

Place Names of St. Thomas

- **Abbey** - was first known as Abbey Farm and is said to have been owned in 1879 by the Hope Panton Family. Around 1895, it came into the possession of the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Mowl of England. Rev. Mowland his wife arrived in Jamaica in 1884 and were stationed by the Baptist Missionary Society at Linstead St. Catherine. He was afterwards transferred to the first Church, Montego Bay, (now known as Burchell Memorial), but moved back to St. Thomas in 1895 where he took charge of the Richmond Vale Baptist sphere of churches.
- **Airy Castle** – In St. Thomas, on the summit of steep hills, is aptly named. It is now a town of importance.
- **Amity Hall** - It was part of the Amity Hall Estate and was first owned by Thomas Cussans and then inherited by his son, Alexander Cussans. It is said to also been acquired afterwards by Sir Simon Taylor, the largest land proprietor in Jamaica in the 18th century who was also a Member of the House of Assembly for Kingston. During the 19th century the Quakers began work there, firstly establishing a school for East Indians who worked on the Golden Grove and other estates in that vicinity.
- **Barrant Street and Hospital** – in St. Thomas, near Morant Bay, are named after Isaac Barrant who was Member of the House of Representatives for that parish from 1944 until his death in 1956. The Isaac Barrant Memorial Hospital replaced Hordley Hospital, known for many years in St. Thomas.
- **Bath** – in St. Thomas, is a thermal spring of curative value, discovered in the 18th century by a slave owned by Colonel Stanton, who granted him his freedom for his valuable discovery. In

1749, part of the land was used for the establishment of a town, which took the name of the spring.

- **Yallahs** – in St. Thomas, the name of this village and surrounding area in the parish comes from the Spanish Family Ayala, who owned a cattle ranch in the area before the English takeover of the island in the 17th century. The area was called Hato de Ayala, ie, ranch of the Ayala family.
- **Bowden** – in St. Thomas, is said to have been named after William Bowden, one of 500 settlers – including Luke Stokes, Governor of the Leeward Islands who, responding to a call from Cromwell, settled in this part of the island in 1656.
- **Cedar Valley** – in St. Thomas, is said to be so named because of the cedar trees which once grew there. It was owned by William Williamson of Mount Holstein, who was a native of Scotland. He died in 1853.
- **Duckenfield** – in St. Thomas, is named after Robert Duckenfield, Member of the Assembly in Kingston, 1731.
- **Eleven Miles** – in St. Thomas, is so named because it is 11 miles east of Kingston. Eleven Miles Road passes Llandewey in the St. Thomas hills and goes into the heart of the Blue Mountains.
- **Hagley Gap** – in St. Thomas is named after “Hagley”, the home of the Lyttletons of Worchestershire, England.
- **Hall Head** – in St. Thomas, is named after Hall Head in Scotland, claimed to be the country seat of Alexander Gordon, an early Scottish settler in Jamaica.
- **Johnston Mountain** – is located on the lower ridge of what was first known as “John Crow Mountain” (now officially Blake Mountain) bears the surname of an early English settler. It is an area where small settlers have their homes and cultivation of bananas and coconuts, and in the centre a Baptist Church.

- **Judgement Cliff** – in St. Thomas, gained this name from an incident which occurred there at the time of the earthquake in 1692. A part of this cliff fell, covering the estate of a notoriously wicked Dutchman, who was buried alive.
- **Leith Hall** – near Port Morant in St. Thomas, it was named after its first owner, Thomas Leith. This property was acquired by G.E Marchalleck in 1910, and remained in that branch of the family until 1969, when it was bought by Jasper Marchalleck, who still owns it (1971). There is a Leith Hall village, facing which is a very old disused cemetery.
- **Llandewey** – in St. Thomas, its name originated in north- east Wales and is a district of some importance.
- **Phillipsfield** – it bears the name of one of the English settlers who came with Luke Stokes, Governor of Nevis, to settle in this part of the island from 1656.
- **Prospect** – This area was first referred to as “East Prospect”. It was first purchased on an unknown date by Maximilian Augustus, Baron von Ketelhodt, he was born in Germany but became a naturalized British subject in 1839. He was also Custos of St. Thomas from the latter part of 1862. It had been formerly owned by one Blair, and as late as 1845 by Alexander Barclay.
- **Rolandsfield** – in St. Thomas is named after Lord Rolandsfield, the first owner.
- **Rose Hall** – in St. Thomas was named after Colonel William Rose of the army of Penn and Venables (1655) at his death by a will possessed by Francis Rose.