

Dublin 7 €875,000



Home of John ‘romantic Ireland’s dead and gone’ O’Leary

The editor of The Fenian was arrested at his home on Palmerston Place in 1865 and sentenced to 20 years of penal servitude

16 Palmerston Place, Phibsborough, Dublin 7

Description: Four-bed terraced period house with two storeys over basement
Agent: Sherry Fitzgerald

ELIZABETH BIRDTISTLE

Dating from 1840 to 1860, houses on Palmerston Place were originally developed following the establishment of the Midland Great Western Railway terminus at Broadstone in 1845.

In May 2016, the residents’ association of this enclave of two-storey over-basement homes held a community event titled 1916 On Our Street, as the place is steeped in history.

Number 6 was home to Robert Monteith, commander of Roger Casement’s Irish Brigade who accompanied Casement by submarine to Banna Strand during Easter 1916.

Ten doors up, at number 16, a plaque on the wall tells the story of how John O’Leary, editor of The Fenian newspaper and The Irish People, lived here

and was “finally arrested in this house on the 15th of September 1865? and “sentenced to twenty years’ penal servitude, despite a brilliant defence by Isaac Butt”.

WB Yeats’s poem, September 1913, in which he laments the loss of romantic Ireland and the state of Irish politics, immortalises O’Leary, declaring: “Romantic Ireland’s dead and gone, it’s with O’Leary in the grave.” The Irish separatist who had studied both law and medicine makes another appearance in Yeats’s Beautiful Lofty Things, which has been described as a tightly woven matrix of figures that comprise Yeats’s idea of the Irish nation.

Number 16’s current owners are Lisa Sheils and her partner Stephen McDonnell, who grew up on Palmerston Place. When they purchased the 182sq m (1,959sq ft) house in 2001, “it had very little done to it as it was in three units”, explains Sheils.

But sometimes having very little done can be a blessing in disguise, as new owners get to put their own stamp on a place, while period details are also preserved. After replumbing, rewiring and all the hidden works you don’t see, the couple



added an extension to the rear, which gave two new rooms at basement level and a conservatory/family room with a roof terrace beyond the kitchen at hall level. For practical purposes and to optimise the volume of light, the kitchen was placed in one of the formal rooms at hall level – and for ease of service to the dining room that lies to the front.

At basement level, an extra-large sitting room sits adjacent to a playroom, and the bedroom here was used by an au pair to look after the children when they were younger.

A benefit of the house, which has four bedrooms in total, is the privacy of the rear garden and superb lighting (McDonnell is an electrical engineer, so had lots of fun installing interesting illumination around the place).

A large double garage – which would have been a coach house in olden times – lies to the rear, and provides security for a car, while Stable Lane runs behind the houses.

The family are moving to Clontarf to be closer to the sea and have placed their historic property, which has an impressive Ber of C1, given its age, on the market through Sherry Fitzgerald seeking €875,000.

Sort it

Denise O’Connor



All-in-one taps, and other magic appliances

Two-in-one appliances were frowned upon in the past. A good example was the older washer-dryer, where neither the washer nor the dryer worked as effectively as a standalone appliance.

Now, however, multifunctional appliances are fast becoming hero products. They are an excellent choice for those looking to save space, are often more convenient and can speed up your cooking time too. Here are three appliances worth considering.

All-in-one tap

Hot taps do much more than provide boiling water. Most brands offer combined models that work as the primary sink tap while delivering boiling and filtered drinking water. Quooker also provides an add-on called CUBE that can be used with any of its taps to provide filtered sparkling and chilled drinking water.

You’ll lose a little space under your sink but save lots of space in your fridge and no longer need to buy plastic bottles of sparkling water.

The CUBE unit can be installed next to the Quooker tank under your sink. It comes with two filters and a CO₂ cylinder that gives you 60 litres of sparkling water.

Not only will it give you instant boiling water and save space in your kitchen, it will also save on energy costs. Quooker claims the cost of using its hot tap is 1 cent per litre delivered, or approximately three cent a day. The cost of boiling a full kettle (which typically holds 1.5 litres) is about 2.5 cent per boil.

Having hot water on demand will also mean you will waste less water. How many times do you empty the kettle before you boil it?

Small compact appliances

Small, compact appliances like a combi-oven steamer or a combi-oven microwave are a great addition to any kitchen. Combined with a single oven, they take up only a bit more space than the traditional double oven but they will give you much more functionality and flexibility when it comes to

cooking. The combi-oven steamer has three appliances in one: an oven, a grill and a steam oven. The combi-oven microwave is an oven, a grill and a microwave. With both of these appliances, you have the option to combine all three functions at the same time for quicker cooking. For example, you could cook a chicken in a combi-oven microwave in about 45 minutes.

Many modern combi-ovens have pre-programmed settings that work out the perfect length of time to cook whatever you are planning. You select the setting for what you want to cook, and the oven takes care of the rest.

Vented hob

Another two-in-one appliance worth considering is a vented hob that comes with built-in downdraught extractors. They are available in both induction and gas hobs.

Vented hobs do away with the need for an overhead extractor fan and are incredibly effective because the extractor is right beside the source of steam.

Choosing a vented hob will open up more options regarding your kitchen layout and design.

Having the hob on an island is becoming more popular and an integrated extractor eliminates the need for an extractor hood in the ceiling. The induction versions are sleek and streamlined in design, making them ideal for locating on an island unit as you hardly notice them.

Traditional extractor hoods tend to collect dust and grease, so they are another thing in the kitchen you’ll need to clean. With a vented induction hob, cleaning is almost effortless. Cost is often a concern when choosing a vented hob over a standard hob and extractor. But a 93cm hob could cost €1,200 and a separate extractor hood will be in the region of €900, bringing the two appliances in line with the cost of a vented hob.

Denise O’Connor is an architect and designer; see optimise-design.com

Dublin 2 €1.025m

Contemporary interiors, convenient spot

12 Grattan Court East, Dublin 2

Description: Three-bed townhouse in a development highly commended by the RIAI
Agent: Owen Reilly

ELIZABETH BIRDTISTLE

Grattan Court East, a small development of seven three-bedroom properties, of which five are three-bed townhouses and two duplexes, is located on a quiet cul-de-sac of the same name, located between Mount Street Lower and Grand Canal

Street. Designed by architect Allister Coyne of Ailtreach Architects, the 2017 development sits well into the surrounding 1970s brick office and apartment blocks, and won a “highly commended” accreditation from the RIAI. Set over two storeys, the interiors of number 12, a three-bed townhouse, are contemporary and impressive with superb panoramic windows that flood the living space with light.

With platinum polished concrete floors at ground level and semi-solid limed oak flooring elsewhere, the property has elegant tigris-blue marble vanity

units with sandblasted Portuguese terres-blue limestone bathrooms and gas underfloor heating – which is controlled floor by floor via digital thermostat controls.

An internal courtyard sits off the two double bedrooms on the ground floor with interest and colour from Acers and espaliered trees against red brick privacy walls.

Upstairs, the principal bedroom is impressive, as it has a well-designed dressing room and en suite bathroom. Adjacent is a generous open-plan kitchen/living and dining area with a separate utility room.

A very good Ber of A3 – as a

result of solar panels, excellent insulation and underfloor heating – will be of interest to house-hunters considering the current and projected increase in home heating costs.

As a city-centre location, it is in high demand due to its proximity to canal-bank walks, a good section of cafes, theatres and amenities and the Dublin docklands, within walking distance of the 140sq m (1,507sq ft) townhouse.

The property, which has been well maintained and upgraded by its current owners, is being offered to the market through estate agent Owen Reilly seeking €1.025 million.



On view



Shou-Shan, Cavan Road, Virginia, Co Cavan

€350,000, Fintan Cahill Auctioneers
Three-bedroom bungalow extending to 125sq m. The property sits on a large elevated site with landscaped gardens and has a new en suite bathroom. Ber D2
On view: Strictly by appointment at fintancahill.com



Bun Abhainn, Crooke, Passage East, Co Waterford

€795,000, Liberty Blue
Five-bedroom house extending to 289sq m with stables on three acres. The property, which is 1km from Woodstown Beach, has a southwest-facing patio with good views. There is an option to purchase an additional adjacent 17 acres. Ber C2
On view: Strictly by appointment at libertyblue.ie



Fontenoy, Canal Walk, Castle Road, Kilkenny

€925,000, Sherry Fitzgerald
Five-bedroom house extending to 269sq m. Lying on more than half an acre, the detached property, designed by Nicholas Fewer in 1997, is five minutes from Kilkenny Castle. The house has landscaped private gardens and a detached garage. Ber D1
On view: Strictly by appointment at sherryfitz.ie



8 St Ann’s, Ailesbury Road, Dublin 4

€575,000, Knight Frank
One-bedroom apartment extending to 83sq m. With tall ceilings and lots of natural light, the property has a spacious private terrace with an easterly aspect. Ber C1
On view: Strictly by appointment at knightfrank.ie



200 Belmont, Bray, Co Wicklow

€390,000, Dooley Auctioneers
Two-bedroom mid-terrace house extending to 73sq m. The property, located at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, has an east-facing, low-maintenance garden to the rear. Ber C2
On view: Strictly by appointment at dooley.ie