

Conservation Photographic Report
Christ Church Rathgar, Rathgar Road, Dublin 6. D06 CF63.
This is a protected structure RPS Ref. 7082.



Rathgar crossroads and Christ Church Rathgar (centre), circa 1900

Christ Church Rathgar Rathgar Village – Aerial View.



Front Entrance of Christ Church Rathgar 2018

Christ Church Rathgar Village – Aerial View.



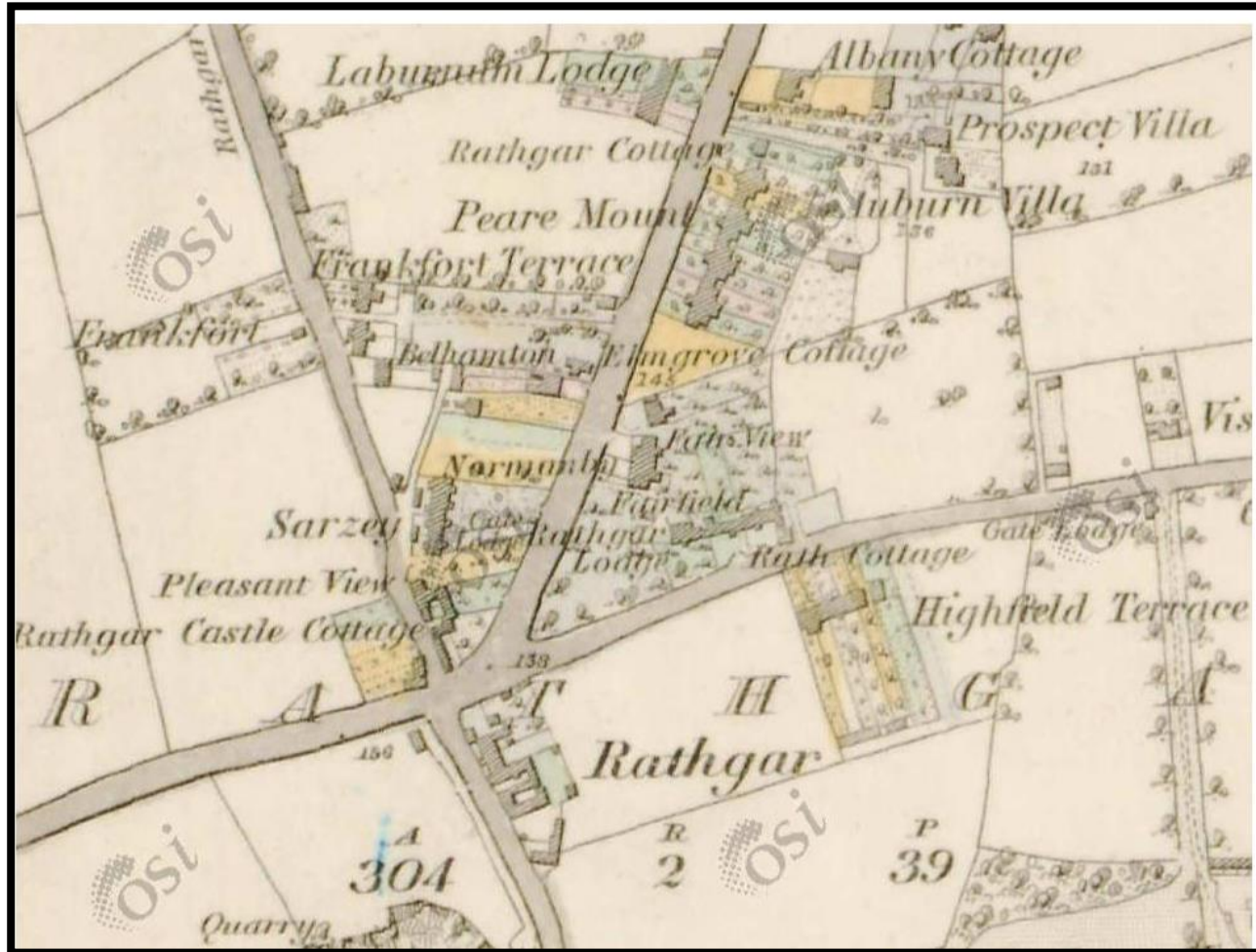
Christ Church Rathgar is located at the fulcrum of Rathgar Village

SITE Plan July 2017



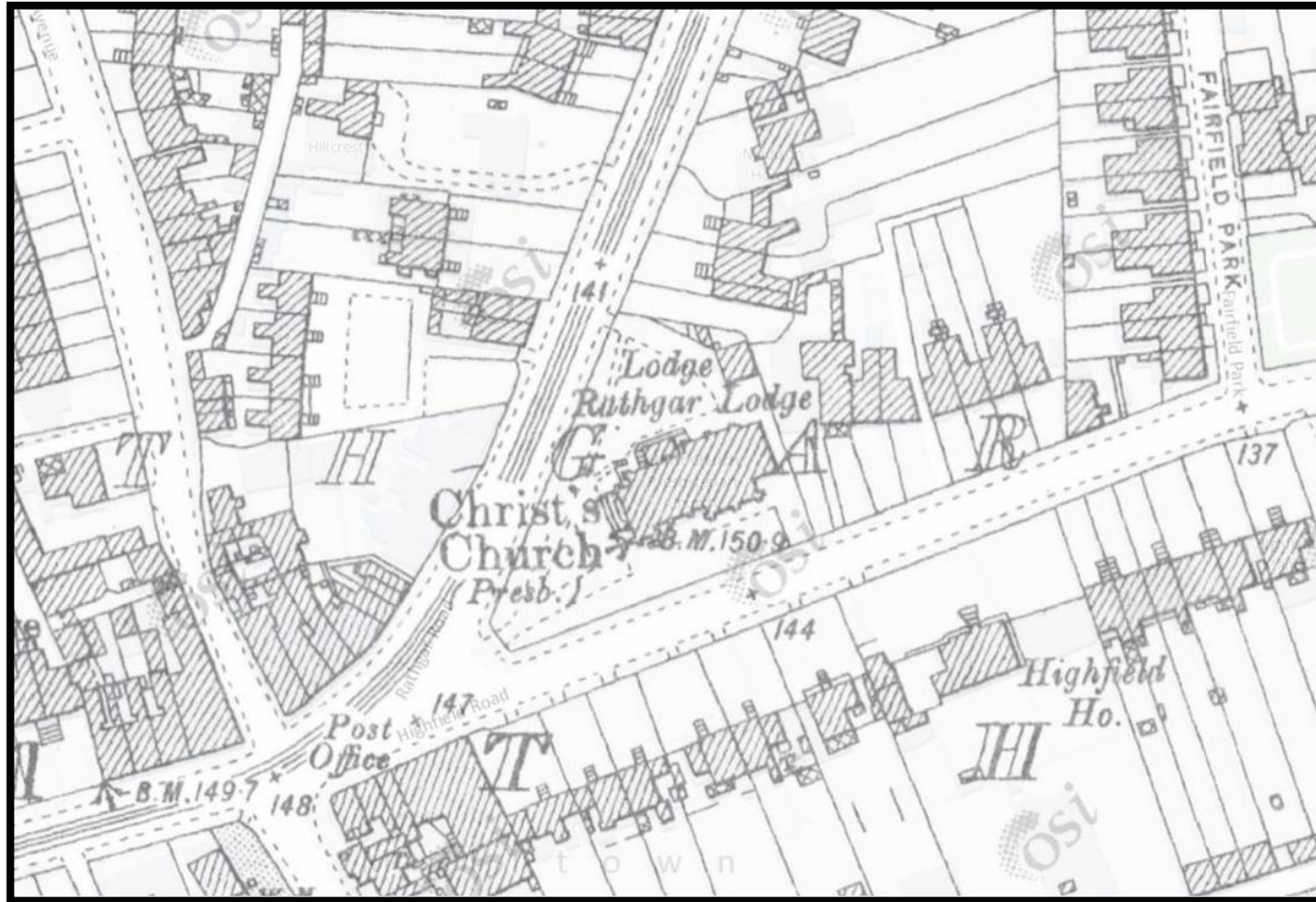
Aerial View of Christ Church Rathgar

Historic 6 inch map 1837-1842



The original site which had a house called Rathgar Lodge was purchased in 1859. The adjacent site where the Tenant Hall now stands was purchased in 1966-1968 by William Judge and donated to the Church for the construction of Tenant Hall.

Historic 25 inch map 1888-1913



The plan of Christ church is clearly visible and the place name of Rathgar Lodge is still on the map

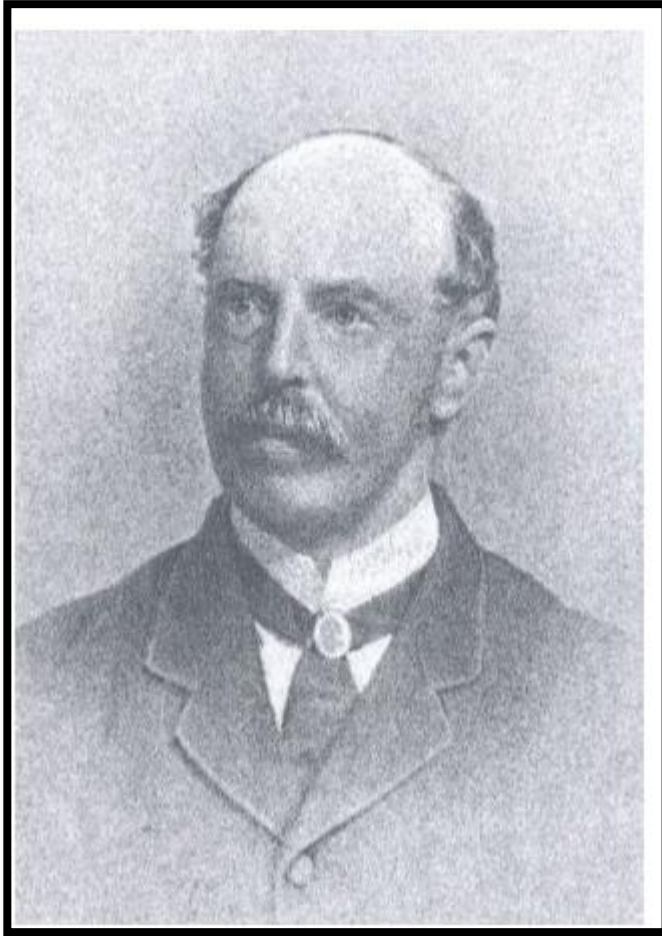
Rathgar crossroads and Christ Church Rathgar (centre), circa 1900.



Rathgar crossroads and Christ Church Rathgar (centre), circa 1900.

The electrified tram lines above the street, which were added in the late 1800's. The first horse drawn tram to Rathgar ran on 1 February 1873. Previously, Rathgar had a horse-drawn omnibus service from 1833, running to Anglesea Street, for a fare of 4d.

Andrew Heiton Junior 1823-1894



Andrew Heiton junior was born on 3rd April 1823 at Inchturre, Perthshire, son of architect Andrew Heiton Senior.

The elder Heiton was probably the clerk of works on Lord Kinnaird's Rossie Priory estate. Andrew Junior served his apprenticeship with his father, who had by then settled in Perth. He was a well known architect of country houses.

In 1860 he won the competition for designing Rathgar Presbyterian church (1860-62),(2) and he subsequently designed two other Presbyterian churches in Dublin: the Findlater Memorial Church in Parnell Square (1862-64) and the Mission Church in Jervis Street (1864)



**The Presbyterian Church Dun Laoghaire, 1862. designed by Andrew Heiton .
The Presbyterian Mission Church Jervis Street Dublin, 1864. designed by Andrew Heiton.**



The Presbyterian Church in Dun Laoghaire was designed by Andrew Heiton and constructed in 1862. The Gothic detailing is similar to that of Rathgar and Parnell Square. Heiton makes use of the sloping site to locate the Church hall in lower part of the building as he did in Christ Church Rathgar .



Presbyterian Mission Church Jervis Street Dublin was constructed in 1864 and designed by Andrew Heiton. It was demolished to make way for an extension to Jervis Hospital.

The Dublin Builder Oct 15 1864 described the church as “ The building will be in the Early English style of Architecture, and comparatively speaking plain in appearance. The material for the front will be Co. Dublin grey stock bricks, with red and white bands and arches.

The tracery will be composed of Bath stone , and of Portland stone in parts most exposed to weather. The interiors will be of simple but neat character. The plan comprises large school –rooms, which can also be used for lecture rooms.

Findlater's Church, Parnell Square North, Frederick Street North, Dublin, Dublin City constructed 1862-64 . Design Andrew Heiton

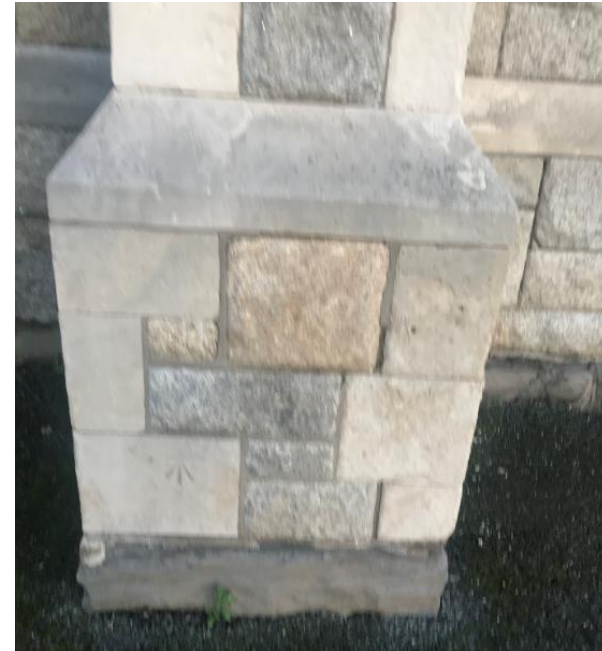


Findlater's Church located on the corner of Parnell Square was designed by Andrew Heiton and funded by Alexander Findlater in 1862-1864. The stone cut church Presbyterian church is in the Decorated Gothic revival style with only two facades visible. The church has a rectangular plan facing south with three-stage corner entrance tower and spire to east, lower three-stage stair tower to west and triple gabled east nave elevation. Steeply pitched slate roof with fish-scale slate courses and triangular lucarnes with trefoil timber openings.

The opening of Christ Church Rathgar, on Sunday, 2 February 1862.



The opening of Christ Church Rathgar, on Sunday, 2 February 1862.
From left to right: the Rev. Norman MacLeod, D.D., of the Barony Church, Glasgow, Mr. J. Cockburn of Messrs. Gilbert Cockburn & Sons (Builders) and the Rev. William Fleming Stevenson, D.D.

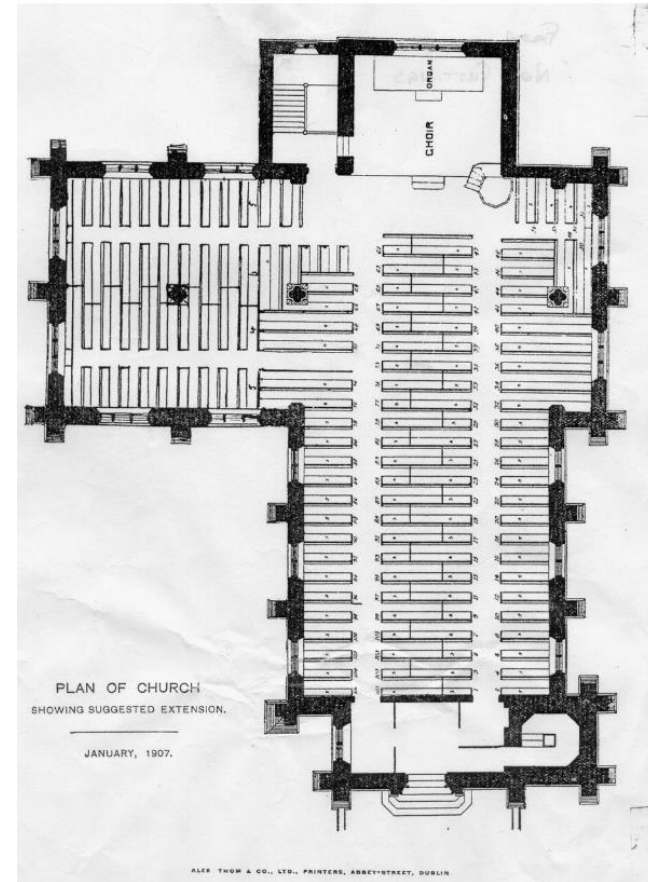


The bench mark of the contractors on the triple tiered bell tower.

1901 The transepts were lengthened and the chancel was added



By 1899, the church was too small to hold the congregation and plans to enlarge the church were put in place. In 1900, both transepts were lengthened and the chancel was added, altogether providing an extra 160 seats. The pipe organ was also installed. By 1908, there were 525 names on the Communion Roll and further extension work was being considered



January 1907
Plan of Church showing suggested transept extension
This work was not undertaken

The extension of the Gallery in 1900



The gallery (originally the Choir Loft), which was extended in 1900
The outline of the original opening is still visible between the centre
of the two doors.

Church Interior April 1948.



Church interior, April 1948.

Prior to the replacement of the chancel rails, choir screen and pulpit in 1950 and side doorway in 1953

The Geddes Stained Glass Window

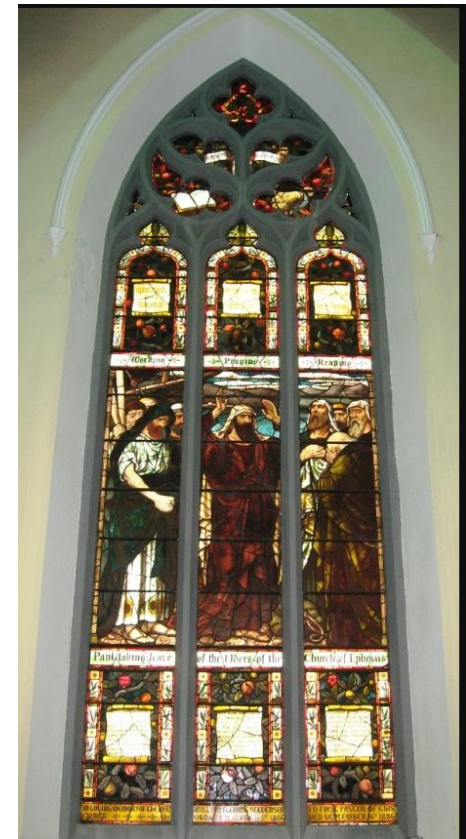
The 3-light traceried window was chosen to commemorate Revd. Dr. John Stewart Minister of CCR 1898-1913, and the subject “St. Peter preaching to the Jews” was because of his renown as a preacher. Wilhelmina Geddes worked with Sarah Purser at An Túr Gloine they were at the head of the Irish Arts and Crafts movement in Ireland and the 20th century stained glass revival. Geddes was able to use new coloured glass available at that time, to make the strong colours in the window, the window stands out in the otherwise restrained setting of a Presbyterian Church. Geddes was ill during 1915 and this delayed the completion of the window, it was finally dedicated in January 1916 Wilhelmina Geddes went on to create other great windows, not only in Ireland but in the UK, New Zealand, Canada and Belgium



The Rose window and The Fleming Stained Glass Window

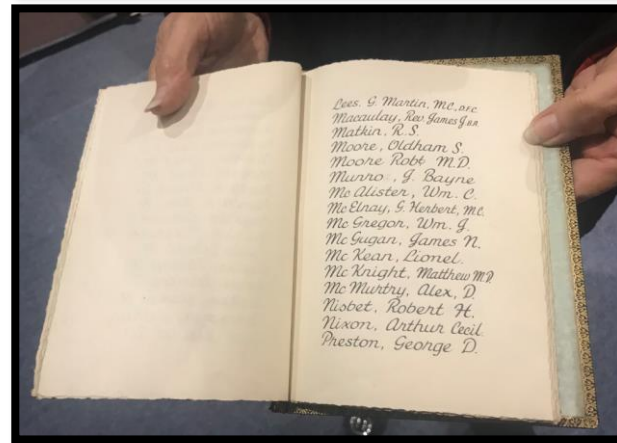
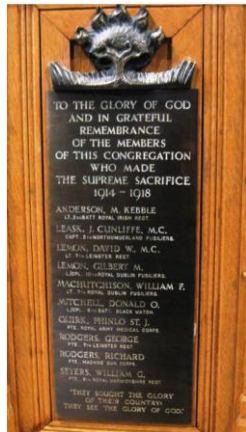


The Rose window located above the organ sponsored by Henry Todd.



Designed in the Decorated Gothic style by Messrs. Cottier & Co., of London, this window was dedicated in 1888 to the memory of The Very Rev. Dr. William Fleming Stevenson (Minister 1860-1886. The subject is Paul taking leave of the Elders of the Church of Ephesus

The Chancel guardrails erected 1950 commemorating the congregation who died in World War 1 and World War 2



The plaque listing of the congregation who died in World War 1

The book kept in a drawer in the guardrails with a list of those who gave their lives in World War 1 and 2

The plaque listing of the congregation who died in World War 2



Lieut. Mervyn Kebble Anderson

Lieut. Mervyn Kebble Anderson 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Regiment 4th son of James Anderson of Brentford Orwell Park, Dublin and his wife Sarah Olivia daughter of Michael Thomas Brown; born Ballina, Co. Mayo on 22 January 1892; educated at the Diocesan School and St Andrews College Dublin; gazetted 2Lieut. To the 3rd Battalion (Special Reserve) of the Royal Irish Regiment 12 Sept 1914; went to the Front in January 1915. He was wounded by shrapnel while passing through a communications trench at Ypres on 7 May 1915 and died in No.7 Stationary Hospital at Boulogne, 11 May 1915 following. His Captain wrote: "As his Captain I know him better than any other officer in the Regiment, and next to his own people I don't know who could feel his death more than I do, unless it be his men. He was always so good to them and thoughtful of their comfort. He was indeed, a true type of British Officer."



Lieutenant William Frederick MacHutchison.

Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

For almost 100 years Dublin-born soldier Lieutenant William Frederick MacHutchison was one of the missing of The Great War. On Wednesday 28 April 2017 a new headstone bearing his name was erected over the grave that, for 99 years, contained until then the body of an "unknown lieutenant, Royal Dublin Fusiliers".

MacHutchison (24) disappeared during the massive German Spring Offensive of March 1918 when the remnants of the two Irish divisions fighting on the Western Front were destroyed across the old Somme battlefield.

The members of the congregation who died in World War 1



Private Phinlo Saint John Quirk, service number 68066, 104th Field Ambulance, 35th Division, was born in Baymount, Dalkey, Dublin on 24 June 1899, and was aged 18 when he died of measles and pneumonia during the winter of 1917, dying in Rouen, France on 09 February 1917, in which town he is buried, lying there in the British Commonwealth War Cemetery.

Phinlo was educated at Rathgar National School Dublin and on leaving there was apprenticed to Messrs Harland and Wolff in Belfast, following his family in the maritime tradition. The parental home was 31 Garville Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin. He Joined the Royal Army Medical Corps on 01 September 1915 and served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from January 1916.



Formed in 1898, The Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) is a specialist corps in the British Army which provides medical services to all British Army personnel and their families in war and in peace. Together with the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, the Royal Army Dental Corps and Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, the RAMC forms the British Army's essential Army Medical Services.

The RAMC does not carry a Regimental Colour or Queen's Colour, although it has a Regimental Flag. Nor does it have battle honours, as elements of the corps have been present in almost every single war the army has fought. Because it is not a fighting arm, under the Geneva Conventions, members of the RAMC may only use their weapons for self-defence.

The members of the congregation who died in World War 1



Capt James Cunliffe Leask, M.C. Born 7 December 1875, in Dublin, the son of Robert Heddle and Anna Leask. He married Mary Anderson and lived at Gosforth, Newcastle on Tyne. He was killed in action at Demvin, France on the 30th of March 1918

L/Cpl. Gilbert Melville Lemon. Service number 26334 10th Battalion, The Dublin Fusiliers. He died at Beaumont Hamel on the 13/11/1916. He was born in Dublin and was a brother of David Wardlaw

2 Lt. David Wardlaw Lemon.

Second Lieutenant 2nd Battalion (formerly 7th Battalion) The Leinster Regiment. He was born in Dublin and lived at 2 Winton Avenue (Rathmines & Rathgar West, Dublin). Awarded the Military Cross, Gazette Number 30801. "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led a party forward unobserved close to the enemy's position before an attack and by his initiative greatly assisted the surprise effect of the attack. He led the attack despite strong resistance, capturing an enemy strong point with it's garrison. The success of the operations was largely due to his fearlessness and leadership." London Gazette dated 18th February, 1918

The members of the congregation who died in World War 1



Cricket team: By the end of the war, four of the men in this picture, including MacHutchison, were dead. Two more got caught up in the Second World War in the Far East and were interned by the Japanese