

Name of memorial: Burke and Cavendish Memorial

Inventory No. 1246

Place: Chesterfield Avenue

Address and map reference: Chesterfield Avenue, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8

Map reference: O 120 354 (Sheet 50).

Co-ordinates: N 53.3574°: W 6.3194°.

Access: at all times. **Parking:** adjacent. **Disabled access:** yes..

Position: on the ground between the road and the cycle path on the southern side of the road, a few meters north-west of the view of Árus an Uachtaráin.

Description and dimensions: white gravel cross embedded in the ground

Width: appx. 30cms. Depth: appx. 30cms.

Recorded by: Edward Bourke, 30 December 2013.

Text:

(None)

The cross probably marks the site of the Phoenix Park Murders: the fatal stabbings on 6 May 1882 of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Thomas Henry Burke. Cavendish was the newly-appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Burke was the Permanent Undersecretary, the most senior Irish civil servant. The assassination was carried out by members of the 'Irish National Invincibles': Joe Brady, Daniel Curley, Tim Kelly, Thomas Caffrey and Michael Fagan, all of whom were executed,

See: Moloney, Senan (2006). *The Phoenix Murders: Conspiracy, Betrayal and Retribution*. Dublin: Mercier Press. ISBN 1-85635-511-X.

The cross in the old postcard seems to mark the place where Thomas Henry Burke died. The wreath in the centre of the road may mark where Lord Frederick Cavendish died, having tried to fight off his attackers, who drove away in a cab. This suggests that the stump of stone shown in the modern photograph is the original memorial.