

# A Short History Of Our Building.



7, Fr Mathew Street is listed in the National Inventory Of Architectural Heritage as a building of regional architectural special interest. It is a terraced two-bay three-storey-with-attic house, built around 1830 with plat band to first and second floor cill levels, random sandstone and limestone to gable, timber sliding sash windows, pedimented door surround with fluted pilasters and keystone detail with sunburst fanlight. The building today retains much original external fabric including the doorcase. It is the last remaining example of several of its type on what was formerly known as "Queen Street, situate in the Parish of Holy Trinity and Cork City"

According to *Jackson's County & City Of Cork Post Office General Directory of 1842-43* it was occupied by Thomas Fielders, a hatter and lodging house keeper.

According to *Slater's National Commercial Directory Of Ireland, 1846* it was occupied by John Herrick, a barrister.

According to *Laings Cork Mercantile Directory, 1863*, it was occupied by Professor Michael Barry, a barrister of Queen's College (UCC).

According to *Henry & Coghlan's General Directory Of Cork, 1867*, it was occupied by Samuel Sikes a forwarding agent who also owned a wholesale and family grocers at 31, Patrick St.

Quick Sales and Small Profits !

Have you lately tried  
**Sikes & Son's**  
**NEW SEASON'S TEA,**  
RICH, FRAGRANT, & STRONG,  
At 2/6, 2/8, and 3/ per lb.,  
Compare with those usually sold at much higher  
prices.

**FINE STRONG CONGOU,**  
**AT 2/**  
Wonderful at the Price !!  
CANISTERS OF EVERY KIND, 5, 7, 12, 16, & 20 lbs.,  
always ready. CANISTERS FREE.

**SIKES'S ARABIAN COFFEE,**  
Roasted and Ground on the premises with new machinery, which removes  
all acidity, and is perfectly fresh.

**SIKES & SON,**  
REMOVED TO, AND RE-OPENED AT  
**31, PATRICK STREET,**  
*(Next door to Munster Arcade)*  
**CORK.**

According to *Slater's National Commercial Directory Of Ireland, 1871*, it was occupied by John Bradley Booth, accountant and commission agent who ran a business in 47, South Mall.

**J. B. BOOTH,**  
**ACCOUNTANT AND COMMISSION AGENT,**  
**47, SOUTH MALL, CORK,**

Represents the undermentioned Offices, viz :—

**The United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution,**  
Established 1840, for the Mutual Assurance of Lives, &c.

**The Railway Passengers' Assurance Company,** Established 1849, for  
insuring against Accidents of all kinds.

All necessary information with Prospectuses, &c., may be had on application at the above address.

According to *Guy's County & City of Cork Directory, 1891 and again in 1893*, it was occupied by Professor John Harrington, BA, Vice President of the Irish National Feis Society.

In *Guy's County & City of Cork Directory, 1897*, it is the property of Mrs W.P. Barrett.

The 1901 Census shows the house occupied by what may be her 5 children, Margaret, Anne, Edward, Teresa and Gertrude, living on the interest of monies. There are 10-12 rooms.

**CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1901.**  
(Two Examples of the mode of filling up this Table are given on the other side.)

**FORM A.** No. on Form B. 7

RETURN of the MEMBERS of this FAMILY and their VISITORS, BOARDERS, SERVANTS, &c., who slept or abode in this House on the night of SUNDAY, the 31st of MARCH, 1901.

Number.	NAME AND SURNAME.		RELATION to Head of Family.	RELIGIOUS PROFESSION.	EDUCATION.	AGE.	SEX.	RANK, PROFESSION, OR OCCUPATION.	MARRIAGE.	WHERE BORN.	IRISH LANGUAGE.	If Deaf and Dumb; Blind; or Lame.
	Christian Name.	Surname.	State whether "Head of Family," "Wife," "Daughter," "Son," "Visitor," "Boarder," "Servant," &c.	State here the particular Religion, or Religious Denomination, to which each person belongs. [Members of Protestant Denominations are requested not to describe themselves by the vague term "Protestant," but to enter the name of the Particular Church, Denomination, or Body to which they belong.]	State here whether he or she can "Read and Write," "read" only, "write" only, or "Cannot Read."	Years between Birth and Year.	Male or Female.	State the Particular Rank, Profession, Trade, or other Employment of each person. Children, or young persons attending a School, or receiving regular instruction at home, should be returned as "Scholars." [Do entry should be made in the case of wives, daughters, or other female relatives who are engaged in domestic duties at home.]	Whether "Married," "Widow," or "Not Married."	If in Ireland, state in what County or City, or other place, the name of the Country.	Write the word "Irish" in this column opposite the name of each person who speaks Irish only, and the words "Irish & English" opposite the names of those who speak both languages. In other cases no entry should be made in this column.	Write the respective initials opposite the name of the afflicted person.
1	Thomas	Barrett	Head	Roman Catholic	Read and Write	40	M	Interest of money	Not married	Cork City	Irish & English	
2	Anna	Barrett	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read and Write	36	F	Interest of money	Not married	Cork City	Irish & English	
3	Edward	Barrett	Brother	Roman Catholic	Read and Write	28	M	Interest of money	Not married	Cork City	Irish & English	
4	Teresa	Barrett	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read and Write	29	F	Interest of money	Not married	Cork City	Irish & English	
5	Gertrude	Barrett	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read and Write	25	F	Interest of money	Not married	Cork City	Irish & English	

The 1911 Census shows the house occupied by three of the five from the 1901 census. This time Teresa Barrett is listed as a Professor of Music. This census is interesting in that it lists the new theatre being next door – the building was completed in 1910.

**CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1911.**  
(Two Examples of the mode of filling up this Table are given on the other side.)

**FORM A.** No. on Form B. 7

RETURN of the MEMBERS of this FAMILY and their VISITORS, BOARDERS, SERVANTS, &c., who slept or abode in this House on the night of SUNDAY, the 2nd of APRIL, 1911.

Number.	NAME AND SURNAME.		RELATION to Head of Family.	RELIGIOUS PROFESSION.	EDUCATION.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.	RANK, PROFESSION, OR OCCUPATION.	PARTICULARS AS TO MARRIAGE.	WHERE BORN.	IRISH LANGUAGE.	If Deaf and Dumb; Blind; or Lame.
	Christian Name.	Surname.	State whether "Head of Family," "Wife," "Daughter," "Son," "Visitor," "Boarder," "Servant," &c.	State here the particular Religion, or Religious Denomination, to which each person belongs. [Members of Protestant Denominations are requested not to describe themselves by the vague term "Protestant," but to enter the name of the Particular Church, Denomination, or Body to which they belong.]	State here whether he or she can "Read and Write," "read" only, "write" only, or "Cannot Read."	For Infants under one year state the age in months, as "under 1 month," "1 month," "2 months," &c.	State the particular Rank, Profession, Trade, or other Employment of such persons. Children, or young persons attending a School, or receiving regular instruction at home, should be returned as "Scholars." [Do entry should be made in the case of wives, daughters, or other female relatives who are engaged in domestic duties at home.]	Whether "Married," "Widow," or "Single." Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year, write "under one." Children born alive. Total Children born alive. Children still living.	If in Ireland, state in what County or City, or other place, the name of the Country.	Write the word "Irish" in this column opposite the name of each person who speaks Irish only, and the words "Irish & English" opposite the names of those who speak both languages. In other cases no entry should be made in this column.	Write the respective initials opposite the name of the afflicted person.
1	Thomas	Barrett	Head	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	48		Single	Cork City	English	
2	Anna	Barrett	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	43		Single	Cork City	English	
3	Teresa	Barrett	Sister	Roman Catholic	Read & Write	38	Professor of Music	Single	Cork City	English	

In July 1938 according to *Land Registry*, Teresa Barrett rented the house to Patrick and Mary O'Brien for 8 pounds 10 shillings per annum. Patrick died in 1941 and the lease went to Mary.

*Guy's Directory of 1945* shows the house in the occupation of a W Fahy.

According to *Land Registry*, Mary died in 1967 and bequeathed the property to Mr Arthur O'Brien. In 1976, Arthur O'Brien assigned the leasehold interest to Everyman Playhouse Limited, who at the time occupied the theatre next door.

In October 1988, Dick Nagle (Global Properties) purchased the premises from Everyman Playhouse and rented same to Cork Counselling Services.

In December 2018 – Cork Counselling Services purchase the building from Dick Nagle (Global Properties).