

Submissions by Honor O'Brolcháin on behalf of the Relatives of the Signatories to the 1916 Proclamation

Attached is a report on 18 Moore St, Dublin 1.

Also submitted were:

Draft Report on 14-17 Moore St, Dublin 1.

Moore Street Advisory Committee Report

Battlefield 1916 – The Freedom Trail

Report on 18 Moore Street by Garland Consulting Engineers

Report on meeting with Minister Deenihan – June 2012

Letter to Michael Noonan, Minister for Finance – October 2011

For copies of any of the above please email: mscg@ahg.gov.ie

REPORT on
18 MOORE STREET, DUBLIN 1
On behalf of
THE RELATIVES OF THE SIGNATORIES
TO THE 1916 PROCLAMATION



Date: March 2014

ISSUE – REV. (A)

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0.1 INTRODUCTION:

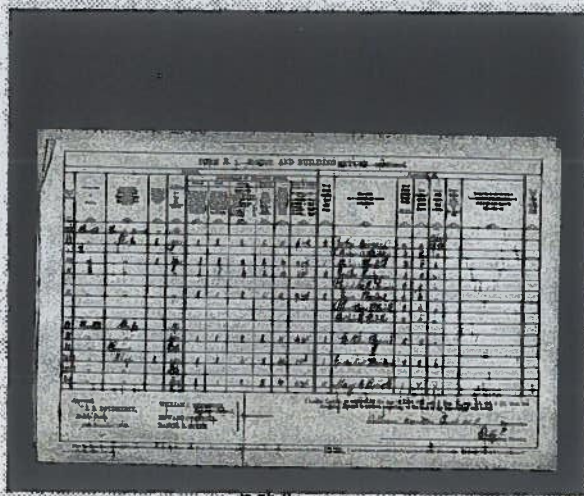
On Monday the 17th of February 2014 an inspection was carried out at 18 Moore Street, Dublin 1. The reason for the inspection was to try to establish the age of the building and any distinguished features remaining.

This report is based on a visual inspection, an external and internal survey of no 18 Moore Street, with limited access. Access was limited to the internal rooms at first floor, the attic space and inspection of the front elevation.

The building is mid-terrace and extends to Moore Lane. The current tenant is 'Paris Bakery' and the building on ground floor has been extended over the years to create an open plan restaurant with no structural features visible.

The significance of this site relates to the adjoining National Monument 14, 15, 16 & 17 Moore Street. Records have shown that houses 1-7 on Moore Street were either completely or partially destroyed in 1916, the terrace comprising of houses 10 – 25 Moore Street was largely undamaged apart from the internal tunneling works by the rebels, and bullet damage to the elevations from the British army barricade at the Parnell Street end of Moore Street.

Records show that in 1911 no. 18 Moore Street was a single domestic dwelling over a fishmonger/poultry shop on ground floor, occupied by Ms. Ellen Byrne (widower) and her 8 sons and daughters. The building is recorded as having 6no. windows in the front elevation and 5 or 6 internal rooms. This would confirm the fact that the original building would have been 3 floors over basement, which would have matched the height of all buildings in the terrace.



1911 Census

no.18 Moore Street



Moore St. c.1930

Damage to no.18

Photo 02.

The point at which the height of the building was reduced can be established as happening sometime between 1930 and 1950. Photographic evidence from a picture taken in 1930 shows damage and a collapsed wall at second floor level to no. 18 Moore Street.

The extent of this damage eventually led to partially demolishing the front elevation, and roof, and reducing the building height of the building to two stories over basement. An early 1950's photograph of Moore Street clearly shows the buildings as they are today, i.e. 2 stories over basement.

Moore St. c.1952

No.18 & 19



Photo 03 – Moore Street circa. 1950

0.2 FRONT ELEVATION:

The front elevation of no.18 has clearly been reduced in height. The elevation consists of machine-made brick with a lime based mortar. There are granite cills and granite parapet capping stones. There are no hopper heads, or rain water pipes to this elevation.



Photo. 03 – Brick detail to front elevation.

The brick soldier courses over the windows, and the pointing match with the design of the buildings comprising the National Monument and would have been typical of the construction circa. mid-late 19th century. There is some impact damage on the brickwork, possible bullet strikes, the cause of which should be investigated. Otherwise the bricks are in reasonable condition.

None of the windows or the shop front are original.



Photo 04 – Impact damage (possible bullet strikes) to bricks



Photo 05 – View of chimney

0.3 ROOF

The roof over the original house at no. 18 is curved, comprising of 'Belfast' or 'Bowstring' trusses, where the top member of the truss is curved and formed by sandwiching together timbers and then bent under stress. The 'Belfast' truss was introduced circa 1860 to meet the demand for efficient wide span industrial buildings, although not commonly used until the early 1900's. The reason for this type of truss and roof in this situation would be light weight retro-fit with a very low profile, which would have suited this building once the top floor was removed.

The trusses are boarded and a torch on felt lining has been fitted externally, which covers the roof and its original roof light, etc. A more detailed inspection/survey of the roof should be undertaken.



Photo 06 – External view of roof



Photo 07 – Internal view of curved truss.



Photo 08 – External rear view of roof.

0.4 CONCLUSIONS

On inspection there was no evidence of a basement which would have been typical to a building of this age. Presumably the basement access has been blocked. A notable feature visible on ground floor level is a front (Moore Street wall) corner chimney. The chimney on the front elevation is an unusual feature for this type of building. In my opinion, the chimney was located here when the building was refurbished. The reason for its location and indeed the design of the roof was presumably to maximize the floor area of the building. Alternatively, the chimney may have been in use to smoke fish for the retail element, this fact needs to be established by investigating the basement.

It can be noted that the builder refurbishing the chimney used the original salvaged brick to form the chimney, and stock brick below the parapet where the brick cannot be seen.

The face of the inner walls on first floor are concrete, which would point to a liner wall constructed up to the original structure. There are no original features such as cornice, doors, stairs, etc. remaining internally. Although a thorough investigation of the flooring and joisting is required.

We would be of the opinion that the buildings original footprint has been maintained, although extended into the yard area over the years, the original floor joists may be in place, and the front elevation is original. The roof, though difficult to date with certainty at this juncture, is a very unusual feature worthy of preservation in its own right, it would be of some architectural merit, and in our opinion should be restored.

On basis of the inspection, we would strongly advise that the following aspects of the structure should be tested and examined in detail in order to ascertain an approximate age;

1. The brickwork on the front elevation should be tested and examined.
2. The front elevation should be opened locally to examine the build-up of the walls.
3. The party wall at first floor level between no. 18 and no. 19 should be opened up and examined.
4. The rear wall at first floor level should be opened up and examined.
5. Investigations should take place to see if a basement is present.
6. The roof and chimney should be investigated further.

We would advise that the building should be fully surveyed and recorded in detail. Opening up works should take place to ascertain the construction of the structural elements, and a historical narrative compiled, which in our opinion, will show the main fabric of the building is pre-1916.

We understand that Chartered Land seek Ministerial Consent for the demolition of this building on the ground that it is post 1916 structure. This opinion is based on an on-street inspection only since no building in the terrace with the exception of no.'s 14 – 17 Moore Street have been internally inspected or assessed according to the content of the Chartered Land EIS.

Report Compiled by Austin Broderick on behalf of The Relatives of the Signatories to the 1916 Proclamation.

APPENDIX A

REPORT BY MR. FRED HOSFORD

City and Guilds of London Institute -- Advanced Craft Certificate in Brickwork Technology & Practice

Master Member Guild of Bricklayers

**Former Expert / Examiner for Ireland at International Youth Skills Olympics,
Retired Senior Lecturer in Brickwork Technology at Bolton Street College of Technology
Bolton Street Dublin 1**

Member of Lecturing Staff of the College from 1962 to 2004

Report on Number 18 Moore Street, Dublin 1.

Following inspection of the facades of buildings number 10 (corner of Henry Lane) and numbers 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 Moore Street I am satisfied that all the above were constructed prior to 1916.

All buildings were originally built as three storey over basement structures.

The facing bricks used were of a consistent colour and texture throughout i.e. smooth faced clay bricks, russet or red in colour probably sourced from local brickworks in the Dublin area.

The arrangement or patterns of bonding of the bricks varied from "Flemish Bond" on street numbers 10, 14, 15 & 16. "English Garden Wall Bond" is used on street numbers 17 & 18.

Mortar Joints

The finish and thickness of the horizontal and vertical joints between the bricks are consistent throughout all the facades.

Window Sills

Sills on all existing buildings are of granite like material and each one is similar in size and texture.

Cappings/Coping Stones used on the parapet walls at roof level on number 18 are all consistent in size and texture to those on the other buildings. Each stone measuring 1.2 metres long x 100 mm deep approximately.

However, at some point in time the top floor of number 18 was demolished (reasons unknown) down to the level of the top of the brick arches spanning the window openings on the first floor.

This wall was subsequently rebuilt to a height of approximately 1.200 metres above the arches. It was rebuilt using smooth faced clay bricks and finished off at parapet wall level with coping stones similar in size and texture to those on the original buildings. It could be argued that the stones were the originals on the building.

However, the bricks used in this new section are of contrasting colour to the type used in the original structure at and below window level. Also, the texture and size of the horizontal and vertical mortar joints are at variance with the original brick work joints.

In Conclusion:

In view of the identical patterns of brick arrangements used in the construction of the facades of numbers 17 & 18 (English Garden Wall Bond) and similar type brick window arches (Camber/Square brick arches) which are used in both buildings, this leads me to believe that both were designed by the same architect and built simultaneously.

My area of expertise in brickwork assessment and identification is based on over forty years lecturing in brickwork technology at Bolton Street College of Technology.

Fred Hosford, MMGB

Retired Senior Lecturer in Brickwork Technology.

Bolton Street,

Dublin 1.

24-02-2014