

## Place Names of St. Catherine

- **Angels** – was the *Los Angeles* of the Spaniards and was known as a Spanish Post. The first line of the Jamaica Railway which was first opened to traffic on November 1, 1845 had as its terminus 'Angels'.
- **Benbow Street** – located in Spanish Town, it was named after Admiral Lord Benbow who was born at Shrewsbury in 1653 and distinguished himself in the war with France in 1697, the year in which he was appointed commander –in – chief of the King's ships in the West Indies.
- **Buxton Town**- was a free village established by the late Reverend A. Murcell Phillipo of the Spanish Town Baptist circuit of churches in the nineteenth century. The name Buxton Town was given this name in honour of Thomas Fowell Buxton, leader of the Anti- Slavery Society in England.
- **Colbeck Castle** – located in Old Harbour is named after Colonel John Colbeck who was a member of the invading English forces under General Penn and Admiral Venables in 1655. He continued to live in Jamaica as a private citizen after the conquest and was also a Speaker of the House of Assembly (1673) and Member of Assembly representing Bowers; the district in which Colbeck Castle stands.
- **Doherty Drive** – is named after the first United States Ambassador to Jamaica, Mr. William C. Doherty.

- **Ferry Inn** – is named after the Ferry River. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, this Inn became famous as Governors held parties there, and Admiral Lord Nelson made it a stop off for entertainment.
- **Fort Augusta** – completed in the 1750s, this place was named in honour of the mother of King George III.
- **Guys Hill** – is named after Richard Guy, who it is thought served with Penn and Venables in the conquest of Jamaica in 1655, and who was granted land here.
- **Highgate Park** – located near Sligoville it was originally owned by John Sullivan (1798-1871) of a distinguished Irish family, who became Provost Marshal of Jamaica. He is said to have built Highgate Church, in the churchyard in which he is buried.
- **Lluidas Vale** – is a town that is thought to have its name derived from the Spanish *luzida*, which means “gay, or fine” or from *lluivas*, meaning “rains.”
- **Mount Merrick** – was so named by the Rev. James Murcell Phillipo, Baptist minister stationed at Spanish Town (1823-1873), after Joseph Merrick, who was the first Jamaican to go as missionary to Africa. Merrick and his father were the first two men to be trained in the Calabar Theological College when it opened in 1843 at Rio Bueno in Trelawny.
- **Port Esquivel** – was the name given to Old Harbour Bay by the Spaniards and was the name of the first Spanish Governor; Juan De Esquivel.
- **Twickenham Park** – was first known as Twickenham Park Pen. The name originates from Middlesex England. It was owned in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by Madam Georgiana Ruessett, who died in March 1879. She left Twickenham Pen to her trustee, Walter Seale

Newman, in trust for the Children of himself and his wife, Helen Rosetta Newman, nee Wilson. The pen was to be sold and money kept in trust “until the birthday of the eldest son, Walter George Newman,” which was done. Walter George Newman was the father of Mrs. May Murray, who finally inherited it. It is now owned by the Government of Jamaica and used as a police training facility.

- **Whydad** - is a village in that was named after a similar place in Dahomey. West Africa.

### ***Sources***

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