

# My Story

by Keelin Hilland

About my Great Great uncle

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NOW

Please

## Dan Holland- my Great Grand Uncle & The ambush at Beal na Blath

On Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> 1922 my Great Gran Uncle, Dan Holland, was the same age as me , 10 years old. He lived in Beal na mBlath in the only house overlooking the scene of an ambush that was to change the course of Irish history later that day. At noon on that summers day, his household received a visit from local Republicans advising to stay indoors and keep out of harm's way. A cart from a brewery was commandeered and an ambush was laid for a convoy that was coming in their direction from Bandon.

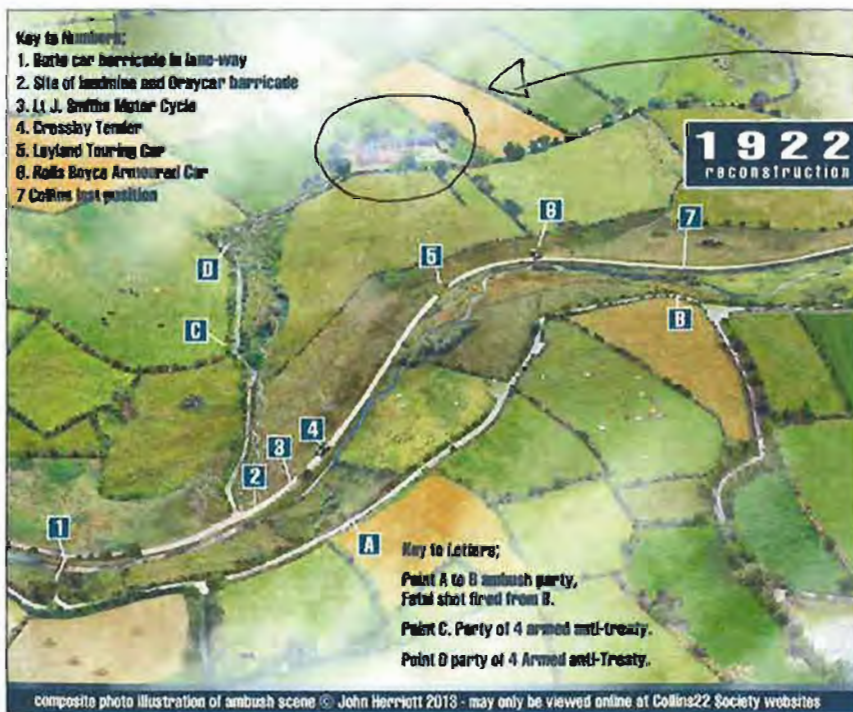
During the twilight hours he could hear the gunshots ringing out for 30-40 minutes whilst the ambush unfolded. He didn't realize the gravity of the events unfolding within earshot and he kept indoors to stay safe. The following morning, as he was going to the creamery he spotted a cap on the ground were Michael Collins was shot, later learning that it was Michael Collins' cap.

His story or that of his family was never documented properly and offers the potentially only independent witness account of the most momentous day in the history of the Irish Free State.





Photo of site back in 1922. Dan Holland lived in the farmhouse right behind the ambush site, with his family in 1922.



Dan Holland's Home  
~~Dan Holland's home~~  
~~Dan Holland's home~~

Current photo of the ambush site with the monument to Michael Collins.



Dan Hollands  
Home

Project By Keelin Holland  
4th Class  
Scoil Eoin  
Inishannon  
Co. Cork

Thank

You

for

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