

William's army had been augmented by a body of Danish troops under the Duke of Würtemberg. An Irish Jacobite appeal deplored William's conduct in summoning 'the old invaders of our country, the Danes, who held our ancestors in a war of 300 years'⁶⁷

Some Commemorative British Place-Names in Dublin City

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A surprisingly large number of place-names derived from Britain have been incorporated into the toponymy of Ireland's capital city. This has happened in a circuitous fashion, as most of the names in question formed parts of titles of individuals who were honoured by Dublin Corporation in times gone by. In many cases, those to whom the streets or other features of the urban landscape were dedicated have long since been forgotten, but the toponymic elements in their titles have survived to become a familiar part of the urban scene. The titles in question were usually held by major landowners on whose goodwill the Corporation was dependent, or by senior figures in the former British administration in Ireland, or by past or present members of the Corporation itself. A selection of such names follows.

Aberdeen Street was named after the Earl of Aberdeen, who was the English Lord Lieutenant (or Governor) in 1886 and again in 1905.¹ Aldborough Court and Aldborough Place, both built around the year 1800, were so called from their proximity to Aldborough House (1796), the home of Viscount Aldborough, whose family came from Aldeburgh in Norfolk.² Anglesea Street incorporates a corrupt form of Anglesey, and is so called from a local land-owner, Arthur Annesley, first Earl of Anglesey.³ Arran Quay (1728) was called after Charles Butler, the Earl of Arran. He was Lord Lieutenant for two

¹ C. T. McCready, *Dublin Street Names* (Dublin, 1892), p. 1. See also: Bernard and Ashworth P. Burke, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Peerage and Baronetage, the Privy Council, Knightage and Companionship*, 69th edition (London, 1907), p. 8. The family name of the Earls of Aberdeen was Gordon.

² McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 2.

³ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 3. For biographical details, see Henry Boylan, *A Dictionary of Irish Biography* (Dublin, 1978), pp. 10-11, and Alfred Webb, *A Compendium of Irish Biography* (Dublin, 1989), pp. 4-5.

⁶⁷ J. T. Gilbert, *A Jacobite Narrative of the War in Ireland 1688-1691* (Dublin, 1892), p. 253.

periods—between 1703 and 1707 and again between 1711 and 1713.⁴ Bedford Row owes its origin to an earlier Lord Lieutenant, the fourth Duke of Bedford.⁵ Buckingham Street, too, has a similar origin: the Marquis of Buckingham was holder of the office on a few occasions in the closing decades of the eighteenth century.⁶ Carlisle Bridge (now O'Connell Bridge), Street, Court, and Place were all called after various Earls of Carlisle who held the office in 1780–82, 1855–58, and 1859–64.⁷ Chatham Street was named after William Pitt (1759–1806), who was a son of the first Earl of Chatham.⁸ Clare in Suffolk is commemorated indirectly in Dublin's Clare Street, after John Holles, who was created Earl of Clare in 1624.⁹

William Augustus, the Bloody Duke of Cumberland (1721–65),¹⁰ who was responsible for the massacre of so many of the Scottish Highlanders after the battle of Culloden, is the source of Cumberland Street: the colonists of the Irish capital sought to prove their loyalty to London by honouring even this most unsavoury member of the English royalty. Superficially, Eglinton Terrace derived its name from the Earl of Eglinton (1812–61), another holder of the office of Lord Lieutenant (1852–53 and 1858–59).¹¹ The Eglinton in question in the title is the Derry village known in Irish as An Mhagh ('the plain'),¹² but this in turn borrowed the English version of its name from Eglinton in Ayrshire.¹³ Elgin Road was so designated in honour of

⁴ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 88. See also Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 63.

⁵ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 7. See also Burke's *Peerage*, p. 145.

⁶ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 17.

⁷ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 18. See also Burke's *Peerage*, pp. 298 and 299, for biographical accounts of the fifth and seventh Earls.

⁸ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 21. For a detailed biography, see John Ehrman, *The Younger Pitt* (London, 1969).

⁹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 22.

¹⁰ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 28. See also Andrew Henderson, *William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland: A Life* (London, 1766), and Maclachlan Campbell, *William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland* (London, 1876).

¹¹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 34. The family name of the Earls of Eglinton was Montgomery: see Burke's *Peerage*, p. 584.

¹² An tSuirbhéireacht Ordanáis, *Ainmneacha Gaeilge na mBailte Poist* (Dublin, 1969), p. 109.

¹³ Adrian Room, *A Concise Dictionary of Modern Place-names in Great Britain and Ireland* (Oxford, 1985), p. 36; J. A. Hammerton, *The World Pictorial Gazetteer and Atlas* (London, n.d. [c.1930]), p. 393.

James Bruce (1811–63), eighth Earl of Elgin, who became Governor General of India in 1862: the road was so titled one year later.¹⁴ Ely Place, near Stephen's Green, derived its name from one of its most distinguished residents, Viscount Loftus of Ely, who built a magnificent Georgian house there in 1773.¹⁵ Essex Bridge (now Grattan Bridge, or more commonly Capel Street Bridge) honoured Arthur Capel, Earl of Essex, who functioned as Lord Lieutenant from 1672 until his death in 1677. A street and a quay along the River Liffey were also dedicated to his memory.¹⁶ William Henry (1743–1805), brother of George III, bore the title Duke of Gloucester and Edinburgh, hence Gloucester Street.¹⁷ The main shopping thoroughfare of Dublin, Grafton Street, is named after the first Duke of Grafton (1663–90), an illegitimate son of King Charles II of England.¹⁸ The Fitzroy family derived its title from the village of Grafton Regis in Northamptonshire.¹⁹ A village in Nottinghamshire, Granby,²⁰ lent its name—by way of the title (Marquis of Granby) of the eldest son of the Duke of Rutland—to Granby Row, near the centre of Dublin:²¹ the adjoining square, Rutland Square (now Parnell Square), and street, Rutland Street, were named after Charles Manners, fourth Duke of Rutland, who served as Lord Lieutenant in 1784–87.²² The Earl of Haddington acted in that same capacity in the period 1834–35: three years later, Haddington Road was so named in his honour.²³ Hardwicke Place and Hardwicke Street, on the north side of the city, commemorate the third Earl of Hardwicke, who was Lord Lieutenant from 1801 until 1806.²⁴ Hardwicke is a village in Gloucestershire.

¹⁴ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 34. For biographical details, see Burke's *Peerage*, p. 591.

¹⁵ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 35.

¹⁶ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 35. See also Burke's *Peerage*, p. 616.

¹⁷ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 44.

¹⁸ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 45. Biographical details of Henry Fitzroy, first Duke of Grafton, may be found in Burke's *Peerage*, p. 737.

¹⁹ Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 488.

²⁰ Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 489.

²¹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 45.

²² McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 101. Biographical details of Charles Manners appear in Burke's *Peerage*, p. 1460.

²³ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 47. Presumably the Haddington in question was the county town of East Lothian; see *Chamber's World Gazetteer*, edited by David Munro (Cambridge, 1988), p. 254.

Sir William Petty (1623–87), through his compilation of the first atlas of Ireland, *Hiberniae Delinatio* (1685), and his detailed maps of 214 baronies, facilitated the confiscation of Irish land from its rightful owners in the post-Cromwellian period.²⁵ He himself was one of the principal beneficiaries. About a century later, in 1784, his great-grandson, William Fitzmaurice, was created Marquis of Lansdowne. The place named in that title is located near Bath in Somerset.²⁶ Lansdowne Road, in south Dublin, occupies a small portion of the extensive Lansdowne lands over which the city has now sprawled. It was built in 1855, eleven years before the death of the fourth Marquis.²⁷

The name Lincoln Place was substituted for Park Street, which had acquired a bad reputation, in 1862.²⁸ Why the name of that English cathedral city or county was chosen is unclear. Similar mystery surrounds the selection (in 1868) of Liverpool Road for a street near the Grand Canal.²⁹

The Duke of Marlborough (1650–1722)³⁰ is commemorated in Marlborough Street, which was constructed in 1728.³¹ His title came from the small market town on the River Kennet in Wiltshire.³² Northumberland Road commemorated Hugh Percy, third Duke of Northumberland, who was still another holder (1829–30) of the office of Lord Lieutenant.³³ Northumberland Street honoured his namesake and predecessor, the first Duke, who held the same position from

²⁴ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 48. An account of Philip Yorke, third Earl of Hardwicke, appears in the *Dictionary of National Biography* [= *DNB*], XXI, 1268–1269.

²⁵ R. V. Tooley, *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers* (Tring, 1979), p. 501. See also Y. M. Goblet, *La Transformation de la Géographie Politique de l'Irlande au XVIIe Siècle*, 2 vols (Paris, 1930).

²⁶ Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 647.

²⁷ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 56.

²⁸ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 59.

²⁹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 59.

³⁰ A detailed account of his life is given in the *DNB*, IV, 315–338.

³¹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 63.

³² Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 711.

³³ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 74. For biographical details, see *DNB*, XV, 867–68, where Peel's description of him is quoted: 'the best chief-governor that ever presided over the affairs of Ireland'.

1763–65.³⁴ The road was named in 1832, the street in 1776.

The Earls of Fitzwilliam owned much land in Dublin in the eighteenth century. One of them, William Wentworth Fitzwilliam (1741–1833) was Lord Lieutenant in 1795. Fitzwilliam Street, Square and Lane were all named in honour of him.³⁵ When the seventh Viscount Fitzwilliam died unmarried in 1816, most of the estate passed to the eleventh Earl of Pembroke. One outcome of this transfer of ownership was the renaming of Black-rock Road as Pembroke Road in 1834. Earlier, in 1796, the same family name had given rise to Pembroke Street,³⁶ and earlier still, in 1756, to Pembroke Quay (now Sarsfield Quay).³⁷

An island and urban district in Dorset figure in the title of the Dukes of Portland. The third Duke, who was Lord Lieutenant in 1782, is remembered in Portland Street, which was built in 1793.³⁸ Similarly, Charles Lennox, the fourth Duke of Richmond, Lord Lieutenant from 1807 until 1813, is commemorated in Richmond Street South, which was constructed in 1817,³⁹ and also in the neighbouring Lennox Street (1832) and Lennox Place (1834).⁴⁰

Rutland entered Dublin toponymy via Charles Manners (1754–87), fourth Duke of Rutland, whose period of office as Lord Lieutenant stretched from 1784 until his death in 1787. Rutland Street came into being five years later, as did Rutland Square (now Parnell Square).⁴¹

There is a faint chance that the former Sandwich Street (now Townsend Street South) derived its name from the sixth Earl of Sandwich: more probably, however, it is a corruption of Sandwith

³⁴ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 74.

³⁵ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 37. For details of the family, see Burke's *Peerage*, pp. 660–61.

³⁶ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 79. An account of the life of the eleventh Earl of Pembroke (George Augustus Herbert) appears in *DNB*, IX, p. 640.

³⁷ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 88. The quay was named in honour of Thomas Herbert, the eighth Earl, who was Lord Lieutenant from 1707 until 1709.

³⁸ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 84. Details of the life of William Henry Cavendish Bentinck, the third Duke of Portland, appear in *DNB*, II, 302–304.

³⁹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 95. For biographical details of the fourth Duke of Richmond, see *DNB*, XI, p. 927.

⁴⁰ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 57.

⁴¹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 101. An account of the family is given in Burke's *Peerage*, pp. 1459–60.

Street, its current spelling, and was called after a merchant of that surname.⁴² The title of the Earl of Suffolk was created in 1603, but the precise linkage of that title with Suffolk Street (1728) is unclear. Uxbridge Street (1832), now obsolete, owed its origins to one of the titles (Earl of Uxbridge) of the Marquis of Anglesey, who was one of Dublin's major landowners.⁴³ Presumably the Uxbridge in question is the district in west London.⁴⁴ Another borrowing from London was Wapping Street: once again, the linkage is obscure. Watling Street, too, may be a similar borrowing, though the name is recorded as Twatling Street in Brooking's map of 1728 and in various other sources. However, the initial *t* may merely be an abbreviation of the preposition *at*.⁴⁵

The military exploits of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington (1769–1852), made him the lion of Dublin society in the early nineteenth century.⁴⁶ A bridge, a quay, a road, a square, a street and a place were all named in his honour. His title came from the little market town in Somerset.⁴⁷ The namings began with Wellington Bridge (popularly called the Metal Bridge, because it is constructed of iron) in 1816, and ended with Wellington Road in 1846.⁴⁸

One of the principal streets in central Dublin is called Westmoreland Street (1801) after John Fane, tenth Earl of Westmorland, who was Lord Lieutenant from 1790 until 1794.⁴⁹ Wilton Terrace, in Lower Baggot Street, derived its name from Wilton, near Salisbury, in Wiltshire.⁵⁰ This was the seat of the Earls of Pembroke, who inherited practically all the Fitzwilliam property in

⁴² McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 115.

⁴³ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 137; see note 3 above.

⁴⁴ Eilert Ekwall, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names*, 4th edition (Oxford, 1987), p. 488. See also Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 985.

⁴⁵ McCready, *op. cit.*, pp. 140 and 136.

⁴⁶ Details of Wellington's life and military career appear in the *DNB*, XX, 1081–1115. Biographies are numerous; one such, by a descendant, is Elizabeth Longford, *Wellington: the Years of the Sword* (London, 1969).

⁴⁷ Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 1001.

⁴⁸ McCready, *op. cit.*, pp. 140–141, 90 and 12. Waterloo Road commemorates Wellington's major victory of 18th June 1815.

⁴⁹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 141. Details of the family appear in Burke's *Peerage*, pp. 1739–42.

⁵⁰ Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 1009.

Dublin in 1816.⁵¹ Winton Road got its name from Archibald Montgomery, who was not merely thirteenth Earl of Eglinton, but first Earl of Winton as well.⁵² As so often happened, the fact that he had been Lord Lieutenant on a number of occasions (1852–53 and 1858–59) led to his commemoration in a street name.⁵³ Winton was an old name for Winchester.⁵⁴ Lastly, York Street (1728), York Road, and York Row (later Whitefriars Place) owe their names to Ernest Augustus, Duke of York and Albany, and brother of George I of England, who died in 1728.⁵⁵

These 'British' names form but one of the numerous strands which coalesce to comprise the toponymy of Dublin. Other strands include place-names derived from elsewhere in Ireland, street-names based on tree-names, street-names formed from religious dedications, names commemorating Irish historical personages or events, and so on. But these 'British' names are especially interesting, not merely because of their individual historical associations, but because, as a group, they recall a colonial epoch which is mirrored, at least in part, in what survives of the Georgian and Victorian architectural heritage of Ireland's capital city.

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⁵¹ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 79.

⁵² *DNB*, XIII, 750–51.

⁵³ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 144.

⁵⁴ Hammerton, *op. cit.*, p. 1011.

⁵⁵ McCready, *op. cit.*, p. 145. A brief notice on Ernest Augustus appears in *DNB*, VI, 811.