

Stop #2 Producing Food

2

MARKET PLACES

Unlike some cities, Limerick never developed a central marketplace. Instead the two medieval 'towns', the English and the Irish towns each had their own market and in time Newtown Pery obtained one too. A market might be set up for a specific product such as potatoes – the **Potato Market** - but in practice often sold other things.

Thus a particular name was not always a safe guide; the Potato Market is now a car park, and **#Stop3**, the **Milk Market** sells everything from cakes to coffee, pot plants to clothing.

MEAT MARKETS were more commonly known as **The SHAMBLES**

English Town

- Meat Market Lane and Sheep St, 1620s.
- Flesh Shambles, Bridge St, 1710s
- Shambles, Bonfield's Lane 1710s to 1790s
- Nicholas Street, 1747-1769

Irish Town

- St John's Gate, 16th century
- St John's, Broad, and Mungret Streets, Market House, 1660s-1840s
- Mardyke, Charlotte Quay, 1777
- Watergate, 1830s-1900s

Newtown Pery

- New Town Meat Market, off Ellen Street, 1830-1900

FISH HOUSE or FISH MARKET

- A separate fish house first recorded in 1543 in Fish Lane: there until 1770s
- Fish Market, on George's Quay near Mathew Bridge in the 1770s
- Fish Market, Sir Harry's Mall, 1794
- Fish and Fowl Market, Ellen St, 1816
- Northumberland Market, Cecil Street, 1830s-1840s

CORNMARKET

Corn producers generally sold directly to merchants whose water-powered mills stood on the river or horse powered mills along the streets of New Town Pery. The growth of large-scale milling led to the founding of a corn market in Denmark Street about 1800 and others in Sexton St about 1813 and Mardyke, about 1824. Others were developed by the market trustees from the 1850s.

HAY MARKET

Hay for the city's large population of horses was generally sold from carts, door to door. It was a growing market that led to the founding of fixed hay markets that thrived until horsepower was displaced by motor power from the 1920s onwards.

Hay market, location unknown, 1779

Hay market, Ellen St 1823-1870s

Hay and straw market, Mulgrave St 1870- 1950.