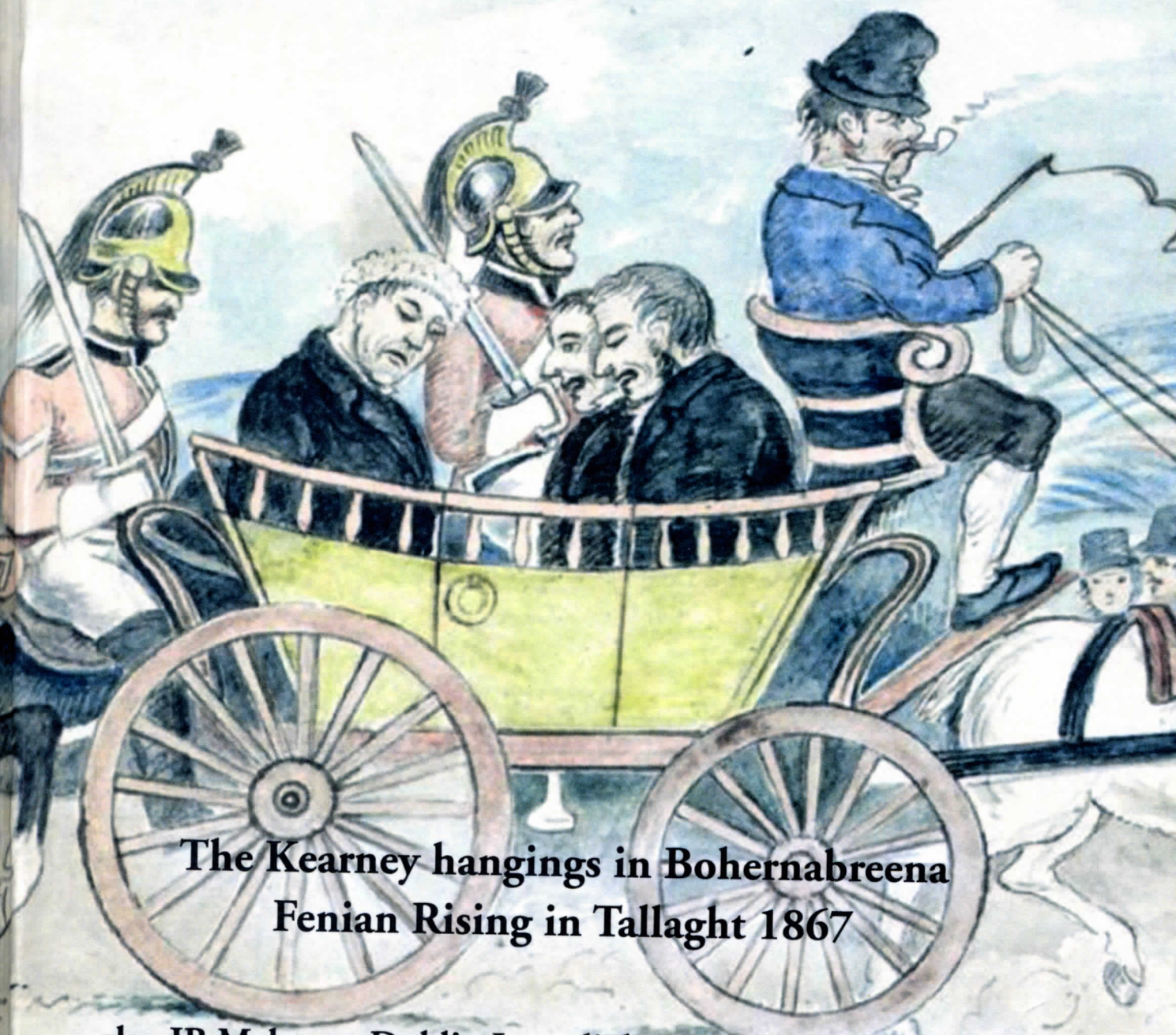


# DUBLIN HISTORICAL RECORD

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**The Kearney hangings in Bohernabreena  
Fenian Rising in Tallaght 1867**

**also JB Malone • Dublin Lamplighters • Martello Tower 7 •  
First Aerial Crossing of Irish Sea • 19th Century Balbriggan •  
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# Martello Tower No. 7 and the defence of Killiney Bay

Pól Ó Duibhir

Between 1793 and 1815 Britain was continuously at war with France. A possible invasion of Ireland was feared, one of the places considered a possible target being Killiney Bay.<sup>1</sup> It was a deep water bay and within easy reach of the capital.

## Background

Fears of invasion became more acute from 1795 on and led to the establishment of a military camp in Lehaunstown adjacent to the bay. The native population meanwhile had been getting restless and it was intended the camp have a dual function. It would protect the city in the event of increased rebel activity, or even rebellion, and it would defend the bay in the event of a French invasion.

The camp was quite large consisting of at maximum around 4,000 troops, many of whom were militia and therefore not necessarily completely reliable – a feature to which we will return later.<sup>2</sup>

By 1797 the authorities felt that a more professional approach to defending the bay was required and they commissioned an émigré French royalist, Major La Chaussée, to examine the terrain and make recommendations for its defence.

The major did a magnificent job analysing the bay from a military point of view and made very detailed recommendations on what needed to be done for its defence. The recommendations were acknowledged to be short term and implied that more permanent defences would be undertaken later.

It is not clear if any of the recommended works were actually carried out, but we will see later how his analysis fed into the location of the ultimate permanent defences, the Martello Towers and Batteries.



Killiney Bay looking south from Killiney Hill to Bray Head. This shows the coastal area in Killiney Bay covered by emplacements Nos. 1 to 9

## CHARLES LE COMTE DE LA CHAUSSÉE

### The man

Charles Le Comte de la Chaussée was born on 28 July 1753 into a noble French family.<sup>3</sup> At 16 years of age he entered the service of his King in La Grande Écurie (a school for the king's pages). It is worth noting that to enter the Écurie your family had to be a member of the French nobility for at least 200 years. On graduating from his three year apprenticeship in the Écurie in 1772 he was made a sub-lieutenant in the cavalry regiment of Berry and some five years later a full lieutenant in the Company of Malvin. There is no further reference to his military record until 1815 when he was made a Chevalier of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis. He retired from the army in 1816 with the rank of captain, awarded with retrospective effect to 1791.

He left France in 1793, when the going got too hot, and between then and 1815 he devoted his talents to helping the British fight the French post-Revolution administration. I have been told that, at that time, a sense of brotherhood existed between armies that, in certain circumstances, proved stronger than loyalty to the nation. In any event La Chaussée could remain loyal to his deposed King while serving the British.

On a more personal level, in 1787 he married Jeanne-Rufine-Françoise de Bourgogne<sup>4</sup> and in 1792 the couple had one son Charles-Léopold-Marie de la Chaussée.

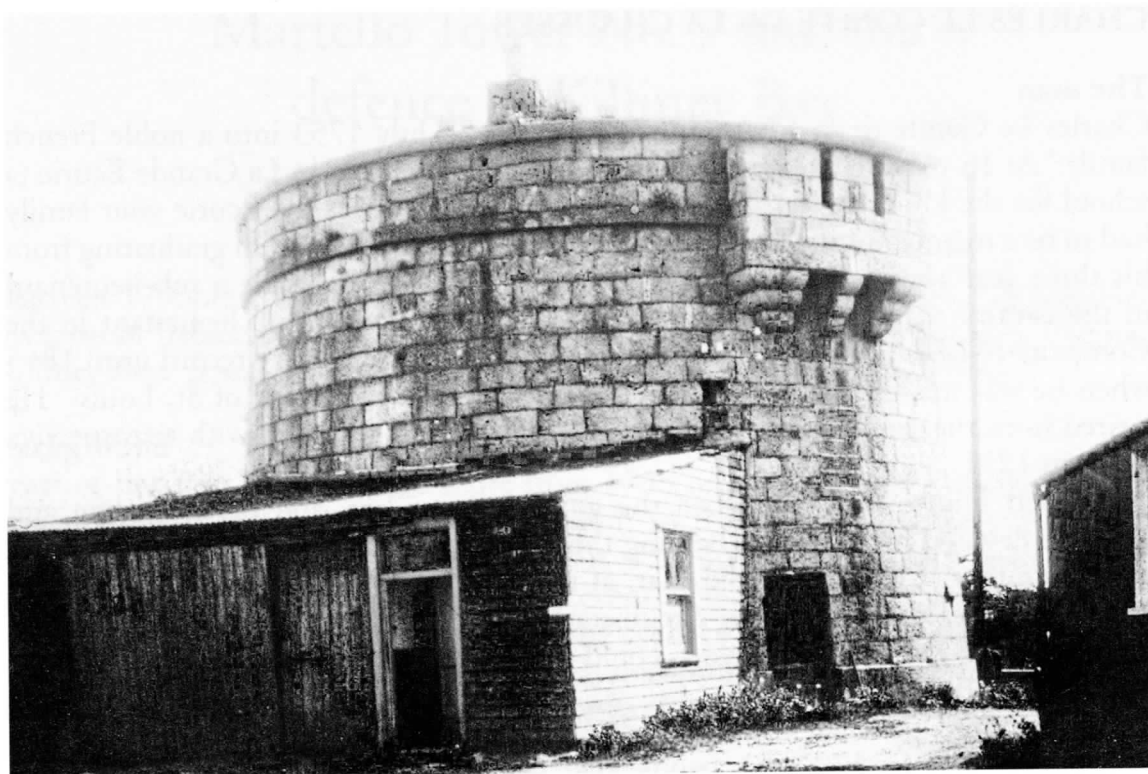
There appear to have been two distinct phases to his period in exile. He was certainly in Ireland in 1797 when he did his Killiney report and he did a similar survey in Bantry two months later.<sup>5</sup> Apart from his surveying activities in Ireland in 1797 he was later involved in channelling funds from the British government to French rebels (Les Chouans) in north-west France who were attempting to overthrow Napoleon. In fact La Chaussée was involved in the funding of a failed attempt on Napoleon's life which led to the execution of the perpetrators (Lebourgeois & Picot). So even though Napoleon never actually turned up here, the connection with Killiney is there through the failed assassination attempt.<sup>6</sup>

### The report

La Chaussée's 1797 report is an amazing document.<sup>7</sup> Although his orders were in the form of specific questions to be answered, he chose instead to do an overall report, analysing the vulnerability of the bay as a whole and then setting out the defensive measures required. The report reflects the analytical mind of the professional soldier – it is concise, perceptive and to the point. It is possible that La Chaussée's mastery of the English language was not great, at least as far as military terminology was concerned. Although his orders were in English, he chose to write the report in his native French.

As well as advising the fortification of some big houses, of which there were very few in the area at that period, La Chaussée suggested some revamping of the land at those points where the cliffs themselves did not provide an adequate defence. But the whole idea was to stop the French landing in the first place and to achieve this he picked three critical points in the bay where big guns would be installed. The three main emplacements would be close enough to each other to ensure some degree of overlapping fields of fire.

The first emplacement was at the estuary of the Dargle river, the second at Maghera point at the centre of the bay, and the third at the estuary of the Shanganagh river.<sup>8</sup> Subsidiary positions were located at Cork Abbey, Shanganagh and Killiney Hill.<sup>9</sup>



Tower Before Restoration 1 – viewed from north-west entrance

This is the oldest available photo of the tower which shows previous uses. It dates from around 1979. To be noted: (I) lean-to shed on left - this was the rates office and was also used by the local authority for storage, (II) wooden building on right was Legion of Mary hall, (III) second floor door under machicolation bricked up, and (IV) new door cut at 'ground' level.

The full set of positions took account of the need to fire on enemy troops should they succeed in landing.<sup>10</sup> The addition of the subsidiary positions also reinforced the seaward defences to some extent and enhanced overlapping fields of fire at the bay's most vulnerable points.<sup>11</sup> The availability of soldiers from the Lehaunstown camp was an integral part of La Chaussée's strategy.

### THE LEHAUNSTOWN CAMP - 1798 AND ALL THAT

The fear of a French invasion was justified when a fleet arrived at Bantry in 1796 but the troops did not succeed in landing due to bad weather. 1798 was a critical year in this story. In that year the French did actually land. But they turned up on the west coast and initially inflicted a serious defeat on the British before being eventually overpowered. This was the year of the actual rising during which the trustworthiness of the Lehaunstown camp was put in doubt.

It is known that the rebels had grandiose plans to subvert the camp to their own side and use the troops to take over the city. Central to that plan was Captain W Armstrong, who had been recruited to the United Irishmen and whose job it then was to line up a series of contacts within the camp who would organise the rest of the soldiers to come over to the rebels at the critical moment. Needless to say, in keeping with the total mess that was the 1798 Rebellion, Armstrong was a double agent and reported all his contacts with the United Irishmen to the authorities. He was later to give evidence against the Sheares brothers in their trial, detailing how they sought to subvert the camp.

All this much is known and set out in Pakenham's *The Year of the French*.<sup>12</sup> But there are some elements of the story which were not known to Pakenham and which



3. Tower Before Restoration 2 – viewed from the south-east/battery plain

This is the tower and the linked guardroom just before restoration commenced. Note the absence of the guardroom roof and the overgrown nature of the site generally. Note also the inverted V shape on the far wall of the guardhouse. This, along with a curved piece of wood discovered during the excavation, provided the clues to the original method of suspending the guardhouse roof. Note also what appears to be a door in the near outer wall. This was a musket loop (like the one immediately on the left) which was converted to a window by the local council, along with another loop (obscured) on the right.

I learned from reading Armstrong's own diary.<sup>13</sup> For instance, Pakenham says that Armstrong was recruited in Byrne's bookshop on the quays without any attention being paid to his political views and without these having been tested. Armstrong's diaries show that he was only taken on after some extended political discussions and even then he was subsequently put through a fairly scary test of his loyalty.

This occurred when he was invited to a meeting with the Sheares brothers in a house in the city on 14 May 1798. The meeting was unexpected and there was no obvious agenda. It is worth reading his diary entry to get the full flavour of what happened (punctuation as in the original).

Monday 14th—[John Sheares] said some of our friends suspect that you are betraying us; I replied, I am surprised the idea could have entered their heads; well says he I am sure that you are true to our cause but some of our friends are so convinced of the contrary that I advise you not to come to our house this night for if you do I think you will be murdered. You know it would be very easy to do and bury your body at the back of our house, and nobody would ever think of looking there for you. I replied that so conscious was I of my own innocence that I would go to the meeting, we then parted, I went instantly to Lord Castlereagh and mentioned it to him, he said I don't know what to say Captain Armstrong, we could not ask you to run such a risk, I replied, my Lord, I will go on with the business I have begun but I shall stay as short a time as I can; and do you cause the house to be surrounded by troops and if I am not out at half past twelve all will be over with me, I left him and went to their house according to appointment, when I arrived I was shown into the back dining room, there was



a pair of candles on the sideboard and no other lights in the room, the end of sideboard was to the door, and at the further end of the room were five gentlemen sitting near the fireplace, I advanced, they rose and I walked over (more alarmed than I had ever been in my life, and in great agitation) and was presented by John Sheares to three of them, the other two were Henry and John Sheares, but their names nor mine were not distinctly pronounced, I took a vacant chair, and for some time a sort of conversation was held between each of his neighbour under their breath, a word of which could only now and then be understood. John Sheares who was next to me conversed more distinctly. Nothing of importance took place, I often looked at my watch, and at half past eleven I took leave and upon coming into the street I saw troops and constables and Major Sirr, I did not join him least it would create suspicion, and walked home. I am now of the opinion it was only an invention to try me, and that had I not gone I should not have been trusted any more.<sup>14</sup>

But the authorities did get a fright. They were no longer prepared to support the camp after the events of 1798 and it was closed in 1799. The Bay's defences were thus, at least theoretically, weakened until the construction of permanent defences in 1804/5 in the form of the Martello Towers and Batteries. However in this intervening period the French were looking eastward and the British navy was more or less in control of the seas.

### THE MARTELLO TOWERS AND BATTERIES

It was not until 1804/5 that the British got round to constructing the series of Martello Towers and Batteries designed to protect Dublin Bay, and a few other locations such as Cork and the Shannon, from the French.

There were some 28 emplacements built in defence of Dublin Bay, from Balbriggan to Bray. Of these 9 were involved in the defence of Killiney Bay alone.<sup>15</sup>



Tower during restoration – viewed from Killiney Hill Road  
As part of the extensive renovations the tower had to be repointed and some elements replaced. The perimeter wall at the public roadway had to be repaired and the entrance moved. The scaffolding, shown here, was in place for 9 weeks.

Amazingly, these super solid structures were constructed in about 18 months, using local materials and labour.

### Col Benjamin Fisher

The man behind this amazing feat was Col. Benjamin Fisher. He had come to Dublin in 1801 from Jersey where he had been in charge of the Royal Engineers in constructing similar towers. Before that he had served in Canada and the West Indies. As well as being a soldier he was an artist and we have some of his paintings from Canada<sup>16</sup> and one from Jersey<sup>17</sup> though I have not seen any from his Irish stay. He was a member of the RDS from 1801 to 1815 having been proposed for membership by General Charles Vallancey.

In locating the emplacements in Killiney Bay Fisher followed La Chaussée's analysis and recommendations. He had, however, either given the matter further thought or had more resources at his disposal as he increased La Chaussée's six emplacements to nine.

Of the three additional emplacements, two strengthened the defences of the two most vulnerable points where the cliffs were either absent or very low: No.8 was a battery at the junction of what are now the the Station and Strathmore Roads at the foot of Killiney Hill and No.1 covered the seafront at Bray. The third addition was a Tower and Battery on Dalkey Island. This both reinforced the defence of the Bay and also provided continuity with the more northern emplacements in Dublin Bay, which had not been part of La Chaussée's brief.

Fisher was very much his own man and he did not take well to being hassled by bureaucratic superiors while he was on the job. This covering note speaks volumes:

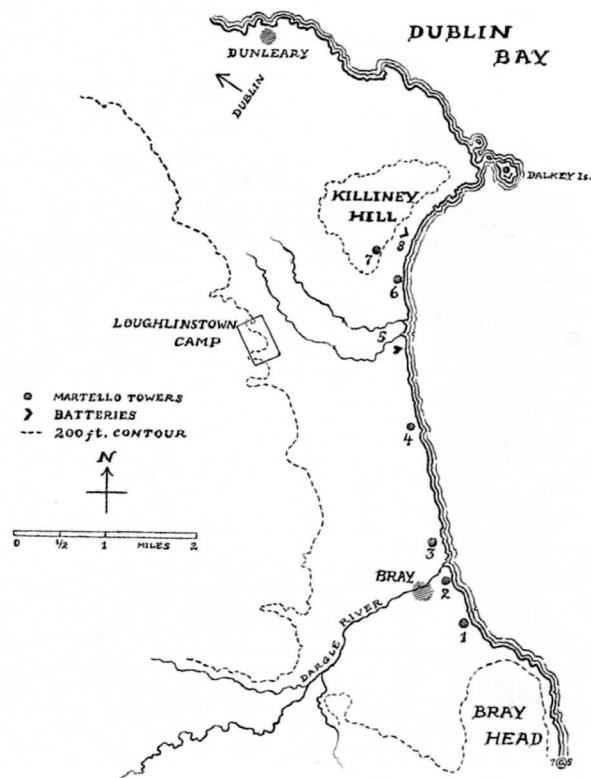
These papers should have been earlier transmitted, but from the constant pressure of business, and the want of regular assistance, it was not practicable.<sup>18</sup>

If that's not telling your boss to get lost I don't know what is.

Fisher seems to have been subject to depression at least that is what you might deduce from the fact that, following his retirement to Portsmouth around 1812, he is reported to have died by his own hand in a water closet in 1814. A sad end for a man with such a distinguished career.

Anyway, back to the towers. The French never came to Killiney and after 1815, they were clearly redundant. The question remains, whether they served any purpose. All we can assume is that the French were aware of them as their construction was in what we would now call the public domain.<sup>19</sup>

Nevertheless they had a brief revival during the Crimean War when they were re-armed. This presumably reflected a fear that the



KILLINEY BAY, 1793-1815

The positions of the Martello Towers and Batteries are marked from 1 (Bray) to 9 (Dalkey Island). La Chaussée's primary positions were at 2, 4 and 6, and his subsidiaries at 3, 5 and 7. The map is based on an original by Professor Hayes-McCoy in turn based on Ordnance Survey by permission of the Government (Permit No. 2405)

Russians were coming. That might seem a bit crazy to us but we should remember that 30,000 Irish soldiers took part in that war,<sup>20</sup> that Ireland was part of the UK and would not be immune from attack depending on how the war went .

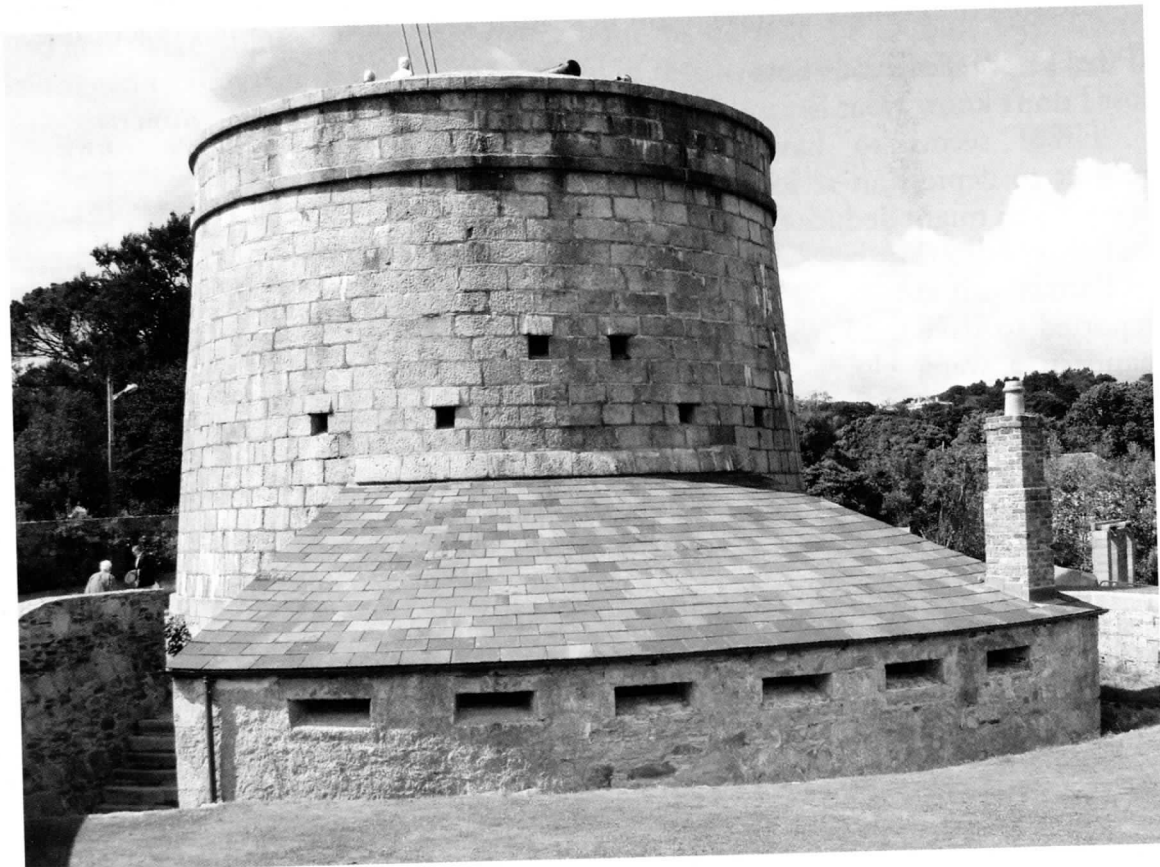
### THE FATE OF THE KILLINEY TOWERS

After this, the towers were truly redundant but the military didn't start disposing of them until some years later. It was not until the end of the nineteenth century that they set about it in a systematic way.

The township<sup>21</sup> of Killiney and Ballybrack, which also included Loughlinstown, was established in 1866 and by 1891 a substantial town hall had been built on Killiney Avenue. As with most bureaucracies its needs expanded and in 1897 it leased the site at Tower No.7, which was just around the corner from the town hall, from the military.

In advertising it for sale, the military had included this observation in the prospectus: 'The site is a most desirable building plot in what is at present a fashionable resort.'<sup>22</sup>

It should be remembered that, quite apart from its beach as a destination for day-trippers, from the mid-nineteenth century, with the arrival of the train, Killiney had become a fashionable residential area. A city commute was now a reality and many important people took up residence in the area and commuted to town, taking a horse and carriage to the station and the train thereafter. We are inclined to think that most things in our own modern age are better than in the relatively primitive past, but the age of steam was no joke and it was as quick then to travel to town by train as it is today.



Tower after restoration - viewed from the south-east/battery plain  
The final product, taken from the battery firing area. The restored guardroom is to the front of the tower.  
Note the curve of the roof. Note also the restored musket loops



The Killiney and Ballybrack UDC eventually bought the tower site in 1909 and, to their shame, and that of their successor, the local authority, they spent the following century making an unholy mess of the place.

Not that some of the other towers have fared any better. By the end of the nineteenth century there were only four emplacements left in the Bay to be disposed of by the military, though there were many more in the wider Dublin Bay and up as far as Balbriggan.<sup>23</sup>

The single most important factor that did for some of the original emplacements in Killiney Bay was the erosion of the cliffs that many of them were built on. This was true of Towers Nos. 3, 4 and Battery No. 5, the last one of these being unusable as early as 1812.

The No.8 Battery was demolished with the coming of the railway in 1854 and some of its granite is still visible in the underpass which the railway company was obliged to construct to retain public access to the beach.

No.1 was demolished when the Bray esplanade was built, but No.2 behind Bray railway station is still there and was lived in by Bono of *U2* at one stage.

No.6 on Killiney Beach close to the estuary of the Shanganagh River became a private residence and was lived in during my time in the area (1954-75). Around 1970 it was acquired by Victor Enoch, a prominent member of Dublin's Jewish community and a Martello Tower aficionado. However two out of place storeys were added to the tower which significantly reduced its value in terms of heritage.

To complete the picture for Killiney Bay, No.9 emplacement, the Tower and Battery on Dalkey Island, has been left to rack and ruin over the years but the Dún Laoghaire and Rathdown Council have plans to restore it and this, it is hoped, will eventually be part of a wider tourist attraction in the form of a Martello trail around Dublin Bay.

### **MARTELLO TOWER NO.7**

Around 1970 the Dún Laoghaire Borough Council was exploring possible future heritage uses of the site, and among those mooted were a maritime or military museum or even just a platform for viewing the bay. It is probably as well that these possibilities were not further pursued at the time as they would likely have involved the demolition of the 'slated ruined lean-to on the seaside'. This referred to the artillery room which was in fact in a totally dilapidated and roofless state when the council eventually parted with the property. But its total demolition would have obliterated what turned out to be vital evidence on the method of suspension of the slated roof.<sup>24</sup>

The site at No.7 remained in the possession of the Killiney & Ballybrack UDC and its successor, Dún Laoghaire Borough, until 1987 when it was put up for sale. The consequences of its having been used as a dump over the previous century were beginning to intrude on its neighbours and by 1985 their complaints had surfaced at the level of national as well as local politics. Seán Barrett TD was both the local representative in the Dáil and also Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach. He was persuaded to lean on the council to have the place sorted.<sup>25</sup> The council's eventual response was to pass the buck and put it up for sale.

To be entirely fair to the council, the site had not been exclusively a dump over the previous century. The local rates office was located in a lean-to at the tower and in 1939 the local branch of the Legion of Mary got permission to build a wooden hall which hosted their meetings and occasional dances. The hall burned down around 1981. The existing gunner's cottage had also become the residence of the council lamplighter and had it not been for the storing of the council's unique

horse-drawn vacuum tanker in the shed beside the rates office, this wonderful piece of equipment, accidentally rediscovered in 1977, would have been lost forever. It is now in the National Transport Museum in Howth.<sup>26</sup>

One particular use of the site has been kept very quiet until now. This happened in 1954 when the tower was used to store one thousand pounds of gelignite and detonators. These were to be used in a major sewerage works being undertaken by the borough. The neighbours were not consulted and were unaware of this, though the agreement of the occupants of the site was sought and received.<sup>27</sup>

In any event the council decided to pass the buck and in 1987 the site was sold to a private individual. It appears that, from a heritage point of view, the only condition attaching to the sale was that the purchaser would maintain the site and not let it deteriorate beyond its then current condition. A more deteriorated condition would have been hard to envisage.

### **The state of the site in 1987**

It is important to remember that the site as sold by the borough was very different from that which had been occupied by the military during most of the nineteenth century.

- All the metal elements (in particular the cannons) had been removed when the tower became obsolete (by the last quarter of the nineteenth century). So far, only the cannon on the crown of the tower has been replaced. The new cannon was freshly cast in England but from a mould created from a cannon of the period. Needless to say the Irish Department of Justice got a right fright when they realised that the requested arms import permit was for a full size (newly cast) working cannon from the Napoleonic era.
- The artillery room had been destroyed and all that remained were the exterior walls. This was an important loss in the context of the restoration as the original plans were not available and the room had some unique architectural features which could only be established by a careful examination of frugal pieces of remaining evidence and photographs from as late as the 1960s.
- The coach house was reduced to its bare walls,
- The gunner's cottage and magazine store had been completely demolished.
- The site was carrying up to nearly five thousand tons of rubbish.
- The original entrance door to the tower at first floor level had been closed up and a new entrance made at ground level in the course of the modifications required for the storage of the explosives, referred to above.
- Two of the musket loops (relatively small slits) in the outer wall of the artillery room were converted into full size windows. I mention these particularly because when the present owner wanted to restore the windows to their original function as musket loops, he encountered opposition on the grounds that the windows had now become part of the heritage and could not be interfered with. He eventually won out on that one. It's a wonder they allowed him to remove the century's accumulated rubbish which would have had an almost equal claim to heritage status!

### **RESTORATION OF TOWER NO.7**

The new owner did nothing with the site and ten years later, Niall O'Donoghue acquired it. It was not long before Niall, who has a keen sense of history, started researching the possibility of its restoration. Given the state of the place you can



Cannon and carriage on the restored crown facing east - still awaiting the arrival of the French!

appreciate that restoration would be a Herculean task which would demand all of Niall's sense of purpose. However, had he realised the enormity of what lay ahead of him we might not have the magnificently restored site we have today.

Every effort was made to ensure that the restoration would be as true as possible to the site as it was in the Napoleonic era.

### Plans

All of this work was accomplished without any access to the original construction plans. These appear to have vanished but such must have existed as the complex construction of the towers could not have been achieved without them. This meant, however, that in drawing up plans for the restoration of the site regard had to be had to similar structures elsewhere, where such existed, and to such evidence as emerged during the initial clearing of the site.

A good example of this was the restoration of the slate roof over the artillery room. The architectural consensus was that pillars would be needed in the centre of the room to support the roof. This would have been most unsatisfactory and an impediment to moving equipment within and through it. Luckily Niall spotted a clue to the original suspension method on the inside of the remaining wall and this was further refined on the basis of a piece of curved wood found in the remains.

In brief, the physical onsite work included:

- clearing the accumulated rubbish, referred to earlier. It took 230 twenty-ton truckloads of rubbish, each truckload costing €1,600 as the rubbish had to be sorted by hand due to the 'heritage' nature of the site
- renovation and repair of the tower which was in a very dilapidated condition. This included necessary repointing and replacement of some missing pieces. The original door had to be restored and the new door blocked up. A completely



new internal ceiling/floor had to be installed where the original had burned down.

- the coachhouse had to be almost completely restored. Only the walls remained.
- The gunner's cottage had to be built from scratch. It had been completely demolished. Only the footprint remained and the original had to be built on this in its original style
- a new entrance to the site had to be constructed
- the boundary wall had to be determined and reconstructed
- the 18 pounder cannon (specially cast and proofed in England) had to be imported and installed on the crown of the tower.<sup>28</sup>
- the gun carriage (specially made in England) also had to be imported and installed on the crown.

### People

In all, Niall O'Donoghue estimates that some 250 people were involved in the restoration.

Some idea of those involved can be got from the following listing of functions and activities:

- an architect and Martello Tower expert scoping and advising on the project;
- a retired international bank auditor and his wife undertaking extensive research in the UK National Archives and other UK archives;<sup>29</sup>
- a UK cannon specialist organising the provision of the cannon and carriage;
- a professional gun company undertaking project management in the cannon module, involving procurement of draughting, foundry and proofing facilities;
- specialists in armaments and fittings for listed fortifications making the cannon's traversing carriage;
- the Royal Armouries, permitting copying of a King George III Blomfield cannon & allowing the proofing of the cannon there as well;
- the Birmingham Proof Master, proofing the cannon;
- a professional gunner providing training in gunnery and authorising Niall's gunnery certificate.

There were also inputs in the following categories: archaeologists, architects, rubbish/material removal experts, stonemasons, sculptor, carpenters, electricians, officials in the government of Department of Justice, the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, and the Garda Síochána.

### Materials

Materials as near as possible to the originals were used where they could be procured. Some examples:

- gravel from Kilmore Quay in Wexford, as being the nearest thing to the original available.
- molder brads (nails) were obtained from Scotland
- blocks and tackles matching the original design were procured
- hemp rope was used to replicate the original for the block and tackle.
- flooring and joist supports came from old pitch pine beams from a brewery and were cut down to match the originals.
- an original magazine door (which is currently a display item and has not yet been restored).<sup>30</sup>

In all of this work, great attention was paid to detail. For example, the stonework was completed by qualified stone masons using Irish granite on site for wall building

with recommended lime mortar. The tooling of replacement external granite stonework to match the original granite curved and battered walling was completed successfully by the noted Irish sculptor Pádraic MacGowran and the battery walls and the arch to the gunner's cottage were completed by a professional conservation and restoration company.

### **Inauguration (2008)**

By 2008 sufficient work had been accomplished to permit the inauguration of the Tower and cannon, though there was still much potential work to be completed, such as the restoration of the magazine store and the arming of the artillery plain with three twenty-four pound cannon.

## **EPILOGUE**

### **Europa Nostra**

In the course of a visit to the tower, Colonel Bill Clements suggested that the project might be appropriately entered for the Europa Nostra heritage competition. This is a prestigious annual competition backed by the European Union. The fact that the work was not fully completed allowed Niall to enter it for the 2014 Heritage Awards. While not winning one of the major prizes, the project merited a special mention from the jury which is considered it a major achievement.<sup>31</sup>

### **Events**

There have been a number of events at the Tower since its restoration. The cannon has been fired on a number of occasions including one spectacular firing in the dark welcoming in the new year of 2013. It is probably the only Martello cannon in these islands ever to have fired on a French frigate though this was not in anger.<sup>32</sup> There have been three Joycean readings/talks on Bloomsday, in 2012 and 2014 by the late David Hedigan and in 2017 by Felix M Larkin. There has been one wedding, so far, at the Tower and a number of gigs

### **Visitors**

There have been many visitors since the restoration. In terms of numbers, most would have been during Heritage Week, but there have also been visits by groups, including the Fortress Study Group, the Scouts and the Defence Forces Archive. Individual distinguished visitors have included Enda Kenny, Colonel Bill Clements, both Bruce Davis and Ruth Adler, when they were the Australian Ambassador, Eoghan Keegan when he was Dún Laoghaire and Rathdown County Manager, and Philippe Milloux, Director of the Alliance Française in Dublin on his first expedition following his being knighted by the French Government on the previous evening.

### **Interpretive centre**

In addition to the purely restorative aspect of the site, a new structure is well on its way to completion. Its design fully respects the integrity of the site and, when completed, it is intended to house, inter alia, an interpretive centre where artifacts and visual material can be displayed, and a functions room for talks and seminars and the like. Hopefully this will contribute to deepening the public's appreciation of the site and its history.

The Tower already has a dedicated website<sup>33</sup> and a presence on Facebook<sup>34</sup> and Twitter<sup>35</sup>.

So, all being well, the Tower may have as significant a future as it had a past.

## Endnotes

1. 'The Defence of Dublin', Kevin Murray, *Irish Sword*, Vol. II p 332-3.
2. I have dealt in further detail with the camp in my essay 'The French are on the sea ... A Military History of Killiney Bay from 1793 to 1815' in *Irish Sword*, Vol. XII, No. 46, Summer 1975, p 55. An online version of that article can be found here <http://photopol.com/articles/french.doc> accessed date. 30/7/2017.
3. P. Louis Lainé, *Archives Généalogiques et Historiques de la Noblesse de France* Vol. IV Paris 1834 under De La Chaussée p10 also online at <https://books.google.ie/books?id=iFcoAAAAYAAJ&pg=PR63> (XIV at bottom of page) accessed date 30/7/2017.
4. She was a 14<sup>th</sup> generation descendant of Jean le bon, King of France 1350-64. [http://dynastie.capetienne.free.fr/05Gaston\\_Sirjean/10La\\_2eme\\_maison\\_de\\_Bourgogne/Generations/13eme\\_generation/13006\\_12009.html](http://dynastie.capetienne.free.fr/05Gaston_Sirjean/10La_2eme_maison_de_Bourgogne/Generations/13eme_generation/13006_12009.html) accessed date 30/7/2017.
5. Reports and Plans of Major, Le Comte De La Chaussée, Bandon 31 March 1797 National Library of Ireland Ms. 809.
6. Victor Maingarnauld, *Campagnes de Napoléon*, Vol 2 Paris 1827 p. 417 <https://books.google.ie/books?id=8kdjAAAACAAJ&pg=PA417> accessed date 30/7/2017.
7. Reconnoisse Militaire de la Baye de Killeeney 11 Février 1797 by Major La Chaussée (B.M., Add. MSS 35, 919). As well as the copy in the British Museum (now the British Library) which I worked from, there is also a microfilm copy in the National Library of Ireland (NLI n.915 p.990). The report can be read in its original French, in manuscript at [http://photopol.com/la\\_chaussee\\_rec/la\\_chaussee\\_ms.pdf](http://photopol.com/la_chaussee_rec/la_chaussee_ms.pdf), in typescript at [http://photopol.com/la\\_chaussee\\_rec/la\\_chaussee\\_type.pdf](http://photopol.com/la_chaussee_rec/la_chaussee_type.pdf), and in my English translation at [http://photopol.com/la\\_chaussee\\_rec/la\\_chaussee\\_trans.pdf](http://photopol.com/la_chaussee_rec/la_chaussee_trans.pdf) (accessed all date 30/7/2017).
8. These points correspond with the later Martello Tower positions Nos. 2, 4 & 6.
9. These points correspond with the later Martello Tower/Battery positions Nos. 3, 5 & 7.
10. It is interesting that Joyce claims that the battery at No. 5 position was in the wrong place as the cliffs rose in front of it on the seaward side. (Weston St. John Joyce, *The Neighbourhood of Dublin*, Dublin 1939, p. 62). It did turn out to have been in the wrong place but not for that reason. It was there primarily to fire on troops who might succeed in coming ashore at the Shanganagh estuary, but it was too close to the cliff edge and erosion made it unusable as early as 1812.
11. In the early stages of the research, in the 1970s, only La Chaussée's written report was available but some 30 years later his maps were found and these can be seen online. His general map, including inland features: [http://photopol.com/dca4/la\\_chaussee\\_map.jpg](http://photopol.com/dca4/la_chaussee_map.jpg) and the purely coastal map, including fields of fire [http://photopol.com/dca4/lc\\_map2.jpg](http://photopol.com/dca4/lc_map2.jpg) accessed both date 30/7/2017.
12. Thomas Pakenham, *The Year of Liberty* London, (1969), pp 81, 90, 95.
13. T.C.D., MS 6409/10 (pencilled pagination pp 55-64). I have reproduced relevant extracts from the diary along with my own comments in a note on Captain John Warneford Armstrong and the Sheares Brothers in *Irish Sword*, Vol XIII, No. 50, Summer 1977, p 70 which is also available online at [http://photopol.com/articles/sheares\\_notes.doc](http://photopol.com/articles/sheares_notes.doc) accessed date 30/7/2017.
14. This extract is published by kind permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin.
15. Two of these consisted of stand-alone Batteries without a Martello Tower, Nos, 5 & 8.
16. Although dating from the period 1785-96 they were only recently (2003) discovered in a cellar in Balliol College Oxford. <https://www.bonhams.com/auctions/10486/lot/149> accessed date 30/7/2017.
17. Mont Orgueil Castle, headquarters of Philippe d'Auvergne who managed the British Government's spy network in north-west France from Jersey. [http://www.atelierlimited.com/art\\_detail.php?id=AT711](http://www.atelierlimited.com/art_detail.php?id=AT711) accessed date 30/7/2017.
18. From the Engineer's Office, 28 July 1804 (effectively Fisher to his superiors), UK National Archives, W0 55/962 261613.
19. General Vallancey had been one of those who questioned French officers captured after the ill-fated Bantry landing; during which questioning he learned that Bantry, despite its isolated position, had been chosen in preference to Cork which the French knew to be well defended. Monica Nevin, *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, Vol 125 (1995). pp. 5-9 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/25549787> accessed date 22/05/2014. So it is not impossible that similar considerations regarding the towers might have had at least a marginal effect six years later in deterring a French invasion.



20. David Murphy in *History Ireland*, Vol 11 Issue 1. Also available online at <http://www.historyireland.com/18th-19th-century-history/ireland-and-the-crimean-war-1854-6/> accessed date 30/7/2017.
21. This later became an Urban District Council (UDC) under the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898.
22. Source is military typescript document reporting on the letting and unsuccessful attempted sale of the site in 1890.
23. The four in Killiney Bay were Nos. 2, 6, 7 and 9.
24. Report to the Council's Senior Architect dated 28/5/1970.
25. Letter from Seán Barrett TD & Minister of State to the Council's Housing Department 31/1/1985.
26. <http://nationaltransportmuseum.org/ubv005.html> accessed date 30/7/2017.
27. The lamplighter and the Legion of Mary.
28. The story of the search for a cannon and the eventual bespoke casting and proofing are a story for another day.
29. Doug and Sylvia Rogers. They deserve special mention as they were the backbone of the extensive, and very productive, research in Kew (UK National Archives).
30. This is the actual door illustrated in Victor Enoch's booklet on Martello Towers. Victor J Enoch, *Martello Towers of Ireland*, 1975, self-published.
31. There is a page on the Tower's website devoted to this. <http://photopol.com/europa/index.html> (accessed date 30/7/2017) and you can read the entry document online. This contains further background and detailed information on the project.
32. [http://photopol.com/martello/no7\\_5.html](http://photopol.com/martello/no7_5.html) accessed date 30/7/2017.
33. <http://photopol.com/martello/no7.html> accessed date 30/7/2017.
34. <http://www.facebook.com/martellotower> accessed date 30/7/2017.
35. <http://www.twitter.com/martellotower7> accessed date 30/7/2017.

## LOST DUBLIN



Uniformed youngsters Jury's Hotel,  
Dame St. 1947

(Photo: internet public domain)