

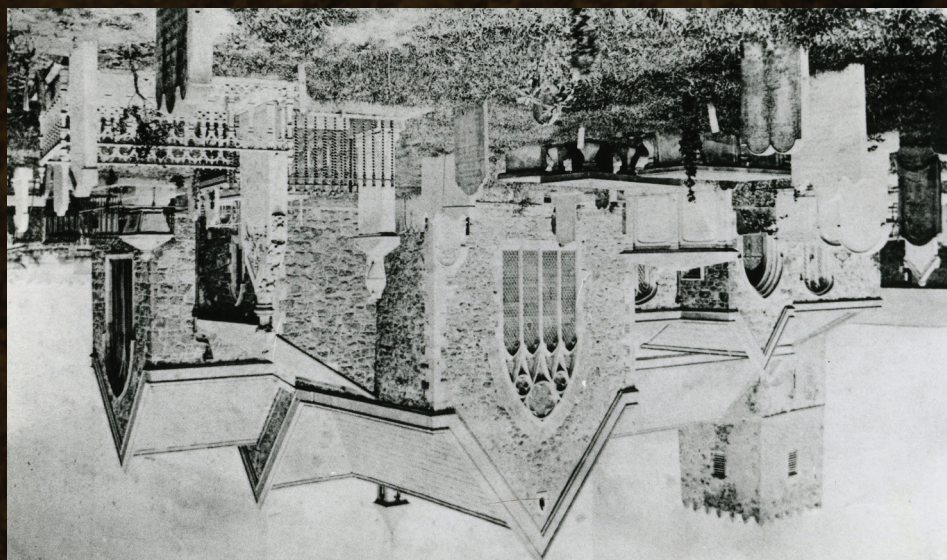
Photographs taken by pupils and James McDowell

The project has been generously funded by The Honourable The Irish Society. The ground in the graveyard is uneven, so please be careful where you walk. Our trail around the graveyard to find out what we discovered. Alongside St Patrick's Church and Coleraine Museum we investigated these stones. Follow Christie Memorial School, St Malachy's Primary School and Sandelford School working Branch of the North of Ireland Family History Society, Ballysally Primary School, D.H. to explore these to find out about past residents of the town. With the help of the Coleraine people that lived in Coleraine from the 17th century to the 20th century. This project aimed inside and outside the Church are memorials and gravestones which tell the stories of

About the Project



St Patrick's Church, Coleraine, before the restoration of 1883 – 1885. Coleraine Museum Collection.



Tradition holds that when St Patrick was travelling around Ireland in the 5th century, he founded a church in Coleraine. This Church – St Patrick's – is one of the oldest buildings in Coleraine town centre today. In the 1990s archaeologists discovered its medieval foundations and these can be seen under glass panelling inside the Church. In 1613 The Honourable The Irish Society made improvements to the Church and alterations were again made between 1883 – 1885 with the interior being changed in the 1990s. While the walls of the Church hold hundreds of stories, the memorials and gravestones tell even more.

Brief History of St Patrick's Church



St. Patrick's Graveyard Trail

Big Business

For further information contact:

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Find us on Facebook: Coleraine Museum

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Causeway Coast and Glens
Borough Council



St Patrick's



Lee

Edward Lee of Coleraine died on 22nd May 1838 aged 54. Lee was a hardware merchant in the town which is noted in the inscription on his gravestone.



Bishop

Bishops dates back to 1840 when it was a shoe repair and shoe making shop on Mill Street. Stephen Bishop, son of Mr and Mrs James Bishop, opened a shop in the Diamond in 1860. Stephen died in 1871, aged 31, and his wife Ellen took over and expanded the business. In 1940 Charles Hamilton bought over Bishops and his family continue to run the shop in the Diamond, Coleraine today.



Christie

The Christie family had a long established business in Coleraine. Daniel Christie appears in the 1839 street directory as a stone cutter based in Meeting House Lane. In the 1884 directory the business has moved to the Diamond and includes plumbing, gas fitting, marble and stone works. Later, the company described as a builders merchants moved to the Cloyfin Road in Coleraine.



Givin

Benjamin Givin is listed in the 1839 street directory as a herring merchant.



Bellas

Brothers Hugh and Thomas Bellas combined their existing businesses to form H&T Bellas Hardware, Coal and Timber Merchants in 1825. They had a shop on Church Street and later, warehouses at the west Rampart and Beresford Place. The company is still going strong at its premises on the Mountsandel Road under the ownership of the Henry family.



Black

James Black of Coleraine died in 1832 aged 96. In the 1820 street directory he is listed as a linen merchant, grocer and bleaching stuff dealer with premises in the Diamond.



Mitchell

William Mitchell was a bookmaker and stationer who died in 1773. His wife, Margaret, remarried in 1779 to John Fulton who is also buried here. Two of Margaret and William's sons emigrated to America around 1790 and set up a bookbinding business in Philadelphia and then in New York.



Shipboy

Eliz Shipboy died on 13th October 1775 aged 1 and Agnes died on 17th October 1775 aged 3 months. It is likely that the parents of these children were Robert and Elizabeth Shipboy. They had a business on Church Street in Coleraine selling fabric, gloves, women's shoes, hats, bonnets, handkerchiefs and much more. Elizabeth was a dressmaker – they also sold some groceries.