Murphy Matthew Dobbyn Alexander Stewart Edward Constable John McClean James Robinson Patrick Glassey Edward Stenson Walter Bourke Charles Costello Matthew Dobbyi 42Yrs. 5'8" 35Yrs. 5'11" Age & Description 34Yrs. 5'6' 21Yrs. 5'4' 41Yrs. 5'8' 47Yrs. 5'7" 21Yrs. 5'6' 24Yrs.5'.8' 22Yrs. 5'9' 32Yrs. 5'8' 26Yrs. 5'7' 22Yrs. 5'6' 31Yrs. 5'9" 30Yrs. 5'8" 27Yrs. 5'6' 33Yrs. 5'6' 30Yrs. 5'10' 32Yrs. 57 29Yrs. 5'91/2 36Yrs. 5'8' 30Yrs. 5'10' 29Yrs. 5'7" 28Yrs. 5'6" 34Yrs. 5'8" 23Yrs. 5'61/2" 20Yrs. 5'5" 40Yrs. 5'8' 46Yrs. 5'6' 19.6.1806 19.6.1806 21.6.1806 2.6.1806 When 28.6.1806 28.6.1806 25.6.1806 24.6.1806 24.6.1806 4.6.1806 2.6.1806 2.6.1806 Committed 19.6.1806 18.6.1806 16.6.1806 15.6.1806 13.6.1806 12.6.1806 12.6.1806 12.6.1806 12.6.1806 10.6.1806 10.6.1806 10.6.1806 10.6.1806 10.6.1806 10.6.1806 2.6.1806 23.7.1806 13.5.1807 When 27.7.1806 28.6.1806 9.7.1806 9.7.1806 11.7.1806 25.8.1806 25.7.1806 9.7.1806 9.7.1806 9.7.1806 2.8.1806 22.11.1806 23.1.1810 9.7.1806 9.7.1806 21.6.1806 17.6.1806 2.8.1806 5.6.1806 Discharged 19.2.1807 10.7.1807 10.1.1807 17.6.1806 14.6.1806 19.6.1806 19.6.1806 Debt Kings Bench Writ spirits Selling unlicenced Stealing Callico Stealing Money Stealing several articles valued £20 Assault Stealing horses charged with Debt Exchequer Writ Execution Debt Kings Bench Stealing Callico Stealing Callico Writ Debt Exchange Debt Exchange Writ Stealing a Wheelbarrow private parts Insulting several females Guilty and exhibiting his Being a foreigner escape Debt Xn Assault Pleas Writ Assault Desertion Desertion Assault Stealing horses Specific crime Assault Debt Common Assault Assault Pleas Writ Debt Common To pay a fine of £30 and 2 Guilty Guilty Not guilty Not guilty Guilty Guilty Guilty Not guilty Not guilty Not guilty Not guilty Not guilty Not guilty Verdict Not guilty Death imprisoned and 12 months Sentence fined 1 mark To be 6 months Death imprisonment and characters Remarks on conduct Discharged by the Court Discharged by John Barker, Sheriff Discharged by R.Shaw sent to his regiment Discharged by R.Shaw sent to his regiment Committed to the Four Discharged by R. Shaw, Esq., Sheriff \_ Discharged by the Court Discharged by R. Willcox Esq. Court Court Esq. Discharged by R. Shaw, Esq. Discharged by R. Shaw, Discharged by R. Shaw Discharged by order of Discharged by Robert Shaw, Sheriff Discharged by B. Shaw Esq. Esq. Discharged by the Court Discharged by John Bell Discharged by R. Shaw, Sheriff Discharged by the Court Discharged by the Court Discharged by R. Shaw Discharged by R.Shaw How disposed of Discharged by R. Shaw Court Marshalsea Discharged by Court Discharged by Court Executed 2.8.1806 Discharged by R.Shaw Esq. Discharged by order of Executed 2.8.1806

months confined

Document C

# Document D

# CHILD PRISONERS IN KILMAINHAM GAOL - EXTRACT FROM GAOL REGISTERS

# (PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE)

Jane Beerds 9 Fo	9	0	John Young 12 Ch	Patrick Duffy 11 Ste	Alicia Kelly 8 Ste	Stephen Kearney 9	Mick Kearney 12 Fel	John Woods 13 Dr	James Gallagher 11 Ste	Patrick Rogan 12 Ste	Patrick Reilly 13 c	Michael Reilly 12 Ste	John Keegan 11 Ro	PRISONER AGE CH
	Fowl stealing	Robbing a garden	Charged with being a deserter	Stealing hay	Stealing a cloak	ditto	Felony of money	Drunk	Stealing ropes	Stealing a chicken out of a shop	ditto	Stealing 3 ducks and a hen	Robbing a garden of apples	CHARGE
	Jan. 1840	Aug. 1839	Aug. 1839	Mar. 1839	Mar. 1839	ditto	Dec. 1838	Sept. 1838	June 1838	Jan. 1838	ditto	April 1833	Aug. 1833	DATE OF COMMITTAL
	Released April 1840 found not guilty	1 month or pay £1.	- for further examination	4 weeks and 4 times whipped	5 months and hard labour	ditto	4 weeks and 4 times whippt	48 hrs. or pay 2/6	4 weeks confined and 4 whippings once each week	7 days hard labour	ditto	3 weeks confined and to be whippt 3 times - 20 lashes each time	2 months confined to hard labour	SENTENCE

# Document E(i)

# COUNTY OF DUBLIN GAOL, AT KILMAINHAM - STATUTABLE INSPECTION 5TH AND 30TH DECEMBER 1868

#### DIET OF PRISONERS

#### Prisoners not exceeding one week

Males	Breakfast Dinner	8 oz. oatmeal in stirabout, and ½ pint new milk. 14 oz. bread and 1 pint vegetable soup.				
Females	Breakfast Dinner	7 oz. oatmeal in stirabout, ½ pint new milk. 12 oz. bread and ¾ pint vegetable soup.				
		Prisoners under 15 years of age				
	Breakfast Dinner Supper	5 oz. oatmeal in stirabout and ½ pint new milk. 8 oz. brown bread and 1 pint vegetable soup. 4 oz. brown bread.				
		Other Prisoners				
Males	Breakfast Dinner Supper	8 oz. oatmeal in stirabout, and ½ pint new milk. 14 oz. bread and l pint new milk. 6 oz. bread and ½ pint new milk.				
Females	Breakfast Dinner Supper	7 oz. oatmeal in stirabout and ½ pint new milk. l2 oz. bread and ¾ pint new milk. 5 oz. bread and ½ pint new milk.				
		Prisoners under 15 years of age				
	Breakfast Dinner Supper	5 oz. oatmeal in stirabout and ½ pint new milk. 8 oz. bread and 1 pint vegetable soup. 5 oz. bread and ½ pint new milk.				
		Potatoes substituted for bread three days in the week.				
Males Females Juveniles		3 lbs. 2¼2 lbs. 2¼2 lbs.				
Net averag	Net average daily cost of ordinary diet for each prisoner in the three preceding years:-					

1865	2.7d.
1866	3.1d.
1867	5.01d.

I found the food prepared for the prisoners on the different occasions when I visited of good quality, and the Chaplains generally report favourably of the supply sent. I questioned all the prisoners in custody, and no complaint was made of the food which is given.

John Lentaigne, Inspector General.

# Document E(ii)

Extract from Inspector General's Report 1868:

The following report from the Medical Officer of the gaol has been forwarded to the Prisons Office:-

"GENTLEMEN, - I am happy to report that the health of the prisoners in this gaol has been, with few exceptions very good. During the past year one death occurred - a male prisoner, who laboured under disease of the spine, with paralysis.

"The new dietary scale, which was adopted in the month of March last, has worked well; and I am not now called on by prisoners so frequently to supplement their food as heretofore. I find it necessary, however, occasionally to order a meat ration to prisoners undergoing long sentences of one year and upwards. With this exception, and the prisoners who are employed at exhausting labour, who receive two rations of meat weekly while so employed, few, unless those in hospital, receive any addition to the prescribed scale.

"A female prisoner, committed for one month, was found insane on admission; but an application being made to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, she was transferred to the Richmond Lunatic Asylum forthwith.

"Since lunatics have ceased to be committed to gaol, order and regularity can be observed in the hospitals - a state of things which was found almost an impossibility when they were so frequently committed.

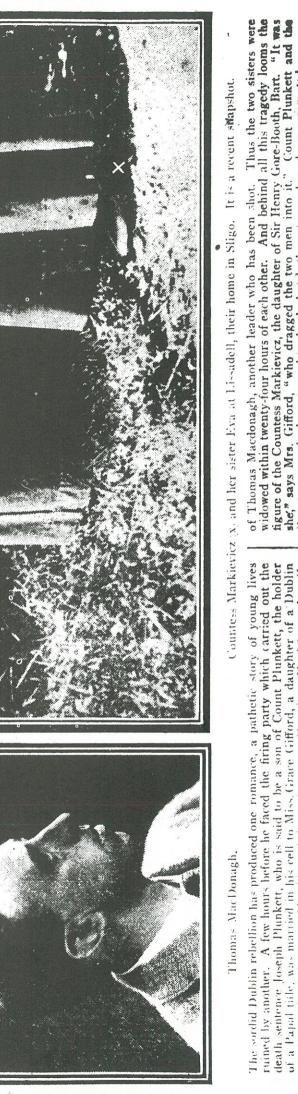
"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

"Your obedient servant,

"William Thornhill, M.B., &c.

"The Inspectors-General of Prisons."





been commute es have within twenty-four hours of each other. And by the Countess Markievicz, the daughter of Sir H s Mrs. Gifford, "who dragged the two men in were both sentenced to death, but both sentence ntess

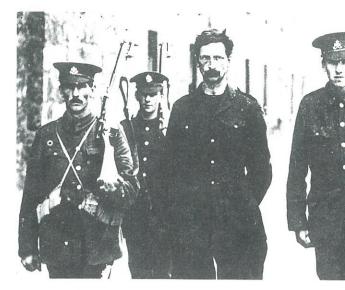
wife as the tistic The sordid Dublin rebellion has produced c ruined by another. A few hours before he death sentence Joseph Plunkett, who is sa of a Papel tide, was married in his cell to solation and a lady of confiderable artisti

4 1 have been subjected. said Mr.
7 Lloyd George in his speech at Conway on Saturday, " to a cloudy discharge of poison gas. We have produced millions of lighters, but very rarely in history have we produced, an assassin.
8 11 person who published or invented private conversations in order to malign a friend, if any man believes I am capable, amid such terrible surroundings, of making use of hase, treacherous intrigue to advance my lown ends, let him helieve it. I seek neither his friendship nor his support." Naturally, there had been differences between in himself and his chief. Of what use would he have been to the Premier if he had not differed to thom him? Reptember. He was still of that the pointon. that. **1,900,000 MUNITION WORKERS. 1,300,000** munition workers in this country barely 40 per cent. were men of military age. But beyond that army of workers in there was still a considerable margin of men there was still a considerable margin of nen there will be available if the need, arises for increasing our armies, and it is a grand margin of men, because of the rallying of women to work formerly done hy men. There were honesit Liberals who felt there had been differences between him and his chief. "We have had differences," said Mr. Lloyd foorge, "and what use would I have heren to him if 1 had always agreed with him? We want counsellors, not automatt; advisors, not penny-in-the-slot machines. "If I am to be the latter merely. I desire to be no purt of the equipment of the Government." Other critics, he proceeded, objected to his keenness on the war. "Either you make war or you don't. A statesnam's dury is to avoid war, but, once in it, it is his dury to prosecute it so that it will be ended as soon as possible.
"A Government should not only be resolute, "A Government should not only be resolute, it antion is the propellant of its armics." Thave no sympably with those who seem to flat the mation is the propellant of its armics. "I have no sympably with those who seem to flat the mation is the propellant of the mation is the propellant of its armics." There a firm how.
"Time is not an ally it is not regret in your actions. A doubting hand never yet settled on which side he will be. But time can be won organisation." SONS His "CLOUDY DISCHARGE ", TIME IS NOT AN ALLN. NO INDIGNITY IN COMPULSION. 8, 1916 -" An Assassin." Lloyd George and OF POISON GAS. ITEMS May TWO NEWS Critics-AND Visz Commuted to Life Sentence
 Visz Commuted to Life Sentence
 The romantic tragedy of the Plunktt
 The romantic tragedy of the Plunktt
 Presenting framity in the Dullin revolt is control for an interval is control for a many sense of the plugination in the pluginatina the plugination in the plugination in the plugination in the Mr. A DEMAUD MANUMA
 A DEMAUDING MANUMA
 Daylight Saving Probably in Force at End of This Week. Grown-Ups How to WHY LORD DERBY DID NOT RESIGN. PLUNKETTS—FATHER A FIVE-YEAR-OLD "MOTHER." REAL WENDYS. Take Care of Baby. ' Sunday Pictorial ' Breaks All Records Children Show MIRROR DAILY e very hopefully of es on the way to Bag-that Egypt was in no NO SERIOUS MISFORTUNE. A SUPER NUMBER. in Exclusive Pictures. THE ALWAYS FIRST. REBEL kind, which strengthen our win." Protopopif spoke v further Russian successes o dad, and was emphatic that 6 The romantic tragedy of the Plunkett family in the Dublin revolt is one of the outstanding features of Ircland's week of an inghtmare. Joseph Plunkett, the son of Count George Plunkett, Director of the Museum of Science and Art in Dublin, has been shot for the part he played in the rebellion, and we for the part he played in the rebellion, and a few hours before his execution he was mar-ried to Miss Grace Gifford, the sister-in-law of Thomas Macdonagh, another of the difference and John Plunkett had been science to death, but that their sentence had been afterwards commuted to one of the Years' George Plunkett is the father, Count George in Plunkett, and John is another of his sons. The following official statement was issued in Dublin on Saturday:-The following further results of trials by field general court-martial are announced:-Sentenced to death, but commuted to penal servitude for High by the General Officer Com-manding-not Hanrahan. Sentenced to death, but commuted to ten by wice, Henry O'Hanrahan. Sentenced to death, but commuted to ten plunkett. Sentenced to death, but commuted to the provension of the servitude:-Divorge Plunkett, John ar Sentenced to death, but commuted to the provension of the servitude:-Divorge Plunkett, John ar Sentenced to death, but commuted to three provension of the servitude of the servitude for the provension of Sentenced to death, but commuted to three provension of the servitude for the provension of Sentenced to penal servitude for the provension of Sentenced to penal servitude for the provension of Sentenced to penal servitude for ten years, the sentenced to two years' imprisonment with the mard labour, duly confirmed:-D. Wilson. The stories of the Irish rehellion have re-vealed tragedy after tragedy, but mone more bi-remarkable than the eve-of-death romance of Joseph Plunkett, one of the rehel leaders, and Miss Gravee (fifford, a young artist of refined and artistic tastes. The two were married in prison in the dead of might, shortly before Plunkett's excention. With heroic fidelity Miss (fifford, who is the daughter of a solicitor and well known in Dublin society, visited the cell of her lover, and was married to him at midnight. Husband and wife were left together for a few hours, and then Plunkett was taken before date of the hours, and the barriekt was taken before diagonal and wife were left together for a ROMANCE Midnight Death Penalty for Countess Markie-vicz Commuted to Life Sentence. TEN YEARS FOR COUNT. MARRIED IN DEAD OF NIGHT. COMMUTED DEATH SENTENCES. Before Being Shot. Joseph Married at

Page 2

**FRAGIC** 

	War, who is accused of high treason, has been incarcented, says flouter, in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul at Petrograd. <b>Saved by Her Hair.</b> A girl, who is said to have been struck on the head with a blunt instrument by a man charged with burglary at Chertsey, is stated by a doctor to have oved her life to the thickness of her hair.	
Speaking in Annerster, on Naturary after- noon. Lord Derby said his mouth was now un- closed for the first time to refute the malicious lies circulated against him. The fact that the machinery for getting the men had to be set up while the work was in progress. His resignation, which was elamoured for, would have gained him popularity but have lost him his self-respect. His resignation in March would have runned the cause of universal ser- vice.	war the public would only accept it if shown military i. e-ssity demanded it. A STARVATION POSSIBILITY. Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., speaking at a May Day Labour demonstration at Derby yesterday, said if he were the only member to do so he would go into the Lodby on Frida, next to vote	agame conserption. and the only opinion was that the military situa- tion was less serious than the shipping problem. He bodieved that the great demands that were heing made upon our shipping brought a possi- hility that in three or four months it would be a question not so nuch of high prices as of abso- lute starvation.
UNITED IN CLOSER ALLIANCE. After a very long courtship, two old servants of the Dowager Countess of lichester were mar- ried at St. Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, on Sat.riday. The bridegroom was Mr. Charles Dixon, who has been in the service of the Countess fifty-two years as head gardener. Mrs Jarrett, Countess for the South as	thirty years as housekeeper at Holland A car lent by the Countess took th from the church to the Royal Palac Kensington, where a reception was hele FOUR MILLIONS MORE IN T That British trade can triumph over	for April. Imports valued at £75.685.362, compared with £73.638.582 in April of last year, show an in- crease of £2.046,780 for the month. Exports amounted in value to £36,817,839, against £32,169.733 in the corresponding month of 1915-an advance of £4,648,106.
<ul> <li>was a curt order, the crash of a volley, and the urtain was rung down ou the tragedy of two lives.</li> <li>WITED IN CLOSER ALLIAN UNITED IN CLOSER ALLIAN UNITED IN CLOSER ALLIAN uses.</li> <li>Was revealed to the world in this simple and on the Dowager Countess of likhester wellen, in the "Births, Marriages and the Dowager Countess of likhester wellen, in Joseph Plunkett to Grace Gifford.</li> <li>With of the Dowager Countess of Likhester wellen, in Joseph Plunkett to Grace Gifford.</li> <li>Wits Gifford bought her wedding ring at a wellery shop in Grafton-street on Wednesday.</li> <li>When show mr glober profied, is seventy.</li> </ul>	Then she to do and said he hoped she was not n trouble. She tried hard to keep calm, but eventually dmost broke down. BOUCHT HER WEDDING RING. Then she told the jeweller that she was the ancee of Joseph Plunkett, who was under entence of Joseph and was to be married to him	"For the moment I was thunderstruck," said for Soker, "and didn't know what to say or lo. Somehow or other I managed to express sympathy with her terrible position, and be thanked me very quietly. "Then she selected the most expensive of the dogs, paid for it in notes, and left the shop."



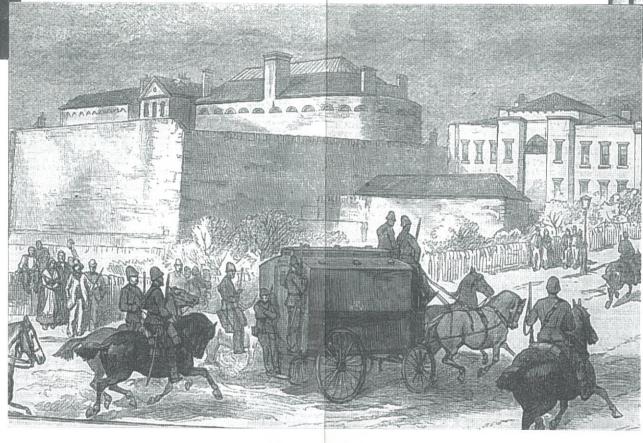
# Document G

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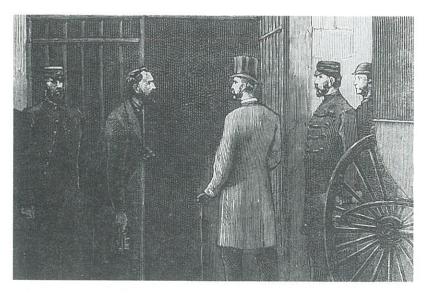
1. Eamon de Valera, later Taoiseach and President of Ireland, under arrest in Richmond Barracks after the 1916 Rising.

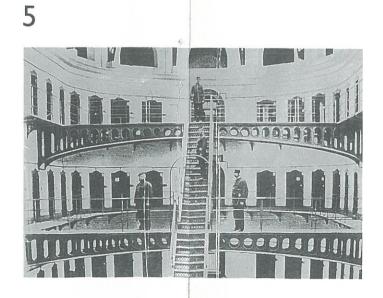
2. Prisoners sentenced to hard labour working in the stonebreakers' yard, Kilmainham Gaol. Taken about 1890. It was in this yard that 14 of the leaders of the 1916 Rising were later executed.

**3.** Horse-drawn "black maria" or prison wagon approaching Kilmainham Gaol along the South Circular Road.



4

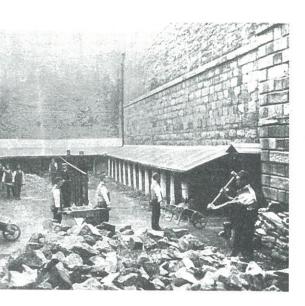




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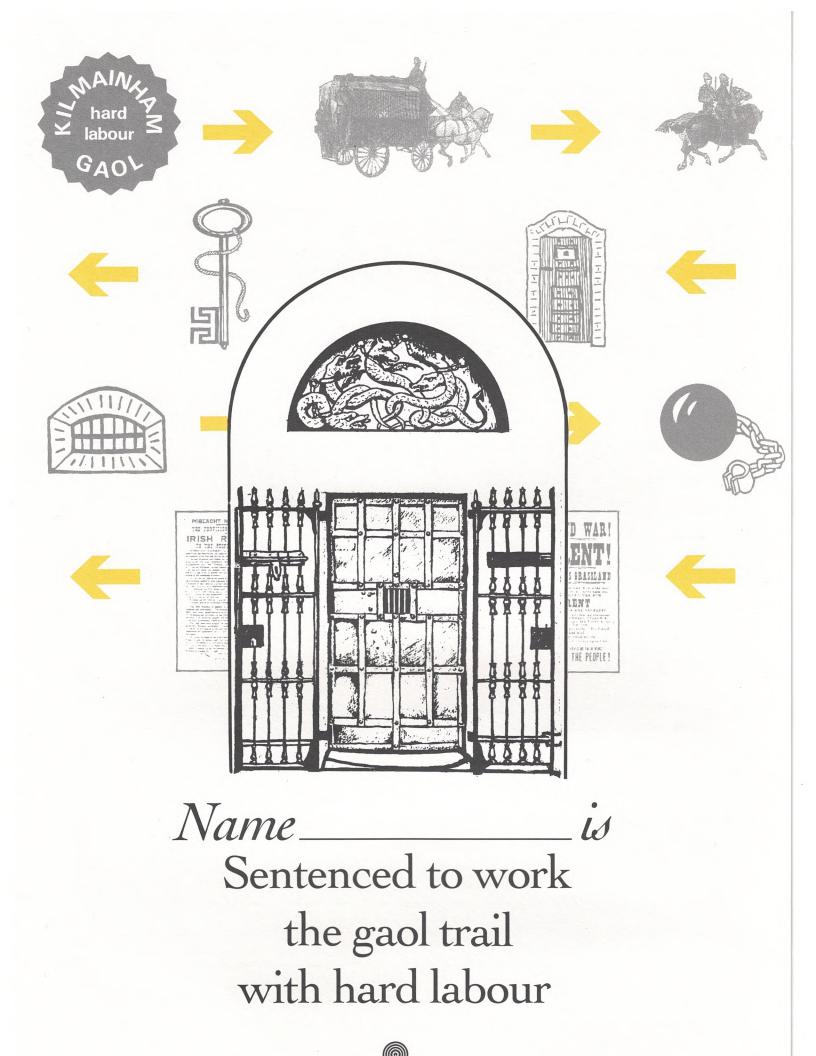


**4.**Charles Stewart Parnell, Leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, being escorted into Kilmainham Gaol soon after his arrest on 13 October, 1881.

**5.** Interior view of the new prison block completed in 1862 with warders on landings.

**6.** Sketch from **The Illustrated London News**, November 1881 showing Parnell being interviewed in his cell. As is clear from this sketch, Parnell was allowed far more comfortable conditions than an ordinary prisoner.





K		A
	5	3
	6	

# Instructions for the Trail

This trail is located in the museum of Kilmainham Gaol.

- 1 You will need a pencil or pen to complete the work set out in this trail booklet.
- 2 There are six stops in the trail. Each stop is marked on the map you see here. Examine the map carefully and note the places marked.
- Follow the instructions to go to the correct location for each stop.Read what is written and then fill in the blank spaces.
- 4 Now go to Stop one.

# STOP 1 ->

Go to the space in front of the spiral staircase. Examine this building. Look around you and look up.

1. What is the main source of light for this prison area?\_\_\_\_\_

What other lighting was used in the prison? Look around the walls and above the first floor. See the large light shades. What form of power was used for these lights?

2. What were the different materials used in this building?\_\_\_

**3.** Find the place on the floor from where most of the cells can be observed. Move around and check out your idea. Then mark it with an 'X' on the map.

4. Look at the spiral staircase. Notice that it connects all the floors. Notice how difficult it would be for two people to come down together.

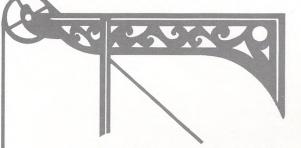
Would it be easier to run up and down these spiral stairs than it would be to run on the other stairs?\_\_\_\_\_

How did these spiral stairs make it easier to guard the prisoners?

# STOP 2 🚽

#### Go to the space to the right of the centre stairs.

See the two vertical poles? Look up. See the pulley at the top? Look down. See where the trap door at the bottom was? This trap door opened to the kitchen.



The food came up from the kitchen through the trap door. A warder and two prisoners took the food to the prisoners on the three floors.

The food was passed in to each prisoner through an opening in the door. Can

you see the rectangular section in the door? This was opened and became a shelf. The food was placed on it and the prisoner took the food into the cell.

After the prisoners on the ground floor were served, the food was taken to the first floor with the help of the pulley. The prisoners on this floor were fed in the same way. Finally, the food was brought to the next floor using the pulley system.

Do you know what food was served to the prisoners?\_\_\_\_\_

Can you see a manhole on the floor? The heat from the kitchen came up through the manholes in the floor.

How many manholes can you count on the ground floor?

#### DIETARIES

for

THE PRISONERS IN KILMAINHAM GAOL Approved by the Inspector General

#### Males

Breakfast	8 oz oatmeal, 1/2 pint new milk
Dinner	14 oz bread, 1 pint vegetable soup

#### **Females**

Breakfast Dinner 8 oz oatmeal, ½ pint new milk 14 oz bread, 1 pint vegetable soup

#### Juveniles

Breakfast	8 oz oatmeal, 1/2 pint new milk
Dinner	14 oz bread, 1 pint vegetable soup
Supper	4 oz bread



there?\_

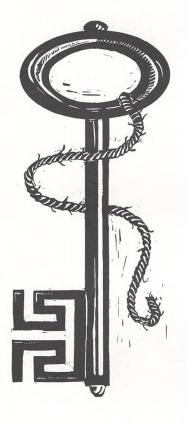
Move east to the cell of Grace Plunkett. 1. Look at the name card. What other name is written

Why is 'nee' written there?\_\_\_\_\_

Grace Plunkett had been in the gaol before her imprisonment. On 3 May, 1916 she was married in the prison. Who was her husband?\_

What happened to him the next morning?\_





Look at the stairs and the metal bridges.

**2.** When and where were they made? \_

How many different geometric shapes can you see in the metal work? Draw and name 6 of them in the boxes provided.

3. These stairs were used by the warders (turnkeys) to get to the different floors. Why are the stairs and balcony covered in?

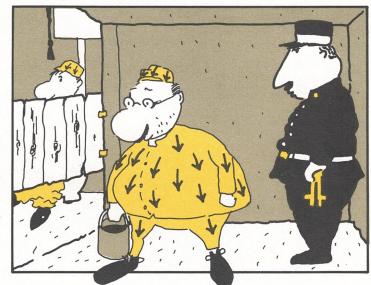


#### Walk to the space in front of the curved doorway at the east end of the Exhibition Hall.

The toilets were located on each floor at this end. The prisoners could use them during the day under the ever-watching eye of a warder. There was a halfdoor on the toilet so the prisoner could be watched. When the prisoners were locked in their cells, they had to use a bucket if they needed to go to the toilet. In the morning, they emptied the bucket in the toilet or lavatory.



If you were a prisoner what would you dislike most about this arrangement?





Favourite person:

# United Young Fenians Land Path to Irishmen Irelanders War Independence

These movements from the history of Irish Nationalism are all represented in the exhibition. Examine the exhibits. They are arranged in groups to match the movements listed above.

As you study the exhibits, you will be able to answer the questions below. They are arranged in the same way.

- (a) What was the aim of the movement?
- (b) Name a foreign country that was connected with the movement.
- (c) Name the person from the movement that most interests you.

	United Irishmen	Young Irelanders	Fenians
Aim:			
Foreign connection:			
Favourite person:			
	Land War	Inдерепдепсе Mover	nent
Aim:			
Foreign connection:			

# STOP 6 🔶

A number of cells are open for inspection on the north side of this gaol block. Divide your class into six groups, one group for each of these cells.

1. Stand outside one of the cells and identify the parts of the cell door on the drawing.

A	- C	1	-
B	_	(	and the second
C	_	7	Summer State
D		-1-1-	
2. Enter the cell. List the items of furniture you see in the o	cell.	2	

D

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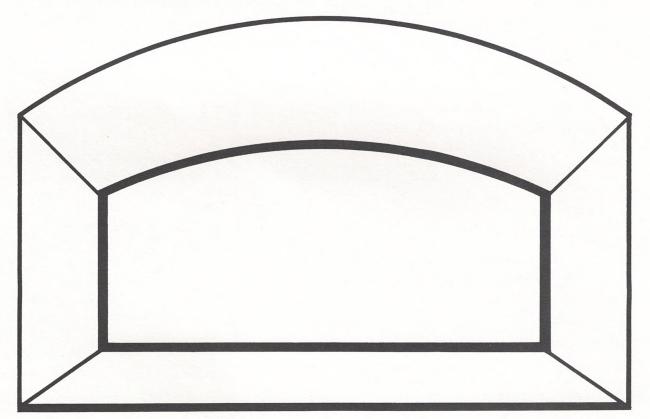
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3. What were the three vents in the walls used for? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why do you think the window was so high?\_\_\_\_\_

5. Imagine you are a prisoner in this cell. Draw a picture below of what you would see of the world outside.



The rich diversity of heritage sites throughout the country, and particularly those in state care under the OPW, provide an invaluable source of educational experience for children and students. While the tourist potential of these resources has for a long time been recognised, there is still much work to be done in fully developing their educational value.

The Office of Public Works and the Teachers Centre in Blackrock have worked together to produce this Document Pack to develop the educational potential of a visit to Kilmainham Gaol, perhaps the most important Irish National Monument of the modern period. We hope it is the beginning of many more such co-operative ventures to produce supportive educational resources, not only in relation to Kilmainham Gaol, but for all those other heritage sites, ancient and modern, now in state care under the Office of Public Works.

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