



7.0 The Main Sites of Activity During the Rising.

7.9 St Stephen's Green and the Royal College of Surgeons

Commandant Michael Mallin and his second in command, Countess Markievicz, were assigned to St Stephen's Green, a rectangular park, approximately twenty acres in size located a mile south of the General Post Office and close to Jacob's. The current membership of the Irish Citizen Army was approximately 400; it is estimated that 200-250 turned out during the Rising, most of them serving with Mallin in the St Stephen's Green area, the main exceptions being those with Seán Connolly at City Hall.

Mallin proceeded to fortify his position, posting men in some of the houses overlooking the Green and setting men to work digging trenches to cover the entrances. He dispatched parties to take over Harcourt Street railway station, J. & T. Davy's public house at the junction of South Richmond Street and Charlemont Mall, and houses at Leeson Street bridge. It soon transpired that St Stephen's Green was a vulnerable position, as it was overlooked by the Shelbourne Hotel and some other tall buildings that had not been occupied by Mallin's forces.

Mallin had military experience, having served for fourteen years in the British army, part of the time as a non-commissioned officer (NCO). Presumably, when St Stephen's Green was originally selected as a position it was expected that there would be enough men to occupy the Shelbourne Hotel and all the other tall buildings, but that was not the case.

The British directed machine gun fire from the Shelbourne onto the Green late on Monday, as a result of which Mallin abandoned most of it on Tuesday.

The majority of the ICA forces then garrisoned the Royal College of Surgeons immediately to the west of the Green. As General Lowe concentrated on the GPO and the Four Courts, the College of Surgeons garrison was involved in little action until the order for surrender came the following Sunday.

7.9 St Stephen's Green and the Royal College of Surgeons



Map showing the St Stephen's Green and Royal College of Surgeons area.
(Ordnance Survey, 1:2,500 (25 inches to mile), Dublin, sheet XVIII, 1911; scale altered).

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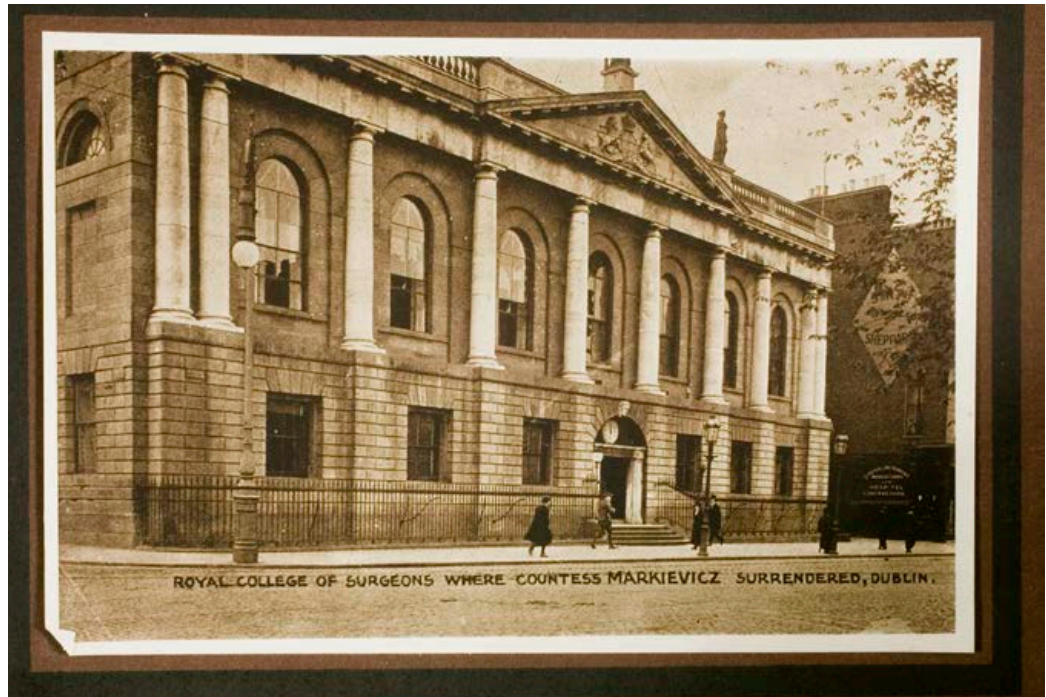
The Shelbourne Hotel at the north-east corner overlooked most points within St Stephen's Green. (Dublin and the "Sinn Féin" Rising, Wilson Hartnell & Co., 1916).

7.9 St Stephen's Green and the Royal College of Surgeons



J. & T. Davy's (now 'Portobello') public house at the junction of South Richmond Street and Charlemont Mall. Mallin sent a small party of ICA under Sergeant Joe Doyle to occupy and delay the advance of troops from Portobello Barracks (now Cathal Brugha Barracks) some hundreds of yards across the Grand Canal to the south. Doyle and his men were dislodged later that day. (Dublin and the "Sinn Féin" Rising, Wilson Hartnell & Co., 1916).

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The Royal College of Surgeons overlooked St Stephen's Green from the west. (Album 254).

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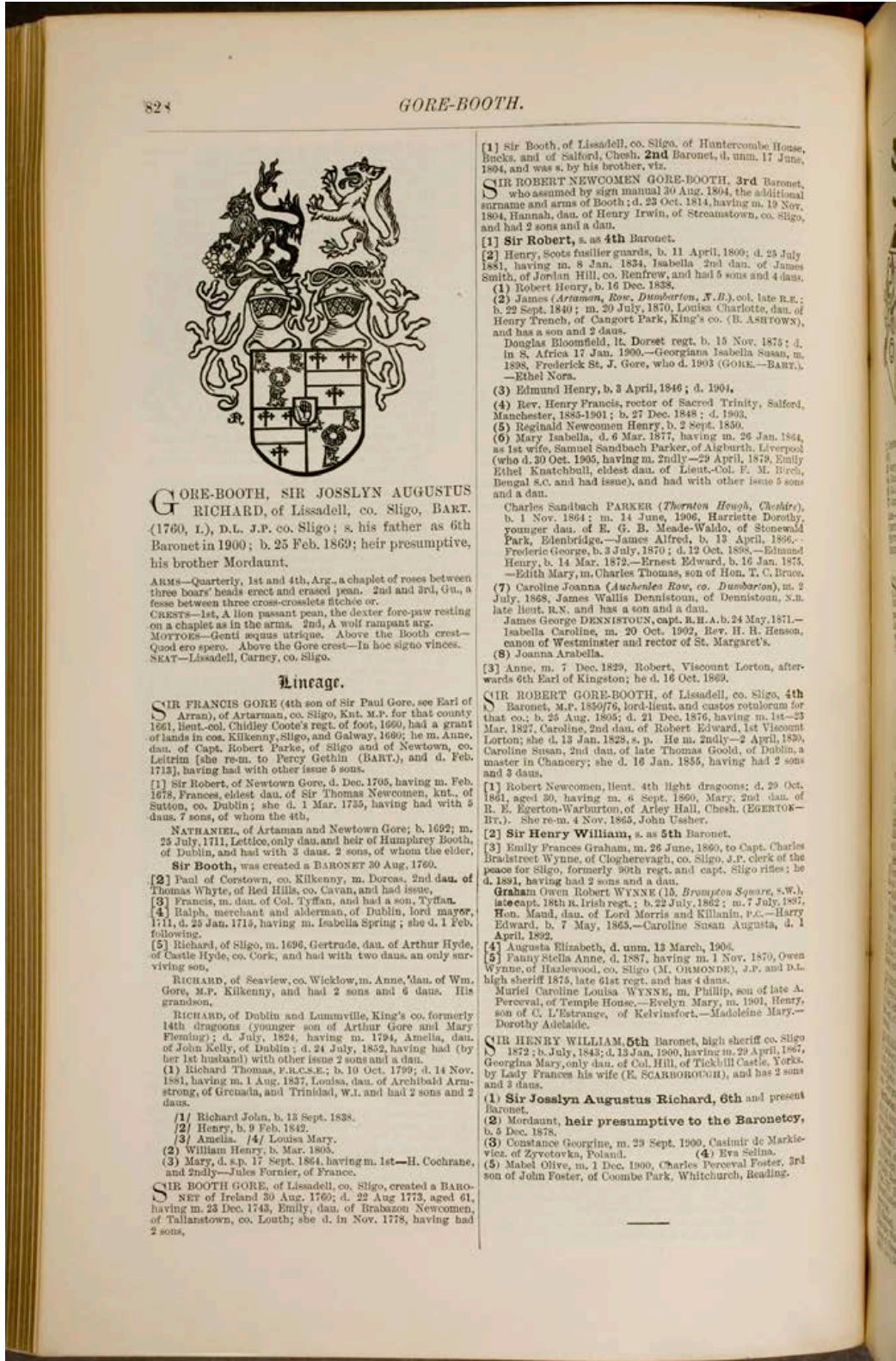
Countess Constance Markievicz, second in command to Mallin. She was a daughter of Sir Henry Gore-Booth of Lissadell House, Drumcliffe, Co. Sligo, and wife of a Polish count. (*Illustrated London News*, 6 May 1916).

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Countess Markievicz with a Fianna Éireann group, the youth organization she established with Bulmer Hobson in 1909.

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Page from Lodge's Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage, 1907; the entry for Constance Gore-Booth begins four lines from the end.