

HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

JOHN McGOVERN



THE BURIAL PLACE OF THOMAS CARTY, FIRST ROMAN CATHOLIC MAYOR OF DROGHEDA

When Society member Jim Garry transcribed the Gravestones in St. Mary's Church of Ireland for the Society's Journal in 1986 the Carty plot was so overgrown he was unable to see the tombstones. The entry in the Journal is as follows: *CARTY. There is no inscription to be seen on this railed-in monument save the surname, which is in large letters on the east curbstone. It is the family plot of Thomas Carty the first Roman Catholic Mayor of Drogheda under the Municipal Reform Act 1842-1843.*

In 2007 Society member Noel Bailey restored the plot to its former glory and if you visit St. Mary's you will see the fine job he made of it.

There are four tombstones lying flat west to east within the railings and Noel transcribes them as follows, from left -

First: Erected by Emily Smart to the memory of her first cousin Thomas Carty Merchant of Drogheda a wise and just Magistrate a good citizen who died 7th Feb. 1872 aged 77. Here also rests the remains of Ellen Lamb who died 5th Nov. 1880 65 years. To whose memory the tablet in palisade was erected by her nephew and nieces of Chicago, US.America. May she rest in peace

Second: Erected by Thomas Carty to the memory of his beloved and affectionate sister Ellen who departed this life 1st. Oct. 1852 Who knew her best will deepest sigh and wish like her to live and die

Third: This monument was erected by Thomas Carty of Drogheda in memory of his beloved son James who departed this life 23rd July 1805 aged 19. His habits were virtuous his disposition mild and amiable and his manners exemplary. The above name Thomas Carty died on the 12th Nov. 1823. His wife died on the 27th of Oct. 1827. Their son John Carty departed this life on the ? June 1826.

Fourth: Erected by Emily Smart to the memory of her first cousin Edward Carty Solicitor who died Dec. 1867 aged 76 years and Anne Shueman sister of Emily Smart who died 9th March 1873 aged 65 May they rest in peace.