

Name of memorial: Mitchelstown Martyrs Memorial

Inventory No. 1482

Place: The Square, Mitchelstown.

Address and map reference: The Square, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork
Map reference: R 816 127 (Sheet 74).
Co-ordinates: N 52.2661°; W 8.2700°.

Access: at all times. **Parking:** adjacent. **Disabled access:** yes.

Position: eastern side of The Square.

Description and dimensions: statue of John Mandeville on a square plinth bearing the names of the Martyrs.
Height: appx. 300cms. Width: appx. 100cms. Depth: Appx. 100cms.

Recorded by: Edward Bourke 16 December 2021.

Text:

JOHN

MANDEVILLE

PATRIOT

DIED JULY 8TH 1888

LONERGAN

CASEY

SHINNICK

ḶḶ ḶḶḶḶ ḶḶḶ ḶḶḶḶ

[God save Ireland]

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ḶḶḶḶ ḶḶ 9 ḶḶḶḶ ḶḶ ḶḶ ḶḶḶḶ ḶḶ 1887**

[Remember Mitchelstown and the 9th of May, 1887]

On a story-board:

In the Land war of the 1880s John Mandeville led the tenants of the Kingston estate in their campaign to obtain fair rents, fixity of tenure and the right to sell on the interest in their holdings. Along with his close friend William O'Brien MP Mandeville had urged tenants to resist eviction at public rallies in Mitchelstown during August 1887. Under the recently enacted Crimes Act, encouraging such illegal activities was made punishable by imprisonment. Consequently both men were summoned for trial at the Market House in New Square on 9th September 1887. However, they did not appear before the magistrates and the prescribed date and summonses were issued for their arrest.

After the court rose, over 8,000 supporters marched into New Square. Armed police caused a riot when they attempted to get a police note-taker onto the speakers' platform. In panic the police were forced to retreat to their barracks in Upper Cork Street. From there they opened fire on the crowd, killing three bystanders and wounding others. The places where John Casey, John Shinnick and Michael Lonergan fell are marked with limestone crosses.

Cuimhnighidh ar baile Mhistéala agus an 9 mhadh la dhe Seacht mhí 1887