

Cork City and County Archives

Cork Board of Guardians (Ref. IE CCCA/BG69)

Descriptive List

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Identity Statement

Reference Code:	IE CCCA/BG/69
Title:	Cork Board of Guardians
Dates:	1839-1925
Level of description:	Fonds / Series / Item
Extent:	308 items

Context

Creator

Cork Board of Guardians (governing board of Cork Poor Law Union and workhouse)

Archival History

The vast majority of collection ref. BG/69 was transferred to the Archives in c.1982 by the Southern Health Board from St.Finbarr's hospital, Cork. An accrual, consisting 14 account/stores books plus 1 minute book (No. 146), was received in 2009 from the Health Service Executive.

Administrative & Biographical History

Cork Poor Law Union was established under the Poor Law (Ireland) Act, 1838, by an official order dated 3 April 1839 to cater for Cork City and its immediate hinterland. It was one of c.14 Unions in the overall County Cork area.

Each union was centered on a city or market town and its hinterland, and this union area sometimes ignored existing parish or county boundaries. In this central town was situated the union workhouse (usually built between 1838 and 1852) which provided relief for the unemployed and the destitute.

In the case of the Cork Union, the Cork House of Industry, a charitable 'workhouse', adjacent to the South Infirmary Hospital, was designated as the temporary union workhouse catering for Cork City and its hinterland and it opened on 1 March 1840, with the withdrawal of the former House of Industry

Governors. A new purpose built workhouse, located at Douglas Road, Cork, with an attached infirmary, opened in late 1841/early 1842. Each workhouse was managed by a staff and officers under the charge of a workhouse master.

Overall responsibility within the union rested with the Board of Guardians, most of whom were elected, and some of whom were ex-officio members appointed usually from amongst local justices of the peace /magistrates. The electors were owners and occupiers of property liable to pay the poor rate. The boards of guardians were vested with wide statutory powers and were under the direction and control of the Poor Law Commissioners and from 1872 of the Local Government Board.

The boards of guardians were financially maintained by a poor rate levied on occupiers of property in the union district, and tenants could deduct half of the rates from their rents.

Various Guardian sub-committees were from time to time appointed to monitor different aspects of the organisation of the Cork Union Workhouse, for example, visiting/house, admissions, administration, education, and finance.

In the first years of the poor law system, in general no relief was provided outside the workhouses, however from 1847, limited outdoor relief was provided in certain cases. Later, various other responsibilities were allocated to the Guardians in the areas of public health, sanitation, and housing. For example, under the Medical Charities Act 1851, Boards of Guardians took over responsibility for dispensaries from the Grand Juries, and the unions were divided into dispensary districts for which medical officers were appointed. In 1856 the Guardians became the burial ground board for the rural parts of the union. In 1863, the unions were used as registration areas for the registration of births and deaths. Under the Sanitary Act 1866, the Guardians became 'sewer and nuisance' authorities, and under the 1874 and 1878 Public Health Acts, in general, as well as being the poor relief authorities, the Guardians were designated rural sanitary authorities, dealing with various matters such as water and sewerage schemes, scavenging, building control, lodging houses, markets, slaughter houses, infectious diseases and burial grounds. Under the Labourers Act 1883, the building of rural cottages was also allocated to the guardians.

The poor law system was abolished in 1925 with the formation of the county boards of health and public assistance. During the War of Independence, the Cork Board of Guardians declared allegiance to Dáil Éireann. In November 1920 Vice Guardians (effectively paid commissioners) were appointed to manage the workhouse, on behalf of the Board of Guardians.

In common with many former workhouses, the Cork Union Workhouse buildings were taken over for use as a home and hospital (St.Finbarr's).

Content & Structure

Scope & Content

The archives of the Cork Board of Guardians are extensive, and include a large numbers of minute books, that record the proceedings of the Board's meetings, 1841 - 1924. Many subjects are recorded in the minute books, such as the ongoing struggle to both fund and manage the workhouse and related services, attitudes to poverty, developments in public health provision, and the care of the infirm, the destitute, children, and the mentally ill. The minutes also help to document the rise of nationalism.

Minutes of the Cork Dispensary Board/Committee for the 1890's, and the Cork Rural Sanitary Board for the 1870's.

Extensive correspondence in the form of incoming and outgoing letter books, principally with the Poor Law Commission (PLC), and later with the Local Government Board (LGB), 1839-1918. Also found is a set of original Orders and Circulars issued by the Poor Law Commission in the earliest years of the Cork Union, 1839-1850.

Financial account books, 1839-1925, including an extensive run of general ledgers, and day to day records, for example recording payments to suppliers. Also found is a printed Abstract of Account, giving receipts and expenditure and number of paupers relieved, compiled by Clerk of the Union and the Auditor, for year ending 29 Sep 1887.

Outdoor / out relief records, consist of a partial record of boarded out children, 1901-1903, and a report book by relieving and medical officers of various districts in the Union, 1912-1933, relating to the provision of out relief, extending into the period following the abolition of the Board of Guardians.

Records of the internal administration, and day to day management of the workhouse, 1847-1924, including storekeeping books, master's report books, visiting committees report books, staff time and wages books; and registers of the Cork Union Boys' National School, 1873-1904.

Records of inmates of the workhouse, 1840-1923, consisting of an extensive series of indoor relief registers, plus a less extensive set of indices to the registers, and an indoor relief list from 1924-1925. These series contain mainly personal information, and are thus a notable source for genealogical and family history research. A related series are the records of deaths in the Workhouse, which are also quite extensive, covering the period 1853-1931.

Register of Children at Nurse, recording of the fostering/boarding out of children, 1893 – 1924.

Inspector's report, 1923, relating to an enquiry into the administration of the workhouse during the term of office of the Vice Guardians, who were appointed in November 1920.

The collection is of particular interest to the study of the 19th century and early 20th c. period, the Irish poor law system, and the Great Famine. It helps to document the social, economic and political history of the Cork Union, and covers many subjects and issues both local and national in scope.

(See descriptive list of items below for detailed descriptions of series and items)

Arrangement

1. Minute Books, 1841 – 1924 (155 items)
2. Correspondence 1829 – 1918 (31 items)
3. Accounts 1839 – 1925 (54 items)
4. Out Relief 1901 – 1933 (2 items)
5. Boarding Out 1893 – 1924 (1 item)
6. Workhouse Administration 1847 – 1924 (32 items)
7. Workhouse: Inmates 1840 – 1925 (45 items)
8. Returns of Deaths 1853-1931 (7 items)
9. Miscellaneous 1923 (1 item)

In total, the collection comprises 36 series; see table of contents.

(Arrangement is based on McMenemy's classification, see 'Irish Archives Bulletin', October 1971)

Conditions of Access & Use

Access: Open by appointment to those holding a current readers ticket. Some records are restricted access.

Language: English

Physical / Technical Requirements:

MS. bound volumes.

Indoor relief registers (Ref. BG69/G) are consulted in microfilm format.

Finding Aids: Descriptive list.

Allied Materials:

Related Material

CCCA:

Various Board of Guardian records for other poor law unions in County Cork.

Elsewhere:

National Archives of Ireland: Archives of the Poor Law Commission and the Relief Commission.

General Index Terms

Irish History, 19th century, 20th century

Local Government, County Cork, 1830-1930

Poor Law, Ireland 1838-1925

Workhouses in Cork

Great Famine, Ireland, 1845-1848

Cork Family History and Genealogy

Archivists Note:

Brian McGee,
Archivist, CCCA,
31 January 2011

List of Items and Descriptions

1. *Minute Books, 1841 – 1924 (155 items)*

BG/69/A Board of Guardians Minute Books

Scope and Content:

A record of proceedings, decisions, orders, and reports made and received by the board of guardians in administering Cork Union and the workhouse in particular; such as, statistical tables of admissions, births, discharges and deaths, no. of sick inmates etc. in the workhouse on a weekly basis; reports of officers, securing and payment for supplies, staff appointments and pay. The first books are purely manuscript, with a semi-printed 'form type' minute book being introduced from c 1845. Later volumes have, in general, more pages, but often contain more blank entries and less detailed information.

Date: June 1841 – April 1924

Level: Series

Extent: 153 vols. (Each volume is c.300 – 600pp in size).

1. 4 Jun 1839 – 12 Jul 1841

Includes:

Guardians meeting at House of Industry, list of those present (p1)
 Adoption of bye laws 'to ensure the regularity and order in proceedings 'of the Board, such as 'That every Guardian when he desires to speak, shall stand up and address the chairman, and at all other times observe strict silence...' (p2)
 Order from Poor Law Commission that the House of Industry would be the workhouse for Cork Union, until the new workhouse is built (p93)
 Official classifications/descriptions of the 'destitute poor' (p94)
 Managing Committee report that classification of inmates is complete (p159)
 Finance Committee recommend payments for supplies, such as for bread, potatoes, coals, milk, religious books, hardware etc. (p200)
 State of the House on 19 Oct 1840, numbers of births, admissions, discharges, and deaths etc. Total balance of 1505 inmates (p258)
 Ordered that inmates Sarah Hardiman and Catherine Donovan '...be confined in the Black Hole for 48 hours during the day for coming into the House after liberty in a state of intoxication...' (p.312)
 Report of the chaplains of the Workhouse, noting that the classification of paupers

does nothing to separate the 'notoriously immoral, such as Prostitutes from the female inmates who may fortunately have escaped degradation', with attempts made to induce certain inmates to embrace a life of infamy, '...great evils must result from the indiscriminate association of the depraved with the virtuous...' (p.314).

Emigration Committee report into the number and condition of paupers able and willing to emigrate, including 17 candidates for Australia, March 1841 (p334)
With index.

2. 19 Jul 1841 – 27 Feb 1843

Includes:

Workhouse Committee, report of the Master concerning a riot at the House where hundreds of able bodied females refused to eat their dinner and broke open ward and store locks, entering into 'severe conflict' with staff (20 Jan 1842) (p140)

Report on Mr. Lloyd's suggestion on feeding paupers in the Cork Workhouse, including setting up a mill (p262)

Notice of motion to appoint committee to communicate with the several Boards of Guardians in Ireland to solicit their opinion on the working of the Poor Law '...with a view to its amelioration, alteration or extinction...' (p346)

With index.

3. 6 Mar 1843 – 30 Dec 1844

4. 6 Jan 1845 – 3 Nov 1845

5. 10 Nov 1845 – 24 Aug 1846

6. 31 Aug 1846 – 7 Jul 1847

Includes:

Totals of Poor Rate collected in each electoral division of the Union for 1 week (p2)

Copy of resignation letters from poor law guardian Captain William Martin (p7)

(2 Jan 1847) Return of paupers admitted, discharged, died, etc. in workhouse for the week; totalling 4442 inmates including 1187 sick and 59 deaths. (Number of inmates workhouse is 'calculated to contain' is 2800).

(2 Jan 1847) Masters estimate of provisions for ensuing week including 33,000 pounds of bread, 2 tons indian meal, 3753 gallons of milk, 200 pounds of candles, etc.

(9 Jan 1847) Report of Visiting/House Committee, recommending additional sleeping accommodation for 700 paupers

(9 Jan 1847) Report of Medical Officers concerning the '...extremely crowded state of the workhouse which threatens the highest danger to the inmates unless a remedy be instantly provided...Fever has appeared in almost every part...and the numbers and severity of the cases are daily on the increase...'

(6 Feb 1847) Return of Paupers admitted, discharged, died, etc. in workhouse for the week; totalling 5338 inmates including 1595 sick and 128 deaths.

(29 March 1847) Order that no further admissions into the House take place until the physicians report that the House is in a 'wholesome and healthy state'.

(29 March 1847) Order that the police barracks at Elizabeth Fort and the Orphan Asylum, Friars Walk, be declared fever hospitals of the Cork Union

(31 May 1847) Details of diet proposed for inmates at breakfast lunch and dinner, including the able bodied, children, infants, the infirm and the sick.

7. Missing
8. Missing
9. 21 Mar 1849 – 16 Jan 1950
10. 23 Jan 1850 – 9 Oct 1850
11. 16 Oct 1850 – 23 Apr 1851
12. 30 Apr 1851 – 19 Nov 1851
13. 26 Nov 1851 – 9 Jun 1852
14. 16 Jun 1852 – 29 Dec 1852
15. 5 Jan 1853 – 15 Jun 1853
16. 22 Jun 1853 – 30 Nov 1853
17. 7 Dec 1853 – 17 May 1854
18. 24 May 1854 – 1 Nov 1854
19. 8 Nov 1854 – 11 Apr 1855
20. 18 Apr 1855 – 3 Oct 1855
21. 10 Oct 1855 – 2 Apr 1856
22. 9 Apr 1856 – 1 Oct 1856
23. 8 Oct 1856 – 1 Apr 1857
24. 8 Apr 1857 – 30 Sept 1857
25. 7 Oct 1857 – 31 Mar 1858
26. 7 Apr 1858 – 29 Sept 1858
27. 6 Oct 1858 – 30 Mar 1859
28. 6 Apr 1859 – 28 Sept 1859
29. 5 Oct 1859 – 28 Mar 1860
30. 4 Apr 1860 – 26 Sept 1860
31. 3 Oct 1860 – 27 Mar 1861
32. 3 Apr 1861 – 25 Sept 1861
33. 2 Oct 1861 – 26 Mar 1862
34. 2 Apr 1862 – 24 Sept 1862
35. 1 Oct 1862 – 25 Mar 1863
36. 1 Apr 1863 – 30 Sept 1863

Includes:

State of the Workhouse week ending 28 March 1863 totalling 2785 inmates, with 913 in hospital and 76 lunatics or idiots (p1)

Return of Destitute Persons relieved out of the Workhouse, as by relief lists; total of 42 persons (p1)

Master's Report, mentioning seven cases of fever and two of smallpox admitted to the children's hospital, and the delivery of inferior milk and meat (p7)

Committees for ensuing year including Visiting and Clothing, Finance and Rate, Sanitary and Agricultural, and committee to examine proposal for the industrial training of female inmates (p10)

Report of J.Nugent, Inspector of Lunatic Asylums on his visit to the workhouse (p11)
Cork Dispensary District, supplies orders, actions undertaken and letters received , such as, matters arising under Medical Charities Act or the Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Acts including copy of resolution of Ballincollig Dispensary

Committee re. staff appointments (p20)

Orders of Poor Law Commissioners including a number concerning expenditure on the removal of paupers under warrant from other districts including parishes in England (p368)

Report of Visiting Committee, including offer from trustees of North Infirmary to allocate 20 beds to ophthalmic cases from the workhouse; admission of dangerous lunatics to the lunatic asylum, case to be made to the Lord Lieutenant; report on workhouse school (p372)

Appointment of committee to meet with the joint committee of Cork Corporation and the Fever Hospital Trustees concerning the future support of the Fever Hospital (p489)

37.	7 Oct 1863 – 30 Mar 1864
38.	6 Apr 1864 – 28 Sept 1864
39.	5 Oct 1864 – 30 Mar 1865
40.	6 Apr 1865 – 2 Oct 1865
41.	12 Oct 1865 – 29 Mar 1866
42.	5 Apr 1866 – 26 Sept 1866
43.	3 Oct 1866 – 27 Mar 1867
44.	3 Apr 1867 – 25 Sept 1867
45.	2 Oct 1867 – 1 Apr 1868
46.	8 Apr 1868 – 30 Sept 1868
47.	7 Oct 1868 – 31 Mar 1869
48.	7 Apr 1869 – 29 Sept 1869
49.	6 Oct 1869 – 30 Mar 1870
50.	6 Apr 1870 – 29 Sept 1870
51.	6 Oct 1870 – 30 Mar 1871
52.	6 Apr 1871 – 28 Sept 1871
53.	5 Oct 1871 – 28 Mar 1872
54.	4 Apr 1872 – 26 Sept 1872
55.	3 Oct 1872 - 3 Apr 1873
56.	10 Apr 1873 – 2 Oct 1873
57.	9 Oct 1873 – 9 Apr 1874
58.	16 Apr 1874 – 8 Oct 1874
59.	15 Oct 1874 – 8 Apr 1875
60.	8 Apr 1875 – 30 Sept 1875
61.	7 Oct 1875 – 30 Mar 1876
62.	6 Apr 1876 – 28 Sept 1876
63.	5 Oct 1876 – 29 Mar 1877
64.	5 Apr 1877 – 27 Sept 1877
65.	4 Oct 1877 – 4 Apr 1878
66.	11 Apr 1878 – 26 Sept 1878
67.	3 Oct 1878 – 27 Mar 1879
68.	3 Apr 1879 – 25 Sept 1879
69.	2 Oct 1879 – 1 Apr 1880
70.	8 Apr 1880 – 30 Sept 1880
71.	7 Oct 1880 – 31 Mar 1881
72.	7 Apr 1881 – 29 Sept 1881

73. 6 Oct 1881 – 30 Mar 1882
 74. 6 Apr 1882 – 28 Sept 1882

Includes:

Statistical table, 'Return of Destitute Persons relieved out of the Workhouse as by Relief Lists', week ending 1 April 1882; total of 3192 persons (p1)
 Letters from Local Government Board and others and answers/orders on foot of; including names of 8 boarded out (fostered) children (p8)
 Sums granted to aid emigration to America such as 6 Guineas for Margaret Murray and son, to go to Boston (p129)
 Report from architect concerning provision of a water pump in village of Ovens (p159)
 Record of numbers of vaccinations carried out in each electoral division in the Union (p315)
 Proceedings of the Burial Board, including proposed erection of walls at Curraghkippane graveyard (p380)

75. 5 Oct 1882 – 29 Mar 1883
 76. 5 Apr 1883 – 27 Sept 1883
 77. 4 Oct 1883 – 27 Mar 1884
 78. 3 Apr 1884 – 25 Sept 1884
 79. 2 Oct 1884 – 26 Mar 1885
 80. 2 Apr 1885 – 24 Sept 1885
 81. 1 Oct 1886 – 25 Mar 1886
 82. 1 Apr 1886 – 23 Sept 1886
 83. 30 Sept 1886 – 24 Mar 1887
 84. 31 Mar 1887 – 22 Sept 1887
 85. 29 Sept 1887 – 22 Mar 1888
 86. 29 Mar 1888 – 20 Sept 1888
 87. 27 Sept 1888 – 21 Mar 1889
 88. 28 Mar 1889 – 12 Sept 1889
 89. 19 Sept 1889 – 13 Mar 1890
 90. 20 Mar 1890 – 11 Sept 1890
 91. 18 Sept 1890 – 19 Mar 1891
 92. 26 Mar 1891 – 17 Sept 1891
 93. 24 Sept 1891 – 17 Mar 1892
 94. 24 Mar 1892 – 15 Sept 1892
 95. 22 Sept 1892 – 16 Mar 1893
 96. 23 Mar 1893 – 14 Sept 1893
 97. 21 Sept 1893 – 15 Mar 1894
 98. 22 Mar 1894 – 13 Sept 1894
 99. 20 Sept 1894 – 14 Mar 1895
 100. 21 Mar 1895 – 12 Sept 1895
 101. 19 Sept 1895 – 19 Mar 1896
 102. 26 Mar 1896 – 10 Sept 1896
 103. 17 Sept 1896 – 11 Mar 1897
 104. 18 Mar 1897 – 2 Sept 1897
 105. 9 Sept 1897 – 24 Mar 1898

106.	31 Mar 1898 – 22 Sept 1898
107.	29 Sept 1898 – 16 Mar 1899
108.	23 Mar 1899 – 19 Oct 1899
109.	26 Oct 1899 – 19 Apr 1900
110.	26 Apr 1900 – 18 Oct 1900
111.	25 Oct 1900 – 18 Apr 1901
112.	25 Apr 1901 – 17 Oct 1901
113.	24 Oct 1901 – 24 Apr 1902
114.	30 Apr 1902 – 23 Oct 1902
115.	30 Oct 1902 – 30 Apr 1903
116.	7 May 1903 – 22 Oct 1903
117.	29 Oct 1903 – 21 Apr 1904
118.	28 Apr 1904 – 20 Oct 1904
119.	27 Oct 1904 – 27 Apr 1905
120.	4 May 1905 -19 Oct 1905
121.	2 Nov 1905 – 26 Apr 1906
122.	3 May 1906 – 25 Oct 1906
123.	1 Nov 1906 – 4 Apr 1907
124.	11 Apr 1907 – 3 Oct 1907
125.	10 Oct 1907 – 2 Apr 1908
126.	9 Apr 1908 – 8 Oct 1908
127.	15 Oct 1908 – 15 Apr 1909
128.	22 Apr 1909 – 14 Oct 1909
129.	21 Oct 1909 – 14 Apr 1910
130.	21 Apr 1910 – 30 Mar 1911
131.	6 Oct 1910 – 30 Mar 1911
132.	6 Apr 1911 – 3 Oct 1911
133.	5 Oct 1911 – 28 Mar 1912
134.	4 Apr 1912 – 27 June 1912
135.	4 Jul 1912 – 26 Apr 1912
136.	3 Oct 1912 – 2 Jan 1913
137.	9 Jan 1913 – 3 Apr 1913
138.	10 Apr 1913 – 3 Jul 1913
139.	10 Jul 1913 – 2 Oct 1913
140.	9 Oct 1913 – 26 Mar 1914
141.	Missing
142.	1 Oct 1914 – 25 Mar 1915

Includes:

Report of Master and Other Officers, mainly re. staff issues and tenders for supplies (p28)

Proceedings under Pauper Children's Acts etc. with details of boarded out children (p35)

Resolved that a request is made to the government to take immediate steps to regulate the prices of food stuffs in the City of Cork, '...same as they had done in the case of Sugar, as we could take Tea without Sugar, though not our Breakfast without Bread...' (p246)

Resolved that the Lunatic Asylum Committee transfer all lunatics in the workhouse

to the auxiliary asylum in Youghal, to be partly paid for by the government rather than ratepayers. (p437)

Auditors report notes increased consumption of whiskey at the workhouse, despite the fact that '...neither in health nor disease is alcohol necessary or even desirable.' (p438)

Motion by CP O'Sullivan concerning 'by what means 36 boys were sent out of this house to join the Army without consulting this Board who are the boys' Guardians'. (p438) and concerning increase in Outdoor Relief to women and children 'as [the price of] provisions are gone so high that it is utterly impossible to give children half the amount for same money as eight months ago ' (p486)

143.	1 Apr 1915 – 9 Sept 1915
144.	23 Sept 1915 – 9 Mar 1916
145.	23 Mar 1916 – 7 Sept 1916
146.	8 Sep 1916 – 21 Mar 1917
147	22 Mar 1917 – 20 Sept 1917
148	27 Sept 1917 – 28 Mar 1918
149	4 Apr 1918 – 26 Sept 1918
150	3 Oct 1918 – 3 Apr 1919
151.	10 Apr 1919 – 25 Sept 1919
152.	2 Oct 1919 – 1 Apr 1920
153.	8 Apr 1920 – 13 Oct 1920
154.	17 Nov 1920 – 29 Jul 1922
155.	16 Aug 1922 – 22 Aug 1923

Includes:

Resolution of sympathy on death of President Arthur Griffith, the founder of Sinn Fein (p5)

Resolution from special meeting of the guardians, vote of condolence with 'sincere and heartfelt sorrow', on death of General Michael Collins (p7)

Report of Auditor [A. MacFionnlaoich], concerning complaints re. irregular traffic in bread and flour, excessive prices paid for thread, etc. (p65)

Letter from Cork and District Trades Council and resolution supporting suspension of Vice Guardians Lankford and Higgins (p67)

Letters from Ministry of Local Government and from Cork Corporation concerning outbreak of small pox in England and preparations for spread to Cork, including vaccination (p79)

Letter from S.Langford concerning his employment with the Cork board of guardians (p88)

Letter from Ministry of Local Government concerning inquiry into the administration of the Cork Union during the period of offices of the Special Commissioners Messrs. Lankford and Higgins (p103)

Resolution of support for appointment of paid commissioners, '...who always had the implicit confidence of the great majority of this Board...while many vile charges have been levelled at the Vice-Guardians not even one solitary attempt has ever been made to supply proof of such...' (p218)

Letter from the Minister for Local Government notifying that the Board of Guardians

are to be superseded by vice guardians/commissioners. Protest vote is carried against this 'undemocratic' decision. (p327)

Minutes of proceedings of newly appointed Commissioners acting as the Board of Guardians of Cork Union on foot of order dated 18 July 1923(p341)

At request of Cork Corporation, appointment of some members of the late board of guardians , and others in the City as wardens to give out tickets for admission to the workhouse (p442)

Financial Minutes, 11 August 1923 with receipts and expenditure totals (p469)

156. 29 Aug 1923 – 20 Feb 1924

157. 27 Feb 1924 – 30 Apr 1924

BG/69/AJ/1 Cork Dispensary Committee Minute Book

Scope and Content:

Records the various decisions and resolutions of the Cork Dispensary Committee, meeting at Liberty Street, Cork; mainly concerning staffing, financial and administrative issues relating to the operation of the various public dispensaries in the Cork poor law union area; such as concerning a complaint about 'persons in good circumstances who take advantage of the Nurses services' (30 Sep 1890, p3) and such as outbreak of fever at Ballincollig Barracks (28 Oct 1890, p4); report sent to the Guardians of the Cork Poor Law Union concerning accommodation for relieving officers and medical staff (1 Mar 1892, p34); and such as, request by Board of Guardians for attention to report by Dr. Brown to Local Government Board concerning the North Dispensary building at Shandon Street (24 March 1895, p93); and such as Dr. Hayes appearing before committee to explain why he refused to give a corporation employee a certificate (9 March 1897, p153) and such as, re-division of Cork into Urban and Rural dispensary districts (21 Feb 1899); Members of the committee included corporation members such as the High Sherriff Alderman Sir John Scott, also aldermen Madden, Buckley and Ryan.

Also news cutting at rear concerning special meeting of Committee, 12 Jan 1892 to fill vacancy due to death of Dr. C.Harvey. Added to the volume as an enclosure is a workhouse admission ticket, dated 22 July 1862, completed by the relieving officer, No 2 District, in favour of Hanna Donovan, 25 Blarney Lane.

Date: 16 Sept 1890 – 2 Apr 1899

Level: Item

Extent: c.200pp

BG/69/AL/1 Rural Sanitary Board Minute Book**Scope and Content:**

Proceedings of the Rural Sanitary Board/Committee (under 37 and 38 Vic., c.93). Most entries are signed by Michael Carr, Executive Sanitary Officer Cork Union. Notes receipt of reports of Sanitary Officers for various districts, such as Ballincollig, Carrignavar, Carrigaline, Blackrock, Queenstown, Blarney, Cork No.4, Ballygarvan, Douglas; gives name of Sanitary Officer, general subject (such as 'nuisances' and brief particulars (such as '1 case bad drainage'). Notes that the reports were read and any directions given recorded in the executive sanitary officers report book. Summary of letters received and decisions made, such as, Dr. [Rountree] Ballincollig reporting that there has been illness and fever in the house of Mary Nash, recommending a thorough cleansing of the house and fumigating by sulphur fumes, whitewashing, burning of straw bed and bedding (23 Jan 1875, p35); as such as, seven sanitary reports were read from the sanitary officer of Whitechurch Dispensary District, Dr. Jefferies, concerning nuisances, and 'The usual notices were ordered in each case' (30 January 1875, p.37); and such as, Dr. Donovan of the Cork Dispensary District complained of the dilapidated state of the houses situated at the Kerry Pike...'The Board directed that the Landlord and tenant be noticed in every case.' (29 Apr 1875, p83); and such as, Deputation of the rate payers of Passage and Monkstown protesting 'in the strongest manner against the project for supplementing the Passage West water supply (2 Sep 1875, p158).

Date: 28 Nov 1874 – 3 Feb Jan 1876

Level: Item

Extent: 241pp

2. Correspondence 1829 – 1918 (31 items)

BG/69/B/ Board of Guardian Outgoing Letter Books

Scope and Content:

Letter books containing copies of letters sent by the Clerk and Secretary of the Union, to various parties including the Poor Law Commissioners and later the Local Government Board, rate collectors, the Guardians' solicitors, members of staff, the master of the Workhouse, various persons subject to resolutions and actions of the Guardians and the Cork Sanitary Authority.

Date: Jun 1829 – Jul 1918

Level: Series

Extent: 6 vols.

1. 19 Jun 1829 – 6 Apr 1854

Includes:

(17 Jul 1839) to William Stanley Esquire, Asst. Secretary, Poor Law Commissioners Office, Dublin, transmitting report of last days meeting of the Board of Guardians

(20 Mar 1841) to Richard Neane Esq, Secretary and Registrar, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, concerning payment of pension of Patrick Maguire late of the 6th [Veterans] Battalion.

(12 Jan 1849) to WH Hopper, Secretary, Central Board of Health, Dublin, concerning powers to be given to the Board of Guardians for the speedy issue of coffins for burial of destitute persons

(18 Feb 1853) to Secretary of Education, Dublin concerning employment of a 'first class female teacher capable of instructing the adult as well as the younger inmates in the higher branches of needle work and embroidery..'

(21 Apr 1853) to A.C. Buchanan, Emigration Office, Quebec, concerning 99 young women inmates selected for emigration on the 'Urania'. Appeals to his usual kindness and humanity to take an interest in their success. Gives names of seven girls who in particular were 'very well conducted and of excellent character'. With partial index. (c.500pp)

2. Missing
3. Missing
4. 6 Jun 1879 – 22 Feb 1886
5. 1 Mar 1886 – 20 Feb 1894

6. 12 Jul 1894 – 16 May 1899

Includes:

(19 May 1896, p25) to Blake Solicitors, Marlboro Street concerning list of labourers cottage contractors who have not completed contracts within the time specified.

(10 Mar 1897 p212) to Secretary, Local Government Board, concerning nomination of George O'Donnell for the office of Guardian for the West Ward of the Cork Electoral Division.

(1 Nov 1897 p406) to Secretary, LGB, concerning proposed bye laws by Cork Rural Sanitary Authority

(20 April 1898 p520) to Messrs. JC & A Blake Solicitors, concerning prosecution of named persons for failing to comply with notices from the Sanitary Authority to repair houses, erect privies, etc.

(29 Dec 1898 p733) to Secretary, Public Works Loan Commissioners concerning urgently required loan of £1400 to construct Parkgariffe reservoir.

(14 Mar 1899 p882) to JL Lyons Esq., Rate Collector, Rate Office, Georges Street noting closure of collections before 25 March and quoting circular of LGB concerning recovery of bonds should progress not be satisfactory. (950pp)

7. Missing

8. 27 Jun 1904 – 29 Jul 1911

9. 14 Aug 1911 – 1 Jul 1918

Includes:

(19 Feb 1912 p70) to Mrs. Regis, concerning Visiting Committee recommendation to dispose of worn out bedding and men's and boys clothing, some of which was in a 'wretched condition'.

(9 March 1912 p82) to Master of the Workhouse, enclosing half yearly reports of Local Government Inspector and reciting related orders of the Guardians concerning beds, stocks, etc

(6 Jul 1912 p155) to Messrs. JC & A Blake, Solicitors enclosing tender of the City of Cork Steampacket Company for supply of coal. Necessary bond to be issued. The Guardians 'desire to encourage the development of the coal industry in Ireland', and the action has been endorsed by the Cork Industrial Development Association.

(13 Feb 1914 p384) to Secretary, LGB, concerning dietary scales in operation at the Workhouse and detailing special scale for Fever Hospital Assistants

(16 May 1916 p733) to Mrs. O'Connor concerning Nora Jones of 28 Corporation Buildings who has a child named Bridget Hock aged 4 days received from Aunt Mary Houlihan of 'Castletown Island'. Usual enquiries and report on the case to be made at next meeting of the Guardians.

(29 May 1918 p977) to Rev. AJ Canon Nicholson, enclosing copy of resolution by Guardians expressing surprise at his public support for Conscription, which 'appears in ill accord with his duties as a Minister of the Gospel of Peace and Brotherly Love', and assuring him that he may receive his full salary should he

‘join the colours’, and noting that his four sons, all of military age, should follow his ‘noble example’. (c.1000pp)

BG/69/BC/ Incoming Letters from the Poor Law Commissioners and Local Government Board

Scope and Content:

Mainly letters and circular letters relating to the administration of the work house, also legal issues, classification and treatment of inmates, provision of facilities such as fever hospitals, provision of new posts and appointments. See includes notes below for more information.

Date: Jan 1841 – Dec 1873

Level: Series

Extent: 24 vols.

Related Material: National Archives of Ireland: archives of the Poor Law Commissioners.

1. Missing
2. 2 Jan 1841 – 21 Dec 1844

Includes:

(13 Feb 1841 p9) from Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin to objecting to extra allowance for paupers employed in making shoes, and classification of female paupers etc.

(1 Oct 1842) circular from Poor Law Commission Office, concerning liability of constabulary barracks to the Poor Rate

(1 June 1844) as above, concerning the giving of 20lbs of bread to John Barry and family on leaving the workhouse to go to England, one of ‘very numerous’ such instances, which is contrary to the Poor Law which allows relief to be given to those admitted to the Workhouse only.

(Damaged, Fragile)

3. 2 Jan 1845 – 26 Dec 1846

4. 2 Jan 1847 – 31 Dec 1847

Includes:

(2 Jan 1847) concerning vaccination scheme and contracts for Cork Union
 (4 Mar 1847) from Board of Health Office, Dublin, enclosing copies of letters and resolutions such as, from Henry O'Brien, MD, Physician of the Carrigaline Dispensary concerning spread of fever amongst the 'very distressed inhabitants', the need for a fever hospital and noting, 'From the extreme poverty and destitution of the People, there can be no doubt that unless some place of Refuge be immediately procured for them, the great Majority of the sick in this neighbourhood must die for want of the common necessities of life'. Board of Health recommend that temporary provision should be made as the fever Hospital being erected will not meet the 'immediate exigencies of the case'.
 (1 Jul 1847) Circular from PLC, concerning ending of Temporary Relief Act advances and the Irish Relief Extension Act, which includes certain additional relief powers for Guardians for the destitute poor.

5. Missing
 6. 1 Jan 1849 – 31 Dec 1849
 7. 27 Jan 1849 – 31 Dec 1850
 8. 3 Jan 1851 – 19 Dec 1851
 9. 10 Feb 1852 – 22 Dec 1852
 10. 3 Jan 1853 – 30 Dec 1853
 11. 7 Jan 1854 – 30 Dec 1854
 12. 2 Jan 1855 – 31 Dec 1855
 13. 1 Jan 1856 – 30 Dec 1856

Includes:

(8 Jan 1856) Appointment of an Agriculturalist, and reduction in number of teachers.
 (5 Jul 1856) Order of House of Commons for returns of the number of sick in Belfast, Cork and Galway workhouses.

14. 2 Jan 1857 – 30 Dec 1858
 15. 3 Jan 1859 – 31 Dec 1860
 16. Missing
 17. 2 Jan 1862 – 30 Dec 1862
 18. 2 Jan 1863 – 30 Dec 1864
 19. 2 Jan 1865 – 29 Dec 1865
 20. 2 Jan 1866 – 7 May 1867
 21. 19 Dec 1866 – 31 Dec 1867
 22. 2 Jan 1868 – 22 Dec 1868
 23. 2 Jan 1869 – 22 Dec 1869
 24. 6 Jan 1870 – 30 Dec 1870
 25. 3 Jan 1871 – 30 Nov 1871
 26. 3 Jan 1872 – 10 Dec 1872

27. 3 Jan 1873 – 11 Dec 1873

Includes:

(3 Jan 1873) Local Government Board, return of cases of ophthalmia and other inflammatory diseases of the eye.

(22 Jan 1873) LGB enclosing extract from Medical Officers return relating to the Cork No. 7 Dispensary District premises in Post Office Lane.

(21 Apr 1873) LGB, letter enclosing form for particulars of Margaret Brennan, re. proposed emigration

(13 Sep 1873) LGB Circular re. Nuisance authorities around the coast of Ireland to prevent against Cholera, and treatment of Cholera patients arriving in vessels. Lists places around Europe where Cholera was reported.

(22 Oct 1873) from Robert Achesen, concerning emigration of females to New Zealand via London. Also list of names , ages , health, and register numbers of those eligible, and certified as having good character by Denis McCarthy R.C. Chaplain.

BG/69/BE Orders by Poor Law Commissioners, Cork Union**Scope and Content:**

Orders and Circulars issued by Poor Law Commission relating to Cork Union.

Includes:

(3 Apr 1839) Order of PLC declaring Cork Union, and setting out parishes in each of 13 electoral divisions, division of Cork City Electoral Division into wards, with ward boundaries. Also, ordering the election of Guardians and appointment of returning officer, general powers of Guardians, Meetings, Appointment of Justices of the Peace as ex-officio guardians

(19 Feb 1840) Ordered Guardians to have built a workhouse for 2,000 persons, with the House of Industry as a temporary workhouse.

(17 Feb 1840) Appointment of Poor Rate collectors

(9 Dec 1841) Order declaring workhouse fit for reception of the destitute poor

(5 Sep 1842) Foundling Hospital – reduction in Coal Tax payable

(15 Jun 1844) Workhouse Rules containing 71 articles concerning admission of paupers, classification, discipline and diet, punishments, visiting committee, repair and maintenance, and duties of officers such as Master, Matron, Chaplain, Porter, Medical Officer, Schoolmasters (13pp)

Date: 1839-1850

Level: Item

Extent: c.400pp

DAMAGED

(**Note:** Formerly referenced as: BG/69/P)

3. Accounts 1839 – 1925 (54 items)

BG/69/CA/ General Ledgers

Scope and Content:

Contains all money transactions noted in the Minute Books under the following heads of account; a separate account with each Electoral Division of the Union; Maintenance Account; Establishment Account; Treasurer's Account; Provision Account; Clothing Account; Invoice Account, Exchequer Loan Commissioners, Emigration Account, Building Account, Treasurer, Balance.

Date: Aug 1839 – Mar 1915

Level: Series

Extent: 41 vols.

1. 26 Aug 1839 – 29 Sept 1841

Includes:

Accounts such as; National Bank of Ireland ; Treasurer; Election Expenses; Valuation Expenses, Incidental Expenses; Offal; Manure; Rates Collectors; Rent; Clothing and Bedding; Maintenance including food supplies; Establishment including coal, emigration expenses, salaries; Pensions; Law Expenses; each Electoral Division; various supplies such as bread, milk, potatoes, medicines, wine, spirits and porter; Recapitulation of Receipts and Expenditure. With index. (c.200ff)

2. 30 Sept 1841 – 25 Mar 1842
3. 25 Mar 1843 – 31 Mar 1845
4. Missing
5. 30 Sept 1846 – 25 Mar 1848
6. 30 Mar 1848 – 3 Oct 1849
7. 10 Oct 1849 – 25 Mar 1851
8. 26 Mar 1851 – 25 Mar 1853
9. 25 Mar 1853 – 25 Mar 1855
10. 25 Mar 1855 – 25 Mar 1857
11. 25 Mar 1857 – 25 Mar 1859
12. 25 Mar 1859 – 29 Sept 1860
13. 29 Sept 1860 – 25 Mar 1862
14. 25 Mar 1862 – 30 Sept 1863
15. 20 Mar 1863 – 30 Mar 1865
16. 25 Mar 1865 – 29 Mar 1866
17. 25 Mar 1866 – 2 Oct 1867
18. 29 Sept 1867 – 25 Mar 1869

19. Oct 1868 - 25 Mar 1870

Includes:

Enclosure (f. 48): (22 Oct 1869) letter from Thomas [Glick], secretary, National Association for promoting the education of The Deaf and Dumb Poor of Ireland, Claremont, Near Glasnevin, Dublin, enclosing receipt for payment of £2.10 from Guardians for Simon Connor.

20. 25 Mar 1870 – 29 Sept 1871

21. Mar 1871 - Sept 1872

22. 4 Oct 1873 – 25 Mar 1875

23. Missing

24. 25 Mar 1876 – 29 Sept 1877

25. Missing

26. Missing

27. 29 Sept 1880 – 29 Sept 1881

28. 6 Oct 1881 – 29 Sept 1882

29. 5 Oct 1882 – 29 Sept 1883

30. 4 Oct 1883 – 29 Sept 1884

31. 2 Oct 1884 – 29 Sept 1885

32. 1 Oct 1885 – 29 Sept 1886

33. 30 Sept 1886 – 29 Sept 1887

34. 6 Oct 1887 – 29 Oct 1888

35. 4 Oct 1888 – 29 Sept 1889

35A. 4 Oct 1888 – 22 Nov 1888 (All entries duplicated in BG/69/CA/35)

36. 29 Sept 1889 – 29 Sept 1890

37. 29 Sept 1890 – 29 Sept 1891

Includes:

Accounts such as 'The Treasurer' containing incoming rates; unpaid bills; invoice; provisions; maintenance; clothing; each Relieving Officer; establishment; Workhouse burial; each Dispensary District; registration; sanitary; intercepting hospital; burial grounds; labourers cottages; cattle disease; seed supply; parliamentary grant; loan receipts; balance sheet for ½ year ending 25 Mar 1891; overall balances for each electoral division. (c.240ff)

38. 29 Sept 1891 – 29 Sept 1892

39. 6 Oct 1892 – 25 Mar 1893

40. 30 Mar 1893 – 29 Sept 1893

41. 5 Oct 1893 – 29 Sept 1895

42. 6 Oct 1894 – 25 Mar 1895

43. 29 Sept 1895 – 29 Sept 1896

44. 29 Sept 1896 – 25 Mar 1897

45. 30 Sept 1897 – 25 Mar 1898

46. 6 Oct 1898 – 25 Mar 1899

47. – 52. Missing

53. 30 Sep 1913 – 31 Mar 1915

BG/69/CB/ Personal Ledgers**Scope and Content:**

Contains details of weekly payments to contractors and list of goods supplied.

Date: Apr 1921 - Sep 1924

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. Apr 1921 – 31 May 1922

Includes:

Jeremiah Murphy for Milk (f1) Messrs. C. Flynn and Sons for beef, mutton, tripe, and drisheen (f6); Messrs. MD Daly and Co,. for coffee, sugar, tea, candles, rice, oatmeal, syrup, pearl barley (f54); Messrs Dwyer and Co, for boys braces, linen thread, butter muslin, saucepans, scrubbing brushes, drawing pins, twill sheeting, grey calico (f140); Messrs Baker and Co. for putty, engine oil, charcoal, turpentine (f193). With index.
(203ff)

2. 31 Jul 1922 – 30 Sep 1924

BG/69/CD/1 Financial Statements Book, Receipts**Scope and Content:**

Receipts of monies received from Cork County Council, water rents, cottage rents, graves purchased. Mainly recording rents from labourers cottages.

Date: (Oct 1920) Half year ending Mar 1921 – Sep 1925

Level: Item

Extent: 17ff

BG/69/CH Day Books**Scope and Content:**

'Kept by each officer authorized to order goods on behalf of the Board of Guardians'. Records date of receipt of goods, number of order, name of person or firm supplying goods, particulars, class of service, date invoice certified for payment. Such as; June 3rd, 4153, Messrs The Munster Arcade, 11 Gross Shirt Buttons @ 8d, total 7s4d (BG69/CH/1)

Date: Jan 1919 – Apr 1925

Level: Series

Extent: 3 items

1. Jan 1919 – Apr 1920
2. Oct 1921 – Nov 1923
3. Sep 1923 – Apr 1925

BG/69/CJ Abstract of Accounts**Scope and Content:**

Local Government Board (Ireland), Cork Union, Abstract of the Several Accounts of Each Electoral Division and Numbers of Paupers Relieved, &c compiled by Clerk of the Union and Auditor

With 1. Overall numbers of paupers relieved listed by electoral division for each of 28 electoral divisions, and classified according to status, health, whether blind/deaf and dumb; numbers for indoor relief and outdoor relief; also number and cost of persons emigrating. 2. Names, title and salaries of all officers employed by the Union including assistants and servants, also officers of dispensary districts. 3. Summary financial statement with abstract of accounts for each electoral division for half year, showing particulars of the poor Rates in course of collection, amounts collected and lodged. 4. Financial Statement abstract of union accounts for half year showing receipts, expenditure, and balances. Receipts include poor rate, parliamentary grant. Expenditure includes maintenance and clothing, establishment charges, out-relief in money and in kind, expenditure under poor law acts including collectors poundage, emigration, workhouse burials, elections, medical charities and vaccinations and registration acts, under public health act 1878 (sanitary and burial ground purposes), superannuation, labourer's act, cattle disease. 4. Insurance Return for Cork Union, recording overall insurance expenditure. 5. Abstract of the Provision Account showing quantities and cost of articles of food and necessities consumed in the Cork Union Workhouse in the half year, and daily average number of paupers relieved. Articles include flour, indian meal, eggs, milk, soup, beef, mutton, tea, port wine, whiskey, porter, lard, butter, potatoes, coal, soap, and candles. Total cost for 2277 paupers (year ending 29 Sep 1887) is £7945.4.3. (Also gives amounts for years ending 29 Sep 1886 and 25 Mar 1887). Printed in Cork by Flynn and Co. Printers and Stationers, 66 Georges Street, 1888.

Date: Half Year ending 29 Sep 1887

Level: Item

Extent: 8pp

BG/69/CL/1 Bank Pass Book**Scope and Content:**

Contains a record of transactions giving the number and amount of every cheque drawn against the account.

Date: 28 Feb 1918 – 1 Aug 1919

Level: Item

Extent: c.300pp

BG/69/CQ/ Miscellaneous Account Books**Scope and Content:**

Various account books, mainly relating to payments to contractors and suppliers.

Date: 1889 - 1918

Level: Series

Extent: 5 items

1. Contracts Book, Half year ended 29 Sep 1889 – 31 Mar 1905
Brief list of contractors, goods and prices agreed. Categories include general workhouse supplies, hardware, oils and paints, hospital necessities, chandlers. Also some copies of some tender forms.
2. Creditors' Ledger,
Jul 1910 – Aug 1912
3. Contractors' Accounts (Ledger),
May 1912 – May 1914
4. Suppliers' Ledger
1916 – 1918

5. 14 Jan 1918 – 20 Jun 1918
Account Book entitled “Treasurer’s Account – Late J.B. Kennefick Fund”, Includes names of subscribers and amounts subscribed to the Kennefick and Fr. O’Flynn Testimonials.

4. Out Relief 1901 – 1933 (2 items)

BG/69/EH Relieving Officer's Report on Children at Nurse/Boarded Out

DAMAGED.

Scope and Content:

Gives name of child, name of nurse, residence of nurse, monthly visits, date visited, no. days at school, whether child is properly cared, observations.
Approx. 12 children recorded.

Date: 1901-1903

Level: Item

Extent: 4ff

Related Material: BG/69/I/1

BG/69/E Relief Order Report Book

Scope and Content:

Brief reports by relieving or medical officers of various districts relating to provision of out relief, medical and other staff absences, acting posts and appointments, applications for leave of absence, reports on boarded out children, issuing of admission notes, reports on vaccination defaulters.

(**Note:** Formerly listed as BG69/FA/1)

Date: 21 Nov 1912 – 25 Jan 1933

Level: Item

Extent: 629pp

Access: Restricted until 2033

5. Boarding Out 1893 – 1924 (1 item)

BG/69/I/1 Register of Children at Nurse/Boarded Out

Scope and Content:

Records running number, number on relieving officer's application and report book, date of application, folio of minute book and date when order made, name of child, religion, folio of history sheet, age in years and months when boarded out, weight when handed over to foster parent, name of foster parent, address of foster parent, date of contract with foster parent, rate of payment, result (e.g. 'Adopted' , or 'Returned to workhouse', 'Sent to service', 'Claimed by mother' etc.), observations/name of relieving officer. With index.

Date: 2 Nov 1893 – 5 Mar 1924

Level: Item

Extent: 50ff

Related Material: BG69/EH

Access: Restricted until 2024.

6. Workhouse Administration 1847 – 1924 (32 items)

BG/69/FA/1 Master's Report Book

Scope and Content:

Report book kept by the master of the Workhouse.

Includes:

(6 June 1895) Deserted male child aged about 6 weeks brought to workhouse by Constable Connor.

(12 March 1896) Master reports that Timothy Buckley, probationary ward master still of duty owing to illness

(22 Jul 1897) One of the water tanks in the turkish bath worn out and unfit for further use.

(14 April 1898) Last lot of seed potatoes have been distributed, giving quantities sent to each electoral division, such as, Blackpool, 27 tons 4 cwt.

(7 Jul 1898) List of articles of clothing examined by the committee and found to be unfit for further use

(10 Nov 1898) Two boys Pat Walsh and Thomas Ring absconded from the Male School, but brought back by the police.

(c.300pp)

Date: May 1895 – 20 Jul 1899

Level: Item

Extent: c.300pp

Note: Damaged, v.fragile

BG/69/FC/1 Requirement Book - Clothing**Scope and Content:**

Includes date of issue, place to which issued, category, (i.e. whether bedding or clothing; men's', women's', boys', etc).

Date: 21 Nov 1912 – 3 Apr 1922

Level: Item

Extent: 400pp

BG/69/FD/ Storekeeper's Receipt Books**Scope and Content:**

Rough work book recording materials received from store, and work delivered into store.

Date: 1918-1939

Level: Item

Extent: c.50pp

1. Missing
2. 1918 – 1939
Clothing. 'Miss Geary, Girls School', for aprons, shrouds, overalls, tweed, girls frocks etc.

BG/69/FE/ Store Receipt and Delivery Books**Scope and Content:**

Roughly kept books relating to the provision of materials for various sections of the workhouse. Details include type of materials received (e.g. leather, calico), number and type of articles made up and information regarding unit and total cost.

Date: Mar 1899 – Jul 1924

Level: Series

Extent: 11 items

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. "Mat Shop" (Cair
floor mats) | 28 Mar 1899 – 5 Sept 1902 |
| 1A. (No Title)
[Fabric] | 24 Oct 1899 – Nov 1904 |
| 2. "Industrial Dept"
(Fabric) | 24 Apr 1901 – 15 Jul 1904 |
| 3. "Hospital
Laundry" | 10 Apr 1905 – 13 Sept 1920 |
| 4. "Female Infirmary
and Industrial Dept." | 29 Apr 1918 – 19 Jan 1921 |
| 5. (No Title) | 30 Sept 1942 – 25 Mar 1944 |
| 6. "Tailor's Book" | 1 Oct 1911 – 11 May 1918 |
| 7. "Shoemaker" | 30 Sept 1905 – 28 Mar 1942 |
| 8. "Candles and Blue
Starch" | 3 Apr 1905 – 11 Oct 1941 |
| 9. "Shoemaker's
Book" | 2 Oct 1909 – 6 Apr 1911 |
| 10. "Shoemaker's
Book" | 6 Apr 1918 – 12 Jul 1924 |

BG/69/FF Clothing Receipt Books**Scope and Content:**

Bedding and clothing in the workhouse, when received, whence received, for various parts of workhouse including general laundry, male and female Hospital, male and female able bodied and Infirm, male lunatic, etc

Date: 1900 - 1923

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. 1900 – 1904
2. 1907 – 1923

BG/69/FG/1 Provision Check Book**Scope and Content:**

Records date, name of contractor/person, description of goods, board order/price per unit, value. Such as, 25 January 1898, M.Creedon, 105 dozen eggs and 1 firkin butter, 86/8, £2.15s.

Date: 27 May 1897 – 15 Feb 1904

Level: Item

Extent: c.700pp

BG/69/FM/ Visiting Committees Report Books**Scope and Content:**

Contains handwritten accounts of visits to the workhouse and reports and recommendations made to the Board of Guardians by various committees, mainly the house committee, but also visiting committee, school committee, special committee, and accommodation committee.

Date: Nov 1847 – Oct 1900

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. 8 Nov 1847 – 19 Jul 1865

Includes:

(24 April 1848) House Committee. In compliance with resolution of the Board of Guardians, the committee examined the salaries of employees and recommend reducing posts

(25 Sep 1848) House Committee. Recommend removal of back wall from the windows of the school room

(13 Nov 1848) House Committee. The committee considers the giving of leather shoes to the paupers to be a strong encouragement to desertion, and recommend the immediate purchase of 300 pairs of wooden clogs

(14 Apr 1849) House Committee. Congratulates the Board on the sanitary state of the house, cholera having 'nearly disappeared'.

(13 Feb 1855) School Committee; visit to boys girls and infant schools, present were 276 healthy boys and 139 infirm boys in a separate room. State of clothing unsatisfactory.

(26 Nov 1861) House Committee, resolved that the Master and Matron be held strictly responsible for the superintendence of their respective divisions

(29 Nov 1861) Accommodation Committee, some overcrowding noted and solutions proposed.

(21 Jan 1862) House Committee, details of new approved suit for use by male inmates, costing 15s.2d, compared to present suit which costs £1.1.6¼

(26 Feb 1864) House Committee, case of Daniel Linehan brought to Board, concerning how an application for out relief was presented by the Relieving Officer.

2. 8 May 1899 – 18 Oct 1900

Includes:

(8 May 1899) Report of Visiting Committee meeting chaired by Alderman Edward Fitzgerald; Note overcrowded state of lunatic wards and unfitness of St. Josephs ward, recommend that the County Council take these over as auxiliary lunatic asylum.

(18 May 1899) Complaint of inmate J. Gardiner regarding his treatment in the workhouse.

(5 Apr 1900) New maternity hospital recommended

(7 Jun 1900) Services of Captain Hutson of Cork Fire Brigade employed to inspect fire equipment at work house.

Also, newscutting, March 1901, relating to the religious treatment of an inmate at Cork workhouse, inquiry by House Committee.

(1899-1900) At rear of volume, minutes of Finance Committee, concerning superannuation, supply of vegetables for inmates, milk supply, clothes for boarded out children, claims by rate collectors etc.

(c.40pp)

BG/69/FN/1 Porter's Admissions and Discharges Book**Scope and Content:**

Record of admission showing Date and time of entering workhouse, observations (means of transport, e.g. foot, gingle, ambulance), name, age, classification (such as, ablebodied working males/females, aged and infirm, boys and girls under 15, children, infants) by whom admitted. Discharges showing number on discharge block, number in (indoor relief) register, name, classification, date and time of discharge, observations (e.g. 'to asylum', and 'boarded out to Mrs Healy Kerry Pike'.

Date: 21 Mar 1920 – 14 Nov 1920

Level: Item

Extent: c.400pp

See also: Indoor Relief Registers, BG69/G

BG/69/FP/ Officers' Time Books**Scope and Content:**

Recording date, name (signature), time commencing duties, observations.

Date: Apr 1887 – Nov 1913

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. 9 Apr 1887 – 26 Nov 1888
2. 11 Feb 1913 – 7 Nov 1913

BG/69/FR/ Wages and Salaries Books**Scope and Content:**

Records name, occupation, salary, total amount paid, signature of employee acknowledging payment, observations. Includes fireman, watchman, cooks, baker, shoemakers, tailors, barbers etc. Signed by the Master of Workhouse (and from Jan 1926, by the Matron of Cork County Home).

Date: 1901 – 1906, 1920 - 1928

Level: Series

Extent: 3 items (each c.300pp)

Related Material: Records of Cork County Home and Hospital, the successor of Cork Union Workhouse.

1. Week ending 6 Apr 1901 – 31 Mar 1906
2. Week ending 4 Dec 1920 – 25 Oct 1924
3. Week ending 1 Nov 1924 – 1 Sep 1928

BG/69/FU/ Cork Union National School, Male Registers**Scope and Content:**

(St. Nicholas Parish). Records date of entrance, register number, pupil's name, age of pupil last birthday, religious denomination, residence, occupation of means of living of parents, home and county of the last national school at which pupil attended and the class in which he last passed. Also, no. of attendances made in the last year, class in which enrolled, date of admission to the class, class in which examined, results of examinations, whether passed or failed, dates if struck off/ readmitted. With indices.

Date: Feb 1873 – Sep 1904

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. Year ending 28 Feb 1873 – 31 Jan 1887
2. Year ending 31 Jan 1889 – 29 Sept 1904

BG/69/FY/ Bread and Milk Books (Healthy Inmates)**Scope and Content:**

Account of overall amounts of bread, milk, butter, and dripping consumed by each class of inmate at breakfast, dinner and supper.

Date: Jul 1910 – Mar 1918

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. 3 Jul 1910 – 2 Nov 1911
2. 24 Feb 1917 – 30 Mar 1918

BG/69/FYC/1 Storekeeper's Account Book

Scope and Content:

Account of number of pounds of bread received and issued, by each section of workhouse such as Male Hospital, Lock Hospital, Female Lunatic Hospital, Girls and Infants School, Female Infirm and Able Bodied, Officers, etc.

Date: 20 Dec 1904 –28 Jan 1908

Level: Item

Extent: c.20pp

BG/69/FYH/ Bread and Milk Books (Inmates in Hospital)**Scope and Content:**

Daily record of overall amounts of bread and milk provided to inmates in each hospital or hospital ward and kitchen.

Date: Jun 1913 – Mar 1918

Level: Series

Extent: 2 items

1. 10 Jun 1913 – 23 Aug 1914
2. 29 Mar 1917 – 30 Mar 1918

7. Workhouse: Inmates 1840 – 1925 (45 items)

BG/69/G/ Indoor Relief Registers

Scope and Content:

Records details of persons admitted into and discharged from the workhouse. Details include: register number, name and surname of pauper, previous register number, sex (the column generally used for the name of admitting officer), age, Adult - Marital Status (single/married/widowed; Child - whether orphan, deserted or bastard, employment or calling (such as labourer, ex-soldier, servant, seaman, tailor etc) , religious denomination, description of disability if any, name of wife or husband, observations on condition of pauper when admitted (such as, 'bad' , and 'returned from fever hospital') , electoral division and townland in which resident, date when admitted or when born in the workhouse; date when died or left the workhouse.

Such as, '26639, O'Connell, Daniel ; (admitted by) Master, age 73, Married, Shoemaker, Roman Catholic, Note from Dr. Keating, Goggins Hill Ballinhassig, admitted 17 May 1918, died 19 May 1918.(BG69/G/34)

Date: Mar 1840 – Nov 1923

Level: Series

Extent: 31 vols.

Access: Accessed on microfilm.

Finding Aids: 13 of the volumes have associated Index books, see BG69/GX

Related Material: BG69/GX

1. Missing
2. 8 Mar 1840 – 18 Aug 1842
3. Missing
4. Missing
5. Mar 1848 – Sept 1850 (Fragment only)
6. 19 Nov 1850 – 27 Jan 1852
7. 25 Feb 1852 – 25 Mar 1853
8. 26 Mar 1853 – 13 Nov 1854
9. 13 Nov 1854 – 4 May 1857
10. Missing
11. Missing
12. 17 Jan 1862 – 18 Oct 1864

13.	28 Apr 1865 – 9 Jul 1867
14.	26 Aug 1867 – 9 May 1869
15.	7 Dec 1869 – 10 Mar 1873
16.	10 Mar 1873 – 5 Sept 1876
17.	5 Sept 1876 – 6 Aug 1879
18.	6 Aug 1879 – 23 Mar 1881
19.	30 Mar 1881 – 15 Dec 1882
20.	16 Dec 1882 – 25 Nov 1884
21.	Missing
22.	Missing
23.	9 Jan 1888 – 28 Feb 1891
24.	2 Sept 1891 – 31 Dec 1891 (Fragment only)
25.	30 Jul 1894 – 4 Jan 1897
26.	5 Jan 1897 – 29 Mar 1899
27.	26 Mar 1899 – 18 Sept 1899
28.	13 Sept 1900 – 27 Dec 1902
29.	27 Dec 1902 – 13 Sept 1905
30.	13 Sept 1905 – 11 Oct 1908
31.	12 Oct 1908 – 12 Sept 1911
32.	12 Sept 1911 – 15 Jul 1914
33.	18 Jul 1914 – 13 Jan 1918
34.	14 Jan 1918 – 17 Sept 1920
35.	Missing
36.	17 Sept 1921 – 2 Nov 1922
37.	2 Nov 1922 – 20 Nov 1923

BG/69/GX/ Index Books to Indoor Relief Registers

Scope and Content:

Names of those admitted in rough alphabetical order with cross reference to register numbers. Records name, age and number in register.

These index books have been given the same number as the register (Ref: BG69/G) to which they refer.

Date: Mar 1853 – Sep 1921

Level: Series

Extent: 10 vols.

Related material: Indoor Relief Registers, BG69/G

1. Missing
2. Missing

3. Missing
4. Missing
5. Missing
6. Missing
7. Missing
8. 25 Mar 1853 – 13 Nov 1854
9. Missing
10. Missing
11. [c.1859 – Jan 1862]
12. 17 Jan 1862 – 18 Nov 1864
13. Missing
14. 27 Aug 1867 – 3 May 1869
15. 7 Dec 1869 – 10 Mar 1873
16. Missing
17. Missing
18. Missing
19. 30 Mar 1881 – 16 Dec 1882
20. Missing
21. Missing
22. [c.1886 – Jan 1888]
23. Missing
24. Missing
25. Missing
26. Missing
27. Missing
28. Missing
29. Missing
30. Missing
31. 12 Oct 1908 – 12 Sept 1911
32. 12 Sept 1911 – 15 Jul 1914
33. Missing
34. 11 Jan 1918 – 17 Sept 1921

BG69/GC/1 Indoor Relief List**Scope and Content:**

Gives overall figures of numbers of inmates in each category, such as Able Bodied and Their Families/Married Couples/Males/Females, lunatics, insane persons and idiots, summary of total figures. Also name, age and register number of inmates and classification.

Date: Half Years Ending 31 Mar 1924, 30 Sep 1924 and 31 Mar 1925

Level: Item

Extent: 77ff

Related material: BG69/G ; BG69/GX

8. Returns of Deaths 1853-1931 (7 items)**BG/69/KA/ Record of Death Books****Scope and Content:**

Also known as 'Returns of deaths'. Records number in register, date of death, cause of death (disease/medical condition), name, age, electoral division chargeable, date of last admission to workhouse.

Date: Dec 1853 – Mar 1931

Level: Series

Extent: 6 items

Related material: Registers of Deaths ; Indoor Relief Registers

1. Missing
2. 16 Dec 1853 – 25 Mar 1863
3. Missing
4. 4 May 1876 – 6 Oct 1888
5. 7 Apr 1889 – 23 Mar 1899
6. 26 Mar 1899 – 25 Jun 1904

- 7. 27 Jun 1904 – 13 Mar 1909
- 8. Missing
- 9. 22 Jan 1922 – 29 Mar 1931

BG/69/KB/1 Register of Deaths

Scope and Content:

Records register number, date of death, former residence of deceased, name and surname, sex, marital status, age last birthday, rank/profession/occupation, cause of death, duration of illness, initials of officer, date when registered.

Date: 12 Sept 1884 – 26 Mar 1886

Level: Item

Extent: c.200pp

Related material: Record of Deaths Books ; Indoor Relief Registers.

9. Miscellaneous 1923 (1 item)

BG/69/O/ Inspector's Report and Findings

Scope and Content:

Report entitled "Result of a Sworn Enquiry held at Board Room Cork on 9 Jan 1923 and adjourned on 17 January. Resumed 29 May 1923 and concluded 14 June..". Relating to the administration of the workhouse during the term of office of the Vice Guardians, who were appointed by the Guardians on 6 Nov 1920, reporting to the local government department of Dáil Éireann. Enquiry terms of reference include; the system and principle of administration followed, efficiency and management, financial benefits, how comfort of the poor was affected, what legislation is required.

Date: Jan 1923 – June 1923

Level: Item

Extent: 11pp