

The battle of Burgatia.

General Tom Barry was a brave Irish man, who came from Rosscarbery. He is a past pupil of our school Ardagh BNS. At the age of seventeen he joined the British army and went to foreign countries. Then later he realised he was helping out Ireland's enemies who were murdering Irish men at home. He disbanded the British army and returned home to join the Flying Column. He became a commandant-General of the 3rd West Cork brigade.

One of the ambushes he organised took place at Burgatia House Rosscarbery (Now home to the Maguire family) this ambush occurred on the 1st of February 1921. Burgatia House was owned by Thomas Kingston, at the time the owner and his family were arrested. And the following morning the local postman Jerome Scully was delivering post past the house and got arrested. When he was released he was told not to say anything about the Flying Column but after he arrived back in Rosscarbery he told the whole story. He had to sleep at the R.I.C. Barracks. He had no choice but to leave Rosscarbery. It is thought he moved to Northern Ireland and no one saw or heard of.

Acting on Scully's information two or three lorry loads of Black and Tans and R.I.C. came from Donaghadee and joined the local garrison from Rosscarbery Barracks and a fight took place on the main road at Burgatia House lasting four to five hours.

Story from my Grandad Tom Herlihy Derry Rosscarbery



Gen. Tom Barry's house
At the top

Plack
outside
Tom Barry's
house
at the
right

• **GEN TOM BARRY**
1897 - 1980
**COMMANDER WEST CORK
FLYING COLUMN.**
LIVED IN THIS HOUSE
• 1907 - 1914