

The
MERRION
DUBLIN

The Merrion History Book

References
To

MERRION STREET

Numbers in the Map	Tenants Names	Number of houses each Tenement	Number of Feet on each Tenement	
			Front	Deep
1	Rev ^d Anthony Vinchondevouex	1	26	290
2	Capt ^m John Corneil	2	32	290
3	Edward Bond	2	100	290
4	Dennis Brown		50	290
5	William Gregory		30	290
6	The Honble John Butler	3	100	290
7	D ^o Assignee of Thomas Smith	1	30	290
8	The Marquis of Kildare		165 $\frac{1}{2}$	370 $\frac{1}{2}$
9	Cullumbine Lee Carré Esq ^r	4	130	290
10	D ^o Assignee of Rev ^m Jo ^m Kearney	1	30	290
11	Rev ^d Doctor John Kearney	5	60	290
12	The Honble W ^m FitzWilliam	1	31	290
13	Henry Monck Esq ^r	2	164	290
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	John Earl of Shelburne		435	122 $\frac{1}{2}$

250

years ago

TAKE A WALK IN DUBLIN'S GEORGIAN HISTORIC HEART, through Merrion Square and along towards St Stephen's Green, and you could find yourself feeling as if you have stepped back in time. The elegant redbrick buildings, with their sash windows designed to let in exactly the right amount of light, and their sets of granite steps sweeping up to gleaming, smartly painted doors, whisper of the lives that once went on inside.

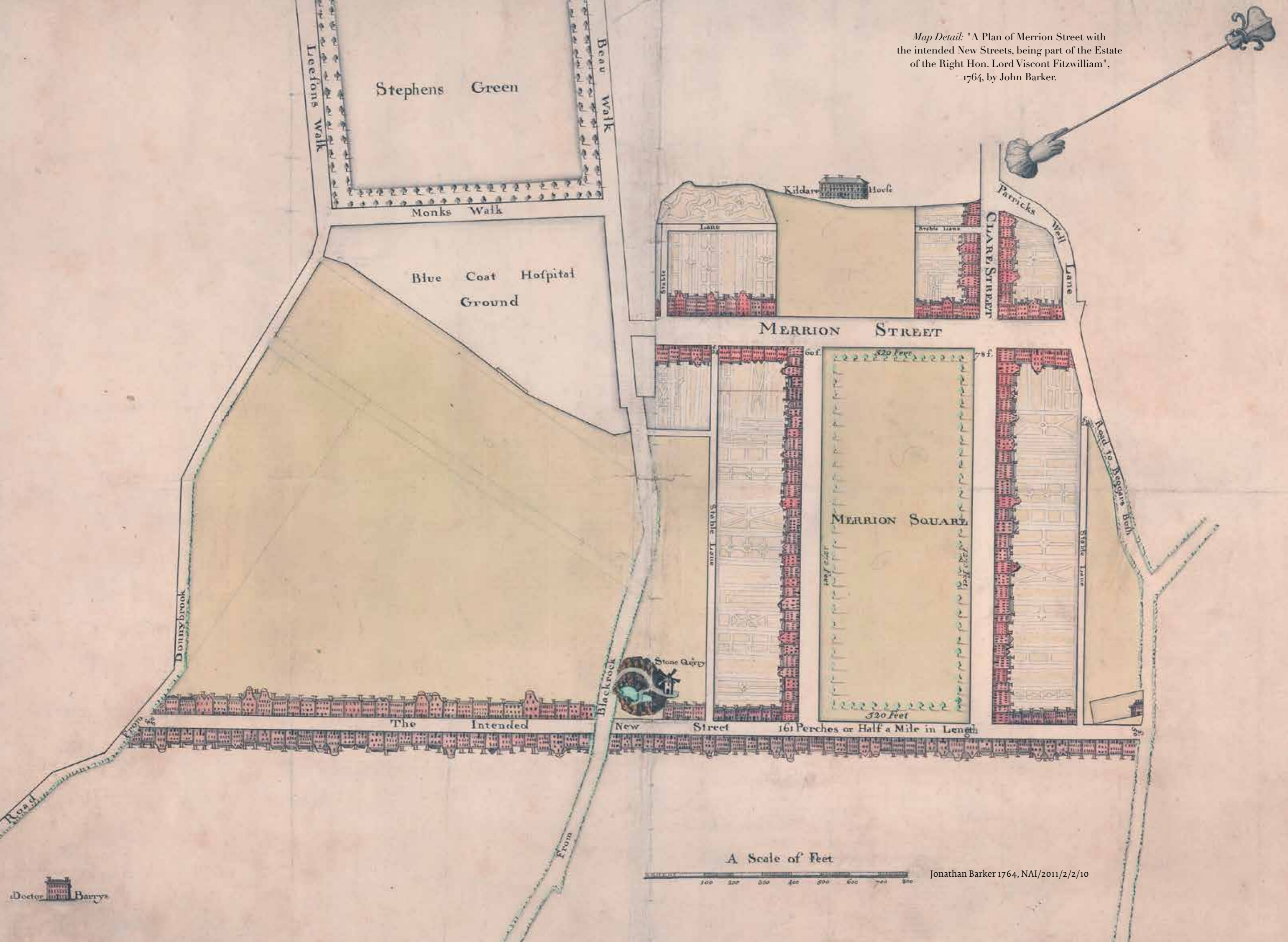
Along the west side of Merrion Square and towards Upper Merrion Street, your route brings you past the grand civic buildings of the National Gallery, Natural History Museum, and Leinster House: seat of the Irish Government, and said to be so ideal in proportion and design that it became the model for the White House in Washington DC. Further up, pass the Palladian façade of Government Buildings, where for almost a century the future of Ireland has been considered and shaped; and opposite, in one of the most elegant collections of four perfect Georgian town houses, find the Merrion Hotel.

Image Detail from: "A Book of Maps and References to the Estaes of The Right Honourable Richard Lord Viscount Fitzwilliam, 1792, by John Barker."



List of Lord Fitzwilliam tenants:
NAI - 2011/3/1p.22

Map Detail: "A Plan of Merrion Street with the intended New Streets, being part of the Estate of the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Fitzwilliam", 1764, by John Barker.





HISTORY

ONE OF THE finest Georgian cities IN THE WORLD

THE MERRION EXISTS THANKS TO THE VISION OF OWNERS Lochlann Quinn, Martin Naughton and Billy Hastings; together with an inspired team of restoration architects, craftspeople, interior and garden designers, artists, chefs and all those people who come together to make a good hotel into a great one. But it's also thanks to an earlier vision, because it was just over 250 years ago, in 1766, that the first foundation stones were laid in the construction of the town houses that would become the Merrion Hotel.

Today, guests who stay in one of the 123 rooms, or 20 suites, or who enjoy fine dining at the Michelin Starred Guilbaud's restaurant, or relaxing in the hidden gardens, may stop to wonder how much history has gone on within these walls? And what was life like, a quarter of a millennium ago, when Lord Stanley Monck was among those who commissioned the architecture that would turn Dublin into one of the finest Georgian cities in the world?



LIVING IN Georgian Dublin

MEDIEVAL DUBLIN WAS A CITY OF WINDING, NARROW streets, and houses overhanging shadowed lane-ways but, from the 1750s on, this was to change. It would be picturesque today but, back then, it was dirty, dark and dangerous. The Wide Streets Commission oversaw the reshaping of Dublin, with demolitions, street widenings and new layouts to alter how Dubliners, and those flocking in from overseas saw the city. It was an era known both as the Irish Renaissance, and Dublin's Golden Age, as mansions, squares and terraces were built, turning Dublin from a regional backwater into what Kevin Corrigan Kearns describes in his book, *Georgian Dublin*, as "one of the most glamorous and pulsating urban centres in all Europe".





CONFIDENT LEADERS of FASHION

INITIALLY, THE NEW GEORGIAN DUBLIN WAS FOCUSED north of the River Liffey, and the Southside, now Dublin's elegant historic heart, was the less popular part. James FitzGerald, the Earl of Kildare saw his chance to change things when, in 1745, he commissioned Richard Cassels to build Kildare House, now Leinster House. And, as with all confident leaders of fashion, others followed – one of them being Lord Stanley Monck, who set about building Nos 21 to 24 Upper Merrion Street, which are now the home of the Merrion Hotel.

Why was Dublin blossoming, 250 years ago? There had been a period of relative peace, agricultural improvements were creating wealth among the landowning sections of society, and the Irish Parliament was strengthening the role of the native aristocracy, although close links (and, naturally rivalry) with London remained. The rise of the professional classes also generated wealth, the population was expanding, and Dublin was also an important trading post for the British Empire. It needed a new architecture to equal its developing status.

Portrait: *Sir Arthur Wesley*
the DUKE OF WELLINGTON





A SOCIAL LIFE TO MATCH

SPECULATIVE BUILDERS CREATED DUBLIN'S NOW-FAMOUS Georgian streets and squares, leasing sections of land, but adhering to strict guidelines on height, proportion and ornament. Notice, as you walk through Merrion Square, those small variations in elevation and brickwork along the terraces, that let you know a different hand was behind their development.

Alongside the new fine architecture came a hectic social life. There were coffee houses and chop houses, hotels, clubs for socialising and for gaming, masquerades, balls and concerts. Musical life flourished, and Mornington House at No 24 Upper Merrion Street, with its fine rooms and Adam marble fireplaces, became one of its focal points. The house had been leased by Garret Wesley, Lord Mornington, in 1769, and it was here in that year that Arthur Wellesley, later the Duke of Wellington, hero of Waterloo, and Prime Minister of the United Kingdom was born. Over the coming years, Mornington House was to play a vital role in Ireland's history.



A CITY of CONTRASTS

IT CAN BE TEMPTING TO SEE PAST ERAS THROUGH ROSE tinted glasses, and no city is a paragon of perfection. Echoing the state of the world's great cities at the time, poverty was also everywhere, and with it the threats of theft and violence. Dublin was described as an "ill-policed city", and both murder and public hangings were frequent occurrences. Rebellion was in the air, and although the anti-Catholic Penal Laws were becoming more relaxed, they still bit hard.

Visiting Dublin in 1777, Lord Nuneham, son of Lord Lieutenant Harcourt, wrote of a city full of filth, and the "deep stream of black mud that gently flows through the town," and "where half the inhabitants are in absolute rags." In this city of contrasts, the wealthy lived extravagantly, and were known for their exceptional hospitality, which was frequently remarked upon by English travellers in Ireland. This reputation for hospitality was a double-edged sword, as many almost ruined themselves keeping up appearances.



Distinguished for UNBOUNDED HOSPITALITY

JONAH BARRINGTON PUT IT IN A NUTSHELL WHEN HE described the gentry as “generous, hospitable, friendly brave, - but careless, prodigal, and indiscreet...” Writing in 1833, in his *Rise and Fall of the Irish Nation*, he noted how the Irish were “peculiarly distinguished for unbounded indiscriminate hospitality [...] where the Englishman suspects a stranger to be a rogue till he finds that he is an honest man, the Irishman conceives every person to be a honest man, till he finds him out to be a rogue.” It’s a characteristic that has remained, cementing the Irish reputation for great charm, hospitality and warmth around the world.

This hospitality wasn’t restricted to Dublin. Patricia McCarthy’s *Life in the Country House in Georgian Ireland* offers a brilliant insight into how wealthy Georgians lived, through letters and ledgers from the time. In one letter, Mrs Delaney writes of how “you are not invited to dinner to any private gentleman of a thousand a year or less that does not give you seven dishes at one course, and Burgundy and Champagne.” More letters and notes describe drinking – from toasting to more heavy indulgence, with the men availing of chamber pots held in sideboards, so they didn’t even have to leave the dining room to relieve themselves. One foreign correspondent wrote in alarm, “immediately after the departure of the ladies and immediately beside the table, free rein is given.” Listening to a fellow guest, he describes how “we felt as if we were listening to the last drops from a roof gutter after a long past thunderstorm.”

Portrait: *Mary Delaney*





A PRIDE in the city

DUELLING WAS A DANGEROUS HABIT, WITH DUELLING societies, strict rules, and pistols kept at inns in case you were foolish enough to become involved in a dispute without one. But wealthy Dubliners were also proud of their city. In John Gamble's Sketches of History, published in the 1830s, he describes the vanity of Dubliners. The "prominent feature of every inhabitant of Dublin; he is vain of his city, of its beauty, of the splendour of its public buildings, and of its vast superiority over London."

In many ways, some things don't change.

This boisterous, lively, social, glittering society flourished until, in 1801, the Act of Union saw the full migration of the Irish Parliament to London, and with it, the wealthiest Lords of the land.



Change in the air

YOU CAN SEE SOME OF THE CHANGES THE ACT OF UNION brought, simply by looking at the residents of Nos 21 to 24 Upper Merrion Street through the years. Lord Stanley Monck had chosen his site and his architect wisely. Until the end of the Eighteenth Century, every tenant of the four elegant townhouses, with the exception of George Stewart, who became President of the College of Surgeons, was an MP. These included Garret Wesley, father to the Duke of Wellington, and the wonderfully, and aptly named, Valentine Lawless. Lawless, 2nd Baron Cloncurry, has been cited as a chief organiser of the United Irish Movement in London, and member of the United Irishmen. He was arrested in June, during the 1798 Rebellion, on suspicion of treason, and was held in the Tower of London until his release in 1801.

Following the Act of Union, with the exception of the Monck family, who stayed on at No 22 until the 1820s, the buildings became offices, and homes to barristers and other legal or professional types. In 1837, John Richards, the Attorney General, lived at No 22; while by 1858, No 21 was home to the State Dentist.





GENIUS, LEARNING and islands of dignity

AND YET THE CITY EXPANDED, AND A NEW KIND OF SOCIETY formed. Writing in *Visitors' Perceptions of Dublin 1800-30*, Gillian O'Brien quotes one traveller who found that the departure of the nobility "made room for genius and learning to take place," and saw how, after the Act of Union, "the fashionable society may be called rather literary; for it is composed of an agreeable mixture of rank and knowledge." Writer Maria Edgeworth also noted that the new society made space for genius and merit, as much as rank, airs and address.

One thing that did decline was property prices. In 1799, No 24 had been valued at £8,000. In 1801 this had fallen to £2,500 and by 1858, it was worth just £225. Lacy's Lane, behind, was home to 68 people, living in four dwellings, alongside two dairies. And then, of course, there was the huge tragedy of the Great Famine of 1845 to 1852. Rural families escaped, where they could, to Dublin, and food was given, on occasion, to the starving, in Merrion Square. Many of Dublin's grand Georgian buildings became tenements, with poverty-stricken people packed into the once-ornate high ceilinged rooms. Upper Merrion Street escaped this fate, surviving, along with Merrion Square and the surrounding streets, as described by Kevin Kearns in his book *Georgian Dublin*, as "islands of dignity".

Portrait: *Lord Stanley Monck*



References To BAGGOT RATH

Numb. in the Map	Tenants Names	Number of Acres in each Tenement		
		A	R	P
	<i>Merrion Street</i>			
	<i>Baggot Rath brought forward</i>	5	~	6
12	<i>The Honble William FitzWilliam</i>	~	~	30
13	<i>Henry Monck Esq^r</i>	~	2	20
13 ^{1/2}	<i>John Earl of Shelburne</i>	~	2	20
	<i>Merrion Square</i>			
14	<i>John Connell</i>	~	2	20
15	<i>John Gerrard</i>	~	2	6
16	<i>Thomas Keating</i>	~	1	4
17	<i>John Wilson</i>	~	~	14
		8	~	16

LIVING HISTORY: inside Upper Merrion Street

MORNINGTON HOUSE, AT NO 24 UPPER MERRION STREET, was the finest of the four townhouses that, today, comprise the Merrion Hotel. It was named for Garret Wesley, the Earl of Mornington, and father of the Duke of Wellington. Wesley was a musical prodigy, who, by the age of 14 had taught himself harpsichord, violin and the organ. He married the Hon. Anne Hill Trevor, and they had nine children, seven of whom survived.

Wesley's love of music (he also composed, and played at his concerts) made Mornington House a centre of Dublin social life, with musicians coming from around the world to play. He also, in 1758, founded the first academy of music in Ireland, and was the first professor of music at Trinity College, Dublin. Music came to be all the rage in Dublin, and had a strong international flavour. Writing in 1786, in his Historical Memoirs of Irish Bards, Joseph Cooper Walker described how "Italian singers were invited over and fair dames of Ireland learned to expire at an opera."

Image Detail from: "A Book of Maps and References to the Estaes of The Right Honourable Richard Lord Viscount Fitzwilliam, 1792, by John Barker."



MUSIC, CHARITY, a fortune fiddled away & ANOTHER GAINED

A DARK HAired, ELEGANT MAN, WHOSE FACE AND FIGURE increasingly betrayed his penchant for good living, Wesley was also a philanthropist, hosting charitable concerts, and raising enough money to establish a hospital in Townsend Street, which, over a four year period, aided more than 13,000 families. Still, his own lavish lifestyle proved too much, and he fell into debt, moving to spend more time in London, which was said to be a less expensive city, and dying in Knightsbridge in 1781 in highly straightened circumstances. In July that year, his heir, the new Earl, Richard Wellesley had to raise a mortgage of £8,000, and four years later another £10,000. The large fortune had, as one commentator put it, been “fiddled away”.

By 1791, Nicholas Lawless, the 1st Baron Cloncurry, had taken over the lease at Mornington House. Born a Catholic, he converted to Protestantism to ensure that nothing would hamper his rise through the ranks. Ambitious and tactical, and aided by wealth from his commercial, wool trading and banking enterprises, he bought himself a peerage, and came to sit in the House of Lords as Baron Cloncurry. Although successful, he was also widely mocked, being said – by the Reverend John Scott, in his Review of the House of Commons – to “have the stiffness of a French dancing master rather than the easy disengaged air of a well-bred gentleman.”

While this undoubtedly also says a great deal about the snobbery of the time, Miss de Burgh’s satire, left in Cloncurry’s box at the theatre, perhaps best sums him up: “Cloncurry, Cloncurry! / Why in such a hurry / To laugh at the comical squire? / For though he’s toss’d high / Yet you cannot deny / That blankets have toss’d yourself higher”.

Portrait: *Lord Cloncurry*





REBELLION

CLONCURRY WAS A RUTHLESS AND SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN, but he also took his duties as a parliamentarian seriously. His son, Valentine, was more serious still about the future of Ireland, a stance which was to cause great tension between him and his father, although the two remained close. Following university, at Trinity College Dublin, Valentine set off, like most young gentlemen of his age, on the Grand Tour of Europe. During his two years abroad, he met members of the Irish brigade, as well as French nationalists, who, according to his own memoirs, “considerably modified the future events of my life [and] sent me home to Ireland, more Irish than ever.”

Writing in later life, Daniel O’Connell said that “Ireland has not a better friend or one more devoted to her service than Lord Cloncurry.” Lord Charlemont described him as a “true and practical patriot”. Born, like the Duke of Wellington, in Mornington House (just four years later), Valentine met the more radical elements of Irish society through his father’s land agent, Thomas Braughall, who was a great friend of leading Irish revolutionary, Wolf Tone.

Portrait: *Valentine Lawless*





PATRIOTISM

DESPITE HIS NAME, LAWLESS WAS NOT TEMPERAMENTALLY given to lawlessness, but he had a deep patriotism and an honourable strength of character, and found he couldn't support the inequalities visited by those in power at the time. Gatherings took place in the house, discussing Irish freedom and, of course, rebellion. An intense and idealistic young man, whose features echoed the heavy set lines of his father, Valentine became a member of the United Irishmen, and, sent to London for his own safety by his father, he began cultivating alliances across the water. He described the impending Act of Union as a fatal proposal, writing on the future of Dublin if the Act were to be passed that "your capital, now the most beautiful in the empire, and which promises, in a few years, to vie, even in wealth with the first in Europe, will then be reduced to certain ruin [...] suddenly transformed into the dreary walks of hopeless misery."



AND TREASON

IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHAT ROLE VALENTINE PLAYED IN THE 1798 rebellion, but he was arrested for treason in June of that year. It is speculated that his father only voted in favour of the Act of Union because, at that time, his son was imprisoned in the Tower of London. Nicholas Lawless died in 1799, and on his release from prison in 1801, Valentine found his property and estates in disrepair. Valentine would go on to become a British peer, a skilled politician, and advisor to successive Viceroys to Ireland. Nevertheless, the lease on Mornington House had to be sold, and it went, paradoxically to the one person who could not have been more in opposition to Valentine's revolutionary stance.





From REPUBLICAN^{to} MONARCHIST

ROBERT STEWART, VISCOUNT CASTLEREAGH, WAS A HANDSOME man. Described as aloof and secretive, and, according to his friend Lord Cornwallis, “so cold that nothing can warm him”, he has also been called “the Irish Robespierre”. Close friends, however, said there was a warmth there, and his wife, Lady Emily Anne Hobart was said to be an absolutely lovely woman. Lady Bessborough described her as “invariably good humoured” and with a “contented disregard of the cares of life”, so Castlereagh must have had something in his nature to temper the harsh views of history. In fact it was a love match, and writing to Lady Emily in 1800, he declares himself unwilling to travel even for a day without her, and “in danger of committing the intolerable barbarism of writing a love letter to my wife...”.

Castlereagh became Chief Secretary at Dublin Castle in 1798, and needing a large private house, he took Mornington House over from the Cloncurry family. In his study, *The Rise of Lord Castlereagh*, Harford Montgomery Hyde suggests there could have been no place “better suited to the requirements of the chief Minister of State than Mornington House [...] Both inside and out it typified the splendour of Georgian architecture in eighteenth century Ireland.”

And so, the rooms of No 24 now welcomed the conversations of monarchists, and those seeking to push through the Act of Union, rather than the republican views of the Lawless family. Writing in his memoirs, Valentine noted the change with asperity: “in it was concocted those plots that ended in overturning the liberties and arresting the prosperity of Ireland. There also were celebrated with corrupt confusion suited to the occasion the nightly orgies and plotters.” It was a passionate time. A letter written by Castlereagh from Mornington House in 1800 described the “great endeavours [used to] inflame the kingdom” against the Union, and how there was “no rest or relaxation whatsoever.”

Portrait: *Viscount Castlereagh*



A time of TENSION

BRIBERY, PAMPHLETS, ROUSING SPEECHES AND DUELS WERE planned by the nationalist side, countered with more bribery, duelling, pamphlets, speeches, lavish dinners and patronage for the loyal by the unionists. Many of these dinners were held at Mornington House. Tensions rose. Castlereagh's carriage was threatened by a mob, who burned his effigy outside No 24. Ultimately, the Act of Union was passed, moving the government of Ireland to London until the Republic was established more than one hundred years later, in 1922. Following his success, Lord Castlereagh sold Mornington House to the Government, who turned it into the Army's Accountant Office.

Castlereagh himself became British Foreign Secretary. He was key to the coalition that defeated Napoleon, but became progressively unpopular. In his poem *The Masque of Anarchy*, Shelley wrote "I met Murder on the way - / He had a mask like Castlereagh...", and the historian Charles Webster summed him up by saying "There probably never was a statesman whose ideas were so right and whose attitude to public opinion was so wrong," the veracity of which depends, of course, on how you view the Act of Union.

Increasingly paranoid and distressed, Castlereagh took his own life, possibly following a nervous breakdown, in 1822.

Portrait: *Lady Castlereagh*



RESCUE: The Merrion Today

BY THE END OF THE 1800S, THE FOUR TOWNHOUSES THAT now comprise the Merrion Hotel were falling into decidedly mixed fortunes. In 1892, no 21 was vacant; by 1898, it was a private hotel, run by Mrs Kate Wilson, and valued at £80, just one percent of its value back in its glory days. She had previously owned the Victoria Hotel in Cork, and an advert for her Dublin hotel described it as having baths that “have been constructed on the most approved modern principles.” Later, Lawrence Murphy Esq, Ladies’ Outfitter, set up shop there. He was followed by the Church Temporalities Branch of the Irish Land Commission, and after them, a department of the tax inspectorate.

Along with Upper Merrion Street, Georgian Dublin was in increasing decline. The new Irish State was conflicted about its Anglo Irish heritage, and irreplaceable sections were demolished. By the latter part of the last century, our four townhouses were being used for storage. In the 1980s, the then Taoiseach, Charles Haughey, had, tellingly, suggested that No 24 be restored as his residence, but given the fact that the country was in recession, wisdom prevailed. Another, better, recommendation had been to transform the house into a museum of Parliamentary history, but in 1992, the block was sold at auction to its present owners. Five years later, in 1997, following a painstaking and intensive restoration by brilliant craftspeople, designers, artists and makers, the Merrion Hotel was officially opened.



A NATIONAL TREASURE and another chapter

HAILED IN THE IRISH TIMES IN 2006 AS AN “IRISH NATIONAL treasure, a landmark [...] that is uniquely Irish, from its collection of art and historical memorabilia, to the mix of antiques and soft furnishings,” the Merrion today reflects its first histories as a place of welcome, light, warmth, entertainment and hospitality. Two hundred and fifty years ago, music played, parliamentarians met, and decisions were made. Later, plots were hatched, and historic agreements brokered that would change the course of history forever. Later still, smaller stories came: office workers, barristers, doctors, dentists, people going about their daily, often unrecorded lives.

Lochlann Quinn describes the decision to open a hotel as being prompted by the buildings themselves. He speaks of the age of the houses, and their history; the experience of place they provide, within the walls, and outside, as you step into an historic part of a city famous throughout the world for its Georgian heritage. Historic hotels bring something additional to your stay, and in the case of the Merrion, that something is nothing less than some of the key chapters in the story of the Irish State.

The painstaking restoration of the 18th century rococo plasterwork, the panelled and carved woodwork, the gilded frames and marble fireplaces is only the layer you can see. Behind this, the fabric was made sound, and the four buildings knitted together to make each of their stories into one. This brings the townhouses full circle. In today’s luxury hotel, meetings are still made, agreements brokered, alliances formed. People come to relax, and to embark on new adventures. Back in 1833, Jonah Barrington had described the Dublin gentry as “generous, hospitable, friendly, brave”. Exactly the same could be said of the Merrion today.



TIMELINE

- 1756 Henry Monck purchases the block of land where Nos 21 to 24 Upper Merrion Street will be built. Foundation stones are laid
- 1758 Garret Wesley establishes first Music Academy in Ireland
- 1760 George III accedes to the throne
- 1768/9 First residents move in, all are Members of Parliament. Including Garret Wesley (Lord Mornington) in No 24, and the Monck family (later Viscounts) at No 22
- 1769 Arthur Wellesley (later 1st Duke of Wellington) born at No 24
- 1781 Garret Wesley dies
- 1791 Nicholas Lawless, 1st Baron Cloncurry, lives at No 24
- 1798 Rebellion in Ireland. Valentine Lawless imprisoned in the Tower of London on charges of Treason
- 1799 Nicholas Lawless dies. George Stewart, President of the College of Surgeons, lives at No 23. Robert Stewart, Lord Castlereagh, lives at No 24
- 1800 Act of Union signed, subsuming the Irish Parliament into Westminster
- 1801 Irish government moves to London. Castlereagh sells No 24 to the government and No 24 becomes the Army Accountant Office. Valentine Lawless released
- 1815 Armies led by Arthur Wellesley defeat Napoleon's forces at the Battle of Waterloo
- 1820 George IV accedes to the throne
- 1822 Lord Castlereagh takes his own life
- 1829 Catholic Emancipation allows Catholics to sit in Parliament
- 1834 Dublin to Kingstown (now Dun Laoghaire) Railway, the first commercial railway in Ireland opens



- 1837 John Richards, baron of the Exchequer and Attorney General lives at No 22. Queen Victoria accedes to the throne
- 1845/49 The potato crop fails. The Great Irish Famine lays waste to the population
- 1853 The Great Exhibition is staged on Leinster Lawn, and is attended by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert
- 1880 No 24 becomes the Office of Church Temporalities in Ireland
- 1891 E. Murray, the State Dentist lives at No 21
- 1898 Mrs Kate Wilson runs No 21 as a private hotel
- 1904 The first Orthopaedic Hospital in Ireland is established in Nos 22 and 23
- 1913 Dublin Lockout and ITGWU Strike
- 1914 Irish Home Rule offered, but postponed for duration of war
- 1914/18 First World War
- 1916 Easter Rising
- 1922 Foundation of the Irish State. Nos 21 and 23 become offices of the Inspector of Taxes and the Land Commission respectively
- 1939/45 Second World War
- 1955 Ireland joins the United Nations
- 1973 Ireland joins the European Community
- 1982 No 22 houses the Department of Fisheries and Forestry
- 1992 Nos 21 to 24 sold at auction to Lochlann Quinn and Martin Naughton who would establish the Merrion Hotel. A period of painstaking restoration begins
- 1997 The Merrion Hotel opens





acknowledgements

Words by Gemma Tipton

Book Design: Oonagh Young at Design HQ

Illustrations: Anna and Elena Balbusso

The illustrations are based on historical portraits and the background of each contains different architectural details from the Merrion Hotel

Printed by: Die Keure

Thank You

Aran McCardle for his initial research on this project

Simon Lincoln in the Irish Architectural Archive

The National Archives of Ireland

Alice Roden

