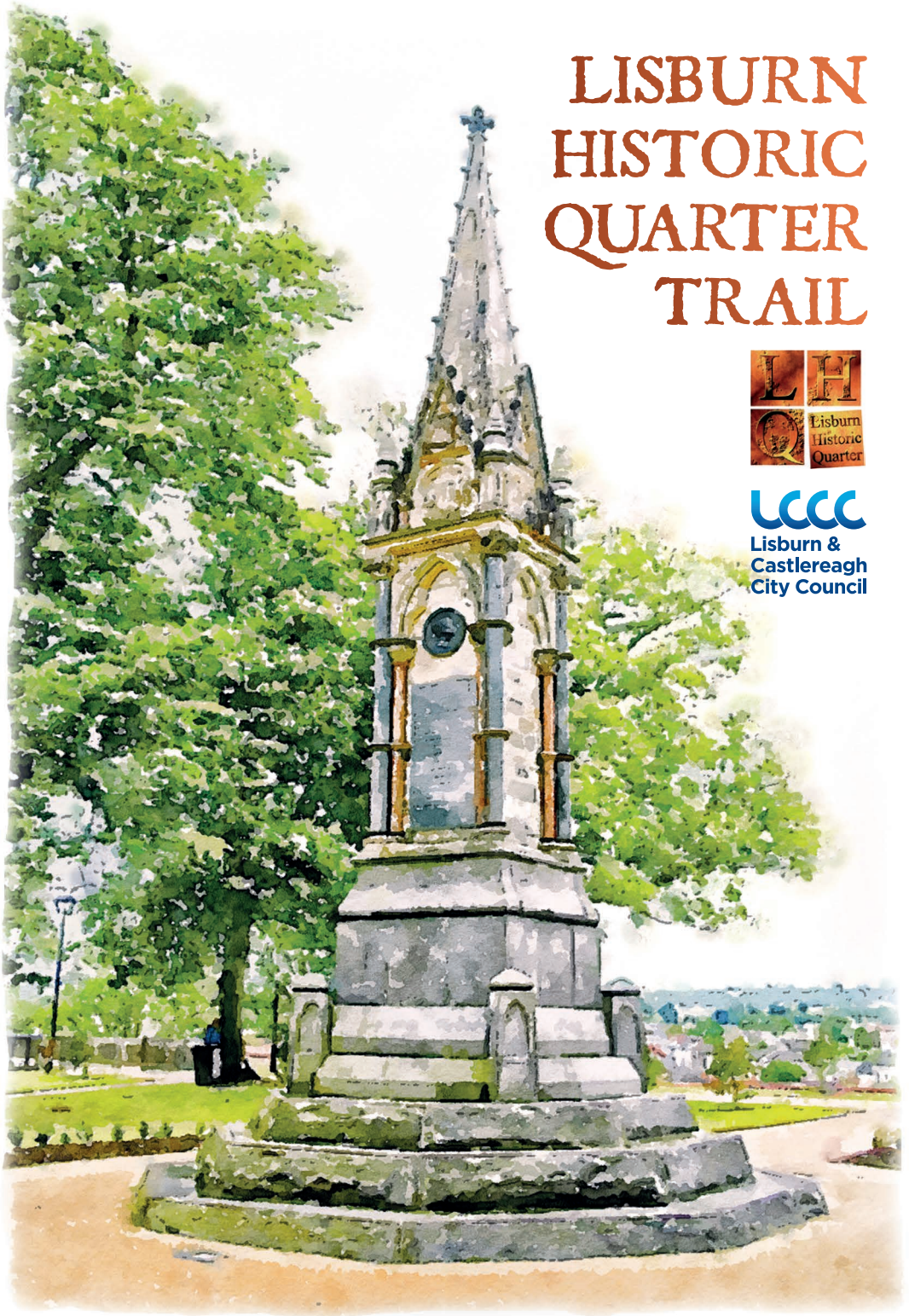


LISBURN HISTORIC QUARTER TRAIL



LCCC
Lisburn &
Castlereagh
City Council



DID YOU KNOW?

How Lisburn got its name?

Lisburn, which was originally known as Lisnagarvey (the fort of the gamesters), was founded in the early 17th century. Today, many local sports clubs and organizations still carry its original name.

How Pipers Hill got its name?

During the 1641 rebellion the town was practically burnt to the ground. Hundreds of rebels were slain on Bridge and Castle Street. It is reputed that the head of one of the pipers was blown off and rolled down the hill. Since then this laneway has been called Pipers Hill.

That King William III dined in Market Square, Lisburn?

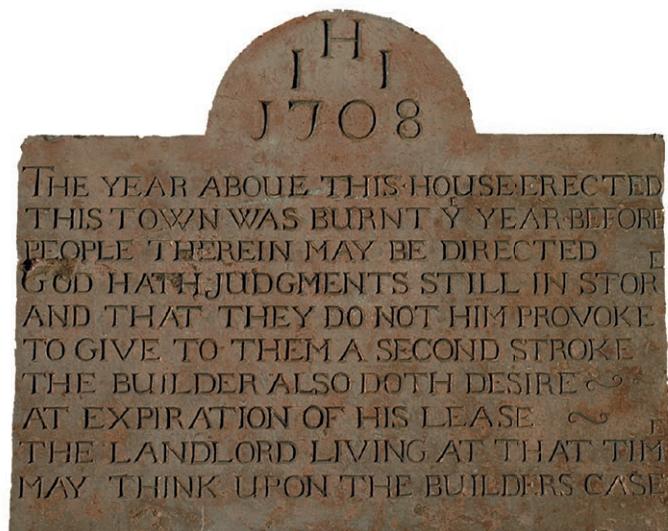
On his way to the Battle of the Boyne in 1690, William III dined with the Duke of Schomberg in the house of the Quaker, George Gregson. Shannon's Jewellers now occupies the site.

How the 'Great Fire of 1707' was started?

On Sunday April 20 1707 a great fire raged through Lisburn. Many of the buildings were made of timber and roofed with thatch or wooden shingles so the fire which was started accidentally in a house off Bow Street spread quickly and easily. It was reported in the Dublin Gazette dated April 22 to 26 April 1707 that yesterday a fire broke out in Sluce Street in Widow Walsh's house and most of the the town, the castle, the church and other places of worship were burnt down.

The Presbyterian minister Alexander McCracken wrote "Not a house standing, except the Market House". It is possible today to view two items which survived the fire namely the red sandstone arched walls of the old market house inside the museum and a gateway in Castle Gardens which carries the date stone 1677 above it.

A sandstone memorial plaque dated 1708, originally placed on the front of a new house in Market Square is on display in the museum.



Where the first steam engine in an Irish textile mill was installed in 1790?

James Wallace, from Scotland, established a cotton-spinning mill in Bakery Entry, off Castle Street. The steam engine drove the spindles in his factory.

That there was a hanging in Market Square in 1798?

Henry Monro, the leader of the United Irishmen at the Battle of Ballynahinch in June 1798, was captured, brought to trial in Lisburn and executed in Market Square. The scaffold was erected in full view of his own house in Market Square. As he stepped onto the ladder, one of its rungs gave way and he fell. However, he picked himself up immediately and continued to mount the ladder to his death. After the execution, his head was severed from his body. As a deterrent to others, it is believed that Monro's head was placed on a pike at the corner of the Market House.

What the excavations in Castle Gardens revealed?

A perfectly intact clay tiled basement floor and fireplace of a 17th century Gazebo (summer house), pottery, glass, a decorative pin brooch, a carved bone gaming piece and several preserved traders' tokens (coins) some with local connections, for example a token with Edward Moore, Lisburn 1666 on it. Further information on these finds and others can be found by contacting the Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum.

When Lisburn started to convert from gas to electricity?

In December 1928 the town received its first electricity from the Lisburn Electric Company. However, gas was used for many years both in the home and for street lighting. In 1929 a minor traffic accident in Lisburn was apparently caused by courting couples blowing out the gas street lamps.

There is a link between the tomb of Tutankhamen and the Irish Linen Centre/ Lisburn Museum?

A piece of Linen from the tomb can be found on display in the museum.



LISBURN HISTORIC QUARTER TRAIL

1. First Lisburn Presbyterian Church

MARKET SQUARE

Founded prior to 1687, this is one of the oldest Presbyterian congregations in Ireland. The original church was destroyed in the 'great fire' of 1707. The church was built on its present site in 1768. An interesting internal feature is the Resurrection Window, which is composed of broken glass from the original stained glass windows which were destroyed by terrorism in 1981.

2. Statue of Brigadier General John Nicholson (1821-57)

MARKET SQUARE

By F.W. Pomeroy, the statue was unveiled in 1922 in memory of Nicholson's military valour. He was commissioned in the Bengal Infantry in 1839, and fought in the First and Second Sikh Wars in the 1840s and 1850s. During the Indian Mutiny of 1857 he took charge of the assault on Delhi and was mortally wounded. Nicholson was of a Lisburn family background - his mother's family resided in Castle Street.

3. Wallace Fountain

CASTLE GARDENS

Cast from a design by the French Sculptor Charles Auguste Lebourg, this distinctive grand model design fountain was given to Lisburn by Sir Richard Wallace. Of the five fountains originally given, only two survive, the second of these can be found in Castle Gardens. In 1876 Wallace commissioned and erected 50 drinking fountains known as 'Les Wallaces'. Several of the fountains can still be found all over the world including in Barcelona, Rotterdam, Paris, Zurich, London, New Orleans and Barcelona. The most remote fountain is on the island of Reunion in the India Ocean. The Harry Potter Movie "Fantastic Beasts" features a Wallace Fountain which served as the visitor entrance into the French Ministry of Magic Headquarters.

4. Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum

MARKET SQUARE

Housed in the 17th century Market House with the addition of an elegant upper floor Assembly Room in the 18th century, where balls and social assemblies were held. The building continued as a civic meeting place in the 19th and 20th centuries. Important news such as the declarations of the two world wars and the deaths of royalty were announced from its outside balcony.

Lisburn Museum was founded in 1979 and the Irish Linen Centre was added in 1994. This award-winning museum brings to life the history of the Irish Linen industry and its importance to Lisburn. The heritage and culture of the Irish linen industry is on show in the exhibition 'Flax to Fabric' with some wonderful linen costume, original machinery, tools and photographs. Skilled hand spinners and handloom weavers demonstrate their crafts while visitors can learn the folklore of the industry. A continuing programme of special exhibitions feature aspects of local history and art, ensuring there is always something new for the visitor.



5. Castle Buildings

CORNER OF RAILWAY STREET & CASTLE STREET

In November 1890 the new premises of Alexander Boyd & Company Ltd, opened to the public. A contemporary reporter described the building as 'one of the most complete, extensive & ornate establishments to be found in any provincial town in Ireland'. The internal décor was very elaborate with fittings made from oak, walnut, mahogany and ebony with mirror panels.

6. Railway Station

BACHELOR'S WALK

Designed by W.H. Mills for the Great Northern Railway Co. about 1890. The line between Belfast - Lisburn was the first passenger railway train service in Ulster and opened on 12th August 1839. The first train left Belfast at 7am and the last one at 8pm that day. Such was the novelty of the new form of transport that approximately 3000 people used the train on its first day.

7. Bridge Community Centre

RAILWAY STREET

Erected in 1890 by Lisburn Temperance Union as an Institute to provide leisure facilities for working men, including newspaper reading rooms, billiards, gymnasium and a café, in an atmosphere without alcohol. The site was given by Sir Richard Wallace. The first President of the Temperance Union was James N. Richardson of Lissue, near Lisburn, a member of the family business of Richardson Sons & Owden, one of the largest bleachers in the Lagan Valley.



8. French Church, Former Town Hall

CASTLE STREET

The blue plaque identifies the site of Lisburn's 18th century French Huguenot church. In 1698, a Huguenot, Louis Crommelin, was appointed by William III as Overseer of the Royal Linen Manufacture in Ireland. Crommelin, together with a number of Huguenot families, settled in Lisburn where they erected a French school and a church. By the early 19th century, the number of Huguenots had declined, the church was closed and its congregation moved across the road to Lisburn Cathedral. The building became Lisburn Courthouse. In 1883 the estate office of Sir Richard Wallace was built on an adjoining site. The two buildings eventually became Lisburn Town Hall and remained as civic offices until the opening of the Lagan Valley Island in 2001.

9. Castle House

CASTLE STREET

A blue plaque, which was erected in 2009, marks the private residence of Sir Richard Wallace (1818-90) which was completed in 1880. Wallace was a descendant of the Conway family, the 17th century landlords of Lisburn. In 1914 Castle House became the Municipal Technical Institute, now South Eastern Regional College. Wallace's name is remembered in Lisburn in Wallace High School and Wallace Park. Internationally he was known as a patron of the arts, whose collection was gifted to the nation and forms the Wallace Collection in London.



10. County Antrim Infirmary

SEYMOUR STREET

Established in 1767 by act of parliament, the Infirmary was supported by private subscription. Landowners and local employers such as the linen firms paid annual subscriptions which entitled them to nominate persons to receive medical treatment in the Infirmary. A nurses' home was built next door as a commemoration of the Golden and Diamond Jubilees of Queen Victoria. The 18th century building has recently been restored by a private housing association.

11. War Memorial

CASTLE STREET

War memorial by H.C. Fehr unveiled in 1923 after the Great War. It now also records the name of those from Lisburn who also fought and died in World War II, the Korean War and the Falklands.

12. Castle Wall

CASTLE STREET

Looking down from the viewing point it is easy to see why Sir Fulke Conway chose this site as the perfect location for his 1622 manor house or castle. Destroyed in the 'great fire' of 1707, the gateway through the courtyard wall survived and a date stone, bearing the date 1677, is still visible today.

13. Castle Gardens

CASTLE STREET

Located in the heart of Lisburn this public park was given to the town council by Lady Wallace's heir, Sir John Murray Scott, in 1903. There are two features relating to the life and works of Sir Richard Wallace, the Wallace Fountain and the Wallace Memorial which was erected in 1892 by popular subscription. Nearby is a cannon, a trophy from the Crimean War. Tours available please contact the Irish Linen Centre/ Lisburn Museum on 028 9266 3377 or email the ilc.reception@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk

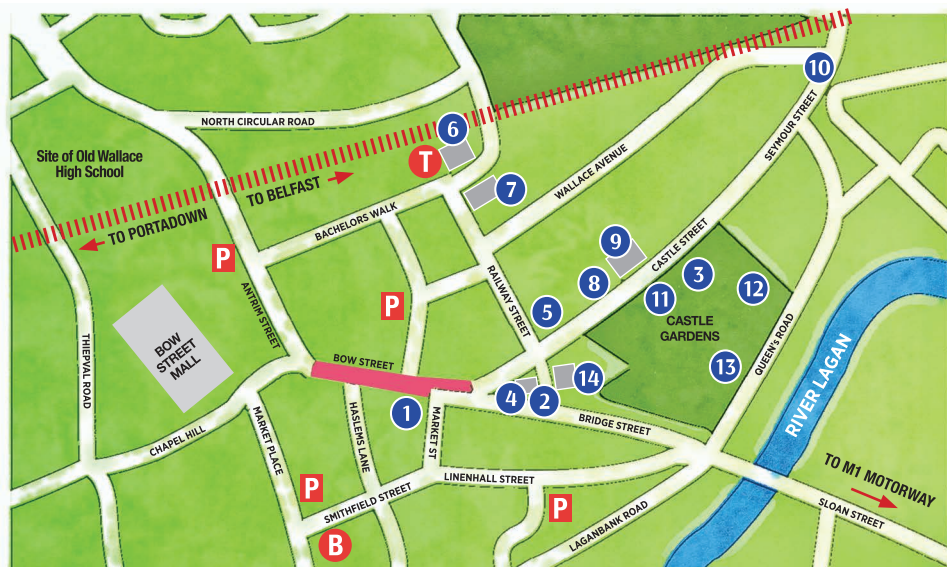


14. Lisburn Cathedral

MARKET SQUARE

Sir Fulke Conway built the Church of St Thomas as a private chapel in 1623. It was destroyed in the Rebellion of 1641 and again in the 'great fire' of 1707. It was granted Cathedral Status in 1662 by Charles II. The foundation stone for the present church was laid in 1708. There was an attack on the cathedral on the night of the 31 July 1914 when a local suffragette Lillian Metge exploded a bomb at the base of the East Window. The building contains many fine memorials including those to Bishop Jeremy Taylor and to Brigadier General John Nicholson, as well as two stained glass windows which commemorate Sir Richard Wallace. The strong Huguenot connection is apparent in the bust of the Rev Samaurez Dubordieu, minister of the French church and also in the Huguenot names on the headstones, including the memorial tombstone in the graveyard to Louis Crommelin who helped establish the linen trade in Lisburn. The Cathedral Coffee Room is open Tues to Sat from 10am to 2pm from which members of the public have access to the cathedral. However, the Cathedral can be open at other times by appointment.





INFORMATION

Dialling Codes

Dialling from the Republic of Ireland

All eight-digit numbers must be prefixed with (048) replacing (028) eg. 048 9244 7622

Dialling Internationally

All telephone numbers must be prefixed with +44 and the area dialling code eg. +44 28 9244 7622

Lisburn Visitor Information Centre

15 Lisburn Square

Lisburn

BT28 1AN

Tel: 028 9244 7622

E-mail: vic.lisburn@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk

Web: visitlisburncastlereagh.com

OPENING HOURS:

Monday-Saturday 9am-5.15pm,

Sunday 11am-4pm (April-September)

SOURCES:

Brian Mackey, Lisburn the Town and its People 1873-1973

John Hanna, Old Lisburn

Hugh G Bass,

Boys of Castle Buildings,

Lisburn Compiled by Wm Richer,

First Presbyterian Church 1688-1988,

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Official Guides,

Christ Church Cathedral, Lisburn.

Research, Linda Murray

Design & Production, Tatch Design.

The information contained in this leaflet was correct at the time of going to print. Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions.