Main source of information: Paddy Hickey. Shehanore East, Ballydehob Co. Cork.

Liam Deasy Book. "Towards Ireland Free".

By Caroline Harrington

Age 11 years.

Scoil Bhríde, Ballydehob Co. Cork

Date: 18th of November 2018

West Cork Stories of the Revolution

The house I live in is called Shehanore House situated in Shehanore West, Ballydehob Co. Cork. My Grandfather bought this house and farm in the late 1950's. The house, structurally remains similar to what it was back in the 1920's, a bit smaller as a wing was demolished, but of course suited to living in the 21st century.

Following recent research into the revolution years and in particular the war of Independence in 1922, I discovered there was a Shehanore Company formed, it was part of the Seventh Battalion of the IRA in West Cork. There were numerous 'safe houses' in this area. My house was one of them in Shehanore. It was built in 1916 and owned at the time by John H Kelly, a Local Councillor.

Tom Barry, Commander of the West Cork Brigade of the IRA actually stayed in this house, which nearly 100 years later, is my family home today. The Black and Tan soldiers raided the house a few days later, on hearing that Tom Barry had stayed here. I knew our family had no connection with those years as they remained neutral and kept farming their land and producing food for the local market. But I was pleased to discover my house played a role in helping those brave men during difficult times, to help the achieve the Irish Free State.

Revolution Stories from County Kilkenny

When talking with my Grandfather Micheal Tynan of County Kilkenny, about the revolution years. He recalls how his father, my great grandfather. John Tynan was involved during those years. The old farmhouse was a 'safe house' where someone might stay and get food and shelter until they reached their destination. My grandfather remembers talking with a workman on the farm, when he was young. The man recalled a story and told him how his father, himself, along with many others from around the county who wanted to achive the Irish Free State, helped to take Kilkenny Castle from its occupants in 1922.

Sometime later that year in 1922 the Irish Flag of Green, white and orange was flown from one of the old Dale Trees on my Grandfathers farm, which border the main Ballycallen / Kilmanagh Road to Kilkenny. That historic tree still stands proudly today, silently holding the secrets of the past, after almost 100 years since it first flew the Irish tri colour! See attached photograph.

Main source of information:
Micheal Tynan, Kilkenny. My Grandfather.
Date: 18th November 2018
Mobile: 086 7316958. (Mother)

By Caroline Harrington
Age: 11yrs.
Scoil Bhride, Ballydehob, Co. Cork

photo of Dole Tree, from which the Irish Flag was flown in 1922.

By Caroline Harrington
Scoil Bhride, Ballickahob, Co. Cork.

Date: 18th November 2018.