



The Michael Healy Papers

P48

**The Special Collections and Archives Department
Glucksman Library
University of Limerick**

**The Special Collections and Archives Department
Glucksman Library
University of Limerick
The Michael Healy Papers**

Reference Code: IE 2135 P48

Title: The Michael Healy Papers

Dates of Creation: 1921-c. 1990s (predominantly 1921-1924)

Level of Description: Fonds

Extent and Medium: 51 items (22 files)

CONTEXT

Name of Creator(s): Healy, Michael.

Administrative/ Biographical History: Michael Healy was a native of Limerick and joined the Irish Volunteers in 1917 when they were being reorganised following the 1916 rising. He was promoted to Captain in the Volunteers and was heavily involved in IRA activities during the War of Independence. Healy took the Anti-Treaty side during the Civil War. He remained in the IRA following the end of the Civil War and was involved in its reorganisation until at least 1924. He appears to have been involved in helping to expedite the application process for military pensions for members of his company and battalion in c. 1940. He is recorded in 1956 in Dáil records as having been in receipt of a government pension having served in the War of Independence. Little is known about his life outside of the IRA except that he lived and worked as a shoe repairer at No. 38 Nicholas Street, Limerick City.

Archival History: The archive was discovered in the attic of a house in Meelick, County Clare. Michael Healy's connection with the house or its occupants is not known.

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Purchased at auction in Limerick in four separate lots on 4 July 2012.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Scope and Content: The collection comprises papers relating to C Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion Mid Limerick Brigade 1917-1924 and includes narrative accounts of the Brigade activities during the War of Independence and information on the reorganisation of the Limerick Brigades during and following the Civil War. The collection is unusual as the anti-Treaty IRA was considered to be an illegal organisation and their records as a consequence were usually kept secret.

Appraisal, Destruction and Scheduling Information: All records have been retained.

Accruals: No accruals are expected.

System of Arrangement: The material has been divided into four series reflecting the form of the records and thereunder arranged chronologically by date.

CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE

Conditions Governing Access: Unrestricted access to all items.

Conditions Governing Reproduction: Standard copyright regulations apply to all items. For photocopying or reproducing material, please consult with the staff.

Language/ Scripts of Material: English.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements: Paper documents and a photograph mostly in good condition.

Finding Aids: A hard copy of the descriptive catalogue is available at the Special Collections Department, Glucksman Library, University of Limerick.

DESCRIPTION CONTROL

Archivist's Note: Papers arranged and described by John Harrington under the supervision of Anna-Maria Hajba.

Rules or Conventions: This description follows guidelines based on *ISAD(G)* 2nd edition, 2000; *Irish Guidelines for Archival Description*, 2009; *National Council on Archives: Rules for the Construction of Personal, Place and Corporate Names*, 1997; and *EAP Guidance on Data Protection for Archive Services*, 2018.

Date of Description: July 2015. Revised in May 2021.

Contents

1	ACCOUNTS AND RECEIPTS (1921)	2
2	LETTERS (1922-1924)	2
3	REPORTS AND LISTS (1940)	4
4	PHOTOGRAPH (c. 1990s?)	5

The Michael Healy Papers

1 ACCOUNTS AND RECEIPTS (1921)

- 1/1 November 1921
Softback ledger containing a list of stores at hand of G Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion Mid Limerick Brigade. Also a list of the subscription contributions of the G Company's officers and men for the week ending 6 November 1921, listing the name, address and occasionally occupation of each contributor; and a list of G Company's expenses for the same week. The rest of the ledger is blank. *Fragile*.
14 pp.
- 1/2 27 November 1921
Receipt for three weekly collections from the Quarter Master of C Company.
1 item

2 LETTERS (1922-1924)

- 2/1 14 September 1922
General order from Sean Fitzpatrick, Divisional Adjutant, IRA Headquarters, Mid Limerick Brigade, to the B Company relating to the selection of men for Active Service Units.
1 p.
- 2/2 30 September 1922
From Brigade Adjutant, Head Quarters, Mid Limerick Brigade, to Brigade Intelligence Officer relating to the need to locate and identify all IRA Volunteers who were killed during the War of Independence and Civil War and buried outside their home areas.
1 p.
- 2/3 10 October 1922
From Mid Limerick Brigade Head Quarters to Officers Commanding relating to steps needed to reorganise Mid Limerick Brigade.
1 p.

P48/

- 2/4 12 October 1922
From Mid Limerick Brigade Head Quarters to Officers Commanding all units relating to the organization of communications between brigades, battalions and companies.
1 p.
- 2/5 16 October 1922
From Mid Limerick Brigade Head Quarters to all units relating to the need for all Volunteers to act in the capacity of Intelligence Officers at all times.
1 p.
- 2/6 6 January 1923
From T. M., Adjutant, Mid Limerick Brigade, to Officer Commanding 2nd Southern Division relating to on-going attempts to contact Brigade Officer Commanding L. Forde, and the low morale among the Volunteers still fighting.
1 p.
- 2/7 13 September 1924
From Adjutant General, General Head Quarters, Dublin, to Officers Commanding Divisions and Independent Brigades appealing for funds from graduates to aid students whose studies have been interrupted by the War of Independence and the Civil War.
1 p.
- 2/8 19 September 1924
From P. H., Battalion Officer Commanding, Head Quarters 2nd Battalion, Mid Limerick Brigade, to Brigade Adjutant, acknowledging receipt of an unspecified dispatch.
1 p.
- 2/9 14 October 1924
From Adjutant, Head Quarters, Limerick County to Adjutant, Mid Limerick Brigade, enclosing forms (now not present) to collect information to ensure that men disabled in military service will receive medical and financial aid.
1 p.

3 REPORTS AND LISTS (1940)

- 3/1 26 June 1940
Handwritten account of the formation, personnel and activities of C Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion, Mid Limerick Brigade, between April 1917 and June 1921, prepared for the Military Service Pensions Board to aid the cause of claimants applying for service certificates. Lacking pp. 16-17 and with inconsistent pagination and narration, suggesting that the document was written in several parts or is a compilation of two or more reports. Also a related handwritten list of 51 operational and other activities and the names of participants in each activity, lacking pp. 5-8 and 43-49 and incorporating pp. 16-17 of P48/3/1 (2). Also a cover letter to the Service Pensions Board. *Fragile*.
3 items
- 3/2 [1940]
Typed document providing an account of the formation, personnel and activities of C Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion, Mid Limerick Brigade between April 1917 and June 1921, based on but not identical to P48/3/1 (2). Also complete and incomplete copies of the same document, and slightly differing versions of the original text but with a broadly similar narrative.
7 items
- 3/3 [1940]
Typed summary detailing the formation, activities and operations of C Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion, and the formation of the Limerick City Active Service Unit, including a list of the names and addresses of its members. Also complete and incomplete copies of the original document, and versions of the original text with slightly differing detail, some with handwritten additions and amendments.
9 items
- 3/4 [1940]
Typed list of operations and activities in which officers and volunteers of C Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion, Mid Limerick Brigade and the Limerick City Active Service Unit were engaged in during the War of Independence, and a list of names of the men involved in each operation. With handwritten additions and amendments. The document is similar but not identical to P48/3/1 (3).
11 pp.

P48/

- 3/5** [1940]
Typed lists of the names and addresses of those volunteers and officers of C Company 2nd Limerick City Battalion, Mid Limerick Brigade, who were on duty on 11 July 1921, the day of the truce of the War of Independence. With handwritten additions and amendments. Also copies of similar lists with slightly differing detail.
6 items
- 3/6** [1940]
List comprising the names, addresses and short biographical note of captains in C Company City Battalion Mid Limerick Brigade and Limerick City Active Service Unit.
2 items
- 3/7** [1940]
Typed list of officers and volunteers who served with the Limerick City Active Service Unit during the War of Independence, providing their addresses and whether or not they were still alive. Also incomplete copies of the same list with slightly differing detail.
7 items
- 3/8** [1940]
Unspecified lists of names and addresses of men, including notes on whether or not they were still alive.
2 items
- 3/9** [c. 1940?]
Page 2 of a report of C Company's activities during the War of Independence.
1 p.
- 3/10** [c. 1940?]
Page from an incomplete report of the activities of an unidentified member of the C Company during the Civil War.
1 p.

4 PHOTOGRAPH (c. 1990s?)

- 4/1** [c. 1990s?]
Black and white photograph (178 x 126 mm) by Eamonn Kiely of the exterior of Michael Healy's home and shoe repair shop at No. 38 Nicholas Street, Limerick city.
1 item