

HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB



CEMETERY, LOUGHLINSTOWN WORKHOUSE

(The workhouse, now St Columcille's Hospital) was opened in 1841.

In 1843, a small burial ground was created for the 'pauper inmates', 'at the rear of the dead house', behind the main building. This burial place is lost, although human remains were found in the 1970s during construction work.

A larger cemetery was consecrated in 1848, because the old burial place was full, following the years of hunger and fever.

The second cemetery, about two hundred metres from the workhouse, gradually deteriorated into a wilderness, the few remaining headstones remembering Revd Edward Burton workhouse chaplain, and Robert Sharp, a workhouse officer.

In 1991, a stone commemorating all who were laid to rest there down the years was blessed and unveiled.

A further monument remembers all babies who 'returned to ... their heavenly maker' without finding a resting place in the cemetery.

The cemetery is in a mature wood with clusters of primroses and a few daffodils annually providing a colourful symbol of the resurrection.

Text and Picture: Liam Clare