

## National University of Ireland, Maynooth

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From the Selected Works of Seth Barrett Tillman

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Seth Barrett Tillman

I R E L A N D   I N   O L D   P H O T O G R A P H S

# TERENURE

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with Jesus on both sides.  
1990s, and the organ under  
in a Belfast Presbyterian

all tower, but alas, the bell

the three-light window at  
memory of Major Gorman,  
crucifixion.

area, but the Church of  
closed in 1964. Father Joseph

## JEWISH SYNAGOGUES

Tucked behind 77 Terenure Road North, in Rathmore Villas, is a small active orthodox synagogue called Machzikei Hadass, having an outward appearance of a warehouse, but very homely inside. This was set up when the small synagogue at 7 St Kevin's Parade (off Lower Clanbrassil Street) closed down in the 1960s. The new synagogue was officially opened in April 1968 by Aaron Steinberg, although, from 1960, No. 77 was used as a Jewish Youth Club, for dances, etc. The synagogue now has about twenty-five members. There is no gallery, but instead, the women sit behind a rear lace-curtained screen. The men wear a white shawl

with black stripes, and can sometimes be seen walking to and from service on a Saturday morning.

Just past Terenure crossroads, at 32a Rathfarnham Road, well secured behind two lots of high gates and tall trees, is the main Orthodox Synagogue for Dublin Jews (there is also a Progressive Synagogue at 7 Leicester Avenue behind Rathgar Church of the Three Patrons). The Terenure synagogue had its origins at 6 Grosvenor Place in 1936, followed in 1940 by 52 Grosvenor Road (now the Rathgar Catholic Parish Centre), and finally moving to Terenure around 1948, initially occupying a Nissen Army Hut until the new premises were completed in 1953 (the old house here was called 'Leoville' and 'Palerno' at different stages). The two foundation stones are dedicated to Samuel Noyek and Simon Fine. This spacious building has a long lean-to roof, covered with corrugated asbestos cement sheeting. The women and children are segregated from the men and occupy the rear gallery/balcony. Following a small fire in 1965, the premises was substantially rebuilt and refurbished in 1967, and the opportunity taken to install large stained-glass windows in the north and south elevations. The north window, depicting Jerusalem, was presented by Noyek Bros. The south window depicts ten religious festivals in vivid colours. The Samuel Taca Hall is beside the synagogue, and likewise the Millennium Mikvah Ritual Baths (used by women on a monthly basis). Prior to 2000, the Mikvah Baths were in Adelaide Road Synagogue, and before that, a portion of Tara Street Public Baths was set aside for the Jews. There are about 2,000 Jews in Ireland now.