

The building was erected as a Courthouse in 1762 (216 years ago) it continued as Courthouse until about 1825 when the present one was built. About this time Fr. Madden P.P bought the old buildings to be used as a Church paying the Grand Jury for £2,000? Fr. Madden added a spacious vestibule? & a tower & dome which added greatly to its appearance. Other changes were made internally about this time and a School was housed in it for a short time. It was used as a Church for the first time about 1835 and continued as such until the present Church was opened in 1903 at this time the Priests lived where the Smiths live now and the C.C. in charge of Kiltewan lived there too.

The dates over the door of the Hall refer to the additions carried out by Fr. Madden. Before 1835 the Parish Church was in McDonnells Land at back of Flemmings M.P.s. The present Hall was taken over and changed and named The Harrison Hall about 1910.

The population of the Parish in 1871 was 7225 (town 3097).

The interior of the building was changed from the ground floor a large hall with stage & gallery was constructed this was used as a dance hall, concert hall, whist & other card games, Cinema equipment was also introduced & pictures were shown there for quite a good while, concerts by local & visiting people were also held; also drama by local people and it was a centre for any annual dramatic competitions for several years.

A Secondary School for boys was run there for some years. Upstairs there were club rooms & billiard room for the use of local organisations. The Vocational School was started there & was there for some years.

Written by Canon ? in 1978