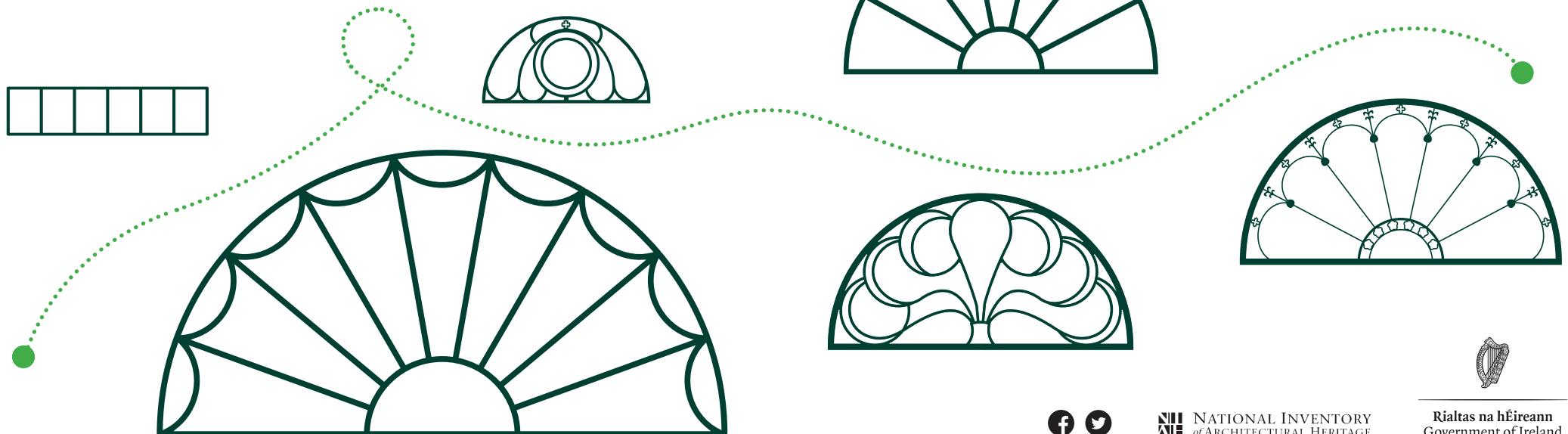


# Fantastic Irish Fanlights of Waterford City

Ireland has a rich heritage of fanlit doorcases in both urban and rural areas, which range from very simple to extremely sophisticated. Fanlights were designed and made throughout Ireland from the early 18th century to the end of the 19th century. Fanlights, sidelights and their doorcases usually display either Classical or Gothic details. They give houses and many other types of buildings a visual focus. You can read all about the fanlight design families in the Fantastic Irish Fanlights series on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Facebook page [www.facebook.com/www.buildingsofireland.ie/](http://www.facebook.com/www.buildingsofireland.ie/).



## Fanlight Design Families

Fanlight designs were made in variations on a number of themes we call families as they are like siblings or cousins and only rarely like identical twins. You will find line drawings of the main design families on the activity sheet that accompanies this trail. Fanlights of all designs were handmade from metals, timber and glass.

This self-directed tour introduces Ireland's lovely legacy of fanlight creativity and practical skills. It is a brief snapshot of the fanlights of this city showing off a few individual highlights.

**Please note these buildings are privately owned so view them from the road only.**

## National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland as an aid in its protection. The Building Survey, available at [www.buildingsofireland.ie](http://www.buildingsofireland.ie) is a wonderful source of information on our architectural heritage and is also a valuable education and research tool. You can search over 65,000 records by location or Registration Number – these are the numbers that appear in the captions of the buildings featured on this trail.

*Why not give it a try? Learn more about the buildings you already know and love and discover new architectural highlights in your local area.*



**NIAH** NATIONAL INVENTORY  
of ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# Fantastic Irish Fanlights Tour — Waterford City

## Waterford

Waterford City is a fabulous place for a fanlight trail as it has dozens of surviving fans.

- We start at the magnificent fanlight of the Port of Waterford Company on Great George's Street, which was repaired some years ago so all its details are crisp. Its small inner petal fan is strung with a necklace of little circles and surrounded by a cobweb.
- Take time to admire other fanlights nearby such as the unusually chunky timber petal fanlight at No. 24 O'Connell Street, on the way to the next stop, No. 16 Bailey's New Street.
- The unique early petal fanlight at No. 16, carved from solid timber, is similar to a few London designs of the 1720s.
- Head west to the historic houses of Lady Lane. No. 17's rectangular fanlight has a very unusual curlicue design in timber, possibly an original feature of this mid-18<sup>th</sup>-century house.



Great George's St, NIAH 22501514



24 O'Connell Street, NIAH 22501521



16 Bailey's New Street, NIAH 22504130



17 Lady Lane, NIAH 22504356

- Double back to The Mall, which has many elaborate fanlights on the south side. The most extravagant petal-cobweb combination fanlights are at Nos. 30 and 31. Each has an ornate doorcase with a decorative plaster arch around the fanlight.
- Nearby, No. 9 Catherine Street has an unusual curving Gothic fanlight.
- All along the Newtown Road there are great fanlights. No.14 has a cobweb fan that looks simple at first glance, but note its solid band with circles cut out and for the really eagle-eyed, a solid hub with carved leaf detail. Solid hubs are a local characteristic.
- The fine terrace of Newtown Buildings has simple spoked fans with a solid hub and a border around the arch—this is a widespread Waterford design.



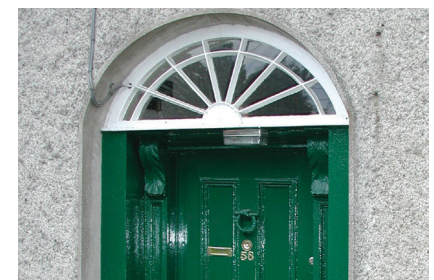
31 The Mall, NIAH 22504327



9 Catherine Street, NIAH 22504499



14 Newtown Road, NIAH 2230007



58 Newtown Buildings, NIAH 22830030

## Activities

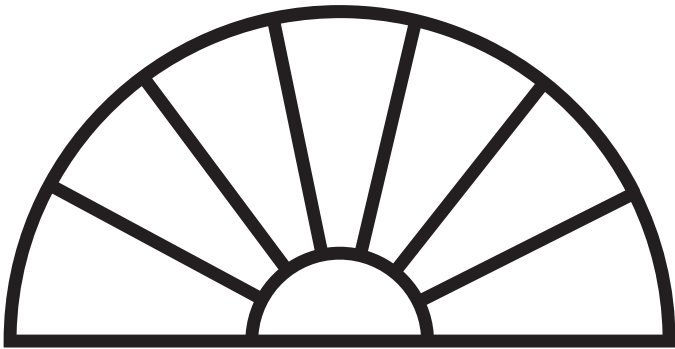
1. Tweet your favourite fanlight photos and tell us the stories behind these old hall doors #fantasticfanlights
2. Kids: fill in the fantastic Irish fanlights colouring page!

*We hope that you have enjoyed this tour and that you have learned something new about fanlights and about the design and practical skills our ancestors used to create them.*

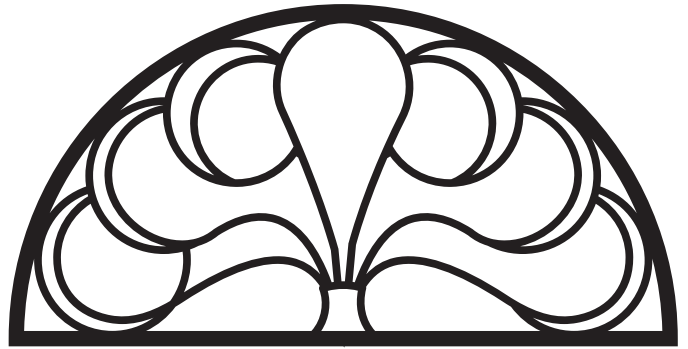


# Fantastic Irish Fanlights

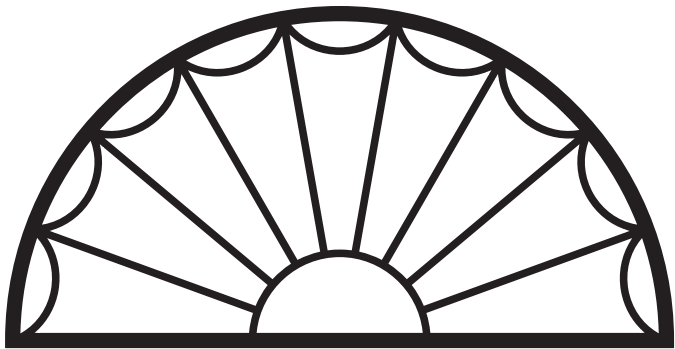
## Colouring fun #fantasticfanlights



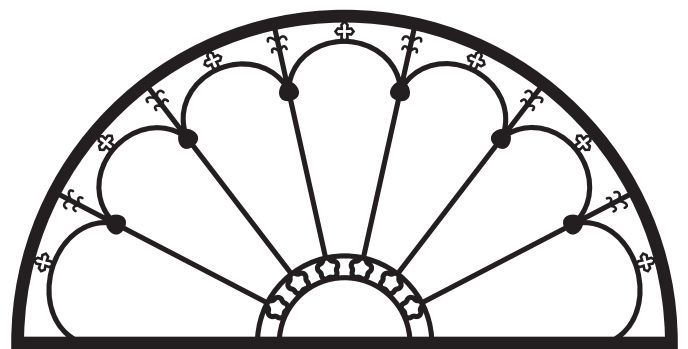
This is the basic radial design with hub and spokes.



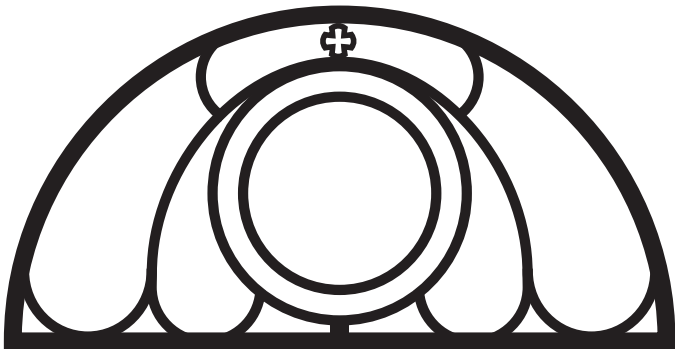
This is a floral design like a bouquet of flowers and leaves.



This is a cobweb design, made by adding concave loops to the radial design. It can have several sets of cobweb loops.



This is a petal design, made by adding convex curves to the radial design. It can have several sets of petal curves.



This is a teardrop design, made using circles and curves that are shaped like tears.



This is called a mouthorgan design, as it looks like a mouthorgan - or a set of teeth!

1. Tweet your favourite fanlight photo and tell us the stories behind these old hall doors. **#fantasticfanlights**
2. Kids: are there typical fanlight designs in your area? Send us your drawings of interesting fanlights and we'll show them in our fanlight fanmail on Facebook.

The NIAH team is happy to receive photographs of your fanlights, or any other building, to help improve our knowledge of the built heritage of Ireland. Post to our Facebook page, or write to [niah@chg.gov.ie](mailto:niah@chg.gov.ie).

