



Mornington House, 24 Merrion Street, Dublin 2

Mornington House in Merrion Street was leased by Garret Colley Wesley (1735-81), first Earl of Mornington, from the fifth Earl of Antrim and is given as the birthplace of Arthur Wellesley (1769-1852). Originally built *circa* 1762, the townhouse may have been designed by Christopher Myers (1717-89) who had worked on the Earl of Antrim's country house at Glenarm Castle, County Antrim. The townhouse was the headquarters of the Irish Land Commission during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and was once considered as a possible official residence for Taoisigh. The townhouse was subsequently sold in the 1990s and adapted to form part of a hotel.



The townhouse features a central Doric doorcase with open bed pediment. Some fine plasterwork survives in the interior and is reminiscent of nearby 12 Merrion Square, the townhouse of William Brownlow MP (1726-94): the plasterwork was executed in 1765-6 by the Dublin-based *stuccadore* James Byrne.



A plaque records the townhouse as the birthplace of Arthur Wellesley and is inscribed: "Birthplace Of/The 1st Duke of Wellington/(1769-1852)/Son Of/The Earl of Mornington".