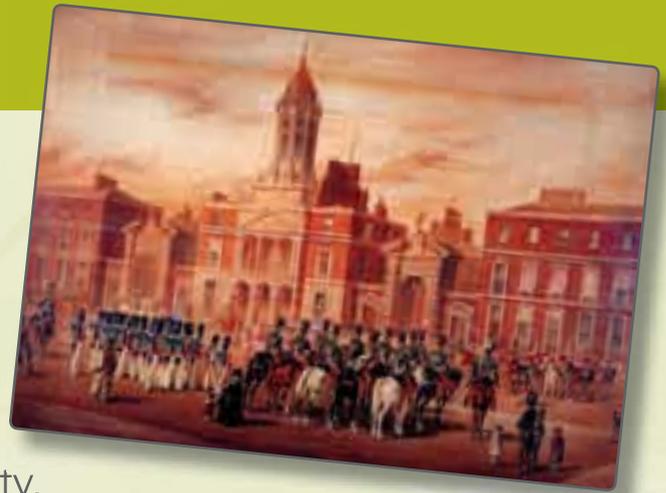


Activity Book for Schools 3

Garrison Communities

Your neighbourhood and your school are communities, groups of people who live or work together. These small communities are part of the bigger communities of your town or city.



Soldiers live in communities too. They belong to a group of people living in the same army barracks or serving in the same place. These communities are also part of bigger groups: the whole army and the town where they are stationed.

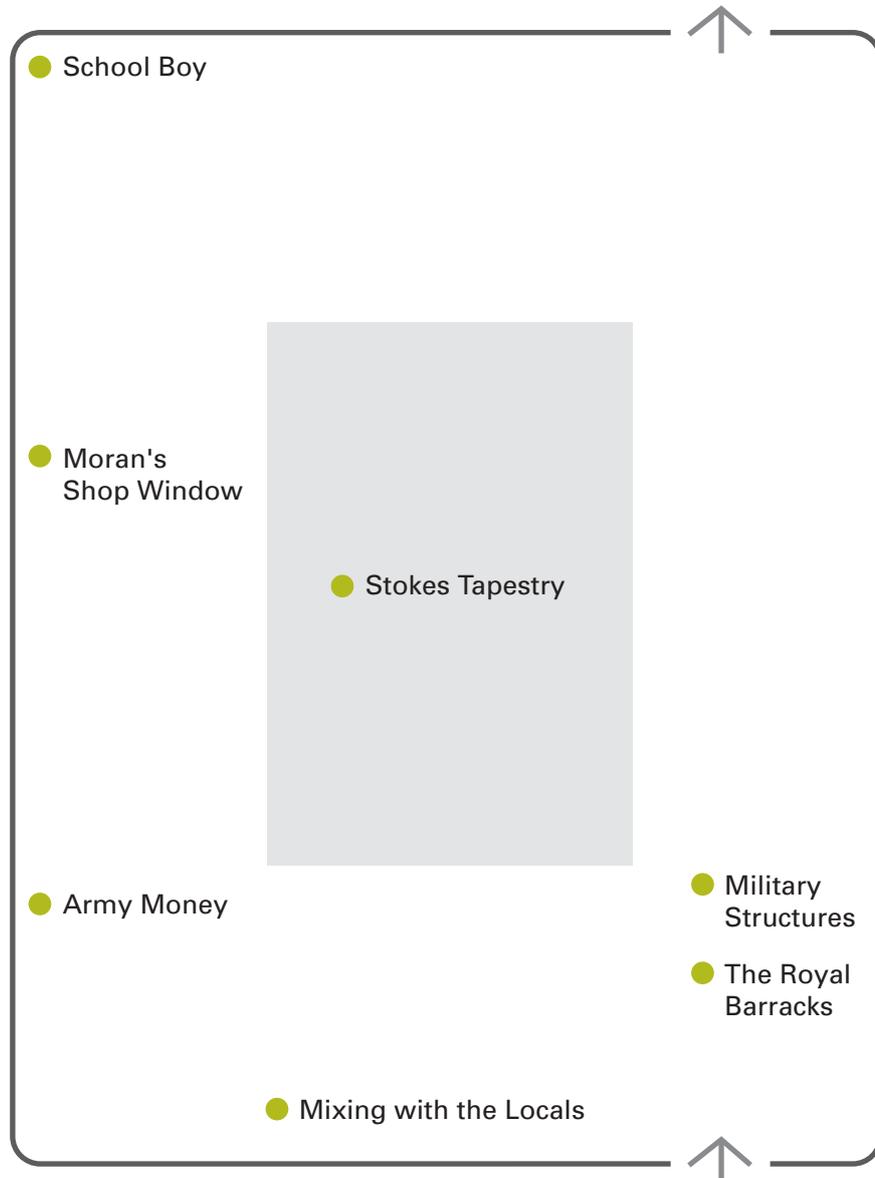


Enter the first room.

My Name:

The British Garrison in Ireland

This diagram is a plan (or bird's eye view) of the room you have just entered. The plan shows the locations of displays to look at as you create your own town.



Imagine that you are living during the 19th century in an Irish town or city where the British Army has a barracks. You can explore this part of the *Soldiers and Chiefs* exhibition to discover what life is like. You will find out how the local people and the soldiers at the army barracks lived alongside each other.

A **'garrison'** is the term for the group of soldiers manning a particular location.
A **'barracks'** is a building for housing soldiers.

My Garrison Town



Create your own imaginary community on the loose page – to get you started, that page already shows two main roads in the town. If you would like to draw your own main roads, use the back of the page to create your town.

First add more roads to your town.

Hint: Think about the roads in your neighbourhood today.

Perhaps some roads follow the natural shape of the land, such as hills or rivers.

Include roads for shops and for houses.

Main roads will be wider than side streets.

Include a road that leads to a farm.

If any roads cross a river you will need a bridge or a ferry.

Next draw and add notes to show where the people in your town lived, worked, and got together.

There are no right or wrong answers, but you can look at the displays for examples of real places, buildings and people from Irish garrison towns. **Follow the directions below about:**

- Homes and Public Buildings
- Military Buildings
- Shops and Businesses
- Having Fun

Homes and Public Buildings

Decide what kinds of buildings are in your community.

Hints: Think about the buildings that you use in your neighbourhood today.

Include places where people lived in town and on a farm.

Put the school within walking distance from your home.

Does your town have important public buildings such as a church, police station and post office?

Are the important buildings on the main street?

Where to look for pictures of buildings:

- in the painting on the panel 'Mixing with the Locals'
- 'The Man with the Cash' on the panel 'Army Money'
- the farmhouse and church on the 'Stokes Tapestry'



Shops and Businesses

Show different kinds of shops and businesses.

Hints: Think about where you would buy the basic things that you need to live comfortably – food, clothes and things for your home.

Put some shops closer to the barracks, for the convenience of the soldiers.

Other shops are in the centre of town so that everyone can get there easily.

Are all the shops, businesses and markets on the same street or on different streets?

Where to look for examples of things that your family might need or have at home:

- *Moran's* shop window, and the panel called 'Selling to Soldiers'
- the panel called 'Army Money'
- the book that the school boy reads in his spare time
- the display called 'Military Tailors'



Having Fun

Where do the people spend their spare time?

Hints: Think about where you meet your friends or the events you celebrate.

Does your town have a park, sports field and theatre?

Is there a parade on St. Patrick's Day?

Is there a local fair?

Where to look for examples of spare time activities:

- in the display case beside 'Mixing with the Locals'
- at the parade in the first panel 'The British Garrison in Ireland'



Military Buildings

Add army buildings to your town.

Hints: Think about the kinds of buildings an army needs.

Include the barracks where the soldiers live and train (don't forget stables for the horses!).

Add living quarters in town for the officers.

Does your town have a fort or military tower to protect a harbour or a road?

Is there a military school for army children and a hospital for soldiers and their families?

Where to look for examples of military buildings:

- the model of the Royal Barracks
- the album of photographs
- the panel 'Military Structures'



Now that you have made your own Garrison Town, go to the model to explore the garrison town of Dublin.

From a Barracks to a Museum

When you came to the Museum today, you travelled through the streets near the Museum and saw the houses and shops in this area. This Museum used to be an army barracks and today the building is still called Collins Barracks.

Look closely at the model, and at the painting and plan above it, to see how Collins Barracks looked about 200 years ago.



Put a tick beside the things that are not in or near Collins Barracks today.

- farm animals
- buses and cars
- people making haystacks
- farming fields
- a church
- factories
- stables for horses
- a school

Look closely at the Stokes Tapestry in the middle of the room. The top of the tapestry shows some scenes of the soldiers who lived in the barracks and the local people who lived nearby.

When you find them, put a tick beside these people:

- a milkmaid in a local farm (hint – there are sheep, cows, and a horse)
- rowdy people at the Donnybrook Fair (hint – it has a yellow tent)
- soldiers in a funeral march going to the church

Social Networks

Find the commissariat officer's military jacket (coatee) at the display 'Army Money'.

The commissariat officer was the person responsible for organising supplies and equipment needed for the British Army Garrison. To do his job he had business dealings with many of the people who lived and worked in the town.



Draw lines between the local person and the goods that he supplied to the army.
Hint: The commissariat officer often got more than one thing from the same person.

	flour
	hay
butcher	turf
miller	coal
candlestick maker	potatoes
fuel oil supplier	leather
tanner	whale oil or kerosene
farmer	vegetables
	candles
	meat

In your town, you will often meet soldiers in various places. For each activity below, what kind of soldier(s) would you expect to meet?



Draw an arrow to link your activity with the soldiers you might meet.

You are ...

walking down the street

going shopping

watching a football match against an army team

attending a wedding

watching an army band concert

When you meet ...

a soldier with his wife and son

a small group of enlisted men

a group of officers in dress uniforms

several hundred soldiers and officers

an individual officer in casual uniform

Activity Book for Schools 3

Garrison Communities

Want to know more?

For more information on exhibitions and education programmes, contact the Education and Outreach Department of the National Museum of Ireland.

Tel: 01 648 6453 Fax: 01 679 1025 email: bookings@museum.ie

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Cover image: St. Patrick's Day Military Parade at Dublin Castle, by MichelAngelo Hayes, 1844, The Office of Public Works, Government of Ireland

