

# The Names of Abington

Uithne was the name of the primitive population of this district. Its pronunciation is Owney. Anglo-Norman scribes soon spelt it Wetheny. In such documents as the Civil Survey of 1654-1656 you find several different spellings on the one page. The Cistercian abbey of Owney has the record number of names for the monasteries having followed the Rule of Saint Benedict in Ireland ; this is no world record however. Here is a list of the varieties encountered so far.

The *Inspeccimus* of the *foundation-charter* calls it WODEZ IN WEDENY. The *Ormond Deeds* have further : WONY (A.D. 1217), WETHNI (1217), WOTHENY, WOTHNIA, OWNY (1436), HUONIA (1436), WOTHNY (1536).

In the *Statuta Capit, Gener. Cisterciensium* : MAINISTIR UAITHNE, VUQUCHIN, WGUECHIN, VUGUIHIM, WETHNI, WEDENI; (1244), VETENEX (1276) VAUDONAY (1279).

### The CHARTULARIES OF St., Mary's Abbey, Dublin :

WONEY (M.S. 1204 : Ware 1658), WETHENEYA (Annals I 1205), WETHNEIA (Reg. S.M.D.), WETHNIA (Catalogue MS., T.C.D.), WETHENIA, WETHENY, WODENY (Ware) (1626), WONIENSIS (Ware), WEYDEYA, WITHENEYA ; WEYDENEYA, WENEY (Annals II 1299).

*Papal Registers* : WOTHINA (1417), WOTHENIA (1428), WEOTHNYA (1436), WYTHERIA (1447), VONNYE (1449), WOTH, WOTHYNIA (1452), WETHENY (1454), WONIA, WOTHINA (1455), WOOTYNIA (1460), WONYA, VONY (1466), HUONEA (1471), HUOTNIA in dio. Imilicen. (1 Febr. 1471), WOTHNYA in dio. Imelacen. (6 March 1474), HONYA (1476), S. MARY'S HEYNEY (1485).

*Annates* : WOTHANIA (1477).

*Taxation of Ardfert* 1300 : HUTHNY (J. R. S. A. I. 1890, pp. 310, 316).

*English State Papers* : 1249-1305 WETHENEY, WETHENY ; 1589 : OWHENNYE.

*Carew Papers* 1558 : ONIN O'MOLLYRE.

*Fiat Henry VIII* 1540 : WOTHONIA.

1596 Ownye.

WOTHNY (sixteenth century).

*Fitzwilliam Papers* 1560-65 : WONNAUGH, WONAUGH.

*Grace's Annals* : VASCHENA (1245).

*Firbisse's Annals* : VAITHNY (1452).

*Franciscan MS* 1636 : Ownea.

*Civil Survey* 1654-1656 : ABIEOWHNIE PARRISH, ABBIE OWGNIE, ABBIEOWGNIE, ABBIEOWHNIE, ABIE OWHNIE, ABBIE OWHNIE, ABBIOWHNIE, ABBY OWHNIE, AVIEOWGNIE, ABICE OWNHIE, ABBIE OWGHNIE, ABBY OWGNIE, ABIE OWGHNIE, ABBY-OWNHJE, ABBY OWNHY, ABBY OWNTH, ABBIEOWGHYE, OWTHNY, ABBIEOWGNIE, OWNTHNEY ; in the barony of OWTHNYBEGG, OWGHNIEBEGG, OWNTHNEYBEG, OWGHNEYBEG, OWGHNIEBEGGE, VAHNIEBEG,

*Dugdale, Monasticon Anglicanum* 1655 : Abbington. (There was in England the great Benedictine Abbey of Abingdon near Oxford.)

*Census* 1659 : Ownhy.

*Dinely* 1681 : ABBY-ONY, OWNY, ANTHONY'S ABBEY.

*Archdall. Monasticon Hibernicum* 1786 : ABINGTON, quoting : WETHENCIA, WETHRAM, WETHENOYA, VCGHNEY.

*Taylor & Skinner's Maps of the Roads of Ireland* 1777 : ABINGTON.

*Ferrar, History of Limerick* 1787 : ABINGDON.

*Wenman Seward, Topographia Hibernica* 1797 : ABINGDON, ABINGTON, WITHEN-EIA, WCTHENEY.

*Johnson Westropp "Ancient Churches in Co. Limerick"* 1905, has collected : WETHENEY, WODENY, HUHENY, HUERTHEN, WODEN, WODENY O'CATHELAN, WODENY OIFFLIAN, WIDENIFIDENURDE (Charter of the founder), WETHENI HO-KATHELAN, WETHENY HOIFFERAN (Charter of W. de Braose), HUENE (1199).

*Hamilton Thompson* 1931 : MAINISTIR UEITHNE, WONEYUM.

*Janauschek, Originum Cistercientium* 1877 added from continental sources : WONEI, VOGNEY, VOGHNEY, VOTEIRI, WETTHENY, WETEN, BETEM, WETHENII, deWETHENIO, WETHENEIA, WETHNEYA, WECHEN, WECHENY, WGUECHIN, VETHEAY, VXDENAY, WHETRAN, WEQUIENY, VATENEYE, WATENEYE, WATHENIENSE, WYTHENEYE, WYTHNEYA, WYTHNEA, WITHENEY, ABBINGDON, DEDEVY. This Czech author added that Owney might also be the daughter-house of Furness known as SOCHEM, SOCHEIM, SOTHIM, BOCHEM, ROCHEM in baronia OWNYENSI.

From still other sources. WETHRAN, HUENY, OVEN.

*Royal Visitation* 1615 : OUHY.

*Down Survey* : ABBEYOUTHNEBEG.

*Gillet's Map* : ABBYOWNTHEIBEGG.

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