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# OLD LIMERICK STREETS

## ORIGIN OF THEIR NAMES

George Street was named after St. George's Chapel, which stood where the Provincial Bank stands now.

Glentworth Street is called after Lord Glentworth.

Cornwallis Street after Lord Cornwallis (new Gerald Griffin Street).

Play House Lane after the old Theatre, which stood at the corner of the lane and Gerald Griffin Street.

Mungret Street is called after the old Mungret Gate, which stood at the end of High Street. (See date stone of Mungret Gate Tower now at Plassy Mills.)

John Street is called after St. John's Gate.

Ramparts Road, or Rammers' Row, is called after the John's Gate ramparts. This is now Cathedral Place since July, 1861, when the Cathedral was opened. Prior to that time it was called Chapel Street. New houses were built there in 1830. Old St. John's Chapel was built in 1753 and knocked early in 1862. Some months after the new Cathedral of St. John's was opened.

Old Windmill Road is now Tanyard Lane.

O'Sullivan's Buildings, New Clare Street, were commenced in 1800. (See date stone on archway near O'Sullivan's Place.)

Mary Street is called after old St. Mary's Cathedral. (See Fish Lane, near Baal's Bridge.) In this place stood the Dominican Chapel, built in 1730 and closed in 1815 by Father Horrigan, O.P., who opened the present Church in Glentworth Street.

Nicholas Street is called after St. Nicholas' Church, which stood there. (See ruins near Alms House.) Alms House inscription: "Corporation Widows' Alms House, A.D. 1691." (See inscription on wall of house.)

Old Dominick Street, 1755. (See stone now in St. Mary's Convent Grounds.)

Bondfield Lane is off Mary Street, and Clappett's Bow off John Street.

Richmond Street is now St. Joseph Street since 1904.

Thomas Street is called after Sir Thomas Drummond.

William Street is called after King William IV.

"The Parade" is opposite the Castle Barracks.

Bow Lane is a lane on the north side of St. Mary's Cathedral.

Gaol Lane is close to the old gaol in Mary Street.

Gridiron Lane was close to St. Mary's Cathedral. It is now closed up.

Wolfe Tone Street was formerly Colooney Street, called after Colooney, near Sligo, where the Irish were defeated in 1798.

Several old houses with Dutch gables can still be seen in the old parts of Limerick.

When the English took over the City they ordered the Irish to stay in the Irishtown, but when the fight died down the Irish were allowed to reside in both sides of the town.

The Town Wall was knocked in 1760 by the Corporation. It was surrounded by bastions or round towers. Some of these towers can be seen near the King's Island to-day, and are well worth a visit.

King John's Castle and the old Thomond Bridge were built in 1210 by King John. This bridge had 14 arches and was removed in 1838. The new bridge was opened in 1840.

Baal's Bridge was erected in 1830.

Matthew Bridge was built in 1761 and rebuilt in 1844.

The Wellesley Bridge was built in 1824 and finished in 1835. (See stone on same.)

Park Bridge was built in 1798 and Athlunkard Bridge in 1826.

Athlunkard Street was built in 1824. The castle at the top of the street had to be cut away in order to make the street. See some of the ruins of this castle still well preserved.

The Jesuits had a Chapel in Castle Lane prior to the Siege. This lane stands at the head of Athlunkard Street.

Sir Harry's Mall is called after Sir Harry Haristonge.

North Strand was formerly called the Poor House Road until 1841, when the Workhouse was opened. Prior to that the Strand Barracks was known as the Poor House. This was opened for the poor in 1774. It was suggested to erect a bridge from Francis Street to the Strand Barracks about the year 1820 or so, but this was not done.

Patrick Street is called after Patrick Arthur.

Arthur's Quay is called after the Arthur family.

Francis Street is called after Francis Arthur.

Ellen Street is called after Ellen Arthur.

Bank Place is after the Bank which stood where the Pork Butchers' Hall now is situated.

Richmond Place is called The Crescent.

Courtbrack is called Mount St. Alphonsus.

Inscription over the nave entrance to St. Mary's Chapel—"Fear God Always. I.H.S. Remember the Poor."

Inscription over south transept door of St. Michael's Chapel, Denmark Street—"Thady Lynch, P.P., Anno Domini, 1779." Inscription on north transept door—"A.D. 1805." It was rebuilt.

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Creagh Lane runs next to Bridge Street, better known as Quay Lane.

Exchange Lane is now demolished.

St. John's spire is 280 feet. It has a spiral timber staircase of 101 steps, and a stone staircase of 32 steps.

White Wine Lane is so called on account of the milk being sold there 100 years ago, before the Milk Market was opened in Cornmarket Row. Milk was called white wine by the people.

Castle Street is called after King John's Castle.

Church Street is called after St. Munchin's Church.

Church Street (near John Street) is called after St. John's Church.

Emblem Lane (demolished), Repeal Lane (demolished), Tumbling Lane (demolished), Forker's Lane (demolished).

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# OLD LIMERICK

## THE TOWN WALL

The Town Wall ran from John's Gate up past the Cathedral, and the Sarsfield statue to the corner of William's Lane. It went along by this line across Gerald Griffin St., through the yards here of Playhouse Lane, through Messrs. Lee's foundry (where a piece will be seen yet), straight on by the wall of the Milk Market, down by Carr Street into Watergate, into Mr. Cantrell's yard on to the river opposite Barrington's slip. A fine stretch of it can be seen from St. John's Hospital down by Old Clare Street. About 90 feet of it is in John's Hospital grounds, showing the John's Gate ramparts. Two sides of the Milk Market are built on the wall. The Mungret Gate tower stood at the corner of Robert Street. Its foundations were discovered about 30 years ago by Corporation employees, but they did not stir it. It is still under the roadway.

From Thomond Bridge a fine piece of the wall can still be seen and two of the round towers or bastions. A fine stretch of the wall is still visible in the Island Road, and near St. Mary's Chapel. A small piece is also visible at the rear of Corporation houses near Mary Street. The Tholsel in ancient time stood where the old gaol is fixed in Mary St. Tholsel was another name for Town Hall in days gone by. In 1673 the Exchange was built for a Town Hall. The Corporation used the Exchange up to 1817, when they went

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DUN LAOGHAIRE LIBRARY.—"Disgusted" writes:—"Some people go to the Carnegie Library, Dun Laoghaire, every evening apparently only to stand round the walls in groups. They converse loudly, whistle and otherwise distract and annoy those who want to read. I have seen the Librarian reprobate with them on several occasions, but they do not heed her. Why do not get the police to remove the offenders?"

"Link Echo" 11/5/26

## OLD LIMERICK LANDMARKS

### WHEN THE CITY STREETS WERE MADE

#### (SPECIAL TO THE ECHO)

The following dates relating to when many streets and ancient buildings were built will prove very interesting to citizens:—

1757—Road made to Parteen from Killeely Cross.

1824—City first lit by gas; Oct.

1640—Inscription on Broad Street House over bow way leading to Garvey's Range; built by Pierce Creagh.

1767—Rebuilt by John Creagh.

1799—Pike's Row built (see stone)

1770—Play House Lane Theatre built.

1770—Assembly Mall Theatre built.

1753—St John's Square built.

1843—St John's Church built.

1841—Theatre Royal, Henry St built

1724—Inscription on Old Brazen Head in John street reads:—"The Old Brazen Head rebuilt by Simon Kent, 1794."

1774—On the old Poor House:—"House of Industry A D, 1774." This old building was the present Strand Barracks and faces Francis street, and was used up to 1841.

1755—On St Michael's Graveyard:—"Pray for the souls of Philip and Ellen Roche, 1755." Both are interred close to this stone.

1673—On the Exchange:—"This Exchange was built at ye expense of the Corporation of Limerick the first year of the reign of Queen Anno Doni, 1702.

William Davis, Esq, Mayor.  
Rawley Colpoys }  
Rober Wilkinson } Sheriffs.

1797—On Thomas St corner:—"Thomas Street, April 10th, 1797."

1780—Sir Harry's Mall built by Sir Harrey Hertstonge.

1824—Athlunkard St continued to Park Bridge.

1770—Denmark St built.

1780—Patrick St, Francis St, Arthur's Quay, built.

1789—William St built

1805—Ellen St built (these streets are named after Patrick, Ellen, and Francis Arthur).

1847—In January, 1847, the Corporation removed from the old Exchange to Rutland Street.

1673—The Exchange was built in 1673 by Ald Yorke, rebuilt in 1702. After the seiges of 1690-1 it was rebuilt in 1778. Ald Yorke presented six bells to St Mary's. Some of these bells were recast. Two were added later, one in 1829 and the other in 1859.

Inscription on O'Connell Statue—O'Connell. T Keane, M D, Mayor, erected 1857.

In 1797, John Creagh rebuilt the houses in Broad St, which in 1640 were built by his ancestor, Pierce Creagh.

On the Old Garryowen Brewery inscription reads—"This Malthouse was built by John O'Connell, April the 16th, in the year of Our Lord, 1780."

On the old Brewery at Newgate Lane the inscription on the stone reads—"The Old City Brewery, 1739."

Cathedral Place Inscription—"Cathedral Place formerly Chapel St, 1830."

In December, 1822—A painting of Thos Spring Rice, M P, was erected in the Chamber of Commerce.

1849—O'Connell painting in Town Hall erected. Painted J Haverly.

1863—Fitzgerald painting erected in Town Hall by public subscription, painted by Catterson Smith, P R H A, 1862.

Inscription on old clock found in Bishop's Palace, Henry St, reads—"Samuel Blewls, maker, 1775."

Inscription on old clock found in Bishop's Palace, now in Town Hall—"John Thwaites, Clerkenwell, London, 1806."

Michael St, 1787 (see stone on wall)—"Bassatt Dickson, Anno Domini, 1780. See stone in White Wine Lane off Watergate.

Patrick Arthur was interred in St Michael's Chapel, Denmark St. See monument to his memory in the nave (up to 1881) now in north transept. He died in 1799. Born 1717. He gave the site for the chapel.