

# Gazetteer

## 1 Name

### Early Spellings

Áth Buidhe Tlachgha (*AFM*, ii, M1167.10) c. early 17<sup>th</sup> cent.

Eboy 1252 (*Cal. Doc. Ire.*, 1252-1284, 237)

Adboy 1256 (*Cal. Pap. Letters*, i, 333)

Athboy 1284 (*Cal. Gormanstown Reg.*, f. 2d), 1540 (*Fiants, Henry VII*), 1657 (*Down Survey*)

Aboy 1311 (*Cal. Gormanstown Reg.*, f. 197d)

Atheboy 1400 (*Cal. Gormanstown Reg.*, f. 183d)

Abuye 1616 (*Wedhouse*, 14)

### Current Spelling

Athboy

Baile Átha Buí

### Derivation

“Township of the yellow ford”

## 2 Legal Status

Borough by Charter of Henry IV 1408, reconfirmed in 1575 by a charter of James I, (*MCI*, 119)

Erected with other lands into a manor by Patent of William and Mary (1695) with tolls and customs due to the “Lords of Athboy” retained by the Bligh family. (*MCI*, 121)

Borough was regarded as extinct in 1835 (*MCI*, 120)

## 3 Parliamentary and Local Government Status

Parliamentary Borough (2 members) 1559 – 1800 (H.C., 1878 [69-I] 628)

Part of Meath County Constituency ( 2 members) United Kingdom Parliament 1801-1922 (*H.C. 1878*, (69-I)

Part of Athboy Electoral Division, returned 2 members to the Trim Poor Law Union, which was superseded by Trim Rural District Council in 1898 (*Meath Chronicle 1903*)

Athboy Electoral Division, returns councillors to Meath County Council as part of the 5 seater Navan constituency 1899 (*Meath Chronicle 1903*)

## 4 Proprietorial Status

Part of the Ua Maelsechlainn territory until c. 1167 (*AFM, M1167.10*)

Part of the Barony of Lune c. 1175, (*Bradley 1988-89, 34*)

Part of the Manor of Athboy, c. 1235 (*Mills and McEnery, 1916 4,151*)

Held by Lord Gormanston (heir to the Manor of Athboy), Lord Trimblestown, Sir William Hill, 14 other prominent Catholics, and the crown 1654 (*Civil Survey*)

Sir George Rawden and William Brett 1660, (*Acts of Settlement and Explanation, H.C. 1825 (428), 145*)

Thomas Bligh and heirs 1695, (*MCI, 121*)

Principal Proprietors, Earl of Darnley, Trustees Blue-Coat Hospital, Sir Benjamin Chapman, Governors of St. Stephens Hospital 1854 (*Griffith's Valuation*)

Town Tenants 1909, (*Meath Chronicle, 19 June, 1909*)

## 5 Municipal Boundary

One mile beyond the town in every direction 1575, (*MCI, 119*)

Municipal boundary not established due extinction of the Borough, 1835 (*MCI, 119*)

## 6 Administrative Location

County: Meath 1545 (*Letters and Papers For. And Dom., Henry VIII, 12.2, 458*)

Barony: Lune 1654 (*C.S.*)

Civil Parish: Athboy 1836 (*OS*)

Town Lands: Bunboggan (part of), Castletown (part of), EightyEight Acres (part of), Townparks (Urban).

Poor law union: Trim 1839, (H.C. 1843, (275) 45)

Rural Council: Trim 1895

Poor law electoral / Rural District Council division : Athboy 1839, (H.C. 1843, (275) 46)

District Electoral Division: Athboy (H.C. 1899 [C.9480] 180-181)

## 7 Administrative divisions

None within the town.

## 8 Population

1813	1877	1851	1204	1891	633
1821	1748	1861	982	1901	610
1831	1949	1871	861	1911	575
1841	1826	1881	748		

## 9 Housing

	Inhabited	Uninhabited	Building	Total
1881	334	20	-----	354
1831	336	8	2	346
1841	307	27	-----	334
1851	192	17	1	210
1861	172	12	-----	184
1871	160	5	1	166
1881	145	9	-----	154
1891	139	3	1	142
1901	145	15	1	161
1911	137	9	-----	146

Type of housing 1841 – 1861

	1 <sup>st</sup> - class	2 <sup>nd</sup> - class	3 <sup>rd</sup> - class	4 <sup>th</sup> - class	Unoccupied	Total
1841	11	77	179	40	27	324
1851	89	79	7	192	18	210
1861	73	77	7	172	12	184

4<sup>th</sup> – class: predominately mud cabins with 1 room and window only.

3<sup>rd</sup> – class: better, with 2 – 4 rooms and windows.

2<sup>nd</sup> – class: good, with 5 – 9 rooms and windows.

1<sup>st</sup> – class: all houses of a better description than classes 2 – 4.

## 10 Streets

As at 1897

Back Lane / Cottner's Lane (1660)	Back of East Street, site unknown
Bridge Street (1826)	East of Bridge 1826. Lower Bridge Street 1836
Chapel Street	Chapel Street 1826. Winding Harbour 1836. Chapel Street 1897
Connaught Street	Connaght Street 1575, Connaught Street 1756
East Street (1575)	East of market cross 1575. East of High Street 1575. Upper Bridge Street 1836.

Fair Green	Fair Green 1756.
High Street (1575)	West of market cross 1575. Wraye's Gate Street on east, inside Wraye's gate (or John Raie's Gate) 1660.
Market Street	Market Street extending eastwards to bridge 1826. Market Street extending to just west of Market House 1836, other part becoming Upper Bridge Street 1836.
Trim Street (1575)	Site unknown, may have lead to the Five-Mile gate (1660). Dublin Road 1756.

Dated as follows:     1575 – Charter of James I.  
                               1756 – Scalé, Darnley estate book.  
                               1826 – Vaughan, Darnley estate map.  
                               1836 – O.S. Map, Sheet 29, 1:10,560  
                               1897 – O.S. Sheet MH29-04 25” series.

## 11 Religion

St. James (C. of I): St James' 1256, (*Reg Abbey St. Thomas, 13*), Grant of English Freedom to Robert Dermote, vicar of Athboy (1553), (*Pat. Close Rolls Chancery Ire., 327*), Tithe Composition 1833.

St James' (Roman Catholic) Erected 1847, Chapel (possibly St Lawrence) on same site 1826 (*Estate Map*)

Carmelite Friary (1317) location unknown, possibly east of town. (*Bradley, 1988-9*). Dissolved 1540 (*Fiant Henry VIII – 1540*)

## 12 Defence

Castle of Eboy (1276) (*Cal. Doc. Ire., ii, 47*), murage tolls (1463) (*Stat. Rolls Henry VI*)

Walls, running from river parallel to Main Street for 275 m., running south for 160 m.. then turning and running east ward back to river. Surviving stretch of 100 m. of southern wall containing open backed mural tower, (*Bradley, 1985, 18*). It can be noted that many of the messuages of 1660 mentioned remains of castles and walls. (*MCI, 121*)

Outer line of “works” 1647 (*Ml. Jones. 1647*)

Gates: East-gate (1575), John Raie's gate (possibly East-gate, 1575), Wraye's gate (1660), Five-mile gate (1660). Location of all of these unknown. (*MCI, 121*)

## 13 Administration

Market House: (1756) On western end of Upper Bridge Street. (*Census, 1901, 1911*)

Courthouse: Bridge Street (1863). (*Census, 1901, 1911*)

[Court of Petty Sessions, each Thursday]

Barracks: Bridge Street (1863). (*Census, 1901, 1911*)

Post Office: Next to Dispensary on Bridge Street (*Census, 1901, 1911*)

## **14 Manufacturing**

Corn Mill North of Bridge 1756 (*Estate map*), Newman, Mill 1911 (*Census*)

Clothmill and water course near Ferrancrohie. Location unknown. (*MCI 121*)

Mill belonging to Lord Trimblestown. (1660). Location unknown. (*MCI 121*)

## **15 Trades and Services**

Fairs: 15 Days From the eve of feast of SS Philip and James [May 4<sup>th</sup>] (1426) (*MCI, 119*).

4 days from the eve of the feast of SS Simon and Jude [Nov 7<sup>th</sup>] (1573) (*MCI, 120*).

Two extra days added in 1695 to give the following additional days:

February 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>. (*Pigot's, 1824*)

Markets: Within the town, Wednesdays and Thursdays (1426) (*MCI, 119*)

and on Tuesdays (1573) (*MCI, 120*)

Thursdays only from 1695 to present day. (*MCI 121*)