

Some Place Names in Manchester

BERRY HILL bears the surname of Curtis Philip Berry an architect and member of the House of Assembly.

BULL HOLE was named because of a legendary story which declares that at a certain time of the day a roaring would be heard and the Golden Table of folklore would appear, only to be quickly pulled beneath the waters by a bull.

CROSS KEYS could have come originally from Newport, Monmouthshire, England.

COBBLA (COBBLA CAMP) is said to have received this rather odd name because of the following incident which took place there. A man was seen in the early days of the history of this place putting up a building but seeming not to make much success of it. Someone passing remarked, "What a 'cobbla' you are". Those hearing the remark began to call the place COBBLA and what was a joke in the first place has now become a place-name.

DEVON was originally that of an English county. The property was once owned by Hugh Crawford, M.D., a native of Cumnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, who died there, August 1, 1837.

ENFIELD originally from Middlesex, England, was in the 18th century owned by Thomas James and Elizabeth, his wife of Southend, England, and afterwards of Dover, Kent, England. It was left to his son, John T. James. The place-name Enfield is also found in Westmoreland, St. Ann and St. Catherine.

FLOG MAN was so named because in old Jamaica, villagers could apply punishment to wrongdoers without appealing to the law. A man was severely flogged here.

HARRISON PIECE near Newport is said to have been named after its first owner, Thomas Harrison, who also owned Oldbury in the 19th century.

HERON'S HILL was named after Alexander George Heron, who owned Williamsfield, Chudleigh, Shooters Hill, Spitzbergen, and Wigton Estates. Heron's last wish was that he should be buried at the top of Heron's Hill, so that even after death he would be in sight of his estates.

PORUS is a village stretched out along the main May Pen to Mandeville highway. The name Porus dates back to Spanish times and is probably derived from the family name Porras.

KENDAL originates in Kent, England. Kendal was a large coffee plantation which extended to Mile Gully Pen, St. Elizabeth, and Martin's Hill. It was owned from 1839 by Mr. John Clark of Thornbury, England, who was the first of the Clark family to settle in Jamaica.

MANDEVILLE is the capital of Manchester which bears the title of the eldest son of William, Duke of Manchester, after whom the parish was named.

MIKE TOWN is named after Mike E. Muirhead, who was once the owner of Marshall Pen, and sold a part of it for the establishment of this town.

NASHVILLE was first owned by the late George Nash whom the name is said to have come from.

Sources Used

Higman, B W, and Brian J. Hudson. *Jamaican Place Names*. Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2009. Print.

Sibley, Inez K. *Dictionary of Place-Names in Jamaica*. Kingston: Institute of Jamaica, 1978. Print.