

Property:	Number:	No 69; Cancellation Book	
Property Modern	Number: 8	NUMBER 8*****	
Property Modern:	Modern Shop Name The Gown Gallery	8 (2019)	
Property Previous:	Previous Shop Names	Previously: WEBBS Previously: LINDSAY BYRNE Previously: GRIFFITHS VALUATION JAMES DUNCAN	
Landlord.	Time Period	Occupier	Comments
SAMUEL STEWART	1853 – 1860	JOHN DOYLE	
SAME	1868	STEPHEN CULLEN then PATRICK BRIEN	Hardware / Ironmonger
	1874-1881		
ANNE STEWART	1884 – 1891	WILLIAM WEBB then ELIZABETH WEBB	1889. 1890 HOUSE AND SHOP TO BE KEPT SEPARATE Postmaster /Shopkeeper William Died (1890)
SIR THOMAS ESMONDE then SIR	1892-1898	ELIZABETH WEBB	GRATTAN ESMONDE 1894

T.GRATTAN ESMOONDE			
SIR T.GRATTAN ESMONDE	1905-1915	ELIZABETH WEBB MYLES WEBB	Shop keeper Family Grocer / Spirits
SAME	1916-1930	MYLES WEBB	Family Grocer (Baker) 1923
	1931-1941		WEBBS MOVED ACROSS THE STREET TO NUMBER 100.
SAME then in fee	1942-1983	MYLES WEBB LINDSAY BYRNE	Died 1954 age 87 (St Michaels Cemetery)
SEE HOUSE 69	2018	THE GOWN GALLERY	

Residents of a house 94 in Main Street (Gorey Urban, Wexford)

Show all inform

Surname	Forename	Age	Sex	Relation to head	Religion	Birthplace	Occupation
Webb	Myles	33	Male	Head of Family	Catholice	Co Wexford	Shop Keeper
Webb	Kate Elizabeth	33	Female	Wife	Catholice	Sussex	Shop Keeper

LINDSAY BYRNES NUMBER 8 & 9

Lindsay Byrne was a member of a well-known Co Wicklow family. His parents, Michael and Julie Ann, were bakers in Lower Main Street, Arklow, until a disagreement following an industrial dispute caused his mother to close down the business. Lindsay was the delivery man so he was first out of a job.

He moved over to Gorey where he set up business in the bar and grocery premises formerly operated by Mr Myles Webb at number 8 and 9 Main Street. In 1939/40 he set about setting up his own bakery and to this end he travelled to Scotland to procure an oven capable of fulfilling his plans.

At this time Melven and Gilesby were major manufacturers of Bread Ovens. This company was the leader in the field and could offer customers a full team of experts to build and install made –to- measure, state of the art ovens. According to the plans, the oven Lindsay wanted measured 10 ft by 6ft .6 inches and cost £700. (Pounds Sterling). The actual oven was pushed in and out of the furnace section on a rail track and needed two

men to manhandle it. An Engineer came over and drew up plans on the site. Once the oven was built it was shipped to Gorey where a team of workers from Glasgow set about its construction. Courtown Brick Works were sourced to make the fire bricks and Mr Blair, the construction engineer, who had installed ovens all over the UK remarked several times about the quality of these bricks.

Historians will have noted that all this was happening during the early years of World War 2. Lindsay surviving son, Roy Byrne, Fairy Lane, Tomsilla, said “ because of the war the full cash amount due had to be paid –up- front before shipping could commence, plus insurance cover was unavailable; the auld fellow was a brave man indeed “ .

As was common at the time, the bakery was given a saints name and the local patron saints name was adopted. So in 1941 St, Michaels Steam Bakery went into production.

Lindsay’s troubles were only beginning. Supplies of Coke and Flour were very scarce. Coke used to heat the oven was produced as a by-product by The Dublin Gas Company and had to be bulk shipped by rail and carted from Gorey Railway Station to the bakery. Local Politician Mr Dennis Allen T.D was often called to use his influence to procure supplies. Lindsay was a generous man often given a load of Coke to heat the local church. Not to be out done, his wife Ann, always a generous and popular lady, was long remembered by local families for the “hire” of the oven for cooking the Christmas Turkeys. Roy Byrne said “the bakery was as busy as O’Connell Street at Christmas time “. His mother often remarked about the generosity of all the traders and shopkeepers at this time

Coke cost £40.0.0 per bag.

Good flour was a luxury during the war years. Thankfully S &A.G Davis of Enniscorthy and Comerfords of Wicklow were, between them, able to meet most demands. Roy also supposes that one of the reasons Lindsay chose Gorey to establish his

bakery was because of the proximity and access to these suppliers.

Byrnes leased and then sold the bakery part of their premises to Mr Sean Stafford, founder of Stafford Bakery. Later on the Bar was sold and Lindsay and Ann retired to the country to enjoy their twilight years in the company their children and grandchildren. The family left Main Street in 1973.

Interesting to note Mrs Byrne was a dressmaker and was apprenticed to Bob Geldof's Granny

"Lindsey's", as the hostelry was fondly called, provided a "snug" for generations of Gorey drinker's, liars and quare cards. At a time when characters were plentiful Lindsay's topped the lot.

In 1929, at the time of their marriage Lindsay was living with his parents, baker, Michael and Julia Ann at lower Main Street Arklow. Originally from a Castlebrack, Co Laois farming family, Anne or Annie was residing with her brother Pat O'Connell, a butcher, at upper Main Street. The Byrnes came originally from Convent Row, Wicklow where they appear on the 1911 census.

Lindsay had an uncle with the same name. This Lindsay sailed with Captain Halpin, Wicklow, of Transatlantic Cable laying fame, He later became Harbour Master in Philadelphia

Their son, Michael died suddenly in 1980 aged 50. He was a leading actor with Gorey Little Theatre group, their daughter May Dwyer died in 2017 aged 80 she was wife of Sean Dwyer, Echo newspaper reporter.

Byrnes hallway and right side room is now the Gown Gallery (part of number 8) the Book Station occupies the other half of the premises.

Lindsay in jacket Mrs Byrne in front with dark clothes



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